

**GD34/ HELEN MILLAR LOWE PAPERS RELATING TO BRUNTSFIELD
AND ELSIE INGLIS MEMORIAL MATERNITY HOSPITAL
CAMPAIGNS**

Introduction

- 1 Hospitals Campaign, 1948-1958
- 2 Hospitals Campaign, 1975-1987
- 3 Campaigns: Miscellaneous, 1948-1993
- 4 Bruntsfield Hospital Statutory Document, 1899
- 5 Bruntsfield Hospital Annual Reports, 1908-1956
- 6 Journals & Publications, 1957-1958
- 7 Parliamentary Acts, Committee Reports & Hansard, 1947-1957
- 8 Women in Medicine Exhibition, 1975-1993

**GD34/ HELEN MILLAR LOWE PAPERS RELATING TO BRUNTSFIELD
AND ELSIE INGLIS MEMORIAL MATERNITY HOSPITAL
CAMPAIGNS**

Introduction

Helen Millar Lowe (10.12.1897 – 06.11.1997) became one of the first three female chartered accountants in Scotland. During her career she also instigated many projects in the service of elderly people, especially through the Edinburgh & Leith Old People's Welfare Council for which she was awarded an MBE in 1964.

She had a lifelong interest in the medical profession, mounting a successful campaign in 1957 to ensure that the Bruntsfield Hospital for Women and the Elsie Inglis Memorial Maternity Hospital employed only qualified *female* medical staff. She was treasurer of both hospitals when they were handed to the NHS in 1947 and also maintained roles in other medical organisations such as the South Eastern Association of the Medical Women's Federation of which she was appointed Honorary Auditor in 1978.

A second campaign to save the hospitals from closure in the 1980s was unsuccessful.

Related Units of Description:

LHB8 & LHB8A Bruntsfield Hospital and Elsie Inglis Memorial Maternity Hospital

GD34/ HELEN MILLAR LOWE PAPERS RELATING TO BRUNTSFIELD AND ELSIE INGLIS MEMORIAL MATERNITY HOSPITAL CAMPAIGNS

1 Hospitals Campaign, 1948-1958

This campaign to ensure employment of female-only qualified staff culminated in a public meeting held in 1957 at the Usher Hall, Edinburgh to protest against the appointment of male doctors.

- 1 File, "Bruntsfield & Elsie Inglis Hospitals. File No. 1. re Petition etc. 17.12.56 – 25.4.57", 1956-1957, (1 file)

Contains professional correspondence between Helen Millar Lowe and various interested parties including MPs.

- 2 File, "Women's Hospitals Campaign, File No. 2, Correspondence, 29th April – 30th Sept 1957.", 1957, (1 file)

Contains professional correspondence between Helen Millar Lowe and various correspondents, statistics concerning the number of female consultants appointed since 1948 and newspaper cuttings.

- 3 File, "Hospitals Campaign. BH & EIH, From 1st Oct. 1957 to 26th May 1958", 1957-1958, (1 file)

Contains professional correspondence between Helen Millar Lowe and various interested parties, including MPs. Including:

Letter to a supporter after the successful end to the campaign 'I need hardly say that we are all very well satisfied that Dr Marjory Keith has been appointed to Bruntsfield Hospital. We feel sure that the tradition of the Hospital will be maintained in the hands of the women Doctors who are now in charge', 23rd May 1958.

- 4 File, "Unified Letters and Telegrams", 1957, (1 file)

Contains professional correspondence regarding the meeting at Usher Hall in Edinburgh, signed petitions and resolutions in support of the motion, Court of Session report, and a Legal Opinion paper.

- 5 File, "Correspondence between Miss Lowe and the Dept. of Health for Scotland, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh and the Secretary of State for Scotland, from 8th January 1957 to 21st March 1957", 1957, (1 file)

- 6 File, "Platform Party 17/4/57", 1957, (1 file)

Contains professional correspondence between Helen Millar Lowe, the organising committee and supporters concerning the platform party at the Usher Hall meeting, includes letters of support and letters of regret at not being able to attend.

