

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur Records Roxbury/Hingham Notre Dame Academy Papers

Finding Aid

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Collection Summary

Title: Roxbury/Hingham Notre Dame Academy Papers

Accession Numbers: 2013.52

Dates: 1854 to 2015

Bulk Dates: 1870-1990

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

Physical Description: 9 Boxes, 62 Volumes, 19 Scrapbooks, 672 Photographs, 9 artifacts, 3 VHS tapes and 3 DVDs [15 linear feet].

Abstract: The Roxbury/Hingham Notre Dame Academy Papers includes the Annals and Journals kept by the Sisters; corporation records; convent registers; school registers; vow renewals; brochures and history of school events; Alumni Association records; photographs of academy and graduates; scrapbooks for anniversaries and ongoing events; school records and documents for the 1965 move from Roxbury to Hingham.

Search Terms:

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur - History

Religious life - History

Women's Religious Orders - History

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur - Massachusetts - Roxbury

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur - Massachusetts - Hingham

Provenance: The bulk of the records were transferred to the Archives sometime before 1990. Records for the Class of 1953, including a scrapbook from 1953, were donated by Mary T. Kelleher, SNDdeN. The school newsletter, *Vita*, is an ongoing addition to the collection.

Processing: The collection, originally processed as two collections, was arranged and combined into one collection in 2015.

Accruals: The collection will be added to on a continuing basis.

Conservation Work: Staples removed, some papers unfolded. News clippings were digitized and copies included with collection.

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

Scope and Content Note

The Notre Dame Academy in Roxbury was the third Notre Dame School opened by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in Massachusetts. It opened on May 8, 1854, with Sr. Mary Aloysius Halthkamp (1823-1874) as Superior. The school had both boarding students and a day school. Because of the rapid increase in students, Sr. Mary Aloysius hired Patrick Keeley, a well-known Catholic architect, to begin the plans for a new convent and school, which was finally completed on May 1, 1857. An addition was completed in 1885.

In 1954, when the Notre Dame Academy on Granby Street in Boston could no longer be maintained, they merged with the Roxbury Academy. Then, in 1965, the combined Academies moved to their new facility to Hingham, where it continues until this day.

The Roxbury/Hingham Notre Dame Academy Papers include records for both the Sisters of Notre Dame and for the students of the NDA from its beginnings until recently. The Corporation records include the By-Laws for the Corporation, as well as minutes of their meetings. Convent Registers list the Sisters' religious name, birth name, parents' information, date of entry into the SNDs, date of profession and of perpetual vows, when they entered Roxbury community and what charge they had while in Roxbury or Hingham.

Convent Annals were usually kept by the Superior, but the Annals kept from 1854-1868 were mostly written from the memories of other Sisters in the house. The Annals from 1861 to 1894 were originally written in French, as was the custom in most Notre Dame convents, until 1881 when they began keeping them in English. Those Annals labeled as between 1957 to 1965 were written by Sr. Mary Bernadine at Philadelphia of memories told to her by Sr. Perpetua. The Convent Journals record more of a daily account of activities in the convent and school. The Journal kept between 1955 to 1965 detail the transfer of the Academy from Roxbury to Hingham. Also included with the Convent papers are Councillor's meeting records and monthly finance reports.

The Roxbury Academy papers include vow renewals; accounts of Sr. Mary Aloysius' death in 1874 and of Sr. Constantine's death in 1926; informational brochures for prospective students; register of boarders and day students; student academic and attendance registers; documents placed in a time capsule in 1909; programs, brochures and documents for various social and academic events held at the school; reports by Sisters on those various events; Children of Mary and Young Ladies Literary Institute Certificates; St. Thomas Literary Guild Annals; student government notes; Alumni Association correspondence, events, and minutes; Centennial records for celebration in

1954; songs [motets] written by the students; a Centennial Scrapbook containing documents from the late 19th century through the anniversary in 1954; dual diplomas earned by Mary T. Kelleher in 1953 for NDA and Catholic University; and a 1953 scrapbook kept by Mary T. Kelleher.

