

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

College of Nursing

Historical Gallery

Self-Guided Tour

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Photos and captions by Anne Molineu



World War II Navy Nurse Corps Cape, 1942-1945

These black wool and velvet capes (maroon wool lining) were issued to World War II Navy Nurse Corps nurses as part of their uniforms. Capes were traditional garments for all nurses and were considered efficient outdoor wear for nurses frequently traveling between hospital buildings.

Florence Nightingale collection.

Florence Nightingale is considered the "Mother of the Nursing Profession"





School Uniforms – Milwaukee St. Mary’s School of Nursing, c.1924 & University of Wisconsin-Madison, School of Nursing, c.1929

Each school of nursing had their own unique uniform, as well as a cap and cape. The uniform on the left is the Milwaukee St. Mary’s School of Nursing (blue and white). On the right is the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Nursing (brown and white with a brown and turquoise cape).

Public Health

Public Health nursing started in the United States in the late 1800s with the great influx of European immigrants to large US cities. Most immigrant families lived in close and squalid conditions in tenement houses. As a result, disease and sickness spread quickly. Visiting nurses brought health care to patients and their families in their homes rather than hospitals. Nurses treated the sick and educated families on health care and general hygiene.

These badges were worn by local SE Wisconsin Public Health Nurses and Staff while on duty.





Dolls

In hospital schools of nursing, it was traditional that students replicate their unique uniforms for a doll. These dolls represent 6 different schools of nursing. The one in the graduation gown and the one in brown are from the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Nursing



Baby Bottles

These baby bottles, many dating back to the mid-1880s, indicate the changes in infant feeding.



Nursing Caps

The practice of wearing caps grew out of the religious and military tradition which often required formal head coverings. Each school of nursing had a unique cap that identified its graduates. A black or blue velvet stripe was added to the cap when the student nurse graduated. In the 1970s, the tradition of nursing caps began to fade.



Student Uniform—Milwaukee Hospital, School of Nursing (Lutheran Hospital), 1940s-1950s.



Bed warmers

Bed warmers were for TB patients who often slept outside during cool nights. The porcelain jugs were filled with hot water.



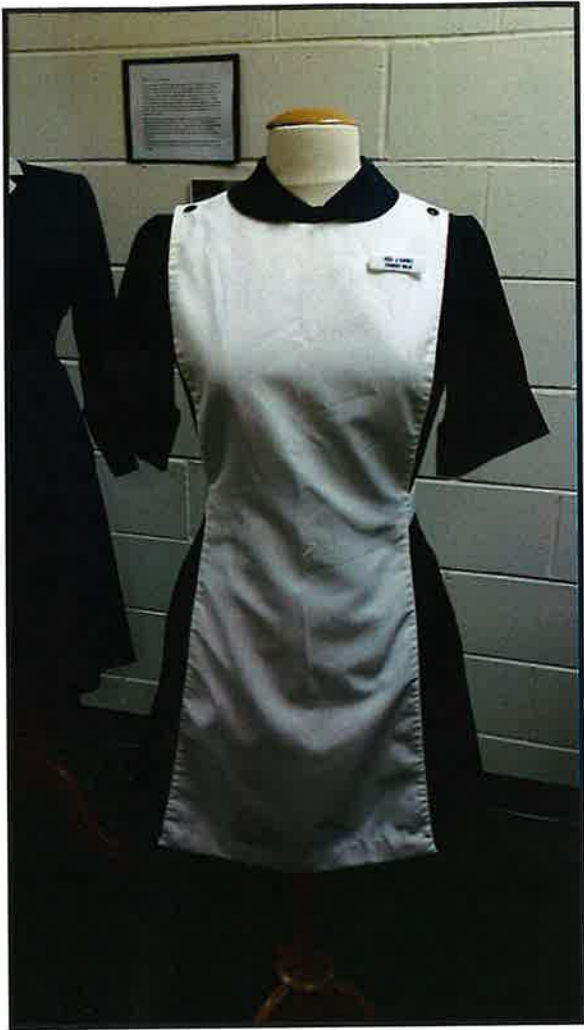
U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps Uniform, Poster and Display

U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps was established in 1943, during World War II, to recruit women into nursing. The program offered full room, board, and stipend in return for working in a hospital until the end of the war. The program officially ended in 1948, and graduated an estimated 125,000 nurses.

United Airlines Stewardess Uniform, ca. 1944.

