



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

[See User Guide for help on interpreting entries](#)

MONTANA, HELENA

new 2006

**Research Library and Photo Archives,
Montana Historical Society**

W-315

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<http://www.his.state.mt.us/>

Northwest Digital Archives, <http://nwda.wsulibs.wsu.edu>

Hours: Library/Archives, Tuesday-Friday, 9:00-5:00, and Saturday, 9:00-1:00;
and Photograph Archives, Tuesday-Friday, 1:00-5:00, and other hours by
appointment

Access: No restrictions

Copying facilities: Yes

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1863-1994, n.d.

Volume: Approximately 1 cubic foot

Description: 35 collections include Native Catholic records;

Manuscript Collections

/1 "Catherine Belgarde Interview, OH 1894"

Inclusive dates: 1980

Volume: Approximately .05 cubic foot

Description: Includes experiences at St. Peter's Mission (Siksika), Montana.

/2 "Joseph M. Cataldo Letters, SC 80"

Inclusive dates: 1887

Volume: Approximately .05 cubic foot

Description: 2 handwritten petitions (copies), one in French, to Reverend
Joseph M. Cataldo, S.J. (1837-1928) from citizens of Helena, Montana,
requesting that the Jesuits establish a Catholic college in Helena; from
the Jesuit Oregon Province Archives, Gonzaga University, Spokane,
Washington.

/3 "Pierre-Jean De Smet Papers, SC 620"

Inclusive dates: 1863, 1866

Volume: Approximately .05 cubic foot

Description: Letters of James Hainson to Reverend Pierre-Jean De Smet, S.J.
(1801-1873), 1866; Reverend De Smet (in French) to Reverend Mother Superior
[possibly of the Sisters of Charity of Providence] in Washington Territory,

1863; and Reverend De Smet at Fort McKenzie to possibly Andrew Dawson, 1863.

/4 "General Montana History Collection"

Inclusive dates: ca. 1968, 1983, 1993-1994

Volume: Approximately .1 cubic foot

Description:

- a) OH 1652: "Art Carrier (1918-1993) Interview," 1993, 42-page transcript; re: includes boarding school life at Holy Family Mission, Blackfoot Reservation, Montana
- b) OH 1514: "Evelyn Sloan Webster (1903-1996) Interview," 1983, 1 audiotape and 2-page summary; re: includes boarding school life at St. Ignatius Mission, St. Ignatius, Montana
- c) OH 1388: "Mother Amata Dunne [O.S.U.] Interview," ca. 1968, 1 audiotape; re: her life as a nun
- d) OH 1653: "Richard Kenck (1906-2002) Interview," 1994, 35-pages transcript; re: includes boarding school life at St. Peter's Mission (Siksika), Montana

/5 "Montana Attorney General's Office Records, Collection RS 76"

Inclusive dates: 1953

Volume: Approximately .05 cubic foot

Description: Box 102, Folder 122, re: Josephine Cannon Estate, Billings, with bequest to the Little Flower Church, Browning, Montana.

/6 "Montana Office of Public Instruction Records, Collection RS 147"

Inclusive dates: 1949-1953, 1958-1964

Volume: Approximately .1 cubic foot

Description: Includes enrollment statistics for Catholic schools serving American Indians in Montana.

/7 "New Deal in Montana/ Fort Peck Dam Oral History Project, OH 1162"

Inclusive dates: 1989

Volume: Approximately .05 cubic foot

Description: "Mae Takes Gun Childs Interview," 1989, 1 audiotape and 13-page transcript; re: includes experiences of Takes Gun Childs (Crow, 1894-1995) at St. Xavier School with the Ursulines.

/8 "Owen, John Papers, Collection MC 44"

Inclusive dates: 1850

Volume: Approximately .05 cubic foot

Description: Box 2, Folder 4 includes a bill of sale for St. Mary Mission lands purchased from the Jesuits by Owen (1818-1889).

/9 "Ravalli, Anthony Papers, SC 679"

Inclusive dates: 1884

Volume: Approximately .05 cubic foot

Description: An undated manuscript in Latin and a letter to Narcissa Caldwell by Reverend Anthony Ravalli, S.J. (1812-1884).

/10 "Mabel Pepin Salois Interview, OH 1887"

Inclusive dates: 1995

Volume: Approximately .05 cubic foot

Description: Early 20th century experiences at Holy Family Mission School (Siksika) and the Blackfeet Reservation with retold reminiscences from her mother that include the 1885 rebellion led by Louis Riel (Métis).

