

Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada

Finding Aid - Annals Edmonton, AB series (F01-S019)

Generated by Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada on April 30, 2025

Language of description: English

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Annals Edmonton, AB series

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Summary information

Repository:	Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada
Title:	Annals Edmonton, AB series
Reference code:	F01-S019
Date:	1913-2019 (creation)
Physical description:	17.6 cm of textual records 36 photographs: col. 4 albums
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	By Lyllie Sue 2024, under the supervision of Rhiannon Allen-Roberts. Revised November 14, 2024 by Lyllie Sue and Rhiannon Allen-Roberts.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

The Sisters of St. Joseph of the Diocese of London, Ontario was first incorporated on February 15, 1891 under chapter 92 of the Statutes of Ontario, 1870-1. London, Ontario is on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, L̄naapéewak, and Attawandaron Peoples.

On December 11, 1868, at the request of Bishop John Walsh, five Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto arrived in London, Ontario. Mother Teresa Brennan, Sister Ignatia Campbell, Sister Ursula McGuire, Sister Francis O'Malley and Sister Appolonia Nolan were accompanied by Reverend Mother Antoinette McDonald and were welcomed by Bishop Walsh, Rev. J.M. Bruyere, V.G., and Rev. P. Egan, pastor of St. Peter's Church. Awaiting the Sisters were sleighs that transported them from the train station to a temporary home at 170 Kent Street.

In accordance with their mission in London, three Sisters began teaching at St. Peter's School in January, 1869. After classes, they visited the sick, the poor and the imprisoned. They were also mandated to open an orphanage in the future. In order to accomplish these tasks, more Sisters and larger facilities were necessary.

On October 2, 1869, the Barker House at the corner of Richmond and College Street in North London was purchased and the Sisters moved there from Kent Street. The building was named Mount Hope, and it became the first Motherhouse of the Sisters, eventually housing the elderly, orphans, Sisters and novices. On December 18, 1870, the Sisters of St. Joseph became an autonomous congregation in the London diocese, independent of the Toronto congregation. Sister Ignatia Campbell was appointed Superior General, an office she held until 1902. On February 15, 1871, the congregation became legally incorporated.

On October 7, 1877, an addition was made to Mount Hope. This building stood until it was demolished on August 3, 1980, surrounded by the growing healthcare institutions founded by the Sisters, beginning with St. Joseph's Hospital which opened at 268 Grosvenor Street on October 15, 1888, and followed by the opening of St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing in 1895, and the construction of a new nursing school

building in 1927, which saw its last graduation in 1977. On May 1, 1951, St. Mary's Hospital was opened, followed by Marian Villa on January 12, 1966. In 1985, the hospital complex was renamed St. Joseph's Health Centre, and ownership was transferred in 1993 to St. Joseph's Health Care Society.

But it was not only in London that Sisters saw the need for healthcare and nursing education. On October 15, 1890, they opened St. Joseph's Hospital on Centre Street in Chatham, Ontario, which remained under their control until 1993. In 1895, they opened St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing, which saw its last graduation in 1970. On October 18, 1946, they opened St. Joseph's Hospital at 290 North Russell Street in Sarnia which remained under their control until 1993. In Alberta, they administered St. Joseph's Hospital in Stettler (1926), St. Joseph's Hospital in Galahad (1927), the General Hospital in Killam (1930), and St. Paul's Hospital in Rimbey (1932).

On April 10, 1899, the Sisters opened Mount St. Joseph Motherhouse, Novitiate and Orphanage at the former Hellmuth College at 1486 Richmond Street North in London. The orphans were moved to this new location from Mount Hope, which remained a home for the elderly and was renamed House of Providence on June 3, 1899. The orphanage remained at Mount St. Joseph until it was moved to Fontbonne Hall in 1953 (to 1967). The original Hellmuth College building was demolished in 1976.

Later, on September 14, 1914, the Motherhouse and Novitiate moved to Sacred Heart Convent at Colborne and Dundas Streets in London, with the orphans remaining at Mount St. Joseph. The Sisters lived at Sacred Heart Convent until 1953, when they moved back to the newly built Mount St. Joseph, on the original location of the former Hellmuth College. The new Motherhouse and Novitiate was officially opened on June 29, 1954. It was here that they continued a private girls' school which had begun in 1950 at Sacred Heart Convent, and was now known as Mount St. Joseph Academy (to 1985). It was here too that they continued a music school which had also begun at Sacred Heart Convent and was now called St. Joseph's School of Music (to 1982). The Médaille Retreat Centre began here in 1992, and the Sisters also administered a Guest Wing for relatives of hospitalized patients (to 2005). The Sisters departed Mount St. Joseph for their new residence, a green building at 485 Windermere Road in London, in 2007.

