From: "Carter Dick (LegHall)" < Dick.Carter@state.de.us>
To: < LOWER-DELMARVA-ROOTS-L@rootsweb.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2005 12:04 PM
Subject: [LDR] Re: Farnhurst

> Please pardon an unrelated bit of Delaware historical trivia about
> Farnhurst. in bygone days Farnhurst, a.k.a. the Delaware State
> Hospital, was the only facility in the state for persons suffering from
> mental illness and related disorders. The old main hospital building
> dates from the late Nineteenth Century and features seven large
> chimneys.
>
> This architectural feature was apparently unusual enough within the
> experience of southern Delawareans that downstaters typically referred
> to Farnhurst as "Seven Stacks." The way one conveyed the information,
> when in conversation with someone, that a mutual friend or acquaintance
> was experiencing mental difficulties, was to say, "oh, he's been taken
> up to Seven Stacks."
>
> Dick Carter
>

*From:* "DELORES" < dcj@dmv.com>
*Subject:* Re: Farnhurst
*Date:* Thu, 3 Nov 2005 11:09:25 -0500
*References:* <787D62CAA0A0CE4EAE6E4660B34D53C37C5A79@DOVERSCLS01N1.state.de.us>

The surrounding area was listed as the town of Farnhurst. How do you find
a patient in either facility? Are they listed separately or is the facility
listed as a town? I am trying to find a patient at one or the other. I
remember hearing Farnhurst referred to as "Seven Stacks." I had to go there
for a psychological exam before entering nursing school. I was 17 and it was
a dark and forboding place.
Delores

http://www.delaforum.com/2002-03/Jul-Sep/MEMOS/Place%20names.htm

Farnhurst -- The place along Du Pont Parkway south of Wilmington Manor, where the Herman M. Holloday Sir. campus and the interchange with the approach to the Delaware Memorial Bridges are located. That was the original name of the hospital on the campus. Those who are really long-timers also knew the hospital as the Seven Stacks.

http://thequestionclub.livejournal.com/55032754.html



[**policraticus**](http://policraticus.livejournal.com/)

January 4 2009, 14:07:45 UTC 5 years ago

* [link](http://thequestionclub.livejournal.com/55032754.html?thread=1435486642#t1435486642)
* [Collapse](http://thequestionclub.livejournal.com/55032754.html?thread=1435486642#t1435486642)
* [Expand](http://thequestionclub.livejournal.com/55032754.html?thread=1435486642#t1435486642)
* New comment

In Delaware it is *Seven Stacks.*
In New Jersey it is *Ancora.*
Most famously, in NYC it is *Bellevue.*

Almshouse

http://mchhistory.blogspot.com/2010/10/judge-morris-estate-part-1.html

It seems that the trail of ownership for the property gets a bit confused for most of the 18th century, but at some point it is purchased by Scottish immigrant Thomas Montgomery. . . . The other reason I'm inclined to believe that the property sale was related to the fight for independence is Thomas Montgomery's record of [public service](http://books.google.com/books?id=ahavHZtkXVsC&pg=PA567&lpg=PA567&dq=%22thomas+montgomery%22+mill+creek&source=bl&ots=9gwt8YjmRy&sig=4YQsivlzpGrrw2eKTKu2GaeJNAw&hl=en&ei=hLDJTIi6EoeglAekks2AAg&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=8&ved=0CDAQ6AEwBw#v=onepage&q=mill%20creek&f=false).  He served in the state legislature in the 1780's and not only attended the state constitutional convention in 1792, but ended up as its chairman after John Dickinson resigned. Also that year, he ran for governor in the first public election for the post, but lost to Joshua Clayton. The following year, Montgomery became the Delaware State Auditor. He also served as a trustee of the New Castle County Almshouse (a poorhouse, which I believe was located in what is now the west side of Wilmington).

From a google search – clicking on the link gives you unreadable excerpt from an Annual Report.

1. [At a General Assembly Begun at Dover, in the Delaware State, ... ...](http://books.google.com/books?id=ODU4AAAAIAAJ&pg=PA150&lpg=PA150&dq=New+Castle+County+almshouse&source=bl&ots=vElbhDV2eF&sig=EYJIfOikaeUajp5tdEJUACW0jc4&hl=en&sa=X&ei=J5btUvnEMcnlyAGf5oHoBg&ved=0CEMQ6AEwBg)

*books.google.com/books?id=ODU4AAAAIAAJ*

[Delaware](https://www.google.com/search?sa=X&hl=en&biw=1366&bih=616&tbm=bks&q=inauthor:%22Delaware%22&ei=J5btUvnEMcnlyAGf5oHoBg&ved=0CEQQ9AgwBg) - 1887 - ‎Session laws

That whenever the principal physician of the said Insane Department of the **New Castle County Almshouse** shall represent to the Trustees of the Poor of the **...**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Old Alms House, Wilmington (3rd to 4th; Franklin to Broom) |
| **Collection** |   | Pamphlets |
| **RG** |   | 9270 |
| **Series** |   | 004 |
| **Subject** |   | Illustrative Material |
| **Title** |   | Old Alms House, Wilmington (3rd to 4th; Franklin to Broom) |
| **Box Num** |   | 1 |

