

The CHB History Trail A Walking Tour of Children's Hospital Boston

Since its founding in 1869, Children's Hospital Boston has been at the leading edge of medical research and patient care. Follow the CHB History Trail to learn more about the people, places and achievements of the past—and see how they inspire us to do great things today.

1 Time Capsule

The CHB Time Capsule contains memorabilia pertaining to the history of this institution. It will be opened in 2069 to commemorate the hospital's bi-centennial year.



2 Operating Room/Farley Building

When Children's Hospital Boston moved to Longwood Avenue in 1914, the hospital constructed a series of small buildings behind the Hunnewell Building. The Operating Room Building, usually known simply as "Surgical" or "The O.R.," was one of these.



3 Fegan Building

The Fegan Building was built in 1967 for out-patient visits with patient comfort in mind: more spacious waiting rooms and play areas replaced the crowded wooden benches that served as waiting areas in the old facilities.



4 Laboratory Study Building

In 1921 a small laboratory building was constructed behind the Hunnewell Building, and in 1926, a second story was added to it. Dr. James Lawder Gamble (pictured), whose pioneering investigations developed the scientific basis for oral and intravenous fluid therapy, worked here.



5 Cottage Wards

When Children's Hospital moved to Longwood Avenue in 1914, several ward buildings were constructed in the area behind the Hunnewell Building to house medical and surgical patients. These "cottage wards" (sometimes called "chicken coops") were designed to maximize air and light and to minimize the spread of infectious diseases.



6 Wolbach Building

Built in 1914 as an infants hospital and purchased in 1923 to be used as the Harvard School of Public Health, the Wolbach Building later became a part of Children's Hospital and currently houses administrative offices. It features many of its original architectural details, including marble floors and crown molding.



7 Prouty Garden

The Prouty Memorial Garden and Terrace, designed by the Olmstead Brothers landscape design firm, was donated to CHB 1956 by Olive Prouty as a memorial to her two deceased children. The garden, a registered site with the National Association for Olmsted Parks, was honored with a gold medal by the Massachusetts Horticulture Society.



8 Bader Building

The six-story Bader Building opened in 1930 on the corner of what is today Blackfan and Shattuck Streets. Named in honor of Mr. and Mrs. L. F. S. Bader, who contributed the majority of the construction funds, this building was one of the most modern hospital facilities at the time in the United States.



9 Exhibit Case

This is the main display case of the Children's Hospital Boston Archives Program. The hospital's archives were established in 1993 to acquire, preserve and make available the historical records that document the ongoing history of Children's, its staff, volunteers, patients and families.



10 Carnegie Building

The Carnegie Building, built in 1907, housed medical and surgical research laboratories and was where Drs. John Enders, Frederick Robbins and Thomas Weller (pictured) did the seminal work with polio virus and other infectious diseases that led to their receiving the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1954.



11 Ambulances

Children's Hospital Boston has been affiliated with several institutions in the Boston area throughout its history. The distant locations of some of these facilities created a need for transportation of patients to and from the main hospital. The first ambulance, used circa 1890 for this purpose was a horse-drawn "barge."



12 Enders Building

The John F. Enders Laboratories for Pediatrics Research, or "Enders Building", opened in 1970 and was named for John Enders, PhD in recognition of his pioneering work in the study of viruses, including polio, mumps and measles.



13 Longwood Row Housing

In the early years after Children's Hospital Boston relocated from Huntington Avenue to Longwood Avenue, a series of row houses were built on both sides of Longwood that served as housing for many medical residents, nurses and staff members.



14 Outpatient Visits

The Outpatient Department was comprised of twenty-five clinics and handled more than 68,000 visits in 1938. Over half of these visits were free of charge. Eighty-five doctors took turns supervising the clinics, which were available to all patients, regardless of their parents' ability to pay. The average cost to the hospital for each visit was \$1.50 and the average payment made was \$0.65.



15 Hunnewell Building

As the oldest continuously occupied building on campus, the Hunnewell is the heart and soul of CHB. It is named after Francis Welles Hunnewell, a successful real estate developer in the Allston Brighton neighborhoods during the mid- to late nineteenth century.



16 Gardner House

The Gardner House opened in May of 1930 and was originally home to the School of Nursing (through 1978). Nursing students gathered in its elegant living room for high tea from a sterling silver service. Later, in the 1980s, families of CHB patients stayed in the Gardner House's family hostel.



