



*New York State Archives*

**Middletown State Homeopathic Hospital Order and  
Commitment Books B1753**

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## Overview of the Records

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<b>Repository:</b>	New York State Archives
<b>Summary:</b>	This series consists of certificates of lunacy, medical certificates, forms, petitions, and case histories documenting the process used to commit people to the Middletown State Homeopathic Hospital. Early commitment orders include name, case number, address or residence, occupation, and by whom brought. The physician's certificates include a brief statement of symptoms. Indigent patients are noted. Name indexes appear at the front of each volume. There is no information for 1890-1892. Records are restricted.
<b>Creator:</b>	Middletown State Homeopathic Hospital (N.Y.)
<b>Title:</b>	Middletown State Homeopathic Hospital order and commitment books
<b>Quantity:</b>	2.5 cubic feet
<b>Quantity:</b>	5 volumes
<b>Inclusive Date:</b>	1885-1893
<b>Series:</b>	B1753

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## Arrangement

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Chronological.

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## Scope and Content Note

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This series consists of certificates of lunacy, medical certificates, forms, petitions, and case histories which document the process used to commit people for care at the Middletown State Homeopathic Hospital. These formats are bound-in with printed forms. Information included varies over time. The earliest commitment orders contain the following information: name, case number, address or residence, occupation, and by whom brought. Formal orders of

commitment are signed by two physicians and, if a patient is indigent, the Superintendent of the Poor.

The volumes usually contain handwritten transcriptions of the physician's Certificate of Lunacy. Certificates include a brief statement of symptoms. Around 1892, format changes slightly; Certificates of Lunacy refer to numbered questionnaires which can be found in the Hospital's published reports. Name indexes can be found at the front of each volume. Indigent patients are noted in red pen or in a separate section at the rear of volumes. Volumes 4 and 5 (1890 -1892) are missing.

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## Other Finding Aids

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### Available at Repository

Name indexes are included at the front of each volume

Volume list is available at the repository.

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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 of Mental Health.

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## Administrative Information

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### Custodial History

This series was transferred from the Middletown Psychiatric Center to the State Archives in June 2000 and accessioned in January 2001.

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## Access Terms

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- Mentally ill--Commitment and detention--New York (State)
- Administering psychiatric hospitals
- Insanity (Law)--New York (State)
- Certificates
- Mental health facilities--Admission and discharge--New York (State)
- New York (State)
- Petitions
- Certifying mentally ill
- Orange County (N.Y.)
- Middletown (N.Y.)
- New York (State). Office of Mental Health
- Middletown Psychiatric Center (N.Y.)
- New York (State). Department of Mental Hygiene