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Dr. Richard Corwin's scrapbook could be 2014 most significant artifact

Pueblo, Colo. — Pueblo City-County Library District's Special Collections houses Dr. Richard Corwin's Scrapbook. The document was nominated recently as one of Colorado's 10 most significant artifacts, and now it has a chance to be number one. To achieve this, it will take lots of votes from the public. Voting is electronic, and can be done at this url: <https://collectioncare.auraria.edu/content/vote-colorados-2014-most-significant-artifact>. Voting ends Oct. 31.

This scrapbook contains historical information about places throughout Colorado between 1881 and 1929 including Greeley, Pueblo, Denver, Upper and Lower Arkansas River Valleys and San Luis Valley plus important information about Minnequa Hospital's growth. Dr. Corwin was a fascinating character who settled in Colorado with a deep interest in taxidermy sharing his collection with the public. As CF&I added coal and iron mines to its operation, Dr. Corwin's medical department became responsible for their care. In designing the hospital he used many innovative features for the time adding new knowledge for making hospitals fireproof and more efficient in their layout.

This scrapbook is significant because it shows the academic views of some medical doctors during the time Dr. Corwin lived (1852-1929). The scrapbook has items that have not been saved anywhere else from the time including images, clippings and ads. In 1881, General William J. Palmer, hired Dr. Corwin, 28, and two male nurses to work at Minnequa's six-bed hospital, which was a joint venture with the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad. By 1902, under the design and direction of Dr. Corwin, chief surgeon, the CF&I opened its new 200-bed Minnequa Hospital to replace the one that opened in 1881.

The contest is sponsored by Colorado Connecting to Collections, and initiative made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services. The grant operates under the direction of the Center for Colorado and The West at Auraria



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Library in Denver, and is a collaborative partnership with the Colorado Wyoming Association of Museums, the Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists, Colorado State Library and History Colorado. The initiative aims to increase awareness of and support for collections and their long-term care and preservation at all levels of government and in the private sector. The views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this website do not necessarily represent those of the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

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