

DeWitt Stetten, Jr., Museum of Medical Research
National Institutes of Health
Background Information on Instruments

Purpose of questions: The Stetten Museum collects, preserves and exhibits instruments that played an important part in the history of biomedical research, with emphasis on the NIH Intramural Program. In developing exhibits, we try to explain 1) the operation of instruments and 2) their contribution towards a deeper understanding of biological phenomena. The effectiveness of an exhibit is enhanced if we can tell the viewer about the people who used an instrument, their work, and how it fits in to the overall mission of NIH. Your help in "filling in the blanks" will facilitate our efforts and is sincerely appreciated.

Donor information

Date _____

Donor's name _____

Donor's title _____

Institute and laboratory _____

Phone _____

Information about this instrument

Location: building and room number or off-campus location

Contact person for property transfer _____

Property ID number _____

Serial number _____

Original cost \$ _____

Manufacturer and formal name of instrument:

Vernacular name, if any _____

Date of manufacture _____

Date acquired _____

How long in use _____

Has this instrument been modified? If so, please explain the nature of the changes

Status of operational condition (defects)

Number and description of accessories and ancillary components

Special operating or storage considerations (light/heat/etc.)

Special transportation concerns

Safety concerns (hot sources, mercury, radiation, etc.)

Approximate weight and dimensions (use back if necessary)

Distinctive features of this instrument

Did the instrument represent a technical advance in instrumentation? If so, please describe:

Was it the first of its kind?

Was it one of a kind? _____

Were new lines of investigation or assays developed around this device? If so, please describe:

Documentation

Are the manuals for the instrument available?

In what laboratories was the instrument used?

Names of investigators/technicians who used this instrument

If possible, please provide a curriculum vitae and picture for each key investigator who used the instrument.

If possible, please provide copies of scientific articles that 1) describe the instrument and/or 2) typify the experiments performed with the instrument. If papers are not available, please briefly describe the nature of research performed using this device:

Return completed form to:

Dr. Victoria A. Harden
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Bethesda, MD 20892-2092

