


NINETY-SECOND
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE HOSPITAL
FOR THE INSANE

FOR THE YEAR 1915


COLUMBIA, S. C.
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REPORT OF ARCHITECT.

Columbia, S. C., January 1st, 1916.

To the Board of Regents, State Hospital for Insane, Columbia, S. C.

Gentlemen: I beg to report to you the progress that has been made during this year upon the improvements to the buildings and their equipment, and also my recommendations for further improvements to them.

Immediately after the Board commissioned me to take charge of designing these improvements, a careful and exhaustive survey of the entire institution was made. Measured drawings of all the different buildings, including their equipment, and a complete topographical survey of the property, locating all buildings, sewers and water mains, storm drains and pole lines were made. The occupancy and use of each building and method of the administration of the institution were noted. A census of the patients in each building and ward, as well as the resident employees of the institution, was made.

The result of this survey and observations made, briefly stated, were, that we have here in Columbia an institution for the treatment and care of the insane of the State with a total population of about 1,800 patients. These patients are divided approximately as follows:

450 White Males.

600 White Females.

350 Colored Males.

400 Colored Females.

These patients represent all types and conditions of insanity usually found in similar hospitals.

The treatment and care of these patients are administered by the Board of Regents.

The Superintendent.

Medical Staff.

Executive Officers.

Male and Female Nurses.

General Help.

To house the patients and to care for the administration of these patients, the institution is made up of the following buildings, and at the time of my investigations were utilized as indicated:

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

The first floor: Numerous store rooms for plunder, male attendants' sitting room, dining room and pantry. Main kitchen and store rooms and the morgue. Toilets for attendants.

The second floor: Superintendent's office, parlor, medical office, pharmacy, dining room for head nurse, chapel and toilets for officers and stenographers.

The third floor: Office for dentist and pathologist, sleeping rooms for physicians.

The fourth floor: Rooms for nurses.

SOUTH WING—MAIN BUILDING.

These are the wards in the Main building, south of the Administration building, and contain white male patients.

NORTH WING—MAIN BUILDING.

These are the wards in the Main building north of the Administration building, and contain white female patients.

TAYLOR BUILDING.

The Taylor building is adjacent to the male wards of the Main building and immediately in the rear of the south end and contains wards for the disturbed male patients.

NORTH BUILDING.

This building is north of the female wards of the Main building and contains white female patients.

TALLEY BUILDING.

The Talley building contains the more or less disturbed white female patients.

DIX COTTAGE.

This is a two-story frame cottage, and contained infirm white female patients.

PARKER BUILDING.

The Parker building is a four-story building and contains colored male patients.

PARKER ANNEX.

The Parker annex is a two-story building and contains colored male patients.

OLD ASYLUM BUILDING.

This building contained colored female patients.

STORE ROOM BUILDING.

The Store Room building is immediately in the rear of the Administration building, and was used as a general store room for the supplies of the entire institution.

MALE DINING ROOM.

The male dining room is immediately in the rear of the male wards south of Main building and was used as a congregate dining room for a portion of the male patients.

Other buildings are:

The Laundry and Boiler House.

Bakery and Milk House.

Carpenter Shop.

Three Cottages for Officers.

The institution maintains a dairy on the farm for supplying the milk that is used.

The slaughter house is located on the farm, as well as the necessary farm buildings.

At State Park there is a large new building recently erected, but contains only about one hundred colored female patients.

The above constitute the principal buildings and their uses comprising the institution.

The first and essential problem to decide before an intelligent reconstruction could begin, would be the question of race segregation. In my opinion, the subdivision of the institution on racial lines would be best, for the reason that the institution has already reached large proportions and is becoming unwieldy and, the State having already acquired land and erected buildings at State Park, it would in the future be more economical and to the betterment of each race to have them separated but administered by the same executive officers.

The buildings here, if rebuilt and equipped, could be made into a thoroughly modern hospital for the care and treatment of the white patients and will have capacity for a great many years.

State Park should, then, be developed into a separate institution for the colored patients.

TALLEY BUILDING.

The Talley building is a two-story building, with a basement. The building is substantially constructed, but sanitary equipment is like the other buildings, entirely inadequate and not in good condition. The plastering is in need of repairs. The floors are a poor grade of pine and badly worn and should be renewed. This building has a separate kitchen and dining room to feed the patients. If this system is to be continued, the kitchen should be put in good condition and new equipment installed.

DIX COTTAGE.

This building is a two-story frame cottage, which was occupied by women patients, and is in a very bad condition and needs a new roof.

The building has been remodeled and converted into the nurses' home, as hereinafter mentioned.

OLD ASYLUM BUILDING.

The Old Asylum building was used to house the colored female patients.

This building is old and thoroughly unfit, in its present condition, to be used as a permanent building. The building could be renovated at a considerable expense and made into good hospital wards. The colored female patients have been removed from this building to State Park, except a few, and this building has been cleaned out and is now being used as temporary quarters for the white male patients, whose former wards are being remodeled.

Since this building does not enter into our present scheme of reconstruction, I will not attempt to point out its unfitness for the permanent home of any class of patients, in its present condition.

