



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minnesota State Archives

FERGUS FALLS STATE HOSPITAL

An Inventory of Its Patient Records

Access to or use of this collection is PARTIALLY RESTRICTED.

For details, see Administrative Information.

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

Agency:	Fergus Falls State Hospital.
Series Title:	Patient records.
Dates:	1890-1981.
Quantity:	11.55 cu. ft. (14 boxes, 2 partial boxes).
Location:	See Detailed Description section for box locations.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE RECORDS

Records containing information on patients, many with data on individual patients. They include selected items documenting discharged patients (1890-ca. 1961), census books (1890-1971), cemetery (1890-1968) and burial (1918-1949) records, Detention Hospital census book (1914-1917, 1920-1927), patient clothing record (1893-1913), monthly ward reports/movement of population (1894-1902), patient cash journals (1894-1906), and patient personal property receipt and miscellaneous expense record book, mainly detailing escapee and parolee travel expenses (1902-1904, 1911-1915).

Also included are letters from (1911) and interviews with (1910-1911) patients concerning treatment, a patient address/employee commentary book (1913-1920), patient and employee tuberculosis test cards (1930s), admission building night report (1931-1933), monthly population statistical reports (1935, 1939-1965), monthly reports (1942-1949), West Side (women's ward) night report (1948-1949), Convalescent Ward Patients Council minute book (1953-1962), and records of patients transferred to the Rochester State Hospital for medical treatment (1974-1981).

INDEX TERMS

These records are indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons or places should search the catalog using these headings.

Topics:

Cemeteries—Minnesota—Fergus Falls.
Medical records—Minnesota.
Mental health personnel—Minnesota.
Mentally ill—Minnesota.
Parole—Minnesota.
People with mental disabilities, Writings of, American—Minnesota.
People with mental disabilities—Institutional care—Minnesota—Statistics.
People with mental disabilities—Institutional care—Minnesota—Interviews.
Psychiatric hospital care—Minnesota.
Psychiatric hospital patients—Clothing—Minnesota.
Psychiatric hospital patients—Diseases—Minnesota.
Psychiatric hospital patients—Minnesota—Interviews.
Psychiatric hospital patients—Minnesota—Statistics.
Psychiatric hospitals—Minnesota—Admission and discharge.
Psychiatric hospitals—Minnesota—Employees.
Psychiatric hospitals—Minnesota—Finance.
Psychiatric hospitals—Minnesota—Statistics.
Psychiatric nursing—Minnesota.
State hospitals—Minnesota—Admission and discharge.
State hospitals—Minnesota—Finance.
State hospitals—Minnesota—Officials and employees.
State hospitals—Minnesota—Statistics.
Tuberculosis—Diagnosis—Minnesota.

Organizations:

Rochester State Hospital (Minn.).

Types of Documents:

Burial records—Minnesota—Fergus Falls.
Plats (maps)—Minnesota—Fergus Falls.
Statistics.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Restrictions:

Some of these records contain private data and are closed for 50 years from date of creation. The restricted records are noted in the Detailed Description section. Researchers may apply to use these records in accordance with the State Archives access statement.

Preferred Citation:

[Indicate the cited volume and page or item and folder title here]. Fergus Falls State Hospital. Patient Records. Minnesota Historical Society. State Archives.

See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.

Accession Information:

Accession number(s): 2000-57; 2004-27; 2008-43

Processing Information:

Processed by: Rich Arpi, January 2000; Charles Rodgers, October 2003; Jane Wong, February 2008.

Catalog ID No.: 1704539

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE RECORDS

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note the location shown below.

