

INDIANA SOLDIERS' & SAILORS' ORPHANS HOME

1879 - 1963

The records of Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Orphans Home consist of:

Minutes	8 volumes	1879 - 1941
Record of patients	1 volume	1883 - 1884
Miscellaneous material	2 boxes	1885 - 1951
Applications for admission	1 box	1889 - 1896
Visitors register	2 volumes	1892 - 1941
Correspondence	3 boxes	1945 - 1963
History of School	1 volume	1865 - 1904
Our Home	1 volume	1923 - 1962

MINUTES 8 volumes 1879 - 1941

Minutes of Board of Trustees of the SSCH reflect the functions of the institution which was the care and education of children of honorably discharged servicemen destitute of means of support and education. The institution was to provide for maintenance, education, and social training of children under the age of 18. The minutes also reflect the role of the Board of Trustees which was to supervise the institution and all its affairs and adopt rules and regulations for the management of the institution. Included are also reports of Supervisor relating to condition and number of children, applications for admittance, financial matters, allowance of bills and requisitions, resignations of personnel, condition of institution, reports of various departments of the institution, Discharges of pupils and population statistics are also included in the minutes.

(1) Minute book: Asylum for feeble minded children

1 volume, April 2, 1876 to May 25, 1887. indexed alphabetically.

Only one volume is marked Asylum for Feeble Minded Children because in 1887 (Tuesday, May 17)) separation of soldiers orphans and feeble minded children took place, by removal of the asylum children to their temporary home at Richmond, Indiana. The rest of the volumes beginning with 1887 are marked Soldiers and Sailors Orphans Home.

Minute book: Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Orphans Home

1 volume, February 15, 1887 to October 27, 1893. p. 1-15 Acts of General Assembly. Pages 16-24 Burns, pages 25-573 used.

(2) Minute Book: Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Orphans Home

1 volume, December 1, 1893 to April 12, 1905. pages 1-471 used. p.472-478 blank.

Volume includes items in loose leaf form:

- a. Treasurer's report FY Sept. 30, 1919
- b. Descriptive alphabetical roll of children from September 30, 1911 to Sept. 30, 1912. [inf. given includes name, date of birth, county, date of discharge, reason for discharge, trade learned.]

- c. descriptive roll of children in Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Childrens' Home September 30, 1919. [information given includes name, date of birth, county, date of admission, name of father, company and regiment, name of mother.
 - d. Treasurer report for FY September 30, 1916.
 - e. List of per capita cost of . . .
- (3) Minute Book: ISSOH April 1905 - September 5, 1913
p. 469 - 480 blank.
- Volumes includes loose leaf items:
- a. June allowances, June 27, 1913
- (4) Minute Book: ISSOH September 1913 - November 1916
- (5) Minute Book: ISSOH November 1916 - March 1922
- (6) Minute Book: ISSOH April 1922 - July 1931
- (7) Minute Book: August 1931 - June 26, 1941
One item in loose leaf form: report of Board of Trustees to the Governor September 20, 1919.

RECORD OF PATIENT: Asylum Home for Feeble Minded Children.

1 volume July 1, 1883 - June 24, 1884 [thirty four out of 500 pages used]

Volume is a record of patients treated at the asylum and home. Information contained includes name of patient, disease, treatment and date.

MISCELLANEOUS MATERIAL 2 boxes 1885 - 1951

Boxes contain: annual reports, year books, various other reports, discharge index, special applications for admission, photographs, contracts for supplies, papers re: establishment of SSCH and other related material.

Box 1.

Annual reports 1885 - 1951 44 volumes (with gaps)

Retrospect: Year Books 1936 - 1942 7 volumes

Miscellaneous reports - papers

Discharge Index 1900 [alphabetically arranged in two drawers

A-L, M-Z [information given includes: names of pupil, date of birth, division, date of admittance and discharge, name of father, war.]

Catalogue 1865-1909 Contains names of officers and ex-students

Box 2.

