

Guide to the James A. Baker Collection 2005-005

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives
2013/04/04
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Summary Information

Repository	Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives
Creator - Actor	Baker, James Adolph, M.D., 1906-?
Title	James A. Baker Collection
Date [inclusive]	1938-1966
Extent	2.0 Linear feet
Location	Room 440, Historical Collections & Archives, Oregon Health & Science University.
Language	English
Abstract	The James A. Baker Collection is primarily concerned with the military records of James Adolph Baker, M.D. They were created and collected by Dr. Baker and donated to the University by his grand-daughter Sarah Munro.

Preferred Citation

James A. Baker Collection, Accession # 2005-005, Historical Collections & Archives, Oregon Health & Science University

Biography/Historical

James Adolph Baker, M.D. rose to the rank of Major in the National Guard of the Medical Corps, US Army. He served in WWII in the East Indies, Papua, Bismarck Archipelago, New Guinea and Leyte as Medical Officer: General Duty, in the SWPA (South West Pacific Area) infantry division as Battalion [Bn.] Surgeon.

He completed 1 year and 2 months in continental service at Brooke General Hospital, Fort Sam Houston, Texas in surgical service and in orthopedic service at Madigan General Hospital at Fort Lewis, Washington, as well as 2 years and 5 months in Foreign Service. He was awarded 6 Bronze Stars and a WWII Victory Medal. Dr. Baker's National Guard service was terminated in 1954.

Born in Gaston, Oregon on June 4, 1906, he had a brother, Russel L. Baker and sister, Fern Catherine Glover. About his younger years, Dr. Baker writes: " Summer vacations were spent at various jobs such as; logging camps; saw mills; farms; during high school I worked part time in a drugstore; the summer of 1929, I spent in Alaska, working for the Fair Banks Exploration Company, a large gold dredging outfit; during my four years medical school vacations, I spent as the night shipping clerk for the Gridley Dairy Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. My last two years of medical school I spent the evenings operating the switchboard at the Deaconess Hospital, Milwaukee, Wisconsin". He later married Laura Lee Baker and resided at 1414 SW 6th Avenue, Aberdeen, Washington.

James Baker received a B.A. from Pacific University, 1925-1929. He also attended the University of Oregon, during the school year 1929-1930, but did not receive a degree. He matriculated in 1930 at Marquette University, School of Medicine in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he received his M.D., graduating, in 1934. He served at New York Polyclinic Hospital, New York, N.Y., as rotating intern from 1934-1936, and was surgical chief resident, 1937-1940.

Dr. Baker entered general practice in 1940 in Aberdeen, Washington, as a physician and surgeon and had a very busy industrial practice. He was on the staff of Grays Harbor Community Hospital, Aberdeen, Washington and St. Joseph Hospital, also in Washington State. He was also a contract physician and surgeon for the US Public Health Service.

Dr. Baker served as Diplomate of the National Board of Medical Examiners, 1939 and also held memberships in the American Medical Association, Grays Harbor Medical Society, the Association of Military Surgeons and the American College of Surgeons.

Scope and Contents

The bulk of the materials in the collection consist of the military records of James A. Baker, date range 1938-1966. The collection also contains a small amount of material pertaining to his civilian medical

practice, including some patient records (1936-1977); one folder that contains the records of his brother, a patient with Parkinson's Disease, originally in a folder marked, "Russel Baker"; a small handwritten book of class notes and experiments on Organic Chemistry; a manuscript: an "Historical Outline: The early history of blood transfusion"; financial statements relating to lease agreements; four copies of Time Magazine and miscellaneous published articles. The collection records had not been kept in any particular order. Please see the collection inventory for more detailed information.

Arrangement

Collection is housed in 2 document boxes and one large flat box for oversized materials. Folders numbered consecutively through boxes 1 and 2.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives 2013/04/04

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open to the public.

Conditions Governing Use

The OHSU Historical Collections & Archives is the owner of the materials and makes available reproductions for research, publication, and other uses. Written permission must be obtained from the OHSU HC&A before any reproduction use. The OHSU HC&A does not necessarily hold copyright to all of the materials in the collections. In some cases, permission for use may require seeking additional authorization from the copyright owners.

Processing information

The materials were created/collected by James Adolph Baker, M.D. Sarah Munro, grand-daughter of Dr. Baker, donated the collection to the OHSU Historical Collections & Archives in the fall of 2004. The OHSU HC&A archivist processed the materials in May of 2005.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials

Oregon State Medical Society Accession No. 1997-003 Service Bulletin Cliff Morris Papers Accession No. 1998-006 Hills, Hilterbrant and Richards Papers Accession No. 1998-007 Evert A Tinker Photograph Albums Accession No. 2000-005 Colonel Strohm's Nurses Photograph Album Accession No. 2000-006 Charles F. Norris Photograph Album Accession No. 2000-007

OHSU Oral History Project Cliff Morris Donald Devlin E. Murray Burns Ruby Hills, Katherine Fisher Hildebrandt, and Edith Moore Richards

PNW Archives Burns, Edgar Murray, Notes on the U.S. Medical Service 46th General Hospital in WWII: history of the Oregon Neuropsychiatric Society. [1945-1979?]

Diack, Arch W. 46th General Hospital: University of Oregon Medical School in World War II, 1942-45, a sketch journal. Published by Arch W. Diack, 1986

Hills Ruby, Remembering Our Experiences in WWII: 1942-45, 1991. World War II and the Greatest Generation [video recording]: the University of Oregon Medical School history. [Produced by] Linda Weimer, Joan Ash. Portland: Oregon Health & Science University, 2001

Controlled Access Headings

Geographic Name(s)

- Oregon
- Washington (State)

Occupation(s)

- Military Medicine
- Physicians

Personal Name(s)

- Munro, Sarah

Subject(s)

- Medicine and Health
- Surgery
- World War II

Collection Inventory

B1

F1 Documents, US Army and Washington State National Guard 1945-1964

F2 WWII records 1941-1945

F3 Service documentation, postwar 1942-1965

F4 Reserve and Inactive service records 1955-1966

F5 Wartime Miscellany 1942-1944

B2

F6 Patient medical and autopsy records. Patient Information rules apply. 1937-1977

F7 Blood Transfusion-manuscript no date

F8 Leases and stocks 1951-1961

B3 Oversize

F9 Article reprints & miscellany I 1936-1980

F10 Article reprints & miscellany II 1936-1979

F11 Patient file Russel L. Baker (brother) PI rules apply. 1969-2006

F12 Miscellany 1947-1955

B3 Oversize

Color map of Buna sector Papua-New Guinea

Trace map of invasion beach New Guinea

Black & white map Ft. Lewis, Wa.

1 small American flag