/11 Small Town Montana Oral History Project

Inclusive dates: 1984

Volume: Approximately .05 cubic foot

Description:

- a) OH 834: "Wilbur Werner Interview" 1984, 2 audiotapes and 4-page summary; includes relationships between the non-Indian community in Cut Bank, the Blackfeet Reservation, and St. Margaret Church, ca. 1930s-1980s
- a) OH 829: "Lucille L. Durocher Interview," 1984, 1 audiotape and 2-page summary; includes relationships between churches in Cut Bank, her involvement in St. Margaret Church, and changes in Catholic practices

/12 "Society of Jesus Religious Text, 1900, SC 2400"

Inclusive dates: 1900

Volume: .1 cubic foot

Description: The New and Old Testaments in the Crow Indian Language (with copy) by an unidentified Jesuit; from St. Xavier Mission, Montana.

Photograph Collections

/13 "Amadeus, Reverend Mother, #940-349"

Inclusive dates: 1884

Volume: 1 print

Description: Founding mother superior of the Ursulines in Montana.

/14 "Beckx, Peter, #940-831"

Inclusive dates: n.d.

Volume: 1 print

Description: Reverend Peter Beckx, S.J.

/15 "Brings, William J. Collection, Lot 10"

Inclusive dates: 1908-1909

Volume: 48 prints

Description: Crow Indians at St. Xavier Mission, Montana.

/16 "Cataldo, Joseph M., #941-472"

Inclusive dates: n.d.

Volume: 1 print

Description: Reverend Joseph M. Cataldo, S.J.

/17 "Cataldo Mission, Idaho, #940-936-937"

Inclusive dates: ca. 1929

Volume: 2 prints

Description: Sacred Heart Mission, Cataldo, Idaho.

/18 "DeSmet, Pierre Jean, #941-955-959"

Inclusive dates: n.d.

Volume: 4 prints and 1 engraving

Description: Reverend Pierre-Jean de Smet, S.J.

/19 "Dumont, Gabriel, #944-022-023"

Inclusive dates: ca. 1885

Volume: 2 prints

Description: Métis.

/20 "Fort Belknap Agency Collection, #955-360-404"

Inclusive dates: ca. 1900

Volume: 2 prints
Description: Assiniboine and Atsina Indians and St. Paul Mission,
Montana.

/21 "Huffman, Laton Alton Collection, #981-054-057, 981-220-222"
Inclusive dates: n.d.
Volume: 2 prints
Description: Cheyenne Indians and St. Labre School, Ashland, Montana.

/22 "McBride, Sister G. Collection, Pac87-47"
Inclusive dates: 1880-1900
Volume: 5 prints
Description: Siksika Indians, Ursulines, and St. Peter's Mission,
Montana.

/23 "Palladino, Lawrence Benedict, #944-255"
Inclusive dates: n.d.
Volume: 1 print
Description: Reverend Lawrence Palladino, S.J.

/24 "Ravalli, Anthony, #944-496-499"
Inclusive dates: n.d.
Volume: 4 prints
Description: Reverend Anthony Ravalli, S.J.

/25 "Riel, Louis, Tomb of, #944-566 and 944-568"
Inclusive dates: n.d.
Volume: 2 prints
Description: Métis

/26 "Riel Rebellion, 1885, 944-569-572"
Inclusive dates: 1940
Volume: 4 prints
Description: St. Anthony Church, wagon trail, and Métis graves.

/27 "St. Ignatius Mission, 950-719-739"
Inclusive dates: 1867-1960
Volume: 20 prints
Description: St. Ignatius Mission (Salish and Kootenai), St. Ignatius,
Montana.

/28 "St. Mary Mission, 950-742-759"
Inclusive dates: 1916-1974
Volume: 17 prints
Description: St. Mary Mission (Salish), Stevensville, Montana.

/29 "St. Mary Mission, Pac 98-79"
Inclusive dates: 1948
Volume: 17 prints
Description: St. Mary Mission (Salish), Stevensville, Montana.

/30 "St. Paul's Mission, 950-760-768"
Inclusive dates: 1900-1954
Volume: 9 prints
Description: St. Paul's Mission (Assiniboine, Atsina, and Métis), Hays,
Montana.

/31 "St. Peter's Mission, Pac 74-104.279 GP"

Inclusive dates: n.d.

Volume: 1 print

Description: St. Peter's Mission (Siksika and Métis), Montana.

/32 "Catholic Church at St. Paul's Mission, Pac 74-109.207 GP"

Inclusive dates: n.d.

Volume: 1 print

Description: St. Paul's Mission (Assiniboine, Atsina, and Métis), Hays,
Montana.

/33 "Catholic Church at St. Paul's Mission, Pac 92-59 Album"

Inclusive dates: 1889

Volume: 1 print

Description: In album; St. Paul's Mission (Assiniboine, Atsina, and Métis),
Hays, Montana.

/34 "St. Xavier Mission, 950-800-805"

Inclusive dates: ca. 1890-1954

Volume: 6 prints

Description: St. Xavier Mission (Crow), Montana.