



State of Tennessee  
Department of State  
**Tennessee State Library and Archives**  
403 Seventh Avenue North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
RECORDS**

**1895-1912, 1953-1970**

**RECORD GROUP 94**

**RESTRICTION: Due to confidentiality concerns, the records in Series 5, 7, and 12 are restricted and are not available for public use.**

*Processed by:*

Harry A. Stokes  
Archives & Manuscripts Unit  
Date: September 28, 1984

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## SCOPE AND CONTENT

Record Group 94, Department of Mental Health, spans two periods, 1895-1912 and 1953-1970. The earlier period largely consists of financial records (bills and receipts and payrolls) and lists of employees, inmates, patients, pupils, and veterans in the three state mental hospitals (Central, Eastern and Western), the Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home, the Tennessee Deaf and Dumb School, the Tennessee Industrial School, and the Tennessee School for the Blind.

The later period of the record group is comprised of agreements, contracts, and leases, conferences and meeting notes, correspondence, financial records, interstate transfer of patients, legislative studies and acts, stipend program application and related material, and the development of the Tennessee Re-education program.

Special subjects in this record group include forensic psychiatry, the history of mental health in Tennessee, legal opinions of the Attorney-General's office, an establishment of mental health centers, sterilization laws for mental defectives, and vocational rehabilitation.

Included in this record group are twenty-six volumes. Twenty-four of the volumes consist of daily ward and night watch reports from Central State Hospital during 1953-1962 and a one volume treatment record book for Central State. In addition, there is a book of the minutes of the Board of Trustees of Western State Hospital for the early years, 1889-1914.

The value of the record group is primarily in the lists of residents available for the three state hospitals as well as other state institutions, including the Confederate Soldiers' Home, for the early years of this century. The rolls of the veterans in the Confederate Soldiers' Home not only provide the names of the ex-Confederates and the date of their admission, but also records any deaths that may have occurred.

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

- 1797 County Courts required to appoint guardians over the mentally ill who had sufficient property to pay for their care and maintenance; courts empowered to "let out" to the lowest bidder for a term of one year all "pauper lunatics" able to work.
- 1832 Legislature provided for the establishment of a "Lunatic Hospital" in or near Nashville.
- 1840 First hospital for mental patients becomes operational in Tennessee; U. S. Census shows Tennessee had 699 insane patients.
- 1847 Dorothea Dix appeared before the Tennessee General Assembly and made a long and detailed plea for a better state supported program; General Assembly authorizes sale of the original hospital, and provides for the purchase of a suitable site upon which to be constructed a more modern state hospital.
- 1852-1857 Construction of Tennessee's Lunatic Hospital.
- 1866 General Assembly approves the construction of a building to house mentally ill Negroes.
- 1886 Opening of "East Tennessee Hospital for the Insane" near Knoxville.
- 1889 Opening of Western Hospital for the Insane at Bolivar.
- 1915 State Board of Controls created with some overall administrative responsibility for the programs in various state operated institutions including required inspection visits to the mental hospitals.
- 1917 Board of Controls changed to a State Board of Administration.
- 1923 Under the Administration Reorganization Act, mental hospitals placed under the Department of Institutions.
- 1953 Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation created; Tennessee had four major facilities - Eastern, Central, and Western Psychiatric hospitals, plus Clover Bottom Home for the mentally retarded; there were three community mental health centers - the Chattanooga Psychiatric Clinic, the Helen Ross McNabb Center (Knoxville) and the Gailor Clinic (Memphis).
- 1961-1962 Opening of Moccasin Bend Psychiatric Hospital at Chattanooga and Tennessee Psychiatric Hospital and Institute in Memphis.

- 1961-1979 Three new developmental centers established - Greene Valley in Greeneville, Arlington near Memphis, and the Nat T. Winston Developmental Center at Western Mental Health Institute.
- 1979 General Assembly gave the Department the responsibility to develop programs aimed at preventing and treating alcohol and other drug abuse.
- 1979 Separate division of alcohol and drug abuse services created.
- 1984 Number of community mental health centers had grown to thirty-three in Tennessee.

