

## Loretto Heritage Center Archives and Museum

### **Finding Aid: Schools, New Mexico**

Collection Code: LHC06.N

Date Range: 1852-2018

Creator: Sisters of Loretto, New Mexico Mission

Extent: 16 boxes

Language: English, Spanish, French, Latin, Italian

Access Restrictions: Materials which provide blood quantum of named or photographed Pueblo students or connect names of Pueblo students with their likeness (i.e., labeled photographs) are restricted indefinitely for research. Permission to view these materials will be granted on a case-by-case basis. Materials which provide grades for students are closed for 100 years from the time the grade is awarded.

Copyright: Sisters of Loretto

Citation: LHC06.L. Schools, New Mexico Box [#], Folder [#] Sisters of Loretto Heritage Center and Archives.

Creator of Material Biography: The Sisters of Loretto first traveled to Santa Fe, NM, in 1852 with Bishop Jean-Baptiste Lamy at his request. Six women were chosen for the original mission: Mo. Matilda Mills and Srs. Catherine Mahoney, Magdalen Hayden, Rosanna Dant, Monica Bailey, and Roberta Brown. On the journey, while in Missouri, three Sisters were afflicted with cholera. Mo. Matilda died of the illness, and Sr. Monica was left behind in Missouri as she was too sick to continue the journey. Sr. Magdalen, who recovered from the illness in time to join the travelers, was named Mother Superior of the Santa Fe convent. From Santa Fe the Sisters branched out in the state, opening schools in Albuquerque, Bernalillo, Taos, Socorro, Las Cruces, Las Vegas, and Mora. The Sisters also attempted to open a school in Belen, NM, but the venture quickly failed, and the Sisters did not stay in the town for more than a week. The Sisters owned or worked in more than twenty school in New Mexico, including private schools, public schools, and parish or parochial schools. The Sisters also operated a novitiate in Santa Fe so that New Mexican girls could join the order. Sisters remained in New Mexico schools in some capacity until 1992. However, the Sisters did not withdraw from New Mexico entirely, and still have strong ties to the state.

Description: This sub-series consists of annals, newspaper clippings, correspondence, property records, event programs, student ledgers and enrollment records, student publications, and other materials from the Sisters' schools in New Mexico. Also included in this sub-series are first-hand accounts of the early journeys from Kentucky to Santa Fe and materials related to the Loretto Chapel and staircase in Santa Fe. Permanent records for Our Lady of Light Academy in Santa Fe do exist (from about the 1920s to the 1960s) but are closed for research and are part of a separate sub-series.

### Related Materials:

Publications: *Bernalillo: Between the Rivers and a Hard Place*, Martha Liebert (Martha Liebert Publishing, 2021); *Beyond the Adobe Wall*, Sr. Patricia Jean Manion, SL (Sisters of Loretto, 2001); *At Work in the Fields of the Lord: The Historic and Enduring Influence of the Sisters of Loretto on the Landscape of Bernalillo, New Mexico*, Lisa Nicholas, MCRP (UNM School of Architecture, unpublished Master's thesis, 2000); *Stringing Rosaries: The History, the Unforgivable, and the Healing of the Northern Plains American Indian Boarding School Survivors*, Denise K. Lajimodiere (North Dakota State University Press, 2019); *Roots of Resistance:*

*A History of Land Tenure in New Mexico* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2007) and *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States*, Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz (Beacon Press, 2014); *The Rediscovery of America: Native Peoples and the Unmaking of U.S. History*, Ned Blackhawk (Yale University Press, 2023); *Exiled: The Tigua Indians of Ysleta del Sur*, Randy Lee Eickhoff (Republic of Texas Press, 1996); *Indigenous Continent: The Epic Contest for North America*, Pekka Hämäläinen (Liveright, 2022); *Light in Yucca Land*, Sr. Richard Marie Barbour (Loretto Academy of Our Lady of Light, 1952); *Loretto: The Sisters and Their Santa Fe Chapel* (Arzo Press, 2000); *The Centuries of Santa Fe*, Paul Horgan (E.P. Dutton and Company, 1956); *At the End of the Santa Fe Trail*, Blandina Segale (Bruce Publishing Company, 1951);

Photos: Our school photograph collection can be found online at <https://lorettocommunity.canto.com/v/archives>

Archival Collections: Published resources (LHC13) especially the manuscript "150 Years" by Sr. Matilda Barrett, SL; Dissertation (LHC04) of Sr. M. Ann Thomas Roche, "A History of the Schools Conducted by the Sisters of Loretto in New Mexico"; Administrative files (LHC02) of Mo. Praxedes Carty, 1896-1922; Mo. Clarasine Walsh, 1922-1928; Mo. Olivette Norton, 1928-1940; Mo. Edwarda Ashe, 1940-1952; Mo. Felicitas Quinlivan, 1952-1958; and Mo. Mary Luke Tobin, 1958-1970; Personal mission materials (LHC17) of Sr. Patricia Jean Manion and Sr. Lilliana Owens; The Sisters of Loretto and the Indian Boarding Schools Century, Libby Comeaux, Co-member (December 2023), along with papers, books, and digital records gathered for purposes of this research. Some materials from this collection are restricted; Houses (LHC08), Santa Fe for materials related to the Sisters' mission work and convent which continued to operate even after the closure of the school.

