



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

Diocese of Sioux Falls
SOUTH DAKOTA, WATERTOWN

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Benedictine Sisters of Pontifical Jurisdiction

M-237

Mother of God Monastery
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Hours: By appointment only
Access: Some restrictions apply
Copying facilities: Yes

History: Established in 1961, the Benedictine Sisters of Mother of God Monastery taught at the following Indian schools in North and South Dakota:

1961-1970	Immaculate Conception School (Santee), Stephan, South Dakota
1961-present	St. Bernard School (Hunkpapa), Fort Yates, North Dakota

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1887-1970s, n.d.

Volume: 1.1 cubic feet and 1 reel of microfilm

Description: 3 series plus some unclassified records include Native Catholic records. Also included are records of schools administered by the Benedictine Sisters of Sacred Heart Monastery, Yankton, South Dakota.

/1 "Publications and Publicity - Chronicles"

Inclusive dates: 1935-1974

Volume: .2 cubic foot Description:

- A. "Fort Yates [North Dakota], St. Bernard School," 1935-1974, 1 volume (194 pages): includes daily entries and annual summaries; also photographs and clippings
- B. Stephan [South Dakota], Immaculate Conception Mission School, 1939-1964, 4 notebooks: typed entries with school newsletters

/2 "Ministries - Secondary Education"

Inclusive dates: 1931, 1947-1958, 1960-1966

Volume: .75 cubic foot

Description: Includes copies of *Memories*, the yearbook of Immaculate Conception Mission School, Stephan, South Dakota.

/3 Photographs

Inclusive dates: 1960s-1970s, n.d.

Volume: 40 prints

Description: Prominent topics include the dedication ceremony at St. Peter Church, Fort Yates, North Dakota, in 1975, and mission buildings and personnel at Immaculate Conception Mission and School, Stephan, South Dakota.

/4 Unclassified Records

Inclusive dates: 1887-1970s, n.d.

Volume: .2 cubic foot and 1 reel of microfilm

Description:

- A. Scrapbooks of Sister Helen Marx, O.S.B., 1960s-1970s, .1 cubic foot:
 - 1. "Fort Yates, Government Indian School and St. Bernard's Mission School, and Kenel, St. Benedict's School," compiled in 1970s, 100 pages: contains summaries of Benedictine Sisters' chronicles, 1887-1974, copies of correspondence and photographs, clippings, and historical data
 - 2. "Stephan, Immaculate Conception Mission School," compiled in 1960s, 65 pages: contains summaries of Benedictine Sisters' chronicles, 1939-1965, a brief history of the Mission by Sister Marmion Maiers, O.S.B., 1961, and copies of the newsletter *Wopeedah*, 1941-1942, 1945-1946, 1949-1950, 1953, 1958
- B. Microfilm copy of records at Sacred Heart Convent, Yankton, South Dakota, 1887-1962, n.d., 1 reel:
 - 1. Chamberlain, South Dakota, St. Joseph School, 1951-1962, n.d..
 - a. Correspondence, 1951, 1953-1956, 1959, 1962, 9 letters: major correspondents include Mother M. Jerome, O.S.B., and Reverend Augustine Edele
 - b. Clippings, n.d.
 - 2. Fort Yates, North Dakota, Government Indian School and St. Bernard Mission School, and Kenel, South Dakota, St. Benedict School, 1892-1961, n.d.:
 - a. Correspondence, 1924, 1959, 1961, 6 letters
 - b. Diary (copy) of Reverend Bernard Strassmaier, O.S.B., n.d.: copied in 1934
 - c. Quarterly school reports, 1892-1894
 - 3. Stephan, South Dakota, Immaculate Conception Mission School, 1887-1960, n.d.:
 - a. Correspondence, 1887-1889, 1921, 1932-1933, 1935-1936, 1938, 1945, 1947, 1959-1960, 38 letters: most are copies from the Archives of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, Bensalem, Pennsylvania; major correspondents include Mother Gertrude, O.S.B., Mother Katharine Drexel, S.B.S., Mother M. Jerome, O.S.B., and Reverend Justin Snyder, O.S.B.
 - b. Notes summarizing Reverend Pius Boehm's "Diary, 1893-1930," n.d.
 - c. Account of Catholic Indian education by Reverend Ambrose Mattingly, 1936, 8 pages
 - d. Photographs, 1938, n.d., 2 prints
- C. Unpublished theses, 1935, 1961, .1 cubic foot:
 - 1. "The Educational Work of the Catholic Church Among the Indians of South Dakota," by Sister M. Serena Zens, O.S.B., 1935
 - 2. "The History of Immaculate Conception Indian Mission, Stephan, South Dakota, 1886-1961," by Sister M. Marmion Maiers, O.S.B., 1961