



**Guide to Catholic-Related Records in the Midwest about Native Americans**  
*[See User Guide for help on interpreting entries](#)*

Archdiocese of Omaha  
NEBRASKA, OMAHA

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**Archdiocese of Omaha Archives**

**M-118**

Chancery Office  
100 North 62nd Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68132  
Phone 402-558-3100  
<http://www.archomaha.com/>

Hours: By appointment only  
Access: No restrictions  
Copying facilities: Yes

History: In 1857 the Vicariate Apostolate of Nebraska was erected from the northern portion of the St. Louis Diocese for Nebraska, Wyoming Territory, Montana Territory east of the Rocky Mountains, and Dakota Territory west of the Missouri River. The vicariate was succeeded by the Diocese of Omaha in 1885 and the Archdiocese of Omaha in 1945. Within its area the following mission, parishes, and schools have served American Indians:

1876-1879 (transferred to Vicariate Apostolic of Dakota)	Standing Rock Reservation (Hunkpapa), Dakota Territory
1884-1887 (transferred to Diocese of Cheyenne Wyoming)	St. Stephen's Mission (Arapaho and Shoshoni), St. Stephens, Wyoming
1909-present	St. Augustine Church (Winnebago and Omaha), Winnebago, Nebraska
1912-1957 (closed)	Sacred Heart Mission (Santee and Ponca), Santee, Nebraska
1947-present	Our Lady of Fatima Mission (Omaha), Macy, Nebraska
1948-1975 (closed)	St. William Mission (Santee and Ponca), Niobrara, Nebraska

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1859-present

Volume: .8 cubic foot

Description: 5 series include Native Catholic records:

/1 Parish files

Inclusive dates: 1876-1976

Volume: .4 cubic foot

Description: Correspondence arranged alphabetically by location of the mission or parish.

- A. "Indian Missions," 1876-1904, 1 folder: major correspondents include Reverends J.B.M. Genin at Fort Totten Reservation, North Dakota, and Joseph Schell and Saint Katharine Drexel, S.B.S.
- B. Macy, Nebraska, Our Lady of Fatima Mission, 1934-1963 (majority 1950s), 1 folder: major correspondents include Reverend Francis Hulsman and Bishop Gerald T. Bergan
- C. St. Stephens, Wyoming, St. Stephen's Mission, 1884, 1886-1887, 31 letters: major correspondents include Reverends Paul M. Ponziglione, S.J. and Francis X. Kuppens, S.J. and Bishop James O'Connor
- D. Santee, Nebraska, Sacred Heart Mission, 1879, 1885-1889, 1904-1945 (bulk 1920s-1930s), .1 cubic foot: major correspondents include Reverend Sylvester Eisenman, O.S.B., Saint Katharine Drexel, S.B.S., the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, the superiors of St. Francis Mission, South Dakota, and St. Augustine Mission, Nebraska, and Bishops James O'Connor, Jeremiah J. Harty, Joseph F. Rummel, and James H. Ryan
- E. Winnebago, Nebraska, St. Augustine Mission and School, 1891-1892, 1904-1910, 1923-1942, 1950-1976, .2 cubic foot: major correspondents include Bishops Richard Scannell (1845-1916), Jeremiah Harty, Joseph Rummel, James Ryan, and Gerald Bergan, and Reverends John H. Griese, Francis Hulsman, and Joseph Schell

/2 Bishops' papers

Inclusive dates: 1859-1892

Volume: .2 cubic foot

Description: Arranged chronologically by administration.

- A. Bishop James O'Gorman (1814-1874), 1859-1874, 2 folders:
  - 1. "Indian Matters," 1859-1876, 1 folder of correspondence: major correspondents include Reverends Francis N. Blanchet and J.B.M. Genin
  - 2. "The Flathead Indians," 1877, 72 pages: a journal of Bishop James O'Gorman's trip to the Flathead Reservation in Montana
- B. Bishop James O'Connor (1823-1890), 1876-1890, 121 letters:
  - 1. "Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions," 1876-1888, 51 letters: major correspondents include the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, Reverend J.B.M. Genin and Bishops Martin Marty and Rupert Seidenbusch
  - 2. "Indian Affairs, Dakota, Wyoming, Nebraska," 1876-1892, 70 letters: major correspondents include the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions and Jesuits at Holy Rosary Mission and St. Francis Mission in South Dakota and St. Stephen's Mission in Wyoming

/3 Priests' files

Inclusive dates: 1899-1943

Volume: 2 folders

Description: Arranged alphabetically by surname.

- A. Griese, Reverend John H., 1899-1943, 1 folder: primarily financial matters and land transactions at St. Augustine Mission, Winnebago, Nebraska
- B. Schell, Reverend Joseph, 1904-1908, 1 folder: pertains to St. Augustine Mission

/4 Financial and statistical reports

Inclusive dates: 1913-1946

Volume: 1 folder

Description: Arranged alphabetically by location of the parish and includes a file on Winnebago, St. Augustine Mission. The reports are submitted annually to the Archdiocese.

/5 Diocesan newspaper

Inclusive dates: 1903-present

Volume: Few articles

Description: The *Catholic Voice* includes occasional articles on American Indians and Catholic evangelization in the Archdiocese.