## Arthur H. Aufses, Jr., MD Archives

# Finding Aid - John H. Garlock, MD papers (AA013)

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# John H. Garlock, MD papers

## **Table of contents**

| Summary information                          | 3 |
|--|---|
| Administrative history / Biographical sketch | 3 |
| Scope and content                            | 4 |
| Notes  | 5 |
| Access points                                | 5 |
| Series descriptions                          | 6 |

### **Summary information**

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### Administrative history / Biographical sketch

#### Note

""John Garlock was born in New York City August 29, 1896. He was an excellent student, completing the course at Townsend Harris High School in three years. He graduated with highest honors in his class including the prizes in Latin, Greek, German, and Zoology and he was Valedictorian of his class. Following premedical preparation at the College of the City of New York, he attended Columbia University and then the College of Physicians and Surgeons. He was elected to membership in the Alpha Omega Alpha honorary medical society and graduated in 1919 with the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Doctor of Medicine.

"He then won the coveted appointment to the Surgical Service of Dr. Eugene Pool at New York Hospital.... Two years after completing his training as House Surgeon he was appointed Assistant Visiting Surgeon at New York Hospital in 1923, Instructor in Surgery at Columbia University in 1925, and shortly thereafter Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery at Cornell University Medical College. During those early years he was concerned chiefly with general surgery, traumatic surgery, plastic surgery, thyroid surgery, and the surgery of the hand.

"In 1933 Dr. Garlock came to The Mount Sinai Hospital. He advanced rapidly through the Attending Staff ranks. Three and one half years later he was appointed Attending Surgeon and Chief of the Surgical Service. His was the opportunity to follow in the Mount Sinai tradition of gastrointestinal surgery. He gained extensive experience in the problems relating to the surgical treatment of peptic ulcer, gastric cancer, inflammatory diseases of the small and large bowel and surgery of the biliary tract, and contributed significantly to the literature of these fields.

"In 1937 the esophagus was still in the ""No Man's Land"" of surgery. Dr. Garlock undertook the challenge of the surgical attack on cancer of this organ and of the gastric cardia. It was not long before his work in developing successful new techniques won him world-wide recognition as a pioneer contributor on this hitherto inaccessible area. During ensuing years his interest in the esophagus led him to gain extensive experience in the therapy of other esophageal lesions as well including hiatus hernia, esophagitis, stricture, diverticula and achalasia.

"Dr. Garlock's contributions to the surgical literature number upwards of one hundred sixty-five publications including a monograph on the surgery of the hand and chapters on esophageal and intestinal surgery. His magnum opus, a book setting forth his extensive personal experience in the surgery of the alimentary tract, is to be published soon....

"Dr. Garlock has the unique distinction of being a founding member of the American Board of Surgery, the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, and the American Board of Plastic Surgery. He was also a member of the American Gastroenterological Association and the New York Surgical Society, and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the New York Academy of Medicine. Other honors included an invitation to give the John Hunter Luck Lecture at the Royal College of Surgeons in London in 1947 and to address the French Academy of Surgery a few days later to present his work in the new surgical treatment of cancer of the esophagus and gastric cardia. For many years he was Clinical Professor of Surgery at Columbia University. He was also a Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor and a honorary member of the Brazilian College of Surgeons, the Surgical College of Chile and the Japanese Surgical Association.

"...Dr. Garlock found time to develop interests in other fields. He served on various committees of the New York County Medical Society and served a term as its President. He was well known for his interest in music and was an accomplished pianist. In addition, he sponsored aid to indigent musicians and played an important part in launching the career of a well-known concert violinist. He also became adept as an amateur painter in oils and watercolors.

"Dr. Garlock was for many years interested in the Hebrew University in Israel. He was a Trustee of the American Friends of the Hebrew University, and as Chairman of the American Jewish Physicians Committee he directed fund raising activities for several years. In his honor, an operating room in the Hadassah Hospital bears his name."""