Valuable papers re: establishment of Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans Home, 1866

Board of Trustees material 1913-1917

[bids, proposals, specifications, contracts and correspondence replacing the children in homes, etc.]

Photograph and stereoscopic cards of home, students, faculty

Various reports and papers:

1. proposals, contracts for supplies for SSCH, 1933-48
2. bids for material, equipment, goods, supplies, 1938-46

3. Forms of proposals to purchase live stock (calfs) 1950-1954
4. Agreements contract to drill wells of natural gas
 - 1893-1917 3 folders
 1. 1893-1895
 2. 1897-1899
 3. 1903-1917

Deeds 1866-1910

Bonds 1896-1934

Insurance matters 1909-1917

Description of land of ISSCH, reports of inspection, agreement for repairs, list of articles placed in corner stone of gymnasium 1911-1918

Forms of contracts between architect and owner and contractor, agreements on lease of lands, abstracts, blueprints...1880-1924

Lists of meetings of Board of SSCH and opinions concerning Acts of General Assembly. 1885-1911

Floor plans

Letters: case of Jones, letter for Mustard 1932

APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION FOR VARIOUS REASONS:

Adams, Betty Lou	Puckett, Naomi Edith
Alford	Rothwell, Frederick
Allen, Rose	Shriner
Barncastle	Shaw, Helen Louisa
Brown, John E.	Sheldon, Francis
Burton	Simpson
Carpenter, Ella W.	Stevens
Denny	Townsley, Oliver
Dunham	Vanduzen
Dunham, Josephine	Wilkinson
Everling, Bertha	Wilkinson
Fletcher, Cecil Clarence	Wilson
Garrett	
Gilbert, Orville	
Hornbright, Alton	
Harris	
Harris, Alma W.	
Harris, Betty	
Head	
Knowland, Ernest Edward	
Larrimer	
McGuire, Harry	
Matendt, Cora Mae	
Meredith	
Montgomery, Laura Ann	
Moore, Charles	
Nickel, Esther	
O'Bold	
Pease, Juanita	

Military discharges

Ground plans 1914

Inmates record [Childrens'] 1912-1921, 1928-1931 1 folder

Record contains the history of the children relating to their admission at the SSOH.

[Information given includes names of child and parents, date of admission and placement, to whom, date of indenture, date of birth and comments regarding their discharge.]

Included also are visiting list and list of correspondence.

APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSIONS TO THE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' ORPHANS' HOME, 1 c.f. box
1889-1899 arranged chronologically by year and alphabetically within the year.

Applications for admission are in printed form and contain information relating to applicant's personal data, his family, education and physical condition. The physician's certificate certifying the applicant is of sound mind and free of contagious diseases is included.

[forms are slightly different in the early years but basically contain same information.]

VISITORS' REGISTER 2 volumes 1892-1941

Volumes register date, name and residence of visitors to the ISSOH. Included are also lists of home-coming ex-students belonging to visiting committees of the G.A.R. and their affiliated societies.

Vol. 1: May 5, 1892 to July 8, 1929

Vol. 2: August 29, 1929 to December 11, 1941

CORRESPONDENCE OF SUPERINTENDENT of ISSCH. 1945 - 1963 3 c.f. boxes

Correspondence of Superintendent of the Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Childrens' Home was weeded extensively and only three boxes of 18 were kept. Correspondence pertains to the general and statutory functions of the institution which were to care and educate children of honorably discharged servicemen, destitute of means of support and education; and reflects the organizational structure and various activities concerning the children, the institution, the personnel. Correspondence with various organizations and individuals providing financial support, also with ex-students relating to their education and financial matters is included.

