

The Doctor was Framed: Portrait of 19th Century Physician Joins Collection

By Paul Robertson, Curator



the Battle of the Windmill near Prescott, Ontario in 1838. In his short life, Dr. Reynolds played many roles. He was later chairman of the Board of Education in Brockville, the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada West, International Order of Odd Fellows, and a contributor to the journals of the Canadian Institute and the Smithsonian Institution, and the British-American Medical Journal.

Although we do not yet know the name of the painting's artist, this is a fine example of traditional medical portraiture. The subject is portrayed with the tools of the medical trade:

a skull and a book of anatomy, traditional symbols of profession. The existence of this portrait is particularly significant, particularly because it was done for a young physician in the early part of his career in a country where formal medical training was still emerging.

Dr. Reynolds' portrait descended through the family line to Archibald "Archie" Edward Malloch (Queen's BA 1948), a McGill English professor. His widow Mrs. Barbara Malloch generously donated the painting to the Museum in 2007.

Come and meet Dr. Reynolds later in the summer when he goes on exhibit at the Museum!

A new face has joined the Museum of Health Care – young and self-confident, this new gentleman is a welcome addition to the institution.

Our newest "staff member" is a notable arrival: the first painted portrait of a Canadian physician to enter the collection of the Museum of Health Care. Dr. Thomas Reynolds (1820-1859) trained in the early 1840s in Edinburgh and at McGill College, Montreal and later practiced in Brockville, Ontario.

In an age when the lack of local institutions forced most would-be Canadian doctors to head to medical schools in the United States, Dr. Reynolds represents the first wave of Canadian-born and trained physicians. Prior to entering medicine, he served as a volunteer with British forces fending off an American rebel invasion at

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Participants on the Astonishing Past of Kingston General Hospital Walking Tour, outside of the original building constructed in 1835.

The Museum in the News!

It seems that everywhere you look these days, our Museum is there (and that's how we like it)! These are just a few of the places we've been seen:

- Canadian Nurse magazine's January 2007 issue included an article about the Museum's online artefact database
- In February, the Kingston Whig-Standard published a page 2 article by Jack Chiang about the Museum's Heritage Week tours, and their March 16th issue included a photo of our new Rockwood Asylum exhibit (read more about this exhibit on page 5 of this newsletter)
- Our Curator Paul Robertson was interviewed about the evolution of the hospital gown for a Toronto Star article published May 11th
- The "Living Well" section of Kingston Life magazine's Summer 2007 issue features an article entitled "The Museum of Health Care: Lessons of the Past Create Teachings for the Future" by writer Sabitri Ghosh. Pick up a copy today!

Architecture as Artefact: Health Care History as told by the Buildings of KGH

by Danielle Pacey, Walking Tour Guide

You may know one of the reasons for Kingston General Hospital's designation as a National Historic Site: that KGH's main building served as the House of Parliament for the United Province of Canada from 1841 to 1844. You might not be so familiar, though, with the second reason: that every building of substance ever built on KGH property since 1835 is still standing and in use today. After over 170 years of expansion and development, the hospital now boasts the most complete collection of public hospital buildings in Canada.

These buildings, like so many in Kingston, serve as artefacts in themselves, telling through their architecture the story of health care's development since the early 1800s. One such development was that of germ theory, the advancement of which had a substantial impact on building design over the years.

The first hospital building, completed in 1835, was built near the water because its rural location was quiet and clean. This reflected the early 19th century belief that disease was transmitted by bad air, also called *miasma*. Natural ventilation was the main form of preventive medicine at the time; hence the large windows and numerous balconies on the first building, designed to receive the stiff breeze from the lake.

By the end of the 19th century, in contrast, germ theory had become much more complex. The designers of the Nickle Wing, built in 1891, had in mind the patient with a contagious illness in need of isolation. When it was built, the second floor was only accessible by an outside staircase. A new emphasis on hygiene could be seen in the wall design: the corners of the rooms were filled in and rounded, and all the edges were beveled so that the rooms could be easily cleaned.