PARKER BUILDING.

The Parker building is a large brick building, in the rear of the Main building, and contains the majority of the colored male patients. The interior arrangements are poor and the conditions of the interior are bad. The toilets, which are in the tower, are thoroughly inadequate and in a most unsanitary condition. The lower floor is poorly lighted and dark, none of the building has means of ventilation, which makes conditions in the building almost unbearable. We have remedied the most urgent needs of this building by removing the patients which were on the first floor to State

Park, and have converted the discarded old hot water heating system into a steam heating system, which dispenses with the necessity of stoves. We are now reconstructing the toilet rooms, which, when completed, will be adequate and convenient. This building will not be utilized as a part of the general scheme of reconstructing the buildings for the white patients at present.

PARKER ANNEX.

This is a two-story building, used for colored men patients, and is designed and constructed as the other buildings. This building should be converted into industrial shops for the male patients.

MALE DINING ROOM.

The male dining room is a one-story building, and is not large enough or properly arranged and equipped for the purposes. The room has a low ceiling and is dark. The floor is of brick, which are uneven and rough and hard to keep clean.

LAUNDRY.

The laundry was very poorly equipped to handle the large amount of soiled clothes and linen. The washing facilities were insufficient and very inadequate, and poor means of mechanically drying and ironing the clothes were provided. Resort had to be made to drying the clothes in the yard and ironing by hand. In bad weather the laundry would not be able to keep up with the work. This condition resulted in poor and unsanitary washing and an unusual expense for help.

No means for sterilizing the clothes are provided. The mechanical arrangement of this laundry is very uneconomical, the machinery is driven by an old, inefficient engine, the washers are heated by live steam, both of which are not economical.

The laundry equipment and conditions surrounding this laundry have been improved, as further stated in this report.

The boiler room is located in this building and is equipped with two 125 horse power boilers. Steam is furnished from this plant to the radiators in Administration building, portions of female wards, kitchen, male dining room and to operate the engines in laundry and carpenter shop. There is provided in this room a feed water heater, which furnishes hot water to some sections of the building. The steam is carried in pipes under ground, some in a brick tunnel and others buried in the ground. This system of pip-

of this is, that the steam is condensed in the basement and very little of the heat gets to the rooms above.

The wards are generally heated by numerous hot air gravity system. The heat delivered to the wards is uncertain, depending upon the fireman or the law of nature.

Some of the buildings are insufficiently heated and none have ventilation or any means of controlling the temperature.

The general scheme of heating is inadequate and uneconomical and a source of great discomfort to the patients.

The present system of so many fires scattered about the basements of the different buildings is a source of great fire hazard and should be abolished as soon as possible.

No hospital should be without ventilating or means of controlling the temperature of the rooms.

This means comfort to the patients and economy to the institution.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

The present system of electric lighting was installed about fifteen years ago. There was no current provided for power. The majority of the lighting is controlled by one switch and if one light is wanted in the daytime the whole system had to be turned on.

In the wards lights are provided only in the corridors and stair halls. No patient's room was provided with light. The old system was built from time to time and the grounds were full of poles, with wires running to the different buildings in an unsightly manner.

In the reconstruction of these buildings, a central station is provided, from which light and power will be furnished to all the different buildings.

STATE PARK.

At State Park there is a large, well constructed fireproof building, which was erected there several years ago. This building was the only one erected, except a building intended for the laundry, which was a unit of the new institution planned at that time.

The building had accommodations for two hundred and fifty patients, but on account of the lack of water, only eighty-five patients were kept there.

The heating and plumbing systems in this building are not proper and should be renewed.

Your Board, having tentatively agreed to the general scheme of reconstructing the institution, as I have outlined before, instructed me to proceed with the work, and adopted the following scheme of procedure :

- Remodel the Administration building.
- Remodel the male wards, two sections.
- Build and equip the new kitchen.
- Build the Women's Congregate Dining Room.
- Build the new dairy.
- Convert Dix Cottage into nurses' home.
- Design a central heating plant.

In accordance with the above instructions, I prepared my plans for this part of the work, and will have the work completed in a very short time. I have rearranged and designed the different buildings in accordance with the best practice, along permanent lines, with a view of making the institution complete and a thoroughly modern hospital for the care of the insane.

A description of the improvements made to the different buildings, briefly stated, are as follows :

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

We have arranged this building in a most convenient and complete manner for the executive and medical administration of the institution.

The nurses, who formerly occupied the upper stories, were removed to Dix Cottage. We reclaimed the offices used as store rooms on the first floor and have arranged on this floor a laboratory for the pathologist. The dentist, who formerly had his office on the third floor, has been provided with an office on this floor. We have installed a large toilet and bath room adjacent to the male attendants' sitting room for their use. No provisions were made formerly for the bathing of these attendants, except upon the wards. We have provided toilets on this floor for the colored male and female servants in this building. One of these rooms is used for the printing plant. The rear part of this building, which is now the main kitchen, will be removed and this space made into the general store room for supplies. A new floor will be put in dividing the present kitchen into two stories, thus giving ample space for the general store room. This part of the work cannot be done until our new kitchen is completed and in use.