Preliminary Inventory of the Opie Norris Smith Collection, 1966-1976
Collection Number 10082

Cone Health Medical Library

Collection information
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Contact Information:
Cone Health Medical Library
Moses Cone Hospital
1200 N. Elm Street
Greensboro, North Carolina, 27401
Phone: 336-832-7484
Email: medical.library@conehealth.com

Descriptive Summary

Repository
Cone Health Medical Library

Creator
Smith, Opie Norris

Title
Opie Norris Smith Collection, 1966-1976

Call Number
10082

Language of Materials
Materials in English

Extent
Items: About 700 items
Linear Feet: 1.5

Abstract
Administrative Information

Restrictions to Access
No Restrictions

Acquisitions Information
Received from Opie Norris Smith of Greensboro, N.C.

Processing Information
Processed by: GMHL Staff

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], in the Opie Norris Smith Collection #10082, Greensboro Medical Historical Library, Moses Cone Health System Medical Library.

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Online Catalog Headings
These and related materials may be found under the following headings in online catalogs.
[Insert NLM Subject Headings]

Biographical Note

Born in Davidson, North Carolina, in 1909, Opie Norris Smith was graduated from Washington and Lee University and received his M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1933.

Norris’s grandfather was Johns Jacob Smith, minister of the First Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, who settled in Greensboro in 1859. His father was Henry Louis Smith, a professor at Davidson College who was involved in taking one of the first x-ray in the country in 12 January 1896. His father later became president of Davidson, and then of Washington and Lee.

“Norris was an intern for two years at Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia, two years of Pathology at the same institution, and eight months of training at Duke in medicine. He moved back to Greensboro in 1948. He began practice in the Jefferson Building. A year later, he took on a partner, Joseph Stevens. In 1942, they both became part of the Duke unit to serve overseas. He was an original member of the Duke Hospital sponsored 65th General Hospital with which he served in England for 18 months. Norris was then in command of a 7,000-bed hospital center handling captured German soldiers. He later served as Chief of the Medical Service Commanding Officer of the 196th general hospital at Cherbourg at the time of his return to the United States in December of 1945. Norris was discharged in 1945 as a Lt. Colonel.

After returning to Greensboro, he began practice in an office on North Elm Street, which he shared with other Greensboro Physicians until Professional Village opened up in 1955.
In 1947, Norris was appointed first President of the newly formed Greensboro Academy of Medicine. He was appointed President of the Guilford County Medical Society in 1954. Was appointed President of the medical staff at Moses H. Cone Hospital in 1956.

Norris was appointed Chief of Medicine at Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital following P.A. Shelburne and served in this position for 9 years (1959-1968).

Opie Norris Smith retired from medicine in 1981.

**Collection Overview**

**Detailed Description of the Collection**

About 700 items

**Folder 1**
Guilford Health Services, 1966-1968
Binder includes clippings, studies, organizational information, and project documentation related to Guilford County health services from 1966-1968.

**Folder 2**
Piedmont Triad Regional Comprehensive Health Planning Council, 1974-1976
Meeting Manual – includes information on policies and procedures, budget, staff, council, legal, programs, facilities, services, annual work programs, and by-laws.