In 1894, a new facility, the Doran Building, was built specifically for the care of female patients and was designed according to sanitization principles popularized by Florence Nightingale, as well as in recognition of the value of antisepsis and asepsis. Built in pavilion style, the design of the Doran Building aimed for patient comfort and health through cleanliness and good ventilation. Sunlight and clean air entered the building freely through the large windows and sun porches. In a very progressive move, though, Doran was almost entirely isolated from the rest of the hospital in order to prevent the transmission of infections. Doran staff didn't have contact with patients in other parts of the hospital, and separate wards were designated for different cases. It even had its own operating room, which was outfitted with metal and glass fixtures instead of wood, since metal and glass were much easier to keep clean.

Over the years, Kingston General Hospital has continued to expand, and many more fascinating examples of architectural innovation can be found on KGH property. The first hospital building, the Nickle Wing, and the Doran Building are only three of the buildings which not only reflect the development of health care, but the ever-evolving role of the hospital in the Kingston community.

To tour the grounds of Kingston General Hospital and learn more about what makes KGH a historical treasure, why not try the "Astonishing Past of Kingston General Hospital" Walking Tour? These one-hour tours run Tuesday through Sunday, rain or shine, at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., throughout the summer, departing from the Museum at 32 George Street. Admission is \$5 for adults and free for children 14 and under. Group rates are available, but please call ahead to make your booking!

An Astonishing Example of Health Care in Canada

By Dr. James Low, Executive Director

The development of health care in Kingston is reflected in the two National Historic Sites, the Kingston General Hospital and the Ann Baillie Building.

In 1815, Kingston was a community of 3000; a population which gradually increased over the next 50 years to approximately 12,000. Society included an upper class of government officials and senior military personnel, a middle class of merchants, shopkeepers, and tradesmen and the urban poor. A large annual migration occurred of immigrants, many of whom were destitute and sick and represented a major problem for this small community.

Sickness and particularly infections were a constant problem in the community. These infections were responsible for loss of life with a high mortality among infants, children and young adults. Cholera epidemics occurred in 1832, 1834, 1849 and 1854. A major Typhus epidemic occurred in 1847. These epidemics, brought to Canada by the annual influx of immigrants, had a devastating effect on the community.

Traditionally, the care of the sick occurred in the home. However the community recognized the needs of the destitute and sick urban poor and immigrants. The Female Benevolent Society, established in 1820, maintained a temporary hospital in an old blockhouse to provide food, shelter and free medical care between November and May each year.

In 1831, a community meeting was held regarding the building of a public hospital. Eighty donors subscribed

L1,000. The government, in 1832, approved a grant of L1,000 annually for three years to build a hospital. Although construction was delayed during the cholera epidemic in 1834, the building was completed in 1835. However there were no funds to open or operate the hospital. The Main Building was finally opened as a hospital in 1845.

Religious orders for centuries had provided nursing services for the destitute and the sick. There were no secular nursing training programs when Florence Nightingale demonstrated the importance of nursing in the maintenance of sanitation and the prevention of suffering and ill health during the Crimean War. The role and need for nursing services was highlighted during the American Civil War, and the end of the war recognized nursing as a respectable profession for women.

In 1885, Dr. Fenwick recommended to the Board that a nursing school should be established at the Kingston General Hospital. He said:

“it is only those who have had the services of a thoroughly trained nurse during a severe illness that can appreciate their value and how suffering can be mitigated and even life prolonged.”

The nursing school began in 1886, providing a two-year training program leading to a diploma. Its organization was typical of nursing programs established at many large English-speaking hospitals in Canada during this period. Initially nursing students lived on a floor of the Nickle

Executive Director's Message

Wing and received formal training, amounting to about 12 hours a week, in the hospital. In exchange they formed the principal labour force of the hospital, working long hours attending to patients on the wards and in the operating rooms.

The nurses' home, completed in 1904, acknowledged the advance of nursing as a profession critical to the institution. In 1997, the Historic Sites and Monuments Board recommended the Nurses' Home, now the Ann Baillie Building, to be of historic significance. The following commemorative plaque was unveiled in 1999.

“One of the earliest nurses' residences in Canada, this stately building symbolizes the development and recognition of nursing as a profession. The home was completed in 1904 for students at the Kingston General Hospital nursing school, who cared for patients in the wards and operating rooms as part of their training. The building was later named in honour of Ann Baillie, a graduate of the school and its superintendent from 1924 to 1942. Here as elsewhere, a place of their own helped nurses shape a professional role indispensable to health care within the hospital and in the community.”