Related Collections not in the Archives: Sandoval County Historical Association; 1983 Microfilm Project of Loretto Motherhouse Archives, at New Mexico State Archives; Resource database of the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition, [www.boardingschoolhealing.org/resource-database-center](http://www.boardingschoolhealing.org/resource-database-center); Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions Collection, Marquette University Archives; Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative of the U.S. Department of the Interior. [doi.gov/priorities/strengthening-indian-country/federal-indian-boarding-school-initiative](https://doi.gov/priorities/strengthening-indian-country/federal-indian-boarding-school-initiative); Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions Collection, Marquette University, Department of Special Collections and University Archives, Milwaukee, WI; National Archives and Records Administration, Denver, Ft Worth, and DC; Annual Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (available online); Archives of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, in custody of the Catholic Historical Research Center of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Resource List from the U.S. Catholic Indigenous Boarding School Accountability and Healing Project. <https://ahprojectusa.org/resources>

Artifacts: See artifacts related to New Mexico schools online at <https://lorettoheritagecenter.omeka.net/items/browse?tags=schools+-+New+Mexico>

## Arrangement

This series is arranged into sub-series. This collection was originally processed in the 1970s or 1980s, and materials were regularly added to the collection. Original order was not maintained. In 2024, the materials were reprocessed and the order of the original processing was maintained, except in folders where materials from both schools were mixed together or where large amounts of disparate

materials were put in one folder. In those cases, the folder materials were split by school or subject. Handwritten annals were moved from another collection into this one. Property records from Loretto's Finance Office were also added to this collection. A crosswalk showing the relationship between the original folders and the new folders was created and is available upon request. These materials were microfilmed in their entirety in the 1980s, and access to these microfilms can be obtained through the New Mexico State Archives. Different sub-series are sometimes housed in the same box. Box and folder numbering reflect this arrangement.

### **Sub-Series 1: New Mexico (general), LHC06**

Description: This sub-series contains documents related to the Sisters' work in New Mexico that is not tied to a specific school or location. The sub-series contains research materials, teaching certificates, documents related to New Mexico public schools, and materials about the Dixon School Case. The Dixon School case was a landmark case in New Mexico in which members of the Free School Committee filed suit in the Santa Fe District Court contesting the use of Catholic nuns and clergy as public-school teachers and won.

#### **Box 1: LHC06.L.a.01**

Folder 1: Research File

Folder 2: Public Education

Folder 3: Dixon School Case

Folder 4: Teacher Certificates

Folder 4a: New Mexico School Statistics, 1873-1881

Folder 4b: Loretto in New Mexico 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, 1977

Folder 5b: Loretto in New Mexico 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, 1987

### **Sub-Series 2: Albuquerque, NM, LHC06.L.b**

Description: This sub-series contains one document relating information obtained in the Santa Fe annals.

Creator of Material Biography: The Loretto School in Albuquerque was opened in 1866 and closed in 1869. According to the Santa Fe annals, the house and school were not in good condition and presented dangerous living conditions for the Sisters and boarders. The Sisters left Albuquerque in 1869, and the lot was sold to the Jesuits.

#### **Box 1: LHC06.L.a.01**

Folder 5: Loretto School Research File

### **Sub-Series 3: Belen, NM, LHC06.L.c**

Description: This sub-series contains a draft of Sr. Matilda Barrett's manuscript and the Belen annals.

Creator of Material Biography: The Sisters of Loretto were in Belen for only one week (Sep. 28, 1900 through Oct. 5, 1900). The Sisters arrived in Belen to find that no convent had been prepared for them and few supplies were available for the school. This created tension between the local priest and the Sisters. The Sisters, at the order of their superior, left Belen on October 5, without ever operating a school.

**Box 1: LHC06.L.a.01**

Folder 6: (Proposed School) Our Lady of Sorrows Manuscript for Proposed Book by Sr. Matilda Barrett

Folder 7: (Proposed School) Our Lady of Sorrows Annals, Sep-Oct. 1900 with transcription

**Sub-Series 4: Bernalillo, NM, LHC06.L.d**

Description: This collection consists of annals, eyewitness accounts, correspondence, news clippings, programs, financial records, property records, and other materials related to the work of the Sisters of Loretto in Bernalillo, NM. Research files compiled after the schools closed and newspaper clippings are also included in this collection.

