



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

Archdiocese of Milwaukee
WISCONSIN, MILWAUKEE

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**School Sisters of St. Francis,
United States Province Archives**

M-262d

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Hours: By appointment only, Monday-Friday, 9:30-3:30
Access: Some restrictions apply
Copying facilities: Yes

History: Established in the United States in 1874, the School Sisters of St. Francis have served at the following Indian missions and schools:

1885-1903, 1905-1910, 1927-present	St. Francis Solanus Mission and School (Ojibwa), Reserve, Lac Courte Oreille Reservation, Wisconsin
1933-present	St. Labre Mission and School (Cheyenne and Crow), Ashland, Montana
1936-present	St. Paul Mission and School (Assiniboine and Atsina), Hays, Fort Belknap Reservation, Montana
1968-1978	Our Lady of Loretto Mission (Crow), Lodge Grass, Crow Reservation, Montana
1970-1981	Blessed Sacrament Mission (Cheyenne), Lame Deer, Northern Cheyenne Reservation, Montana

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1918-present, n.d.

Volume: 1.7 cubic feet

Description: 3 series include records pertaining to Native Catholics in the United States; not listed are records pertaining to Native Catholics in Guatemala:

/1 "Apostolate U.S.A."

Inclusive dates: 1918-present, n.d.

Volume: .9 cubic foot

Description:

- A. "Missions," 1926-present, n.d., .75 cubic foot: Arranged alphabetically by location of the mission.
 - 1. Ashland, Montana, St. Labre Mission, 1926-present, n.d., .45 cubic foot:
 - a. Correspondence, 1926-present, 2 folders: major correspondents include the priests and sisters at the mission, and the mother superiors
 - b. Chronicle, 1926-1947, 1 volume: daily entries; includes some clippings and photographs
 - c. Mission and School publications, 1934-1967, 2 folders: includes *The Arrow*, 1934-1962, and *Race of Sorrows*, 1956-1967
 - d. Indian artwork, n.d., 1 folder
 - e. Photographs, 1933-1935, 750 prints contained in 3 scrapbooks
 - f. Clippings and printed material, 1935-1980, .1 cubic foot: the clippings pertain to the 50th anniversary of the mission in 1935
 - 2. Hays, Montana, St. Paul Mission and School, 1935-present, .1 cubic foot:
 - a. Correspondence, 1935-present, 2 folders: major correspondents include the sisters and priests at the mission, and the mother superiors
 - b. "Report to Bishop T.J. Murphy regarding St. Paul's Mission" by Sister M. Editha Brown, S.S.S.F., 1979, 1 folder
 - c. *The White Shield*, School yearbook, 1941, 1944
 - d. Printed material and clippings, 1946-1982, 2 folders
 - 3. Lame Deer, Montana, Blessed Sacrament Mission, 1970-1981, 3 folders:
 - a. Financial records, 1978-1981, 2 folders
 - b. Historical notes, 1970-1979, 1 folder
 - 4. Reserve, Wisconsin, St. Francis Solanus Mission and School, 1936-present, n.d., .15 cubic foot:
 - a. Correspondence, 1936-present, 2 folders
 - b. Histories by Sister Sirilla La Rush, S.S.S.F., and others, 1936-1969, n.d., 1 folder
 - c. Mission study, 1967-1968, 1 folder
 - d. Clippings, 1950-1973, 1 folder
 - e. Photographs, ca.1971-1973, 35 prints
- B. "School Census," 1918-1966, .1 cubic foot: statistical records for each Indian mission school, which include the following information: name of teacher, grade, and number of students
- C. "Mission Books," 1943-1963, 1 folder: records include name and address of the mission, priest's name, sister's name and assignment, and comments by the superior general

/2 Photographs

Inclusive dates: 1937-1970s, n.d.

Volume: .3 cubic foot

Description: Arranged alphabetically by location or subject within the sub-series "U.S. Missions and U.S. Apostolates."

- A. "American Indian-Unidentified," n.d., 6 prints
- B. Ashland, Montana, St. Labre Mission and School, n.d., 315 prints
- C. Hays, Montana, St. Paul's Mission and School, n.d., 82 prints
- D. Lodge Grass, Montana, Our Lady of Loretto Mission, 1970s, 4 prints
- E. Reserve, Wisconsin, St. Francis Solanus Mission and School, 1937-1973, n.d., 36 prints

/3 Personal Files of Sisters

Inclusive dates: 1925-1975, n.d.

Volume: .5 cubic foot

Description: Arranged according to the number assigned to the sister when entering the congregation.

- A. "Gertrude (Sister Eustella) Bush, S.S.S.F." 1925-1975, n.d., .45 cubic foot: Sister Eustella taught at St. Labre School. The records largely consist of secondary source material gathered in preparation for the writing of *Sand, Sage, and Struggle*, a history of the Northern Cheyenne Indians. The records include the following: the manuscript, an edited typescript, and a revised copy of the book; historical sketches by missionaries at St. Labre in the 1880s and 1890s; accounts of U.S. Cavalry activity by officers who were stationed in the area; government publications and other printed material; historical notes; and copies of source material. There is also a folder of original correspondence, 1925-1929, and 53 photos, 1960, n.d.
- B. "Fabiola (Sister Sirilla) La Rush, S.S.S.F." n.d., 1 folder: includes a handwritten autobiography and biographical notes