Also included here is a volume comprised of 35 letters to and from Mary O'Donnell, a Notre Dame Academy boarding student, who died in 1889. In 1893, the NDA participated in the Columbian Exposition held in Chicago by creating 2 volumes of their students' work. The books were exhibited in Chicago, Illinois from May 1 to October 30, 1893. The collection includes the school yearbooks from 1961 to their last year in Roxbury, 1964. As part of the move, former students conducted interviews to offer reminiscences of life at NDA in Roxbury and later Hingham.

Records for the NDA in the newly opened school in Hingham include dedication flyers for the opening; vow register for sisters; Convent Annals; Board of Director and Trustee papers; student newspapers and newsletters' and information on school history; brochures and programs for school events; records for the move of the Roxbury tablet to Hingham in 1997; property papers; annual and accreditation reports; as well as scrapbooks kept by the sisters of school and students events; school yearbooks; and the school newsletter, *Vita*. In 1986, the school held an Evening of Stars as a fundraiser for the new track and other improvements. The VHS tape of the night's events has been digitized to preserve the event.

Photographs for both the NDA in Roxbury include images of graduates from 1861 to 1916; photographs of the Centennial celebration in 1954, including students from that graduating class; 1953 Class Day pictures; photos of schools events and academy grounds. Images for the Academy in Hingham contain those for the groundbreaking and dedication ceremonies; those of school events, of students and various sisters; and of reunions.

Organization and Container List

Roxbury/Hingham NDA Shelves

Roxbury Academy Centennial Scrapbook, 1854-1954.

Roxbury Academy Corporation Records, 1855-1960.

Roxbury Academy Convent Register, 1870-1964.

Roxbury Academy Convent Annals, 1854-1868.

Roxbury Academy Convent Annals, 1861-1894.

Roxbury Academy Convent Annals, 1957 to 1965

NDA Academy, Hingham Convent Register 1965 to 1974

Roxbury Academy Convent Journal, 1955-1965.

Box 1 Photographs, 1861-1954.

Box 1.1 Photographs, 1965-1966, 1984.

Box 1.2 Photographs, 1971-1989.

Box 2

- Folder 1** NDA By-Laws, n.d.
- Folder 2** Vow Renewals, 1919-1925.
- Folder 3** Vow Renewals, 1926-1965.
- Folder 4** NDA Memories, 1894.
- Folder 5** Sr. Mary Aloysius Death, 1874.
- Folder 6** Sr. Constantine's Death, 1926.
- Folder 7** NDA Brochures, 1920-1940.
- Folder 8** NDA Brochures, 1920-1940.
- Folder 9** Time Capsule Documents, 1909.
- Folder 10** NDA History, 1917, 1954.
- Folder 11** Annual Programs, 1930-1935.
- Folder 12** Annual Programs, 1936-1939.
- Folder 13** Annual Programs, 1941-1942.
- Folder 14** Annual Programs, 1944.
- Folder 15** Christmas Programs, 1930-1953.
- Folder 16** Christmas Programs, 1954-1956.
- Folder 17** Student Newsletters, 1953, 1955.
- Folder 18** Commencement Programs, 1947-1960.
- Folder 19** School Programs, 1886, 1913-1919.

Box 3

- Folder 1** School Programs, 1920-1929.
- Folder 2** School Programs, 1930-1939.
- Folder 3** School Programs, 1940-1952.
- Folder 4** School Programs, 1953-1954.
- Folder 5** School Programs, 1955-1959.
- Folder 6** Programs, 1927-1939.
- Folder 7** School Activities Report, 1949-1950.
- Folder 8** School Activities Report, 1950-1951.

