



2012.12

Merion/Philadelphia Regional Community Collection

Repository

Mercy Heritage Center
720 Heritage Center Place
Belmont NC 28012

Physical Description:

143 linear feet, including
Documents
Bound material
Photographs
Video

Dates:

1861-2009

Restrictions:

Some files may be subject to restrictions. Consult Mercy Heritage Center archivists for more information.

Provenance:

This collection was transferred to the Mercy Heritage Center, Belmont, North Carolina, in October 2012 from Merion, Pennsylvania.

History

On August 22, 1861, Patricia Waldron and nine companions from the Mercy foundation in Manchester, New Hampshire established the first foundation in Philadelphia at Assumption B.V.M. parish. In addition to staffing the parish school, the sisters opened an academy and night school, began visitation of the sick in homes and hospitals as well as visitation of prisoners.

In 1884, the community purchased property in a suburb of Philadelphia, Merion, which became the motherhouse. The sisters soon opened Mater Misericordiae school and began teaching in area parish schools.

They established schools of nursing and Gwynedd-Mercy College and were pioneers in special education at St. Katherine Day School. In 1918, two years after the death of Mother Patricia Waldron, Misericordia Hospital (now Mercy Philadelphia Hospital) opened its doors at 54th and Cedar Avenues. Other ministries of the Philadelphia community include Mercy Hospice, Project Home, Women of Hope, Bethesda Project and Mercy Neighborhood ministries. Sisters from the Merion Regional Community have also served in India, Peru, Thailand and Namibia.



In 1991, the community joined the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas as the Merion Regional Community. In 2007 Merion united with the regional communities of Brooklyn, New York, Dallas, Pennsylvania and New Jersey to form the Mid-Atlantic Regional Community.

Scope and Content

The collection is organized into six record groups: Withdrawn Sisters, Deceased Sisters, Historical Records, Administrative Records, Ministries/Residences and Audiovisual Material. The collection includes records related to community governance and administration, individual members and the ministries staffed or owned by the Merion community. Additional material related to clergy, local history and parishes is also contained in the collection, particularly in the History and Ministry/Residences record groups.

Records range from the early period of the community's founding until the transition to the Mid-Atlantic Community in 2007. Post-2007 records are located in the Mid-Atlantic Community Archives in Merion, Pennsylvania.

Schema

100 Withdrawn Sisters

200 Deceased Sisters

300 Historical Records

- 300.1 Foundresses
- 300.2 Major Superiors
- 300.3 Philadelphia/Merion History
- 300.4 Community Life
- 300.5 Spiritual Renewal
- 300.6 Formation/Incorporation
- 300.7 Associated Individuals and Events
- 300.8 Newsletters
- 300.9 Dissertations and Publication by Sisters
- 300.10 Mercy Corps
- 300.11 Mercy Associates
- 300.12 Rome

400 Administrative Records

- 400.1 Corporations
- 400.2 General Council
- 400.3 Chapters and Assemblies
- 400.4 Mercy Futures
- 400.5 Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
- 400.6 Development Office
- 400.7 Education Offices
- 400.8 Ministry Offices

- 400.9 Committees and Task Forces
- 400.10 Surveys and Studies
- 400.11 Organizations
- 400.12 Finances
- 400.13 Real Estate
- 400.14 Walsingham Academy

500 Ministries/Residences

- 500.1 Assignments
- 500.2 Academy of Our Lady of Mercy, Philadelphia
- 500.3 Convent of Mercy, Annunciation and Assumption Convents Gwynedd Valley, PA
- 500.4 Annunciation Convent and School, Havelock, NC
- 500.5 Annunciation Convent and School, Havertown, PA
- 500.6 Bethany House of Prayer, Merion, PA
- 500.7 Bethlehem Convent, Yeadon, PA
- 500.8 Coolock Convent, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.9 Covenant Convent, Yeadon, PA
- 500.10 Cranaleith Spiritual Center, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.11 Emmanuel Convent, Yeadon, PA
- 500.12 Emmaus Convent, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.13 Fitzgerald-Mercy Hospital and Convent
- 500.14 Formation Houses
- 500.15 Gwynedd Mercy Academy Elementary, Gwynedd Valley, PA
- 500.16 Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School, Gwynedd Valley, PA
- 500.17 Gwynedd-Mercy College, Gwynedd Valley, PA
- 500.18 Holy Cross Convent and School, Springfield, PA
- 500.19 Holy Martyrs Convent and School, Oreland, PA
- 500.20 Infant of Prague Convent and School, Jacksonville, NC
- 500.21 Maranatha Convent, Yeadon, PA
- 500.22 Gwynedd Marylyn Convent, Gwynedd Valley, PA
- 500.23 Maternity BVM Convent and School, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.24 McAuley Convent, Merion, PA
- 500.25 Mercy Convent, Allentown, PA
- 500.26 Mercy Convent, Drexel Hill, PA
- 500.27 Mercy Convent, Lansdale, PA
- 500.28 Mercy Haverford Hospital, Havertown, PA
- 500.29 Mercy Hospital, Sea Isle City, NJ
- 500.30 Mercy Vocational High School; Mercy Technical School, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.31 Mercy Day School (Special Learning Center), Allentown, PA
- 500.32 Mercy Hospice, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.33 Mercy Suburban Hospital, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.34 Mater Misericordiae Academy (Merion Mercy), Merion, PA
- 500.35 Misericordia Hospital
- 500.36 Mother Divine Providence Parish and Convent
- 500.37 Mother of Mercy Convent, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.38 Our Lady of the Holy Souls Parish and Convent, Philadelphia, PA

