



2011.16

Vermont Regional Community Collection

Repository

Mercy Heritage Center
720 Heritage Center Place
Belmont NC 28012

Physical Description:

61 linear feet, including
Documents
Photographs
Objects
Oversized Material

Dates:

1874-2007

Restrictions:

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

Provenance:

This collection was transferred to Mercy Heritage Center from the Northeast Community Administrative Center in Cumberland, Rhode Island in November 2011. The collection was maintained by the Vermont Regional Community until 2006.

History:

The Sisters of Mercy were first invited to Vermont by its Bishop in 1872 to staff a school in St. Johnsbury. The area was not able to support a foundation and the sisters were reassigned to Portland, Maine after two years. The Bishop then requested that the same group return to the Vermont to take over St. Mary's Cathedral School in Burlington. On September 13, 1874, a small group of sisters arrived in Burlington. Mother Stanislaus O'Malley became the first superior. In 1878, the sisters opened St. Patrick's Academy, a boarding school that became Mount Saint Mary's Academy and eventually the site of the motherhouse.

Ministries soon spread to Montpelier, Barre, White River Junction, and Middlebury. Vermont Sisters have also served in Saipan, Taiwan, and Peru. Modern ministries include Mater Christi



School, Trinity College, and the Institute for Spiritual Development, Mercy Connections, and Mercy Farm.

The Vermont Community remained independent until the formation of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy in 1991. The Vermont Regional Community then joined with five other regional communities to form the Northeast Community of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy in 2006.

Scope and Content:

The collection is organized into nineteen series based on topic and format. The fifteen series marked “H” for history contain community history, material related to individuals, ministries, and community life. H100 contains early historical information about the Vermont foundation. Series H300 Membership and Association contains files on individual members. The four series marked “A” for administration contain meeting minutes, property, and finance information. A100 Governance: Regional Community, contains information on assemblies, meetings, and boards.

Series:

H100 Vermont Sisters of Mercy
H200 Presidents and Councils
H300 Membership and Association
H400 Mercy Celebrations and Events
H500 Pictures and Postcards
H600 Community Communications
H700 New Membership and Vocation Ministry
H800 Community
H900 Sponsored Ministries
H1000 Other Ministries
H1100 Creative Arts and Writings
H1200 The Catholic Church
H1300 Pre-Institute and Institute
H1400 Audio-Visuals
H1500 Miscellaneous
A100 Governance Regional Community



A200 Finance

A300 Property

A400 Development