FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE
British, (1820-1910)
The Lady with the Lamp

“Unless we are making progress in our nursing every year, every month, every week, take my word for it, we are going backwards.”

Throughout her life, Florence Nightingale’s writings sparked worldwide healthcare reform. In 1860, she established St. Thomas’ Hospital and the Nightingale Training School for Nurses. To this day, she is broadly acknowledged and revered as the pioneer of modern nursing.

Because she was so respected in the field of nursing, she was selected to consult with the British Army. During the Crimean War, she and a team of nurses improved the unsanitary conditions at a British base hospital, reducing the death count by two-thirds. In the evenings, she moved through the dark hallways carrying a lamp while making her rounds. The soldiers, who were both moved and comforted by her endless supply of compassion, called her “The Lady with the Lamp.” Others simply called her “the Angel of the Crimea.”

Location in hospital: Second floor, same-day surgery hallway