

DATA SHEET

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| STATE: | New York |
| COUNTY: | Seneca |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY DATE | MAR 7 1975 |

1. NAME

COMMON:
Old Main Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Willard Asylum for the Chronic Insane

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Willard State Psychiatric Center

CITY OR TOWN:
Willard

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

STATE: New York CODE: 36 COUNTY: Seneca CODE: 099

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered | <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>former hospital and administration</u> |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Willard State Psychiatric Center

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Willard

STATE:
New York

CODE:
36

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Seneca County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Waterloo

STATE:
New York

CODE:
36

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

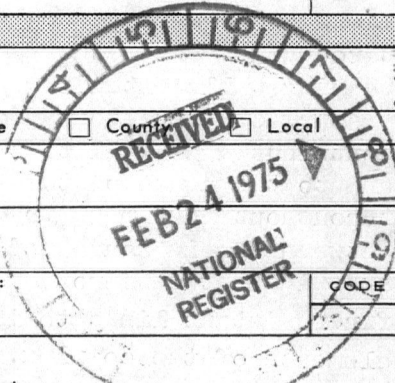
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

| |
|--------------------|
| STATE: New York |
| COUNTY: Seneca |
| ENTRY NUMBER |
| DATE |

Rep. William Walsh - #33 Congressional District

7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|--|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|-----------|
| CONDITION | (Chapin House) | | (Check One) (Wings) | | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | Unexposed |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | | |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The following architectural description is an excerpt from "Report on the Preservation of the Old Willard Asylum" by Mendel, Mesick and Cohen, Architects, January, 1975.

"The building fronts west on a bluff overlooking the eastern shore of Seneca Lake. From the central administration unit, which is designed in the fashion of a large villa of the time, north and south wings recede in three stages to form a great range 600 feet long. These wings contain the accommodations for the patients. A third wing projects eastward from the central building on a long axis bisecting the court formed by the recession of the north and south wings. This wing contained the service elements for the entire complex: bakery, boiler, laundry, kitchen, staff dining, and chapel.

Externally the complex was clothed in the current architectural fashion from France - now called the Second Empire Style. The distinctive elements of this style were fully assembled at Willard: lofty arched windows, mansard roofs with decorative slating, bracketed eaves, dormers, corner towers and ornamental roof turrets. (The crowning mansard roof on the central tower of Chapin House was removed in the 1950's.) These elements were skillfully manipulated to diminish what could easily have been a formidable impact of tremendous scale. The mansard treatment reduced the structure to an apparent two floors, offsetting of the wings. Use of projecting pavillions at corners and mid-range, and horizontal spreading of the building mass on the site produced a considerably animated building composition....

Internally, high ceiling spaces provided ample accommodations for a wide range of functions. Chapin House at the west-center followed the design of a large private mansion of the time. It contained the administrative offices, reception center for visitors and private dwelling of the superintendent. The flanking wings contained private rooms and wards for nearly 600 patients. These were arranged along spacious double-loaded corridors (single-loaded in the two easternmost ranges) 13 feet wide which facilitated daytime living activities as alternatives to confinement in the private rooms. In addition, each corridor was interrupted midway in its length by an alcove or parlor which brightened the corridor while augmenting its communal use.

The entire structural system consisted of masonry bearing walls throughout. Even the partitions of the small private rooms were brick bearing walls extending from roof to foundation. This extensive use of masonry construction afforded not only excellent structural stability, but contributed as well to the resistance to firespread, to sound transmission and to the abuse of the more violent patients. Floor and roof construction throughout is timber framed, except in the curved connecting corridor between Chapin House and the north and south wings where brick jack vaults spanning between iron beams are utilized for floor construction provided fireresistant links to inhibit the spread of fire amongst the four main elements of the complex.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Description (Continuation Sheet) Page 2

(Number all entries)

The raised basement was subdivided by the extensive series of bearing partitions into three longitudinal bays reflecting the double loaded corridor arrangement above. To facilitate passage in the outer bays of the basement large arched openings pierced the traverse wall that separated patients' rooms on the floors above. This basement space provided for the distribution of services to the patient floor above. Steam from the boiler plant in the central wing was transmitted to massive coiled pipe radiators situated at regular intervals along the central bay. Air passing over this radiator unit was warmed and conducted to the individual rooms above by way of vertical ducts passing through the longitudinal partition walls. Food, prepared in the central kitchen, was transported by conveyances, running on tracks in laid in one of the outer longitudinal bays of the basement to dumbwaiter stations where it was lifted to the patient dining rooms on the three floors above.

Throughout the complex, numerous architectural features of considerable interest and uniqueness remain. The exterior cast iron stairs, installed subsequent to 1877 at the entrances to the curved connecting links, are spectacular examples of the lightness and craftsmanship which architectural cast iron achieved in late Victorian times. Inside the two sets of exit stairs located in each wing are also cast iron, though of an undecorated, strictly utilitarian design. A few unique round cast iron radiators designed to be freestanding, remain in the building. These were placed in the lounge alcoves to supplement the warm air system.

The finer, decorative materials were largely confined to Chapin House. Here the board room retains early custom designed table and chairs and a terra cotta fireplace (the style of this fireplace is of a later vintage than 1869 and probably dates from a subsequent renovation). The most spectacular piece of furniture is a monumental cupboard in the lobby below the old chapel. This reputedly was made in the asylum's own shops. In several locations (vestibule, basement kitchen and dining room of Chapin House, the staff dining room east of the original kitchen, and vestibule of the old Chapel) encaustic tile pavements are still intact. Encaustic tile is recognizable by the variety of its color and geometric shapes. Frequently tiles with ornamental, stylized patterns fired into the body of the tile, were incorporated into the decorative scheme of the floor. This tile was quite impervious to stains and resistant to wear. It usually was imported from England, and enjoyed wide popularity in the last third of the 19th century. Other items of architectural and historical significance in Chapin House include early plumbing fixtures in second floor toilets, stained glass windows and marble fireplace mantels."

With the final vacating of the central administration core in the fall of 1974, the entire complex is abandoned and demolition is scheduled by the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1869 - extensions of wings - late 1870's

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Mental Health</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Looking like a great resort hotel or health spa perched on a bluff on the eastern shore of Seneca Lake, the Willard Asylum is a landmark in the gradual growth of State responsibility for the care of the mentally ill in the mid-nineteenth century. Willard Asylum was built as a result of the social activism of mid-Victorian America against the abusive treatment of the mentally ill in local poorhouses and jails. At the time of its completion in the early 1880's, the main asylum building was said to be the largest institution of its kind in the country. The Willard Main Building, which alone covers over five acres, is a skillful application of the so-called Second Empire Style to the Kirkbride plan of asylum design, achieving an architectural effect which is impressive but not cold and formidable.