Little built heritage of this era remains in Canada. What is astonishing is the quality of the work that allows these limestone buildings that reflect the evolution of health care in Kingston to continue to be relevant to a present day health science centre.

Artefact Named!

by Paul Robertson, Curator

In our January 2007 issue we featured a mystery artefact from our collection. We are thrilled to announce that with the help of some savvy readers, we can now put “a name to the face”!

Pictured here is a triturate tableting machine, manufactured by the Arthur Colton Company of Detroit. This hand-operated machine, circa 1907, was used to make small tablets out of powdered drugs (also called triturates).

Many thanks go to Ernie Stieb and Glenn Sonnedecker for their super sleuthing!

Curatorial Corner



Travelling Road Show: "Nursing: 1900-1930"

By Paul Robertson, Curator

Nursing is clearly a profession in the "fast lane" – nurses are always on the run in the course of a regular day. That is why it seemed appropriate to document the history of nursing through a "traveling" exhibit – artefacts on the run you could say.

The brainchild of 2007 Kingston General Hospital Nursing Week activities organizer and nurse Jennifer Perry, the Museum of Health Care responded with a double-decker trolley loaded with nursing artefacts, documents, and photos from KGH nursing school in the early 1900s. Museum staff Kathy Karkut and Paul Robertson and their roving museum cart followed Jennifer to the various nursing stations throughout Kingston General Hospital over a two-day period in early May.

"By the time all the layers of clothing and starched collar, bibs, belts, slip, and stockings were put on, there were about 14 layers of clothing," one nurse recounted from her early days in the profession. "It was really uncomfortable in August!"



"I couldn't wait to graduate so I could get out of the white uniform," another recalled. Almost all of the senior nurses mentioned the disappearance of the starched white cap, the most dramatic change in a nurse's appearance in the past 25 years and still regarded by many as symbolic of the nursing profession.

Most were intrigued at the similarity of some equipment such as emesis dishes and bedpans to current models. Many

were horrified by the tongue depressors on display that more resembled instruments of torture. The 1921 schedule of nursing fees drew many comments (12-hour duty earned \$4.00 a day; 24-hour duty with smallpox patients earned \$50 a week). Current nursing students who encountered the artefact cart got a glimpse of "the good ol' days."

The wheels of history keep turning.

Museum Storage Moves Off-site

by Paul Robertson, Curator

The ongoing Museum storage upgrade project is taking a new direction. As commodious as the Ann Baillie Building is, its outer walls can only be stretched so far. Because we are restricted from adding any further additions to the current structure, there are clear limits to our available space for exhibitions, public programming, collection storage, technical services, and administration.

This reality has led to the decision to shift some artefacts to a location outside the Museum. Beginning in July 2007, curatorial staff will initiate the setup and transfer of most large objects in the collection to an off-site commercial storage facility in the north end of Kingston. We are currently assessing the collection to determine the best candidates to move to the new storehouse. Although this new

space is secure and has a stable environment, it cannot support the needs of particularly delicate objects requiring special humidity and temperature controls. Only items in stable condition will be transferred.

This expansion of the Museum's storage potential will greatly aid future collecting and allow the curator to consider certain larger objects that do not easily fit on a shelf or in a drawer.

An additional goal of this storage project is to clear all of the remaining ground floor storerooms of any remaining artefacts. The newly freed up spaces will make valuable additions to our exhibition galleries and public and education programming areas.

Name That Artefact!

Can you guess what this is? This Museum of Health Care artefact kind of looks like an old-fashioned telephone, but believe it or not, it actually has to do with trains! Check out page 6 for the answer.



New Exhibits

by Paul Robertson, Curator

Curatorial Corner



Rockwood's architecture and beautiful site were a point of civic pride for Kingstonians and regularly featured on postcards in the early 1900s.

Rockwood Asylum: Refuge & Renewal 1878-1905

At Providence Care, Mental Health Services

Of all of the ailments that afflict humans, mental illness remains one of the least understood. Without obvious physical symptoms, sufferers can go undiagnosed by health professionals and misunderstood and mistreated by society.