- Folder 9** School Activities Report, 1951-1952.
- Folder 10** School Activities Report, 1952-1953.
- Folder 11** Elementary School Programs, 1917-1956.
- Folder 12** Children of Mary Certificate, 1889.
- Folder 13** Literary Institute Certificates, 1911-1917.
- Folder 14** Notre Dame Guild History, 1936.
- Folder 15** Apostleship of Study Award, 1911.
- Folder 16** Student Government Committee, c. 1950.
- Folder 17** Notre Dame Alumni Association Papers, 1884-1919.
- Folder 18** Notre Dame Alumni Association Papers, 1920-1927.
- Folder 19** Notre Dame Alumni Association Papers, 1929-1950.
- Folder 20** Notre Dame Alumni Association Papers, 1951-1953.

Box 4

- Folder 1** Notre Dame Alumni Association Papers, 1954-1955.
- Folder 2** Notre Dame Alumni Association Papers, 1956-1960.
- Folder 3** Notre Dame Alumni Association Papers, n.d.
- Folder 4** Notre Dame Alumni Association By-Laws, 1917, 1952.
- Folder 5** Notre Dame Alumni Association Minutes, 1954-1955.
- Folder 6** Notre Dame Alumni Association Events, 1941-1954.
- Folder 7** Notre Dame Alumni Association Events, 1955-1957.
- Folder 8** Notre Dame Alumni Association Events, 1957-1963, n.d.
- Folder 9** Notre Dame Alumni Association News Clippings, 1954.
- Folder 10** Class of 1953 Reunion, 1973.
- Folder 11** Class of 1953 Reunion, List, 2003.
- Folder 12** Mary T. Kelleher Dual Diplomas, 1953.
- Folder 13** Mary T. Kelleher Commemorative Diploma, 2003.
- Folder 14** Centennial Booklets, 1954.
- Folder 15** News Clippings, 1954-2001.

Roxbury/Hingham NDA Shelves

Roxbury Convent Councillor's Meetings, 1942-1965.

Roxbury Convent Finances, 1942-1962.

NDA Roxbury Register of Boarders, 1885-1889.

NDA Roxbury Register of Boarders, 1875-1921.

NDA Roxbury Register of Boarders, 1875-1907.

NDA Roxbury Student Academic Register, 1886-1894.

NDA Roxbury Student Academic Register, 1890-1894.

NDA Roxbury Student Attendance Register, 1892-1894.

NDA Roxbury Student Attendance Register, 1894-1896.

NDA Roxbury Student Academic Register, 1894-1901.

NDA Roxbury Student Attendance Register, 1898-1900.

NDA Roxbury Student Academic Register, 1901.

NDA Roxbury Student Attendance Register, 1902.

NDA Roxbury Student Academic Register, 1903-1904.

NDA Roxbury Student Attendance Register, 1903-1907.

NDA Roxbury Student Academic Register, 1904-1907.

NDA Roxbury Student Academic Register, 1905-1919.

NDA Roxbury Student Academic Register, 1906-1908.

NDA Roxbury Student Attendance Register, 1906-1910.

NDA Roxbury Student Attendance Register, 1907-1915.

NDA Roxbury Student Academic Register, 1908-1909.

NDA Roxbury Student Academic Register, 1908-1910.

NDA Roxbury Student Academic Register, 1910-1914.

NDA Roxbury Student Attendance Register, 1910-1914.

NDA Roxbury Student Academic Register, 1914-1918.

NDA Roxbury Student Academic Register, 1923-1965.

NDA Roxbury St. Thomas Literary Guild Annals, 1888-1898.

Mary O'Donnell Letters, 1889.

Book of Science. Columbian Exposition Book, Pupils of Notre Dame Academy, Roxbury, Massachusetts. 1893.

Book of Literature, History and Language. Columbian Exposition Book, Pupils of Notre Dame Academy, Roxbury, Massachusetts. 1893.

Mary T. Kelleher Scrapbook, 1953.

Christmas Motets, 1854-1920.

NDA Roxbury Yearbooks, 1961-1964. [4 volumes]

Roxbury/Hingham Memories. Video Recording. 1964.

