

Samar cand Manor ^[1]

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Samar cand Manor

by Julian M. Pleasants, 2006

See also: [Samar cand](#) ^[2] (Research Branch, NCO&H)



Samar cand Building, 1926. Image courtesy of State Archives of North Carolina, call #: N_98_9_187.

[Samar cand Manor](#) ^[3], officially the [State Home and Industrial School for Girls](#) ^[4], was a humane correctional institution for young women established near Eagle Springs by the North Carolina state legislature in 1918. The purpose of the school was to reclaim and train delinquent girls by providing a "homelike place where those who have fallen may find temporary shelter, and under a firm yet kind discipline, begin to live morally." The school, built on 230 acres in Samar cand (named for the Muslim city conquered by [Alexander the Great](#) ^[5] that served as his empire's seat of learning and culture), was one of the first institutions of its type in the South. The original clients were young girls or women who had been convicted of being prostitutes, vagrants, or habitual drunkards or who were guilty of any misdemeanor suggesting that they were "not virtuous." There were no definite terms, but the clients could not be held more than three years and were to be released on good behavior.



"Our Three Youngest." Image courtesy of State Archives of North Carolina, call#: N_98_9_189.

Agnes B. MacNaughton became Samar cand's first superintendent, and by 1919 more than 200 women between the ages of 10 and 30 had arrived. In the 1920s the daily program emphasized Bible study, manners, cleanliness, music, nature, and sports in addition to the regular academic subjects. The girls also received vocational training in sewing, weaving, canning, laundry work, and poultry and dairying activities. The program stressed self-reliance and pride in one's work. Between 1928 and 1930 a total of 296 girls were admitted, most between the ages of 12 and 16. By 1930 Samar cand had a hospital and an accredited high school.

In 1931, 16 Samar cand inmates set fire to two dorms and were charged with arson, then a capital crime. While awaiting trial, the girls burned their jail cells. Eight of the 12 involved were eventually sent to prison. Samar cand survived this notorious 1931 incident and other difficulties but was unable to withstand the financial strains of the [Great Depression](#) ^[6] and the siphoning off of staff during [World War II](#) ^[7]. In 1974 the state changed the name of the institution to Samar cand Manor and placed it under the purview of the [North Carolina Department of Human Resources](#) ^[8], [Youth Division](#) ^[9]. Samar cand became one of five state training schools designed to rehabilitate delinquent children (both male and female) between the ages of 10 and 17. The school shifted its emphasis to treatment and therapy. In the early 2000s Samar cand had approximately 190 clients (40 females and 150 males) and 210 staff members.



"Playtime, children on the wagon." Image courtesy of State Archives of North Carolina,

References: call #: N_98_9_188.

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Additional Resources:

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[Samarcond Manor. GoogleMaps.](#) ^[11]

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Subjects:

[N.C. Industrial Revolution \(1900-1929\)](#) ^[15]

[Education](#) ^[16]

[UNC Press](#) ^[17]

[Women](#) ^[18]

Authors:

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Origin - location:

[Moore County](#) ^[20]

From:

[Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press.](#) ^[21]

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[4] <https://www.ncdcr.gov/about/history/division-historical-resources/nc-highway-historical-marker-program/Markers.aspx?MarkerId=K-34>

[5] <http://www.biography.com/people/alexander-the-great-9180468>

[6] <https://www.ncpedia.org/history/20th-Century/great-depression>

[7] <https://www.ncpedia.org/world-war-ii>

[8] <https://www.ncpedia.org/health-and-human-services>

[9] <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/childrenand youth/index.htm>

[10] <http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/ref/collection/p16062coll9/id/4894>

[11] <https://maps.google.com/maps?oe=utf-8&client=firefox-a&ie=UTF-8&q=samarcond+manor&fb=1&gl=us&hq=samarcond+manor&cid=0,17102285535812962463&ei=vw9zUOaACIP28gTmloCYCQ&ved=0ClgBEPwSMAM>

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[13] <https://www.worldcat.org/oclc/812408369>

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