Until the mid-1800s in Canada, treatment of psychiatric patients could often be described as inadequate, misguided, and even cruel. Beginning at this time, there was a distinct shift in the institutional care and treatment of people identified with mental illness. Across Ontario, imposing institutional asylums replaced the gaols that had formerly housed patients. A movement away from brutal confinements, tortures, and various medicinal treatments (including alcohol) coincided with an emerging understanding of mental illness as a disease that can be treated.

Opened in mid March 2007 at the site of Kingston's former Rockwood Asylum, a new gallery houses a long-term exhibit exploring the dynamic era at the end of the 19th century when the treatment of the mentally ill was transformed from one of hiding the afflicted from society to one of treatment, rehabilitation, and formal scientific study. Drawing upon the rich collection of artefacts and images from the former Kingston Psychiatric Hospital collection and the collections of the Museum of Health Care, curator Paul Robertson

paints a vivid picture of life and conditions at Rockwood during this period.

Rockwood Asylum: Refuge & Renewal, 1878-1905 is located at the Providence Care, Mental Health Services site at 752 King Street West, Kingston, in the front lobby of the Westwood Building. This exhibit will remain on display indefinitely.

Kingston General Hospital, School of Nursing, 1886 – 1974

In the Museum

The Museum's quarters, the Ann Baillie Building, is also the symbolic home for the members of the alumnae of the KGH School of Nursing. In honour of the alumnae's annual gathering in June 2007, curator Paul Robertson and assistant curator Kathy Karkut mounted a temporary exhibit featuring more artefacts from the Museum's extensive KGH nursing collection to complement existing displays.

New this year is a showcase featuring several trays of surgical instruments made up for the operating room, 1950s-style. Test your memories! Can you tell which surgical procedure each tray is laid out for? Our thanks to museum volunteer and retired operating room nurse Claire Kelly for her expert guidance with this display.

This exhibit will remain on show until the winter.



Ann Baillie, then and now:

In 1963, the recently refurbished "snack room" in the residence's basement was an oasis for nursing students between classes and hospital rounds. This same space now serves as sanctuary to some of the Museum's larger artefacts.

A Brood of Initiatives

by Marjorie Bousfield, Education Officer

Late winter and spring have been busy times for the Education Section of the museum. We

- ran our first March Break programs (<http://www.museumofhealthcare.ca/MarchBreakPrograms.html>),
- hosted two Teacher Candidates from the Faculty of Education at Queen's for their Alternative Practicum (<http://www.museumofhealthcare.ca/AlternativePracticum.html>),
- participated in both the regional Science and regional heritage Fairs, giving Special Awards at both (<http://www.museumofhealthcare.ca/ScienceFair.html>, <http://www.museumofhealthcare.ca/HeritageFair.html>),

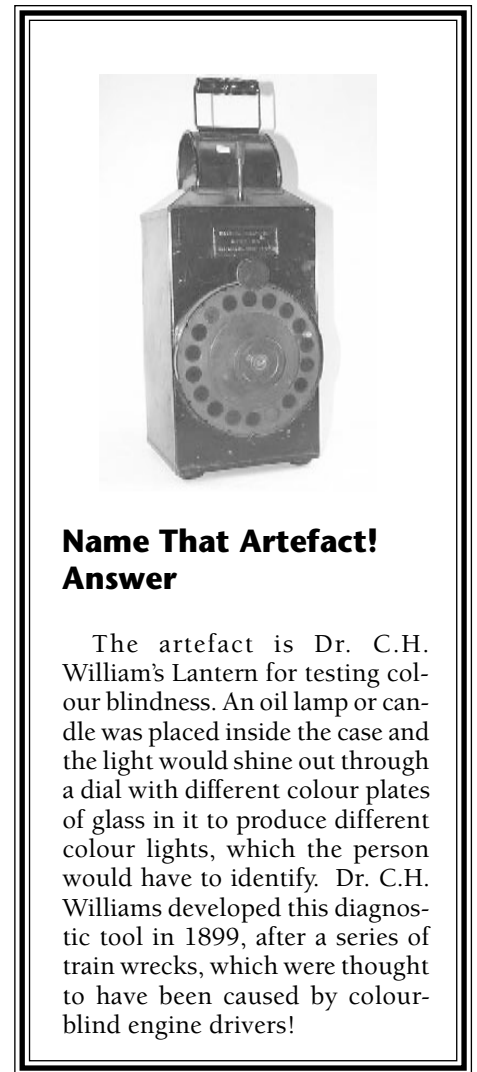
- started up a little e-newsletter for teachers, with features such as Artefact of the Month (<http://www.museumofhealthcare.ca/ArtefactoftheMonth.html>) and Quick Question of the Month (<http://www.museumofhealthcare.ca/QuickQuestionoftheMonth.html>),
- finished and presented our new program on diabetes, aimed at grade 8 students,
- began to pilot our programs in the western section of the Upper Canada School Board,
- and delivered all but our Diabetes and Healthy, Active Living programs (<http://www.museumofhealthcare.ca/programsoffered.html>) to schools within our local boards from Kingston to Amherst Island to Whitney!

