



**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

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**Society of the Sacred Heart,  
United States Province Archives**

**M-114**

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Hours: By appointment only, 9:00-4:00, Monday-Friday  
Access: No restrictions  
Copying facilities: Yes

History: Founded in France in 1800 and first foundation in the United States in 1818. Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne, R.S.C.J. (1769-1852) and the sisters of the Society of the Sacred Heart taught at the following Catholic schools serving American Indian students:

1825-1831	Female Indian School (various), Florissant, Missouri
1841-1848	Sugar Creek Mission School for Indian Girls (Potawatomi), Kansas
1848-1879	St. Mary Mission School (Potawatomi), St. Marys, Kansas
1980	Sister Carol Putnam, R.S.C.J. (and Reverend Frank O'Loughlin) established Hope Rural School (Maya), Indiantown, Florida

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1841-1879, 1920s-1960s, n.d.

Volume: .4 cubic foot

Description: Indian mission and school records are found in 3 series:

/1 "The Society in General"

Inclusive dates: 1841-1879

Volume: .1 cubic foot

Description: Contains *Catalogs* of the Sacred Heart, which list personnel at the Indian schools staffed by the congregation.

/2 "The Five Provinces - St. Louis"

Inclusive dates: 1841-1879, 1926, n.d.

Volume: .2 cubic foot

Description:

- A. Annual letters, 1841-1879, 60 pages: yearly accounts, which include chronicles and occasionally copies of correspondence, personnel lists, and short biographies of deceased religious
- B. "Journal of Mother Philippine Duchesne, 1818-1840," n.d., 94 pages: abridged, handwritten copy, created by an unidentified individual; in French, with English translations
- C. "Journal" of the Sacred Heart Convent, 1841-1879, 71 pages: handwritten in French by various sisters; contains information on both the Sugar Creek and St. Mary Mission schools; entries for 1840s and 1870s more detailed and complete than for 1850s and 1860s
- D. "Journal of the Foundation of the Mission at Sugar Creek," by Mother Lucile Mathevon, R.S.C.J., n.d., 16 handwritten pages
- E. Description of the journey to Sugar Creek Mission in 1841 by Mother Lucile Mathevon, R.S.C.J., n.d., 4 handwritten pages in French: part of the document is missing
- F. "Account of the Foundation among the Potawatomes," n.d., 19 handwritten pages in English: author unidentified
- G. "Account of St. Marys, Kansas," by Mother Elizabeth Schroeder, R.S.C.J., n.d., 17 handwritten pages in English: account begins in 1856 and ends in 1879
- H. "Council Book," 1871-1879, 27 pages: minutes of meetings of the council or governing body at St. Marys, Kansas
- I. "Register of the Religious of St. Marys, Kansas," begun in 1877, 10 pages: includes biographical information on mission personnel
- J. "Lucile Mathevon," by Celeste Thompson, 1926, 1 volume: M.A. thesis, University of Chicago

/3 "Special Collection, Sister Louise Callan"

Inclusive dates: 1920s-1960s

Volume: .1 cubic foot

Description: Consists primarily correspondence (copies) and research notes collected or created by Sister Louise Callan, R.S.C.J. for the history of *The Society of the Sacred Heart in North America*, published in 1937, for *Philippine Duchesne, Frontier Missionary of the Sacred Heart*, published in 1957, and for the biography of Mother Lucile Mathevon, R.S.C.J., which was not completed. A notable document included is a letter from Mother Ellen Craney, R.S.C.J. who lived at St. Marys, Kansas, as a youth, describing her memories of the mission and school.