

80
YEARS
1934 - 2014



MUSEUM OF
OSTEOPATHIC
MEDICINESM

ATSU
A.T. STILL
UNIVERSITY

The Museum of Osteopathic MedicineSM mission is to preserve and promote the history and tenets of osteopathy through collections and research to a global audience.

Like osteopathy itself, the Museum comes from very humble beginnings. Celebrating its 80th year of service to the osteopathic profession, the Museum of Osteopathic Medicine has shown steady and consistent growth.

Originally consisting of only two glass display cases in the main lobby of the school, the first effort to create an osteopathic museum began in 1934 on the campus of the Kirksville College of Osteopathy and Surgery - known today A.T. Still University

Over the ensuing years, an increase in artifact donations, books, papers and photographs led the museum caretakers to take several steps toward increased funding and visibility. By 1978, they began searching for a larger facility and in 1980 the Museum had its first independent building. The collection was moved into half of the Oklahoma Building, which had been a small patient clinic building located on campus next to the birthplace cabin and the first school.

By 1986 the Museum occupied the entire building, gaining office, exhibition, and storage space, but donations continued pouring in. Thankfully, in 1990 the osteopathic University opened discussions with Museum officials, offering space rent-free in its newly proposed Education Building.

In April 1995 the Museum moved into the Tinning Education Center, along with the Still Family Cabin and the First School of Osteopathy. Within a year the University incorporated the Museum as a department of the institution, providing a payroll, full access to University services, and new facilities.

For many years, the University's A.T. Still Memorial Library housed a special collection of historic materials known as The National Center for Osteopathic History (NCOH). This large collection contained osteopathic journals, early research, and Still Family artifacts, ranging from photographs to letters and manuscripts. The NCOH also featured a small reading room for both the serious student and the casual researcher of osteopathic medicine.

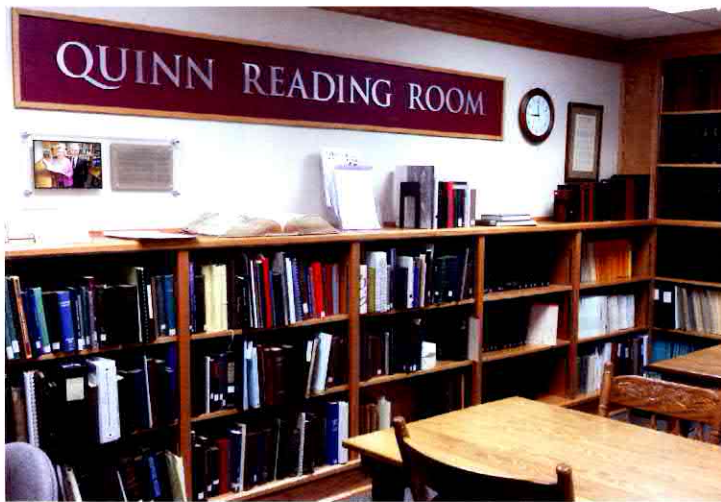


THE OLD DOCTOR'S MUSEUM

The two cases that held the first items from the Museum.

Left - Museum founder: Blanche Still Laughlin, DO

Read more about your history at: www.atsu.edu/museum



The Quinn Reading Room at the ICOH was created with a donation from Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Quinn

It became apparent that the Museum's mission was similar to that of the University's NCOH. When the College incorporated the Museum, the redundancy of the two collections became immediately evident. In the summer of 1997, the NCOH was placed under Museum management and the two collections consolidated. This process drastically increased the Museum's holdings and so began the long process of blending the materials of both institutions into one seamless collection. With this change the Museum nearly tripled the size of its collection, acquired the NCOH space in the basement of the George Still Building, and added two additional people to its staff. In 2010 the NCOH changed its name to the International Center for Osteopathic History (ICOH) to reflect its growth.

As a result of this consolidation the Museum created a long-term plan to address its needs related to projected growth; specifically additional work space and collection storage, gallery improvement and expansion, and operations/services. By 1999, collection storage and an exhibit workshop had been created off-site in the Annex Building.

Since 2002 the Museum staff, under the direction of Jason Haxton, has dramatically increased the museum's gallery space, exhibit contents, received thousands of additional artifact donations, hired additional staff, and increased domestic and international research services nearly ten-fold.

Meeting the needs of the ever expanding collection, the Museum acquired half of an old office space from the Gutensohn Clinic basement. This additional 3,000-square-foot space featured characteristics favorable to museum collection storage use: limited access (good for security), open plan (desired for adaptable collection storage), a better fire



Museum Gallery 2014

suppression system than our former location at the George Still Building, easy street access-visibility for visitors, and practically connects to the Museum exhibit space.

The Museum has engaged in projects that blend with the university campus and city with its Medicinal Garden featuring healing plants of Dr. Still's era, bronze sculptures, and a fish pond. Also, structural improvements and plants were provided to the gravesite of Dr. A.T. Still.

Now in its 80th year, the Museum is poised for its greatest dream, accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums. The humble Museum of two display cases will apply for the highest standards in the museum profession.

With future accreditation in mind, the plans have gone beyond just additional storage space to include:

- Full inventory of the museum collection
- Updating the online museum collection: <http://momicoh.pastperfect-online.com/>
- New exhibits
- Create a conference/training center
- Updating the lighting of the exhibit to LED lights to eliminate ultraviolet rays and save energy
- Update security to include keypad entry system to the collection and gallery
- Upgrade the journal project for easier usage

We need your continued support and donations to keep alive the dream Dr. A.T. Still and the thousands that have followed his efforts to provide care worldwide.

Make a Gift Now

To read more about the history of the Museum, or to make a donation go to www.atsu.edu/museum

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