On September 4, 1873, St. Joseph's Convent opened at 131 North Street in Goderich, Ontario, followed by other convents in Ontario, including Ingersoll (1879), St. Thomas (1879), Belle River (1889), Windsor (1894), Sarnia (1906), Kingsbridge (1911), Seaforth (1913), St. Mary's (1913), Woodstock (1913), Kinkora (1916), Paincourt (1923), Maidstone (1930), Leamington (1932), Delhi (1938), Tillsonburg (1938), Simcoe (1938), Langton (1939), West Lorne (1957), and Zurich (1963).

The Sisters also opened missions in other parts of Canada, including in Alberta: Edmonton (1922), Wetaskiwin (1929), St. Bride's (1934); and in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories Yellowknife (1953), and in British Columbia in Haney, now Maple Ridge (1956), and Rutland (1970). Branching even further afield, Convento San Jose was opened in Chiclayo, Peru in 1962.

Over the years, as well as their service as teachers in the separate school system, as music teachers, as healthcare workers, as nursing educators, in providing care to orphans, and in providing parish ministry, pastoral care, and administering spiritual retreats, the Sisters were also involved in social service ministry. In Windsor, they opened the Roy J. Bondy Centre on September 13, 1970 which was a receiving home for the Children's Aid Society, withdrawing in 1982 but continuing to provide residential care for disabled children afterward. In London, they opened Internos, a residence for teenage girls attending school and later for troubled teens (to 1979). This was followed by the opening of St. Joseph's Detoxification Centre on September 13, 1973 (to 2005) and St. Stephen's House, an alcoholic recovery centre on February 1, 1982 (to 2000). Loughlin House in London opened as a residence for ex-psychiatric female patients in 1986 (to 1989), followed by the Home for Women in Need at 534 Queens Avenue in 1979 (to 2004).

Later, St. Josephs' House for Refugees was opened in 1987 (to 2005), followed by St. Joseph's Hospitality Centre, a food security program, on February 2, 1983.

On November 22, 2012, the congregation amalgamated with those in Hamilton, Peterborough, and Pembroke into one charitable corporation under the name Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada by the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada Act, a Private Act of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario which received Royal Assent on June 13, 2013.

Scope and content

This series is a general history of the events and activities of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of London, Ontario's ministry in the Archdiocese of Edmonton, Alberta from 1922 to 2019. This series covers the founding history of the Sisters in France and the spread and growth of their sisterhood to eastern then western Canada. The series contains historical summaries, chronicles, and lists of the Sisters activities in Alberta. A number of the records are related to the properties, such as real estate insurances, invoices, property estimations, floor plans, and records concerning the leasing, sale and purchase of houses in Edmonton with a focus on two houses, one on 143rd Street and the other on 148th Street. There are business letters, donation lists, newspaper clippings, and a 1958 city map of Edmonton that documents the contribution of the Sisters' service in education and social work in the parishes of central Edmonton. Highlighted is the Sisters' volunteer work that supported the homeless people. There is correspondence, newsletters, and letters of recognition of volunteer work that document the Sisters and their partnerships with social welfare organizations such as the Boyle Street Co-op Youth Unit, the Elizabeth Fry Society, and the Edmonton People In Need Shelter Society (P.I.N.S.). There are also reports, pamphlets, and summaries of the Sisters' activities at some of these organizations. There are also two noteworthy booklets, a Silver Jubilee souvenir booklet covering 1913 to 1938 and the Chronicles of Sisters of St. Joseph, Edmonton, ALTA covering 1922 to 1962. In addition, there are photographs of the Sisters at the closing ceremonies of the St. Joseph's Convent Regional House in 2001, in Edmonton, a news article about Sister Ethel Steinkey going to assist in New York after 9/11 and lists of the burial plots of deceased Sisters in three cemeteries in Edmonton. There are also photo albums that primarily contain photographs, as well as a list of Sisters, printed pictures and a news clipping related to the Sisters of St. Joseph's western mission at St. Joseph's Convent (Regional House), in Edmonton, Alberta.

Notes

Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on content of the series.

