



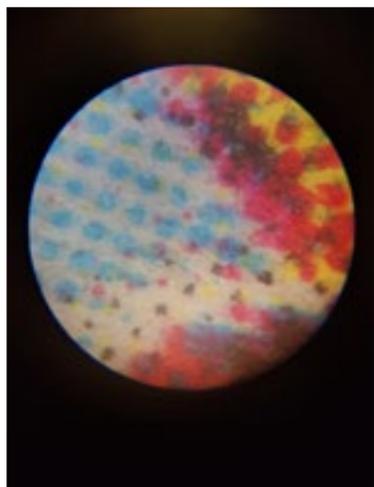
This is Dr Walker's microscope and glass slides from Salisbury District Hospital's historic collections. Dr Walker qualified in 1922 and was the first female doctor, looking after women's health, at the psychiatric hospital Old Manor in Salisbury.

Did you know?

In the early 20th century there were very few women doctors. In 1881 there were only 25 in England & Wales. By 1911 there were 495. Shortages of medical staff during World War 1 meant there were greater opportunities for women in medicine and surgery.

How do microscopes work?

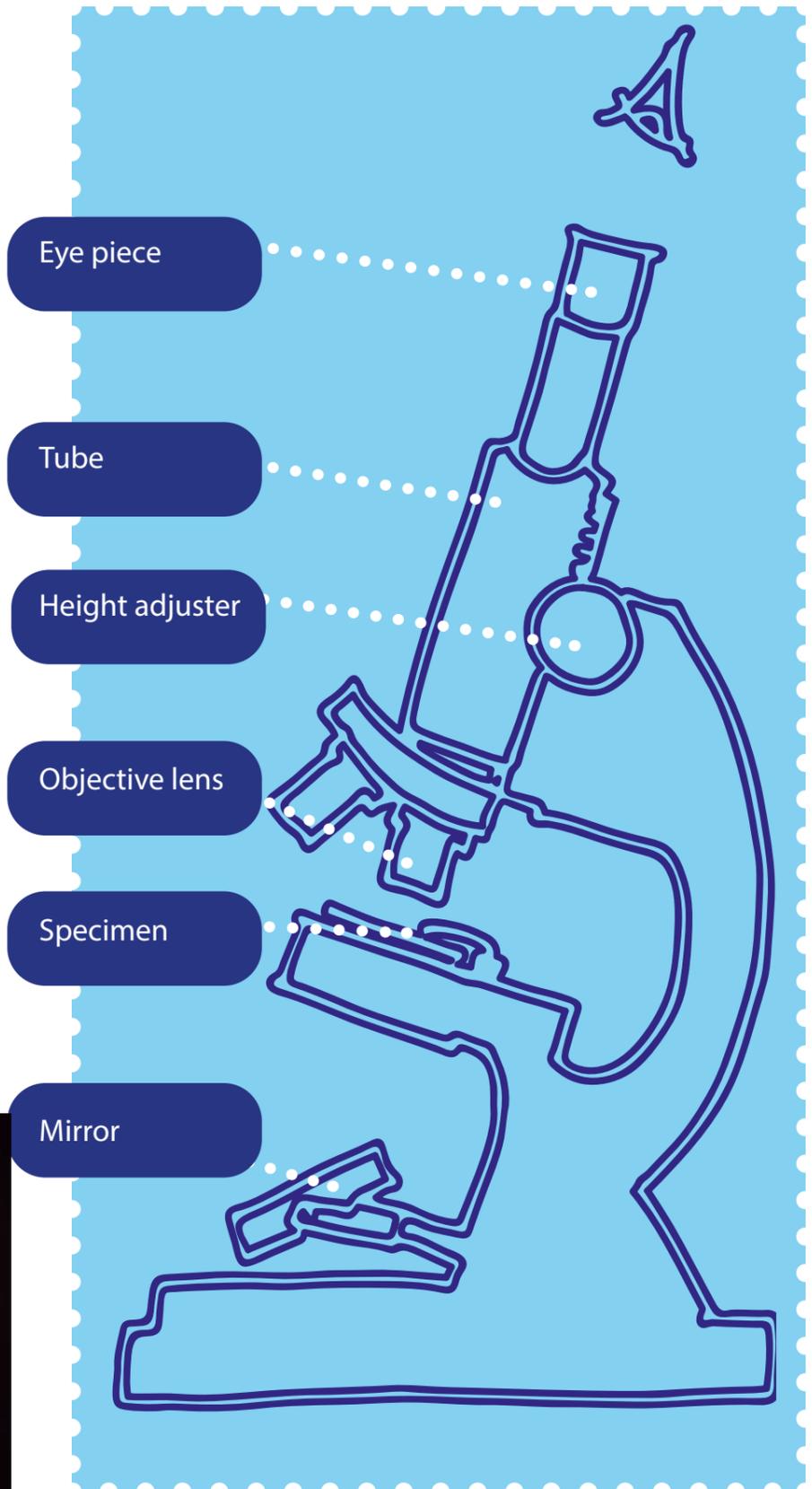
This optical microscope has two lenses. Lenses are curved pieces of glass that bend rays of light to make objects appear larger. Light from a mirror, at the base, is reflected up through the specimen, into objective lens, which gives the first magnification. These lenses can be various sizes of magnification (On Dr Walker's microscope there are 3 different strength objective lenses to choose from). The image is then increased again by the eyepiece lens, at the top, which is like a magnifying glass. You can see the enlarged image by looking into the eyepiece. The height adjuster helps to focus so you can see the object clearly.