### **Custodial history**

These papers were given to the Archives by Dr. Garlock, and later by Mrs. Garlock, after her husband's death. The patient files were donated by Dr. Albert S. Lyons. An additional accretion was donated in 1999 by Dr. Arthur Aufses, Jr. In 2011, The Sicular Family donated Dr. Garlock's notebooks from his medical school days, as well as some reprints. These had been given to Dr. Arthur Sicular by Dr. Garlock's office manager after Garlock's death.

### Scope and content

This small collection spans the career of Dr. Garlock: from medical school material, to ambulance duty logs from his internship at New York Hospital, photographs and some case reports on plastic surgery patients, private practice patient records, Operative Clinic presentations he made as Chief of Surgical Service at Mount Sinai, to the book on surgery of the alimentary tract that was published after his death.

While the range is wide, the records still only provide a surface picture of the man. The detailed notes and sometimes colorful drawings that Dr. Garlock created in medical school speak to his attention to detail. The early volumes are labeled "John Harry Garlock." He also noted a change of address on the notebooks from 346 W. 56th Street to 180 Claremont Avenue. This move happened during his medical school years. His surgical acumen and style are brought out in the patient files and transcripts of the surgical clinics. The latter also give a glimpse into early plastic surgery at New York Hospital and The Mount Sinai Hospital. It was Dr. Garlock who helped establish plastic surgery as a surgical specialty here. The clinics were ended in January of 1943 for the duration of the War because there was a problem obtaining a sufficient number of orderlies.

Also instructive for insights into Dr. Garlock are the correspondence files, one with colleagues (Box 1, f.6) and the other with patients (Box 2, f.6). The ambulance log books in Box 1 show Dr. Garlock's keen eye for his surroundings and provide wonderful details on the people he treated and the treatments of the day.

Of note, too, is a series of letters Dr. William Hitzig wrote on behalf of Dr. Garlock when the latter was planning a trip to India. Dr. Hitzig had many connections there and wrote letters of introduction for the Garlocks. There is also a series of letters regarding a controversy between Drs. Sigmund Mage and Richard Lewisohn. (Box 1, f.9)

The patient records found here are only a portion of the files maintained by Dr. Garlock at his office. At his death, the records were divided among Dr. Garlock's junior colleagues. Many of those included here are the records of ileostomy and colostomy patients that were taken by Dr. Albert S. Lyons.

This collection contains some photographs, many of which are large and mounted. Thirteen posed publicity photos of unknown musicians and dancers were removed and sent to the Lincoln Center Archives for inclusion in their collections.

#### **Notes**

#### Title notes

#### Restrictions on access

This material is partially restricted due to the presence of HIPAA-protected information. Please contact the Archives (MSArchives@mssm.edu) for additional information.

#### Other notes

• **Publication status**: Published

Level of detail: Full

### **Access points**

- Columbia University. Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons
- Lewisohn, Richard (subject)
- Mage, Sigmund (subject)

- New York Hospital
- Hitzig, William M. (subject)
- Medical records (documentary form)
- Awards and Prizes (subject)
- Education, Medical (subject)
- Surgery, Plastic (subject)
- General Surgery (subject)
- World War II (subject)

