Guide to Catholic-Related Records in the Midwest about Native Americans

See User Guide for help on interpreting entries

Archdiocese of St. Louis
MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas,
Regional Community of St. Louis Archives

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

The Sisters of Mercy of Oklahoma, an independent congregation, joined the Sisters of Mercy of the Union in 1929 and was assigned to the St. Louis Province. In 1991, the Sisters of Mercy formed the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas and the St. Louis Province was transformed into the St. Louis Regional Community. During the mid-1990s, the archival records of Mount St. Mary’s Convent, Oklahoma City, were transferred to the St. Louis Regional Archives, St. Louis, Missouri. In 2008, the St. Louis Regional Community merged with several Eastern communities and became the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas – South Central Community. The St. Louis Regional Archives will remain in St. Louis for an undetermined length of time.

History of Mount St. Mary’s Convent, Oklahoma City

Mount St. Mary’s Convent closed. However, the Sisters of Mercy at Mount St. Mary’s Convent, Oklahoma City, taught at the following Catholic schools serving American Indian students:

1884-1946 (closed) St. Mary Academy (various), Sacred Heart, Oklahoma
1898-ca. 1932 (no longer Indian) St. Agnes Academy (various), Ardmore, Oklahoma

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1884-1946, n.d.

Volume: 3.2 cubic feet
Description: The records of Mount St. Mary's Convent are not organized according to a classification scheme. However, except for the photographs, the records have been rough-sorted by school and thereunder by type of record.

A. St. Mary Academy, Sacred Heart, 1884-1946, n.d., 2.8 cubic feet:
2. Student records, 1899-1944, 1.5 cubic feet: prominent types of school records include permanent report cards, which typically list name, birth date, parents' names, residence, dates when entered and left school, attendance, and grades; attendance and grade books; enrollment books; and quarterly attendance reports submitted to the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
3. Financial records, 1894-1946, 1 cubic foot: include cash and daybooks, general ledgers, student account books, and monthly and quarterly financial reports to the Province of St. Louis, Sisters of Mercy.
5. Indian Advocate, 1904-1907, .1 cubic foot: publication of Sacred Heart Mission.

B. St. Agnes Academy, Ardmore, 1898-1930s, n.d., .4 cubic foot:
1. Correspondence, 1900-1933, 148 letters: major correspondents include Sisters M. Thomas Otis, S.M. and M. William Cody, S.M. and Mothers Mary Catherine Troy, S.M. and Aloysius Lonnergan, S.M., the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions.
3. Financial records, 1898-1901, 1925-1927, .1 cubic foot: includes a daybook and listing of tuition fees due for each student.