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

See User Guide for help on interpreting entries

Archdiocese of St. Louis
MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS


Jesuits, Society of Jesus,
Central Jesuit Archives

4511 West Pine Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63108
Phone 314-361-7765
http://jesuitarchives.org/

Hours: By appointment only,
Monday-Friday, 8:30-11:45, 12:45-4:30
Access: No restrictions
Copying facilities: Yes

History: In 1997, to better serve the Chicago, Detroit, Missouri, and Wisconsin Provinces, these four provinces of the Society of Jesus combined their archival holdings and established the Central Jesuit Archives in St. Louis (initially known as the Midwest Jesuit Archives). However, per previously established agreements, most records pertaining to the Native American ministries of the Wisconsin Province remained at, and continue to be transferred to, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

History of the Chicago Province

The Chicago Jesuit Province was established in 1928. From St. Isaac Jogues Church, Sault Sainte Marie, Jesuits from the Chicago Province evangelized Ojibwa Indians of the eastern portion of Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, 1947-1955.

History of the Detroit Province

The Detroit Jesuit Province was established in 1955 from portions of the Chicago Province. From St. Isaac Jogues Church, Sault Sainte Marie, Jesuits from the Detroit Province evangelized Ojibwa Indians of the eastern portion of Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, 1955-ca. 1995.

History of the Missouri Province and the Missouri and Rocky Mountain Missions

The Jesuit Missouri Province was established in 1863. It succeeded the Missouri Mission (established, 1823), which along with the Rocky Mountain Mission, were administered by the Maryland Province. The Missouri and Rocky Mountain Missions and the Missouri Province administered the following Indian missions, parishes, and schools.
Missouri Mission

1836-1841 (closed) Kickapoo Mission and School (Kickapoo), Kansas  
1838-1841 (closed) St. Joseph Mission and School (Potawatomi), Council Bluffs, Iowa  
1838-1847 (closed) Sugar Creek Mission and School (Potawatomi), Kansas  
1847-1849 (closed) St. Francis Regis Mission (Miami), Missouri  
1847-1870 (no longer Indian) Osage Mission and School (Osage), Kansas  
1870-1891 (closed) St. Francis Institute, Osage Mission, Kansas  
1848-1870s (no longer Indian) St. Mary Mission and School (Potawatomi), St. Marys, Kansas

Unknown Visitations among Iowa, Omaha, Pawnee, and Otoe Indians

Rocky Mountain Mission

1841-1854 (transferred to Turin Province, Turin, Italy) Rocky Mountain Mission (various), Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington  
1840s-1850s Visitations outside present-day Rocky Mountain states among Arapaho, Brulé, Cree, Hunkpapa, Oglala, Ojibwa, Sans Arc, Siksika, and Yankton Indians in North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Alberta, Canada

Missouri Province

1912-1955 (transferred to Wisconsin Province, Milwaukee, Wisconsin) St. Francis Mission and School (Brulé), St. Francis, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota  
1912-1993 (transferred to Wisconsin Province, Milwaukee, Wisconsin) St. Stephen’s Mission and School (Arapaho and Shoshoni), St. Stephens, Wind River Reservation, Wyoming  
1926-1955 (transferred to Wisconsin Province, Milwaukee, Wisconsin) Christ the King Church/ Our Lady of Lourdes Mission and School (Oglala), Porcupine, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota  
1949-1955 (transferred to Wisconsin Province, Milwaukee, Wisconsin) Mother Butler Center and St. Issac Jogues Church/ Chapel (Brulé, Hunkpapa, Oglala, and Sans Arc), Rapid City, South Dakota