Location

- 106.E.20.9B Samples of discharged patients' documents, 1890-[ca. 1961].
 Samples of documents for patients discharged from the hospital, including correspondence, behavior notes, lab reports, accident reports, death certificates, and related records. Arranged in numerical order by patient's file number.
 File Nos. 1-397, 1890-1937. 5 folders.
 File Nos. 7301-7351, 1910-[ca. 1950]. 4 folders.
 File Nos. 12,601-12,650, 1921-[ca. 1961]. 5 folders.
 RESTRICTED
 Census book, July 1890 - June 1893. 1 volume in folder.
 This volume contains unique information not found in No. [1] of the census books listed below.
 Census books, July 1890 - June 1971.
- 113.H.3.1F-2 No. [1], July 1890 - July 1898. 1 volume.
 No. 2, August 1898 - August 1906. 1 volume.
 No. 3, August 1906 - July 1914. 1 volume.
- 113.H.3.2F-1 No. 4, August 1914 - June 1924. 1 volume.
 No. 5, July 1924 - June 1944. 1 volume.
- 113.H.3.2F-2 No. 6, July 1944 - December 1962. 1 volume. **RESTRICTED**
- 113.H.3.3F-1 No. 7, January 1963 - June 1971. 1 volume. **RESTRICTED**

Location

- 105.G.3.2F Census books, 1949-1962.
 The following volumes contain unique admission, discharge, and statistical information not found in Volume 6 above.
 June 1949 - February 1959. 1 volume. **RESTRICTED.**
 April 1950 - January 1960. 1 volume. **RESTRICTED.**
 March 1959 - October 1962. 1 volume. **RESTRICTED.**
- 113.H.3.3F-1 Census book: Detention Hospital, August 1914 - July 1917, 1920-1927.
 August 1914 - July 1917. 1 volume.
- 106.E.20.9B 1920-1927. 1 volume in folder.
- 105.G.3.2F Census list, January 12-13, 1979. 1 folder. **RESTRICTED.**
 Daily report of admissions, discharges, visits, transfers, and hospital statistics.
- 105.G.3.3B Cemeteries 1, 2, and 3 Index, August 28, 1890 - September 4, 1968. 1 folder.
 An alphabetical (by patient surname) index for Plats 1, 2, and 3 (listed below). For each patient, the data includes grave location (section-grave-cemetery number), date of birth, date of death, date of burial, Minnesota death certificate number, name on certificate, and comments. This printed index was produced from an electronic version provided by the institution (the original compact disk and a duplicate are included in this folder).
- A3/OV5 Drawer11/F2 Cemeteries 1, 2, and 3 Plats, 1958, 1961 (dates compiled). 3 items in 1 oversize folder.
 Plats for Cemeteries 1 and 2 (1961) list decedent names and grave locations. Cemetery 1 includes sections 11-39, for burials between September 26, 1912 and February 16, 1931; Cemetery 2 shows sections 40-64, for burials between February 16, 1931 and January 24, 1949. The Cemetery 3 plat (1958) includes sections 1-4, for burials between February 2, 1949 and September 26, 1960.
 When using the previously described index to locate a grave on the plats, there may be some discrepancies in the numbering between the index and the plats. Index entries 11-17-2 through 39-35-2 are located on the Cemetery 1 plat; 40-1-2 through 64-35-2 are located on Cemetery 2 plat; and 1-1-3 through 4-10-3 are located on the Cemetery 3 plat. There are no plats available for index entries 1-1-1 through 11-16-2 or 4-11-3 through 4-64-3.

Location

- 126.I.16.10F Patient's clothing record books, 1893-1913.
Lists of individual patient's clothing and personal possessions upon admission to the hospital.
1893-1898. 1 volume.
1899-1902. 1 volume.
1913. 1 volume.
1894-1907. 1 volume.
Includes a records of nurses' sick leave.
- 126.I.16.10F Monthly ward reports/Movement of population, 1894-1902.
- 113.H.3.3F-2 August 1894 - July 1895. 1 volume.
Pages are out of order.
August 1895 - July 1896. 1 volume.
- 113.H.3.4F-1 August 1896 - July 1897. 1 volume.
- 113.H.3.4F-2 August 1897 - July 1898. 1 volume.
- 113.H.4.1F-1 August 1898 - July 1899. 1 volume.
- 113.H.4.1F-2 August 1899 - July 1900. 1 volume.
- 113.H.4.2F-1 August 1900 - July 1901. 1 volume.
- 113.H.4.2F-2 August 1901 - July 1902. 1 volume.
- 126.I.16.10F Patient's cash journals, 1894-1906.
Record of individual patient's expenses for fruit, candy, and other personal items.
December 1, 1894 - November 30, 1898. 1 volume.
December 1, 1898 - July 29, 1902. 1 volume.
August 4, 1902 - June 6, 1903. 1 volume.
October 6, 1904 - April 1, 1905. 1 volume.
May 1-October 9, 1905. 1 volume.
March 12-July 31, 1906. 1 volume.
- Patient's property and expense record book, 1902-1904, 1911-1915. 1 volume in folder.
Pages 1-32 (April 21, 1902 - January 11, 1904) contain receipts, some pasted in, for patient's personal effects turned over by the hospital to relatives or guardians. Pages 35-130 (October 1911 - November 1915) are labeled "Patient's Traveling Expenses" and mainly record costs of fares and meals for the return of escapees and for parolees returning home and rewards for holding escapees. There are also records of miscellaneous administrative expenses including typewriter repair, doctor and dental work, dry goods, books, drugs, office supplies, equipment and building repairs, livestock vaccine and registration fees, and advertising for employees.

