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

Archdiocese of Seattle
WASHINGTON, SEATTLE

Archdiocese of Seattle Archives
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http://www.seattlearch.org/ArchdioceseWorking/ArchivesandRecords/

Hours: By appointment only, Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00
Access: Some restrictions apply
Copying facilities: Yes

History: The Diocese of Nesqually was erected in 1850 from portions of the Diocese of Walla Walla and the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon for present-day western Washington State excluding the eastern shore of Puget Sound. The diocese was expanded in 1853 to include all of Washington State, northern Idaho, and Montana west of Helena. It was limited to Washington in 1868, renamed Seattle in 1907, and elevated to an archdiocese in 1951. Statewide Seattle reported 2,900 baptized Native American Catholics in 1900 and in 1999 the Seattle, Spokane, and Yakima dioceses reported 7,800, 3,000, and 1,000 respectively. Seattle and its predecessors have administered the following Indian missions, parishes, and schools in Washington State:

1838-1906 (no longer Indian)
St. Francis Xavier Mission (Cowlitz), Toledo/ Cowlitz Prairie

1847-1852 (closed) (Seattle, 1848-1852)
St. Anne Mission (Cayuse), Wallula

1847-1856 (closed) (Seattle, 1848-1913)
St. Rose Mission (Yakama), Yakima River

1847-1856 (closed), 1867-present (Seattle, 1848-1913)
St. Joseph/ Ahtanum Mission (Yakama), Yakima/ Yakima River

1848-1883 (Seattle, 1848-1913)
St. Paul Mission (Chelan, Entiat, Methow, Nespelem, Nez Perce, Okanogan, Pa-loos, Sanpoil, Senijextee, and Wenatchi), Kettle Falls

1840s-1880s (no longer Indian) (Seattle, 1848-1880s)
Immaculate Conception Church (Puyallup), Steilacoom

1852-1920s? (no longer Indian) (Seattle, 1852-1913)
Immaculate Conception Church (Chelan, Entiat, Methow, Nespelem, Nez Perce, Okanogan, Pa-loos, Sanpoil, Senijextee, and Wenatchi), Colville

1857-1966 (closed)
Providence Academy (Métis and others), Vancouver/ Port Vancouver

1858-1860 (closed)
St. Joseph Mission (Clallam and Skagit?), Puget Sound
1852-1904 (closed) (Seattle, 1864-1904)  Spokane Chapel/ Mission (Spokan), Spokane
1864-1876 (no longer Indian)  St. Francis Xavier Day School (Cowlitz)  Toledo/ Cowlitz Prairie
1864-present  St. Anne Church (Tulalip), Tulalip, Tulalip Reservation
1865-present  St. Joachim Mission (Lummi), Bellingham, Lummi Reservation
1866-1878 (closed)  St. Anne Mission School for Boys (Tulalip), Tulalip, Tulalip Reservation
1867-present  St. Paul Church (Swinomish), La Conner
1868-1901 (transferred to U.S. Government)  Providence of Our Lady of Seven Dolors School (Tulalip), Tulalip, Tulalip Reservation
1873-1921 (Seattle, 1873-1913)  Providence of the Sacred Heart School (Chelan, Entiat, Methow, Nespelim, Nez Perce, Okanogan, Paloos, Sanpoil, Senijexetee, and Wenatchi), Colville Agency/ Fort Colville, Colville Reservation
1875-present (Seattle, 1875-1913)  St. Joseph School/ Academy (Yakama), Yakima
1875-1929 (closed)  St. John the Baptist Church (Puyallup), Puyallup
1881-ca. 1925 (closed)  St. Ambrose Mission (Clallam), Port Gamble
1882-present (Seattle, 1882-1913)  St. Mary Mission (Yakama), White Swan, Yakima Reservation
1888-1936 (closed)  St. George Mission and School (Lummi, Nisqually, Puyallup, and others), Tacoma
1904-present  St. Peter Mission (Suquamish), Suquamish, Port Madison Reservation
1906-1909 (closed?)  Puyallup School (Puyallup), Puyallup Reservation
1938-1980 (no longer Indian)  Queen of Angels Church (Makah), Port Angeles

