

[Archives & Special Collections, Columbia University Health Sciences Library](#)

[Jerome P. Webster Collection of Plastic Surgery Reprints](#)

WEBSTER, JEROME PIERCE, 1888-1974.

**Jerome P. Webster Collection of Plastic Surgery Reprints, circa 1907-circa 1976
(bulk circa 1920-1976)**

52 cubic feet (approximately 33, 265 items in 52 records cartons)

#M-0196

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: Jerome Pierce Webster was one of the leading American plastic surgeons of his time and the founder of the Division of Plastic Surgery in the Department of Surgery at the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center. He received his medical degree from Johns Hopkins in 1914, served in the US Army Medical Corps in France during World War I and was the first surgical resident at Peking Union Medical College upon its opening in 1921. He came to Columbia in 1928 at the urging of department chair Allen O. Whipple and remained until his death in 1974.

Webster was a historian and bibliophile as well as surgeon. He was co-author, with Martha Teach Gnudi, of *The Life and Times of Gaspare Tagliacozzi, Surgeon of Bologna, 1545-1599* (1950), the only full-length biography of this Renaissance plastic surgeon in any language. The work won the Welch Medal of the American Association for the History of Medicine in 1951. To aid him in his research, Webster created what is perhaps the most comprehensive library in existence on the history of plastic surgery. This reprint collection formed part of it and was maintained in the Webster Library of Plastic Surgery, located in the Dept. of Surgery, until it came to Archives and Special Collections in the late 1970s.

SCOPE AND CONTENT: The reprint collection documents plastic and reconstructive surgery during the first three quarters of the 20th century. It is international in scope with articles in all the major European languages, though English-language works predominate. Plastic surgery is covered in the broadest sense: there are many articles on oral surgery, burns, skin grafting and other ancillary subjects as well. Though items date back to the early 20th century, the majority post-date 1920.

ORGANIZATION: Reprints in the first 39 boxes are arranged in simple numerical order from 1 to 26,665. These reflect the order in which the library received them, not the date of publication. Items in boxes 40-46 are unnumbered but instead are arranged chronologically by date of receipt; they cover the period Oct. 1970 through Feb. 1976. By this time, the library was largely collecting contemporary material and the date of publication is roughly equivalent to the date of receipt. Items in boxes 46-50 were considered "supplementary" material, usually older articles that had been missed earlier. They are given "S" numbers up to 3,599 and cover a very wide date span. Collecting appears to have ceased in February 1976.

FINDING AIDS: An author/subject card catalog made up of both typewritten and

handwritten cards and evidently contemporary with the creation of the collection, is available in Archives & Special Collections. The department also holds an incomplete inventory arranged in numerical order.

LANGUAGE: English, German, French, Italian, Spanish.

ACCESS: The collection is stored off-site. Researchers will need to request this material from Archives & Special Collections at least two business days in advance to use the collection in our reading room. Generally, Archives & Special Collections will not recall more than 6 cartons at a time.

FORMS PART OF: Jerome P. Webster Library of Plastic Surgery.

PROVENANCE: Bequest of Jerome P. Webster; received sometime after his death in 1974.

Subjects

Burns.

Mouth, Surgery.

Off-prints.

Reprints.

Skin-grafting.

Surgery, Plastic.

**Jerome P. Webster Collection of Plastic Surgery Reprints.
c. 1907-c. 1976.**

Box	Numbers
1	1-599
2	600-999
3	1000-1599
4	1600-2199
5	2200-2799
6	2800-3499
7	3500-4199
8	4200-4999
9	5000-5599
10	5600-6299
11	6300-6899
12	6900-7599
13	7600-8299
14	8300-8999
15	9000-9699
16	9700-10,399
17	10,400-11,099
18	11,100-11,799
19	11,800-12,499
20	12,500-13,299
21	13,300-13,899
22	13,900-14,599
23	14,600-15,199
24	15,200-15,799
25	15,800-16,599
26	16,600-17,199
27	17,200-17,899
28	17,900-18,699
29	18,700-19,299
30	19,300-20,099
31	20,100-20,799
32	20,800-21,499
33	21,500-22,199
34	22,200-22,899
35	22,900-23,599
36	23,600-24,299
37	24,300-25,099
38	25,100-25,799
39	25,800-26,599
40	26,600-26,665; Oct. 1970-Feb. 1971
41	Mar.-Sept. 1971
42	Oct. 1971-Mar. 1972

Box	Numbers
43	Apr.-Sept. 1972
44	Oct.-Dec. 1972; Jan-Apr. 1974
44A	Jan.-July, 1973
44B	July-Dec. 1973
45	May 1974-Apr. 1975
46	June 1975-Feb. 1976; S1-499
47	S500-1399
48	S1400-2199
49	S2200-2999
50	S3000-3599