As classes wind down, we are preparing for another fun summer of Hands-on-Heritage day camps (<http://www.museumofhealthcare.ca/Hands-on-Heritage.html>). Once again, small groups of 8-12 year-olds will come to us at the end (Friday afternoon) of a full week of doing hands-on crafts and activities developed by specialists at various Kingston heritage sites – a day camp with a difference!

If you missed joining us in any of these events or programs this year, you'll get a chance next school year, which will be upon us before we know it!



Museum award winners (from top): Lizzy Smith & Skyler Waddington of École Lundy's Lane (Heritage Fair, project about health care in 19th-century Canada), Caroline Reid of Sempar School (Heritage Fair, project about the KGH Nursing School), and Storrington P.S. grade 5 student Christopher Adams (Science Fair, project "AAAAHHHH Pandemic!!")



Name That Artefact! Answer

The artefact is Dr. C.H. Williams's Lantern for testing colour blindness. An oil lamp or candle was placed inside the case and the light would shine out through a dial with different colour plates of glass in it to produce different colour lights, which the person would have to identify. Dr. C.H. Williams developed this diagnostic tool in 1899, after a series of train wrecks, which were thought to have been caused by colour-blind engine drivers!

New Staff Member

Assistant Curator Kathy Karkut returns to the museum after 13 years; Kathy catalogued our original historical collection during the initial stage of its transformation into a museum. Kathy has worked for museums as an exhibit designer, collections manager, museum manager and consultant. Kathy is also the Vice Chair of the newly formed Municipal Heritage Committee for the Town of Gananoque.



Kathy

Summer Research Fellow

Andrea Terry, a PhD candidate in the Department of Art at Queen's University, is this summer's Margaret Angus Research Fellow. This summer Andrea is conducting research related to the life and work of the Kingston-based artist Marjorie Winslow who, in the 1940s, produced a series of medical wax sculptures, otherwise known as moulages, for the Faculty of Medicine at Queen's, now part of the Museum's collection.



Andrea

Summer Staff

Museum Interpreter Terrence Liu is excited to contribute to the development of the museum, and to expand his own horizons. Having completed a Bachelor's in the biological sciences at Queen's, Terrence will be returning to the same university in the fall to complete his MA. Terrence's hobbies include drama, photography, and of course, history.



Terrence

Danielle Pacey is our Summer '07 Tour Guide, something she's definitely thrilled about. In the fall, she will return to Halifax, NS, to start the second year of a combined honours program of History of Science and Technology and German at the University of King's College. Danielle's interests include cooking, early 20th century German and French art, existential philosophy, and language preservation.

Vincent Perez is a final year interdisciplinary design student at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. He has worked in a number of gallery settings in roles ranging from docent work to directorship. He hopes that his experiences as a Curatorial Assistant at the Museum of Health Care will contribute to his versatility as a cultural worker. His interests include art, design and community activation.



Danielle

New Volunteer

Sheila Cornett began as a volunteer cataloguing assistant in January 2007. A Queen's graduate, now semi-retired, she currently works part-time in Stauffer Library, and is heavily into 'felting'. She has previously worked as a volunteer steward for the National Trust for England and Wales at Berrington Hall, Herefordshire.



Vincent

Congratulations to Our Distinguished Leaders!

