

## Pennsylvania Hospital Teaching Unit

Philadelphia was colonial America's most populated city, and home to the nation's first chartered hospital, the Pennsylvania Hospital. Established in 1751 under the auspices of King George II, the Pennsylvania Hospital served the Philadelphia region through major outbreaks, including the 1793 Yellow Fever Epidemic, as well as every military conflict beginning with the French and Indian War, while adding many medical firsts to its resume.

The following lesson will aid students in the evolution of health care in the new nation.

### Lesson 2

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***Speed ahead 42 years after the founding of the hospital...***

Essential Question: **How does the Yellow Fever Epidemic impact the hospital?**

#### **Goals:**

1. Students will examine Annual Accounts of 1793 Pennsylvania Hospital Board Records immediately before the Yellow Fever outbreak and during the medical crisis.
2. Students will learn how the Pennsylvania Hospital address the epidemic.
3. By examining board records students will also learn about daily late 18 century life.

**Hook:** Show the drawing below to students. Ask them to hypothesize what happened to the boy?(Example work accident, no child labor laws, or compulsory education) Ask students to hypothesize why this drawing was included in Manager of Board Minutes introducing 1793 year's minutes and notes. (Demonstrates important work of

child's

Yellow

**Share below**

What was

their What

list?



hospital, an amputation of leg)  
Examine of Primary Resources Before Fever

**DOCUMENT 1: PATIENT LIST**  
**the documents with students.**

class of patient the hospital designed to admit? What were illnesses?

are your students impressions or reactions to this  
See patient list

below on two pages.

Note: Explain to students that this page originally included three patients listed as "lunatic". The patients' names had to be removed as required by Pennsylvania State Law which prohibits the public viewing of mental health records regardless of time period.

A handwritten medical record book page with four columns: Admitted, Names, DISEASES, and discharged or remains. The entries are as follows:

Admitted	Names	DISEASES	discharged or remains
1782 22	Mary Whannen	General	pay remains
16	William Harrington	Amoical	pay cured 12.19.1792
23	John Wilcox	sore leg	poor cured 1.24.1793
1782 1	Francis de Costa	fever	pay relieved 12.8.1792
	Natrick Fleming	swelling in hips	pay cured 1.23.1793
2	David Whitten	fractured leg	poor cured 5.6.1793
3	John Sacman (Mary) Fluorid		pay cured 12.26.1792
	George Lourey	swollen shins	poor pay cured 1.29.1793
5	Le Espérance (black fever)		pay cured 1.20.1793
6	John Lewis	general	pay remains
	John Druen (mad)	sore knee	poor cured 12.29.1792

	Joseph C. Blund	venereal	poor	cured	3.30.1773
22	Nicholas Budden	rheumatism	poor	cured	4.17.1773
25	Thomas Burgejs	sores leg	poor	cured	3.6.1773
	Alexander Smith	rheumatism	poor	revised	4.10.1773
23.1.1	Daniel Wakefield	fiistula	poor	remains	
6	George Myers	inflam? fever	poor	cured	4.19.1773
	William Morrow	dalle	poor	cured	3.2.1773
	Joseph or Joseph Kahl	Dyphus	poor	cured	3.30.1773
7	Ellin W. Stevine	fractured leg	poor	cured	3.30.1773
9	James Williams	Cough & Fever	poor	cured	3.23.1773
10	Shavauntage	Black inflammatory fever	poor	remains	

## DOCUMENT 2: COMMON HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES

### Share document with students

What can you learn about life in the late 18th century from this list? Look at the different budget sections: Common Household Expenses, Repairs, Wages, Furniture, Apothecary Shop, Medical Library.

We have also examined the monthly accounts of Joseph Henzley

Common Household Expenses			
2346 1/2 lb. Beef, mutton, and pork		2205	
1297 lb. of meat, upon the table, and consumed in the house	1297	2205	2711 1/2 1/2
176 2/3 1/2 lb. of fish and poultry			62 1/2 1/2
113 1/2 lb. of bread, and baking			11 1/2 1/2 1/2
100 1/2 lb. of butter, and lard			265 1/2 1/2
175 lb. of wine, and consumed in the house	175		16 1/2 1/2 1/2
128 1/2 lb. of cheese			56 1/2 1/2

### DOCUMENT 3: INCIDENTAL EXPENSES

Share document with students

What sort of "incidental expenses" do you find? What can you infer from these expenses?

