

Durham County Work House

8-25-38

J.M. Neese, Field Agent  
State Board Public Welfare

R.B. Nichols: Superintendent

R.L. Tilley: Head guard

3 additional guards- one in kitchen, one supervises women in laundry and one for farm.

Prisoners do cooking, cleaning, laundry for the County Home as well as operate the county farm.

Population:	White women	7	Negro men	41
			" women	17

Building:

Two story brick and concrete building approximately 150 yards from main building of County Home. Female prisoners occupy the upper floor and male prisoners and guards are on the ground floor. A locked grilled door at front of stairs separates the two floors. Each floor is divided into two rooms for segregation of races.

Equipment:

New Double deck beds have been installed in both the lower rooms. Shower, commode, and lavatories accessible in each section. Single cots are used in the female sections.

Prisoners eat in the dining room in basement of County Home.

Sanitation:

Superintendent Nichols stated that building is to be repainted soon. Prisoners wear clothes furnished by county. No bugs were found. Mostly new mattresses were in use on the new beds in the male sections. Baths were moderately clean. Odors not excessive. Natural light and ventilation are adequate.



am County Home

J.M. Neese, Field Agent  
State Board Public Welfare

Superintendent: R.N. Nichols,  
Matron: Mrs. E.F. Mangum  
Nurse: Miss Thelma Ward  
Steward: Clayton Burgess  
Laundry: W.G. Beck

Practically all work done by prison labor

Population:	White men	32	Negro men	22
	" women	23	" women	12

Fifteen of the above are housed in the Insane ward.

Building: Two story with three wings and basement, constructed of brick-fire resistive. Upper floor houses superintendent and family, nurse, and quarters for storage.

Main floor section for inmates in the two wings extending to either side of main entrance. Supt's office, employees sitting room, medical supply room opens from large entrance hall. There are separate sections for races and sexes and each race has its own dining room. Food is prepared in central kitchen.

Basement has boiler room, dining room for prisoners, laundry, milk rooms, rooms for prisoner cooks, and six rooms used for the Negro juvenile detention quarters.

Insane Quarters; two one story brick and concrete buildings about 50 yards from main structure. New building has twenty rooms for inmates. Has section for races. Bath room in each section and each room has commode which is flushed by attendant from small closet opening from corridor. Other building same as previously reported, with twelve separate cells housing both races and sexes. Toilets in this building are to be changed to same type as is in the new building. Both buildings are enclosed by a cyclone steel fence.

Equipment: Lights, water and sewerage connected with the City of Durham. Bathrooms (tiled) separate for races and sexes, contain tubs, commodes, lavatories; hot and cold water. Single beds are used throughout the institution.

Sanitation: Institution as a whole is far above the average in cleanliness and orderliness. Odors were at a minimum. Floors, baths, and rooms were all clean. All baths and the kitchen have tiles floors which permit easy cleaning. Dining rooms were clean and attractive.

Durham County Infirmary

Superintendent: Miss Mildred Finley  
Assistant: Miss Barbara Walker

Part of rear wing of County Home with quarters in a small apartment annex for nurses. This building has 11 rooms equipped for regular hospital care of patients sent by County Health Department.