

HERE IS YOUR HOSPITAL!



1940S-1950S



1945

The Diocese of St. Augustine purchased 130 acres of land from Vizcaya, the estate of the late James Deering, and used the southeastern corner (40 acres purchased for \$320,000) to begin construction of the Hospital.



1950

Archbishop Joseph P. Hurley quietly celebrated Mass with the Sisters of St. Joseph of St. Augustine, the new administrators of Mercy Hospital, and without fanfare the hospital admitted its first patient.



FIRST BABY AT MERCY HOSPITAL



1955

By the fifth year of operation, 40,000 patients had been treated at Mercy Hospital. Occupancy had climbed to 85%; at times there were insufficient rooms, with patient beds lining the corridors. Surgery was up 33% over the prior year, with 4,640 procedures performed. By 1955, nearly 6,000 infants were born at Mercy Hospital.



FIRST TWINS AT MERCY HOSPITAL get a warm greeting from their nurse, Mrs. Clara Meyer. That's Lon Bradley, at left, with his sister Lois Holly Bradley, at right. Lon, born at 2 a.m. Wednesday, weighed five pounds.

1958

Guido Greganti, an artist from Italy, spent the summer adapting the ancient tradition of fresco to the tropical climate of Miami. The fresco proclaims the Gospel message to heal in the manner of Jesus and connects the Scripture stories with the healing touch of physicians, Sisters and nursing personnel at Mercy Hospital.

