



# Guide to the St. Katherine's Hospital Records, 1849, 1865-1875

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## Table of Contents

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<a href="#">Summary</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Background</a> .....	4
<a href="#">Administrative Information</a> .....	5
<a href="#">Related Materials</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Names and Subjects</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Collection Inventory</a> .....	6
<a href="#">St. Katherine's Hospital Records, 1849, 1865-1894</a> .....	6

## Summary

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**Collection Title:**

St. Katherine's Hospital records, 1849, 1865-1875

**Creator:**

Royal Hospital and Collegiate Church of St. Katharine by the Tower (London, England)

**Source:**

Josiah Charles Trent History of Medicine Collections (Duke University)

**Abstract:**

St. Katherine's Hospital was founded in 1147 in London, England. Originally situated near the Tower of London, it was relocated to Regent's Park in 1825 and became a residential almshouse for the poor. Collection consists primarily of draft account books and rent account books for tenants of St. Katherine's, and two reports by Royal Commissions about St. Katherine's Hospital.

**Extent:**

0.2 Linear Feet  
22 Items

**Language:**

Material in English

**Collection ID:**

RL.01257

**Permalink:**

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1k95j>

**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], St. Katherine's Hospital Records, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Background

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### Scope and Content

The St. Katherine's Hospital records consist of account books and other financial, administrative, and legal records for the Royal Hospital of St. Katherine's of London during the last half of the 19th century, that offer many details on its properties, tenants, staff, grounds, and expenses. The draft account books itemize the rental of properties to tenants and the rent charged and received, as well as stipends paid to staff and other expenses. Other financial and legal records include a will, various internal reports, and the earliest item, a receipt (1849) from the Sailor's Home for a certain individual's upkeep and allowance. The rent account books cover items such as rent, taxes, and construction supplies for material upkeep, among others. Also included are two reports published in 1866 and 1871 by Royal Commissions who conducted an assessment and audit of St. Katherine's Hospital, with detailed reports on the condition and extent of its tenant farms, gardens, school, and buildings, and with maps of the hospital grounds. Finally, three pieces of correspondence from the 1870s pertain to financial and legal transactions.

Acquired as part of the History of Medicine Collections at Duke University.

### Biographical/Historical

St. Katherine's Hospital was chartered in Queen Matilda's reign in 11, and established near the London Tower. Its primary mission was to lead divine services in its church, educate poor children, and provide living quarters and medical care for a group of poor adults. According to reports in the collection, in the 19th century it was located in Regent's Park, County of Middlesex. It had a chaplain, a master, a small group of brothers and sisters, and 20 each of bedesmen and bedeswomen, a sexton, an organist, gardeners, other supporting staff, and tenants. Hospital staff performed various charitable support for the poor and led services in its chapel. They also administered a day school, which consisted of about 36 boys and 24 girls, who "were clothed but not fed." These children came from the households near St. Katherine's.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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

### Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

### 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 St. Katherine's Hospital Records were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a transfer from the History of Medicine Collection in 2011.

### Processing Information

Processed by Willeke Sandler, January 2012

Encoded by Willeke Sandler, January 2012

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Related Materials

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### Related Material

Bibliotheca topographica Britannica. No V. Containing the history of the Royal Hospital and Collegiate Church of St. Katharine, near the Tower of London, from its foundation in the year 1273, to the present time. Imprint: London : printed by and for J. Nichols, printer to the Society of Antiquaries; and sold by all the booksellers in Great-Britain and Ireland, MDCCLXXXII. [1782] British Library (Internet resource available)

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Names and Subjects

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- London (England) -- History
- Royal hospitals (London, England)
- Charities -- England -- London -- History -- 19th century
- Almshouses -- England -- London
- Maps
- Ledgers (account books)
- Poor -- Hospital care -- England -- London -- History -- 19th century
- Royal Hospital and Collegiate Church of St. Katharine by the Tower (London, England)
- Josiah Charles Trent History of Medicine Collections (Duke University)

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## Collection Inventory

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### St. Katherine's Hospital Records, 1849, 1865-1894

Correspondence, 1871-1875	Box 1
<b>Physical Description:</b> 3 items	
Draft account books, 1869-1872	Box 1
<b>Physical Description:</b> 5 bound manuscript accounts	
Financial and legal papers, 1849-1894	Box 1
<b>Physical Description:</b> 6 items	

Rent account books, 1865-1870

Box 1

**Physical Description:** 6 items

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Reports (official publications), 1866, 1871

Box 1

**Physical Description:** 2 items

**Use Restrictions:**

[Reports are fragile: please handle with care.]

[Return to Table of Contents](#)