



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minnesota State Archives

RIVERSIDE SANATORIUM (GRANITE FALLS, MINN.) An Inventory of Its Records

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Agency:** Riverside Sanatorium (Granite Falls, Minn.).
- Series Title:** Sanatorium records,
- Dates:** 1915-1975.
- Abstract:** Minutes and proceedings of the Riverside Sanatorium Commission, admission book of the sanatorium, and correspondence (1955) of the sanatorium's superintendent.
- Quantity:** 0.6 cu. ft. (2 v. and 9 folders in 2 partial boxes).
- Location:** See Detailed Description section for box locations.

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF THE RIVERSIDE SANATORIUM

The Riverside Sanatorium was established pursuant to a legislative act (Laws 1913 c500) that empowered boards of county commissioners to establish and maintain sanatoriums for the care and treatment of persons who were afflicted with tuberculosis. The act also allowed for the cooperation of two or more counties in establishing and maintaining such a sanatorium. Any such decision to build and maintain a sanatorium was, however, subject to the advice and approval of the Commission of the Minnesota Sanatorium for Consumptives.

In 1915, the counties of Chippewa, Lac Qui Parle, Renville, and Yellow Medicine formed an association to build, maintain, and share the services of the Riverside Sanatorium, which was constructed (and opened in 1917) on a site three miles south of Granite Falls in Yellow Medicine County. The Riverside Sanatorium Commission, which controlled the facility, was composed of members from all of the counties involved. Three members, one a physician, were appointed by the Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners, and two members were appointed by each of the other counties' boards of commissioners.

The sanatorium provided for the care and treatment of resident patients, and also sponsored clinics and various other out-patient services. Members of the sanatorium staff gave talks before organized groups in the counties, and administered tuberculin tests and X-rays to adults, and to children through the public school system.

The Riverside Sanatorium Out-Patient Department was created pursuant to a legislative act (Laws 1963 c756) that authorized the State Board of Health to grant funds to counties or combinations of counties for establishing and administering local tuberculosis control programs

that provided out-patient diagnostic treatment services. The department operated in conjunction with the sanatorium until 1964, when a significant decrease in the number of tuberculosis patients necessitated the closing of the facility. The commission sold the facility and the out-patient department continued in a new location in Granite Falls, becoming the Riverside Out Patient Clinic. The sanatorium commission continued as the board of directors of the clinic.

The clinic, supported by state, county, and private funds, continued to offer tuberculosis testing, former patient follow-up, and consultant services for residents of southwestern Minnesota counties until 1973, when the testing program was discontinued. Following the termination of state aid for out-patient tuberculosis control programs in 1973, the clinic also was finally closed and the board of directors dissolved in 1975.

List of medical directors: H. E. Peterson, 1917-1918; James E. Barfield, 1918-1927; A. M. Fawcett, 1927-1930; Lewis S. Jordan, 1930-1965; Willard E. Peterson, 1965-1975.

List of superintendents: Sara W. Dunton, 1917-1930; Lewis S. Jordan, 1930-1964.

List of secretaries of the commission or board: O. P. Flaten, 1915-1917; Sara W. Dunton, 1917-1930; Lewis S. Jordan, 1930-1965; John Monson, 1965-1975.

ORGANIZATION OF THE RECORDS

These records are organized into the following sections:

Minutes and proceedings of the Riverside Sanatorium Commission.

Admission book.

Correspondence of Lewis S. Jordan.

RELATED MATERIALS

Public Examiner: Audit Reports of Sanatoriums includes audit reports for Riverside Sanatorium and its outpatient clinic, 1917-1969. Some administrative files may be found scattered among various records series of the Minnesota Department of Public Welfare. For other records that may relate to this institution, see the Minnesota Dept. of Social Security, State Board of Control, and/or State Board of Corrections and Charities.

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:

Health--Minnesota.

Public institutions--Minnesota.

Public welfare--Minnesota.

Registering.

Sanatoriums--Minnesota--Administration.

Sanatoriums--Minnesota--History.

Sanatoriums--Minnesota--Officials and employees.

Sanatoriums--Minnesota--Out-patient services.
Tuberculin test--Minnesota.
Tuberculosis--Hospitals--Minnesota--Admission and discharge.
Tuberculosis--Hospitals--Minnesota--History.
Tuberculosis--Hospitals--Minnesota--Inspections.
Tuberculosis--Law and legislation--Minnesota.
Tuberculosis--Patients--Minnesota--Registers.

Places:

Granite Falls (Minn.).

Persons:

Monson, John.
Dunton, Sara W.
Peterson, Willard E.
Jordan, Lewis S.
Barfield, James E.
Fawcett, A. M.
Flaten, O. P.
Peterson, H. E.

Organizations:

Minnesota Sanatorium for Consumptives. Advisory Commission.
Minnesota. Tuberculosis Facilities Commission.
Riverside Out Patient Clinic (Granite Falls, Minn.).
Riverside Sanatorium Commission.

Types of Documents:

Registers.

Occupations:

Health services administrators--Minnesota.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation:

[Indicate the cited volume and page or item and folder title here]. Riverside Sanatorium
(Granite Falls, Minn.). *[Series title.]* Minnesota Historical Society. State Archives.
See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.

Accession Information:

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PALS ID No.: 0800000188 (history); 0800001617, 0800001619, 0800001618 (records)

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE RECORDS

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note both the location and box numbers shown below.

Minutes and proceedings of the Riverside Sanatorium Commission, 1915-1975. 0.4 cu. ft. (1 volume and 8 folders).

Minutes and proceedings documenting formal activities of the Riverside Sanatorium Commission and its successor, the board of directors of the Riverside Out Patient Clinic, regarding program implementation, admission of member counties, purchase of equipment, and other sanatorium and clinic functions. The records contain names of commissioners, members of the board of directors, and officers; lists of patients receiving "free" treatment; financial statements and reports of the auditing committee; and data from results of the Mantoux (tuberculin) Testing Program.

Location	Box	
109.I.6.6F	---	Minutes and Proceedings, 1915-1975. 1 volume and 8 folders.

Admission book, 1917-1963. 1 volume.

Register of patients admitted to the sanatorium. Information recorded: name, address, county, date of admission, rate of pay and by whom guaranteed; address of person guaranteeing payment; father's name, address, nationality, and birthplace; mother's name, address, nationality, and birthplace; name and address of nearest relative or friend; civic (marital) condition; occupation; religion; patient's vital statistics (birth date, gender, color, years in county and state); home physician; stage of disease; bacilli in sputum; complications; condition on discharge; and cause and date of discharge.

Location	Box	
106.D.15.3B-1	---	Admission Book, 1917-1963. 1 volume in phase box.

Correspondence of Lewis S. Jordan, 1955. 1 folder.

Correspondence of Lewis S. Jordan, superintendent of the sanatorium, concerning legislation authorizing the State Board of Health to close the sanatorium at its discretion, and other sanatorium bills in the legislature; and correspondence with and inspection reports of the Tuberculosis Facilities Commission. Correspondents include legislators, physicians, attorneys, and superintendents of other sanatoriums.

Location	Box	
109.I.6.6F	---	Correspondence of Lewis S. Jordan, 1955. 1 folder.