



# **Guide to the Lincoln Hospital (Durham, N.C.) Records, 1901-1998 and undated**

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## Summary

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**Collection Title:**

Lincoln Hospital (Durham, N.C.) records, 1901-1998 and undated

**Creator:**

Lincoln Hospital (Durham, N.C.)

**Abstract:**

Durham, N.C. hospital established in 1901 Dr. Aaron Moore, Dr. Stanford Warren, and John Merrick to serve African Americans in the area. The Lincoln Hospital Records span the years 1901-1998, and primarily comprise the institution's administrative and medical files. The administrative records document the hospital's administrative history from the 1930s to the 1980s (bulk 1950-1976), primarily in files maintained by the hospital superintendents, especially Larry T. Suitt (1963-1977). There is also some information on the Lincoln Hospital School of Nursing. The medical records (1925-1983 and undated) include obstetrical, surgical, discharge, and death records. Some of these are currently closed to research. The collection as a whole documents the bi-racial cooperation that was involved in establishing, running, and maintaining the institution, and outlines the collaboration between Lincoln Hospital, Watts Hospital, and the Duke University School of Medicine in providing patient care as well as education for African American medical professionals. The medical records also demonstrate the emphasis superintendents placed on general record-keeping, statistics, and the documentation of a patient's medical history. Included is a Duke Endowment series that documents the funds the Endowment distributed annually to assist the hospital in meeting costs incurred by charity cases, equipment, and renovations. There are only a few items dated after the merger in 1976 and only one file regarding the institution's School of Nursing.

**Extent:**

19.9 Linear Feet

**Language:**

Material in English

**Collection ID:**

RL.00815

**Permalink:**

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m15p94>

**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Lincoln Hospital (Durham, N.C.) Records, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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## Background

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### Scope and Content

The Lincoln Hospital (Durham, N.C.) Records, 1901-1998 and undated (bulk 1930-1976), primarily comprise the institution's administrative and medical files. The administrative records document the hospital's administrative history (bulk 1950-1976), primarily in files maintained by the hospital superintendents, especially Larry T. Suitt (1963-1977). There is also some information on the Lincoln Hospital School of Nursing. The medical records (1925-1983 and undated) include obstetrical, surgical, discharge, and death records. Many of the records are currently closed to research as they contain personally-identifiable medical information, but there are some records that are open.

The collection as a whole documents the biracial cooperation that was involved in establishing, running, and maintaining the institution, and outlines the collaboration between Lincoln Hospital, Watts Hospital, and the Duke University School of Medicine in providing patient care as well as education for African American medical professionals. The medical records also demonstrate the emphasis superintendents placed on general record-keeping, statistics, and the documentation of a patient's medical history. Included is a Duke Endowment series that documents the funds the Endowment distributed annually to assist the hospital in meeting costs incurred by charity cases, equipment, and renovations. There are only a few items dated after the merger in 1976 and only one file regarding the institution's School of Nursing.

### Biographical/Historical

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
August 1901	Washington Duke covered construction costs and provided an initial \$5,000 endowment Hospital founded by Dr. Aaron Moore, Dr. Stanford Warren, and John Merrick; opened with 50 beds, admitting patients regardless of their ability to pay
1901-1923	Dr. Aaron Moore served as hospital superintendent

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1922	Original facility burned down
1923-1934	Dr. Charles Shepard served as hospital superintendent
1925	Second Lincoln Hospital opened
1934-1959	William Rich served as hospital superintendent
1960-1967	Frank W. Scott served as hospital superintendent
1967-1968	Ronald C. Foreman, hospital superintendent
1968-1976	Larry T. Suitt, hospital superintendent
1976	Hospital closed and merged with the Durham County Hospital Corporation

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Statement**

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Duke University

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URL: <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

## **Access Restrictions**

Access is restricted and permission is required. Collection contains potentially sensitive and personally identifiable medical information, so the Rubenstein Library has applied an access restriction. Records containing personally-identifiable medical information are closed to research and are stored separately from open materials. The RL Sensitive Materials Request form is available here: [https://duke.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8fblaT2NbgbQujj](https://duke.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8fblaT2NbgbQujj).

Medical records containing personally-identifiable information such as names, ages, social security numbers, addresses, and case information are currently closed to use and have been physically separated. Medical records with no personally-identifiable information are open for use. The collection has been screened for such records, but there may still be information in the collection that falls under the HIPAA Act or other privacy laws. For information on access to these records, please contact Research Services in the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

## **Use Restrictions**

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

## **Acquisition Information**

The Lincoln Hospital (Durham, N.C.) Records were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a transfer in 2003.

