

Collection #
P 0847

**DR. ROSELYN GREENE COLE PHOTOGRAPHS,
1951–1952; 2023**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 box of photographs; 5 folders of negatives

COLLECTION DATES: 1951–1952; 2023 manuscript in photograph box

PROVENANCE: Gift from Roselyn R. Greene Cole, Ed.D., in February 2021

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ACCESSION NUMBER: 2021.0028

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

At the end of the first decade of the twentieth century, more than six hundred residents of Marion County had been dying each year of tuberculosis, while five thousand others in the county suffered from the disease. Yet there were only thirty-seven hospital beds available for such patients. On 6 March 1914, the Marion County Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis presented a petition to the Marion County Council stating the need for a sanatorium for the care of patients with tuberculosis. A sanatorium committee was appointed on 23 April of that year. A property tax was levied to raise funds, and by June 1915, county commissioners were able to purchase thirty-seven acres of wooded ground near Oaklondon for \$12,000 from the tax levy. Additional acreage was purchased later.

On 15 January 1916, \$80,000 was appropriated for building the sanatorium, and W.E. Russ was employed as the architect. The cornerstone was laid on 22 July 1916. A contest was held to name the new institution, and a committee, headed by James Whitcomb Riley and including other notables, was appointed to choose the winning name – Sunnyside.

Sunnyside, the Marion County Tuberculosis Hospital, opened on 15 September 1917, with Dr. Harold Hatch as superintendent and Mrs. Carrie Hudnall as superintendent of nurses to train staff. In the beginning there was only a one-story administration building and a smaller building housing a laundry and power plant. A dining room and kitchen were soon added to the main building. In 1922, two wooden portable buildings were set up for temporary use for World War I veterans with tuberculosis. In 1923 residences for the superintendent and an assistant superintendent came into being along with two twenty-four bed cottages for adult patients and a forty-eight bed children's building. In 1927 a two-story infirmary and the nurses' home were erected, and a second story was added to the main building. A greenhouse was constructed in 1929 and a recreation hall was built in 1940.

Tuberculosis primarily affected the lungs, and the principal treatment was rest. One early treatment was called pneumothorax, which purposely collapsed the lung. The first pneumothorax performed in Indiana was done at Sunnyside on 21 December 1917. Additional treatments were developed over time, including thoracoplasty (removal of portions of ribs on the affected side) and surgical removal of lobes of a lung or an entire lung. The first surgeries done on Sunnyside patients, beginning in 1927, were done at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. About 1941 remodeling of the surgery at Sunnyside was completed with a large operating room and sterilizing and work rooms. In the early 1940s surgeries were done at Sunnyside. In 1945 there was a shortage of surgeons due to World War II, so then major surgeries were done at Methodist Hospital.

The original laundry building was remodeled for lab work in the 1920s, and in 1941 the lab acquired guinea pigs for research. An x-ray machine was purchased in the 1920s. By the early 1950s, Sunnyside's laboratory and x-ray departments were considered two of the best in the state.

An educational system for the children at Sunnyside was implemented in 1918; education for adult patients was introduced in 1939. Occupational therapy was offered beginning in 1920. A dietician was added to the staff in 1937.

Other services provided at Sunnyside included a library, entertainment, social services, and religious services. The Sunnyside Guild was founded in 1920 by a group of women who raised funds to improve the lives of the institution's patients. A second group, the Children's Sunshine Club, was formed in 1923 specifically to benefit the children at Sunnyside. During the 1930s, goats and horses wandered the eighty-three acres of land at Sunnyside. In 1946, a Patients' Council was established, consisting of one elected representative from each ward. They met regularly with the hospital administrator. They published a monthly magazine called *The Rainbow* from 1937 to 1942; this was succeeded by a newspaper titled *Sunnyside* published at the hospital.

Sunnyside operated until 1969, when new treatments for tuberculosis made the facility obsolete.

Sources:

A History of Sunnyside Sanatorium, 1917–1952. Marion County Tuberculosis Hospital, Marion County, Indiana, 1952. Pamphlet Collection: pam RC 309 .I6 H57 1952

McDonell, Katherine Mandusic. "Medicine." In *The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*, edited by Bodenhamer, David J. and Robert G. Barrows. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1994: 129. General Collection: F534 .I55 E4 1994

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Dr. Roselyn Greene Cole was born to Mamie Harrington (Greene) Townsend and Thomas Greene in Indianapolis in 1937. She grew up in a fourth-floor apartment in Lockefield Gardens in Indianapolis. While she was a seventh grader at School #42, she developed a cough. She had been used to being able to speedily run up the stairs to her family's apartment, but found she had to rest at each landing. Her mother took her to be x-rayed at the health center at Flanner House, and a spot was found on one of her lungs. A patch test yielded a positive result, but it was not until a sputum test was positive that she was diagnosed with tuberculosis when she was in the eighth grade in December 1950. As an African American, she had to wait for a bed to become available in Trudeau Hall, which by then had been changed from being the children's building to one housing Black patients. As a thirteen-year-old, she should have been housed in the children's ward, but that was for white patients only. She was admitted to Sunnyside in March 1951; by that time, she had been sick and coughing for more than a year.

