

2011.13

New Hampshire Regional Community Collection

Repository

Mercy Heritage Center
720 Heritage Center Place
Belmont NC, 28012

Physical Description:

102 linear feet, including

Documents

Books

Photographs, Slides

Sound recordings

Bound volumes

Published reports, directories, theses and dissertations

Dates:

1858-2006

Restrictions:

Some files are subject to restriction, including certain records relating to membership and governance. Consult Mercy Heritage Center Archivists for more information.

Provenance:

This collection was transferred to Mercy Heritage Center, Belmont, North Carolina in November, 2011 from the Sisters of Mercy, Northeast Community Archives in Windham, New Hampshire.

History:

The history of the New Hampshire community of the Sisters of Mercy begins in 1858, when Mother Frances Warde and four other sisters arrived in Manchester from their foundation in Providence, Rhode Island. The sisters promptly began to instruct children and mill workers, opening a free school and Mt. St. Mary Academy.

The New Hampshire community founded a number of new Mercy communities, including foundations in New Jersey, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Vermont and Maine.

Through the years the community operated the House of St. Martha, a residence for working women, Sacred Heart Hospital, homes for the elderly, orphanages, a school of nursing and two



colleges, Castle College and Marian Court College. The New Hampshire community also served in Massachusetts, South Carolina, California, Colombia, Tanzania, and Central America. In the 1980s, the New Hampshire community became involved in the Sanctuary Movement. In the 1990s and 2000s, New Hampshire sisters have served in a variety of ministries, serving those in need through education, social services and justice initiatives.

In 1991, the New Hampshire community joined the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas as the New Hampshire Regional Community. In 2006 the community became part of the Northeast Community of the Sisters of Mercy

Scope and Content:

The collection is organized into two main subgroups, History and Administration, and is organized into eighteen series based on function, location and format. The collection includes records related to community governance and administration, individual members and the ministries staffed or owned by the New Hampshire community. Three dimensional objects are stored and cataloged as part of Mercy Heritage Center's artifact collection.

SCHEMA

History

H000 Rare Books

H100 Catherine McAuley

H200 Frances Warde

H204 Persons Associated with Frances Warde

H300 Sisters of Mercy: General

H360 Sisters of Mercy: New Hampshire

H400 Reverend Mothers/Presidents

H500 Religious Life

H600 Celebrations

H700 Sponsored Ministries

H710.1 Castle College

H710.2 Our Lady of Grace Academy

H710.3 Marian Court Kindergarten

H710.4 Mercy Center for Children

H710.5 Mt. St. Mary Academy/Seminary

H710.51 Mt. St. Mary Academy

H710.52 Mt. St. Mary Day School

H710.53 Mt. St. Mary Academy, Elm Street, Manchester

H710.54 Mt. St. Mary Academy, Hooksett

H710.55 Mt. St. Mary Academy/Seminary, Nashua

H710.6 Mt. St. Mary College

H710.7 Rimmon Heights Kindergarten

H720.3 Our Lady of Perpetual Help Maternity Hospital

H720.4 Sacred Heart Hospital

H720.5 Sacred Heart Hospital School of Nursing and School of X-Ray Technology

H730 Various Housing Ministries

H730.1 Frances Warde House

H730.2 House of St. Martha

H730.3 McAuley Commons

H730.5 St. John's Home for Aged Men

H740 Miscellaneous Ministries

H740.1 Night Refuge

H750 Missions Outside of New England

H750.1 Tanzania, Africa

H750.2 Cartago, Colombia

H750.3 Cali, Colombia

H750.4 Honduras

H750.5 Nicaragua and Panama

H750.7 Walterboro, South Carolina

H750.8 Edinburg, Texas

H800 Non-sponsored Ministries

H900 Publications

H1000 Audio-Visuals

H1100 Creative Arts

Administration

A100 Governance and Administration

Chapters/Assemblies

Region I

Region II

A110 General Council Minutes

A120 Policies

A130 Documents

A200 Membership

A300 Finances



A400 Property

A500 Rome/Diocese