



2012.04

Buffalo Regional Community Collection

Repository

Mercy Heritage Center
720 Heritage Center Place
Belmont NC 28012

Physical Description:

112 linear feet, including
Documents
Photographs
Audio-Visual Materials
Publications
Objects

Dates:

1858-2009

Restrictions:

Some files may be subject to restrictions. Consult Mercy Heritage Center archivists for more information.

Provenance:

The Buffalo Regional Community Collection was transferred to Mercy Heritage Center in 2012 from Mercy Center, Buffalo NY.

History:

The Buffalo community of the Sisters of Mercy was founded in 1858 by four sisters from the Rochester, New York foundation: Mother Teresa Austin Carroll, Sisters Mary Raymond O'Reilly, Mary Regis Madden, and postulant Mary Ann McGarr. The community soon spread to Batavia and created a new foundation in 1862. The Buffalo and Batavia foundations would go on to merge when the boundaries between the dioceses of Buffalo and Rochester were redrawn in the late nineteenth century.

The Buffalo community began to open ministries throughout western New York, eventually spreading to Hornell, Corning, Olean, Jamestown, Elmira and beyond. Ministries included Mount Mercy Academy, Mercy Hospital, St. Jerome's Hospital Batavia, and Troicaire College. In 1958, the Buffalo community established a community in Mindanao, Philippines.



The Buffalo community remained independent until 1991, when it joined the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas. In 2008, the Buffalo Community joined with Erie, PA, Rochester, NY, Pittsburgh, PA and the Philippines to form the New York, Pennsylvania, Pacific West Community within the Institute.

Scope and Content:

The Buffalo Regional Community Collection is comprised of 12 series organized by subject, format and function. Series I, Catherine McAuley/Sisters of Mercy in General contains information related to Sisters of Mercy outside of the Buffalo community, while the remaining series directly relate to the Buffalo community, areas of western New York and the Philippines. Series VII, Community, contains information about celebrations, events, committees, and other facets of community life. Series IX, Special Files, contains individual member files, publications, and artwork.

Schema:

- I. Catherine McAuley/Sisters of Mercy in General
- II. Buffalo Foundation
- III. Convents/Houses/Ministries
- IV. Convents/Houses/Ministries – Closed/Ended
- V. Philippine Mission
- VI. Government
- VII. Community
- VIII. Administration
- IX. Special Files
- X. Photographs/AV Materials
- XI. Early Publications
- XII. Artifacts/Display Items