GD34/ HELEN MILLAR LOWE PAPERS RELATING TO BRUNTSFIELD AND ELSIE INGLIS MEMORIAL MATERNITY HOSPITAL CAMPAIGNS

1 Hospitals Campaign, 1948-1958

- 7 File, "Hospitals Campaign. Circular letters; copies of letters and general information", 1957, (1 file)

Contains various campaign papers, excerpts of reports, Court of Session records, Hospital Campaign Funds accounts, letters and copy letters.

- 8 File, "Hospitals Campaign. Extra Circular Letters; copies of Resolutions, letters and general information about Hospitals", 1956-1957, (1 file)

Contains various campaign papers, postcards regarding the Usher Hall meeting, ballad written about the campaign, resolutions regarding the Bruntsfield and Elsie Inglis Hospitals, memo to news editors regarding the meeting at Usher Hall, statistics of patients seen at the hospitals.

- 9 File, "Miscellaneous Papers", 1946-1985, (1 file)

Contains various campaign papers, includes postcards, notes, professional correspondence from Helen Millar Lowe, hospital statistics, excerpts from hospital minutes, newspaper cuttings from 1975-1993 campaign and a photograph of the Elsie Inglis memorial fountain in Serbia.

- 10 File, "Signed petitions and abstracts", 1957, (1 file)

Contains petitions and abstracts of accounts.

- 11 File, "Petitions received after 25th January 1957", 1957 (1 file)

- 12 File, "Usher Hall. Conditions of Let of Usher Hall", [1957] (1 file)

- 13 File, "Notes by Mr Harald Leslie, Q.C.", [1957] (1 file)

- 14 File, "Particulars re: the Appointment of Miss Branson", 1956-1957 (1 file)
Data Protection Act may apply

- 15 File, "Particulars re: the Appointment of a Surgical Registrar", 1955-1957 (1 file) **Data Protection Act may apply**

- 16 File, "Bank of England Advice of Transfers", 1949, (1 file)

Papers relate to shares held by the Elsie Inglis and Bruntsfield Hospital Endowment Funds.

- 17 "Press Cuttings re: Hospitals Case", 1956-1957, (1 volume)

Contains various press cuttings, photographs of the handing in of a 27,000 signatory petition against the possible appointment of a male consultant physician to Bruntsfield and Elsie Inglis Hospitals.

**GD34/ HELEN MILLAR LOWE PAPERS RELATING TO BRUNTSFIELD
AND ELSIE INGLIS MEMORIAL MATERNITY HOSPITAL
CAMPAIGNS**

2 Hospitals Campaign, 1975-1993

The campaign to save the hospitals from closure as part of NHS reorganisation in the 1980s failed with the Elsie Inglis Memorial Maternity Hospital closing in 1988 and Bruntsfield, after an initial reprieve in 1985, closing in 1989.

- 1 File, "Bruntsfield Hospital, Edinburgh. Started 18th June 1975. Finished 29th Nov. 1979", 1975-1979, (1 file)

Contains professional correspondence between Helen Millar Lowe and various correspondents regarding the campaign.

- 2 File, "Bruntsfield" Campaign Papers, 1957-1986, (1 file)

Contains reports, response of Edinburgh Health Council, figures of the hospital running costs, notes on the creation of the hospital, press cuttings, 'Edinburgh Health Council Newsletter Spring 1984, 'Patients Care about Patient Care' information booklet, notes of the 1957 platform party.

- 3 File, Campaign Papers, 1957-1980, (1 file)

Contains deputation notes, a Legal Opinion paper, newspaper cuttings and copy letters from 1957 campaign.

- 4 Press Cuttings of Bruntsfield Hospital Campaign, 1977-1987, (1 volume)

Contains newsletters: 'Women in Medicine', August 1977 and 'Edinburgh Medicine', August 1987.

**GD34/ HELEN MILLAR LOWE PAPERS RELATING TO BRUNTSFIELD
AND ELSIE INGLIS MEMORIAL MATERNITY HOSPITAL
CAMPAIGNS**

3 Campaigns: Miscellaneous, 1948-1993

1 Various loose papers, 1948-1993, (1 file)

Contains notes, balance sheet for Bruntsfield and Elsie Inglis Hospitals as at 04/07/1948 (NHS transfer), Jan 1988 edition of 'Mercat Cross', notes on Surgeons' Hall Riot 1870, newspaper cuttings regarding the campaign for an Urban Care Village 1993, notes on the accounts for Elsie Inglis Hospital 1992, notes copied from the Scottish Record Office regarding a lease from 1948, copy of 1922 minute of agreement and deed of trust for Scottish Women's Hospital.

