

Guide to  
MS 102  
Hotel Dieu Hospital  
collection

Span Dates, 1888 – 2001  
Bulk Dates, 1894, 1953 – 2001

4 inches (linear)



Preliminary inventory completed on December 20, 2006

Processed by Carrie-Ann Chavez  
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Donated by Charles E. Roark, 1975; Kenneth Thompson, November 2006; and Jack L. Austin, August 2002.

Citation: Hotel Dieu Hospital collection, 1888 – 2001, MS 102, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department  
University of Texas at El Paso

## Historical Sketch

The Hotel Dieu Hospital, also known as the "Sisters' Hospital", started when Father Ferrari asked Mother Marianna Flynn from Visitatrix of the Community of the Daughters of Charity at St. Joseph's Central House in Emmitsburg, Maryland about training experienced nurses to care for sick and tubercular patients in the El Paso area.

Four Sisters, Sister Stella Dempsy, Sister Dolores Eggert, Sister Genevieve Hennessy, and Sister Vincent Lee, arrived in El Paso on February 3, 1892. They temporarily lived at 1015 East Overland Street, a two-story building rented for them by Father Ferrari. The first location of the Hotel Dieu Hospital was small and considered unsatisfactory to both patients and the public. Subsequently, in March 1892 the Sisters moved to another location at 415 Upson Avenue, which was known as the Dieter Home.

The Dieter Home served as a temporary location for the Hotel Dieu Hospital. The Sisters were able to borrow money from banks and formed a corporation that helped with the construction and maintenance of a hospital in El Paso. The new property for Hotel Dieu Hospital, located at Stanton and Rio Grande Streets, was purchased on July 2, 1892. At this time, the Hotel Dieu Hospital was given a horse-drawn ambulance.

The Hotel Dieu School of Nursing opened in 1898. It began as a small training school, but enrollment increased every year. Due to the growing number of nursing students, the training school moved across the street from Hotel Dieu Hospital on August 1, 1917.

The Hotel Dieu Hospital and School of Nursing continued to expand during the twentieth century. During World War II, Hotel Dieu Hospital was designated as an Emergency Base Hospital until the end of the war.

In 1972 the Hotel Dieu School of Nursing merged with the University of Texas System School of Nursing. It later became the University of Texas College of Nursing in El Paso.

Hotel Dieu Hospital closed in December 1987.

### References:

Crowder, Eleanor McElheny. *Nursing in Texas: A Pictorial History*. Texan Press: Waco, Texas, 1980.

Dieter, John P. *History of Hotel Dieu Hospital*. El Paso, Texas, 1971.

## Series Description or Arrangement

The Hotel Dieu Hospital collection is arranged in four series:

**Series I. Biographical and Financial, 1968-1972, undated**

Arranged chronologically.

**Series II. Photographs and Posters, 1888-1894, undated**

Arranged chronologically.

**Series III. Publications, 1970-1979, undated**

Arranged chronologically.

**Series IV. Hotel Dieu Admission Ledger, Clippings, and Other Media, 1953-2001**

Arranged chronologically.

## **Scope and Content Notes**

The Hotel Dieu Hospital collection, MS 102, dates from 1888 to 1901, bulk 1894, 1953 – 2001. Types of records include a blank check, a blank stock certificate, a biography of John P. Dieter, correspondence, annual reports, posters, postcards, photographs, copies of newspaper clippings, pamphlets, hospital ledgers, and floppy disks.

The Biographical and Financial series contains a blank check and stock certificate, a biography of John P. Dieter, song lyrics, correspondence, and the Hotel Dieu Hospital annual report.

The Photographs and Posters series contains a poster, post cards, copies of photographs, and photographs.

The Publications series includes a photocopy of an article about Hotel Dieu, and pamphlets.

The Hotel Dieu Hospital Admissions Ledger, Clippings, and Other Media series consists of copies of newspaper clippings, a copy of the Hotel Dieu Hospital ledger, and two floppy disks that contain copies of the ledger.

## **Provenance Statement**

Donated by Charles E. Roark, 1975; Kenneth Thompson, November 2006; and Jack L.

Austin, August 2002. Original accession number 689. Collection was divided into two separate collections.

## Restrictions

Photocopying of unpublished manuscripts is prohibited due to copyright restrictions.

## Literary Rights Statement

Permission to publish material from the Hotel Dieu Hospital collection, must be obtained from the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library. Citation should read, Hotel Dieu Hospital collection, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

## Notes to the Researcher

Researchers should also view:

Crowder, Eleanor McElheny. *Nursing in Texas: A Pictorial History*. Texan Press: Waco, Texas, 1980.

Dieter, John P. *History of Hotel Dieu Hospital*. El Paso, Texas, 1971.

Funkhouser, Barbara. *The Caregivers: El Paso's Medical History 1898 to 1998*. Sundance Press, Inc.: El Paso, Texas, 1999.

Hotel Dieu School of Nursing records, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Ramirez, Elma Galentine. "History of Hotel Dieu Hospital: A Thesis." Thesis, The University of Texas at El Paso, 1952.

Sister Aloysius Williams collection, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

## Container List

Series I. Biographical and Financial, 1968-1972, undated

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
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1	1	Blank check	undated
1	1	Photocopy of a blank stock certificate	undated
1	1	John Phillipp Dieter, 1851-1907 (biography by Henning B. Dieter)	undated
1	1	Lyrics to "El Paso" song typed from <i>El Paso Evening Inter-Republics</i> , May 16, 1887 (2 copies)	undated
1	1	Letter from the Honorable Assembly of Congress on the return of property to John P. Dieter	1968
1	1	Hotel Dieu Hospital Annual Report	1971-1972

## Series II. Photographs and Posters, 1888-1894, undated

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
1	2	Lemp St. Louis Beer-Houck & Dieter Co. poster	undated
1	2	Hotel Dieu Hospital poster copy from post card (2 copies)	undated
1	2	Copy of photograph of Houck & Dieter Co.	1888
1	2	Photograph of Dieter Home-Second location of Hotel Dieu Hospital	1892
1	2	Photograph of John P. Dieter	1894
1	2	Photograph of Adolf Getling and John Phillip Dieter	1894

## Series III. Publications, 1953-1979

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
1	3	Photocopy of article about Hotel Dieu from <i>Jesuit Studies-Southwest</i> , no.3, Revista Catolica Press	1953
1	3	Hotel Dieu Services Pamphlet	1970
1	3	Hotel Dieu Medical Center pamphlet in Spanish	1979

## Series IV. Hotel Dieu Hospital Admissions Ledger, Clippings, and Other Media, 1953-2001

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
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1	4	Hotel Dieu Hospital Ledger, 1851-1901; admissions, discharges, and deaths; copies of clippings	July 12, 1953; 2001
1	5	Two floppy disks from Hotel Dieu Hospital Ledger, MS Works	undated
1	5	Copies of articles about Hotel Dieu; copy of Hotel Dieu Hospital Ledger, 1895 – 1901, extracted by Jack L. Austin, 2001	July 12, 1953; 2001