

1920 United States Federal Census - The Inmates Of Willard

In 1920, the Enumerator for Willard State Hospital was C. L. Swarthout. The Superintendent of the Hospital was Dr. R. M. Elliott. Under the heading, "Relationship of this person to the head of the family," the patients of Willard were all listed as "inmates." On the original census, under "Color or Race," Mr. Swarthout decided to use "Ne" for Negro instead of "B" for Black (I recorded "B" for Black). "Citizenship" in many cases, was unknown so I did not include this information on the spreadsheet. "Person Place of Birth, Father Place of Birth, and Mother Place of Birth," were all filled in but in many cases, Mr. Swarthout wrote "unknown" and then went back over his original answer and wrote in a country or state, which leads me to believe that he did not know the correct answer. It would have been better if he had just left the answer as "unknown." This error makes this particular set of answers incorrect and unreliable. The headings, "Tenure: Home owned or rented and If owned, free of mortgage" was left blank by the enumerator. Under the heading "Education" it asked the following questions: "Able to read and Able to write." These answers were marked: "Y" for Yes, "N" for No, and "U" for Unknown. "Able to speak English" was a question listed under "Occupation" and was also marked: "Y" for Yes, "N" for No, and "U" for Unknown. "Trade, profession or particular kind of work done" was marked with the jobs that the inmates were assigned while incarcerated at Willard. For some unknown reason, on January 24, 1920, beginning on page 20A Ovid, Mr. Swarthout started writing "Idle" in the column instead of "None," which is incorrect according to the Instructions to Enumerators. The instructions to enumerators in 1920 were numerous, so you can understand why Mr. Swarthout may have been confused.

This census was taken at Willard State Hospital, which is located in the Towns of Ovid and Romulus, Seneca County, New York, January 12th through 31st, 1920, and consisted of fifty completed census pages; 26 from Ovid, and 24 from Romulus.

Total Males & Females for 1920: 2,462

Total Males: 1,202

White: 1165

Black: 37

Mulatto: 0

Single: 855

Total Females: 1,260

White: 1209

Black: 43

Mulatto: 8

Single: 627

The Inmates of Willard 1870 to 1900

Married: 259

Widowed: 154

Divorced: 14

Status Unknown: 20

Married: 477

Widowed: 146

Divorced: 5

Status Unknown: 5