Two other state mental institutions predate the Willard Asylum in New York State. The New York Hospital, was established by the Legislature in 1791, and Utica State Hospital (listed on the National Register) was begun in 1838 and completed in 1843. Patients were referred to Utica from poorhouses for up to two years, and then if not "cured" they were returned to the local poorhouses where once again they had no medical attention, were neglected and often confined in chains. In her report to the New York State Legislature in 1844, reformer Dorothea Dix showed the serious need for a permanent State institution for the "incurable cases" discharged from Utica. Follow-up reports were made in 1857, but no state action resulted. Finally in 1864 the State Legislature asked Dr. Sylvester Willard, Secretary of the New York Medical Society, to compile a report with a team of physicians based on his nine years of experience surveying the conditions of the insane throughout the state. Willard's report, presented to the Legislature on January 13, 1865, confirmed the findings of Dorothea Dix twenty years earlier and led to the passage of the "Willard Act" on April 8, 1865.

The Act stated "let an institution for the incurables be established. Let the incurables be colonized". The Act took the responsibility for the chronic insane out of the hands of local and county governments. By removing the insane from the abusive confines of local jails and poorhouses where their treatment was unsupervised, the Act allowed for a single state institution where these patients could be housed in warm, well-lighted and ventilated buildings under the care of trained staff and doctors.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Files at Willard State Psychiatric Center Library.

Mendel, Mesick, Cohen, Architects, "Report on the Preservation of the Old Willard Asylum". (Albany: Mendel, Mesick, Cohen, Architects, January, 1975).

OTM Ref. um
 4-28-76
 DRES 0411 04100

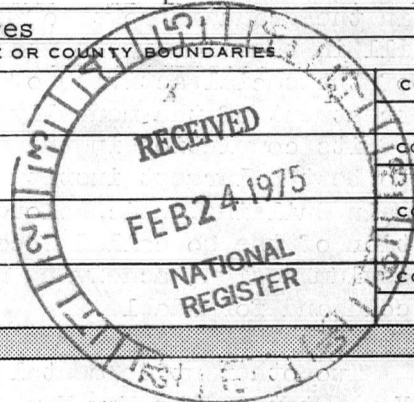
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | | OR | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | | |
|---|----------|---------|---------|---------|---|---------|--|--|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | | | | LONGITUDE | | | |
| | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds | | |
| NW | 42° | 40' | 50" | 76° | 52' | 53" | | |
| NE | 42° | 40' | 50" | 76° | 52' | 39" | | |
| SE | 42° | 40' | 40" | 76° | 52' | 39" | | |
| SW | 42° | 40' | 40" | 76° | 52' | 53" | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 12 1/2 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES.

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Cornelia E. Brooke, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION: Historic Parks and Recreation DATE: February, 1975

New York State Division for Preservation, Recreation

STREET AND NUMBER: South Swan Street Building, Empire State Plaza

CITY OR TOWN: Albany STATE: New York CODE: 36

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: [Signature]

Title: Dep. Comm.

Date: 2/18/75

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 3/7/75

ATTEST:

[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 3-5-75



Form 10-300a
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FEB 24 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

NATIONAL REGISTER

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Significance

(Continuation Sheet) Page 2

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During the three months of debate over the Act, its leading supporter, Dr. Sylvester Willard, was made State Surgeon General and then was stricken with typhoid fever. Six days before the Act was passed on April 8th Willard died. The new state institution was named in his memory.

A governor-appointed committee of three chose the pastoral 475 acre site over-looking Seneca Lake on the property of a short-lived agricultural college which had been abandoned during the Civil War.

In September, 1869, the Willard Asylum was opened. At that time it consisted of the center structure (commonly known as Chapin House) flanked by two 170 foot long wings. Early accounts of the construction fail to mention the name of the architect of this imposing brick hospital building. Soon after its completion, two extensions were made to each wing, and as a whole the building with its staggered wings illustrates the then current trend in asylum design, the Kirkbride or block plan. This arrangement of wings allowed the maximum amount of light and air for patients, who lived in individual rooms.

Throughout the 1870's a massive construction project was supervised by Willard's first and very able Superintendent, Dr. John B. Chapin. In addition to the extensions on the wings of the main building, clusters of cottages were built. According to the annual report of 1881, in that year the main building accommodated 552 people (men in the north wing and women in the south wing), and 1400 more patients were housed in the former agricultural college building and in the cottages grouped around the campus-like property.¹

The growth of Willard's population, from its first patient described as "a feeble, demented woman brought in irons" in 1869, to 2,000 patients in 1881 shows the rapid expansion and apparent need for this new state facility. At the time Dr. Chapin faced heavy criticism, especially from the influential Association of Medical Superintendants, which held that the projected size of Willard would be unmanageable and that only 250 patients could be efficiently cared for at one facility. After heated debate the association conceded to raise their figure to 600 and then eventually dropped the issue.

¹Thirteenth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Willard Asylum for the Insane" (1881). p. 6-7.

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Significance (Continuation Sheet) Page 3

(Number all entries)

The old Main Building at Willard bridges an historical and architectural gap between two other major 19th century New York State asylums at Utica and Buffalo, both listed on the National Register. Utica State Hospital was opened in 1843; Willard in 1869; and Buffalo, although authorized in 1869, was not opened until 1881. The Willard Main Building, constructed of brick on a lakeside site, differs in character greatly from the two stone hospitals at Buffalo and Utica which are located on landscaped grounds in cities. The Willard Main Building is larger than it predecessor at Utica and smaller than the massive H. H. Richardson-designed Buffalo State Hospital, but Willard's own monumental scale is handled very differently than that of these two severe, stone city hospitals. Not a short-term treatment center but a permanent home for the chronic insane, Willard was built in the tradition of the lakeside sanatorium, and as indicated in the 1881 annual report "the location cannot fail to minister pleasure, strength and comfort to mind and body, whether either or both be diseased."



75001229
Senecca
co.

Property Willard Asylum for the Chronic Insane

State New York Working Number 2.24.75.287

TECHNICAL

Photos 13
Maps 1 + 1 plan

CONTROL

OK cm
2.26.75

HISTORIAN

Accept
w.R. Luce
2/27/75

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

OF DEFINITE ARCHITECTURAL
AND SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
SIGNIFICANCE.

ACCEPT
LEBOVICH
2-26-75

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Cole
2-28-75

BRANCH CHIEF

accept
Wing
2.3.75

KEEPER

cm
3/5/75

National Register Write-up _____

Federal Register Entry 5-6-75

Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

Entered MAR 7 1975

INT:2106-74



#3

Chapin House - connecting curved
corridor to South Wing; west
facade; detail of iron staircase;
edge of South Wing in right
REAR.