In the 1930s, as US airlines increased their passenger service, they hired nurses as the first female airline stewardesses. Nurses tended to the needs of passengers and provided a greater sense of safety in the early days of flight.





University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, College of Nursing, Student Uniform, ca. 1971.

World War II Army Nurse Corps Seersucker Uniform, c. 1942-1945 & Original WWII Army Poster

Rare World War II Army Nurse Corps Seersucker uniform worn in extremely hot regions such as the China, Burma, and India theaters of war, as well as North Africa. The Original World War II poster shows Army Nurses wearing similar seersucker uniforms.





Frances H. Cunningham

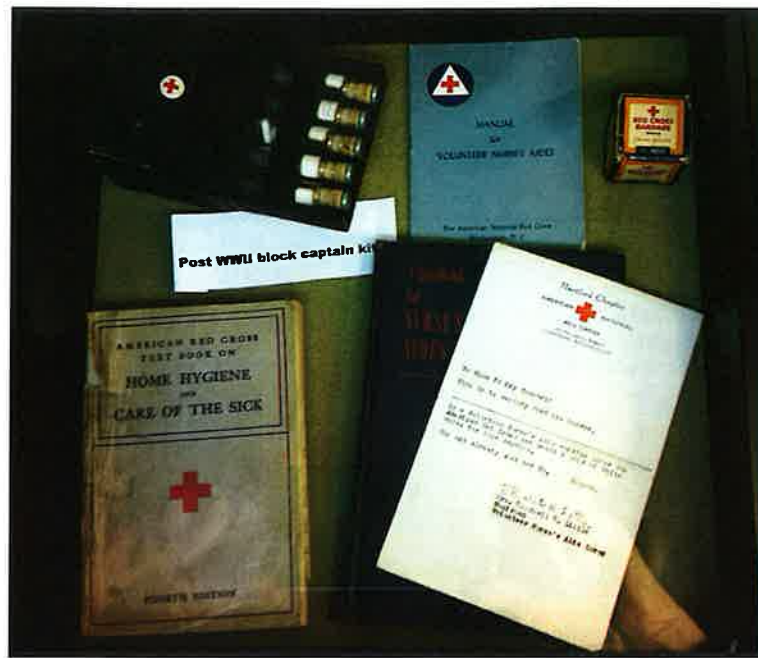
Cunningham was the first and only Director of the UW Madison Division of Nursing at UW-Milwaukee. She was active in facilitating the transition to School of Nursing at UW-Milwaukee. Cunningham was appointed Associate Dean of the UW-Milwaukee School of Nursing in 1967. Cunningham died in 1970.

US Navy Nurse Corps Uniform, 1971-1984

Black wool dress uniform, Lt. Commander insignia. Belonged to Professor Emerita Laurie Glass who served as a Navy Nurse, 1970-1990.

Original World War II US Navy Nurse Corps Recruitment Poster, 1942-1945





American Red Cross Nurses' Aide guides and kit. Post World War II.

After World War II, the American Red Cross trained Nurse's Aides to be part of the Civil Defense effort. The black case with medicine vials was used by block captains.



WWII Navy Nurse Corps Insignia, 1942-1945

Photos of Invelda Artz, Lieutenant in the US Navy Nurse Corps during World War II. The long black wool cape was also owned by Lt. Artz.



