Guide to Catholic-Related Records in the Midwest about Native Americans
See User Guide for help on interpreting entries

Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph
MISSOURI, CONCEPTION

Benedictines, Conception Abbey Archives
P.O. Box 501
Conception, Missouri 64433
Phone 660-944-2821
http://www.conceptionabbey.org/

Hours: By appointment only
Access: Some restrictions apply
Copying facilities: Yes

History: Founded in 1873, Benedictines from Conception Abbey administered the following missions and parishes among the Hunkpapa Indians on the Standing Rock Reservation:

1879-present St. Peter Church, Fort Yates, North Dakota
1880-1971 (closed) Assumption/ St. Benedict Church, Kenel, South Dakota
1887-present St. Bede Mission, Wakpala, South Dakota
1890-present St. Aloysius Mission, Bullhead, South Dakota
1890-present St. Elizabeth Mission, Cannonball, North Dakota
1896-1950 (closed) St. Edward Mission, Mad Bear's Camp, South Dakota
1896-present St. James Mission, Porcupine, North Dakota
1913-1970 (closed) St. Ambrose Mission, Black Horse, South Dakota
1916-1971 (closed) Sacred Heart Mission, Little Eagle, South Dakota
1920-1937 (closed) St. Bernard Mission, Red Cedar, North Dakota
1920-1950 (closed) Our Lady of Perpetual Help Mission, La Compte, South Dakota

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1873-present, n.d.

Volume: 2.3 cubic feet and 3 reels microfilm

Description: 4 series include Native Catholic records, which excluding photographs and publications, were microfilmed in 1982 by Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

/1 "B-Journals"
Volume: .8 cubic foot
Description:
A. Abbot Frowin Conrad, O.S.B., "Diary," 1873-1920, 4 volumes: include occasional references to Indian mission and school activities
B. Reverend Othmar Buerkler, "Diary," 1920-1966, 4 notebooks: include occasional references to Indian mission activities
C. Samples of Indian students' work, e.g., artwork, essays, maps, math, sewing, and penmanship, 1893-1894, 1896, n.d., 9 volumes
D. Photograph album, n.d. (bulk ca. 1890-1910), 126 prints: primarily Indian children at Standing Rock Reservation mission schools

/2 "C-Pictures"
Inclusive dates: 1885-1965 (bulk 1885-1920)
Volume: 328 photographs
Description: Primarily people and buildings on the Standing Rock Reservation, including portraits of a number of Indians by commercial photographers, such as S.J. Fansler, Frank B. Fiske, and D.E. Miller.

/3 "D-II-Parishes, Missions, and Chaplaincies"
Volume: .9 cubic foot
Description: Correspondence arranged alphabetically by location of the mission or parish.
A. "Cannonball, St. Elizabeth’s," 1907, 1 folder
B. "Elbowoods, Sacred Heart," 1910, n.d., 1 folder
E. "McLauahlin, St. Bernard’s," 1918-1921, 1923, 1937, 1940, 1972, 1 folder
G. "Shields, St. James," 1911-1912, 1 folder
H. "Stephan, Immaculate Conception," 1897, 1916, 1 folder: includes drawings by Indian students

/4 "G-Publications"
Inclusive dates: 1905-present
Volume: .1 cubic foot
Description: 3 publications of Conception Abbey with occasional articles on or references to American Indians and Catholic evangelization.
A. The Morning Star, 1905-1926, and intermittently to 1952
B. Tower Topics, 1954-present
C. Inter Nos, 1959-1976