Spots before your eyes!

We viewed newspaper print through Dr Walker's microscope and photographed the image using a phone camera looking down the eyepiece. You can clearly see the printing dots that make up colour images. This is where Cyan, Magenta, Yellow & Black (CMYK) dots make up different colours. By varying the size and density of each colour you can make up all the different shades you see in newspaper's photographs.

What do you think we are viewing through our microscope on the right? HINT: the answer does grow on trees!



Using microscopes in hospital



2016.2045 Close up view of a powerful pathology microscope. It has a viewer and several different strength lenses. Closed window blinds allow for better vision through the microscope. Image dates from early 1990s



2016.2162 During an operation the patient is covered in green sheets. The surgeon is stood next to the patients head and a nurse assists. They are both in green gowns, masks, hats and sterile gloves. The mobile microscope is being used to see the work in much greater detail. Image dates from early 1990s



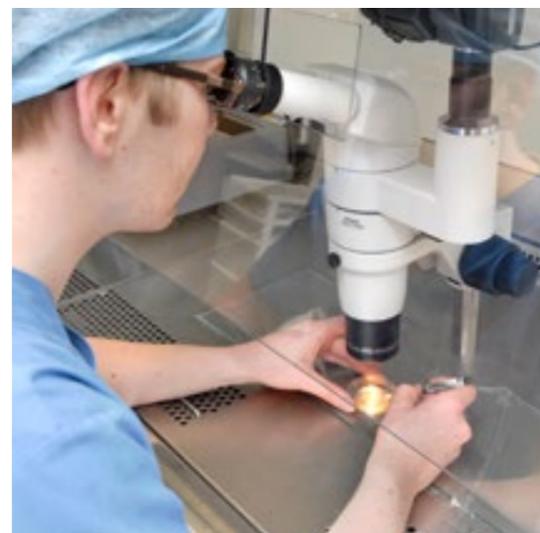
2016.2163 The surgeon is looking into a mobile microscope. He is using it to see the work he is doing with a scalpel to the patients eye. Image dates from early 1990s



