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ANESTHESIOLOGY REFLECTIONS

25 Years of Curating for the Wood Library-Museum

In 1986 one of my then colleagues at Yale, a past editor-in-chief of Anesthesiology, Dr. Nicholas Greene, had joined his fellow Wood Library-Museum (WLM) Trustee, Rod Calverley, in asking me to do at a national level what they had seen me do at Yale: set up a bona fide museum gallery. Consequently, 25 years ago this month, in March of 1987, I arrived at the WLM’s Busse Highway address in Park Ridge, Illinois, on a scouting mission to transform the museum side of the WLM. Sadly our “national gallery” had dwindled down to a single display cabinet (right) in the photocopy room of the headquarters building of the American Society of Anesthesiologists. As “Acting Curator,” I soon began exploring the basement of the two-story building. I was heartbroken to find myself wading through scores of vintage anesthesia machines that had been haphazardly crushed together inside a tiny room next to the furnace. Clearly my first task would be to inventory the large apparatus. . . . (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc. This image also appears in the Anesthesiology Reflections online collection available at www.anesthesiology.org.)

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