CORRESPONDENCE

INDIANA SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' CHILDRENS' HOME 1945-1963

Box. 1

Cortner Correspondence	1945	S
Cortner Correspondence	1945	T
Cortner Correspondence	1945	U.V.
Cortner Correspondence	1945	X.Y.Z.
Cortner Correspondence	1946	B
Cortner Correspondence	1946	C
Cortner Correspondence	1946	D
Cortner Correspondence	1946	E
Cortner Correspondence	1946	G
Cortner Correspondence	1946	H
Cortner Correspondence	1946	I
Cortner Correspondence	1946	J
Cortner Correspondence	1946	K
Cortner Correspondence	1946	M
Cortner Correspondence	1946	N, O, P
Cortner Correspondence	1946	S
Cortner Correspondence	1946	S, School
Cortner Correspondence	1946	T, Teachers
Cortner Correspondence	1946	U, V, W

Correspondence

Box 1, cont.

Cortner Correspondence 1947 A
 American Legion/misc. 2 folders 1947-48
 Chapel decoration 1947
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 C
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 D, E
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 F
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 G
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 H
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 I
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 K
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 L
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 M
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 N
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 O
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 P
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 R

J.M. Rotz Engineering Co. 1947

Cortner Correspondence, 1947 S
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 T
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 U, V.
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 W
 Cortner Correspondence, 1947 X, Y

Division of Public Works and Supply 1947 Special correspondence
 Annual Reports: Department of Public Welfare 1947, spec. correspondence
 Commencement 1947 special correspondence
 R.P. Freeman 1948 special correspondence
 L.J. Freehafer 1949 special correspondence
 State Board of Health 1948 special correspondence
 Division of Public Works 1948 special correspondence

Cortner correspondence, 1948 A
 Cortner correspondence American Legion 1948
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 B
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 C
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 D
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 E
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 F
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 G
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 H
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 I
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 J
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 K
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 L
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 M
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 N
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 P
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 R
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 S
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 T
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 U, V, Y, Z
 Cortner correspondence, 1948 W

Cortner Correspondence, 1949	A
Cortner Correspondence, recreation activities film 1949	
Cortner Correspondence, Employees retirement fund 1949	
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	B
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	C
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	D
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	E
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	G
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	H
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	I
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	K
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	L
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	M
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	N
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	P
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	Recreational Activities
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	S
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	T
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	W
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	X, Y, Z
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	Special occasions
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	Annual DPW report
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	Department of Public Welfare
Cortner Correspondence, State Board of Health 1949	
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	Homecoming
Cortner Correspondence, 1949	Christmas
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	Department of Public Works
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	Public Welfare, State Board of Health
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	Dr. Sam. T. Robbins
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	A
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	B
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	C
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	D
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	Girls new cottage
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	H
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	I
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	J
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	K
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	L
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	M
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	N
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	O, orders
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	P
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	R
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	S
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	T
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	U, V
Cortner Correspondence, 1950	W
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	Special Freehofer
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	Hospital
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	A
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	A

Correspondence
Box 1, cont.

Cortner Correspondence, 1951	C
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	Governor
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	Scoreboard
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	Graduation
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	H
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	I
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	M
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	N
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	P
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	R
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	S
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	T
Cortner Correspondence, 1951	W, Y
Cortner Correspondence, <u>1950</u>	Annual reports: Public Welfare

Correspondence
Box 2

Cortner Correspondence, 1952	Personal
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	Brown
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	New Hospital
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	New Hospital
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	New Hospital
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	New Hospital
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	C
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	D
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	E
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	F
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	G
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	Governor
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	H
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	I
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	J
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	K
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	L
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	M
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	P
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	R
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	S
Cortner Correspondence, 1952	W
Cortner Correspondence, 1953	A
Cortner Correspondence, 1953	C
Cortner Correspondence, 1953	D
Cortner Correspondence, 1953	E
Cortner Correspondence, 1953	F
Cortner Correspondence, 1953	H
Cortner Correspondence, 1953	J
Cortner Correspondence, 1953	K
Cortner Correspondence, 1953	M
Cortner Correspondence, 1953	P
Cortner Correspondence, 1953	T
Cortner Correspondence, <u>1952</u>	American Legion
Cortner Correspondence, <u>1953</u>	Personal

Correspondence
Box 2, cont.