10/1/74

Photo by Richard Mearns

filed at W.P.C.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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| COUNTY | Seneca |
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

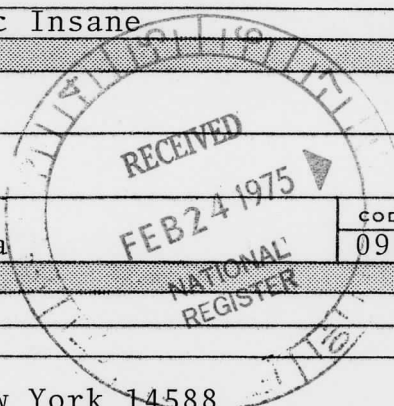
COMMON: Old Main Building
AND/OR HISTORIC: Willard Asylum for the Chronic Insane

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Willard State Psychiatric Center

CITY OR TOWN:
Willard

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|
| STATE: New York | CODE 36 | COUNTY: Seneca | CODE 099 |
|--------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|



3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Richard Mearns
DATE OF PHOTO: 1974
NEGATIVE FILED AT:
Willard Psychiatric Center, Willard, New York 14588

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
One of the cast iron entrance stairs at curved connecting links from Chapin House to the North and South wings.



(#7) Chapin House: west (front) and north
(side) facades.

10/1/74

Photo by Richard Mearns

filed at W.P.C.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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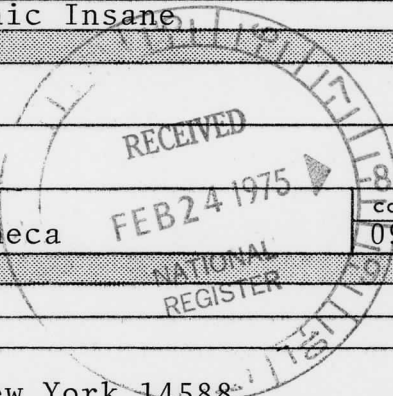
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 Willard Psychiatric Center, Willard, New York 14588

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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
 View looking Southeast at Chapin House, the central administration core of the hospital building.





#8 Chapin House: connecting curved
corridor to North Wing:
west facade; detail of slate
pattern on roof.

10/1/74

Photo by Richard Mearns

filed at W.P.C.

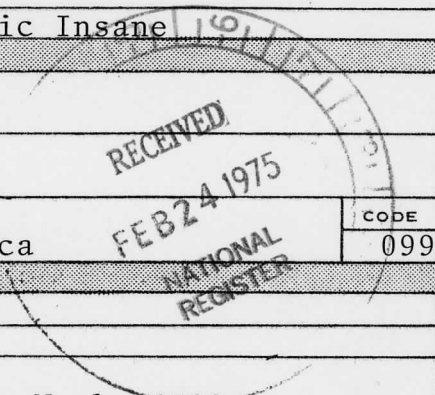
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| 3. PHOTO REFERENCE | | | |
| PHOTO CREDIT: Richard Mearns | | | |
| DATE OF PHOTO: 1974 | | | |
| NEGATIVE FILED AT: Willard Psychiatric Center, Willard, New York 14588 | | | |
| 4. IDENTIFICATION | | | |
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. View looking Southeast at connecting curved corridor linking Chapin House and the North wing. Detail shows slate pattern on roof. | | | |





#9 North Wing: west (front) facade

10/1/74

Photo by Richard Mearns

filed at W.P.C.

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New York

CODE

COUNTY:

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Seneca

CODE

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DATE OF PHOTO: 1974

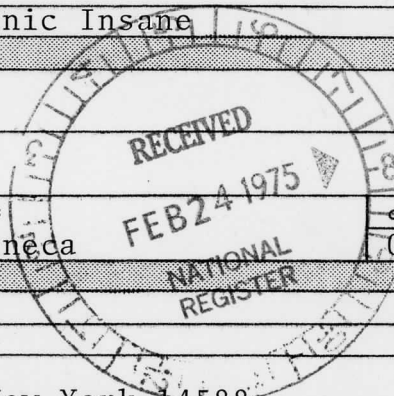
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4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Looking Northeast at the first range of the North wing adjacent to Chapin House.





(#13) Main Bldg complex: view facing
southwest; central spine
AND REAR of Chapin House
AND North Wing.

10/1/74

Photo by Richard Mearns

filed at W. P. C.

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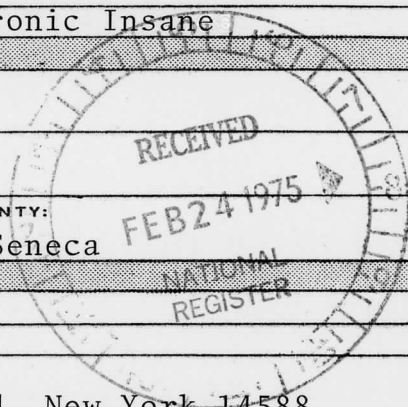
NEGATIVE FILED AT:

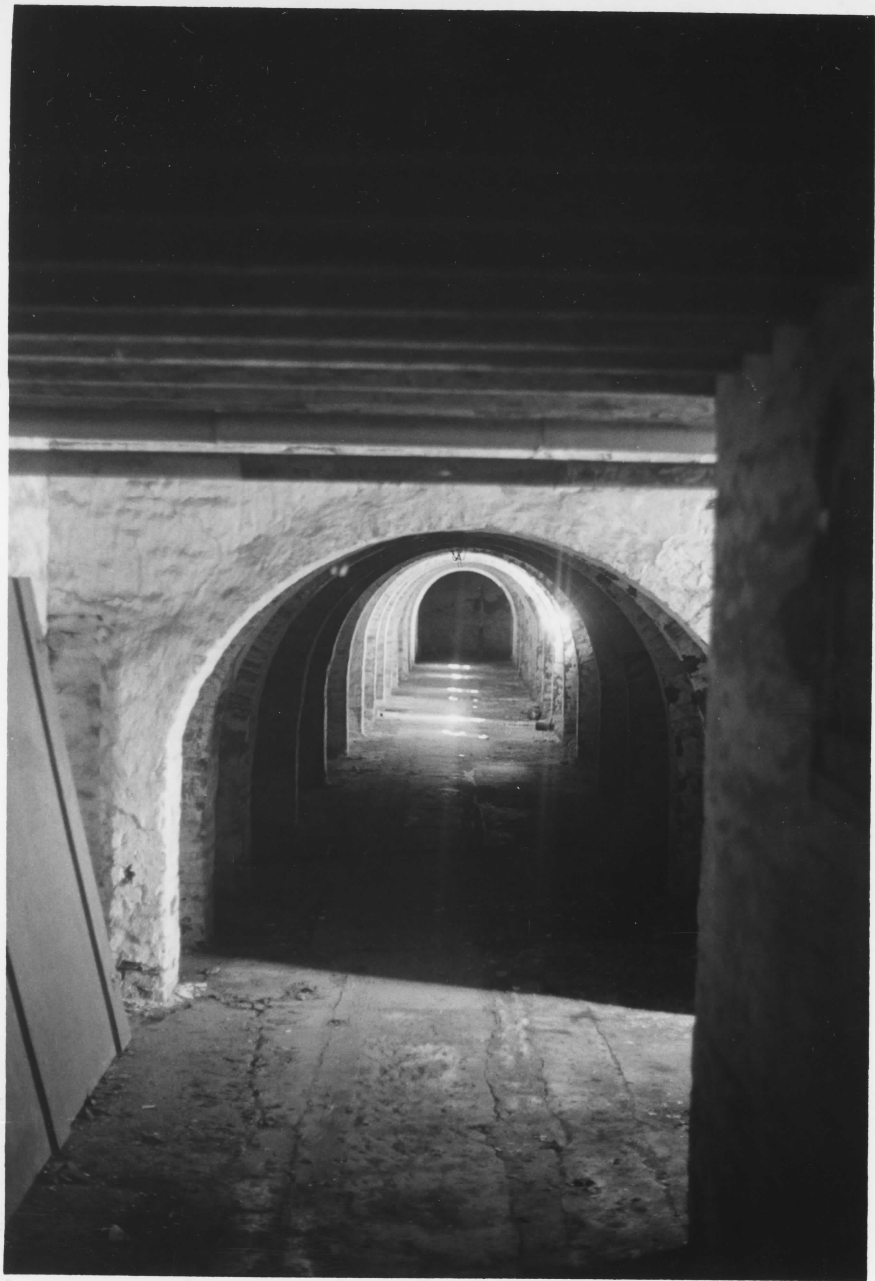
Willard Psychiatric Center, Willard, New York 14588