Creator of Material Biography: The Sisters of Loretto traveled from Santa Fe to Bernalillo in 1874 with the purpose of establishing a school for girls. Don Jose Perea, a wealthy mill owner who requested the Sisters' presence in Bernalillo, gifted them with a two-acre lot and a ten-room adobe house in which to open their school. The school opened in 1875 to ten boarders and a small number of day students. In 1886, the school became a boarding school for Pueblo students known as Bernalillo Indian Industrial School. The school operated under federal regulation from 1886 to 1936. Federal funding was also provided, but this funding was reduced over time. Private funding, mostly from Mother Katherine Drexel and the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, subsidized the reduction in government funding. In 1936, Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament were unable to continue funding the school. The school closed in 1937, but several boarding students remained and attended the local public school until 1941.

In 1888, Sisters began to teach in the public school in Bernalillo, teaching early and middle grades. In 1919, the school added on a ninth-grade classroom, the first at the school to admit male pupils. A tenth grade was added the following year. In 1923, the Sisters began construction on a two-story building that would accommodate the growing high school. While the Sisters paid for construction, they collected a nominal rental fee from the county. In 1930, it became a full four-year high school. The lower grades continued to be girls only, while the high school accepted both boys and girls. A new grade school was built in 1936 to accommodate expanding enrollment. As a result of the Dixon Case, the Sisters transformed the public school into a parochial school in 1949. Called Our Lady of Sorrows School, it was operated as a grade and high school. In 1966, the Sisters withdrew from Bernalillo.

**Box 1: LHC06.L.a.01**

Folder 8: Research File

Folder 9: Newspaper Clippings

Folder 10: Manuscript for Proposed Book by Sr. Matilda Barrett

Folder 11: Archbishop Salpointe Research File

Folder 12: Annals, 1875-1966

Folder 13: Our Lady of Sorrows Grade and High School Annals, 1955-1966  
Folder 14: History of Bernalillo Schools and Memoirs by Sr. Margaret Mary Kennan

**Box 2: LHC06.L.d.02**

Folder 1: Correspondence, 1931-1932  
Folder 2: Correspondence, 1936-1941  
Folder 3: Correspondence, 1942-1945  
Folder 4: Correspondence, 1948-1951  
Folder 5: Correspondence, 1959-1961  
Folder 6: Correspondence, 1961-1964  
Folder 7: Correspondence, 1964-1966  
Folder 8: Correspondence, 1966-1968  
Folder 9: Financial Reports, 1894-1967  
Folder 10: Benefactors  
Folder 11: Tuition Correspondence Regarding Poor and/or Orphan Students  
Folder 12: Property Deeds and Drawings  
Folder 12a: Property Records from Finance Office  
Folder 13: Land Appraisals  
Folder 14: Sale of Property, 1968  
Folder 15: Farm Leases and Contract Correspondence

**Box 3: LHC06.L.d.03**

Folder 1: Indian Industrial School Annual and Quarterly Reports, 1934-1936  
Folder 2: Indian Industrial School Correspondence, 1890-1936  
Folder 3: Our Lady of Sorrows / Bernalillo High School Commencement Programs and Invitations, 1925-1954  
Folder 4: Our Lady of Sorrows Property Insurance Documents

**Sub-Series 5: Las Cruces, NM, LHC06.L.e**

Description: This sub-series consists of materials for Holy School and Visitation Academy (also called Loretto Academy) in Las Cruces. For Holy Cross, materials include Sr. Matilda Barrett's research, financial documents, and annals. For Loretto Academy, materials include Sr. Matilda's research, annals, financial records, event programs, student lists, students accounts, grade books, and school publications for some years. A research file compiled after Loretto withdrew from Las Cruces is also included.

Creator of Material Biography: Visitation Academy (also known as Loretto Academy) was opened by the Sisters in 1870 at the request of Bishop J.B. Salpointe. The first Sisters were Rosanna Dant, Clara Alarid, Marianna Dominguez, Jerome Murphy, and Gertrude Zamora. In 1897, in addition to running Loretto Academy, Sisters at Las Cruces began teaching in the Las Cruces Public Schools. Holy Cross Parochial School opened in 1927, staffed by Sisters of Loretto. In 1942, the Academy's grade school was combined with Holy Cross Parochial School so that more classrooms and recreational facilities would be available to the high school. In 1943, the decision was made to close Loretto Academy based on enrollment decreasing, possibly due to the Great Depression and the start of World War II. A few Sisters remained to teach at Holy Cross and guard the property. It

was sold to Franciscans in 1944, and the Sisters left in 1945 when Franciscans took charge of the property.

**Box 3: LHC06.L.d.03**

Folder 5: Research File

Folder 6: Newspaper Clippings

Folder 6a: Property Records from Loretto Finance Office

Folder 7: Holy Cross School Manuscript for Proposed Book by Sr. Matilda Barrett

Folder 8: Holy Cross School Annals, 1927-1945 and Memoirs

Folder 9: Holy Cross School Financial Report, 1945

Folder 10: Visitation Academy Manuscript for Proposed Book by Sr. Matilda Barrett