Cortner Correspondence, 1954	A
Cortner Correspondence, 1954	B
Cortner Correspondence, 1954	C
Cortner Correspondence, 1954	Commencement
Cortner Correspondence, 1954	D
Cortner Correspondence, 1954	E
Cortner Correspondence, 1954	G
Cortner Correspondence, 1954	H
Cortner Correspondence, 1954	I
Cortner Correspondence, 1954	J
Cortner Correspondence, 1954	M
Cortner Correspondence, 1954	P
Cortner Correspondence, 1954	S
Cortner Correspondence, 1954	W
 Cortner Correspondence, 1955	 M. E. Lamb Estate
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	John Farrington
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	Teachers contracts
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	Personal
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	B
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	C
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	D, E
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	G
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	H
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	I
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	J
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	K
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	L
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	M
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	N
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	Q, P
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	S
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	T, V
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	W
Cortner Correspondence, 1955	Y
 Cortner Correspondence, 1956	 Personal
Cortner Correspondence, 1956	B
Cortner Correspondence, 1956	C
Cortner Correspondence, 1956	D
Cortner Correspondence, 1956	G
Cortner Correspondence, 1956	H
Cortner Correspondence, 1956	Industrial
Cortner Correspondence, 1956	I
Cortner Correspondence, 1956	J
Cortner Correspondence, 1956	M
Cortner Correspondence, 1956	P
Cortner Correspondence, 1956	S
Cortner Correspondence, 1956	W
 Cortner Correspondence, 1957	 Milk room repairs
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	Russell Rhodes
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	Personal
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	Purdue Veterinary

Correspondence
Box 2, cont.

Cortner Correspondence, 1957	A
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	Department of Public Welfare
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	B
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	C
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	D
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	E, F
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	G
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	H, I, J
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	K
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	L
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	M
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	N, O, P
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	R
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	S
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	T, V, W, X
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	Monthly reports from D.P.W.
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	G.A.R. day
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	Scholarship
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	Commencement
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	Christmas Parties
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	Boys State
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	D.P.W. annual reports 1957
Cortner Correspondence, 1957	Annual report

Cortner Correspondence, 1958	A
Cortner Correspondence, 1958	B
Cortner Correspondence, 1958	C
Cortner Correspondence, 1958	D, E
Cortner Correspondence, 1958	F, G
Cortner Correspondence, 1958	H
Cortner Correspondence, 1958	I
Cortner Correspondence, 1958	K, L
Cortner Correspondence, 1958	Personal
Cortner Correspondence, 1958	Commencement
Cortner Correspondence, 1958	Christmas parties
Cortner Correspondence, 1958	G.A.R.
Cortner Correspondence, 1958	Public Works and Supply
Cortner Correspondence, 1958	Scholarships
Cortner Correspondence, 1958	Director of Budget
Cortner Correspondence, 1958	Misc. Departments

Correspondence
Box 3, 1962-1963

Cortner Correspondence, 1963	Commencement
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	Governor
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	Personnel (2)
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	Knightstown Foundation
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	A
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	B, annual school reports - 1938-63
Cortner Correspondence, 1954-63	E
Cortner Correspondence, 1962-63	Christmas bills
Cortner Correspondence,	Swimming Pool
Cortner Correspondence	Swimming Pool (unofficial)
Cortner Correspondence	Swimming Pool (official)

Correspondence

Box 3 1962-63, cont.

