

1955-2005 Planting- and unearthing- a time capsule



The original capsule was planted in March of 1955. It was sealed into the cornerstone of the Medical Science Building. At the time, the cornerstone was on the outside of the building, on the north side and was by one of the major entrances to the building.



Location of the cornerstone.

Since 1955, additional construction changed the area almost beyond recognition. Now the cornerstone is inside a generator room in the Academic Research Building.

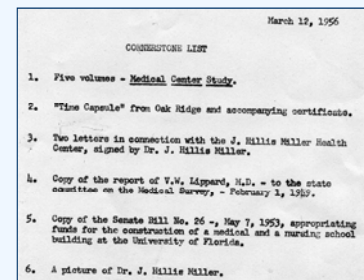


Original time capsule contents

The Health Center founders put into the time capsule those documents they thought were most important in chronicling the creation of a center with a unique mission and created by a group of unusually far-sighted and visionary leaders.

The documents describe the legislature's decision to site the Health Center in Gainesville, the study that allowed the Center to start with strong and well planned colleges, and to incorporate others into the expected pattern of growth.

And the radioactive capsule? Well, in the 1950s, radioactivity was at the absolute cutting edge of medical treatment and research. The founders expressed their commitment to innovation by including a radioactive sample. They also expressed their hopes for the permanency of their endeavors. They thought that the time capsule might not be opened for hundreds of years but believed the building and capsule would still be there. . Perhaps thousands of years in the future their descendants could use c^{14} dating to determine when the contents were placed in the capsule!



In preparation for the 50th anniversary celebrations, the cornerstone was prised from its site and the original time capsule was removed