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 1

Series Title: Agreements, Contracts,  
and Leases

Box Number 1

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	City of Bolivar and Western State Hospital	1954
2	City of Memphis and the U. S. A.	1942-1943
3	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and City of Memphis	1942-1960
4	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and Clover Bottom Farm	1954
5	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and Edward LeMaster Co.	1968
6	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and Junior League of Nashville	1961
7	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and Mental Health Guidance Center	1956-1957
8	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and Nashville Section, Nat'l. Council of Jewish Women	1964
9	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and O'Brien and Padgett	1955
10	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and Orange Grove School	1965
11	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and Peabody College	n.d.
12	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and Ruilman Recreation Center	1963
13	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and St. John's Episcopal Church	1958
14	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and Southern Bell Telephone	1958
15	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and Tenn. Dept. of Agriculture	1953-1957
16	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and Tenn. Dept. of Public Welfare	1962-1969
17	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and Tullahoma Home for Retarded	1963-1965
18	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and University of Tennessee	1953-1970
19	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and Vanderbilt University Hospital	1956-1952
20	Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health and Miscellaneous	1953-1954
21	University of Tennessee and State Institutional Farms	1962

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 2

Series Title: Conferences and Meetings

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Box Number 2

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Advisory Council on Construction of Mental Health Centers	1954
2	American Association of Mental Deficiency and Dr. N. F. Atria's Paper on Shigellosis	1961-1962
3	Central Office Staff	1960-1965
4	Clinic Directors	1959-1962
5	Drugs for Outpatients	1961
6	Health Insurance for Psychiatric Illnesses	1962
7	Home Care Services	1962
8	Hospitals and Clinics	1962
9	Mental Health and Psychiatric Nursing	1962
10	Mental Health Centers and Hospitals	1962
11	Mental Health Program Directors, Region IV	1962
12	Superintendents	1961-1962
13	Tennessee Association of Mental Health Centers	1962
14	Tennessee Dept. of Public Health - Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health	1962
15	Tennessee Nursing Home Association	1960

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 3

Series Title: Correspondence  
Subseries Title: Departmental

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Box Number 3

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Deputy Commissioner, N. F. Atria	1960-1961
2	Commissioner, Joseph J. Baker	1960-1962
3	Assistant Commissioner, Robert Cohen	1963
4	Coordinator Administrative Services, Henry C. Hughes	1965-1968
5	Commissioner, Frank H. Luton	1969-1970
6	Fiscal Officer, Roy T. Vaughn	1962
7	Commissioner, Nat T. Winston	1968

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 3

Series Title: Correspondence  
Subseries Title: Facility

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Box Number 4

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Arlington Hospital and School	1968-1970
2	Athens Mental Health Center - Cecil Street Center	1963-1968
3	Central State Hospital	1961-1962
4	Chattanooga Area Council - Chattanooga Area Foundation	1962-1964
5	Chattanooga Guidance Clinic - Clarksville Mental Health Center	1963-1969
6	Clover Bottom Hospital and School	1961-1962

Box Number 5

1	Cumberland House	1965-1968
2	Daniel Arthur Rehabilitation Center	1962-1969
3	Davidson County Hospital - Duration Club (Memphis)	1959-1965
4	East Nashville Comprehensive Community Mental Health Center - Emory Valley School	1968-1969
5	Fairfax Academy - Holston Valley Community Hospital	1962-1969

Box Number 6

1	Jackson Area Council - Johnson City Mental Health Center	1960-1969
2	The King's Daughter's School - Knoxville Mental Health Center	1959-1969
3	LeBonheur Children's Hospital - Little City of the Mid-South	1960-1969
4	Maury County Mental Health Clinic - Memphis and Shelby County Mental Health Center	1962-1969
5	Memphis Goodwill Industries - Murci Home	1963-1969

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 3

Series Title: Correspondence

Subseries Title: Facility

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Box Number 7

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Nashville Mental Health Center	1962-1969
2	Oak Ridge Mental Health Center - Oak Ridge Hospital of the Methodist Church	1962-1969
3	Obion Co. Mental Health Association - Outlook Nashville, Inc.	1966-1969
4	Pine Breeze Re-education Center - Pressmen's Home	1962-1967
5	Rutherford Co. Mental Health Association - Senior Citizen's Center - Memphis	1961-1966
6	Senior Citizens - Nashville	1962-1968
7	Senior Neighbors of Chattanooga	1962-1963
8	Tennessee Psychiatric Hospital	1962
9	Western State Hospital	1962

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 3

Series Title: Correspondence  
Subseries Title: General

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Box Number 8

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Aerojet - General Corporation - Atyas	1968-1970
2	Baker - Byrne	1959-1970
3	California Dept. of Mental Hygiene - Engler	1968-1970
4	Florida Dept. of Mental Health - Guardsmark, Inc.	1968-1970
5	Hastings - Kentucky Dept. of Mental Health	1968-1970
6	Legal Aid Society to Cleveland - Mutual Life Insurance of New York	1968-1970
7	O - Pearson	1969
8	Q - Strother	1969-1970
9	Tennessee Association of Mental Health Centers - Tennessee State Planning Commission	1969
10	University of Alabama - Wright	1968-1970