Immediate source of acquisition

These records were accumulated by the Sisters of St. Joseph of London, Ontario.

Arrangement

Original order was maintained with accessions arranged in when subject was appropriate.

Location of originals

The records are located at The Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada Archives.

Restrictions on access

The entire subseries F01-S019-03 Boyle Street Co-op Youth Unit 1988 [Sister Therese (Tess) Carmel Slavik] is restricted for the protection of the privacy. The Archives reserves the right to restrict access to the collection depending on the condition of the archival material, the amount of material requested, and the purpose of the research. The use of certain materials may also be restricted for reasons of privacy or sensitivity, or under a donor agreement. Access restrictions will be applied equally to all researchers and reviewed periodically. No researcher will be given access to any materials that contain a personal information bank such as donor agreements or personnel records, or to other proprietary information such as appraisals, insurance valuations, or condition reports.

Conditions governing use

Permission to study archival records does not extend to publication or display rights. The researcher must request this permission in writing from the Archives.

Finding aids

Series and file list available.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Note [Sources]

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S. Chevraux (ed.), *The Ten Dollar Bets. A History of Killam and District*, 1967, pp. 98-100, 118-119.

St. Patrick's School, "History and Philosophy," <https://www.stpatsschool.org/about-us/history/>, accessed 2024/07/09.

Note [General]

In the early 1900s, the great expansion into western Canada experienced a steady stream of diverse immigrant settlers from eastern Canada, United States, and Europe who sought a new life in the vast farm areas of the prairie provinces. On December 21, 1912, His Grace Archbishop E. Legal founded the Sacred Heart Parish in the then newly emerging City of Edmonton to provide a spiritual foundation and to accommodate the surge of newcomers as they got settled in their new province. In 1922, the Archbishop Henry Joseph O'Leary requested Mother Mechtilde McCarthy, the Superior General of the Sisters of St. Joseph of London, Ontario, have the Sisters to serve in the educational field in the Archdiocese of Edmonton, Alberta. On July 25, 1922, a group of seven Sisters travelled to Edmonton by train. Upon arrival, they purchased St. Ann's Convent from the Sisters of the Faithful Companions of Jesus and renamed it the Sacred Heart Convent. Their residence and the Sacred Heart Church were both adjacent to the school located in the city center of Edmonton. This area is situated within the Treaty Six Territory and the traditional homelands and the Métis Nation of Alberta Region Four, as well as the Nêhiyaw (Cree), Denesuliné (Dené), Nakota Sioux (Stoney), Anishnaabe (Ojibway/Saulteaux), Haudenosaunee (Iroquois), Kanien'kehá:ka (Mohawk), and Niitsitapi (Blackfoot).

The Sisters took charge of the Sacred Heart School, a two storey, twelve room, red brick building, with a capacity of 350 students. The Sisters held classes from kindergarten to grade eight. In 1922, the Sisters also operated and immediately opened a Novitiate and boarding school. The first Novice was received in August 1923, and by 1930 there were twelve in the Novitiate, which continued to increase in number until it was united with the London Motherhouse Novitiate in 1940. Over the years, the Sisters served as educators, administrators and principals and remained at the Sacred Heart Convent until April 14, 1961, when they moved into their newly built residence at the Edmonton Regional House. The school was under their management until Sister Irene Fitzgerald retired in 1966, and Sister Gertrude Walsh was the last Sister to teach at the Sacred Heart School in 1969, but by 1970 all the Sisters had withdrawn from the Sacred Heart school.

At first the Sisters taught the children general subjects like reading, spelling, and arithmetic with an emphasis on English language acquisition. Then in the years of World War II, there was a great push for cultural development courses, and in the early 1930s during the great depression the Sisters distributed fruit and cookies, and later the school board provided milk and vitamin pills. In the 1940s when a radio and phonograph were added to the classrooms, social studies and music classes were resounding successes. During the Alberta oil boom in the 1950s, industrial arts, home economics, special needs, and art and drama classes were introduced, as well as instigating a pre-employment work experience course called the Integrated Occupational Program.

From 1922 to 1992, about 56 Sisters taught at and administered schools that were primarily within the area or the outlying district of the Sacred Heart Parish. Some of the schools the Sisters were active in include the Sacred Heart School of Edmonton from 1922 to 1940, Fairview School from 1922 to 1933, St. Patrick's Elementary School from 1933 to 1985 (formerly Fairview School), St. Francis of Assisi Middle School from 1928 to 1974, St. Michael's School from 1945 to 1965, St. Basil's School from 1952 to 1992, Archbishop O'Leary High School from 1960 to 1974, St. Cecilia's Junior High Composite School from 1965 to 1969, and St. Anne's School from 1974 to 1982. Other schools located outside of Edmonton where the Sisters worked include the Sacred Heart School of Wetaskiwin in Wetaskiwin from 1929 to 1942, St.