In Trudeau Hall, women stayed on the second floor, while men were housed on the first floor. On each floor, beds were lined up in one large room. There were movie nights and television nights for men and women jointly in Trudeau Hall. Visitors were allowed on Sundays.

In June 1951 Roselyn received her eighth-grade diploma in the mail from School 42, even though she had not been in class for several months. Around Labor Day that year, her mother married Calvin Townsend, who became Roselyn's stepfather. A nurse, Mrs. Laura Negley (1896–1954), was a major positive influence in Roselyn's young life. While in the hospital, Roselyn helped the nurses give back rubs to her fellow patients.

Roselyn was part of an experiment at Sunnyside when Dr. Marcelino Fernando Guzman (1914–1990) removed a lobe from her left lung, which proved to be a successful treatment for her. A few months later, in the summer of 1952, she was sent home, but was to rest in bed and be schooled at home. In the spring and fall semesters of 1953, she attended school half-day at Arsenal Technical High School. She was assigned to a home room that was for students with disabilities who had classes near their home room. She graduated in 1955.

Roselyn was told that she should not engage in physical labor and should consider college. She earned her bachelor's degree in speech and hearing therapy at Indiana University in Bloomington. She went on to earn her master's degree in special education administration at St. Mary's College in South Bend and then her doctorate in educational administration at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan. She served as the principal at Dickinson Middle School in South Bend, retiring from that position in 1987.

Now going by the nickname "Doc," she was hired as program manager for I-Star, a substance abuse prevention program in middle schools in Indianapolis. She served in that position from 1987 to 1990. She then went to work as director for her mother's business, Auntie Mame's Child Development Center, retiring from that in 2006. She had also started a preparation program for people seeking Child Development Associate certification, and as of 2023 continues that work. Doc also began working at the Indiana Historical Society as an exhibit facilitator in 2008, and as of 2023 continues working in its Museum Theater department.

Sources:

Cole, Dr. Roselyn Greene. Personal communication, 14 December 2022.

Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899–2017 (ancestrylibrary.com). Accessed 17 January 2023.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of black-and-white photographs taken by Roselyn Greene Cole primarily during her time as a patient at Sunnyside, the Marion County Tuberculosis Hospital, in 1951–1952. They include photos of patients, nurses, doctors, other staff, student nurses, and visitors. There is a photo of the exterior of Trudeau Hall, the building that housed African American patients. There are a few photos taken earlier in 1951 of Roselyn and her parents at Lockefield Gardens, and a view of a playground taken from the roof of an apartment building there. The few photos that include Roselyn were taken by someone else with her camera. Some negatives are included. There is one printed item: a small card providing instructions for how to perform insufflation (rescue breathing). A typed manuscript was added to this collection by Dr. Cole in August 2023 (Box 1, Folder 19).

The photographs were removed from an album for preservation reasons; the photos are arranged in this collection by the page number from the album. A small number of photographs were received in an envelope, not in the album. Name spellings come from the album and may not be accurate.

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Mamie and Thomas Greene at Sunnyside	Box 1, Folder 1
Roselyn Greene at Sunnyside with Easter basket [ca. April 1952] (photo has some damage at top)	Box 1, Folder 1
Roselyn Greene sitting up in bed at Sunnyside (photo is damaged)	Box 1, Folder 1
Trudeau Hall exterior, Sunnyside	Box 1, Folder 2
Group of student nurses at Sunnyside	Box 1, Folder 2
Three photos of patient Betty Jean Davis; in one she is receiving a back rub from a nurse	Box 1, Folder 2
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Four photos of unidentified female patients in their beds in Trudeau Hall	Box 1, Folder 2
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Page 2 from album (July 1951): patient Rosalie Kerpatrick [Rosalie M. Kirkpatrick (Garvin), 1934–2013]; patients Georgia Martin and Anna Marie Smith outdoors; patient Anna Marie Smith and mother; Mamie Greene visiting Sunnyside.	Box 1, Folder 3

