

# Hospital

Onslow County's first hospital, constructed in 1944 by the Federal Emergency Administration, became County property in 1946 after negotiations settled on a purchase price of \$45,000. Onslow County Hospital, Inc., led by a board of directors appointed by the County Commissioners, oversaw the hospital until 1951. In May of that year the County Commissioners voted to dissolve Onslow County Hospital, Inc. and assume ownership of all property belonging to the organization. Just three years later voters approved a \$250,000 bond initiative to help pay for additions and remodeling of the hospital. These additions included a nurses home and health center, which housed the Onslow County Health Department. In the late 1960s the county's growing population again caused a push to enlarge the hospital and construction began on Western Boulevard, which was officially dedicated in 1974.



1950s daily news

The 1954 additions to the hospital included a two story building shown here. This second story plus an additional wing increased capacity to 75 beds in the hospital.



OCM Collection

Facilities in the hospital located on college street were considered state of the art when first constructed. By the late 1960s technological advancements saw new equipment in the new facility.

The staff of the first hospital in Onslow County, ca. 1948. Notice the segregation of the staff for the picture. Segregation affected all aspects of life, even in the medical field.



OCM Collection



A primary concern of Onslow Citizens in building new hospitals has always been the number of beds available. From 40 beds in the first hospital, to 162 today, rising population has continued to expand the hospital's footprint.



OCM Collection

The current hospital, built in the 1970s, drummed up support for its construction through promotional brochures that touted double the beds and more modern care.



Promotional Brochure 1970