## **Processing Information**

Processed by David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library staff and student assistants, June 2004

Encoded by David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library staff and student assistants, August 2004

Updated for addition by Alice Poffinberger, July 2010

All files screened for personally-identifiable medical information; inventory updated by Paula Jeannet and Carrie Mills, July 2011.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Material

[Robert Edward Dawson Papers, 1939-1998](#) (Lincoln Hospital board member)

[Duke Endowment Archives Records, 1902-2008 \(bulk 1925-2006\)](#)

[Charles DeWitt Watts Papers, 1917-2004 and undated](#) (Chief of Surgery at Lincoln Hospital)

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## Names and Subjects

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- African Americans -- Hospital care
- African Americans -- Medical care
- African Americans -- Medicine
- African Americans in the professions
- Health services accessibility -- United States
- African American physicians -- North Carolina
- Hospitals -- North Carolina
- Medical care -- Utilization -- United States
- Durham (N.C.) -- History
- African Americans -- Health and hygiene
- Duke Endowment
- Duke University. School of Medicine
- Suitt, Larry T.
- Lincoln Hospital (Durham, N.C.)
- Watts Hospital (Durham, N.C.)

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## Collection Inventory

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### **Hospital Administrator's Files Series, 1963-1977 and n.d (bulk 1968-1976)**

**Physical Description:** 1650 items, 2.6 linear feet

Joint Executive Committee, 1976

Box 1

Medical Staff Minutes, 1968-1975 and undated <b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	Box 1
Loose material, undated	Box 1
Joint Executive Committee, 1975-1976	Box 1
Medical Staff Minutes, 1972-1973 and undated	Box 1
Executive Committee DCHC, 1976	Box 1
Development Committee, 1975	Box 1
Executive Committee DCHC, 1976	Box 1
Planning Committee DCHC, 1963-1975 (bulk 1975)	Box 1
Planning Committee, 1974-1975	Box 1
Building and Grounds Committee, 1976	Box 1
Planning Committee, 1975 and undated	Box 1
Education Committee DCHC, 1975-1976	Box 1
DCH Corporation, 1975-1976 and undated	Box 1
Executive Council Committee, 1975-1976 and undated <b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	Box 2
Filing System Materials, ca. 1973	Box 2
Executive Council Committee, 1975	Box 2
Bylaws, 1975 <b>Physical Description:</b> 4 folders	Box 2
Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee Meeting, 1968-1973, 1976 and undated <b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	Box 2
Economic Stabilization Program Bulletins, 1973-1974 <b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	Box 2

Education Committee, Education Sub-Committee, Executive Committee, 1972-1975	Box 2
<b>Physical Description:</b> folder 1 of 3	
Education Committee, Education Sub-Committee, Executive Committee, 1972-1975	Box 3
<b>Physical Description:</b> folders 2-3 of 3	
Revised Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, ca. 1970	Box 3
Lincoln Log and Miscellaneous, 1970-1972	Box 3
Hospital and Medical Staff Laws and Bylaws, ca. 1975	Box 3
<b>Physical Description:</b> 3 folders	
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>	
[Includes a Quality Review Center Seminar on the Accountability of Health Care Providers; Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals]	
Durham County Hospital Corporation Development Committee, 1975	Box 3
Pension Committee, Trustee Development, Ad Hoc Committee Trustees, Joint Conference, 1973-1975	Box 3
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Building, Grounds Planning Committee, 1973-1975 and undated	Box 3
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Finance Committee, 1975-1977	Box 3
<b>Physical Description:</b> folder 1 of 5	
Finance Committee, 1975-1977	Box 4
<b>Physical Description:</b> folders 2-5 of 5	
Board of Trustees Loose Materials, 1975-1976	Box 4
<b>Physical Description:</b> 4 folders	
Board of Trustees, 1971-1975	Box 4
<b>Physical Description:</b> folders 1-3 of 5	

**Scope and Contents note**

[Includes some Data Processing Steering Committee Minutes, 1974-1975]

Board of Trustees, 1971-1975 Box 5

**Physical Description:** folders 4-5 of 5

**Scope and Contents note**

[Includes some Data Processing Steering Committee Minutes, 1974-1975]

Data Processing Steering Committee,  
1973-1975 and undated Box 5

Medical Staff Reports, 1969-1973 and undated Box 5

**Physical Description:** 2 folders

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**Administrative Office Files Series, 1917-1989 (bulk 1930-1976)**

