

Guide to
MS 105

Hugh Spotswood White collection

Span Dates, 1970 – 1971
Bulk Dates, 1971

1 inch (linear)

Processed by Carrie-Ann Chavez

June 22, 2015

Donated by Anne Perrin Kemp White, August 1971.

Citation: Hugh Spotswood White collection, 1970 – 1971, MS 105, 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

Biographical Sketch

Hugh Spotswood White, M.D., was born on October 14, 1875 to Thomas S. White and Sally Cameron White in Lexington, Virginia. White attended Washington and Lee University for two years, but was forced to drop out of school after developing tuberculosis. His parents sent White to Colorado for the drier climate, which was thought to help tubercular patients. Once he returned home, White worked at his father's store before being admitted to the University College of Medicine (now the Medical College of Virginia) in Richmond, Virginia. He graduated in 1900 and interned at Virginia Hospital, but soon left due to health problems.

Subsequently, White moved to Arizona where he lived and practiced medicine for a short time before moving to Pecos and Toyah, Texas, where he worked for five years. After which, White moved back east to pursue post-graduate work and training at Johns Hopkins University. Finally, in 1906, White moved to El Paso, Texas. On March 31, 1909, White married Anne Perrin Kemp, the daughter of Judge Wyndham Kemp.

White was a pioneer in early medicine and was especially experienced in dealing with medical epidemics of tuberculosis, smallpox, Spanish flu, typhus, and rabies. White established the El Paso Pasteur Institute where patients were treated for rabies in El Paso, instead of being sent to Austin, Texas. In order for White to successfully treat his patients, he would infect rabbits with rabies, and, after their deaths, remove their spinal cords, which were then "suspended in a bottle to be dried out and sterilized in order to treat patients infected with rabies."

White regularly performed surgeries with little help and often lacked proper equipment and space. He later worked toward opening El Paso's first accredited government hospital, called the "City-County Hospital." The City-County Hospital, originally located near Smelertown, was run by volunteer doctors and was successful until Thomason General Hospital was built at another location.

Hugh Spotswood White died in 1943. His widow, Anne Perrin Kemp White, passed away on January 24, 1972.

References:

Schuster, Betty, "Hugh Spotswood White," 1970.

White, Anne Kemp, "Doctors I Have Known," 1971.

Series Description or Arrangement

The Hugh Spotswood White collection is arranged in two series:

Series I. Manuscripts, 1970-1971

Arranged chronologically.

Series II. Correspondence, 1971

Arranged chronologically.

Scope and Content Notes

The High Spotswood White collection dates 1970 – 1971, bulk 1971. The collection is arranged in two series – Manuscripts and Correspondence. There are two manuscripts, one is written by Anne Perrin Kemp White, and the other is written by Betty Schuster, using interviews by Anne White. These manuscripts contain biographical information about Dr. White and information about medical care in El Paso during the early twentieth century. The correspondence series contains several letters to and from El Paso historian and archivist Leon Metz. Both series are arranged in chronological order.

Provenance Statement

Donated by Anne Kemp White, August 1971. Original accession number 701.

Restrictions

Photocopying of unpublished manuscripts is prohibited due to copyright restrictions. See **Notes to the Researcher**.

Literary Rights Statement

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

Notes to the Researcher

Researchers should also view:

Barbara K. Dent collection of medical history research, C.L. Sonnichsen Special

Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Eileen M. Wilson nursing collection, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

The Historical records of the former ASARCO El Paso smelter site, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

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

Hotel Dieu Hospital collection, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

John W. Cathcart medical lectures and publications, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Leon C. Metz papers, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Owen Payne White papers, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Container List

Series I. Manuscripts, 1970 – 1971

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
1	1	"Hugh Spotswood White, M.D." by Betty Schuster	1970 – 1971
1	1	"Doctors I have Known" by Anne Kemp White	1971

Series II. Correspondence, 1971, undated

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
1	1	Correspondence	1971, undated