

## **Annotated Bibliography**

### Primary Sources

*American Journal of Public Health*. "The Lasker Awards for 1951." 41, no. 12 (December 1, 1951): 1546-1549. <https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.41.12.1546>.

This journal article entails descriptions of the Lasker Award recipients in 1951, including Catharine Macfarlane, and their individual contributions to the research of diseases. The journal specifically explains Elise L'Esperance and Catharine Macfarlane's establishments of a couple of the first cancer detection clinics in the U.S. and how they inspired hundreds of other clinics to provide examinations for cancer, too. This journal article helped me to develop my thesis by explaining how Catharine Macfarlane's cancer detection clinic had the long term effect of pushing the frontier of cancer control and paving the way for similar clinics to be established nationwide.

*Catherine Macfarlane (1877-1969)*. 1940. Photograph. Smithsonian Institution Archives.

[https://collections.si.edu/search/detail/edanmdm:siris\\_arc\\_306317?q=catharine+macfarlane&record=1&hlterm=catharine%2Bmacfarlane&inline=true](https://collections.si.edu/search/detail/edanmdm:siris_arc_306317?q=catharine+macfarlane&record=1&hlterm=catharine%2Bmacfarlane&inline=true).

This photograph of Catharine Macfarlane was used on the "Home" page of my project to show a portrait of Macfarlane when she was sixty-three years old.

*Drs. Catharine Macfarlane and Margaret Sturgis in the Cancer Prevention Clinic. 1953.*

Photograph. A Movable Archives.

<http://amovablearchives.blogspot.com/2010/03/could-catharine-macfarlane-have.html>.

This photograph of Catharine Macfarlane and her associate Margaret Sturgis at her cancer detection clinic was used on the “Cancer Detection Clinic” page of my project to show them performing a periodic pelvic examination.

Macfarlane, Catharine. “The Value of the Periodic Pelvic Examination of Supposedly Well

Women.” *Medical Clinics of North America* 32, no. 6 (1948): 1557-1561.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0025712516356218>.

This journal entails Macfarlane’s beliefs about the necessity of periodic pelvic examination in regards to decreasing mortalities from cervical cancer. This journal helped in my research by allowing me to understand that Macfarlane was motivated to perform experimental research about periodic pelvic examinations because she felt like these examinations could have saved the lives of thousands of women by detecting their cancer at an earlier, curable stage.

Macfarlane, Catharine, Margaret C. Sturgis, and Faith S. Fetterman. “CONTROL OF CANCER

OF THE UTERUS: Report of a Ten Year Experiment.” *Journal of the American Medical Association* 138, no. 13 (November 27, 1948): 941.

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/article-abstract/302360>.

This journal article entails Macfarlane's descriptions of her cervical cancer detection and treatment procedures as well as the volunteers for her clinic. This helped me understand the different attitudes that the clinical volunteers had towards participating in Macfarlane's experiment, with some being eager to contribute to cancer research while others grew weary of the pelvic examinations over time.

Macfarlane, Catharine, Margaret C. Sturgis, and Faith S. Fetterman. "Results of an Experiment in The Control of Cancer of The Female Pelvic Organs and Report of a Fifteen-Year Research." *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* 69, no. 2 (1955): 294.  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0002937816379996>.

This journal article includes the results of Macfarlane's experimental cancer detection clinic that she shared with the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia in 1954. This helped me to learn that Macfarlane and her associates performed a total of 18,733 pelvic examinations on the group of volunteers and detected a total of seventeen pelvic cancers, four of which were cervical cancer, in the fifteen-year period of the experiment.

Macfarlane, Catharine, Margaret C. Sturgis, and Faith S. Fetterman. "Results of an experiment in the control of pelvic cancer." *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology* 62, no. 1 (July 1, 1951): 102-108.  
[https://www.ajog.org/article/0002-9378\(51\)91095-2/fulltext#relatedArticles](https://www.ajog.org/article/0002-9378(51)91095-2/fulltext#relatedArticles).

This journal article includes information about Macfarlane's reports to the American Medical Association and the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia about the results of her

cancer detection clinic. This journal helped with my research by providing specifics about the group of volunteers that took part in Macfarlane's experiment for three five-year periods.

Philadelphia Evening Bulletin. Exterior of Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania. October 10, 1951. Photograph. Philadelphia PA: Temple University Libraries.

<https://digital.library.temple.edu/digital/collection/p15037coll3/id/41185/>.

This photograph of the exterior of WMCP was used on the "Macfarlane's Proposal" page of my project to show the college that Macfarlane graduated from and worked at for a large portion of her life.

*The New York Times*. "CLINIC OF WOMEN ON CANCER HAILED." May 24, 1939.

<https://www.nytimes.com/1939/05/24/archives/clinic-of-women-on-cancer-hailed-major-step-toward-control-is-seen.html>.

This newspaper article includes descriptions of the ages, genders, and occupations of the 1,200 volunteers for the cancer research clinic that Catharine Macfarlane co-founded in Philadelphia. Additionally, this article explains the immediate results after one year of the clinic running, including the detection and treatment of cervical cancer and unhealthy uterine conditions in some of the supposedly healthy volunteers. This newspaper article helped me develop my thesis by detailing the short term effects that Macfarlane's cancer research clinic had on the health of the volunteers and proposing her work as a major step toward suitable prevention and control of cervical cancer.