Folder 11: Visitation Academy Annals and Memoirs, 1870-1960

Folder 12: Visitation Academy Prospectus and Recruitment Brochures

Folder 13: Visitation Academy Student Lists and Accounts

Folder 14: Visitation Academy Financial Reports and Cash Books, 1872-1941

Folder 15: Visitation Academy Wayside Shrine Dedication, 1941

Folder 16: Visitation Academy Event Programs, 1912-1942

Folder 17: Visitation Academy Grade Books, 1913-1938

Folder 18: Visitation Academy School Publications, 1902-1920

Folder 19: Visitation Academy Annals by Student Clara Cortez (1938)

**Sub-Series 6: Las Vegas, NM, LHC06.L.f**

Description: This sub-series consists of materials from both East and West Las Vegas. Materials primarily come from the two parish schools. When available, materials from Immaculate Conception Academy are foldered with Our Lady of Sorrows School materials and labeled as such. Included in the sub-series are annals, property records, parish jubilee materials, financial reports, event programs, and a limited amount of the school publication for Immaculate Conception Parochial School. Some correspondence for Immaculate Conception Academy and Our Lady of Sorrows School is also included. The first folder in the sub-series contains secondary research materials collected about the schools.

Creator of Material Biography: The Sisters of Loretto came to Las Vegas, NM, in 1869 at the request of the parish priest, Father Joseph Coudert. Originally three Sisters settled in Las Vegas and opened Immaculate Conception Academy (I.C.A.) in the residence of Don Romauldo Baca. In 1879 a fire destroyed the Baca home, and the Sisters moved into their new Academy building sometime after. Around the 1890s, a parish all-grades classroom where local girls could be educated was also opened in this building. In 1912, the New Mexico Department of Education began certifying I.C.A. high school pupils taking one year of postgraduate work to be first-grade teachers.

Also in 1912, Reverend A.J. Rabeyrolle, pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in East Las Vegas (on the other side of the river), asked for two Loretto Sisters to open a parochial school in that parish. The school was named Immaculate Conception Parochial School (I.C.P.S. or I.C.S.) and began as a two-room school. In 1923, the school moved to a larger two-story building and boasted more than 193 enrolled students. In 1920, I.C.A. closed its high school, and those students were moved to I.C.P.S. across the river. Around 1927, I.C.A. closed completely to make way for a new

parish school in West Las Vegas, named Our Lady of Sorrows. I.C.A.'s building was sold to the parish to be used for Our Lady of Sorrows. Sisters continued to teach at I.C.P.S. until 1965, when the school closed completely. They continued to teach at Our Lady of Sorrows until 1970.

**Box 4: LHC06.L.f.04**

- Folder 1: Research File
- Folder 2: Immaculate Conception Parish Jubilee
- Folder 3: Property Records from Loretto Finance Office
- Folder 4: Immaculate Conception Parochial School Manuscript for Proposed Book by Sr. Matilda Barrett
- Folder 5: Immaculate Conception Parochial School Annals, 1912-1938, 1945-1968
- Folder 6: Immaculate Conception Parochial School Annals, 1946-1947
- Folder 7: Immaculate Conception Parochial School Annals, 1960-1965
- Folder 8: Immaculate Conception Parochial School Financial Reports and Inventories, 1930-1965
- Folder 9: Immaculate Conception Parochial School Correspondence, 1947
- Folder 10: Immaculate Conception Parochial School Publication "I.C.S. Booster," 1941-1952
- Folder 11: Our Lady of Sorrows School News Clippings
- Folder 12: Immaculate Conception Academy / Our Lady of Sorrows School Manuscript for Proposed Book by Sr. Matilda Barrett
- Folder 13: Immaculate Conception Academy / Our Lady of Sorrow School Annals, 1869-1970
- Folder 14: Our Lady of Sorrows Financial Reports, 1927-1959
- Folder 15: Immaculate Conception Academy / Our Lady of Sorrows School Event Programs, 1914-1929, and Guest Registry, 1966
- Folder 16: Immaculate Conception Academy / Our Lady of Sorrows School Correspondence, 1878-1965

**Sub-Series 7: Mora, NM, LHC06.L.g**

Description: This sub-series contains materials created by the Sisters in Mora and about the Sisters in Mora. These materials include annals for the convent in Mora, convent inventories, property and building records, financial reports, annual reports for the public schools, and at least one handbook for the public school. It also includes essays about the Sisters' work in Mora by Sr. Matilda Barrett and Sr. Lillian Owens, as well as a research file and a folder of newspaper clippings.

Creator of Material Biography: Three Loretto Sisters settled in Mora in 1864 at the request of the Rev. J.B. Salpointe. They opened Annunciation Academy for female students. In 1873, as a way to earn extra funds, the Sisters began teaching in a county (public) school in addition to Annunciation. In 1888, a fire broke out in Annunciation Academy and completely destroyed the convent and school. The Sisters and students lived and studied in the Walton Hotel until January 1889, when school was resumed in a building vacated by the Christian Brothers boys' school. In 1891, construction of a new academy building began.