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

View looking southwest at central spine and rear of Chapin House and North wing.





(#17) North Wing - basement - facing
north - one of these parallel
corridors.

10/1/74

Photo by Richard Mearns

filed at W. P. C.

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PHOTO CREDIT: Richard Mearns

DATE OF PHOTO: 1974

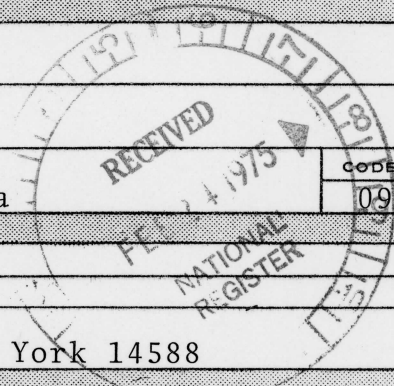
NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Willard Psychiatric Center, Willard, New York 14588

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Basement service area of the wings.





(#18) Chapin House - Medical Library -
"H" ON "FIRST FLOOR PLAN" -
Conference table AND CHAIRS -
NOTE Willard Asylum insignia
ON CORNER OF TABLE;
FURNITURE CIRCA 1890.

10/1/74

Photo by Richard Mearns

filed AT W.P.C.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| STATE New York | |
| COUNTY Seneca | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| MAR 7 1975 | |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Old Main Building

AND/OR HISTORIC: Willard Asylum for the Chronic Insane

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Willard State Psychiatric Center

CITY OR TOWN:

Willard

STATE:

New York

CODE

36

COUNTY:

Seneca

CODE

099

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Richard Mearns

DATE OF PHOTO: 1974

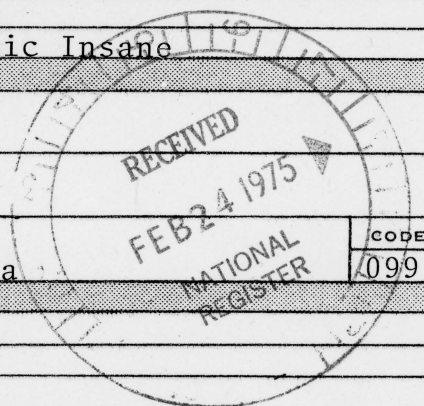
NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Willard Psychiatric Center, Willard, New York 14588

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Custom designed furniture in board room of Chapin House.
Initials "W.A." for Willard Asylum show in table woodwork.





#27

Chapin House - view facing northwest -
curving corridor from South
Wing to Chapin House. Door
opens on outside stair on
southwest side of building

10/1/74

Photo by Richard Mearns

filed at W.P.C.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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|----------------------------|------|
| STATE New York | |
| COUNTY Seneca | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER MAR 7 1975 | DATE |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

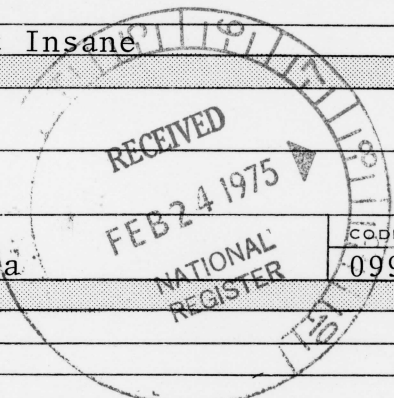
COMMON: Old Main Building
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2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Willard State Psychiatric Center

CITY OR TOWN:
Willard

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|
| STATE: New York | CODE 36 | COUNTY: Seneca | CODE 099 |
|--------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|



3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Richard Mearns
 DATE OF PHOTO: 1974
 NEGATIVE FILED AT:
 Willard Psychiatric Center, Willard, New York 14588

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
 View facing Northwest looking in curving corridor from south wing to Chapin House. Door opens to outside stairway on southwest side of building.



(#30) North Wing - round radiator -
first floor alcove

10/1/74

Photo by Richard Mearns

filed at W.P.C.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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CITY OR TOWN:

Willard

STATE: CODE COUNTY:

New York 36 Seneca

STATE: CODE

New York 099

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Richard Mearns

DATE OF PHOTO: 1974

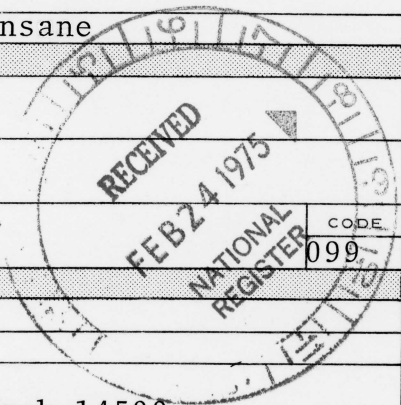
NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Willard Psychiatric Center, Willard, New York 14588

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Round radiator on the first floor alcove of the North wing.





#33

North Wing - 3rd floor room,
easternmost section, south
side of building, view facing
west. Note structural beams.

10/1/74

Photo by Richard Mearns

filed at W.P.C.