The Children's Hospital Boston campus

As you walk around the campus look for the historic markers and learn more about each location.



Children's Hospital Boston

Welcome to the Children's Hospital Boston History Trail

THIS SELF-GUIDED WALKING TOUR WAS PREPARED BY THE ARCHIVES PROGRAM OF CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL BOSTON. IT FEATURES SEVERAL HISTORIC SITES ON THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL LONGWOOD CAMPUS AND TAKES APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR. THIS BROCHURE INCLUDES A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE STOPS ON THE TOUR, ALONG WITH A MAP THAT DETAILS THE LOCATIONS OF EACH POINT OF INTEREST. VISITORS WILL FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND IMAGES AT EACH STOP. WE HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR TOUR!



A BRIEF HISTORY OF CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL BOSTON: THE EARLY YEARS

Children's Hospital Boston was founded by four physicians in 1869. Dr. Francis Henry Brown, a Harvard Medical School graduate and Civil War surgeon, organized a small group of his fellow Harvard Medical School graduates, along with several prominent civic leaders in Boston, to begin one of the nation's earliest children's hospitals.

At this time, the majority of patients were children of poor Irish immigrants. Many had traumatic injuries or infectious diseases, especially tuberculosis.

Philanthropy completely supported the new institution. The Ladies' Aid Association provided essential supplies including food, clothing, linens, towels, books and toys. The success of the institution, with its careful combination of care and knowledge, led within a few years to the establishment of additional out-patient facilities and a convalescent home for the care of children outside Boston.



Adeline Blanchard Tyler, an Episcopalian deaconess, was recruited to oversee daily operations. When illness prevented her continuing, she was succeeded by Sister Theresa and the Anglican Order of the Sisters of Saint Margaret, who managed nurse care and trained nursing staff until 1917. They founded the School of Nursing at Children's Hospital to ensure a steady supply of pediatric nurses in the Boston area and beyond.

The original Children's Hospital building was a five story brick town house on Washington and Rutland Streets in the South End of Boston. The impact of the little hospital on Boston's families was almost immediate, and within a year the managers of the hospital found it necessary to relocate to the larger building. In 1882, Children's moved westward to a new hospital designed specifically for the care of children. This 60 bed facility was located on Huntington Avenue. In 1890, an additional wing was added providing 36 more beds for patients.

The hospital began a program of practical education for medical students, many of whom were from Harvard Medical School. Concurrent with the move to Huntington Avenue in 1882, house officers were first appointed as "internes" and "externes." They assisted the medical and surgical staff in a variety of activities. Children's Hospital offered auxiliary services to provide medicines and other types of treatment.

By 1891, milk from infected cows was recognized as a common source of disease among poor children. Dr. Thomas Morgan Rotch established the nation's first milk laboratory at Children's where milk was studied for clinical purposes.

Within thirty years after the move to Huntington Avenue, it became clear that a



larger, updated facility was required to meet patients' needs. In addition, the hospital's leadership understood that a closer association with Harvard Medical School would foster major scientific advances. When Harvard Medical School moved to a new site on Longwood Avenue, Children's Hospital moved adjacent to it, to a \$120,000, three-acre site on the former Ebenezer Francis farm where the hospital's leadership reported, "the air was purer and the noise and jar less." The mutually fruitful relationship with Harvard and the opening of a new nursing school helped Children's Hospital to move to the forefront of pediatric discovery, patient treatment and medical education: outstanding medical research, clinical advances and exemplary teaching were integrated with the best possible environment for care. The ensuing growth and success of Children's Hospital is the focus of this tour.



The Archives of Children's Hospital Boston was established in 1993 to acquire, preserve and make available the historical records that document the ongoing history of Children's, its staff, support personnel, patients and families.

A wide variety of collections are maintained in the Archives, some of which are featured on this tour. Collections are comprised of letters, publications, photographs, artifacts, oral histories and films, which document the evolution of the institution as well as the guiding principals that have inspired generations of physicians, nurses and other professionals to provide the best care for sick and injured children.

Serving as the hospital's memory, the Archives of Children's Hospital Boston is fertile ground from which scholars can study the institution, the field of pediatrics and the role of health care workers. In addition, it provides resources, such as data and imagery that support fund-raising, advertising and public relations ventures.

For more information about the program, visit us online at: www.childrenshospital.org/archives.



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PRESENTED BY
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ARCHIVES PROGRAM



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