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Page 4 from album: patients Roxie Adair and Georgia Martin outdoors (July 1951); patient Francis [Frances] Ealy (September 1951); patients Ruth Glaspie and Elsie Highbaugh (July 1951); Mr. Davis [father of patient Betty Davis] visiting Sunnyside (July 1951); patient Beatrice Dennis (July 1951).	Box 1, Folder 4
Page 5 from album (July 1951) – staff: Margaret Sharritt; Carey Keilcoff; Edna Gregory.	Box 1, Folder 5
Page 6 from album (July 1951) – [Roselyn’s parents visit her at Sunnyside]: “Fatso ‘The Fat Woman’” [Mamie Greene]; “Public Enemy No. 201” [Thomas Greene]	Box 1, Folder 5
Page 7 from album (July 1951) – patients: Elenor Wilkins; Ruth Glaspie; Jimmie Davis; Betty J. Davis.	Box 1, Folder 6
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Page 9 from album – Mamie and Thomas Greene; Calvin Townsend.	Box 1, Folder 7
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Page 12 from album – unidentified women [possibly Sunnyside Guild members or staff]: five women with another person in the background; one older woman; two women; one dark-haired woman.	Box 1, Folder 8

Page 13 from album – patients: joint (men and women) movie night in Trudeau Hall – Elsie Highbaugh, Guy Anderson, Beatrice Yeakey, Freddie Bennet, Georgia Martin (September 1951); Thelma Wheeler (August 1951); Roxie Adair (July 1951).	Box 1, Folder 9
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Page 16 from album – patients: Belzora Knight (September 1951); Francis [Frances] Ealy (September 1951); Beatrice Woodruff (August 1951); Waldine Lavelle (Dittie) (August 1951); Pearl Colvin (August 1951).	Box 1, Folder 10
Page 17 from album – physicians: Dr. [Frank L.] Jennings (resident doctor) (August 1951); Dr. Guzman (surgeon) and Dr. Onyet wearing masks (August 1951); Dr Guzman standing outdoors by automobile (September 1951).	Box 1, Folder 11
Page 18 from album – patients and visitors: Yuanita [Juanita] Long (December 1951); Maxine Kyser and visitors (November 1951); Wilma Johnson (November 1951); Virgil Christian (visitor) (August 1951); unidentified woman in bed.	Box 1, Folder 11
Page 19 from album – “T.V. and Show night”: six photos [of patients], no other identification.	Box 1, Folder 12
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Page 21 from album – staff: Miss Lindow (August 1951); Stella Harnden and Mary Southgate (August 1951); Miss McKinstry (August 1951); Midge Hess (August 1951); Irene Wright (July 1951).	Box 1, Folder 13
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Page 25 from album – staff: Wayne Nelson [Oren Wayne Nelson, 1909–1967] (November 1951); Mr. & Mrs. Negley [Charles Alonzo Negley and Laura Negley] (December 1951); Irma Theole (July 1951); Mrs. Sharrut (December 1951); Terry Humphreys (August 1951).	Box 1, Folder 15
Page 26 from album – St. Mary’s Student Nurses: unidentified woman; Miss Can and Miss Simmers (November 1951); Miss Emmig (December 1951); unidentified woman.	Box 1, Folder 15
Page 27 from album – student nurses / staff(?): Miss Hennel (St. Mary’s student nurse) and Miss Grimes (St. Vincent’s student nurse) (October 1951); Miss Simmens (St. Mary’s student nurse) and Miss Weigel (St. Vincent’s student nurse) (November 1951); Mrs. Wanley (November 1951).	Box 1, Folder 16
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Page 29 from album – [student nurses / staff]: two unidentified women in front of Christmas tree [ca. December 1951]; unidentified woman by windows; two unidentified women wearing masks; unidentified woman wearing scarf; unidentified woman wearing sweater.

Box 1, Folder 17

Page 30 from album – unidentified masked staff person posing with patient Betty Jean Davis; patient Betty Jean Davis seated in wicker chair; patient Maxine Kyser with visitor; two unidentified female patients outdoors.

Box 1, Folder 17

Small printed card providing instructions for how to perform “Insufflation (Rescue Breathing).” Presented as a public service by The Chapman Insurance Agency of South Bend.

Box 1, Folder 18

“Yes – I am ‘Special’ – Experiences with Tuberculosis” from *My Many Journeys* by Dr. Roselyn Rochelle Greene Cole, revised 23 August 2023 (typed manuscript; 2 sides on 1 sheet of paper).

Box 1, Folder 19

Five folders of negatives of some of the photographs in this collection (arranged by page number); two negatives that could not be matched with photos but appear to have been taken in Sunnyside.

Cold Storage:
120 film negatives