Photo by Richard Mearns

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

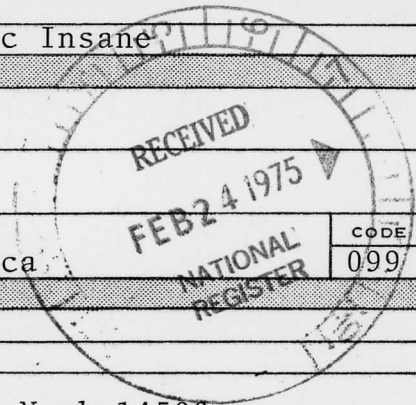
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

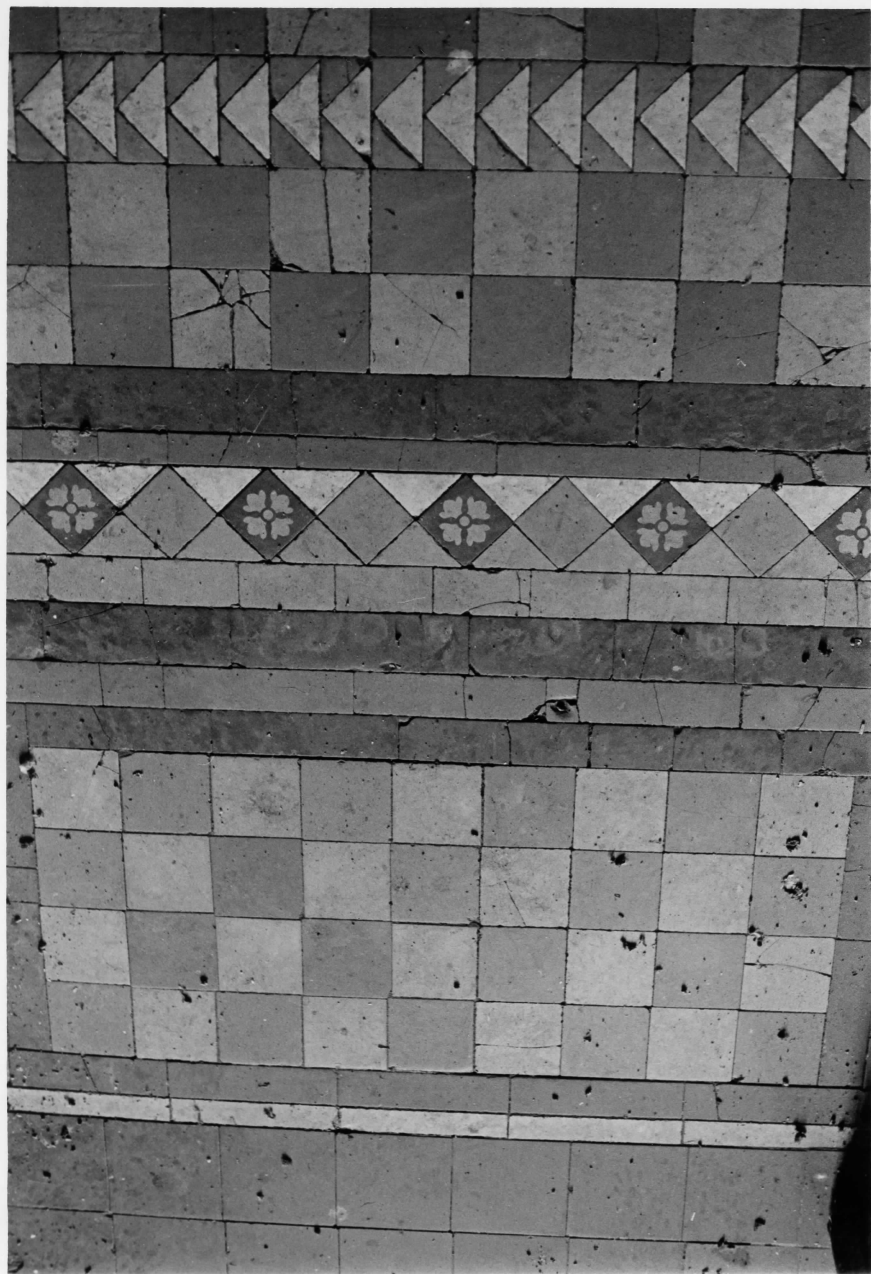
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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| COUNTY Seneca | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
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| 1. NAME | | | |
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| AND/OR HISTORIC: Willard Asylum for the Chronic Insane | | | |
| 2. LOCATION | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: Willard State Psychiatric Center | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Willard | | | |
| STATE: New York | CODE 36 | COUNTY: Seneca | CODE 099 |
| 3. PHOTO REFERENCE | | | |
| PHOTO CREDIT: Richard Mearns | | | |
| DATE OF PHOTO: 1974 | | | |
| NEGATIVE FILED AT: Willard Psychiatric Center, Willard, New York 14588 | | | |
| 4. IDENTIFICATION | | | |
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. View of third room of North wing looking west. Showing exposed structural beams. | | | |





#35

North Wing - detail of encaustic tile
patterns in corridors linking
the three sections of the wing.

10/1/74

Photo by Richard Mearns

filed at W.P.C.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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CITY OR TOWN:

Willard

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

New York

36

Seneca

099

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Richard Mearns

DATE OF PHOTO: 1974

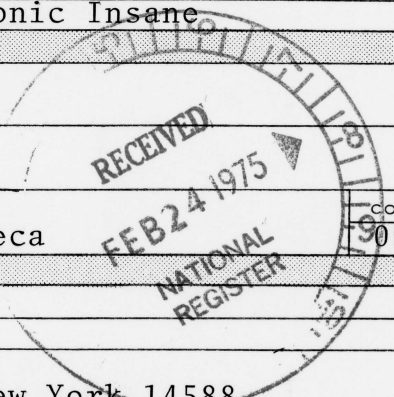
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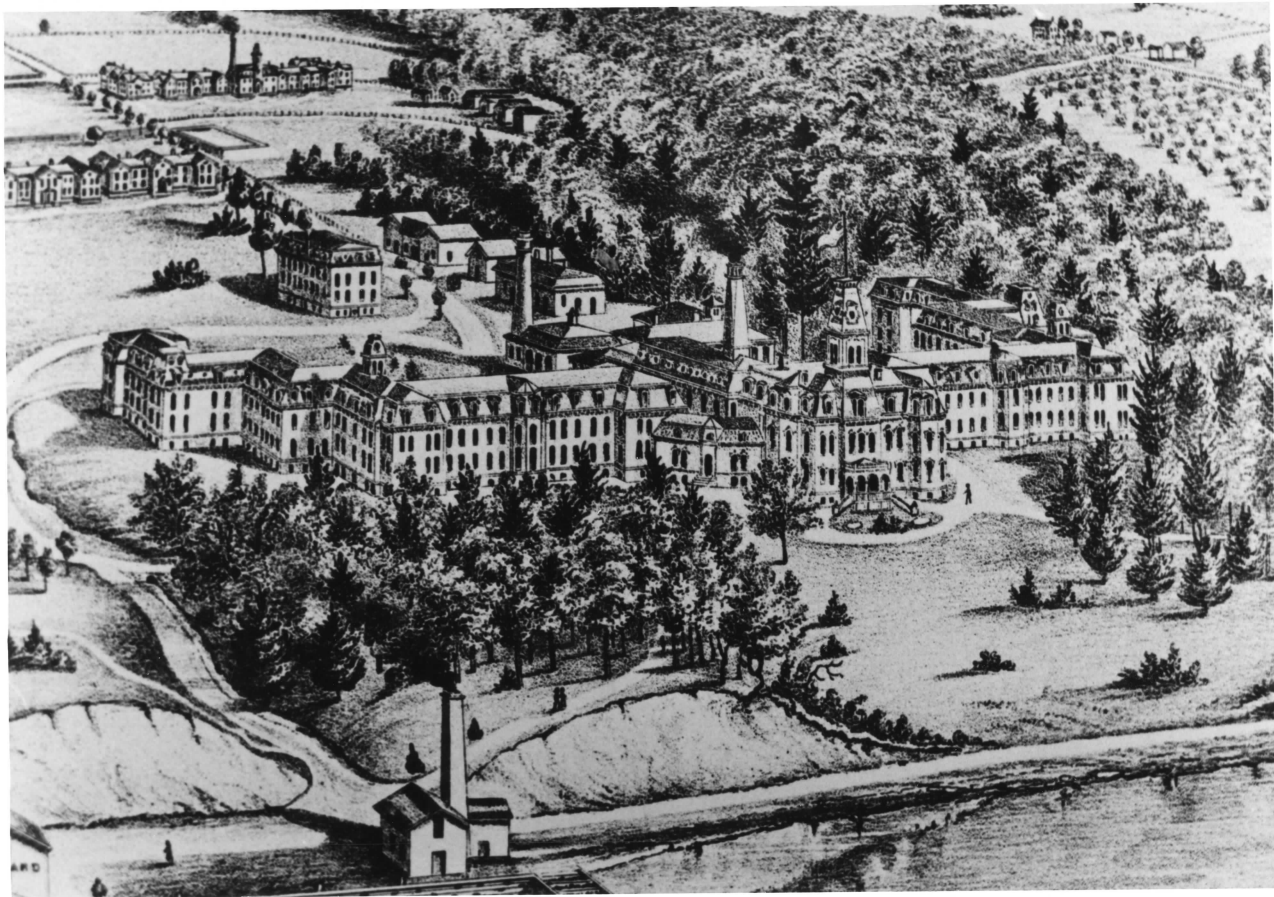
Willard Psychiatric Center, Willard, New York 14588

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Detail of encaustic tile flooring in first floor vestibule to the old chapel in the central service wing.





NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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PHOTO CREDIT: Richard Mearns

DATE OF PHOTO: 1974

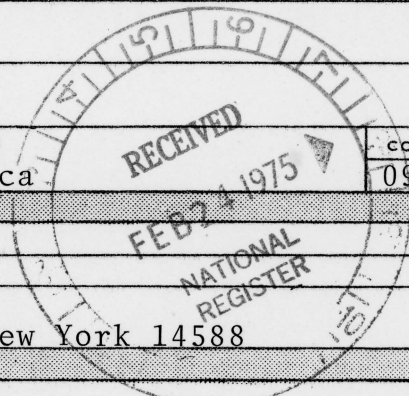
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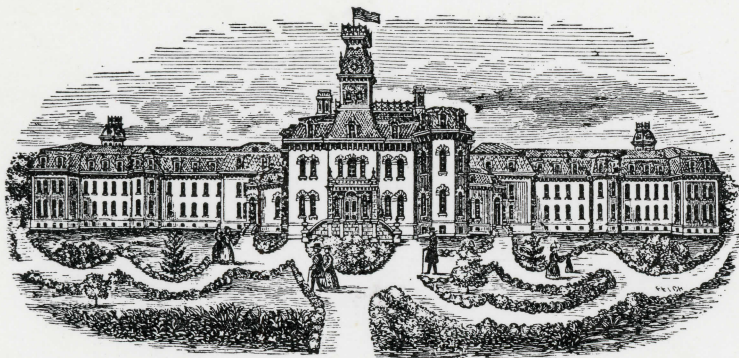
Willard Psychiatric Center, Willard, New York 14588

4. IDENTIFICATION

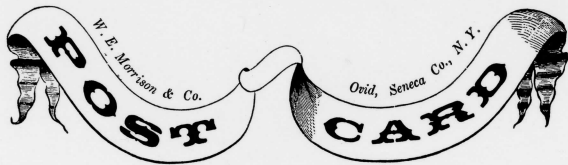
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Late nineteenth century print showing birds-eye view of Willard Asylum with lake in foreground.





The Willard State Hospital.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| STATE | |
| New York | |
| COUNTY | |
| Seneca | |
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| | MAR 7 1975 |

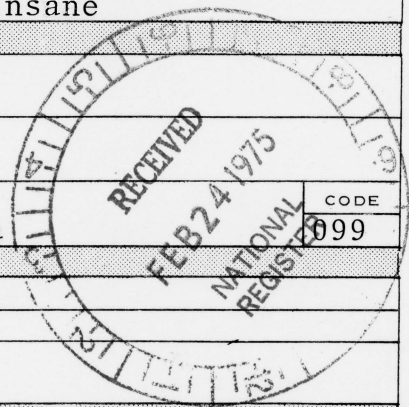
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| | |
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| Willard State Psychiatric Center | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: | | | |
| Willard | | | |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| New York | 36 | Seneca | 099 |



3. PHOTO REFERENCE

| |
|--------------------|
| PHOTO CREDIT: |
| DATE OF PHOTO: |
| NEGATIVE FILED AT: |

4. IDENTIFICATION

| |
|--|
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. |
| Reproduction of an undated late nineteenth century print of front (west) facade of Willard State Hospital as it overlooks Seneca Lake. |

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

| | |
|-------------------|------------|
| STATE New York | |
| COUNTY Seneca | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
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|--------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|
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3. MAP REFERENCE

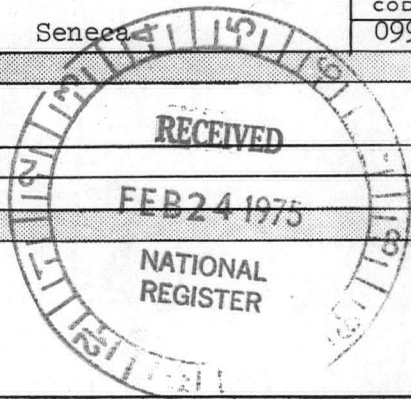
SOURCE:
U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute series Dresden Quadrangle

SCALE: 1:24000

DATE: 1943

4. REQUIREMENTS

- TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
 2. North arrow.
 3. Latitude and longitude reference.

