



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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**Sisters of Mercy of the Americas,
Regional Community of Omaha**

M-120

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Hours: By appointment only, Monday-Friday, 9:00-4:00
Access: Some restrictions apply
Copying facilities: Yes

History: 12 independent Sisters of Mercy motherhouses from nine Midwestern states formed the Sisters of Mercy of the Union in 1929. In 1991 the Sisters of Mercy of the Union merged with the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, which established the Omaha Regional Community Archives to administer the archival records from the Midwest. The regions realigned in 2008, however, community archives established with the 1991 reorganization remain intact. The Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Omaha Regional Community, and its predecessors, have taught at the following Catholic schools serving American Indian students:

1878-1883	Sacred Heart Academy (Yankton), Yankton, Dakota Territory
1884-1907	St. Mary School (Métis and Ojibwa), Belcourt, North Dakota
1885-1896 (closed)	Indian Industrial School (Ojibwa), Morris, Minnesota

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1870s-1908, 1960s-1981, n.d.

Volume: Approximately .7 cubic foot

Description: Correspondence (some copies), printed materials, and research notes arranged alphabetically by state and compiled by Sister Cecelia Mary Barry, S.M., 1960s-1981, for an Omaha Province history of the Sisters of Mercy. The copies came from Bureau of Indian Affairs Records at the U.S. National Archives and the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions Records at Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

- A. "Nebraska, Box II," 1870s-1880s, 8 letters: to Bishop James O'Connor, Diocese of Omaha, re: Sacred Heart Academy, Yankton, Dakota Territory
- B. "North Dakota, Box I," 1883-1908, 1960s-1981, n.d., approximately .25 cubic foot:

1. Correspondence, 1883-1908, n.d., 53 letters; re: schools at Yankton, Dakota Territory, and Belcourt, North Dakota; major correspondents include Sisters Mary Ignatius Lynch, S.M. and Mary Genevieve Sheridan, S.M. and Reverends George L. Willard and John F. Malo
2. Sister Cecelia Barry, S.M., research notes, correspondence, and printed materials, re: Yankton and Belcourt Schools, 1960s-1981, n.d., approximately .2 cubic foot
- C. "North Dakota, Box II," 1880s-1908, 2 folders; correspondence and quarterly school reports relating to St. Mary School, Belcourt; major correspondents include Sister Mary Genevieve Sheridan, S.M. and the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions
- D. "Oregon, Box I," 1885, 1888-1889, 1896, 1960s-1981, n.d., approximately .2 cubic foot:
 1. Correspondence, 1885, 1888-1889, 3 letters: re: Indian School at Morris, Minnesota
 2. Photographs, 1896, n.d., 2 photos; re: Indian School at Morris, Minnesota
 3. Sister Cecelia Barry, S.M., research notes, correspondence, and printed Materials, re: Indian School at Morris, Minnesota, 1960s-1981, n.d., approximately .2 cubic foot
- E. "Oregon-Minnesota, Box II," 1889-1897, .15 cubic foot:
 1. Correspondence, 1889-1897, approximately 140 letters; re: Indian School at Morris, Minnesota; major correspondents include Sister Mary Joseph Lynch, S.M., the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions
 2. Financial and statistical reports, 1893-1896, 1 folder