**GD34/ HELEN MILLAR LOWE PAPERS RELATING TO BRUNTSFIELD
AND ELSIE INGLIS MEMORIAL MATERNITY HOSPITAL
CAMPAIGNS**

4 Bruntsfield Hospital Statutory Documents, 1899

Please see also LHB8 for records of Bruntsfield Hospital

- 1 'Trust Deed & Regulations of Edinburgh Hospital & Dispensary for Women', "Treasurer's Copy", 1899, (1 item)

**GD34/ HELEN MILLAR LOWE PAPERS RELATING TO BRUNTSFIELD
AND ELSIE INGLIS MEMORIAL MATERNITY HOSPITAL
CAMPAIGNS**

5 Bruntsfield Hospital Annual Reports, 1908-1956

Please see also LHB8/7 for Annual Reports wanting from this series.

1 1908-1909

2 1909-1910

3 1910-1911

4 1911-1912

5 1912-1913, (2 copies)

6 1913-1914

7 1914-1915

8 1915-1916

9 1916-1917

10 1917-1918

11 1918-1919

12 1919-1920

13 1920-1921

14 1921-1922

1922-1935 wanting

15 1935-1936

1936-1938 wanting

16 1938-1939, (2 copies)

17 1939-1940

18 1940-1941

19 1941-1942

1942-1955 wanting

20 1955-1956

**GD34/ HELEN MILLAR LOWE PAPERS RELATING TO BRUNTSFIELD
AND ELSIE INGLIS MEMORIAL MATERNITY HOSPITAL
CAMPAIGNS**

6 Journals and Publications, 1957-1958

- 1 British Medical Journal, July 1957, (1 item)
- 2 The Lancet, Vol 1, April 1958, (1 item)
- 3 “The Relations Between the Hospital and its Community”, paper given at the World Health Organization Symposium, 3-13 November 1958, by Dr C. M. Fleming, Dept. of Health for Scotland, (1 item)

**GD34/ HELEN MILLAR LOWE PAPERS RELATING TO BRUNTSFIELD
AND ELSIE INGLIS MEMORIAL MATERNITY HOSPITAL
CAMPAIGNS**

7 Parliamentary Acts, Committee Reports & Hansard, 1947-1957

- 1 NHS (Scotland) Act 1947 Ch. 27, 1947, (1 item)
- 2 NHS (Amendment) Act 1949 Ch. 93, 1949, (1 item)
- 3 NHS Act 1951 Ch. 31, 1951, (1 item)
- 4 NHS Act 1952 Ch. 25, 1952, (1 item)
- 5 “The General Practitioner and the Hospital Service”, Report by a Joint Sub-Committee of the Medical, Hospital & Specialist Services and General Practitioner Services, Standing Advisory Committees, 1952, (1 item)
- 6 “Scottish Committee Memorandum of Evidence to the Developmental Committee on Manpower in the Medical Profession”, British Medical Association (Scottish Office), June 1956, (1 item)
- 7 Hansard, Vol 567, No. 79, 25 March 1957, (1 item)
- 8 “Written Answer to Questions”, 25 March 1957, (1 item)
- 9 Hansard, Vol 572, No. 134, 4 July 1957, (1 item)

**GD34/ HELEN MILLAR LOWE PAPERS RELATING TO BRUNTSFIELD
AND ELSIE INGLIS MEMORIAL MATERNITY HOSPITAL
CAMPAIGNS**

8 Women in Medicine Exhibition, 1975-1993

Much of the exhibition seems to have focused on the female Scottish doctors working in Serbia in 1915, including Elsie Inglis.

- 1 “Women in Medicine Exhibition, Started: 3rd December 1975, Finished: 2nd August 1978”, 1975-1978, (1 binder and 1 file)

Contains professional correspondence between Helen Millar Lowe and various correspondents, excerpts from the exhibition, letters regarding the publication of “Quality of Mercy” book and letters to Reverend Macnicol, great-nephew of Elsie Inglis.

- 2 File, “Women in Medicine Exhibition, Started: 2nd August 1978, Finished:”, 1978-1993, (1 file)

Contains professional correspondence between Helen Millar Lowe and various correspondents.