

A Guide to the Fauquier County (Va.), Health and Medical Records, 1833-1850

Fauquier County Health and Medical Records, 1833-1853
1833-1853

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History

Processed by: T. Harter

Title Statement

A Guide to the Fauquier County (Va.), Health and Medical Records, 1833-1850

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Collection Number

1203777

Language

English

Creator

Fauquier County (Va.) Circuit Court

Extent

1 folder

Repository

The Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

This collection came to the Library of Virginia in a transfer of court papers from Fauquier County Circuit Court.

Preferred Citation

Fauquier County (Va.) Health and Medical Records, 1833-1850. Local government records collection, Fauquier County Court Records, The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Additional Fauquier County court records can be found on microfilm and in the Chancery Records Index at the Library of Virginia. Consult ["A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm"](#) and [The Chancery Records Index](#).

Historical Information

Mental Health Records may consist of a variety of documents that historically were referred to as lunacy papers in the courthouses of Virginia localities and municipalities.

See also: Fiduciary Records. A fiduciary is an individual who enters into a confidential and legal relationship which binds them to act on behalf of another. Guardians are legally invested to take care of another person, and of the property and rights of that person. Thus, some records referred to as insanity papers are housed with fiduciary records and not with mental health records.

During its session begun in November 1769, the House of Burgesses passed an act establishing a hospital in Williamsburg for the mentally ill. The Eastern Lunatic Asylum (now Eastern State Hospital) was the first institution in America constructed as a mental hospital. The first patients were admitted in October 1773.

Fauquier County was formed in 1759 from Prince William County. It was named for Francis Fauquier, royal lieutenant governor of Virginia from 1758 to 1768.

Scope and Content

Fauquier County (Va.) Health and Medical Records, 1833-1850, consist of one folder of Mental Health Records for four individuals, and may include warrants, orders, petitions, depositions, reports, etc. for or by justices of the peace, local sheriffs, and others regarding the mental condition of individuals who were released to the recognizance of a family member or who were committed to a mental hospital. Fiduciary records such as estate inventories of a person judged insane and receipts for services transporting persons to hospitals may also be present.

Index Terms

Corporate Names:

Fauquier County (Va.) Circuit Court.
Eastern State Hospital (Va.).

Subjects:

County courts--Virginia--Fauquier County.
Insanity--Jurisprudence--Virginia--Fauquier County.
Jails--Virginia--Fauquier County.
Medical laws and legislation--Virginia--Fauquier County.
Mental illness--Virginia--Fauquier County.
Psychiatric hospitals--Virginia.
Public records--Virginia--Fauquier County.

Geographical Names:

Fauquier County (Va.)--History--19th Century.

Genre and Form Terms:

Health and Medical--Virginia--Fauquier County.

Local government records--Virginia--Fauquier County.

Arrangement

Chronological by year.

Contents List

Bailey Hayes, 1833.

Scope and Content

Jailed for being a lunatic; being cared for in the local jail.

Samuel Porter, 1842.

Scope and Content

Son in law James Tracey sought to have Porter declared a lunatic since it appeared he could no longer manage his affairs. The committee of commissioners found him to be elderly, not insane, and that if they declared him insane, they would need to declare most of the community insane as most folks had "incurred debts by securityship & otherwise, which have to be discharged in the present fearful crisis, saddled with a fearful amount of costs under the iron grasp of the law."

William Strother, 1845.

Scope and Content

Document declaring his sanity and discharging him from Eastern Asylum in Williamsburg and that his property be restored.

James Thompson, 1850.

Scope and Content

Summons for Thompson's committee Henry Hathaway.