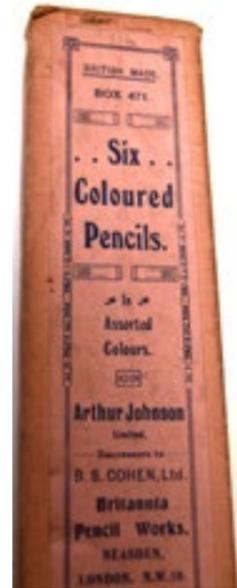
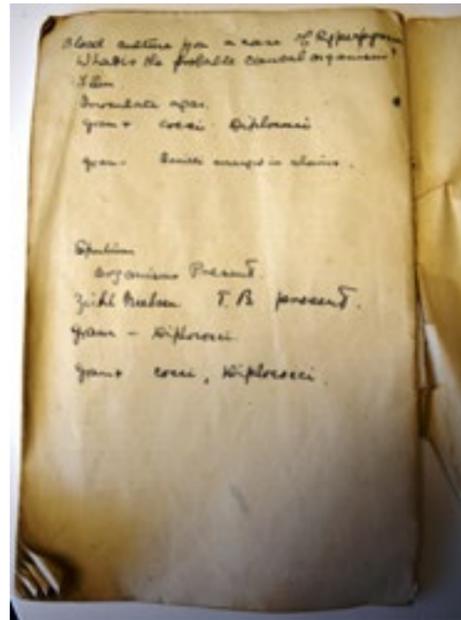
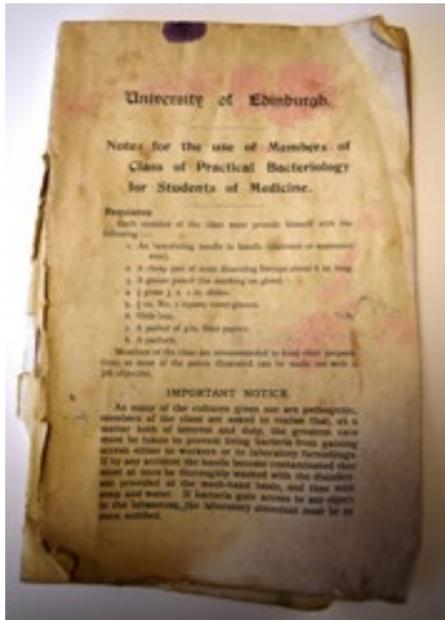
2018.4189 This shows the Pathology Department at Salisbury General Infirmary in early 1990s just before the transfer of service to Salisbury District Hospital. Here you can see the laboratory equipment includes computers and microscopes



2108.4111.5 This is an extract from Salisbury District Hospital's annual report 1997-1998. It describes the donation of a new microscope equipment for ear, nose and throat examinations.



(Above and right) In 2007 new microscopic equipment was donated to the Fertility Clinic by the League of Friends for use in patient treatment. This IVF workstation provides a special protective environment to examine eggs, sperm and embryos.



Dr Walker's microscope

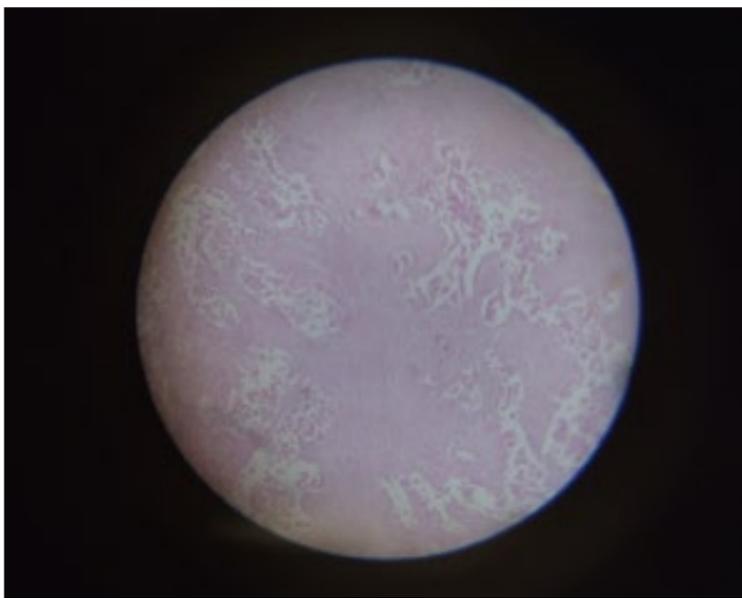
2018.3834 The brass and metal microscope, used in Dr Walker's studies in the early 1920s, is housed in a wooden case with key lock and leather strap handle.

2018.3834.1 and 2018.3834.1a Inside the microscope box is a booklet which gives students information about equipment required for Practical Bacteriology classes. Dr Walker has written herself notes about the medical samples.

2018.3834.2 Inside is also included a pack of coloured pencils which were used to mark the glass slides

2018.3839a A cardboard slide box with drop down sides houses numerous prepared glass slides for pathology classes. Each one has been hand labelled with different medical conditions.

(Bottom left) We used Dr Walker's microscope to look at some of the historic samples. This is a view of one which we photographed using a camera looking down the lens of Dr Walker's microscope which still works today.





Looking through the microscope lens

2020.36 - 37

These are three small square glass plates from a Kodak box marked Dr Roberts dating from early to mid 1950s .

The top two show is section of tissue that has been removed and seen under a microscope magnification x 62

2020.38 The bottom slide shows this sample at x 375 magnification.

