

**SMALL HOSPITALS: ESTABLISHMENT  
AND MAINTENANCE AND  
SUGGESTIONS FOR HOSPITAL  
ARCHITECTURE, WITH PLANS FOR A  
SMALL HOSPITAL**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649706549

Small Hospitals: Establishment and Maintenance and Suggestions for Hospital Architecture,  
with Plans for a Small Hospital by A. Worcester & William Atkinson

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**A. WORCESTER & WILLIAM ATKINSON**

**SMALL HOSPITALS: ESTABLISHMENT  
AND MAINTENANCE AND  
SUGGESTIONS FOR HOSPITAL  
ARCHITECTURE, WITH  
PLANS FOR A SMALL HOSPITAL**



# SMALL HOSPITALS.

ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE

BY

A. WORCESTER, A.M., M.D.

AND

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOSPITAL  
ARCHITECTURE.

WITH

*PLANS FOR A SMALL HOSPITAL.*

BY

WILLIAM ATKINSON, ARCHITECT.

SECOND THOUSAND

NEW YORK:

JOHN WILEY & SONS.

LONDON: CHAPMAN & HALL, LIMITED.

1909.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

SEP 22 1997

Frances Loeb Library  
Graduate School of Design

BK P8160

Garbe

Copyright, 1894.

BY

A. WORCESTER.

RA  
967  
.W67  
1909

The Scribner Press  
Robert Drummond and Company  
New York

## PREFACE.

---

MANY times within the last few years it has been my privilege to address audiences in neighboring communities where the hospital movement was under consideration, and to meet visiting committees who had come to study the methods and plans of the one hospital which I have had the pleasure of seeing grow from nothing into its present condition of usefulness. At such meetings the impossibility of even briefly telling the whole story has always been an embarrassment. And now in this attempt to tell it I have the pleasure of hoping to help others to the fruition of their endeavors.

This hope has been greatly enhanced by the addition of Mr. Atkinson's admirable description of the model hospital from the architectural standpoint.

A. W.

WALTHAM, MASS., June, 1894.

# CONTENTS.

---

## PART I.

### CHAPTER I.

	PAGE
The New Hospital Movement. Its Origin. Advantages of Small Hospitals to the Community . . . . .	1

### CHAPTER II.

How to Interest the Public. Preliminary Meetings. Selection of Committees . . . . .	12
--	----

### CHAPTER III.

Hospital Organization. The Corporation. The Board of Managers. By-laws. The Executive Committee . . . . .	21
--	----

### CHAPTER IV.

The Medical Question. Homœopathy and Allopathy. Possible Solution of the Difficulty. The Selection of the Staff. Charges for Professional Services to Hospital Patients . . . . .	29
--	----

### CHAPTER V.

The Nursing Service. Establishing a Training School. Selection of a Superintendent. Probationers and Student Nurses . . . . .	41
---	----



## CHAPTER VI.

	PAGE
The Temporary Hospital. Transformation of Dwelling-house. Temporary New Wards. Cottage Ward for Contagious Diseases. Furnishings. The Ambulance	53

## CHAPTER VII.

The Admission of Patients. Necessary Regulations	65
--	----

## CHAPTER VIII.

The Permanent Hospital Buildings. How to Plan and how to Build them	71
---	----

## CHAPTER IX.

Hospital Finances. Hospital Aid Associations. Hospital Sunday and Saturday Collections. Endowments. Free Beds. Public Appropriations	79
--	----

## PART II.

HOSPITAL ARCHITECTURE,	91
------------------------	----

# SMALL HOSPITALS.

---

## CHAPTER I.

### THE NEW HOSPITAL MOVEMENT.—ITS ORIGIN.— ADVANTAGES OF SMALL HOSPITALS TO THE COMMUNITY.

WITHIN the last few years small hospitals have been built in many of our larger towns and smaller cities, and where this is not already accomplished steps thereto have been taken. Indeed, so rapidly is the movement progressing that it seems as if even the smaller towns would soon be planning each to have its own hospital. It is a striking instance of our advancing civilization. Before the war there were hospitals only in the largest cities. During the war and the few following years these institutions, in spite of the existence of the great temporary hospitals, were frightfully overcrowded. It would seem natural, therefore, to find in those years the beginning of the popularity of the hospital movement. But it was not then. Although the army surgeons and hospital stewards carried back into their peaceful lives a knowledge of the worth of hospitals for the results of violence, they as yet saw no advantage in them to an ordinary community.

These men knew how to build and equip and carry on a hospital, but they did not know nor did any one know how to prevent the occurrence of hospital fever, or, in more exact words, the various forms of blood-poisoning. It is terrible now to recall the ravages even in late years of septicæmia, not only in hospitals, but in the homes of the rich as well as of the poor—terrible, because it was preventable. Words cannot be found in which to express the gratitude humanity owes to the discoverers of the vegetable origin of these diseases and of the methods of destroying these bacteria. It is here, in the discovery of the prevention of blood-poisoning, that we rightly find the beginning of the new hospital movement. No longer could it be said that any patient would be safer in his own home, even if on a mountain-top, than in the hospital. Indeed, so perfect has become the germ-defying *régime* of the modern hospital, that it can be truly said a patient is there less exposed to the danger of blood-poisoning than he would be in any private home.

The old disadvantage thus swept away, nothing was left to weigh against the manifold advantages which can be furnished to a community by a hospital. None were so quick to recognize this as the old army surgeons and hospital stewards. You will find them on every hospital staff and governing board, and on the committees of supply you will find women whose hands have rolled bandages and scraped lint in the dark days thirty years ago.

Not in one direction alone are we ever to seek for the cause of a general advance. Hospitals are everywhere springing up, not merely because their advantages were made so apparent in war times, nor only