

2014.01

## **Burlingame Regional Community Collection**

### **Repository:**

Mercy Heritage Center  
720 Heritage Center Place  
Belmont, NC 28012

### **Physical Description:**

Documents  
Photographs, negatives, slides, glass slides  
Bound volumes  
Published reports, directories, theses  
Cassette tapes, VHS tapes, Film reels, Audio tape

### **Dates:**

1854-2013

### **Restrictions:**

Some files subject to restriction, including the subseries "Withdrawn Sisters" and some leadership material. Consult Mercy Heritage Center archivists for more information.

### **Provenance:**

This collection was transferred to Mercy Heritage Center, Belmont, North Carolina, in May 2014 from Burlingame, California.

### **History:**

The former Burlingame Regional Community of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas was founded in San Francisco, California in 1854, by a group from Kinsale, Ireland, led by Mother Baptist Russell. Incorporated in 1868 as the Sisters of Mercy of San Francisco, in 1922 this group joined with four other communities of Sisters of Mercy from Rio Vista, Los Angeles, and San Diego, California and Phoenix, Arizona to form The Sisters of Mercy of California and Arizona. In 1991, with the formation of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the America, the group became The Burlingame Regional Community, and on July 1, 2008 merged with Auburn, Cedar Rapids, Chicago, Detroit and Omaha groups to become the West Midwest Community of the Institute with the administration in Omaha, Nebraska.

### **Scope and Content:**

The collection is organized into six main subgroups, with oversize and audiovisual materials comprising additional subgroups, outlined in the collection schema.

Collections span the years since 1854 documenting the lives, institutions and ministries of the sisters in California, New Mexico and Arizona; the ministries in response to Vatican II: the mission to the Altiplano of Peru; and the promotion of social justice. Records include historical documents, photographs, scrapbooks, audio-visual materials.

Early historical materials dating from 1854 to 1906 are sparse because much was lost in the earthquake and fire of 1906 which destroyed St. Mary's Hospital, the administrative center of the San Francisco sisters until 1922.

## **SCHEMA**

- I. Catherine McAuley and Sisters of Mercy
  - 1.1 Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy
  - 1.2 Pre-history/Rule
  - 1.3 Particular Units and Groups
- II. Sisters of Mercy of California/Arizona: Institutions
  - 2.1 General/Annals/Anniversaries
  - 2.2 San Francisco Foundation (1854)
  - 2.3 Northern California Foundations
  - 2.4 New Mexico/Arizona Foundation
  - 2.5 Los Angeles Foundation
  - 2.6 San Diego Foundation
  - 2.7 Post Amalgamation Houses
- III. Sisters of Mercy of California/Arizona: General Administration
  - 3.1 Amalgamations/Constitutions
  - 3.2 Chapters
  - 3.3 Diocesan/Vatican/Civic Relations
  - 3.4 Superiors General/Presidents/Council Minutes/Articles of Incorporation
  - 3.5 Sister Formation
  - 3.6 College of Our Lady of Mercy/Russell College
  - 3.7 Motherhouse
- IV. Sisters of Mercy of California/Arizona: Sisters
  - 4.1 Life Records/Professions/Dispensations/Deceased Sisters/Obituaries
  - 4.2 Jubilees/Directories/Assignments/Renewal Retreats
- V. Sisters of Mercy of California/Arizona: Congregational Life
  - 5.1 Prayer
  - 5.2 Community Life

VI. Sisters of Mercy of California/Arizona: Mission/Ministry

6.1 General Mission/Ministry

6.2 Education

6.3 Health Services Ministry

6.4 Other Ministries

6.5 Peru Mission

OTHER SERIES

A. Outsized books (registers, etc.)

B. Outsized files

C. Architect Drawings [in Burlingame, CA]

D. Scrapbooks and albums

E. Books/Theses/Dissertations

F. Audio/visual materials (slides, tapes, CDs)