**Physical Description:** 2925 items, 4.6 linear feet

School of Nursing, 1953-1973 Box 6

Minutes, 1935-1940 Box 6

**Physical Description:** 2 folders

Miscellaneous records, 1922-1939 Box 6

**Physical Description:** 2 folders

Lincoln Charter, 1917, 1943-1956 Box 6

Deed giving over Lincoln Hospital land to  
County of Durham, 1950 Box 6

Federal Works Administration, 1943 Box 6

Deeds and Lincoln Charters, 1940s and 1950s Box 6

Board of Trustees, 1943-1973 Box 6

Lincoln Hospital log, 1968 Box 6

Needs, 1971-1973 and undated Box 6

Periodicals, 1960-1965 Box 6

Publicity, 1951-1961	Box 6
Women's Auxilliary, 1954-1976	Box 6
Directors' Correspondence, 1950-1969	Box 6
Staff Notes, 1948-1957, 1975	Box 6
Staff Notes, 1948-1955	Box 6A
<b>Physical Description:</b> 3 folders	
Building Committee's Report, 1948-1953	Box 6A
Publicity (periodicals), 1948-1956	Box 7
Executive Committee, 1967-1983	Box 7
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Staff Reports, 1971-1975	Box 7
Medical Staff Minutes, 1968, 1972-1976	Box 7
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Staff Reports, 1967-1972	Box 7
Staff Notes, 1973-1976	Box 7
<b>Physical Description:</b> 5 folders	
DCHC Personal Policy Manual, 1989	Box 7
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Annual Reports: Lincoln Hospital, Lincoln School of Nursing, 1923-1924	Box 8
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>	
[Includes annual finance reports and nursing school admissions and superintendent's recommendations for coming year]	
Board of Trustees: Durham County Hospital Corporation, 1974-1976	Box 8
<b>Physical Description:</b> 4 folders	
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>	
[Includes 1972-1973 Lincoln Hospital Utility Report]	

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Employment and Training, 1974-1976	Box 8
City of Durham, 1961-1976	Box 8
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>	
[Includes utilities, fire code, complaints]	
Durham Advisory Committee, 1973-1974	Box 8
Dedication Ceremonies, 1952-1953	Box 8
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
N.C. Medical Care Commission, Raleigh, Quarterly Meeting, December 18, 1953	Box 8
Lincoln Hospital, Lincoln Hospital Report, circa 1941, 1966	Box 8
Comprehensive Health Center, circa 1964	Box 9
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Fire Safety and Regulations, circa 1961-1967	Box 9
North Carolina Hospital Association, 1974-1976	Box 9
<b>Physical Description:</b> 4 folders	
Procedures in Record-Keeping for Hospitals, 1963	Box 9
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Survey of General Hospital Projects Built with Hill-Burton or State Assistance in North Carolina and South Carolina, 1959	Box 9
A Study of Preadmission Techniques in General Hospitals of North Carolina and South Carolina, 1963	Box 9
North Carolina State Board of Health, 1948-1976	Box 9
<b>Physical Description:</b> folder 1 of 2	

North Carolina State Board of Health, 1948-1976	Box 10
<b>Physical Description:</b> folder 2 of 2	
Duke University, 1952-1976	Box 10
<b>Physical Description:</b> 3 folders	
North Carolina Hospital Association, 1971-1975	Box 10
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
North Carolina Hospital Association Forms, 1975 and undated	Box 10
Lincoln Hospital Equipment List, undated	Box 10
North Carolina State Department of Administration, 1971-1976	Box 10
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Medical Staff, 1974-1976	Box 10
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Intern and Residency Program, 1955-1959	Box 11
National Association of Health Service Executives (NAHSE), 1973-1976	Box 11
<b>Physical Description:</b> 3 folders	
Durham County Hospital, 1950, 1970-1974	Box 11
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Report on fire safety of Lincoln Hospital, 1950	Box 11
Watts Hospital, 1948-1974 (bulk 1965-1974)	Box 11
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>	
[Contains recommendations, salary and financial information]	
Study Committee, Hospital Costs, N.C., 1950-1952 and undated	Box 11
<b>Physical Description:</b> folders 1-2 of 4	

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Study Committee, Hospital Costs, N.C., 1950-1952 and undated	Box 12
<b>Physical Description:</b> folders 3-4 of 4	
Andre Vann (Researcher and historian on NCCU History Faculty) 1942-1964, 1993	Box 12
County of Durham, E.S. Swindell, Jr., 1961-1975	Box 12
<b>Physical Description:</b> 3 folders	
Nursing Service Correspondence, 1969-1976	Box 13
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>	
Includes an undated hisotrical sketch of Lincoln Hospital School of Nursing.	
Robert W. Johnson Foundation, 1974	Box 13
Tarheel Hospital Financial Management Association (HFMA) News, 1970-1971	Box 13
North Carolina Baptist Hospitals, Inc., 1955, 1963-1964, 1975	Box 13
North Carolina Hospital Association, 1973-1976	Box 13
<b>Physical Description:</b> 4 folders	
Utilization Review Committee, 1971-1975	Box 13
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Intensive Care Unit (all types), 1973	Box 13
Operation Breakthrough, 1964-1973	Box 13

