

St George's Archives, University of London

Research Guide: Post-Mortem and Case Books (1841-1946)

Overview

St George's Archive looks after a fascinating collection of post-mortem examinations and case books. This research guide gives a brief overview of this collection and provides a full listing of the volumes held in the Archive (1841-1946).

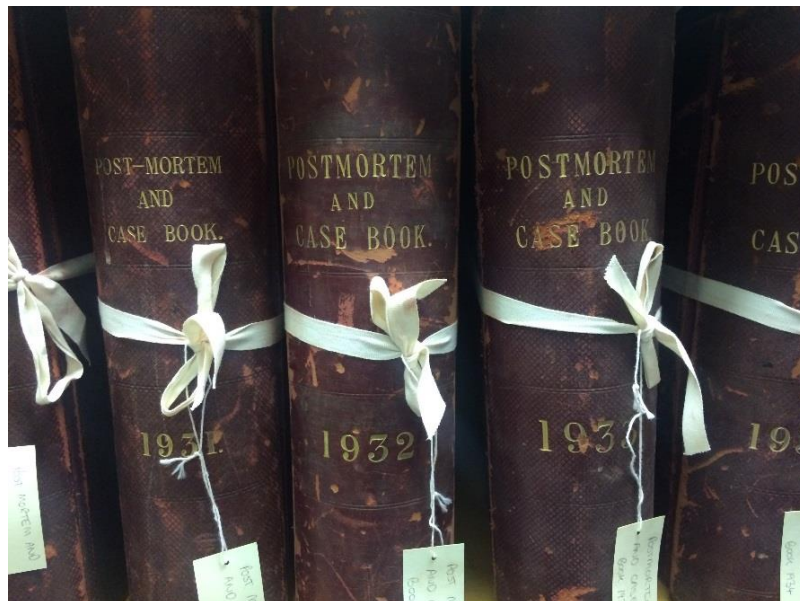
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Brief overview of the Post-Mortem and Case Books

The collection of post-mortem records held in St George's Archives span over one hundred years of history, and were described by pioneering physician Sir William Osler as the 'finest collection of its kind'. Osler stressed the importance of the post mortem in medical education and it has played an important role in the history of the Medical School, today St George's, University of London.

As well as the post-mortem examinations undertaken, the case books chart the bodies which went unexamined, many of which were transported to the nearby Medical School for the teaching of anatomy.



The bound volumes contain manuscript case notes. These provide very detailed reports of each case starting with the patient and presenting the history of the case, with a comprehensive report of the pathological findings made during the detailed examination of the body, including bones, joints, muscles and organs. From the 1880s onwards the case books feature original anatomical drawings.

Listing of Post-Mortem and Case Books held at St George's Archives

St George's Archives holds volumes of Post-Mortem and Case Books for the following years:

1841	1844	1845	1846	1847	1848	1849	1850	1851	1852
1853	1854	1855	1856	1857	1858	1859	1860	1861	1862
1863	1864	1865	1866	1867	1868	1869	1870	1871	1872
1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882
1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892
1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902
1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912
1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922
1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1942 & 1943	1944 & 1945
1946									

Further help and support

If you have any queries regarding these materials, or would like to consult them in our Reading Room, please contact us at archives@sgul.ac.uk

Please note that some materials may currently be restricted or unfit for access.