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 4

Series Title: Financial

Subseries Title: Accounting Reports

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Box Number 9

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Maintenance of Physical Facilities - Allotment	1963-1971
2	Maintenance of Physical Facilities - Bond & Construction Fund	1970-1971
3	Maintenance of Physical Facilities - Condition of Allotment	1970-1971
4	Maintenance of Physical Facilities - Operation of Work Program	1959-1966

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 4

Series Title: Financial Reports  
Subseries Title: Audit Reports

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Box Number 10

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Bristol Mental Health Clinic	July 1, 1960-Dec. 31, 1964
2	Central Office	July 1, 1961-June 30, 1964
3	Chattanooga Guidance Clinic	July 1, 1960-Dec. 31, 1964
4	Clover Bottom Hospital	July 1, 1960-Mar. 31, 1964
5	Eastern State Hospital	July 1, 1960-June 30, 1964
6	Green Valley Hospital and School	Feb. 1, 1962-June 30, 1963
7	Jackson Mental Health Center	July 1, 1962-Sept. 30, 1963
8	Johnson City Mental Health Center	July 1, 1961-Dec. 31, 1964
9	Mental Health Center of Morristown	June 7, 1960-Dec. 31, 1964
10	Moccasin Bend Psychiatric Hospital	July 1, 1962-Dec. 31, 1963
11	Nashville Mental Health Center	July 1, 1962-Sept. 30, 1963
12	Tennessee Psychiatric Hospital and Institute	May 29, 1962-June 30, 1963
13	Vanderbilt Mental Health Clinic	July 1, 1962-June 30, 1963
14	Western State Hospital	July 1, 1960-June 30, 1964

Record Group Number: 94

Series Number: 4

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Title: Financial

Subseries Title: Bills and Receipts

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Box Number 11

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Central Hospital for the Insane	May - Oct. 1900
2	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	Jan. 1901
3	Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home	Jan.-July 1904
4	Tennessee Deaf and Dumb School	Dec. 1902
5	Tennessee Industrial School	Mar. 1900
6	Tennessee School for the Blind	Mar.-June 1902
7	Western Hospital for the Insane	May-Sept. 1901

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 4

Series Title: Financial  
Subseries Title: Budget

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Box Number 12

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Pine Breeze Re-Education Project	1969-1970
2	Requests for Transfer of Funds	1962-1970
3	Review of Proposed 1961 Budget Vanderbilt Children's Psychiatric Unit	1961

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 4

Series Title: Financial  
Subseries Title: Payroll

Box Number 13

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Central Hospital for the Insane	1898
2	Central Hospital for the Insane	1898
3	Central Hospital for the Insane	1900
4	Central Hospital for the Insane	1901
5	Central Hospital for the Insane	1902
6	Central Hospital for the Insane	1903
7	Central Hospital for the Insane	1904
8	Central Hospital for the Insane	1905

Box Number 14

1	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1895
2	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1896
3	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1897
4	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1898
5	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1899
6	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1900
7	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1901
8	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1902
9	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1903
10	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1904

Box Number 15

1	Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home	1897
2	Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home	1898
3	Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home	1901
4	Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home	1902
5	Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home	1903
6	Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home	1904; 1915
7	Tennessee Deaf and Dumb School	1902
8	Tennessee Industrial School	1893-1894; 1900
9	Tennessee School for the Blind	1901; 1903-1904
10	Western Hospital for the Insane	1897-1898
11	Western Hospital for the Insane	1899-1900
12	Western Hospital for the Insane	1901-1903

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 4

Series Title: Financial  
Subseries Title: Payroll

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Box Number 13

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Central Hospital for the Insane	1898
2	Central Hospital for the Insane	1898
3	Central Hospital for the Insane	1900
4	Central Hospital for the Insane	1901
5	Central Hospital for the Insane	1902
6	Central Hospital for the Insane	1903
7	Central Hospital for the Insane	1904
8	Central Hospital for the Insane	1905

Box Number 14

1	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1895
2	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1896
3	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1897
4	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1898
5	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1899
6	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1900
7	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1901
8	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1902
9	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1903
10	Eastern Hospital for the Insane	1904

Box Number 15

1	Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home	1897
2	Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home	1898
3	Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home	1901
4	Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home	1902
5	Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home	1903
6	Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home	1904; 1915
7	Tennessee Deaf and Dumb School	1902
8	Tennessee Industrial School	1893-1894; 1900
9	Tennessee School for the Blind	1901; 1903-1904
10	Western Hospital for the Insane	1897-1898
11	Western Hospital for the Insane	1899-1900
12	Western Hospital for the Insane	1901-1903