History of the Wisconsin Province

The Wisconsin Jesuit Province was established in 1955 from portions of the Missouri Province. In 1997, to better serve the Chicago, Missouri, and Wisconsin Provinces, the three provinces established a combined Central Jesuit Archives, St. Louis, Missouri. The Wisconsin Jesuit Province has administered the following Indian missions, parishes, and schools in South Dakota and Wyoming.
1955-present  St. Francis Mission (Brulé), St. Francis, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota
1955-1972 (transferred to Sicangu Oyate Ho) St. Francis Indian Mission School (Brulé), St. Francis, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  Red Cloud Indian School/ Holy Rosary Mission and School (Oglala), Pine Ridge, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  St. Charles Church (Brulé), St. Francis, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  St. Peter Mission (Brulé), Okreek/ Oak Creek Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  St. Ignatius Mission (Brulé), White River, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota
1955-1959 (closed) St. Joseph Mission (Oglala), Hisle/ Bear Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota
1955-ca. 1973 (closed) St. Peter Mission (Oglala), St. Peter/Wounded Knee Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  Sacred Heart Church (Oglala), Pine Ridge, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota
1955-1961 (closed) St. Joseph Mission (Brulé), Red Leaf/ Black Pipe, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  St. Bridget Mission (Brulé), Rosebud, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  St. Paul Mission (Oglala), Porcupine Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  St. Stephan Mission (Oglala), Medicine Root Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  Our Lady of Good Counsel Mission (Oglala), No Water, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota
1955-1959 (closed) St. Henry Mission (Oglala), Potato Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  St. Peter/ Our Lady of Good Counsel Mission (Brulé), Wood/ White Thunder, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota
1955-1964 (closed) St. Catherine Mission (Brulé), Bad Nation, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota
1955-1975 (closed) Sacred Heart Mission (Brulé), Ring Thunder, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  Sacred Heart Mission (Brulé), Upper Cutmeat, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  Ss. Patrick and Bridget/ Our Lady of Good Counsel Mission (Brulé), He Dog, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  St. Mary/ St. Francis of Assisi Mission (Brulé), Ironwood, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  St. Patrick/ St. Andrew Mission (Brulé), Spring Creek, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  Sacred Heart Mission (Oglala), Wounded Knee/Brennan, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  St. Agnes Mission (Oglala), Manderson, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  St. Thomas the Apostle Mission (Brulé), Mission, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota
1955-present  St. Anne/ St. Anthony Mission (Oglala), Wolf Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota
1955-1959 (closed) Our Lady of Sorrows Church/ Ss. Mary and Anna Mission (Oglala), Kyle, Pine Ridge Reservation,
South Dakota

1955-present  Our Lady of the Sioux Church/ St. Elizabeth Mission (Oglala), Oglala, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota

1955-present  St. Anthony/ Holy Guardian Angels Mission (Oglala), Slim Butte, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota

1955-1957 (closed)  St. Madelaine Sophie Mission (Oglala), Three Mile Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota

1955-present  Christ the King Church and Our Lady of Lourdes School (Oglala), Porcupine, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota

1955-present  St. Mary Magdalene Mission (Oglala), Rockyford, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota

1955-present  St. Joseph Mission (Oglala), Cuny Table, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota

1955-present  St. Charles Borromeo Mission (Oglala), Batesland, Pine Ridge Reservation

1955-present  St. Rose Mission (Brulé), Soldier Creek, South Dakota

1955-1970 (closed)  Sacred Heart Mission (Brulé), White Horse, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota

1955-present  St. Agnes Mission (Brulé), Parmelee, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota

1955-present  Holy Family Mission (Oglala), Horse Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota

1955-present  Immaculate Conception Mission (Brulé), Two Strike, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota

1955-1956 (closes)  St. John the Apostle Mission (Brulé), Mosher, South Dakota

1955-present  Sacred Heart Mission (Brulé), Norris, South Dakota

1955-ca. 1970 (closed)  Sacred Heart Mission (Brulé), Bull Creek, South Dakota

1955-present  St. John of the Cross Mission (Oglala), Allen/ Plenty Bears, South Dakota

1955-1959 (closed)  Our Lady of Perpetual Help Mission (Oglala), Pine Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota

1955-1961 (closed)  St. Mary Magdalene Mission (Oglala), Rockyford, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota

1955-present  Mother Butler Center and St. Isaac Jogues Church/ Chapel (Brulé, Hunkpapa, Oglala, and Sans Arc), Rapid City, South Dakota