Requested copy from Archives on 2/1/2014

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **11 Records Found**  | [**Permalink**](http://archives.delaware.gov/checklists/index.shtml?id=&fname=&lname=&keyword=poor%20house&intention=0&searchtype=bykeyword&sortFieldName=)  | [Bookmark and Share](http://www.addthis.com/bookmark.php?v=250&pub=stateofdelaware) |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [**Collection**](http://www.delaware.gov/checklist/checklists.php?perm=0) | [**FirstName**](http://www.delaware.gov/checklist/checklists.php?perm=0) | [**LastName**](http://www.delaware.gov/checklist/checklists.php?perm=0) | [**File Date**](http://www.delaware.gov/checklist/checklists.php?perm=0) | [**File Name**](http://www.delaware.gov/checklist/checklists.php?perm=0) | [**Organization**](http://www.delaware.gov/checklist/checklists.php?perm=0) | [**Job Num**](http://www.delaware.gov/checklist/checklists.php?perm=0) | [**Box Num**](http://www.delaware.gov/checklist/checklists.php?perm=0) | [**ID Num**](http://www.delaware.gov/checklist/checklists.php?perm=0) | [**SubGr Name**](http://www.delaware.gov/checklist/checklists.php?perm=0) | [**Contents**](http://www.delaware.gov/checklist/checklists.php?perm=0) | [**Comments**](http://www.delaware.gov/checklist/checklists.php?perm=0) |
| Enrolled Bills |  |  | 01/17/1815 |  |  |  |  |  |  | A supplement to an act entitled An act to authorize the Levy Court of Kent County to remove lunatic and insane persons from the public goal of Kent County to the Poor House. - Year 1813-15 |  |
| Enrolled Bills |  |  | 02/24/1849 |  |  |  |  |  |  | An act changing the name of the Poor House to Alms House. - Year 1849 |  |
| Enrolled Bills |  |  | 02/06/1847 |  |  |  |  |  |  | An additional supplement to an act entitled An act to authorize the Levy Court of Kent County to remove lunatic and insane persons from the public goal of Kent County to the Poor House. - Year 1847 |  |
| Enrolled Bills |  |  | 02/15/1816 |  |  |  |  |  |  | An act authorizing the Trustees of the Poor of Kent County to remove from the poor house of Kent County to the hospital in Philadelphia lunatic and insane persons in certain cases. - Year 1816-17 |  |
| Enrolled Bills |  |  | 02/07/1817 |  |  |  |  |  |  | An act to authorize and empower the Levy courts in this State to raise a sum or sums of money beyond that which they shall deem necessary for the support of the Poor in the Poor Houses of the several counties for the purposes therein mentioned. - Yea |  |
| Enrolled Bills |  |  | 02/11/1812 |  |  |  |  |  |  | An act to authorize the Levy Court of Kent County to remove lunatic and insane persons from the public goal of Kent County to the Poor House. - Year 1811-12 |  |
| Maps |  |  |  | II Wilmington, Pasture Street to Delaware River, Christiana River to Philadelphia Road |  |  |  |  |  | early street layout with illustrations of Academy, Poor House, Public Hall, and Brandywine Mills |  |
| State Reports |  |  |  | Expenditures for Poor House Establishment 1838, 1846-1850 | Trustees of the Poor / Overseers of the Poor, Sussex County | 4230 |  | 00 |  |  | Pre-Delaware Documentation; updated 8/97 |
| State Reports |  |  |  | Statement of the number of Paupers and of the Recipts and Expend. Poor House Establishment in Sussex County 1838, 1846-1850 | Trustees of the Poor / Overseers of the Poor, Sussex County | 4230 | 1 |  |  |  |  |
| Coroner | Hester | Dougherty | 04/15/1808 |  | Poor House |  |  |  | New Castle County | Killed | by husband David |
| Coroner | Patrick | Halliday | 08/11/1825 |  | At Poor House |  |  |  | New Castle County | Fall | aka Holladay, from window |

Also requested copy from archives of a map:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Collection** |   | Maps |
| **File Name** |   | II Wilmington, Pasture Street to Delaware River, Christiana River to Philadelphia Road |
| **Contents** |   | early street layout with illustrations of Academy, Poor House, Public Hall, and Brandywine Mills |
|  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Collection** |   | Audio / Visual |
| **RG** |   | 1540 |
| **Series** |   | 001 |
| **Date** |   | 1950's-1960's |
| **Format** |   | 16mm |
| **Title** |   | #16 Construction of Farnhurst interchange |
| **Time** |   | 6 minutes |
| **Producer** |   | DELDOT |

Movie at the archives of the construction of the Farnhurst interchange in the 1950-1960s.

Also available as a DVD

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Collection** |   | Audio / Visual |
| **RG** |   | 1540 |
| **Series** |   | 001 |
| **Date** |   | 1950's-1960's |
| **Format** |   | DVD |
| **Title** |   | Construction of Farnhurst interchange #16 |
| **Time** |   | 6 minutes |
| **Producer** |   | DELDOT |

Dedication of the Chapel:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Collection** |   | State Reports |
| **RG** |   | 1325 |
| **Series** |   | 147 |
| **File Name** |   | Delaware State Hospital, Farnhurst, Delaware 1889-1939, Dedication of the Hospital Chapel & 50th Anniv. of the Hospital, Sept. 28, 1939. 1939 |
| **Organization** |   | Health and Social Services |
| **Record Group** |   | 1500 |
| **Box Num** |   | 15 |