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# Bracken County Infirmary

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## BRACKEN COUNTY INFIRMARY

The first Bracken County Infirmary was a log building which was located near Augusta on Turtle Creek.

In 1885 a new building was commenced which resulted in the present building which is a large brick structure containing about forty rooms. This building is loated at Chatham on a splendid tract of land containing 150 acres.

The stone for the basement and foundation was quarried and hauled from the Lloyd farm. The masonry is exceptionally well done and has withstood the ravages of time as only expert workmanship can do. The brick for the building was made on the ground and on the site from which the clay for the brick was taken a fine pond is to be found. Sugar tree logs were hauled from the Dick Taylor farm to fire the brick. The building was erected by a Mr. Wetmore from Ohio who brought most of his help with him. The building was completed within the year and was occupied February 3, 1886.

In 1918 the building was equipped with steam heat which added much to the comfort of the inmates and in 1928 it was still further modernized by the addition of a splendid water system and electric lights. The water system is supplied by three cisterns located in the Infirmary yard.

The first Superintendent was N. C. Doyle, and the present Superintendent is W. F. Pce, who will have served 19 years on Jan. 1, 1940. Much of the control is in the hands of two Commissioners, Mr. Geo. S. Taylor and Mr. Philip Lippert. Mr. Taylor, who has served for 19 years, is now the Receiver and Mr. Lippert, who has served for 14 years, is now the Clerk. All of these gentlemen have served their county well and the county is to be congratulated upon having citizens who have taken such an active interest in the affairs of the county.

Much of the food consumed by the inmates is produced on the farm. The farm has a fine herd of registered Hereford cattle and also has a nice herd of Jerseys for milk. Some of the Jersey cattle are registered. The average number of inmates is 22 but since the old age pension has been in effect the number of inmates has been reduced.