In 1892, the Sisters began teaching boys at the public school. By 1894, the Sisters had 72 male pupils and 31 female pupils taught in separate classrooms of the public school, and 97

"select" day students and boarders at the Academy. In 1905, the Academy school was discontinued so that the Sisters could concentrate on teaching in the public school, called Mora School. In 1915, Mora School added high school classes. In 1922, the county erected a new two-story grade school, and the high school classes continued to be taught out of the Sisters' building. Around this time, the school also began to acquire a few secular teachers. Fire once again destroyed the Sisters' convent (and the high school) in 1942. High school classes were resumed in the grade school building. The Sisters' convent was rebuilt but caught fire again in 1946 and was completely destroyed. In 1948, the convent was rebuilt for the third time. The Dixon School Case began in 1948, and pupils from the public school were brought in to testify against the use of religious teachers in the public school (see LHC06.L.a for more information). Around 1950, the public high school caught fire and burned down. In 1951, as a result of the Dixon Case, the Archdiocese of Santa Fe initiated a parochial school system and forbade Sisters from teaching in New Mexico public schools. Thus, the Sisters opened St. Gertrude's Parochial School, where they taught both grade and high school classes. In 1964, the Sisters withdrew from Mora completely.

#### **Box 5: LHC06.L.g.05**

- Folder 1: Research File
- Folder 2: Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 3: Manuscript for Proposed Book by Sr. Matilda Barrett
- Folder 4: "St. Gertrude's Convent," Essay by Sr. Lilliana Owens
- Folder 5: Property Records from Finance Office
- Folder 6: Convent Inventories, 1707-1960
- Folder 7: Annals, 1864-1955
- Folder 8: Annals, 1955-1964
- Folder 9: Annunciation School Receipts, Correspondence, and Building Records
- Folder 10: Mora Public Schools Event Programs, Speeches, Student Lists, Correspondence, and Financial Statements
- Folder 11: More Public Schools Annual Reports, 1937-1938
- Folder 12: St. Gertrude's Grade and High School Financial Reports, 1954-1964, and Handbook, 1956

#### **Sub-Series 8: Santa Fe, NM, LHC06.L.h**

Description: This sub-series consists of annals, eyewitness accounts, correspondence, event programs, student publications, and other materials collected by the Sisters of Loretto while teaching in Santa Fe. It also contains research and writings created by Loretto Sisters about the schools. Extensive student lists exist for Our Lady of Light Academy, and included in this are a limited number of grade books and promotion lists. Permanent records for Our Lady of Light Academy from about the 1920s to the 1960s do exist but are included in a separate sub-series and at this time can only be accessed by the student. Also included are materials documenting the Sisters' journeys to Santa Fe in 1852 and 1867.

Materials about Loretto Chapel include writing and newspaper articles about the chapel and staircase and correspondence with individuals researching the chapel or the staircase builder. Also included in this collection is correspondence regarding the Sisters' responses to the 1996 made-for-television film "The Staircase."



No materials were gathered from St. Catherine's School or St. Anthony's School at the time Loretto Sisters were teaching in these schools. Included in this sub-series is a research article about St. Catherine's and Sr. Matilda Barrett's writing about St. Anthony's. St. Catherine's is mentioned several times in the Santa Fe annals.

Creator of Material Biography: The Sisters of Loretto first traveled to Santa Fe in 1852 with Bishop Jean-Baptiste Lamy. At Bishop Lamy's request, their purpose was to open a school for New Mexico girls. Our Lady of Light Academy (often referred to as Loretto Academy) opened on January 2, 1853, in a building that had been occupied by the bishop. Within the first few years of opening, it became obvious that a larger structure was necessary, so Bishop Lamy purchased a two-story building that was then remodeled into a school and convent. To accommodate the many students who wished to join the order after completing their education, a novitiate was opened in the convent. In 1874, the Academy was incorporated by legislative act and granted the power to confer diplomas and degrees. In 1873, the Sisters began construction on a chapel. Construction was completed in 1876. The chapel has a very famous staircase that was built in the early 1880s by an unknown carpenter. To make room for the growing student body, in 1880 construction began on a new two-story building with a mansard roof. In 1891, several Sisters gained required certifications and began teaching a public school in the Our Lady of Light Academy building. This public school continued for some years. In 1927, the Sisters received a jubilee gift from Miguel Chavez that allowed them to begin construction on a new high school building, completed in 1928. The Academy continued to operate until 1968, when it ceased all operations and the buildings were sold. Loretto Chapel became a museum. The main school building burned in the early 1970s, and a hotel was built on the site.

Our Lady of Light Academy was not the only institution in Santa Fe where Sisters of Loretto taught. St. Catherine's Industrial School for Indian Boys was opened in 1887 by Bishop Lamy with the support of federal funding. Lamy asked for the Sisters' assistance in managing the school and teaching some courses. In 1889, the school was taken over by Mo. Katherine Drexel and the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. In 1901, Our Lady of Lourdes School was opened for the parish. Five Loretto Sisters were initially engaged to teach at the school. In 1907, a new school building was constructed, and the name of the institution was changed to St. Francis Parish School. Sisters continued to teach at St. Francis School until 1992. In 1926, another parish school, St. Anthony's School, opened in the Guadalupe parish. This school was also called Our Lady of Guadalupe or Guadalupe School. Loretto Sisters taught here for only four years before the Dominican Sisters of Adrian, MI, took over the school. In 1937, St. Francis Opportunity School was opened by Sr. Mary Harold Savage specifically for the education of special needs students. The school was originally housed in two remodeled chicken coups. Children at the Opportunity School learned life skills such as cooking and sewing as well as standard school subjects. The school eventually grew to be housed in two classrooms of the Our Lady of Light Academy building. The Opportunity school continued to operate on Academy grounds for two years after the Academy closed, finally shuttering in 1970.