Brides School in St. Brides from 1933 to 1964, Our Lady of Fatima School in Killam from 1952 to 1992, and St. Bernadette's School from 1957 to 1991 and St. Nicholas School from 1960 to 1970 in Beverley. In late 1925, the Stettler Board of Trade in Stettler, located 185 km south of Edmonton, asked Reverend Father Ernest Battle of the Catholic Church Parish, to reach out to the Archbishop Henry J. O'Leary. The purpose was to establish what was known as a "Sisters Hospital" run by the Sisters of St. Joseph who had a renowned reputation for their medical services to soldiers during the First World War. In February 1926, at the request of Archbishop O'Leary, Sister Patricia Coughlin, Sister Virginia Lobban, Sister Austin Gurvine, and Sister Jane Frances O'Rourke travelled from London, Ontario to Stettler, Alberta, to operate a hospital. Reverend Father Battle arranged for the Sisters to work in a large building called Carder Hall, which was the former Stettler Cigar Factory that now served as a temporary hospital. In 1927, a decision to construct a 25-bed municipal hospital rather than a private Catholic hospital by a newly formed Municipal Board corporation with representatives from the districts of Stettler, Botha, Haig, Waverly, and Dublin all in the County of Stettler, and Vim in the County of Camrose meant the end of the Nursing Sisters' time in Stettler.

The Sisters opened and administered several small hospitals in rural Alberta: Stettler Hospital from 1926 to 1927, St. Joseph's Hospital in Galahad from 1927 to 1978, St. Paul's Hospital in Rimbev from 1932 to 1949, and Killam General Hospital from 1930 to 1990 and Flagstaff Beaver Auxiliary Hospital from 1963 to 1990, both in Killam. The Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of London, Ontario provided funds to build and operate the hospitals until 1958, when the provincial department of the Ministry of Health and the Hospitals Division took over the administration and enacted the Alberta Health Plan. This government policy prevented any church owned and operated voluntary hospitals from being constructed in Alberta. However, it did have a limited provision to allow some upgrades and renovations to existing medical buildings. Also in 1958, there was a polio epidemic that struck throughout Alberta, requiring the services of the Sisters to work at full capacity.

The Sisters were instrumental in the early development of health care and social service, caring for the sick, poor and disadvantaged in the cities, towns, and rural areas in Alberta. In the harsh economically depressed years from 1930 to 1945, the Sisters never turned anyone away who needed help, and allowed payment in coal, hay, wood, farm produce, and manual labour. In the years of the Second World War, nursing Sisters worked up to 40 hours per week without a break. During the 1940s to 1960s, the Sisters were very active in coordinating relief work. During their time in Alberta, the Sisters occupied various health care roles in nursing, management, housekeeping, business administration, pastoral care, and as dieticians, occupational therapists, radiologists and technologists in medical labs.

The Sisters collaborated with services and agencies such as the Catholic Social Services, the Boyle Street Community Centre, Boyle-McCauley Health Centre, Edmonton People In Need Shelter Society, Elizabeth Fry Society, Edmonton Inner City Housing Society, Edmonton's Women's Shelter, Inner City Youth Development Association, and the Alberta Human Rights Commission. They worked in various capacities and supported the needs of the marginalized, the un-housed, people with severe or chronic mental health needs, previous offenders, youth at-risk, underage expectant mothers, and individuals struggling with substance abuse. The Sisters acted as board members, lived-in on-site as support persons, or they assisted financially through the advocacy for the Social Justice Commission of the Diocese. New initiatives for those in need were also launched to provide a sense of home and safe spaces for growth and social support. Elizabeth House was opened in 1987 by Sister Mary Leo Kirwin in partnership with the Elizabeth Fry Society to serve formerly incarcerated women, and Tess's Place opened in 1988 by Sister Therese (Tess) Carmel Slavik in collaboration with the Boyle Street Co-op Youth Unit was for homeless teenagers coping with addictions. The Crossroads House Too, opened in December 1994 by Sister Catherine (Kitty) Stafford, provided shelter for former female sex workers over the age of 18, and was a project with Edmonton City Centre Church Corporation. The Anglican Parish of Christ Church donated their former

unused rectory for the Crossroads House Too, paid all the expenses, including rent, utilities, insurance, and made substantial monetary donations.