Cortner Correspondence, 1963	Report of Advisory Visiting Committee
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	A
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	B
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	C
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	D
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	E
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	Ex-students (Brewer-Cortner)
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	F
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	G
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	H
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	I
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	J
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	K
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	L
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	M (2 folders)
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	N
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	O
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	P
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	S
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	T, W
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	V
Cortner Correspondence, 1963	School of Instruction
Cortner-Brewer Correspondence:	Swimming Pool Fund, 1963

HISTORY OF INDIANA SOLDIERS-SAILORS CHILDRENS HOME

Compiled by Paul C. Graham, 1905

OUR HOME

History of ISSCH 1923-1962, compiled by L.A. and D.R. Cortner, 1978

HISTORY OF THE INDIANA SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' CHILDREN'S HOME

In the summer of 1865 a meeting was called in the office of Indiana Governor Oliver P. Morton to make plans for the establishment of a home for disabled Civil War soldiers and sailors. A former military hospital in Indianapolis served temporarily as a home until a more suitable location could be found. Early in 1866 the "Knightstown Springs" in Rush County, with 54 acres of ground, including a hotel and other buildings, was purchased. Disabled veterans were housed in the hotel. A handful of soldiers' orphans were put up in a cottage across the road. In 1867, when private funding proved insufficient, the State of Indiana took over the facility. The Indiana Soldier's and Seamen's Home formally opened on June 15, 1867. Besides disabled soldiers and seamen, the law creating the Home provided that widows and orphans of veterans be admitted.

By 1872 orphans outnumbered disabled soldiers and sailors. When a fire that year destroyed the old hotel building, the disabled veterans were removed to the National Military Home at Dayton, Ohio. A separate facility, the Indiana State Soldiers' Home, was erected for disabled veterans and their widows at Lafayette, Indiana, in 1896.

From 1872 forward, the Knightstown home was solely a facility for children. It was renamed the Indiana Soldiers' Orphans' Home. From 1879 to 1887 the state's Asylum for Feeble-Minded Children was operated in conjunction with the Orphans' Home. The two institutions were separated in 1887 with the creation of the Indiana School for Feeble-Minded Youth at Fort Wayne. The Knightstown home was renamed the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home in 1887. The name changed again in 1929 to the Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's Home.

The Home's mission broadened during these years to include care and education of not only orphans of soldiers, but children of all Indiana veterans unable to provide for their support. The age limit for discharge from the Home was raised from 16 to 18 years in 1921-22. Enrollment reached a peak of 1,010 children in 1935. By that time the Home occupied 287 acres and had thirty buildings, including a hospital, a chapel, and separate cottages — called Divisions — for boys and girls.

The Home's first school opened in 1870, with separate departments for primary, intermediate, and higher education. Commencement exercises began in 1890. The first four-year high school class graduated in 1923. Morton Memorial High School was erected in 1927. Vocational training began in 1872 when the Industrial Department was established to offer chair caning. A separate Industrial Building was completed in 1888, housing courses in printing, carpentry, sewing, baking, and shoe making. The Home's dairy and farms provided agricultural training.

Military training has been an educational component for many years.

The Home's Alumni Association was organized in 1892 and remains active today. Notable graduates have included U.S. Army General Paul Mayo, entertainer Monte Blue, journalist Frederick McCormick, and pro football player Tim Brown.

In recent years the Home's mission has changed to include comprehensive care and education for a wide variety of "at-risk" Indiana youth. Both college preparatory and vocation education programs continue to be offered.



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's Home

Knightstown, IN 46148

THE FOLLOWING HARD BOUND BOOKS CONTAINING COPIES OF THE HOME JOURNAL HAVE BEEN LOANED TO THE INDIANA ARCHIVES FOR COPYING:

YEARS:

JANUARY 13, 1910 THRU DECEMBER 22, 1910

JANUARY 8, 1914 THRU DECEMBER 24, 1914

JANUARY 8, 1931 THRU DECEMBER 24, 1931

JANUARY 13, 1938 THRU DECEMBER 22, 1938

JANUARY 1940 THRU DECEMBER 1940

JANUARY 1941 THRU DECEMBER 1941

JANUARY 1948 THRU DECEMBER 1949

JANUARY 12, 1950 THRU DECEMBER 27, 1951

JANUARY 15, 1954 THRU DECEMBER 15, 1955

RECEIVED BY Alan F. January THIS 6TH DAY OF JUNE 2005

INDIANA ARCHIVES