Lincoln County Hospital

Lincoln County Hospital was established by "a meeting of Nobility, Gentry and Clergy of the County of Lincoln" in September 1768 which resolved:

1. "That an [sic] Hospital for the Reception of the sick and sane Poor of this county will be of Publick Utility"
2. "That Lincoln is the most proper place in the County for that Purpose"
3. "That a Committee … be desired … to prepare Rules and Orders for the Government of such Hospital".

The Hospital opened in a leased house in St Swithin's parish in November 1769.

The first minute book of the Board of Governors of Lincoln County Hospital, 1768-1791.

The leased house was replaced by a purpose-built hospital on Drury Lane which opened in 1777.

Photograph of the Old County Hospital, Drury Lane, from Thomas Sympsom’s 'A Short Account of the Old and of the New Lincoln County Hospitals', 1878.
Sale particulars for the Old County Hospital, Drury Lane, 1879.

Note that this plan pre-dates the construction of Wordsworth Street, which was constructed on the land then belonging to "The Trustees of Frances Amelia Mullins".

The Drury Lane premises remained in use for a hundred years until the construction of the Sewell Road hospital. (The old County Hospital subsequently became the premises of the Lincoln Theological College and was later re-named 'Chad Varah House' in honour of the founder of the Samaritans, who had studied there.)

The first part of the present Hospital site, on Sewell Road, was purchased in 1875, and the new Hospital was opened in 1878.
The Hospital was transferred from the original Board of Management to the National Health Service in 1948 and has continued to expand along Greetwell Road.

*Ministry of Health pamphlet: 'A National Health Service', 1944.*

*Recruitment pamphlet: 'Nursing at Lincoln County Hospital', late 1940s.*

Document references:
1. HOSP/Lincoln/1
2. R. Box L.LINC.362.1SYM
3. Padley/3/421
4. R. Box L.LINC.362.1SYM
5. Misc Don 1136/9
6. Misc Don 1136/8