



Morgan County Home and Infirmary Collection (R0121)

Collection Number: R0121

Collection Title: Morgan County Home and Infirmary Collection

Dates: 1913-1973

Creator: Morgan County Home and Infirmary (Morgan County, Mo.)

Abstract: The Morgan County Home and Infirmary Collection contains photocopies of specifications and historical accounts of the 'poor farm' near Versailles, Missouri. Included are elevations and floor plans and three secondary accounts of the Home's history.

Collection Size: 0.1 cubic foot
(1 folder)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at rolla@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Morgan County Home and Infirmary Collection* (R0121); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The collection was loaned for photocopying to the University of Missouri by Gladys Green on May 24, 1982 (Accession No. RA0127). An addition was made on October 16, 1990 by the Morgan County Historical Society (Accession No. RA0488).

Processed by: Processed by John F. Bradbury, August 18, 1982. Revised by Kathleen Seale, April 27, 2020.

Historical Note:

The Morgan County Home and Infirmary or 'poor farm' was built in 1913-1914, replacing a dilapidated structure at a different site. Located one mile southeast of Versailles, the two-story, with basement, brick structure was contracted for in October 1913, and was occupied the following August. It provided room and board for the homeless poor, who often were also physically handicapped or mentally ill. The Morgan County Home was quite large, featuring living quarters for the supervisor, men's and women's dormitories, and 'Jim Crow' facilities. It housed 10 to 14 residents under normal conditions. Over time, the Home was rendered superfluous by changes in governmental welfare policies, and it was sold to a private owner for use as a residence.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged in its original order.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection contains photocopies of specifications and historical accounts of the 'poor farm' near Versailles, Missouri. Included are elevations and floor plans filed with the Morgan County Clerk on September 23, 1913 and work to be completed by June 1, 1914. Also included are three secondary accounts of the Home's history. The accounts include, "Old County Home Housed Our Indigents for Over 49 Years," 1968; "Poor Farm Talk by Mrs. Doc Otton," circa 1969; and Cindy Green's "The House That Poverty Built," 1973. The materials are arranged chronologically.

Container List:

Box 001 f. 1 Morgan County Home and Infirmary papers, 1913-1973

Index:

Index Term	Folder
Architecture--designs and plans	1
Green, Cindy	1
Morgan County (Mo.)	1
Morris, Oscar L.	1
Public works--Missouri	1
Sherman, George N.	1
Versailles (Mo.)	1