- 500.39 Our Lady of Mercy Convent, Springfield, PA
- 500.40 Our Lady of Lourdes Convent and School
- 500.41 Our Lady of Mount Carmel Convent and School, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.42 Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish, Convent and School Bryn Mawr, PA
- 500.43 Presentation Convent and School, Penn Wynne, PA
- 500.44 Sacred Heart Convent and School, Danville, VA
- 500.45 Sacred Heart Convent and School, Nesquehoning, PA
- 500.46 Shalom Convent, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.47 Sisters of Mercy, Bridgeport, PA
- 500.48 SOM, Ralston Avenue, Havertown, PA
- 500.49 SOM, Kinston, NC
- 500.50 SOM, Rose Way, Levittown, PA
- 500.51 SOM, Norristown, PA
- 500.52 SOM, Plaquemine, LA
- 500.53 Convent Annals and Vacation Houses
- 500.54 St. Alice Convent and School, Springfield, OR
- 500.55 St. Alphonsus Convent and School, Maple Glen, PA
- 500.56 St. Anne Convent, Merion, PA
- 500.57 St. Barbara Convent and School, Philadelphia PA
- 500.58 St. Callistus Convent, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.59 St. Catherine Convent, Yeadon, PA
- 500.60 St. Catherine of Siena Convent and School, Horsham, PA
- 500.61 St. Charles Apache Mission School, San Carlos, AZ
- 500.62 St. Christopher Convent and School, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.63 St. Denis Convent and School, Havertown, PA
- 500.64 St. Dorothy Convent and Parish, Drexel Hill, PA
- 500.65 St. Elizabeth Convent and School, Whitehall, PA (Fullerton, PA)
- 500.66 St. Elizabeth Convent and School, Richmond, VA
- 500.67 St. Helena Convent and School, Center Square, PA
- 500.68 St. John the Apostle Convent and School, Hialeah, FL
- 500.69 St. John Baptist de La Salle, Shillington, PA
- 500.70 St. John the Evangelist Parish, Convent and School, Hapeville, GA
- 500.71 St. Joseph Convent, Gwynedd Valley, PA
- 500.72 St. Joseph Convent and School, Sea Isle City, NJ
- 500.73 St. Joseph Convent and School, Summit Hill, PA
- 500.74 Our Lady of the Valley, Summit Hill, PA
- 500.75 St. Joseph the Worker Convent, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.76 St. Jude Convent and School, Horsham, PA
- 500.77 St. Katherine Convent and Day School, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.78 St. Malachy Convent and School, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.79 St. Margaret Convent and School, Narberth, PA
- 500.80 St. Martha Convent and School, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.81 St. Matthias Convent and School, Bala Cynwyd, PA
- 500.82 St. Mary's House for Working Girls, Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.83 St. Mary Residence for Women, Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.84 St. Michael Convent, Yeadon, PA

- 500.85 St. Michael of the Saints Convent, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.86 St. Michael the Archangel Convent and School, Levittown, PA
- 500.87 St. Paul Convent and School, Allentown, PA
- 500.88 St. Paul Convent and School, Norristown, PA
- 500.89 St. Philip Neri Convent and School, East Greenville, PA
- 500.90 St. Raymond Convent and School, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.91 St. Regis House, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.92 Renewal House, Yeadon, PA
- 500.93 St. Richard Convent, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.94 St. Rita Convent, Flourtown, PA
- 500.95 St. Rose of Lima Convent and School, North Wales, PA
- 500.96 St. Thomas of Villanova Convent and School, Rosemont, PA
- 500.97 St. Thomas – Good Counsel School, Bryn Mawr, PA
- 500.98 Springhouse Convent, Ambler PA
- 500.99 Tabor Convent, Gwynedd Valley, PA
- 500.100 Transfiguration Convent, Gwynedd Valley, PA
- 500.101 Treweryn Convent, Gwynedd Valley, PA
- 500.102 Trinity Convent, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.103 Villa St. Agnes, Thornton, PA
- 500.104 Villa St. John, Downingtown, PA
- 500.105 Visitation Convent, Gwynedd Valley, PA
- 500.106 Visitation Convent, Philadelphia, PA
- 500.107 Waldron Mercy (Waldron) Academy, Merion, PA
- 500.108 Walsingham Academy, Williamsburg, VA
- 500.109 Summer Ministries
- 500.110 Varied Ministries
- 500.111 Misericordia Hospital (Mercy Philadelphia)
- 500.112 Fitzgerald Mercy Hospital
- 500.113 Mercy Catholic Medical Center
- 500.114 Healthy Systems
- 500.115 Jamshedpur, India
- 500.116 Peru

600 Audiovisual Material

- 600.1 Merion/Philadelphia related
- 600.2 Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas related
- 600.3 Peru