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

See User Guide for help on interpreting entries

Diocese of Madison

WISCONSIN, SINSINAWA

Dominican Congregation of the Most Holy Rosary Archives

585 County Road Z
Sinsinawa, Wisconsin 53824
Phone 608-748-4411
http://www.sinsinawa.org/AboutUs/Dominican_History/Archives/Archives.html

Open: By appointment only, Monday-Friday, 9:30-11:30 and 1:00-3:30, holidays excepted
Access: No restrictions
Copying facilities: Yes

History: Reverend Samuel Mazzuchelli, O.P., a missionary among Ojibwa, Ottawa, and Winnebago Indians in Michigan and Wisconsin, founded the Dominican Sisters of the Most Holy Rosary in 1874. Following his example, the Dominican Sisters, have served in the following Indian and Eskimo parishes, schools, and stations:

1974 St. Jude Mission (Eskimo), Diomede Island, Alaska
1974-present Immaculate Conception Grade School (Eskimo and Dena’ina), Fairbanks, Alaska
1978-1979 St. Anthony of Padua School (Menominee), Neopit, Wisconsin
1978-1983 Holy Cross Church (Eskimo), Holy Cross, Alaska
1980-present Hope Rural School (Maya), Indiantown, Florida

History of the Spokane Dominicans

History: The Sisters of the Third Order of Penance of St. Dominic made their first U.S. foundation in 1925, which became the Immaculate Heart of Mary Province (Kettle Falls, Washington). In 1986, the province became the independent Dominican Sisters of Spokane, which merged with the Sinsinawa Dominicans in 1995. The Immaculate Heart of Mary Province had staffed St. Mary School (Chelan, Entiat, Methow, Nespelem, Nez Perce, Okanogan, Palos, Sanpoil, Senijextee, and Wenatchi), Omak, Colville Reservation, Washington, 1936-1965, and in so doing, received 3 former Lady Missionaries of Mary (Omak, Washington) into the province who had previously staffed the school.

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1830-1843, 1849, 1953, 1976

Volume: .3 cubic foot and 1 audiotape

Description: At least 3 collections include Native Catholic records:
/1 Reverend Samuel Mazzuchelli Papers
Inclusive dates: 1830-1843, 1849, 1953
Volume: .2 cubic foot
Description: Reverend Mazzuchelli, O.P., established Indian missions and schools from 1830-1835 and kept in touch with them and their needs from 1836 until his death in 1864.
A. "Writings of Father Mazzuchelli," 1830-1843, .1 cubic foot:
1. Correspondence (copies), 1832, 1835-1836, 11 letters: major correspondents include George Wallace Jones, President Andrew Jackson, Pope Gregory XVI, and Bishop Joseph Rosati, C.M.
2. Memoirs (copy), 1830-1843, 365 pages; includes 23 chapters on Indian culture and missions in Michigan and Wisconsin as experienced by the missionary; index to Memoirs printed separately, 53 pages
3. Liturgical Almanac (copy), 1834: written in Ojibwa Indian language; first book printed in Green Bay, Wisconsin
4. Winnebago Prayer Book (copy), 1833
5. "Plan for Indian Education Presented to Indian Agent" (copy), 1831
6. "French-Indian Vocabulary List" (original draft), ca. 1830-1833
7. "State of the Indian School at Green Bay" (copy), 1834
B. "Writings Regarding Father Mazzuchelli," 1831-1835, 1849, 1953, .1 cubic foot:
1. Correspondence (copies), 1831, 1833-1835, 10 letters: major correspondents include George Boyd, Indian Agent for the Menominee Reservation, and the Office of Indian Affairs
2. Baptismal record (copy), Green Bay, Wisconsin, Indian Mission, 1831
3. Baptismal record (copy), Harbor Springs, Michigan, St. Peter Mission, 1831-1833
4. List of pupils (copy), Green Bay, Wisconsin, Indian School, 1831-1834
5. School regulations (copy), Green Bay, Wisconsin, Indian School, 1831
7. Book of Trustees, Sinsinawa Mound College, November 17, 1849: request for government aid for scholarships for Santee, Sisseton, and Wahpeton Indians
8. Transcript of tape of Hope Lagan Sullivan regarding Mary Ann Fitzpatrick's memory of Reverend Mazzuchelli and the Indians, 1953

/2 Oral History Collection
Inclusive dates: 1976
Volume: 1 audiotape
Description: "Boulet, S. Marie Teresa, O.P. (1920-2004), 'Fairbanks, Alaska and Diomede Island, 1974-1976.'"

/3 Spokane Dominicans
Inclusive dates: 1913-present
Volume: approximately .1 cubic foot
Description:
A. Chronicle, 1913-1992, 2 volumes; comprised of narrative, 18 black & white prints, 1 color print, clippings, and printed items regarding Colville Indian children, the Madams, Dominican Sisters, and the Jesuits at St. Mary's Mission, Omak, Colville Reservation, Washington
B. Correspondence, 1934-1961, 1 folder; notable correspondents include Bishop Charles D. White and the Jesuit and Dominican Sister superiors at St. Mary's Mission
C. Personnel Files, 1920s-present, typically 1 folder/sister, living and deceased; includes Mother Mary Bonaventura, O.P., Sister Rose Francis Seymour (Colville), O.P., Sister Consuelo Fissler, O.P., and Sister Marie Irma Raufer, O.P. [author of Black Robes and Indians on the Last Frontier, A Story of Heroism, 1966; a history of St. Mary’s Mission]

D. Transcript of interview of Sister Consuelo Fissler, O.P. by Mark Thiel, 2007; regarding her life as a Dominican Sister, especially while a teacher at St. Mary’s School