The legacy of services provided by the Sisters of St. Joseph of London, Ontario in the Archdiocese of Edmonton, Alberta, in the field of education, healthcare, social work, and spiritual care provided a foundation that helped to establish the many present day Catholic schools, hospitals, and social welfare organizations.

Note [General]

Some language which is used in this content is not appropriate today and does not reflect the current values of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Note [General]

This project has been made possible in part by Library and Archives Canada's Documentary Heritage Communities Program.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Level of detail:** Partial
- **Status description:** Draft

Access points

- Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada (London, Ont.)
- Multiple media (documentary form)
- Textual records (documentary form)
- Photographs (documentary form)
- Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada (London, Ont.) (subject)
- Alberta (place)

Series descriptions

Subseries F01-S019-01: General History

Date: 1913-2008 (creation)

Scope and content: This subseries chronicles the history of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of London, Ontario during their western ministry in Alberta. There are various short historical summaries which provide accounts on the Sisters' early history starting from their formation under the guidance of Father Jean Pierre Medaille in 1650 in LePuy-en-Velay, France, to the Sisters arrival in London, Ontario in 1868, that eventually led to the Sisters traveling to Alberta in 1922. These records document the Sisters' later history in the Archdiocese of Edmonton, Alberta with their 1922 arrival when they first taught at the Sacred Heart School in Edmonton, the spread of the western mission and multiplication of houses in and outside of Edmonton, and their contribution in the field of education over the years.

There is also a short history of the Regional House from 1963 to 1971 including the functions and responsibilities of the role of a Regional Co-Ordinator. In addition, there are several lists of parish events and activities in the western region. There is a list of catechetical work from the 1930s to 1980s; a list dated September 20, 2000, of contributed items belonging to the Community such as chapel statues, organ, tabernacle, crucifix, sanctuary lamps, and vases; a list of 29 organizations that received funding from the Edmonton Archdiocese from 1986 to 1987; and lists of Sisters burial plots at St. Joachim's Cemetery from 1952 to 1997, Holy Cross Cemetery from 1983 to 1999, and St. Peter's Cemetery from 1879 to 1981, with the names of Sisters, their date of death, and date of burial. In addition, there is a Silver Jubilee souvenir booklet from 1913-1938, and a brief report on their Golden Jubilee dated July 26, 1972. There is also a 1958 printed map of the City of Edmonton showing the geographic locations of the public and separate schools on one side, and on the reverse side a downtown photographic aerial view of the city. In addition, there is a souvenir booklet of Monsignor Felix Otterson's 60th Anniversary of Ordination 1948-2008, dated June 20, 2008, as well as newspaper clippings, and a photograph of the Archbishop Anthony Jordan (1901-1982).

Physical description: 2.8 cm of textual records

1 photograph: col.

Access points:

- Multiple media (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S019-01-01	File - Sacred Heart Church silver jubilee 1913-1938, and community histories 1997-1999	1913-1999	
F01-S019-01-02	File - Short histories on the contribution to education, and Regional House	1922-1975	
F01-S019-01-03	File - Role of regional coordinator, donations, and 1958 map of Edmonton	1958-2000	
F01-S019-01-04	File - Kindergarten and catechetics education	1930-1972	
F01-S019-01-05	File - Sisters' burial plots and cemeteries	1952-1999	
F01-S019-01-06	File - Archdiocesan bishops and priests	1958-2008	

Subseries F01-S019-02: Correspondence

Date: 1976-2001 (creation)

Scope and content: This series primarily contains correspondence of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of London, Ontario from 1976 to 2001 during their western mission in the Archdiocese of Edmonton, Alberta related to collaborating with social service agencies. There are news clippings, pamphlets, letters, emails, notes, and lists regarding the Sisters' engagement with primarily three social service agencies, the Boyle-McCauley Health Centre, Crossroads House Too, and the Kirwin-Lucier House. The Boyle-McCauley Health Centre was a women's health clinic. The Crossroads House Too,

