

**Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur Records
North and West Boston Schools**

Finding Aid

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Collection Summary

Title: North and West Boston School Papers

Accession Numbers: 2014.11

Dates: 1924-2008

Bulk Dates: 1946-1973

Location: Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur Boston/Ipswich/Connecticut [BIC] Archives.

Physical Description: 1 box, 21 volumes and 95 photographs.

Abstract: The North and West Boston School Records includes the Dartmouth Street Convent Annals, school faculty register and miscellaneous school papers and photographs for St. Mary's School, St. John's School, St. Joseph's School, Christopher Columbus High School and Julie Billiart High School.

Search Terms:

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur
Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur – History
Religious life – History
Women's Religious Orders – History
Julie Billiart High School
St. John's School
St. Joseph's School
Christopher Columbus High School
St. Mary's School

Provenance: The collection has been part of the collection for more than 30 years.

Processing: The collection was arranged in 2014 and the finding aid written shortly afterward.

Conservation Work: Staples removed, some papers unfolded. Boxes and enclosures created for fragile volumes.

Restrictions: The collection is available for research only in the BIC Archives

Scope and Content Note:

The papers for the North and West Boston Schools contain limited records for St. John's School, St. Joseph's School and St. Mary's School. The collection focuses mostly on the Julie Billiart High School and the Dartmouth Street Convent where the Sisters of Notre Dame lived from 1946 to 1973.

The Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur arrived in Boston in 1849 to teach at St. Mary's parish school in North Boston. In 1862 they were invited to teach at St. Joseph's School in West Boston and in 1872, they expanded their mission to include St. Stephen's School which was later renamed St. John's School.

Despite the long history of the Sisters' presence in both north and west Boston, there are limited records of their work at St. Mary's, St. John's and St. Joseph's Schools. The collection is mostly comprised of the records kept by the Sisters after a convent was built for them on Dartmouth Street in Boston. The convent was built with the original intent for the Sisters to continue teaching at St. Joseph's, but with their arrival, a new high school—the Christopher Columbus High School—opened. Between 1945 and 1950, the Sisters of Notre Dame taught just the girls at the Christopher Columbus High School. In 1950, the girls' high school changed their name to the Julie Billiard High School.

Included with the papers are two commemorative volumes created by the students at St. John's School in 1890 and by students at St. Mary's School in 1893. The 1890 volume was created to honor the Sisters of Notre Dame being in the United States for 50 years and the 1893 volume was included in the 1893 Columbian Exposition, also known as the Chicago World's Fair of 1893.

The Dartmouth Street Convent papers contain a register of Sisters living at the convent, their vow renewal records and miscellaneous papers collected between 1960 and 1983. The records for the Julie Billiard High School include the faculty register, yearbooks, a school essay by one student written in the mid-1960s, photographs and a homily given in 2008 at a school reunion.

Organization and Container List

School Shelves

Golden Jubilee of the Sisters of Notre Dame in America from St. John's School, Boston, 1890.

Catholic Columbian Exhibit Volume, St. Mary's School, Boston, Mass., 1893.

Dartmouth Street Convent Annals, 1946-1973.

Faculty Register, Julie Billiard High School, 1945-1973.

Dartmouth Street Convent and School Papers, 1924-2008.

Box 1

Folder 1	Dartmouth Street Convent Register, 1946-1973.
Folder 2	Dartmouth Street Vow Renewals, 1947-1973.
Folder 3	Dartmouth Street Convent Papers, 1960, 1973, 1983.
Folder 4	St. Joseph's Anniversary Booklet, 1987.
Folder 5	St. Mary's School Papers, 1924, 1972, 2007.

Folder 6	Julie Billiard School Papers, 1969-1978.
Folder 7	Julie Billiard School Essay, c. 1966.
Folder 8	Julie Billiard School Reunion Homily, 2008.
Folder 9	St. Mary's Centennial Photographs, 1949. [2 photographs]
Folder 10	Dartmouth Street Convent Photographs, 1946-1967. [8 photographs]
Folder 11	Julie Billiard High School Photographs, 1950-1970. [4 photographs]
Folder 12	Julie Billiard High School Photographs, 1950-1970. [35 photographs]

Box 2

Julie Billiard Student Photographs, 1966-1968. [46 photographs]

School Shelves

Christopher Columbus High School Yearbook, 1949.
 Christopher Columbus High School Yearbook, 1950.
 Julie Billiard High School Yearbook, 1951.
 Julie Billiard High School Yearbook, 1962.
 Julie Billiard High School Yearbook, 1963.
 Julie Billiard High School Yearbook, 1964.
 Julie Billiard High School Yearbook, 1965.
 Julie Billiard High School Yearbook, 1966.
 Julie Billiard High School Yearbook, 1967.
 Julie Billiard High School Yearbook, 1972.
 Julie Billiard High School Yearbook, 1974.
 Julie Billiard High School Yearbook, 1976.
 Julie Billiard High School Jubilee Book, 1970.
 Christopher Columbus Central Catholic High School 40th anniversary book, 1985.

Artifact Box

Granite from St. Mary's Church.
 Commemorative pocket mirror, Julie Billiard High School Reunion, 1986.
 St. Mary's School Religious medal, c. 1950.