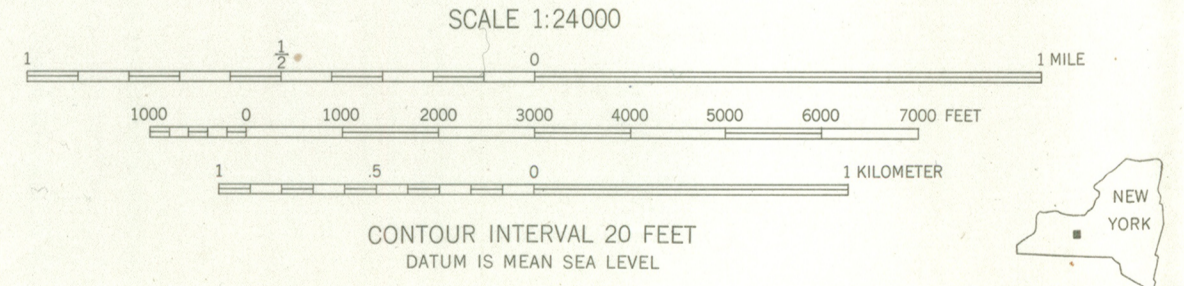




Old Main Building
Willard Psychiatric
Center
Willard
Seneca Co.

Mapped by the Army Map Service
Published for civil use by the Geological Survey
Control by USC&GS, USLS, and TVA
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
Aerial photographs taken 1942. Field check 1943
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on New York coordinate system,
central zone

TRUE NORTH
MAGNETIC NORTH
APPROXIMATE MEAN
DECLINATION, 1943



J-13-NW
ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty... 4 LANE 16 LANE Light-duty...
Medium-duty... 4 LANE 16 LANE Unimproved dirt...
U. S. Route State Route



DRESDEN, N. Y.
NW/4 OVID 15' QUADRANGLE
N4237.5-W7652.5/7.5

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| STATE New York | |
| COUNTY Seneca | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
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|--------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|
| STATE: New York | CODE 36 | COUNTY: Seneca | CODE 099 |
|--------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:
unknown

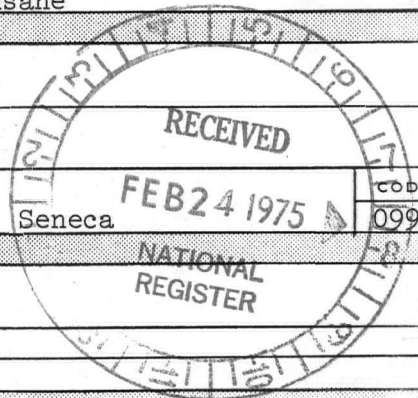
SCALE: 1" = approximately 55'

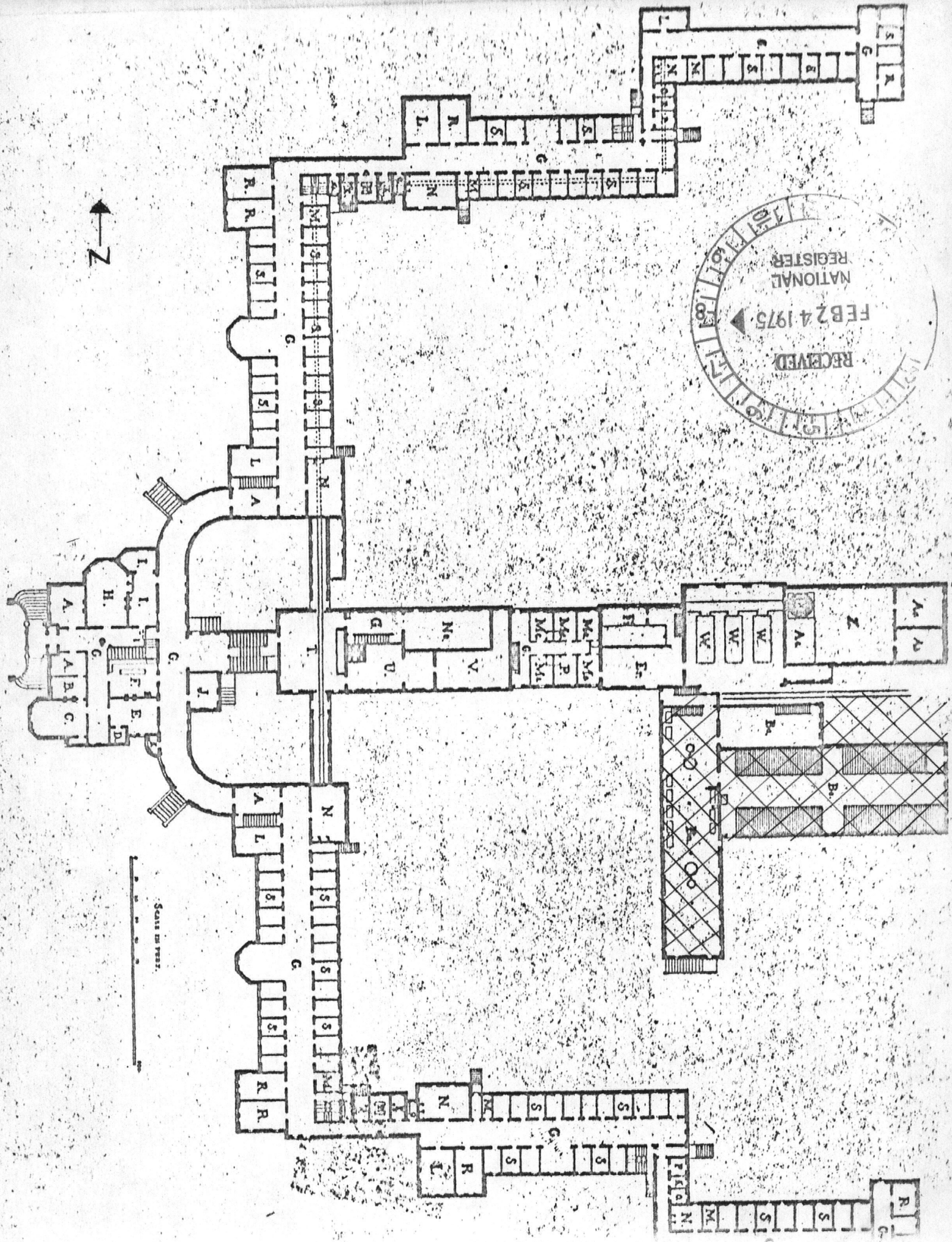
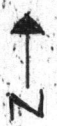
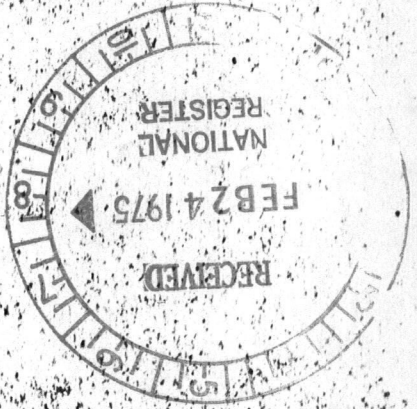
DATE: no date