opened in December 1994 by Sister Catherine (Kitty) Stafford, was a residence that provided shelter for former female sex workers over the age of 18 some of whom were pregnant or a single mother and were making the transition into mainstream life. Crossroads House Too was overseen by Edmonton City Centre Church Corporation, a partnership of all the inner-city churches which ran various residences for inner city people. The Kirwin-Lucier House was a project by the Edmonton People In Need Shelter Society, an organization referred to as P.I.N.S. It consisted of 15 residences for adults in need of mental health care and guidance, and it was opened on October 5, 1993. There are also issues of Edmonton Newsletters, a newsletter providing personal updates on the activities of the Edmonton Sisters written by Sister Mary Leo Kirwin from 1983 to 1989. Topics include celebrations, retreats, her travels to visiting other western missions in Alberta, renovations at the Sylvan Lake house cottage near Red Deer, Alberta, Christmas preparations, and making food hampers for impoverished families. There is also a 2001 Government of Canada official letter in recognition and appreciation of volunteer work by the Sisters from the Honourable A. Anne McLellan, Member of Parliament. In addition, there are two photographs, one is of a wall plaque hung inside the Kirwin-Lucier House, and the other is of the front of the house.

Physical description: 0.6 cm of textual records

2 photographs: col.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S019-02-01	File - Correspondence [Boyle-McCauley Health Centre, Crossroads House Too, and Kirwin- Lucier House]	1976-2001	

Subseries F01-S019-03: Boyle Street Co-op Youth Unit 1988 [Sister Therese (Tess) Carmel Slavik]

Date: 1988-2012 (creation)

Scope and content: This subseries contains summaries of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph on London, Ontario and their mission work in collaboration with the Boyle Street Co-op in Edmonton, Alberta. There are four summaries written by Sister Therese (Tess) Carmel Slavik from January to December for the years 2007, 2009, 2011, and 2012.

Physical description: .8 cm of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access: The entire subseries F01-S019-03 Boyle Street Co-op Youth Unit 1988 [Sister Therese (Tess) Carmel Slavik] is restricted for the protection of the privacy.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list			
Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S019-03-01	File - History of Tess's Place 2012 [2013-55]	2012	
F01-S019-03-02	File - History of Tess's Place 2009	2009	
F01-S019-03-03	File - History of Tess's Place 2007 and 2011	2007, 2011	

Subseries F01-S019-04: House Histories and Correspondence

Date: 1982-1989 (creation)

Scope and content: This subseries contains the historical summaries of the western houses in Edmonton, Alberta of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of London, Ontario from 1982 to 1989. This subseries contains the correspondence, insurance documents, house valuations, and floor plans primarily for two houses that were compiled by Sister Mary Laurene Bradley. One house was a nine-room bungalow leased from October 2, 1982, to March 2, 1983. It was located on 143 Street in the Parkview District within a 20-minute walk to St. John's Parish Church, in the west end of Edmonton. Although it had an electric fireplace, chapel, a carpeted but poorly insulated basement, a small front yard and fenced-in back yard, it was considered a poor investment due to innumerable repairs. There is correspondence from 1982 to 1983 requesting to either renting or buying a new residence suitable for four to five Sisters, a request for furnishings, house insurance, real estate and mortgage plans, and the search and bid for a new house. The second house Sister Mary Laurene Bradley wrote about was the purchase of a split level four-plex condominium on 148 Street, on July 20, 1983. She chronicled the activities of the second house from 1983 to 1989. The topics include renovations, repairs, house maintenance, visitors to the house, donations to furnish the house, Sisters who transferred to new work assignments, new Sisters assigned to the house, celebrations, retreats, conferences and workshops, decision to not have a chapel in the house, Myrtle the pet goldfish, a theatre outing to see the show Cats, and a visit to Drumheller, Alberta. There are also invoices, valuation estimates, property analysis for improvements, floor plans, and a photograph of Sister Mary Laurene Bradley seated on a floor cushion in front of a decorated Christmas tree in January 1989.

Physical description: 1.6 cm of textual records

1 photograph: col.

