

**Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur Records
St. Augustine's School
Andover, MA**

Finding Aid

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Collection Summary

Title: St. Augustine's School Papers

Accession Numbers: 2013.48

Dates: 1914-1992

Bulk Dates: 1914-1974

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

Physical Description: 1 box, 14 volumes, 35 photographs

Abstract: The collection contains the history, reports, journals and annals for the Sisters of Notre Dame's Mission in Andover.

Search Terms:

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur - History

Religious life - History

Women's Religious Orders - History

Provenance: The collection was transferred to Ipswich within the last 20 years.

Processing: The collection was arranged and a finding aid written in 2012.

Conservation Work: Staples removed, some papers unfolded. Boxes were constructed for fragile volumes.

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

Scope and Content Note: Until 1914, St. Augustine's had been a Mission Church, maintained by the Augustinian Fathers at St. Mary's in Lawrence, MA. The Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur were asked by Fr. Frederick Riordan, pastor of St. Augustine's, to teach in Andover when a convent was completed in 1914. Four Sisters of Notre Dame arrived that year to take up residence in the convent. They were Sisters Helen Bernadine Kelly (1877-1954), Marie Monica Needham (1887-1959), Frances Patricia Ruane (1888-1968) and Philip Mary Dwight (1887-1916). The school opened with 88 students. In addition to their work at St. Augustine's, the Sisters also taught Sunday School to almost 200 children and they organized the Holy Angel Sodality with a beginning membership of 128. In 1917, the construction for a new school was completed, containing 8 classrooms, an auditorium and music room. That year, the enrollment totaled 237 children.

The collection contains the handwritten Annals, Journals and Financial Records kept by the Sisters from 1914 to 1972, as well as brochures for school events, some yearbooks, and assessments done on the school during the 1970s. Also included here is the original 1914 document granting permission for the construction of the convent for the Sisters of Notre Dame in Andover; sheet music used for various performances by the children; a brief typed history of the school; minutes of the Councillor's meetings; a register of the Sisters who lived at the convent, including Vow Renewals; Charge List stating number of students and grades taught by Sisters; and a Register of children who made First Communion between 1915 and 1957.

Organization and Container List

Box 1

- Folder 1 Ecclesial Documents, 1914-1964.
- Folder 2 Brochures and Programs, 1944-1985.
- Folder 3 Sheet Music, 1915-1942.
- Folder 4 School Assessment Report, 1972-1974.
- Folder 5 Yearbooks, 1980-1981.
- Folder 6 News Clippings, 1957-1990.
- Folder 7 Convent Accounts, 1968-1972.
- Folder 8 History of St. Augustine, 1983.

School Shelves

- Annals, St. Augustine Convent, 1914-1972.
- Journal, St. Augustine Convent, 1914-1924.
- Journal, St. Augustine Convent, 1925-1940.
- Journal, St. Augustine Convent, 1941-1949.
- Journal, St. Augustine Convent, 1950-1960.
- Journal, St. Augustine Convent, 1965-1969.
- Councillor's Meetings, St. Augustine Convent, 1922-1958.
- Councillor's Meetings, St. Augustine Convent, 1959-1969.
- Accounts of Expenditures, St. Augustine Convent, 1950-1961.
- Sister's Register, St. Augustine Convent, 1914-1976.
- Vow Renewals, 1925-1972.
- Charge List, 1943-1964.
- First Communion Register, St. Augustine's, 1915-1957.

Photo Box 15

- 35 Photographs, 1950-1960.