

Martha Pitel Collection

An inventory of her papers at the Midwest Nursing History Research Center, College of Nursing, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	MNHRC, CON, University of Illinois at Chicago
Creator:	Martha Pitel
Title:	Martha Pitel Collection
Dates:	1921-2014
Quantity:	2.0 linear feet
Identification:	<i>MPitel</i>
Language:	The records are in English.

Biographical Sketch

Martha Pitel graduated from Charles S. Wilson Memorial Hospital School of Nursing, Johnson City, NY, in May 31, 1942. Pitel then earned a BS in Nursing in 1946 and an MS in Nursing in 1947, both from Western Reserve University. In 1954 she earned a PhD in Anatomy from the University of Minnesota. Pitel completed her basic training in the US Army in 1944 but was honorably discharged due to physical disability. She was an Instructor in nursing and zoology at Triple Cities College, Syracuse University, from 1947-1951 (re-named Harpur College, SUNY, in 1950). For five years, 1953-1958, Pitel was at Yale University School of Nursing and Medicine. During 1958-1959 Pitel studied at the University of Paris. On return, she taught at the University of Rochester School of Nursing. In 1964 Pitel was awarded \$16,400 from the American Nurses Foundation to study insulin absorption. She was Chair of Department of Nursing Education (Re-named School of Nursing in 1974), Kansas University 1964-1971, a National Consultant for the US Air Force Nurse Corps, 1968-1971. Pitel was a professor of General Nursing at UIC from 1974-77. From 1978 – 1985 she served as chair of nursing education at Northwestern University.

www.galter.northwestern.edu/Digital-Projects/arey/AreyAppendix.pdf .

Scope and Contents

The Martha Pitel collection contains family documents related to Pitel and her parents, educational documents and information, documents related to her brief war service, and materials related to her career in nursing education.

Acquisition Information

Dr. Pitel's friend and former colleague, Dr. Kathleen Sherrell, donated these items to the MNHRC in 2013.

Box 1: Early Life, Family

7 Certificates from Binghamton junior and senior high schools, c. 1930s
1 Certificate from Binghamton Board of Education, John Pitel

Box 1: Folder 1. Early Life, Family

Short biography of John Pitel, Martha Pitel's father, in company booklet about employees' retirements.

Martha Pitel birth certificate.

Transcript of birth certificate

Letter to Martha Pitel from Fowler, Dick, and Walker. Winner of \$5 award. Dec. 23, 1933.

Two Binghamton Central High School report cards, Spring 1936 and Fall 1937

College Entrance Diploma, University of the State of New York, Education Dept.

Autograph book/diary from Woodrow Wilson School, early 1930s

Deed of sale to John and Mary Pitel (parents) for property May 6, 1922

Death certificate for Susan Spisak (aunt) from Dec 20, 1985

Billing folder for funeral for Mary Pitel Dec 12, 1957

Met Life Insurance Policy for John Pitel October 21, 1931

5 (3 laminated) newspaper death notices for Mary Pitel, Dec 6, 1957

2 Memorial placards from funeral for John (1975) and Mary (1957) Pitel

Mortgage 1923

Registration certificate for Selective Service for John Pitel, April, 1942

Certificate of Literacy, University of State of NY, John Pitel, October, 1926

Certificate of sale of burial plot to John Pitel and heirs, Binghamton, NY May 1929

Deed of Sale to Pitel's daughters, 1962

Birth certificate John Pitel

Box 1: Folder 2. Early Life, Family

Guest books for funerals, parents and sister.

Book for Dedication and 60th anniversary of St. Michaels Greek Catholic Church Nov 22, 1964

2 High School Yearbooks from Central H.S., Binghamton, N.Y. 1938, 1939

Certificate of Naturalization, United States from Czechoslovakia, 1926

Book, Burn's Songs, Inscribed "To Martha with love, Bernie. Edinburgh, 1944"

Box 2: Folder 3. Early Life: Family Photographs

2 John Pitel as a baby.

Woman holding baby—possibly John Pitel is baby and woman is his mother. "Muma" written on back.

4 undated photographs of girls in white dresses and veils (First Communion?) No information given. One appears to be Pitel.

Photograph of Martha Pitel as young girl. No date.

