



Center for The Study of The History of Nursing

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA - SCHOOL OF NURSING - NURSING EDUCATION BUILDING - PHILADELPHIA, PA 19104-6096 - (215) 898-4502

Lock Haven Hospital

Records, 1896-1964

MC 101

Extent:

2.4 linear feet

Provenance:

Lock Haven Hospital

Access:

This collection is unrestricted

Citation:

Lock Haven Hospital Records, Center for the Study of the History of Nursing, School of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania

Sponsorship:

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Lock Haven Hospital
MC 101

Historical Sketch. The Lock Haven Hospital opened in a farm house on September 7, 1897, with Dr. Rita B. Church as its first Superintendent. A training school followed at once when one pupil matriculated for a two year course beginning September 15, 1897. A new building was constructed on land donated by Wilson Kistler. The hospital was ready to receive patients on May 30, 1903.

The hospital combined a conscientious acceptance of administrative obligations with the exercise of hospitality. Cornelia Happersett, Superintendent from 1905 to 1908, regarded these considerations as an important duty, treating the patients as guests. While the patient's physical requirements were skillfully met, the other needs which hasten return to health were included as a hospital obligation.

On July 28, 1908 the hospital burnt to the ground. The nurses' determination to save their patients from the fire resulted in the loss of their wardrobes and possessions. The Hospital was totally remodeled in 1924 with modern equipment, an X-Ray, and a heliotherapy department.

The nursing school closed in 1936 due, in part, to the depression. Graduate nurses staffed the Hospital from that time until October, 1943, when the School of Nursing was re-established. The first four classes admitted to the re-established school were aided by a Federal grant of the United States Cadet Nurse Corps. Once the Second World War came to an end, so too did the Cadet Funds.

Summary. The Lock Haven Hospital records begin with notes (before the hospital was opened) describing the meetings and subscriptions leading up to its successful founding and extend to its closing in 1938 due to financial difficulties. The collection includes the minutes of the board meetings from 1896 to 1938 which include financial data, as well as a series of annual reports spanning select years from 1898 to 1913. There are two pamphlets published after the reopening of the hospital, including one illustrated brochure about the Lock Haven Hospital School of Nursing.

Box 1

- | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| | Minutes, Board of Directors |
| f.1 | July 1919-October 9, 1922 |
| f.2 | November 14, 1922-March 8, 1926 |
| f.3 | April 12, 1926-June 10, 1929 |
| f.4 | July 8, 1929-December 14, 1931 |
| f.5 | January 11, 1932-October 22, 1934 |
| f.6 | November 12, 1934-June 13, 1938 |
| | Annual Reports |
| f.7 | 1898-1900, 1903-1904 |
| f.8 | 1905-1908 |

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f.9 1910, 1912-1913

f. 10

Brochures

School of Nursing Announcement, c. 1950

Convalescent Rehabilitation Unit Dedication Ceremony, 1964

Box 2

v.1

Bound Volume, containing

Notes on the preparatory work for the founding of the
hospital, 1896

Charter and Bylaws, 1897

Decree of Court, 1897

Minutes of Annual Meeting, 1899-1914

v.2

Bound Volume containing

Board of Managers Minutes, June 9, 1897-August 23, 1920