

CAMBRIDGE STATE SCHOOL AND HOSPITAL  
CAMBRIDGE, MINNESOTA  
COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS  
November 7 - 10, 1954

The Cambridge State School and Hospital is built on a cottage plan with a central Administration Building of three stories, with a two story wing on each end. All buildings are of fire resistant construction. The South wing houses a Dental Office, Operating Room, X-Ray Unit, Pharmacy, Laboratory, and E.E.G. Unit. It also has a ward on each of its two floors.

Ward B, on the first floor, has 28 beds for male medical and surgical cases. Ward A, is on the 2nd floor and houses little boys and those of school age. They eat in the dining room on the floor below. They sleep in cribs and have beds that have just been painted. The whole dormitory is neat and the paint in good condition.

The wing on the opposite end of the Administration Building is of two stories and houses 28 medical and surgical female patients. They are fed from trays. This ward is called D. Four rooms in a separate corridor may be used for isolation.

Ward C, is on the second floor and has 45 female school age mental defectives and epileptics. These patients eat in the dining room on the floor below also.

The nurses station is in the clothes room, which is combined with the linen room, and the nurses station is so inadequate that outside clothing has to be cared for in the corridor.

Cottage 1, is a separate cottage housing 70 male adults up to 65 years of age. There are five rooms for employees in this building. This was the original building and is kept in good repair. These patients are workers.

Cottage 2, houses 87 female epileptic and mentally defective patients. These patients are of a low grade intellectually. They are disturbed and tear their clothes. On each side of their day rooms is a built in bench running the length of the room. The nurses office is in the front hall. There are two rooms for employees.

The beds were nicely painted and with their yellow spreads it made a nice looking dormitory. In the basement is the dining room. The table tops are of green plastic, and with their attractive draperies it makes a pleasant dining room. At the other end of the basement was a mending room. As usual in this type of building, off of the basement corridor were four rooms that could be used as seclusion rooms, with a ceiling of wire mesh that was there to protect the light fixture.

Cottage 3, had beds for 112 males - they were workers and older men. There were two employee rooms in this building.

Four rooms that could be used as seclusion or sick rooms were in the basement, as well as the dining room. At the end opposite the dining room was a Carpenter Shop with no automatic sprinklers. This is a fire risk. There is a paint shop in one room and the Recreational Office is also in this building. There are long benches with cushions along the entire side walls of the day rooms. There is a pool table in the dayroom.

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Cottage 4, has beds for 114 females, practically all are epileptics and their age varies from 20 to 78 years. This is an attractive ward with two good looking day rooms and dining rooms. The dormitories were attractive with their colorful spreads. As usual, seclusion rooms were in the basement with one patient in seclusion. She was afraid of what she might do so was secluded. She was hallucinated in the auditory sphere.

A psychiatric aid classroom was in the basement. Toilets in all these buildings are of white tile and there are metal lockers in the basements. There are four rooms for employees here.

Cottage 5, has 103 problem cases (male) and is a locked ward. These cases are sex problems and runaways.

There is the usual dining room in the basement and in this case it needs painting. At the other end of the basement is a store room containing plaster, lime, mattresses and old benches. Winter overcoats are stored here.

Cottage 6, has 106 females. These are disturbed epileptics and some workers. There is a very attractive dayroom and a perfectly arranged linen room. The layout is the same as in the others.

Cottage 7, has 104 beds. The south ward has 46 children, the rest are adults and occupy the north end of the building. The south dormitory has crib beds for children but one half were being refinished and these patients are temporarily sleeping on the floor on mattresses. Usual setup, dining room in basement and the room at the opposite end of basement corridor had paint and old furniture. I consider it a fire risk and it should be removed or sprinkled.

Cottage 9, has 108 patients, working patients on north ward and adult mentally deficient and epileptics on the south.

The nurses station is in the front hall, and six rooms for employees in this building. Dining room in basement and a furniture repair shop at opposite end of basement corridor.

Cottage 12, has 109 beds. The north ward has young women who work and go to school. The south ward has a group that are of low grade intellectually.

The setup is the same with three rooms for employees and an apartment for a physician. The dining room in the basement is especially attractive. The day room in the north ward is very comfortable with plants, draperies, and the long cushioned benches with other chairs and tables.

Cottage 14, has 141 beds and 4 wards. This building is the only one that has two aids at night. Since there is no night supervisor, this is the cottage they call for help in an emergency. The patients are cripples and others of low intelligence. There is a lumber storage room in the basement and this is a fire risk, although this building, as all others, is of fire resistant construction.

The class rooms are in the basement of the main building. There are also dining rooms for employees and for the staff.

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There is only one kitchen and it is of modern construction in the rear of the main building. It is adequate. There is also a meat shop, pasteurizing room, vegetable preparation room and the laundry in the administration building.

The auditorium is fire resistant and large. The chairs are light and there is no attachment to keep them in position should trouble develop. Underneath the auditorium is a well ordered, but crowded storeroom. The tunnel from this has large quantities of soap and soap powders stores there, and it is very hot and dry.

Off of this tunnel is an underground cool chamber that was formerly a root cellar. In this area is stored canned vegetables. Off of this area is the real root cellar.

The power house is on several levels with the boilers at the lowest level. They are about to install a new boiler and this layout, when completed, will allow them to have a boiler in reserve and yet heat comfortably the present and new buildings. When it comes to producing electricity, they have two turbine generators and while one can handle the present load it will be necessary to use both when the new buildings are opened and there will be no reserve.

The coal is dumped into underground hoppers on the upper level and feeds down into the automatic stokers, a very economical arrangement. It must be brought here in trucks.

The farm buildings are adequate but the cow barn should have a coat of paint inside. The land is quite sandy and lacks the richness of the southern area of the state. The Rum River runs through the grounds just beyond the power house. Hospital land on the opposite side of the river is reached by a wooden bridge.

There are three buildings now being built, namely the Infirmary, which is having windows installed, and two 150 bed buildings that are not as far along.

The Superintendent feels that when these buildings are in operation he should have additional laundry machinery, increased refrigeration, and additional electric generating capacity. Also while there are vacant rooms in the male home (a modern building), there is a question of a need of additional housing space for employees when the new buildings are opened, especially for a physician should one be allotted. A carpenter shop should be erected so that the present fire risks can be removed from the basements of ward buildings. Additional school facilities could be added and this could best be facilitated by adding a new school building.

PERSONNEL. He would like 15 additional aids so that there can be three aids on duty for the two day shifts in each building. There is no night supervisor and no outside watchman. There is one person on duty all night to man the telephone switchboard. Onward, Cottage 14, has two aids on duty at night as there are four wards in this building.

At present he has vacancies in the following positions: Clinical Director, Clinical Psychologist, and Institution School Principal.

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There is one research project under the direction of Dr. Franz Halberg. This is a study of the "Adrenal Cortical Steroids" and is being conducted with the aid of a USP Research Grant and also one from the State of Minnesota.

Dr. R. J. Gully, the Superintendent, is a competent man, interested in all the aspects of the institution. Mr. George Hoglund, the Business Manager, is a man of great experience and handles his job easily. Miss Harriet Anderson, Graduate Nurse IV, the Head Nurse, is alert and competent. The wards were in good condition as regards paint and repairs.

Harlan L. Paine, M. D.