## Secondary Sources

“Catharine Macfarlane Papers.” Philadelphia Area Archives. Accessed December 19, 2022.

[https://findingaids.library.upenn.edu/records/DUCOM\\_WM.047](https://findingaids.library.upenn.edu/records/DUCOM_WM.047).

This website includes a biography about Catharine Macfarlane with details of her medical career. This helped with my research by providing information about Macfarlane’s various positions at the WMCP and her proposal of periodic pelvic examinations to the Medical Women’s International Meeting a year prior to the establishment of her cancer detection clinic.

“Cervical Cancer: Screening.” United States Preventive Services Task Force. Last modified August 21, 2018. Accessed December 19, 2022.

<https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation/cervical-cancer-screening>.

This website details the recommendations of the United States Preventive Services Task Force in regards to which age groups of women should be screened for cervical cancer. This helped with my research by proving that modern cancer screening methods for cervical cancer were influenced by Macfarlane’s research of periodic pelvic examinations. Additionally, this website demonstrates that current cancer research supports Macfarlane’s conclusions that early detection of cervical cancer reduces mortality rates from this disease.

“Changing the Face of Medicine | Catharine Macfarlane.” *U.S. National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health*, Last modified 2015, Accessed October 18, 2022.

[https://cfmedicine.nlm.nih.gov/physicians/biography\\_209.html?\\_gl=1%2Ak9sldb%2A\\_ga%2AODA3MTc5MTY0LjE2NjI1NTM2MDY.%2A\\_ga\\_P1FPTH9PL4%2AMTY2MzYxMDc0My41LjEuMTY2MzYxMTgyOC4wLjAuMA](https://cfmedicine.nlm.nih.gov/physicians/biography_209.html?_gl=1%2Ak9sldb%2A_ga%2AODA3MTc5MTY0LjE2NjI1NTM2MDY.%2A_ga_P1FPTH9PL4%2AMTY2MzYxMDc0My41LjEuMTY2MzYxMTgyOC4wLjAuMA).

This journal argues that Catharine Macfarlane was a highly distinguished and dignified woman who made significant contributions to medicine as a physician, educator, and medical researcher. The journal entails Macfarlane’s accomplishments, titles, and personality traits throughout her life in order to prove that she was extremely devoted to her medical work. This journal provided me with a better understanding of how Macfarlane was able to push her controversial ideas about periodic pelvic examinations because she had an assertive and strong willed personality.

Croswell, Jennifer M., David F. Ransohoff, and Barnett S. Kramer. “Principles of Cancer Screening: Lessons from History and Study Design Issues.” *Seminars in Oncology* 37, no. 3 (2010): 202-215. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2921618/>.

This journal article includes the history of cancer control policies regarding the use of early detection clinics as a means to prevent and treat cancer in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. This journal article helped me understand the potential harms and biases involved with practices of early cancer detection like Macfarlane’s that remained unchecked until the late twentieth century, when the United States Preventive Services

Task Force developed a new framework for determining the effectiveness of these cancer screening methods.

Löwy, Ilana. "The Gender of Cancer." *Clio. Women, Gender, History*, no. 37 (2013): 63–68.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/26238681>.

This journal article includes the history of medical campaigns for the early detection of cervical cancers during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and how Macfarlane's ideas expanded on these medical campaigns. This journal article helped me understand the ideological shift that occurred during the twentieth century, in which gynecologists began encouraging both symptomatic and asymptomatic women to receive uterine examinations in order to detect cervical cancer at an early stage that would allow for successful hysterectomies.

Mandell, Melissa M. "Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania." *Encyclopedia of Greater*

*Philadelphia*. Last modified April 23, 2022. Accessed December 19, 2022.

<https://philadelphiaencyclopedia.org/essays/womans-medical-college-of-pennsylvania/>.

This website provides an overview of the history of Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, including descriptions of its founding and significant professors and students. This helped me to understand a portion of Macfarlane's background as well as information about the college where Macfarlane established her cancer detection clinic.

Stage 1B. Diagram. Cancer Research UK.

<https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/cervical-cancer/stages-types-grades/stage-1>.

This diagram of stage 1 cervical cancer was used on the “Historical Background” page of my project to show the location of this disease in a woman’s uterus.

Sturgis, Katharine R. “First Woman Fellow of The College of Physicians of Philadelphia:

Memoir of Catharine Macfarlane.” *Transactions & studies of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia* 38, no. 3 (January 1971): 157-160.

[https://archive.org/stream/transactionsstud4381coll/transactionsstud4381coll\\_djvu.txt](https://archive.org/stream/transactionsstud4381coll/transactionsstud4381coll_djvu.txt).

This journal article is comprised of a memoir of Catharine Macfarlane that encompasses her confident and dedicated personality and the significant accomplishments that she made in the medical field. This helped with my research by providing information about the backlash that Macfarlane received during the Medical Women’s International Meeting, and how she used this setback as motivation to prove her theories about periodic pelvic examinations.