1955-present  Holy Rosary Mission (Oglala), Interior, South Dakota


1976-present  Sioux Spiritual Center (Brulé, Hunkpapa, Oglala, and Sans Arc), Plainview, South Dakota

1993-present  Blessed Sacrament Chapel (Arapaho and Shoshoni), Fort Washakie, Wind River Reservation, Wyoming


1993-present  St. Stephen’s Mission (Arapaho and Shoshoni), St. Stephens, Wind River Reservation, Wyoming

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans in the United States; not listed are records regarding native peoples in Belize.
Inclusive dates: 1790-present, undated
Volume: 12.6 cubic feet
Description: Records from the former Detroit and Missouri Provinces

Detroit Province Archives
Inclusive dates: 1946-present
Volume: .3 cubic foot
Description: The Chicago Province transferred the records to the Detroit Province Archives in 1955, which transferred them to the Central Jesuit Archives in 1997.
A. Correspondence, 1946-present, .15 cubic foot: major correspondents include the Jesuit Provincials, Reverends Paul Prudhomme, S.J. and Joseph Lawless, S.J.
B. Chronicles, 1949-present, .1 cubic foot: annual reports with accounts of major events for the year
D. Clippings and photographs, undated, 1 folder

Missouri Province Archives
Inclusive dates: 1790-1973, undated
Volume: 12.3 cubic feet
Description: 3 series include Native Catholic records:

/1 "History of the Individual Houses of the Missouri Province"
Inclusive dates: 1790-1973, undated
Volume: 6.6 cubic feet
Description: Arranged alphabetically by the location or by the name of the mission or parish.
A. "Florissant, Missouri, St. Ferdinand's," 1790-1876, 6 volumes: sacramental records, which include some Indians
B. "Florissant, Missouri, St. Stanislaus," 1819-1820, 1822-1823, 1825-1830, 1832, 27 letters; correspondence regarding St. Regis Seminary; major correspondents include Reverend Charles F. Van Quickenborne, S.J. and Thomas L. McKenney
C. "Holy Rosary Mission, Pine Ridge, South Dakota," 1888-1946, undated, .2 cubic foot:
1. Correspondence, 1929-1930, 4 letters
3. Tom-Tom, 1938, 1942-1943, 1 folder: School publication
D. "Indian Missions (General)," 1894-1940, 1 folder:
1. Correspondence, 1894, 1912-1913, 1916, 9 letters
2. Publications, 1908, 1937, 1940, 3 items: include Jesuit Missions Among the Sioux, 1940, by Reverend Louis Goll, S.J.; and Our Catholic Indian Missions, a paper delivered by Reverend William Ketcham, 1908
E. "Kickapoo Mission," 1835-1837, 1938, 1 folder:
1. Correspondence, 1835-1836, 8 letters: major correspondents include Reverend Charles F. Van Quickenborne, S.J. and the U.S. Office of Indian Affairs
2. Journal of a trip to the Kickapoo Mission by Reverend Peter J. Verhaegen, S.J., 1837, 16 pages: in French; also includes a hand drawn map
3. History of the Kickapoo Mission and Parish. The First Catholic Church in Kansas by William W. Graves, 1938