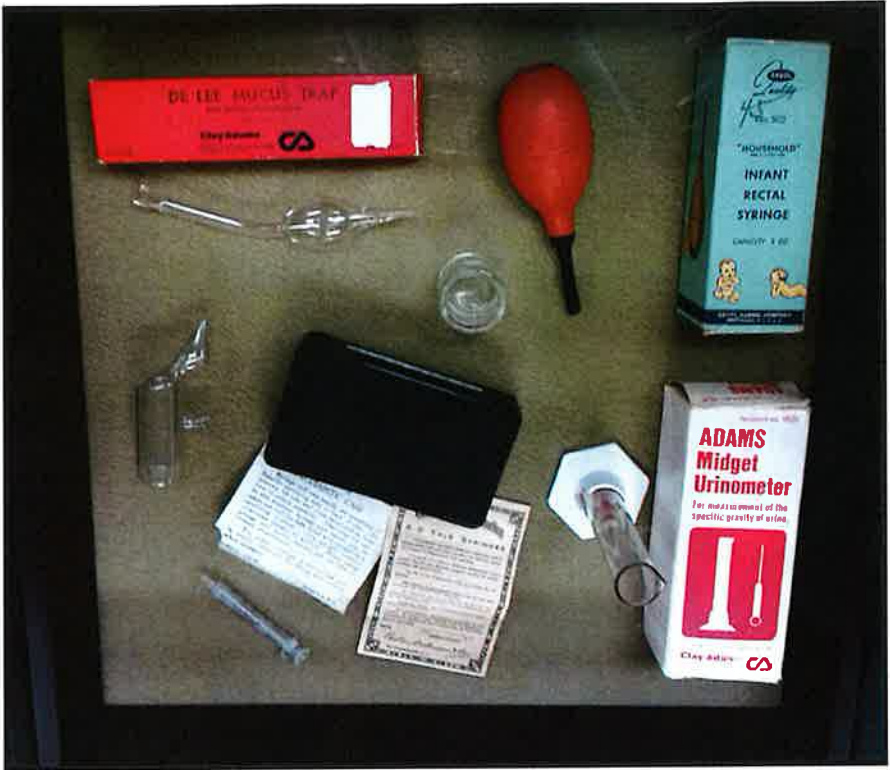
1. Uniform and Bathing Suit., c. 1917-1919

World War I Army Nurse Corps wool uniform and bathing suit.

2. Red Cross Recruitment Poster c. 1917-1919

The Red Cross recruitment poster was used to encourage nurses to join the Red Cross and be part of the war effort.

3. Wisconsin Student Nurses march in a parade in support of World War I. Parade route was along Prospect Avenue in Milwaukee, 1918.



Various tools of infant and child nursing, 1920s-1950s.



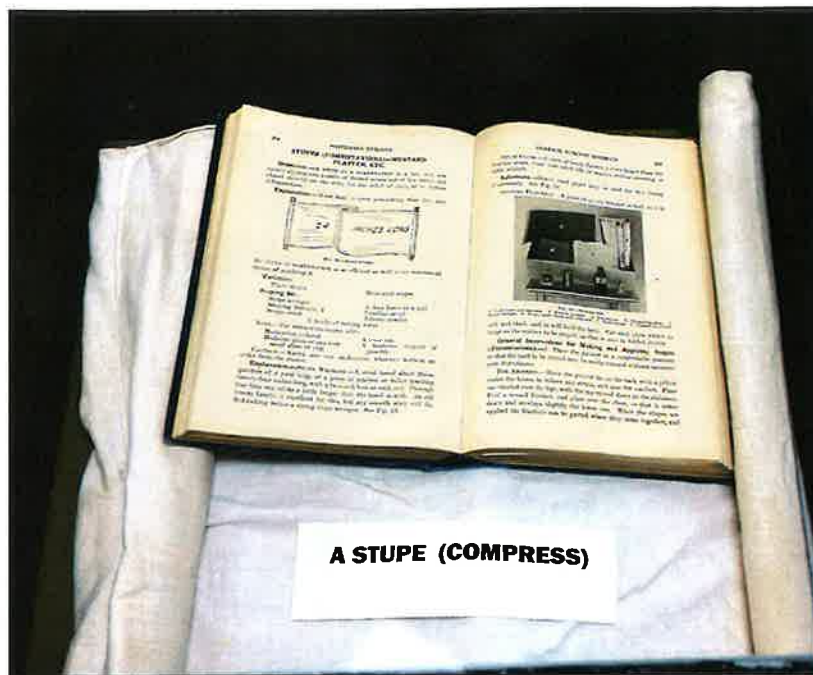
More "tools" for nurses to use.



Invalid feeders were used with a thin gruel cereal.
Glass drinking straws, c. 1900



Various tools including syringes from the late 1880s and early 1900s used for diphtheria vaccinations. The ice chopper was used to chip ice from the large blocks that were cut from the river.



A "Stupe," a wool compress. Note instructions and recipes in the textbook, ca. 1920s and 1930s.



World War I Red Cross Nurse Cap, invalid feeder and tray linen.

Ada Garvey was a World War I Army Nurse, ca. 1917-1919, recruited by the Red Cross. Later Garvey would become a Wisconsin county public health nurse. Included in this display are Garvey's 'dog tags', mess kit, and her scrap book from her "basic training."



Each nurse carried their own tools in their pockets or on their belts. These are examples of various types of cases.