The Museum Board and Staff would like to congratulate our Executive Director Dr. James Low and Board Chair Alan Grant on the recent recognition of their service to Queen's University and the Kingston community.

Dr. Low was the recipient of a Distinguished Service Award from the University Council at Queen's University, awarded at a ceremony on May 4th. The Distinguished Service Award honours Dr. Low's illustrious career in clinical care, research, medical education, and departmental administration in the field of obstetrics and gynaecology, in addition to his commitment to the foundation and development of the Museum of Health Care.

Alan Grant was awarded a Distinguished Citizen Award from the City of Kingston in a ceremony which took place on June 15th. The award recognizes Mr. Grant's long record of volunteer service to the community including his work as the Executive Director of Hospice Palliative Care, as a board member for the Kingston Arts Council, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Kingston Symphony, Marine Museum of the Great Lakes at Kingston, and of course, as Board Chair for our own Museum.



Sheila

List of Donors

The Board and Staff of the Museum thank the following for their generous donations of time and resources to the Museum's activities from January to June 2007.

Building Fund

The following donors are making possible the installation of the elevator in the Ann Baillie Building:

Major Donors

Anna & Edward C. Churchill Foundation
Department of Canadian Heritage – Cultural Spaces Program
Lillian and Leroy Page Foundation

Donors

Alice Brown
Mary Dunn

Museum Endowment Fund

The Museum acknowledges with gratitude the following contributors to the Museum Endowment Fund:

Lawrence Clein
Thomas and Joan Goodall (in memory of Don Neil)
KGH Nursing Alumnae

James Low (in memory of Ken Buckingham)
Estate of Helen Ruth Mahood (in memory of Ann Baillie)
Don Wilson

Program Sponsors

The Museum Education Program and the Collection Development Program are made possible by the generous support of the following sponsors in 2007:

Brown's Fine Food Services
Anna & Edward C. Churchill Foundation
Mrs. Ruth Connell
Faculty of Health Sciences, Queen's University
Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada

Project Grants

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Marilyn Boston
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KGH Nurses Alumnae
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Service Canada
The Ontario Trillium Foundation

Operating Grant

The Museum acknowledges with gratitude the Community Museum Operating Grant provided by the Ontario Ministry of Culture

Artefact Donors

Mrs. Helen Ruth MacLachlan
Mrs. Barbara Malloch
Penitentiary Museum, Kingston
Resuscitation & Trauma Program, Kingston General Hospital
Dr. Charles Sorbie
Mrs. Donna Tweddell

and all of our new and renewing Members, Sustaining Patrons, Donors and Volunteers.

We are grateful to all who have helped the Museum. If we have omitted someone, please let us know, and we will be sure to add his or her name to the list in the next *Bailliewick* issue.

Donations Notice

- Please note that the A&P Save-a-Tape program is now finished, as of December 2006, which means that we are no longer able to redeem your receipts for donations to the Museum. Thank you very much to everyone who supported the Museum through this program.
- Help preserve the legacy of health care by considering donations to the Museum in lieu of flowers and gifts at your next celebration. Donations go a long way in helping make possible public programs, education programs, research, artefact preservation, exhibit development and more. For information and donation forms, please contact us at 613-548-2419.

Coming Up...

- The Astonishing Past of Kingston General Hospital Walking Tour continues to run Tuesdays through Sundays, departing at 11:00, 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. until September 2nd (by appointment through the fall and winter). Enjoy history up close and personal as you explore the beautiful grounds and the fascinating stories of Kingston General Hospital. Approximately one-hour in duration; \$5 per participant (14 and under free; group rates available).
- Come one, come all to hear juicy tales of health care history! The Museum is excited to present a regular schedule of guided exhibit tours coming this August. These entertaining and informative tours will run Wednesdays to Sundays at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., August 1st to September 2nd. Approximately 45 minutes in length; admission by donation. Museum staff are also happy to provide guided tours outside of these times; please contact the Museum at 613-548-2419 to make arrangements.
- Plan to join us for our Annual Margaret Angus Research Evening (tentatively scheduled for the fall of 2007) to hear Andrea Terry chronicle the fascinating life and work of Canadian artist Marjorie Winslow who, in the 1940s, produced wax medical sculptures for the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Queen's University Faculty of Medicine.