**Box 6: LHC06.L.h.06**

Folder 1: Research File

Folder 2: Newspaper Clippings

Folder 3: Novitiate Records, 1852-1895 and Retreats, 1885-1909

Folder 4: Property Records from Finance Office

Folder 5: Santa Fe Trail, 1867 Journey John Geatley Eyewitness Account and Correspondence

Folder 6: Santa Fe Trail, 1867 Journey Donato Gasparri Eyewitness Account

Folder 7: Santa Fe Trail 75th Anniversary Bulletin, 1927

Folder 8: Archdiocese of Santa Fe Celebrations

Folder 9: Loretto Chapel and St. Francis Cathedral Indulgences, 1907-1913

Folder 10: Loretto Chapel and Staircase Newspaper Clippings

Folder 11: Loretto Chapel Writings about Staircase

Folder 12: Loretto Chapel Building and Construction Document

Folder 13: Loretto Chapel Staircase Building Claimants

Folder 14: Loretto Chapel Research and Writing, Sr. Patricia Jean Manion

Folder 15: Loretto Chapel Research and Writing, Mary Jean Straw Cooke

Folder 16: Loretto Chapel Staircase Researchers and Writers Correspondence

**Box 7: LHC06.L.h.07**

Folder 1: Loretto Chapel "The Staircase" (1998) Film Responses

Folder 2: Loretto Chapel Stations of the Cross

Folder 3: Loretto Chapel Images

Folder 4: Our Lady of Light Academy Lists of Students and Teachers

Folder 5: Our Lady of Light Academy Incorporation Documents, 1874-1934

Folder 6: Our Lady of Light Academy Notes by Sr. Magdalen Hayden et al and List of Novices, 1855-1900

Folder 7: Our Lady of Light Academy Annals, 1852-1892

Folder 8: Our Lady of Light Academy Annals, 1867-1907

Folder 9: Our Lady of Light Academy Annals, 1892-1896

Folder 10: Our Lady of Light Academy Annals, 1907-1927

Folder 11: Our Lady of Light Academy Annals, 1912-1928

Folder 12: Our Lady of Light Academy Annals, 1927-1948

Folder 13: Our Lady of Light Academy Annals, 1951-1952

**Box 8: LHC06.L.h.08**

Folder 1: Our Lady of Light Academy Annals, July 1948-Sep. 1954

Folder 2: Our Lady of Light Academy Annals, 1954-1958

Folder 3: Our Lady of Light Academy Annals, 1959-1962

Folder 4: Our Lady of Light Academy Annals, 1960-1964

Folder 5: Our Lady of Light Academy Annals, 1963-1964

Folder 6: Our Lady of Light Academy Annals, 1965-1968

Folder 7: Our Lady of Light Academy Sr. Magdalen Hayden Letters, 1853-1865 and Translations

**Box 9: LHC06.L.h.09**

Folder 1: Our Lady of Light Academy Translation of Mo. Magdalen Hayden's Letters by Sr. Felicitas Quinliven

Folder 2: Our Lady of Light Academy Property Drawings / Maps

Folder 3: Our Lady of Light Academy Property Records, 1874-1890

Folder 4: Our Lady of Light Academy Financial Accounts and Cash Books, 1869-1947

- Folder 5: Our Lady of Light Academy Property Valuation Report, 1963
- Folder 6: Our Lady of Light Academy Financial Correspondence, Conrad Hilton, 1899-1948
- Folder 7: Our Lady of Light Academy High School Financial Statements, 1939-1968
- Folder 8: Our Lady of Light Academy Semi-Annual Financial Reports, 1926-1958
- Folder 9: Our Lady of Light Academy Audited Financial Statements, 1966-1968
- Folder 10: Our Lady of Light Academy Insurance Correspondence, 1945-1971
- Folder 11: Our Lady of Light Academy Administrative Documents, 1959-1966
- Folder 12: Our Lady of Light Academy Board of Education, Correspondence, 1896-1918
- Folder 13: Our Lady of Light Academy Baptismal, Communion, and Confirmation Lists, 1853-1900
- Folder 14: Our Lady of Light Academy Day and Boarder Accounts, 1858-1907
- Folder 15: Our Lady of Light Academy Day and Boarder Accounts, 1907-1926
- Folder 16: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1927-1931, A-H
- Folder 17: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1927-1931, I-Q
- Folder 18: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1927-1931, S-Z