F. "Osage Mission, Kansas," 1832-1910, undated, 2 cubic feet:
4. "Writings of Reverend Ponziglione, S.J.," 1853-1897, undated, 1 cubic foot:
   a. Osage Indian language records, 1853, 1856, 1862, 1885, undated, 25 items: includes a dictionary, catechisms, prayers, dialogues, and collections of Epistles and Gospels translated into Osage by Reverend Paul Ponziglione, S.J.
   b. "Annals, Osage Mission, 1824-1889," undated, 3 volumes
   c. "The Osages and Father John Schoenmakers, S.J. Interesting Memoirs Collected from Legends, Traditions, and Historical Documents," dedicated in 1897, 561 pages: contains 51 chapters plus appendix and covers the history of the Osage Indians, beginnings of missionary work among the Osages, 1820s-1830s, and the Mission among the Osages, 1846-1884; 2 sets of the record are in the Archives
   d. "Journal of the Western Missions Established and Attended by the Fathers of the Society of Jesus Residing at the Osage Mission, Neosho County, Kansas, beginning from August 11, 1867," 1867-1896, 10 volumes: includes correspondence (some copies) and historical accounts
   e. Notebook, 1880s-1890s, 1 volume: contains a necrology for Osage Mission, 1852-1887; a history of St. Stephen's Mission, Wyoming, 1884-1894; and an historical account of Jesuit missions, 1883
   f. "Status Animarum of the Western Missions," 1870, 1 folder
   g. "Notes on Indian Customs" and "Anecdotes," undated, 1 folder
   h. "Record of the Sodality of the Immaculate Heart of Mary," 1865, 1867, undated, 3 volumes
5. School records, 1870-1892, 3 volumes:
   a. Articles of incorporation and minutes of board meetings, St. Francis Institute for Indian Boys, 1871-1892, 1 volume
   b. Student enrollment record, St. Francis Institute, 1887-1889, 1 volume
   c. Constitution and minutes of meetings, Philalethic Society of St. Francis Institute, 1887-1891, 1 volume
6. Financial records, 1868-1892, .2 cubic foot:
   a. Cash book, St. Francis Institute, 1882-1891, 1 volume
   b. Ledgers, St. Francis Institute, 1870-1887, 2 volumes
   c. Receipts and cancelled notes, 1868-1892, 1 folder
7. Deeds and other documents relating to land transactions, 1868-1891, 38 items
8. "Maps, Surveys, Plats," 1871, 1877, 1881, undated, 9 items
a record of missionary stations and churches among the Osage Indians from 1847-1870 by Reverend Paul Ponziglione, S.J.

G. "Rocky Mountain Missions," 1850-1941, undated, 2 folders:
1. Correspondence, 1850, 1865, 1870-1871, 1907, 1914, undated, 12 letters: major correspondent is Reverend Francis X. Kuppens, S.J.
2. Historical notes and publications, 1865, 1888, 1906, 1925, 1930, 1941, 1 folder

H. "St. Francis Mission, South Dakota," 1884-1949, undated, 3 folders:
1. Correspondence, 1912, 1 letter
4. Pamphlets and articles on Camp De Smet, 1920s-1930s, 1 folder

I. "St. Mary Mission, Kansas," 1832-1925, undated, 3.1 cubic feet:
1. Correspondence, 1852, 1857-1858, 1862, 1864, 1866, 1869-1870, undated, 23 letters: major correspondents include Reverend John Schultz, Reverends Pierre-Jean de Smet, S.J., and John B. Druyts, S.J.
3. Diaries and histories, 1838-1925, undated, 1 cubic foot:
   b. Diary of Reverend Maurice Gailland, S.J., 1850-1871, 1 volume: translated and annotated by Reverend J.J. O'Meara, S.J.
   c. Diary, 1848-1849, 1877-1887, 1 volume: created by Reverend Maurice Gailland, S.J. and others
   d. "House Diary," 1854-1862, 1 volume
   g. "History of St. Mary's Mission among the Potawatomi, 1860-1865," undated, 12 pages: author unidentified; in Latin
   h. "St. Mary's Potawatomi Mission at Sugar Creek and on the Kaw River, Kansas," by Reverend Francis X. Kuppens, S.J., ca. 1865, 27 pages
   i. "St. Mary's Potawatomi Missions at Sugar Creek and at St. Marys on the Kansas River, Kansas," by Reverend Francis X. Kuppens, S.J., undated, 38 pages: in English
   j. "Father Kuppen's sketch of Catholic religion in Kansas earliest days," undated, 33 pages