Access points:

- Multiple media (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list			
Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S019-04-01	File - Histories 143 Street and 148 Street, correspondence, and photograph	1982-1989	
F01-S019-04-02	File - Correspondence, insurance, valuations, and floor plans of 148 Street	1982-1984	
F01-S019-04-03	File - Histories 143 Street and 148 Street, and correspondence	1982-1989	

F01-S019-04-04	File - History of 143 Street	October 1982- March 1983
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Subseries F01-S019-05: History of Elizabeth Place

Date: 1987-2008 (creation)

Scope and content: This subseries consists of three historical summaries of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of London, Ontario regarding Elizabeth Place, a collaboration with the Elizabeth Fry Society during the Sisters' western mission in the Edmonton Archdiocese. Elizabeth Place was a three-floor, seven-bedroom residence for formerly incarcerated females, located on 95th Street, in the Sacred Heart Parish. It opened on November 4, 1987. It was an initiative spearheaded by Sister Mary Leo Kirwin and assisted by Sisters Genevieve Casey and Dominica Sheldon. The Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton, an organization that supported women who were or at risk of becoming criminalized, would refer women to Elizabeth Place. The first historical summary is a handwritten personal account by Sister Alice Caza from August 1, 1991, to June 18, 2004, that chronicles the activities and events at Elizabeth Place. Topics include new clientele admissions and frequent move outs (which was about 16 women per year), Sisters arriving and leaving for new work assignments or retiring, teaching English language classes at Unity Centre, furniture donations, household improvements and structural repairs, the Sisters' stolen white Citation 1981 car, annual Regional House meeting, Sylvan Lake cottage holiday retreat, cultural celebrations, and conferences. Sister Alice Caza was diagnosed with cancer in 1997 and passed away on July 4, 2008, and in August 2008, the Leadership team decided to sell the house.

The second historical summary was written by Sister Dominica Sheldon from November 4, 1987, to December 1988 and the third historical summary was written by Sister Mary Leo Kirwin from January 1, 1990, to August 6, 1991. The topics included are the official signing of papers for the house ownership of Elizabeth Place, setting up of the house, opening preparations for residents, the Life Skills program organized by the Elizabeth Fry Society in a ground floor classroom, concerns for the impact of mental health issues of those staying at Elizabeth Place, the deaths of residents, residents entering and leaving, room preparations, discussions with officers, correctional institutional, and social service workers. The Sisters also wrote about bible study, backyard barbeques, cultural celebrations, and an outing to the West Edmonton mall. There is one group photograph of the Sisters at Elizabeth Place in December 1992.

Physical description: 1 cm of textual records

1 photograph: col.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S019-05-01	File - Home for people formerly incarcerated	1991-2008	
F01-S019-05-02	File - Home for people formerly incarcerated	1987-2004	

Subseries F01-S019-06: Newsclipping

Date: October 2001 (creation)

Scope and content: This subseries contains a photocopy of a newspaper article titled, "Hospital chaplains head to Ground Zero to offer comfort – trio brace themselves to witness aftermath of Sept. 11 devastation." It was authored by Paul Northcott, a staff writer for *The Journal*, in Edmonton, and published in October 2001. The news clipping was sent to Sister Connie Kuefler from Sister Alice Caza. The news article is about Sister Ethel Steinkey, chaplain at Misericordia Community Hospital, who was about to embark on a two-week long mission to New York City offer counselling to the crew at Ground Zero who were tasked with clearing away the rubble left behind in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks on the Twin Towers. The staff at the Community Hospital had raised funds to pay for her flights and lodging. There is a printed picture of a profile of a smiling Sister Ethel by Ed Kaiser, *The Journal* staff photographer.

Physical description: .1 cm of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S019-06-01	File - Sister Ethel Steinkey, Ground Zero NYC	October 2001	

Subseries F01-S019-07: Edmonton People In Need Shelter Society

Date: 1986-2019 (creation)

Scope and content: This subseries consists of various documents on the social service work undertaken by the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of London, Ontario during their ministry in the Archdiocese of Edmonton. The Sisters collaborated with many social welfare organizations, including the Edmonton People In Need Shelter Society, a non-profit charitable organization also known as P.I.N.S. This series contains pamphlets, brochures, promotional materials, newsletters, reports, and correspondence regarding P.I.N.S. and the Kirwin-Lucier House project. Located at 103 Avenue, P.I.N.S. built a new residence to serve the housing needs of up to 15 individuals with severe and persistent mental illness. The facility opened on October 5, 1993, and was named after Sisters Mary Leo Kirwin and Esther Lucier for their contribution to the people of the city of Edmonton. There are also three issues of *Insites*, a newsletter produced by the Edmonton Inner City Housing Society, known as EICHS, from 1993 to 1994. EICHS is a social activist housing group concerned about renovictions by building affordable living quarters. In addition, there is a photograph of the front of the Kirwin-Lucier House in June 1994.

Physical description: .6 cm of textual records

1 photograph: col.

