



Lake View Sanatorium

BY 1930, DANE COUNTY DESPERATELY NEEDED A PUBLIC SANATORIUM FOR TREATING TUBERCULOSIS. Morningside, a small private facility in Monona, offered limited care. Lake View was built in 1930 on a hilltop location for fresh air and quarantine. Landscaped grounds with paths gave patients the chance to walk and exercise. Lake View sanatorium became a model facility.



The high land on which the Sanatorium stands not only provides the best atmospheric conditions available, but presents a beautiful view, almost unsurpassed in the state of Wisconsin.
— Lake View Sanatorium, *Tenth Annual Report, 1939-1940*

Besides its 150 beds for long-term patients, Lake View screened county residents for tuberculosis, administered home health care, and provided community outreach. AFTER THE DEVELOPMENT OF ANTIBIOTICS IN THE 1940s, FEWER PEOPLE NEEDED LAKE VIEW. The sanatorium closed in 1966.

- Once antibiotics began curing TB, Lake View gradually became a facility for preventative care.
- Patient numbers declined: 95 of 140 beds were used in 1953, and only 60 beds in 1956.
- Anterooms called “germ traps” protected Lake View doctors and nurses from infection.

IMAGE CREDITS *Left* Andy Zuhlke. *Center* Kerry G. Hill. *Right* Wisconsin Historical Society WHS-35103.



Views from the great lawn took in Lake Mendota and the isthmus.



In 1929, the sanatorium and grounds were carved from woodland, farm fields, and pasture on Madison’s outskirts.