Box 5

- Folder 1** Vow Register, 1966-1975.
- Folder 2** Convent Annals, 1965-1978.
- Folder 3** Convent Annals, 1982-1984.
- Folder 4** School Dedication Papers, 1965.
- Folder 4.1** Dedication Book, 1965; School Renovations, 1984. [oversize]
- Folder 5** Mariecho [School Newspaper], 1965-1975.
- Folder 6** Mariecho [School Newspaper], 1976-1977.
- Folder 7** Student Newsletters, 1972, 1979-1981.
- Folder 8** NDA Journal [School Newspaper], 1985-1986.
- Folder 9** NDA Journal [School Newspaper], 1989-1996.
- Folder 10** NDA Journal [School Newspaper], 1997-1998.
- Folder 11** NDA Journal [School Newspaper], 1999-2003.
- Folder 12** The Medallion [School Newspaper], 1988-1992.
- Folder 13** The Medallion [School Newspaper], 1993-1995.
- Folder 14** The Voice [School Newspaper], 1983, February.
- Folder 15** The Muse [School Literary Journal], 1986, Spring.
- Folder 16** The Muse [School Literary Journal], 1987, Spring.
- Folder 17** The Muse [School Literary Journal], 1988, Spring.
- Folder 18** School History, 1965.
- Folder 19** Trustee's Handbook, 1984.
- Folder 20** School Plans and Projections, 1989-2000.
- Folder 21** Board of Director's Papers, 1995-1996.
- Folder 22** Board of Director's Papers, 2000.

Box 6

- Folder 1** Property Papers, 1964-1988.
- Folder 2** School Brochures, 1964-2004.
- Folder 3** School Brochures, n.d.
- Folder 4** School Curriculum, n.d.
- Folder 5** Correspondence, 1969-2015.
- Folder 5.1** Roxbury Tablet Moving, 1997.
- Folder 6** Events, 1967-1999.
- Folder 7** Events, 2002-2003.
- Folder 8** Events, 2006-2015, n.d.
- Folder 9** School Awards, 1960-1998.
- Folder 10** School Directory, 1999-2000.
- Folder 11** Student Life, 1968-1995, n.d.
- Folder 12** Annual Reports, 1990-1995.
- Folder 13** Annual Reports, 1996-1999, 2006-2007.
- Folder 14** Accreditation Report, Part 1, 1970.
- Folder 15** Accreditation Report, Part 2, 1970.
- Folder 16** Accreditation Report, Part 3, 1970.

Box 7

- Folder 1** Accreditation Report, Part 4, 1970.
- Folder 2** Accreditation Report, Part 5, 1970.
- Folder 3** Accreditation Report, Part 6, 1970.
- Folder 4** Accreditation Report, Part 7, 1970.
- Folder 5** Accreditation Report, Part 1-3, 1980.
- Folder 6** Accreditation Report, Part 4, 1980.
- Folder 7** Accreditation Report, Part 5-6, 1980.
- Folder 8** Accreditation Report, 1990.
- Folder 9** Accreditation Report, 1990.
- Folder 10** Accreditation Report, Part 1, 1990.
- Folder 11** Accreditation Report, Part 2, 1990.
- Folder 12** Accreditation Report, Part 3, 1990.
- Folder 13** Alumni Papers, 1967-2009.
- Folder 14** Prayers and Liturgies, n.d.
- Folder 15** News Clippings, 1969-1993, n.d.
- Folder 16** St. Paul's School Papers, 1980-1984.

Roxbury/Hingham NDA Shelves

- NDA Hingham Scrapbooks 1974-1976.
- 1977-1980.
- 1980-1982.
- 1982-1983.

NDA Hingham Scrapbooks 1983.
 1984-1985.
 1984-1985.
 1985-1986.
 1986.
 1986 – Evening of Stars.
 1987-1990 – Sports.
 1987-1990 – Academic and Social Events.
 1990-1991.
 1991-1992.
 1992-1995.
 1980-1987 – Volleyball Team.
 1985 – Cross Country Team.
 1995 – Cross Country Team.

NDA School Yearbooks, 1966-1994. [18 volumes]

Vita, NDA Hingham Newsletter, 2004-2015.

An Evening of Stars, 1986. Video recording.

A Cappella Concert Choir, Paul Kelly Music Director, 1995. Audio recording.