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### **Medical Records Series, 1925-1983 and undated**

**Physical Description:** 1085 items, 6.9 linear feet

**Use Restrictions:**

**CLOSED: With the exception of records in Box 13, which contain no personally-identifiable information, all materials in the Medical Records Series are currently closed to public use.**

### **Open Medical Records Subseries, 1955-1976 and undated**

**Scope and Contents note**

[Open to research use.]

Induced abortion case abstracts, 1967-1976 Box 13

Monthly case reports Box 13

**Scope and Contents note**

[Separated from the Operating Room index in Box 17.]

Operations performed by residents, 1955-1959 Box 13

**Obstetrical Records Subseries, 1928-1976**

**Access Restrictions:**

[CLOSED TO USE.]

**Delivery Room Records**

1928-1930, Record of deliveries Box 14

1930-1949, Delivery room record Box 14

**Physical Description:** 2 folders

1949-1955, Delivery record Box 14

**Scope and Contents note**

[Elizabeth Thorpe OR]

1957-1964, Delivery room record Box 14

**Physical Description:** 2 folders

1949 Jan. 1 - 1950 Aug. 31, Birth record Box 15

1965 Jan. 15 - 1970 July 1, Delivery room register Box 15

**Physical Description:** 2 volumes

Birth reports Box 16

1939-1970 Box 16

**Physical Description:** 13 folders

**Abortion permit forms**

1974-1976 Box 16

## Surgical Records Subseries, 1925-1976

### Access Restrictions:

[CLOSED TO USE.]

### Processing Information:

Mainly bound volumes rehoused in boxes according to their size, rather than by year. The records are listed in order chronologically; thus, the box numbers are not consecutive and, in some cases, repeat. This subseries is closed to use.

### Operating Schedule Records

1951 Feb. 1 - 1952 Nov. 3, Operation schedule and record	Box 21
1952 Nov. 17 - 1954 Aug. 7, Operation schedule and record	Box 22
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 volumes	
1955 Mar. 5 - Sept. 30, Operation schedule and record	Box 21
1956 Nov. 1 - 1959 July 6, Record of operations	Box 20
Undated, Operation schedule and record	Box 20

### Operating Room Records

1925-1926, Operating room index	Box 17
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 volumes	
1926 June 16 - 1935 Mar. 26, Record of operations	Box 19
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 volumes	
1939 May 24- 1945 July 24, Record of operations	Box 17
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 volumes	
1956 Nov. 1 - 1959 July 6, Record of Operations	Box 20

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1955 July 1 - 1958 June 30, Operations performed by residents Box 17

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1974 Jan. 3 - 1975 July 31 and 1976 June 22 - Sept. 23, Register of operations Box 18

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### **Recovery Room Records**

1971 Oct. 1 - 1976 Sept. 26, Recovery room record book, Box 19

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### **Discharge Records Subseries, 1925-1972**

#### **Access Restrictions:**

[CLOSED TO USE.]

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1928 Jan. 25 - 1933 Aug. 12, Patients' index to file Box 23

#### **Scope and Contents note**

[Includes loose paper with records from 1925 between pages 46 and 47.]

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1931 Feb. 20 - 1933 Dec. 25, Patients' Index Box 23

#### **Physical Description:** 2 volumes

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1932 Aug. 1 - 1936 Aug. 27 Consultations Box 23

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1935 Jan. 1 - 1936 Jan. 1, Patients' index Box 23

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1943 - 1972 and undated, Discharge records and service analysis Box 23

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1925 July 2 - 1926 Nov. 2, Discharge records Box 23

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### **Death Records Subseries, 1925-1983 and undated**

#### **Access Restrictions:**

[CLOSED TO USE.]