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

| | |
|--|--|
| 1. Property boundaries where required. | Organization plan of the entire Main Building. Cross hatched area was never constructed. |
| 2. North arrow. | |
| 3. Latitude and longitude reference. | |







NEW YORK STATE PARKS & RECREATION South Swan Street Bldg. Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12238 Information 518 474-0456
Alexander Aldrich, Commissioner

February 17, 1975

Ms. Kate Cole
Review Unit
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
18th & C Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240



Dear Kate:

Due to the serious threat to the Old Main Building at Willard Psychiatric Center in Willard, New York, we would appreciate it if you could expedite this nomination. We expect to be meeting with Department of Mental Hygiene officials and members of the Willard Psychiatric Center administration (who incidently want to save the building) early in March and it would be a real help to be able to say the building is listed.

Sincerely yours,

Deborah Stone

Deborah Stone
Archivist
Division for Historic
Preservation

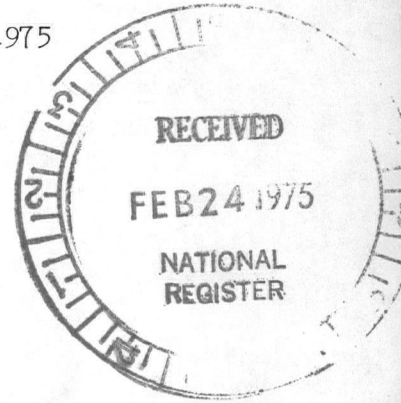
DS/jf





NEW YORK STATE PARKS & RECREATION South Swan Street Bldg. Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12238 Information 518 474-0456
Alexander Aldrich, Commissioner

February 17, 1975



Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
National Park Service
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

As the State Historic Preservation Officer, I am forwarding the enclosed nomination to the National Register of Historic Places:

Old Main Building, Willard State Psychiatric Center,
Willard, New York, Seneca County

The above nomination has been reviewed and approved by the Committee on Registers in accordance with the criteria outlined in Section 2.2 of the Grants Guide.

The staff of the New York State Division for Historic Preservation, the officially designated Preservation Agency, would welcome the opportunity to discuss this submission with your office.

Sincerely,

ALEXANDER ALDRICH
State Historic Preservation
Officer

By:

F. L. RATH, JR.
Deputy Commissioner
for Historic Preservation



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE NEW YORK

Date Entered MAR 7 1975

Name

Location

Willard Asylum for the Chronic Insane

Willard
Seneca County

Also Notified

Hon. James L. Buckley
Hon. Jacob K. Javits
Hon. William Walsh

Regional Director, North
Atlantic Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Alexander Aldrich, Commissioner
Parks and Recreation
Room 303, South Swan Street Building
Albany, New York 12223

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

1 NAME as it appears on federal register: Willard Asylum for the Chronic Insane
 2 OTHER NAMES: Old Main Building - see.
 3 date of entry: 3-7-75
 4 county code: 099

5 LOCATION street & number: Willard State Psychiatric Center
 city / town: Willard
 vicinity of: _____
 state: NY
 county: Seneca
 6 NPS REGION: North Atlantic

7 OWNER PRIVATE STATE MUNICIPAL COUNTY MULTIPLE FEDERAL (agency name)
 8 ADMINISTRATOR: _____

9 EXISTING SURVEYS HABS HAER NHL
 10 FUNDED? YES NO
 11 CONGRESS. DISTRICT: _____
 12 SOURCE of NOMINATION STATE FEDERAL

13 WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES, NAME _____
 14 WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES, NAME _____
 15 ACREAGE: 12.5
 if state who prepared form? etc Park + Recreation
 LOCAL PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

16 CONDITION deteriorated altered original site
 excellent ruins unaltered moved
 good unexposed reconstructed unknown
 fair unexcavated excavated
 17 features: SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3
 NOT INTACT-0 NOT INTACT-0
 UNKNOWN-4 UNKNOWN-5
 NOT APPLICABLE-7 NOT APPLICABLE-8
 NOT APPLICABLE-9

18 ACCESS YES - Restricted YES - Unrestricted No Access Unknown
 19 ADAPTIVE USE YES NO
 20 SAVED? YES
 IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? yes no

21 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:
 ARCHEOLOGY - prehistoric-2 COMMERCE-6 ENTERTAINMENT-26 LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 POLITICS / GOVT.-21 RECREATION-28
 ARCHEOLOGY - historic-1 COMMUNICATIONS-7 EXPLORATION-12 LAW-16 RELIGION-22 SETTLEMENT-29
 AGRICULTURE-3 CONSERVATION-8 HEALTH-27 LITERATURE-17 SCIENCE-23 URBAN PLANNING-31
 ARCHITECTURE-4 ECONOMICS-9 INDUSTRY-13 MILITARY-18 SOCIAL / HUMANITARIAN-24 OTHER (SPECIFY) _____
 ART-5 EDUCATION-10 INVENTION-14 PHILOSOPHY-20 SOCIAL / CULTURAL-30
 TRANSPORTATION-25
 22 CLAIMS: explain
 'first'
 'oldest'
 'only'

23 functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: growth of state responsibility for mentally ill -> HOSPITAL
 CURRENTLY: VACANT
 24 dates of initial construction: 1869
 major alterations: c. late 1870s
 historic events: _____
 25 ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION

26 architectural style(s): Second Empire
 27 architect:
 28 master builder:
 29 engineer:

30 landscape architect / garden designer:
 31 interior decorator:
 32 artist:
 33 artisan:
 34 builder / contractor:

35 NAMES give role & date
 PERSONAL: Dr. Sylvester Willard - Sec. NY Medical Society -> person behind "Willard Act" April 8, 1865 which estab. new institution for incurable mental patients
 EVENTS: Dr. John B. Chapin - the Willard's first superintendent; supervised construction of wings late 1870s
 INSTITUTIONAL:

36 NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP
 Brick, stone; 2 1/2 stories, U-shaped, polychrome slate mansard roof with round-arched, bracketed hood dormers, interior paneled chimneys, raised 1-story front center projecting arcaded entrance portico with balustrade and side stairways, polygonal end bays with flanking 1-story quarter-round hypocausts to receding side wings, heavily bracketed cornice, round-arched windows with keystone voussours, center truncated square glazed tower, side wings with mansard cupolas; round free-standing cast-iron radiators, encaustic tile paving of Second Empire. Established under the "Willard Act" of April 8, 1865, Apr. 8, 1865 ->

36) for the care of ^{state's} ~~the~~ chronically ill mental patients who had ~~previously~~ ^{traditionally} been housed in local poorhouses and jails.