2 John Pitel Jr as young boy.

Photo of grave site of John Pitel, Jr. 1918-1931
7 family snapshots
2 Michael Spisak, uncle.
17 unidentified
3 formal photos of Pitel as young girl
5 photographs of Pitel as young woman
3 wallet size photos of Martha Pitel, May 1954
Photo of woman holding young baby wrapped in blanket, Undated
Photo of Pitel with Harold Metzgar in Granada, 1958
Unknown group 4 young women
Unknown man (??Pitel's father)
Unknown woman

Box 2: Folder 4. Nursing Education

Commencement Program, Charles S. Wilson Memorial Hospital School of Nursing. May 31, 1942.
Notification of passing the state licensure examination, March 26, 1943
University of the State of New York Education Department. Martha Pitel Nurse License, 25 March 1943
State of New York Certificate of Registration of Registered Professional Nurse, Martha Pitel, April 20, 1943
Western Reserve University Commencement Program, June 12, 1946.
Western Reserve University, Martha Pitel BS in Nursing degree, June 12, 1946.
Western Reserve University, Martha Pitel MS degree, Sept. 17, 1947.
University of Minnesota, materials related to PhD work.
University of Minnesota, June 1954 Commencement program.
University of Minnesota commencement announcement, June 12 1954
State of Connecticut, Pitel as Registered Nurse, Sept. 20, 1956.
Kansas State Board of Nursing, Pitel as Registered Nurse, Oct. 13, 1964.
Newspaper clippings:
Pitel as student nurse in photograph "100 Needy Children of Johnson City will be Nurses' guests at Christmas Party. Undated.
Pitel as salutatorian of nursing graduating class. "Top-Ranking Nurses with Top IBM man." Undated.
Pitel in another picture as salutatorian, "Top Scholars." Undated.
Pitel, "Cash for class books." Undated.
Pitel with nursing graduating class.
Nineteen nurses of the Wilson Memorial School of Nursing..." Undated.
Newspaper pictures of Nassau Heart Association conference, glee club and graduation at Wilson Memorial Hospital of Nursing and job appointment to Minnesota

Photographs:

Baccalaureate graduation portrait—large, colored, and small, sepia.
Photograph, undated, Pitel in nurse's uniform.
Photograph with another woman, in uniform on steps of nursing home.

Box 2: Folder 5. Nursing Education

“Yearbook “The Lamp” from Charles S. Wilson Memorial Hospital, School of Nursing, 1942
Nursing School diploma

Box 2: Folder 6: War Service

Army ID tags.
Name sign of 2nd. Lieut. Martha Pitel A.N.C.
Letter to Pitel from Director Nursing Service, American Red Cross. Jan 6, 1944
Special Orders to Pitel re. reporting to England General Hospital, Atlantic City, New Jersey.
Certificate Pitel completed the basic training course at England General Hospital, Feb. 24, 1944
Certificate of Service at England General Hospital, Atlantic City, New Jersey. Feb. 1, 1944 –
June 20, 1944
Letter of appointment as a reserve nurse, Jan. 8 1944
Appointment as a reserve nurse, relative rank Second Lieutenant. To enter duty Feb. 1, 1944
Jan 14, 1944. Reverse—documentation of allergy to morphine and codeine.
Letter re. being relieved from active duty due to physical disability, July 7, 1944
Honorable discharge papers, Oct. 7 1944
Documents related to disability payments
Documents related to continuing education, with educational subsistence. To continue in MS
program at Western Reserve University, June 13 1946
2 Army Service Forces, Fort Dix, NJ - hospitalization and discharge official letters, June 1944
Tally sheet for military incoming uniform and accessories, E G Hospital, June, 1944

Photographs:

Nine photographs of Pitel in army uniform plus four duplicates.
Photograph of unknown woman in army uniform.

Box 2: Folder 7. Correspondence 1947-1958

Position search 1947
Postcard to Pitel from friend in Paris, 1948
Related to Triple Cities College, Syracuse University, Instructor position, 1947-1951 (September
1950—Harpur College, SUNY)
ANA to Pitel re. International nursing opportunities, 1948
Related to Cook County position, 1949
Interest in doctoral study in nursing education at teacher's College, Columbia University. 1951
Searching for instructor position, 1951
Career advice, 1951
Girl Scout position, 1951

E.A. Boyden to Martha Pitel and Pitel to Boyden re. Graduate program and TA position, University of Massachusetts. 1951.

Searching for position, 1954

E.A. Boyden to Martha Pitel and Pitel to Boyden re. position at Yale University 1954 and other correspondence re. Yale; reference written for Yale graduate. 1954-1958

Misc. correspondence 1951, 1954, 1956, 1958

Box 2: Folder 8. France 1958-1959

Newspaper clipping, Binghamton Press 8/2??? "Miss Pitel to do research on hormones in France."

20 postcards and 9 letters from Pitel to family

Travel diary

Box 2: Folder 9: Career in Nursing Education

Newspaper clippings:

Her prize: \$16,400 for Insulin study. Undated

"Nurse gets \$16,400 grant. April 27, 1964

"Doors open at TCC" —includes photograph of Pitel. Undated.

"Make luncheon plans." —includes photograph of Pitel. March 15, 1951

"2 speakers listed for Nurse meeting." —includes photograph of Pitel. Undated.

"Nurses to hear 2 guest experts." —includes photograph of Pitel. March 19, 1961.

"W-rapt in their work." —includes photograph of Pitel. Undated.