Access points:

- Multiple media (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published			
File / item list			
Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S019-07-01	File - P.I.N.S. and Kirwin-Lucier House [2013-109 and 2014-41]	1986-2019	

Subseries F01-S019-08: Chronicles

Date: 1922-1962 (creation)

Scope and content: This subseries contains a chronicle of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of London, Ontario's ministry in Edmonton, Alberta from 1922 to 1962. The lengthy chronicle is contained in a black textured vinyl binder included with a news clipping and a printed picture of Mother Ignatia Campbell (1840-1929). The chronicles document the overall general history of the Sisters in the western region and their more outstanding achievements of parish events and activities, which serve as landmarks for the recollection of the many other incidents attendant on parish life. The Sisters were working in various ministries, such as education, health care, social work, and enhancing spiritual growth. There are two chapters specifically on the chronicles of the Sisters in the Edmonton Diocese. One chapter is from 1922 to 1932, and the other one ranges from 1940 to 1962. There are other chapters on the foundation of the congregation, a novitiate diary written by Sister St. Paul from 1925 to 1935, the opening of missions at Galahad, north Edmonton, Wetaskiwin, Killam, and Rimbe in Alberta, as well as a list of contributed items for the opening of the Edmonton Regional House.

Physical description: 3.5 cm of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list			
Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S019-08-01	File - Chronicles of Sisters of St. Joseph, Edmonton, ALTA	1922-1962	

Subseries F01-S019-09: Photographs

Date: 1927-2001 (creation)

Scope and content: This series is a visual representation of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in London, Ontario during their western ministry in the Edmonton Diocese. The series contains photographs of the Sisters at the closing of the Regional House from June 29 to July 2, 2001. On October 2, 2000, there was a ribbon cutting ceremony, in which the keys and blueprint of the Regional House were handed over to the new property owners, the Birzgalis family. The Birzgalis' transformed the building into the Venta Nursing Home, a long-term care facility, and some aging Sisters received care there. In the photographs, the Sisters who were living at the Regional House at the time of its closing wore corsages and were seated in the front pew during the closing ceremonies. Also in the photographs, there were items

presented which were on display that related to the outstanding achievements and historical milestones of the Sisters' legacy in the West. Activities of the Sisters in the photographs include sharing stories and memories from the past in small groups, gathering in the community room to reminisce, delivering homilies, playing the organ, standing in the chapel, sitting at tables and conversing in the dining hall, walking in a procession, and reminiscing and chatting in the hallway. In addition, in the photographs, Sister Mary Diesbourg gave a special prayer, a welcoming speech, and led the singing of the anthem, O' Canada to recognize July 1st on Canada Day. The Sisters who attended the four-day long event that are depicted in the photographs include: Joan Atkinson, Theresa Marie Caillouette, Alice Caza, Mary Diesbourg, Mary Josephine Fox, Marilyn Keuber, Connie Kuefler, Loretta Manzara, Diane Naud, Therese (Tess) Carmel Slavik, Ethel Steinkey, Nancy Wales, and Mary Zimmer. There is also one photograph of the front door at St. Joseph's Convent Regional House in Edmonton dated 1997. In addition, there are four photo albums documenting events that the Sisters participated in at the St. Joseph's Convent Regional House such as: the opening of the Regional House, in 1961; Christmas, in 1998; Sister Immolata Meyen, an artist from Germany, who made paintings from 1997 to 1998; Halloween, in 2000; and the celebration of the 350th Anniversary of the Le Puy Foundation on September 24, 2000.

Physical description: 30 photographs: col.

1 album (62 photographs: col., and 88 photographs: b&w)

1 album (82 photographs: col., and 7 photographs: b&w)

1 album (85 photographs: col.)

1 album (40 photographs: col.)

Access points:

- Multiple media (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S019-09-01	File - Closing of St. Joseph's Convent Regional House June 29-July 2, 2001	1997-2001	
F01-S019-09-02	File - Edmonton History 1927-1980 compiled by Sister Winnifred Downs W-2 [photo album]	1927-1980	
F01-S019-09-03	File - Edmonton Events I 1984-1985 includes Pope John Paul II Visit W-2.3 [photo album]	1962-1985	
F01-S019-09-04	File - Edmonton Events II 1998-1999 compiled by Sister Dolores O'Sullivan W-2.4 [photo album]	1998-2000	
F01-S019-09-05	File - Edmonton Visit 1997-1998 artist Sister Immolata Meyen of Germany W-2.7 [photo album]	1997-1999	