**Box 10: LHC06.L.h.10**

- Folder 1: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1934
- Folder 2: Our Lady of Light Academy Day Student Accounts, 1934-1936
- Folder 3: Our Lady of Light Academy Day Student Accounts, 1937-1938
- Folder 4: Our Lady of Light Academy Boarders, 1937-1938
- Folder 5: Our Lady of Light Academy Boarder Accounts, 1938-1940
- Folder 6: Our Lady of Light Academy Day Students, 1940-1943
- Folder 7: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1941
- Folder 8: Our Lady of Light Academy Boarder Accounts, 1942-1944
- Folder 9: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1943
- Folder 10: Our Lady of Light Academy Boarder Accounts, 1944-1946
- Folder 11: Our Lady of Light Academy Boarder Accounts, 1944-1946 (2)

**Box 11: LHC06.L.h.11**

- Folder 1: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1944
- Folder 2: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1945
- Folder 3: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1946-1947
- Folder 4: Our Lady of Light Academy Boarder Accounts, 1946-1948
- Folder 5: Our Lady of Light Academy Day Student Accounts, 1948
- Folder 6: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1949
- Folder 7: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1950-1951

**Box 12: LHC06.L.h.12**

- Folder 1: Our Lady of Light Academy Boarder Accounts, 1950-1953
- Folder 2: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1950-1956
- Folder 3: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1952-1953
- Folder 4: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1954-1955
- Folder 5: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1955-1957
- Folder 6: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1956
- Folder 7: Our Lady of Light Academy Boarder Accounts, 1956-1958

Folder 8: Our Lady of Light Academy School Accounts, 1957-1958

**Box 13: LHC06.L.h.13**

Folder 1: Our Lady of Light Academy Boarder Accounts, 1954-1955  
Folder 2: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1964-1969, A-C  
Folder 3: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1964-1969, D-G  
Folder 4: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1964-1969, H-L  
Folder 5: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1964-1969, M-N  
Folder 6: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1964-1969, O-R  
Folder 7: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1964-1969, R

**Box 14: LHC06.L.h.14**

Folder 1: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1964-1969, S  
Folder 2: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, 1964-1969, T-Z  
Folder 3: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Accounts, Cash Receipts, 1936-1949  
Folder 4: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Registrations, undated  
Folder 5: Our Lady of Light Academy Boarder Registrations, 1928-1929  
Folder 6: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Registrations, 1929-1930  
Folder 7: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Registrations, 1931-1932  
Folder 8: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Registrations, 1932-1933  
Folder 9: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Registrations, 1934-1937  
Folder 10: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Registrations, 1937-1941  
Folder 11: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Registrations, 1941-1943  
Folder 12: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Registrations, 1943-1948  
Folder 13: Our Lady of Light Academy Student Attendance and Performance Records, 1880-1893  
Folder 14: Our Lady of Light Academy Grade Book, 1934-1937  
Folder 15: Our Lady of Light Academy Prospectuses, 1907-1920s  
Folder 16: Our Lady of Light Academy Event Programs, 1877-1968

**Box 15: LHC06.L.h.15**

Folder 1: Our Lady of Light Academy Infirmary Pharmaceutical Recipes  
Folder 2: Our Lady of Light Academy Centennial Celebration, 1952  
Folder 3: Our Lady of Light Academy Centenary Scrapbook (deconstructed), 1952  
Folder 4: Our Lady of Light Academy Publication, Loretto Echoes, 1927-1954  
Folder 5: Our Lady of Light Academy Alumni Events, 1987-2010  
Folder 6: St. Anthony School Manuscript for Proposed Book by Sr. Matilda Barrett  
Folder 7: St. Catherine's Indian Industrial School Research File  
Folder 8: St. Francis Cathedral School Research File  
Folder 9: St. Francis Cathedral School Newspaper Clippings  
Folder 10: St. Francis Cathedral School Manuscript for Proposed Book by Sr. Matilda Barrett  
Folder 11: St. Francis Cathedral School Annals, 1945-1980  
Folder 12: St. Francis Cathedral School Mission Statements, Constitutions, and Evaluations, 1980s

Folder 13: St. Francis Cathedral School Correspondence, Contracts, Evaluations from Sr. Pauline Albin, 1979-1992

Folder 14: St. Francis Cathedral School Correspondence, Sr. Pauline Albin, 1993-1997

Folder 15: St. Francis Cathedral School Handbooks, Information Pamphlets, and Recruitment Materials, 1978-1992

Folder 16: St. Francis Cathedral School Event Programs, 1973-1992

Folder 17: St. Francis Cathedral School Classbook, 1986-1987 School Year

Folder 18: St. Francis Cathedral School Publication, "Saints Marching On," 1992

Folder 19: St. Francis Opportunity School Research File

Folder 20: St. Francis Opportunity School Newspaper Clippings

Folder 21: St. Francis Opportunity School Manuscript for Proposed Book by Sr. Matilda Barrett

Folder 22: St. Francis Opportunity School Administrative Materials, 1940s

### **Sub-Series 9: Socorro, NM, LHC06.L.i**

**Description:** This sub-series contains annals, limited correspondence, financial reports, and commencement programs for Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School. Compiled research and writing about the school can also be found in this sub-series.