**SERIES 5 (BOXES 16-19) IS CLOSED TO PUBLIC  
ACCESS**

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 6

Series Title: Legislation

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Box Number 20

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Proposed Mental Health Legislation and Acts	1947
2	Proposed Mental Health Legislation and Acts	1953
3	Proposed Mental Health Legislation and Acts	1954
4	Proposed Mental Health Legislation and Acts	1955
5	Proposed Mental Health Legislation and Acts	1956
6	Proposed Mental Health Legislation and Acts	1957

Box Number 21

1	Legislative Council and Mental Health Studies	1958
2	Proposed Mental Health Legislation and Acts	1959
3	Studies of the Aged and Mental Health Legislation	1960
4	Studies on Mentally Ill and Emotionally Disturbed Children and Mental Health Legislation	1961
5	Proposed Mental Health Legislation and Acts	1963
6	Mental Health Legislation	1964
7	Legislative Council Studies and Mental Health Legislation	1967-1970

**SERIES 7 (BOXES 22-36) IS CLOSED TO PUBLIC ACCESS, WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTION:**

Series Title: Lists/Rolls - Employees, Inmates, Patients, Pupils, and Veterans

**Box 30**

1. Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home, 1897
2. Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home, 1898
3. Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home, 1901-1904
4. Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home, Jan.-June 1907
5. Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home, July-Nov. 1907
6. Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home, Jan.-June 1909
7. Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home, July-Dec. 1909
8. Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home, Jan.-June 1910
9. Tennessee Confederate Soldiers' Home, July-Nov. 1910

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 8

Series Title: Reports

Box Number 37

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Consolidated Staff Conference	1962
2	Facility	1957-1969
3	Out-Patient	1962
4	Personnel	1959-1970
5	Statistical	1962

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 9

Series Title: Special Subjects

Box Number 38

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Appalachian Commission	1965-1967
2	Building Funds and Programs	1960-1963
3	Central Collections	1960-1961
4	Charters of Incorporation	1946-1954
5	Coordinator for Services for the Mentally Retarded	1966
6	Deeds (Quitclaim, Right-of-Way, etc.) and Agreements	1941-1970
7	Dept. of Public Welfare	1958-1963
8	Divorce Laws and Insanity	1960
9	Federal Grants	1954; 1968
10	Forensic Psychiatry	1969-1970
11	Greeneville Hospital Project	1959
12	History of Mental Health in Tennessee	1955-1963
13	Institutional Farming Plan	1960-1961
14	Land Acquisition	1942-1957

Box Number 39

1	Legal--Attorney-General's Opinions	1939-1970
2	Legislative Tours	1956-1957
3	Liason Teacher Project	1964-1966
4	Mental Retardation Advisory Council	1968-1969
5	Nursing Services	1957-1964
6	Professional and Libility Insurance	1964-1966
7	Proposals for Mental Health Centers	1963-1965
8	Sterilization Laws	1960-1961
9	Surplus Property Program	1954-1955
10	Vocational Rehabilitation	1962
11	Miscellaneous	1945; 1960

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 10

Series Title: Stipend Program

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Box Number 40

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Applications: Atwood - Burns	1964-1970
2	Applications: Chapman - Elledge	1964-1970
3	Applications: Frensley - Howard	1964-1970
4	Applications: Jenkins - Matthai	1964-1970
5	Applications: Parmley - Youree	1965-1969
6	Evaluations	

Record Group Number: 94

Title: Dept. of Mental Health

Series Number: 11

Series Title: Tennessee Re-education  
Program

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Box Number 41

<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Proposals; Planning Meetings; Budget Matters; News Release; Progress Reports	1960
2	Meeting Summaries; News Release; Admission Policy; Committee Reports; Applications for Positions	1961
3	Personnel Matters; Land Acquisition; Screening Criteria; Advisory Board	1962
4	In-Service Training; Personnel Matters; Personnel Records; Statistical Reports; Budget Items and Needs	1964-1965; 1968
5	Graduate Fellowships; Special Education Courses; Personnel Matters; In-Service Training; Case History Material; Facility Incidents; Demonstration Project	1969
6	Committee Meeting; Personnel Matters; Insurance Coverage; Pine Breeze Investigation; Appalachia Child Development Grant	1970

**SERIES 12 (VOLUMES 1-26) IS CLOSED TO PUBLIC  
ACCESS**