## **Series descriptions**

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| Reference code  | Title  | Dates           | Physical description |
|-----------------|--|-----------------|----------------------|
| AA013.B002.F007 | File - Reprints/Papers   | 1926-1953       | 1 folder             |
| AA013.B002.F008 | File - Reprints/Manuscripts  | 1954-1962       | 1 folder             |
| AA013.B002.F009 | File - RussiaBooklets re: Health and<br>Sports Programs; Lecture Notes   |                 | 1 folder             |
| AA013.B002.F010 | File - World War II: Affiliated Hospital<br>Unit No.30, USPHSCorresp. re:<br>Establishment, Discharge                  | 1942-1946       | 1 folder             |
| AA013.B003      | File - Records on Patients with Heostomies and Colostomies   | circa 1940-1965 | 1 box                |
| AA013.B004      | File - Records on Patients with Ileostomies and Colostomies  | circa 1940-1965 | 1 box                |
| AA013.B005      | File - Photographs and Some Patient Notes<br>on Plastic Surgery Cases at New York<br>Hospital and Mount Sinai Hospital | 1928-1934       | 1 box                |
| AA013.B006.F001 | File - Columbia University College of<br>Physicians and SurgeonsGrades   | 1915-1919       | 1 folder             |
| AA013.B006.F002 | File - Notebook: Bacteriology Lectures &<br>Laboratory, Drs. Hopkins & Dwyer   |                 | 1 folder             |
| AA013.B006.F003 | File - Notebook: Clinical Pathology<br>Laboratory Notes, Dr. Vogel   |                 | 1 folder             |
| AA013.B006.F004 | File - Notebook: Gynecology Book I & II,<br>Drs. Ward & Cragin   |                 | 1 folder             |
| AA013.B006.F005 | File - Notebook: Histology, Dr. Sharpe   | _               | 1 folder             |
| AA013.B006.F006 | File - Notebook: Medicine Book I (Clinics & Recitations) and Book II (Clinics & Lectures)                              | 1917-1918       | 1 folder             |
| AA013.B006.F007 | File - Notebook: Obstetrics, Lectures & Clinics  | 9/1917-12/1917  | 1 folder             |
| AA013.B006.F008 | File - Notebook: Ophthalmology &<br>Urology  | Fall 1917       | 1 folder             |
| AA013.B006.F009 | File - Notebook: Pediatrics, Dr. Holt  | 1917            | 1 folder             |

| AA013.B006.F010 | File - Notebook: Therapeutics Book I and II  | Fall 1917           | 1 folder |
|-----------------|--|---------------------|----------|
| AA013.B001.F009 | File - Lectures, Programs; Corresp.  | 1953-1955           | 1 folder |
| AA013.B001.F001 | File - Ambulance Log Books from New<br>York Hospital Service (4 v.)  | 2/20/1919-7/30/1919 | 1 folder |
| AA013.B001.F002 | File - Awards  | 1945-1962           | 1 folder |
| AA013.B001.F003 | File - Clippings   | c1932-1962          | 1 folder |
| AA013.B001.F004 | File - Complications Notebook  | 9/1937-4/22/1942    | 1 folder |
| AA013.B001.F005 | File - Correspondence  | 1932-1965           | 1 folder |
| AA013.B001.F006 | File - Dinner on Reaching Consultant<br>Status at MSH, 5/1959-Invitation; Speech                                 | 1959                | 1 folder |
| AA013.B001.F007 | File - Follow-Up Clinic Notes  | 9/1937-1/1943       | 1 folder |
| AA013.B001.F008 | File - Garlock's Surgery of the Alimentary<br>Tract  | 1967                | 1 folder |
| AA013.B002.F006 | File - PatientsCorresp. with Patients and<br>Other Doctors   | 1945-1950           | 1 folder |
| AA013.B001.F010 | File - Lewisohn/Mage Controversy<br>Corresp. re: Mage Article which included a<br>Statement on Lewisohn's Cases  | 1938-1942           | 1 folder |
| AA013.B001.F011 | File - Medical Society of the County of New<br>York-Presidential Addresses                                       | 1953-1954           | 1 folder |
| AA013.B002.F001 | File - NotesCases to Present; Papers (c1938); Lectures on Cancer of Esophagus and Cardia and Ulcerative Colitis. | circa 1938          | 1 folder |
| AA013.B002.F002 | File - Official RecordsLetters of<br>Appointment; World War I and II<br>Discharges; c.v's; List of Publications  | 1919-1958           | 1 folder |
| AA013.B002.F003 | File - Operative Clinic Presentations<br>Transcripts   | 12/1939-12/1940     | 1 folder |
| AA013.B002.F004 | File - Operative Clinic Presentations<br>Transcripts   | 1941                | 1 folder |
| AA013.B002.F005 | File - Operative Clinic Presentations<br>Transcripts   | 1/1942-1/1943       | 1 folder |