"Pandoran pow-wow." —includes photograph of Pitel. Undated.

"Seven named professors on Yale staff." Undated.

"K.U. to offer a master's for nurses." Undated.

"Nurses plan educational meetings." —includes photograph of Pitel. Undated.

"Heart talk." —includes photograph of Pitel. Undated.

"TCC Instructor to read paper at conference." Undated.

"Chairmen consult." —includes photograph of Pitel. Undated.

"First instructor at TCC named for nursing position." Sept. 4, 1947

"To the rescue." —includes photograph of Pitel. Feb. 24, 1950

"Coeds get spotlight at TCC." —includes photograph of Pitel. Oct. 23, 1949.

"UR med school promotes 14." Undated.

"Brainy nurses." —includes photograph of Pitel. Undated.

"Pre-nursing course is added to curriculum." —includes photograph of Pitel. ? 3, 1947.

"Nurses sponsor session." Undated.

"Three Chinese girls begin studies at Yale Nursing school." —includes photograph of Pitel. Oct. 16, 1955

"Emotions cause illness." —includes photograph of Pitel. Undated.

"Fifth NYSLN scientific session received favorable response. —includes photograph of Pitel, undated.

2 appointment calendars, Martha Pitel, Northwestern Univ. Nursing Education 1983-85

ID badge, Martha Pitel, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Nursing Education, Undated

Initiation certificate, Sigma Delta Epsilon, Graduate Women's Scientific Fraternity, June, 1968
Yearbook "Colonist" from Triple Cities College, 1949
Photographs:

Two passport type photos of Pitel. One dated May 1954.

Box 3: Folder 10: Dean search committee, 1976, UIC (Confidential)

List of candidates and records of meetings of the committee.

Box 3: Folder 11: Vacations

Roster of participants and follow-up letter to her from the China Citizen Ambassador Program.
17 Postcards from Pitel to family, ranging from 1963-1977
2 Vaccination certificates for overseas travel 1965-1976
7 passports dating from 1966 to 2006

Box 3: Folder 12: Later career

Celebrating 100 years of KU School of Nursing brochure.

Photographs:

Pitel with 5 other women. Formal, with name tags

Pitel at podium. On back: May 20 1968, Sheppard Air Force Base

Pitel at podium. On back: Martha__ from 1st. Biennial Eastern Conference on Nursing
Research at Williamsburg, VA. Jan. 14, 1974

Two copies of formal photograph. Donor noted that this was the official portrait of Pitel at
Northwestern University.

Pitel with 5 other people. On back: Vanderbilt University School of Nursing Committee of
Visitors, 1974

Pitel with 6 other women. On back: Conference: Dynamics of respiration and the relationship of
nursing activities. November 12, 1962. Montgomery County health Association, Amsterdam,
New York.

Three photos of Pitel , all described as being at Delphi, Greece, Apollo Temple, Jan 26, 1970.

Two photos of Pitel. Undated.

Photo of Martha Patel sitting at table with Mildred McGrath Krishna Raheja and Benjy Chertkow,
Feb. 1994

Photo of Lucille Notter's Retirement Party with Martha Pitel, 1972

Photo of Pitel, formal, undated.

Box 3: Folder 13: Certificates/honors

Life membership in the University of Minnesota Alumni Association July 1, 1977

National Commission for the Study of Nursing and Nursing Education certificate, 1973.

DHEW letter and certificate re. membership in the Nurse Scientist Graduate Training
Committee, December 1971.

DHEW letter and certificate re. service on the Nurse Training Act Project Grants Review Committee. 1973

American Nurses' Foundation certificate, undated.

Membership Minnesota Chapter Sigma XI 1954

DHEW certificate membership Nursing Research Study Section. Undated.

University of Kansas School of Nursing Leadership certificate 1980.

University of Minnesota Outstanding Achievement, 1972

Plaque from University of Kansas, Nurses Alumni Association, "Honorary Alumnus"

May 19, 1989

Paper weight with Martha Pitel's name as contributor to hospitals JAHA, Undated

Small metal plaque naming Martha Pitel, Virginia Henderson Fellow, Undated

Doctoral hood

Box 3: Folder 14. Later years

2 certificate for recording for the Blind for Martha Pitel, 1997, 1999

Letter regarding sale of cemetery plot from Pitel to William Dervay, July 23, 1980.

Notarized Contract of Sale for Cemetery plot issued to Martha Pitel, July 31, 1980

Letter regarding 50th reunion for class of 1939, Binghamton Central High School, 1989

2 address books

2 cancelled checks signed by Martha Pitel, April, 1974

Photographs:

Group photo of class of '42, Wilson Memorial Hospital School of Nursing 50th Anniversary Alumni Banquet, Sept, 1992

8 1/2 X 11" 50th reunion photo, Binghamton Central High School, Class of 1939, 1989