

Jackson Sanitarium

Shared by Michael W. Campbell.

Jackson Sanitarium (1900–1909)

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The Jackson Sanitarium was a privately owned Adventist health institution located at 106 First Street at Jackson, Michigan.

Missionary work began in the summer of 1899 when students participated in a Bible school tent and began a children's story hour program (similar to a Vacation Bible School).[1] The initiative was coordinated by E. A. Sutherland (1865-1955) and H. R. Salisbury (1870-1915) who, through support from the Michigan Conference, developed this interest into a Mission with headquarters at 245 E. Main Street. The purpose was to provide practical experience for ministerial students.[2] Dr. Andrew Jackson Harris (1861-1947) joined this effort the following winter, and he stayed on to help develop a sanitarium.

The new health institution opened in April 1900 as a private, self-supporting medical Mission. It was soon announced as a Branch of the Battle Creek Sanitarium located about 47 miles west. Under the direction of Dr. A. J. Harris and his wife, Dr. Clara E. Harris (1862-1929), who served as matron[3], and with support from J. G. Hanna, the health facility began work in the red brick building at 106 First Street. There were two suites of treatment rooms available on a "pay as you go" basis.[4] With an investment of only $500 by the Harrises, it attracted some of the elite from the Jackson community who spread the word about its healthful treatments and, by extension, reduced prejudice in the community toward Adventists.[5] Some local grocers began to stock health products from the Battle Creek Food Company.

The institution remained privately owned, and not much is known about this short-lived health institution, especially as the conflict with Dr. J. H. Kellogg developed with denominational leaders. Dr. H. F. Rand was listed as the physician with Dr. Andrew Jackson Harris as the manager/superintendent. The Harris family moved to Tennessee to assist with the Nashville Sanitarium about 1906. In 1909, the "small sanitarium" was listed for sale.[6]

Superintendents: A. J. Harris (1900-1906), Louis A. Kaun (1906-1909).

SOURCES

"Dr. A. J. Harris Rites Tomorrow." *The Tennessean*, January 30, 1947.

Strayer, Brian E. "Advent Waymarks in Jackson, Michigan, Part I," revised edition. Unpublished manuscript, 2012.

NOTES

1. Brian E. Strayer, "Advent Waymarks," unpublished manuscript, 2012, 35.

2. See under "1899" *ARH*, November 17, 1949, 2.

3. "Dr. A. J. Harris Rites Tomorrow," *The Tennessean*, January 30, 1947, 3.

4. Strayer, “Advent Waymarks,” 36.

5. Ibid.

6. See, sale listing, *ARH*, June 10, 1909, 23.

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