DEBITS and CREDITS

*Incidental Expenses* from 1837-1857

General Charge		1837-1857
Boarding of Patients	18-7-6	
Board Charge, Glasgow fee, for receiving from Quarantine to the poor	28-15-7 1/2	
Bed, table, and Manure	8-6-7	
Wine & Beer	10-15-4	
Wages of different kinds	187-11	
	6-1-3	
	62-2-2 1/2	
Balance due from Joseph Henry of London	2,584-0-1 1/2	
	10-7-5	
	2,664-10-1 1/2	
<i>Received this year</i>		
by the balance due the hospital from the steward June 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1792	18-1-6	
by cash for the Managers salary on the 1 <sup>st</sup> of August	220-0-0	
by sale for the board of poor Patients	754-6-2 1/2	
by sale of students for the Privilege of attending the Practice of the Hospital and use of the Library	185-0-6	
by sale for Certificates, and Catalogues	2-0-0	
by sale for attending Dr. Shippens lectures	2-5-0	
by sale for repairing the Furnings and Castings	1-2-6	168-13-4
by the following articles raised on the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> in the house, measured and charged as follows viz		
2000 Scales of Salt	25-4-4	
2500 Butter	24-8-4	
10 Tons Hay	65-0-0	
2000 lb wood	71-12-6	244-15-8
by goods sold	2-0-6 1/2	
by general charge repair	10-0-0	
by cash account for clothing destroyed	5-8-0	
by sale of horse and cart	2-0-0	
by the Managers fine account	6-11-8	
by cash from the 1 <sup>st</sup> and hospital box	25-4-2 1/2	
	112-12-0 1/2	

### Examine Primary Resource During Yellow Fever Epidemic

The Fever Epidemic started in June.

However, explain to your students that the hospital records do not discuss the Yellow Fever Epidemic until

August of 1793. Below is a transcription of the first entry. Have students read and make observations. (Example; an emergency meeting took

place in a home not the hospital. See teacher notes after document)

8 mo: 28th: 1793

At a meeting of the managers, held at the house of Samuel Coates, especially called to consider the cases of two patients, lately admitted into the hospital; and what is proper, on the occasion to be done.

Present Josiah Lewis	Lawrence Sickle	Wm. McMurtrie
Bartholomew Wistar	Samuel Clark	Cornelius Barnes
Joseph Paschall	Owen Jones Jr.	Samuel Coates

The Board, having reason to believe from information given to them, that two men have been lately admitted into the hospital, as proper persons in the opinion of Dr. Faulke, who were infected with a putrid and malignant fever, which now prevails in the city- one of whom (a negro) died the morning after he came in; and the other named Curriere, is supposed to be, in the last stage of the Yellow Fever; from which, there is great reason to fear the spreading there of, to the danger of the other patients in the house; as well as others communicating therewith; it is therefore, the unanimous opinion of the managers, that Dr. Faulke be requested, immediately to visit the said patient; & to do everything in his power to prevent the increase of his disorder, in the family.

The Managers being further concerned to support the reputation of the house\*(**See note to teacher below**) do agree unanimously to recommend to every physician, to be, in a very particular manner, careful, to examine strictly into the state of all persons who apply for admission, and especially such as are affected with fevers, before they give a certificate of their being proper patients; it being a justice they owe, at all times to the public, to be careful; and in particular at such a season as the present; when many are known to be dying daily of infectious disorders to prevent as much as possible the introduction of improper patients into the hospital, to endanger the lives of a large number of people\*\*who are avoidably confined therein; or of those who are lead in the line of their duty, or from motives of affection to visit the same.

### Notes to Teacher

Remind students to review Rules Agreed to by the Mangers of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the admission and discharge of patients 1752

This document will remind students who were considered acceptable patients and why. (This is an example of how the 18th century view of Yellow Fever as a contagious disease influenced hospital policy.)

\*The Managers of the Pennsylvania Hospital were concerned with the reputation of the hospital and did not want patients to be afraid to come to the hospital if they needed care.

\*\*Explain to your students that In the original document the word "patient" is crossed out in favor of the word "people". Ask your students why they believe the distinction was important? (People includes patients, staff and visitors)

Ask your students if they have any hypotheses as to why evidence of Yellow Fever is first recorded so late in August, when the epidemic started in June?

**Closure: Ticket Out the Door or Exit Slip**

At the very end of the lesson ask students to answer this prompt on an index card:(this can be done in pairs so each pair can generate many ideas)

From today's document study what did you learn about 18th century life?

List as many ideas as you like.

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