**Creator of Material Biography:** Four Sisters of Loretto came from Santa Fe to Socorro to establish Our Lady of Mount Carmel School at the request of Father Benito Bernard, the priest at San Miguel Church. Father Bernard built a convent for the Sisters next to the church prior to their arrival and donated it and the land it sat on to the Sisters. Enrollment grew steadily in the first few years. For several years, beginning in 1887, the Sisters also taught in an all-boys county school in the downtown area. They also began teaching public school classrooms out of the convent building in 1891. These classrooms were known as the Second Ward School. Around 1903, the Sisters completed a new two-story structure that was added to the original convent building. This new building accommodated boarders, and the Sisters began to teach both boarding girls and day school girls. Two rooms of the new building were dedicated to public school students, both boys and girls. In 1908, the Sisters stopped teaching in the public-school system and ran only the private school for first through sixth graders. In 1930, the Sisters closed the boarding school and began to teach only day students. At some point in the 1930s, two Sisters in Socorro began to teach in the private school again. Sr. M. Ida Adair and Sr. Anthony Louise Kuhns were elected to positions in the New Mexico Educational Association of Socorro County in 1947. However, as a result of the Dixon School Case, in 1949 the Sisters closed the public-school classrooms and devoted the entire school to parochial education. At this time, the school property was donated back to the parish. In 1951, the parish broke ground for a new school building that was called Hilton Mount Carmel School, named after the parents of the donor, Conrad Hilton. The school closed in 1970, but Sisters remained in Socorro until 1977.

### **Box 16: LHC06.L.i.16**

Folder 1: Our Lady of Mount Carmel School Research File

Folder 2: Our Lady of Mount Carmel School Newspaper Clippings

Folder 3: Our Lady of Mount Carmel School Manuscript for Proposed Book by Sr. Matilda Barrett

Folder 4: Our Lady of Mount Carmel School Property File from Finance Office  
Folder 5: Our Lady of Mount Carmel School Annals, 1879-1926 (handwritten)  
Folder 6: Our Lady of Mount Carmel School Annals, 1923-1954  
Folder 7: Our Lady of Mount Carmel School Annals, 1955-1968  
Folder 8: Our Lady of Mount Carmel School Semi-Annual Financial Statements, 1927-1968  
Folder 9: Our Lady of Mount Carmel School Correspondence, 1939-1947  
Folder 10: Our Lady of Mount Carmel School Commencement Invitations and Programs, 1915-1929

### **Sub-Series 9: Taos, NM, LHC06.L.j**

Description: This sub-series contains newspaper clippings, annals, financial statements, and a very limited amount of correspondence from St. Joseph's School. A research file, compiled after the closure of the school, and the research drafts of Sr. Matilda Barrett are also included in the sub-series.

Creator of Material Biography: In 1863, three Sisters of Loretto came to Taos from Santa Fe to open St. Joseph's School for girls. They arrived at the request of the local priest, Father Gabriel Ussel, who had been appointed to the region by Bishop Lamy. This appointment displeased the priest Padre Antonio Martinez, who had been serving the area for decades. Padre Martinez refused to relinquish his post, which resulted in the creation of two factions, loyal either to the new priest or the old, in Taos. Father Ussel hoped that having the Sisters in the area would help bridge the two factions. St. Joseph's School opened in November 1863. In 1894, the Sisters signed contracts with the local school board to begin teaching a classroom of public-school students in the same building. Around 1903, government officials in Taos determined that a hospital was needed in town and that the Sisters should operate both it and the school. Legislative funds earmarked to pay the Sisters were withheld unless the Sisters would agree to open a hospital. Orders came from the Motherhouse that the Sisters were to leave Taos and go to Santa Fe. No hospital materialized, and in 1905 the Sisters were asked to return to Taos, where they continued to operate both the private and the public classrooms. By the 1910s, the public school was expanding and the private school declining. This trend continued until 1928, when the Sisters sold the school to the parish. Sisters of Loretto continued to teach at the school until it closed permanently in 1973. St. Joseph's School is sometimes referred to as Our Lady of Guadalupe School, after the name of the parish.

### **Box 16: LHC06.L.i.16**

Folder 11: Research File  
Folder 12: Newspaper Clippings  
Folder 13: Property Records from Motherhouse Finance Office  
Folder 14: Building and Property Drawings  
Folder 15: Annals, 1863-1946 (Handwritten)  
Folder 16: Annals, 1863-1969  
Folder 17: St. Joseph's School Manuscript for Proposed Book by Sr. Matilda Barrett  
Folder 18: Sisters' Golden Jubilee Event Invitation, 1913  
Folder 19: St. Joseph's School Administrative Correspondence and Contracts, 1939-1991  
Folder 20: St. Joseph's School Semi-Annual Financial Statements, 1928-1968