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1968-1976, Death reports Box 24

#### **Physical Description:** 4 folders

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1969-1983 and undated, Burial transit permits Box 24

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1970-1971, Death notifications Box 24

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1951-1971, Vital statistics [x-ray, admit/ discharge, body release, death certificate]	Box 24
<b>Physical Description:</b> 4 folders	
1962-1970, Death notification, disposal permits	Box 24
<b>Scope and Contents note</b> [Also includes deposit slips, 1974-1975]	
1970s, Miscellaneous birth and death reports	Box 24
1925-1933, Undertaker Registry	Box 25
1956-1976, Register of deaths,	Box 25
<b>Physical Description:</b> 3 folders	
Medical case number indices	Box 34
<b>Access Restrictions:</b> [CLOSED TO USE.]	
1936 Mar. 3 - 1936 Nov. 20	Box 34
1933 June 22 - 1934 Mar. 22	Box 34
Medical staff minutes, 1972-1973 and undated	Box 34
Medical staff minutes, 1968-1974 and undated	Box 34
North Carolina Hospital Association norms, 1975	Box 34
Medical staff reports, 1969-1972 and undated	Box 34
Staff reports, 1967-1975	Box 34
<b>Physical Description:</b> 3 folders	
Medical staff minutes	Box 34
Miscellaneous closed materials	Box 34

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## Financial Records Series, 1941-1976

**Physical Description:** 689 items, 2 linear feet

Accounts payable, 1967 Oct. - 1968 Apr. and undated	Box 26
Accounts receivable, 1967 Oct. - 1968 Apr. and undated	Box 26
Accounts Payable, 1971 Apr. 26 - 1976 Oct. 21	Box 27
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Account book, O.P.D. Emergency Dept., 1965 May 12 - 1967 Feb. 8	Box 27
Account book, 1972 June - 1974 Sept. and undated	Box 27
Loose papers, 1960 Oct. - 1975 Apr. and undated	Box 27
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>	
[Includes: "Distribution of Receipts," "Distribution of Cash Receipts," "Payroll Journal," "Receipts and Income Journal," "Disbursements and Expense Journal"]	
Lincoln Hospital income statements, 1966-1967, 1970-1974	Box 28
Lincoln Hospital financial statements, 1956-1957, 1962-1963, 1974-1975	Box 28
Lincoln Hospital budgets, 1969-1974	Box 28
Lincoln Hospital Report on Examination, 1970-1973	Box 28
Trustees' report, 1943-1971	Box 28
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>	
[Legal contracts and deeds]	
Securities, Fidelity Bank, 1941-1958	Box 28
Board of Trustees, 1950-1973	Box 28
<b>Physical Description:</b> 3 folders	

Campaign Fund, 1967-1968	Box 28
Statements of income and expense, 1970	Box 28
DCHC Finance Committee, 1970-1976	Box 29
<b>Physical Description:</b> 5 folders	
Statements of income and expense, 1944-1960	Box 29
Charges, 1971-1974 and undated	Box 29
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
The Doris Duke Foundation, 1950-1968	Box 29

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### **Legal Papers Series, 1901-1975 (bulk 1940-1975)**

**Physical Description:** 375 items, .6 linear feet

N.C. Medical Care Commission - Application for Donation, 1969	Box 30
Deed of Lincoln to County of Durham for \$10, 1950 March	Box 30
Original charter, 1901	Box 30
North Carolina Board of Medical Examiners (Dr. Joseph J. Combs, Secretary), 1958-1975	Box 30
Meeting of Trustees - Mr. Rich - Deed of Property to home, 1940	Box 30
Certificate of Incorporation and Amendments of Trustees, 1917-1972 (bulk 1940-1950)	Box 30
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Lincoln Hospital, deeds and Lincoln Charter, 1949	Box 30
WPA, 1943	Box 30
Lincoln Hospital, deeds and charters, 1950s	Box 30

Contracts and agreements, 1941-1975	Box 30
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	

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### Miscellaneous Series, 1930-1998 and undated

**Physical Description:** 80 items, 1.0 linear foot

"History, 1901-1966," circa 1966	Box 30
Integration of schools, circa 1955	Box 30
Miscellaneous Lincoln Hospital departmental heads file, undated	Box 30
Wasserman tuberculosis reports, 1930 Nov. 26 - 1933 Oct. 28	Box 30
Clippings, 1949-1963, 1998	Oversize-folder 1

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### Duke Endowment Series, 1925-1976 and undated

**Physical Description:** 850 items, 2.2 linear feet

Hospital statistics, 1933-1941	Box 31
Request for Assistance from the Hospital Section, 1925-1962	Box 31
<b>Physical Description:</b> 13 folders	
Request for Assistance from the Hospital Section, 1962-1973	Box 32
<b>Physical Description:</b> 8 folders	
Loose materials, undated	Box 32
Miscellaneous, 1959	Box 32
Notes on the revision of the Application for Assistance, circa 1965	Box 32
1956, 1970-1976	Box 32
<b>Physical Description:</b> 3 folders	

Comparative miscellaneous statistics,  
1957-1968

Box 33

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Hospital cost and service comparisons,  
1941-1958

Box 33

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