4. Potawatomi Indian language records, 1844-1866, undated, 1 cubic foot: includes most prominently:
   b. "Grammar of the Potawatomi Language," by Reverend Maurice Gailland, S.J., undated, 2 volumes
   c. Potawatomi prayer books, 1844, 1846, 1866, 3 volumes: created by Reverend Maurice Gailland and Reverend Christian Hoecken, S.J.
   d. Potawatomi catechisms, 1847, 1848, undated, 3 volumes: by Reverend Christian Hoecken, S.J.
5. Sacramental records, 1832-1887, .75 cubic foot:
   a. "Reverend Charles F. Van Quickenborne's Register," 1832-1834, 1 volume: baptisms and marriages
   b. "Westport Register," 1839-1845, 1 volume: baptisms and marriages
   c. "Kickapoo and Council Bluffs Register," 1835-1839, 39 pages: baptisms and marriages
   d. Marriages, 1836-1882, 1 volume: various places, including St. Marys, Kansas; Montana; and the Dakotas
   e. Sugar Creek and St. Mary Missions, 1838-1887, 9 volumes

6. School records, 1858-1894, 3 volumes: register of students

7. Deeds, 1862-1863, 1870, 1 folder

   2. Microfilm, [1886-1988], undated, 10 reels: by Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; see Marquette University entry for further information

/2 "History of Individual Jesuits"
Inclusive dates: 1823-ca.1922, undated
Volume: .7 cubic foot
Description: Arranged alphabetically by surname.
A. "Duerinck, J.B., S.J.," 1854, 1 letter: from St. Mary Mission, Kansas
D. "Hoecken, Christian, S.J.," 1842, 1851, 2 letters
F. "Ponziglione, Paul, S.J.," 1847-1900, undated, .5 cubic foot:
   2. Diary, 1892-1900, 1 notebook
   3. Autobiography, 1870s, 2 notebooks: cover period from 1847-1877
   4. Sermon notes and religious exercises, undated, 7 notebooks
H. "Van Quickenborne, Charles, S.J.," 1823-1837, undated, 2 folders:
   1. Correspondence, 1823-1824, 1831, 1836, 6 letters
I. "Verhaegen, Peter," 1837-1838, 1841, 1847, 1849, 1861, 1 folder of correspondence

/3 "De Smetiana"
Inclusive dates: 1821-1923, undated
Volume: 5 cubic feet
Description: All correspondence is indexed chronologically and alphabetically by author or recipient of the letter.
A. "Letters (loose) received by Father De Smet, S.J.," 1833-1873, .5 cubic foot.
B. "Bound volume of letters received chiefly by Reverend Pierre-Jean de Smet, S.J., marked on back Missionary Letters," 1841-1860, 276 pages
C. "Volume of letters stamped on back 'Litterae Patentes and S.J.,' being chiefly official documents from civil and ecclesiastical authorities," 1833-1859, 100 pages
D. "Letters (loose) written by Father De Smet, S.J., arranged in folders according to date," 1834-1872, 1 folder
E. E. "Bound volumes of historical sketches, maps, pictures, and handwritten copies of letters," 1821-1872, 9 volumes
F. F. "Bound letterpress volumes containing copies of Father De Smet's (and of some others') letters," 1850-1873, 16 volumes
G. "Historical sketches by Father De Smet, S.J.," 1821-1854, 1868, 6 items
H. "Other unbound Mss. of Father De Smet, S.J.," 1832-1872, undated, 8 items
I. "Biographical data concerning Father De Smet, S.J.," 1872-1873, 1878, 1887, 1898, 1902, 1914, undated, 12 folders
J. "Pictures of Father De Smet, S.J.," 1840-1870, 1 folder
K. "Pictures of places and scenes associated with Father De Smet, S.J.; printed maps of his travels," 1850-1920, 1 folder
L. "Flat objects and pictures of things that belonged to or were in some way associated with Father De Smet, S.J.," 1860-1923, 1 cubic foot

Wisconsin Province Archives

See Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for holdings on St. Stephen’s Mission and the Wind River Reservation missions, parishes, and schools; St. Francis Mission and the Rosebud Reservation missions, parishes, and schools; Holy Rosary Mission/Red Cloud Indian School and the Pine Ridge Reservation missions, parishes, and schools; the Sioux Spiritual Center; and St. Isaac Jogues Church. Search under "Native America Collections:" http://www.marquette.edu/library/archives/Special_Collections/christianity_and_native_america.shtml.