Location

- 106.E.20.9B Letters from patients, 1911.
 Chronological handwritten letters from discharged patients,
 primarily addressed to Dr. Knox, regarding their favorable
 treatment at the hospital.
- Interviews with patients, 1910-1911. 1 volume in folder.
 Brief questions and answers regarding individual patients'
 treatment at the hospital; each patient is identified by name;
 arranged chronologically.
- 126.I.16.10F Patient address/employee commentary book, 1913-1920. 1 volume.
 Contains two separate sets of data, alphabetical listing of patient's
 addresses or that of a close relative (undated) and a listing of
 what appears to be commentary on employees at other
 institutions, listing their name, grade (A-good, B-indifferent, C-
 bad), and the institution where they were employed. The entries,
 which cover 1913-1920, are listed first alphabetically by surname
 letter, then chronologically under each letter. Entries written in
 red are supposedly those who might or have applied at Fergus.
- 105.G.3.3B Permit for burial or removal, 1918, 1941-1949. 2 folders.
 Arranged chronologically (February 22-October 26, 1918; June
 23, 1941 - March 1, 1949); covers burials in the hospital's
 cemetery. Data includes name, date of death, place of death,
 registrar's number, age, sex, place of birth, proposed date of
 burial, and grave location number (cemetery-section-grave).
- 113.H.4.3F-1 Tuberculosis test cards, [1930s]. 1 card file drawer.
 Tuberculosis test cards for hospital patients and employees;
 information recorded includes name, birth date, gender, age, race,
 marital status, address, admission or employment date, patient or
 employee, parents' names, test date [ca. 1936-1937], and positive
 or negative test result. Separate sets for males and females; each
 set is arranged alphabetically by person's surname.
- 105.G.3.3B Admission Building night report, April 20, 1931 - November 16, 1933.
 2 volumes.
 Admission of patients and arrival and departure of staff from
 building.

Location

- 126.I.16.10F Population reports, Monthly statistics, 1935, 1939-1965. 3 folders.
Monthly reports, 1942-June 1949. 2 folders.
 Include information on admissions, discharges, deaths, and hospitalizations. Other types of data that may be included are personal hygiene work (shampoos, haircuts, oil treatments, manicures, facials, depilatories, and curls), employee illness and resignations, dental work, and x-ray work.
- West Side night report, 1948-1949. 1 volume.
 Nurses' records of nighttime activity in west side (women's) wards, including notes about noisiness and restlessness among patients, patients exhibiting violent behavior, patients sick, and types of treatment or drugs given.
- Convalescent Ward Patients Council minutes, 1953 - March 8, 1962. 1 volume in folder.
 Includes the constitution and by-laws (1953) and minutes of the weekly meetings of this group which dealt mainly with organizing entertainment events, such as bingo, parties, dances, and card games for the ward.
- 105.G.3.2F Rochester treatment records, 1974-1981. 3 folders. **RESTRICTED.**
 Information on patient transfers, primarily to Rochester State Hospital, for medical treatment. They include patient medical history, treatment received, and dates of transfer. The 1974-1979 records are arranged alphabetically by patient name, while those for January 1979 - November 1981 are arranged chronologically.