History of St. George Mission and School

1888-1936 (closed)  Reverend Peter F. Hylebos (St. Leo Church, Tacoma) established, and diocesan priests administered St. George Mission and School (Lummi, Nisqually, Puyallup, and others), Tacoma
1915-1931  Sisters of St. Francis (Glenriddle, Pennsylvania) staffed St. George School

Priests from St. George attended the following Indian missions and stations among the Lummi, Nisqually, and Puyallup Indians:

1888-1936 (closed)  St. John the Baptist Mission, Puyallup Reservation
1906-1936 (closed)  St. Clare Mission, Muckleshoot Reservation
1906-1936 (closed)  Mudpay Reservation station
1906-1936 (closed)  Nesqually Reservation station
Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1846-present

Volume: Approximately 2 cubic feet presumed

Description: The records of the Archdiocese of Seattle Archives were unprocessed and closed during this survey in 2005-2006. Therefore, the records are described by type and are not arranged according to a classification scheme.

A. Arch/bishops’ papers
Inclusive dates: ca. 1850-present
Volume: Less than 1 cubic foot presumed
Description: Few items/bishop presumed.
1. Bishop Augustin Magloire Alexandre Blanchet (1797-1887), ca. 1850-1879
2. Bishop Egidius Junger (1833-1895), ca. 1879-1895

B. Sacramental Records
Inclusive dates: 1850s-present
Volume: Several volumes and/or reels of microfilm presumed, at least in part
Description: Arranged alphabetically by place and there under by parish name; includes Indian and non-Indian parishes with attended Indian missions and/or a few Indian parishioners. Dates are approximate.
1. Bellingham, Church of the Assumption, 1891-1903
2. Bellingham, Lummi Reservation, St. Joachim Church, 1865-present
3. Cowlitz, St. Francis Xavier Mission, 1895-1906; no longer Indian by 1906
4. Port Vancouver, 1850s
5. La Conner, Sacred Heart Church, 1893-1912, 1918-1970
6. La Conner, St. Paul Church, 1992-present
7. Ferndale, St. Joseph Church, 1904-present
8. Marysville, St. Mary Church, 1905-present
9. Port Angeles, Queen of Angels Church, 1938-1980; no longer Indian by 1980
10. Port Townsend, St. Mary of the Sea Church, 1881-1887?
11. Poulsbo, St. Olaf Church, 1968-present
12. Puyallup, St. John the Baptist Mission, 1875-1929
13. Seattle, Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church, 1990s-present; includes a few Indians
14. Steilacoom, Immaculate Conception Church, 1840s-1880s?
15. Tacoma, St. Leo Church, 1884-1919; includes a few Indians
C. Parish Files
Inclusive dates: ca. 1900-present
Volume: Approximately 1 cubic foot presumed
Description: Presumably arranged alphabetically by place and there under by name of Indian or non-Indian parish, which typically included any attended Indian missions and stations. Most files include 1-5 folders and contain annual reports, clippings, correspondence, deeds, histories, notes, and photographs.
1. La Conner, Sacred Heart Church, 1893-1912, 1918-1970
2. La Conner, St. Paul Church, 1992-present
3. Ferndale, St. Joseph Church, 1904-present
4. Marysville, St. Mary Church, 1905-present
5. Port Angeles, Queen of Angels Church, 1938-1980 (no longer Indian)
6. Poulsbo, St. Olaf Church, 1968-present
7. Puyallup, St. John the Baptist Mission, 1875-1929
8. Seattle, Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church, 1990s-present; includes a few Indians, 1990s-present

D. School Files
Inclusive dates: ca. 1864-1929
Volume: Few folders possible
Description: Some school records may have been retained for the following:
1. Puyallup Reservation, Puyallup School, ca. 1906-1909
2. Tacoma, St. George School, ca. 1888-1929
3. Tulalip, Providence of Our Lady of Seven Dolors School, ca. 1868-1901
4. Vancouver/ Fort Vancouver, Providence Academy, ca. 1876-1898

E. Archdiocesan Newspaper
Inclusive dates: 1899-present
Volume: Few articles
Description: The Catholic Northwest Progress,
http://www.seattlearch.org/Progress, 1899-present, has included a few articles on American Indians and Catholic evangelization in the archdiocese.