



*New York State Archives*

**Syracuse State Institution for Feeble-Minded Children Pupil  
Evaluation Reports B1666**

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## Overview of the Records

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<b>Repository:</b>	New York State Archives
<b>Summary:</b>	The series consists of registers that provide brief narrative evaluations of cognitive and skills development of pupils of the New York State Asylum for Idiots, later the Syracuse State Institution for Feeble-Minded Children. The remarks shed light on diagnostic techniques used to assess mental ability and learning progress (for example, sorting colored beads, walking a ladder, using an iron) as well as early techniques used in educating the developmentally disabled.
<b>Creator:</b>	Syracuse State Institution for Feeble-Minded Children
<b>Title:</b>	Pupil evaluation reports
<b>Quantity:</b>	1 cubic foot
<b>Quantity:</b>	2 volumes
<b>Inclusive Date:</b>	[circa 1860-1909]
<b>Series:</b>	B1666

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## Arrangement

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Arranged by pupil, then chronological by date of evaluation.

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## Scope and Content Note

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The series consists of registers that provide brief narrative evaluations of cognitive and skills development of pupils of the New York State Asylum for Idiots, later the Syracuse State Institution for Feeble-Minded Children. The remarks shed light on diagnostic techniques used to assess mental ability and learning progress (e.g., sorting colored beads, walking a ladder, using an iron) as well as early techniques used in educating the mentally retarded. The registers were apparently kept consecutively, and types of information vary slightly between the two volumes. Multiple evaluations per pupil are given chronologically.

The first book (labeled "School Register No. 1") includes evaluations dating ca. 1860-1887. Identifying information includes name, age, number on register, and residence (city, sometime county) for each pupil. Beneath this main heading, entries appear by date of evaluation. There are usually two evaluations per pupil, sometimes more. Remarks occur under the headings: habits; language and speech; forms; colors; pictures; drawing and imitation; writing numbers; words and reading; conduct; and capacity for occupation. There may be as many as ten years separating evaluations of the same pupil.

The second volume includes evaluations on those admitted 1890-1903; the assessments date ca. 1901-1909. Identifying information includes name, age, number on register (or more often, the date admitted), and residence. As in the preceding volume, entries appear by date of evaluation, but they occur yearly and most often several evaluations are provided per pupil. Remarks occur under the headings: habits; language and speech; forms/colors; pictures; drawing and imitation; calisthenics; writing; numbers; industrial capacity; and remarks.

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## Use of Records

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### Access Restrictions

Restricted in accordance with Mental Hygiene Law, Section 33.13, relating to confidentiality of clinical records. Access is permitted under certain conditions upon approval by the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities.

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## Access Terms

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- Registers (Lists)
- New York (State)
- Teaching intellectually disabled students
- Evaluating
- Educational evaluation
- Intellectual disability facilities patients
- Educating mentally handicapped
- Syracuse (N.Y.)
- Children with mental disabilities--Study and teaching--New York (State)
- People with mental disabilities--Institutional care--New York (State)
- New York (State). Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities
- Syracuse Developmental Center
- New York (State). Department of Mental Hygiene

- **New York State Asylum for Idiots**