Visit a Museum

Since the first veterinary school was established in France over 250 years ago, many changes have taken place in the practice of veterinary medicine in improving animal and human health around the world.

When the field of veterinary medicine began to emerge in 19th century America, early practitioners were primarily “horse doctors” who treated urban horses as well as cattle and other livestock. Greater attention was directed toward the health and care of small animals in the 1920s as the automobile replaced horses for transportation.

A number of museums and exhibits have been assembled across the United States and Canada. They trace aspects of the history of veterinary medicine along with displays of early instruments and medicines utilized by these early practitioners. Many are associated with agricultural and farm museums, universities, state veterinary medical associations, government agencies, or are affiliated with other organizations. They vary in content and accessibility, but all are unique treasures.

DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS

of each museum can be found in an online guide at http://avmhs.org/museums.html

Donations and Inquiries:

Many of these museums continue to accept in-kind donations and can help in identifying antique instruments and memorabilia.

Contact a museum directly to donate items, provide financial support, or seek help to identify an instrument.

Corrections, Updates, Comments:

We welcome corrections, additions, and changes to this museum directory at any time. For more information, please contact the AVMHS Secretary-Treasurer at avmhs.info@gmail.com

This directory was prepared by Susanne Whitaker (Ithaca, NY) with advice from Paul Maravelas (Saint Paul, MN) and Dr. Harold J. Davis (Springville, UT). The listing was originally compiled by Dr. Harold J. Davis in 2001 and revised by Dr. Robert C. McClure and C. Trenton Boyd in June, 2005.

1890 Veterinary Surgeon’s Office at Carroll County Farm Museum, Westminster, Maryland

American Veterinary Medical History Society, Inc.

c/o AVMHS Secretary-Treasurer
23 Wedgewood Drive
Ithaca, New York 14850-1064
Tel: 607-257-9248
Email: avmhs.info@gmail.com
Web: http://avmhs.org/  
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Veterinary and Related MUSEUMS & HISTORICAL EXHIBITS in the United States and Canada

MORE INFORMATION and DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS can be found at http://avmhs.org/museums.html

UNITED STATES

CALIFORNIA
Sacramento
California Veterinary Medical Museum
California Veterinary Medical Association Offices

GEORGIA
Lithonia
Veterinary Collectibles Roundtable [by appointment only]

ILLINOIS
Urbana-Champaign
Dr. Walter E. Zuschlag—ISVMA Veterinary Heritage Collection & Information Commons
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

IOWA
Ames
R. Allen Packer Veterinary Heritage Room
Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine

MASSACHUSETTS
Cambridge
Harvard Museum of Natural History (HMNH)
Museum of Comparative Zoology (MCZ)
Harvard University

MICHIGAN
East Lansing
[Vet2011 Exhibit & Antique Veterinary Instruments]
Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine

MINNESOTA
Saint Paul
Minnesota Veterinary Historical Museum (MVHM)
University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine

MISSISSIPPI
Jackson
Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Museum

MISSOURI
Jefferson City
Veterinary Museum of Missouri
Missouri Veterinary Medical Association Offices

MONTANA
Helena
Montana Homeland Museum

NEBRASKA
Grand Island
Dr. Phillipson Veterinary Infirmary
Stuhr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer

NEW YORK
Cooperstown
The Farmer's Museum

Ithaca
[Antique Veterinary Instruments]
Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

OKLAHOMA
Oklahoma City
[Veterinary Medicine in Oklahoma Exhibit]
Oklahoma History Center

Sulphur
National Museum of Horse Shoeing Tools
Carrousel Farms

 PENNSYLVANIA
Pennsylvania Furnace
The Pasto Agricultural Museum
Pennsylvania State University

 TEXAS
Austin
Mark Francis Museum of Veterinary Medicine
Texas Veterinary Medical Association Offices

 VERMONT
Shelburne
Shelburne Museum

WASHINGTON
Pullman
Robert P. Worthman Anatomy Museum

WISCONSIN
Fond du Lac
Dr. Fred J. Born Veterinary Office
Galloway House and Village

CANADA

ONTARIO
Guelph
The C.A.V. Barker Museum of Canadian Veterinary History
Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph