

**SOCIETY OF THE SACRED HEART  
UNITED STATES – CANADA PROVINCE  
ARCHIVES**



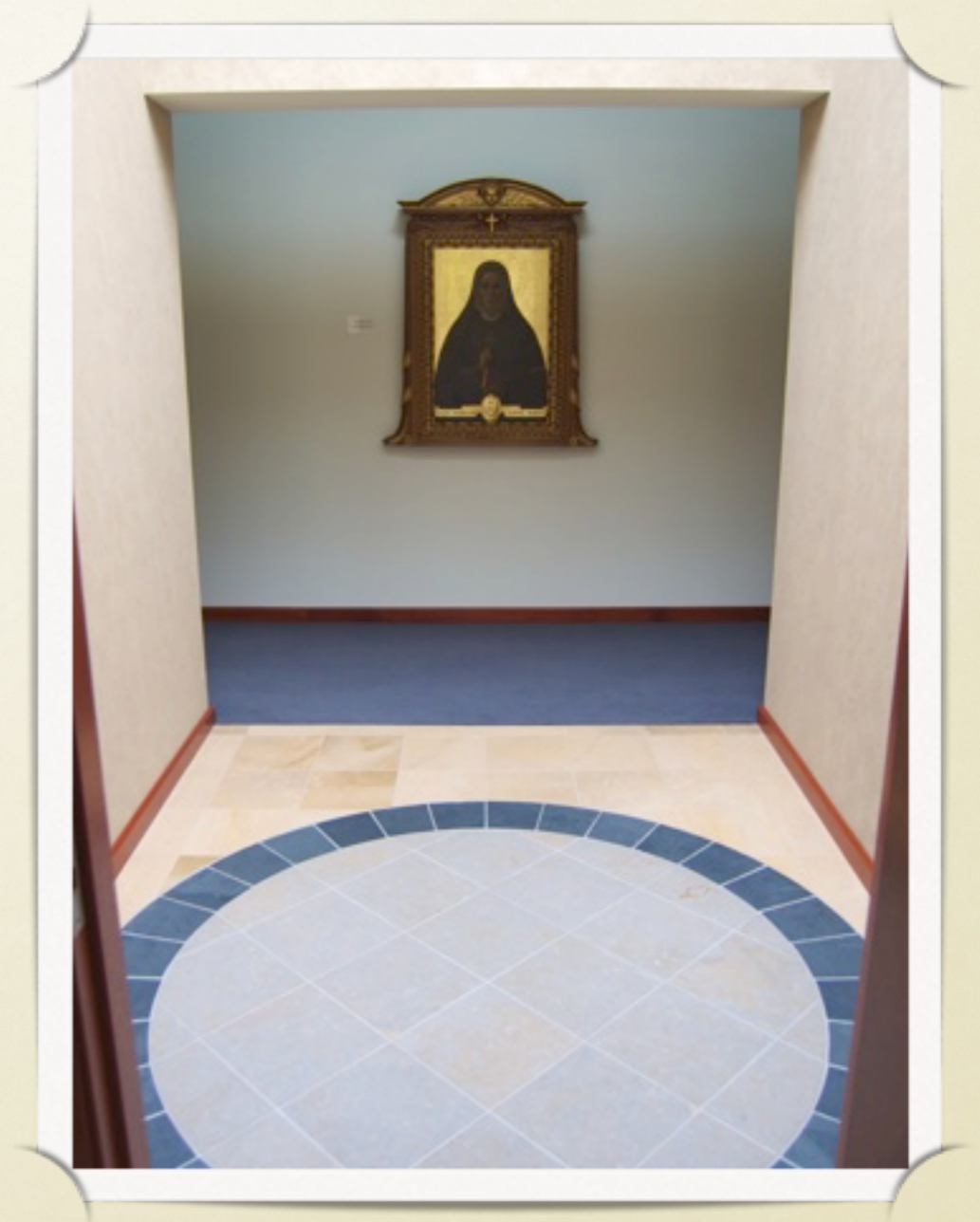
# THE ARCHIVES MISSION

## PRESERVING THE SOCIETY'S HISTORY

Charged with preserving over 200 years of history.

Thousands of records, varying from books to clothing, from relics to photos, from letters to music & film.

The Society has a unique history, and has sought to preserve that history from the earliest days. In 1826 the General Council decreed that the history and records of the Society should be kept, before even the Constitutions were approved.



# THE ARCHIVES MISSION

## THE REASON FOR OUR CALLING



“There are grave lessons to be learnt, not in gloomy or threatening forecasts but in showing the direction of cause and effect and the renewal of the same struggle which has been from the beginning, in ever fresh phases. The past gives confidence...”

*-Janet Erskine Stuart, RSCJ*

“I am more intimately acquainted with our great Sacred Heart women who lived and loved and suffered in this new world...If we know them, our hearts expand, and our knowledge grows.”

*- Marie Louise Martinez, US Province Archivist, 1976-1984*

# THE ARCHIVES MISSION

## THE REASON FOR OUR CALLING

### Temporal Stewardship

Legal, financial and personnel records

### Historical Stewardship

Preserving the history of the United States – Canada Province, and the memory of the RSCJ

### Spiritual Stewardship

Understanding of the Society as charism, gift of the Holy Spirit



# THE ARCHIVES COLLECTIONS

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## OVERVIEW

1,300 linear feet of paper records

Over 2,000 audio recordings

Over 8,000 volumes in the library collection

Over 60,000 photographic records

Over 1,000 motion media

Hundreds of artifacts, from profession crosses to statues, and much more

Collections from the Society in Puerto Rico



*-Sacred Heart Archives Library*

# THE ARCHIVES COLLECTIONS

## PAPER RECORDS

1,300 linear feet of records

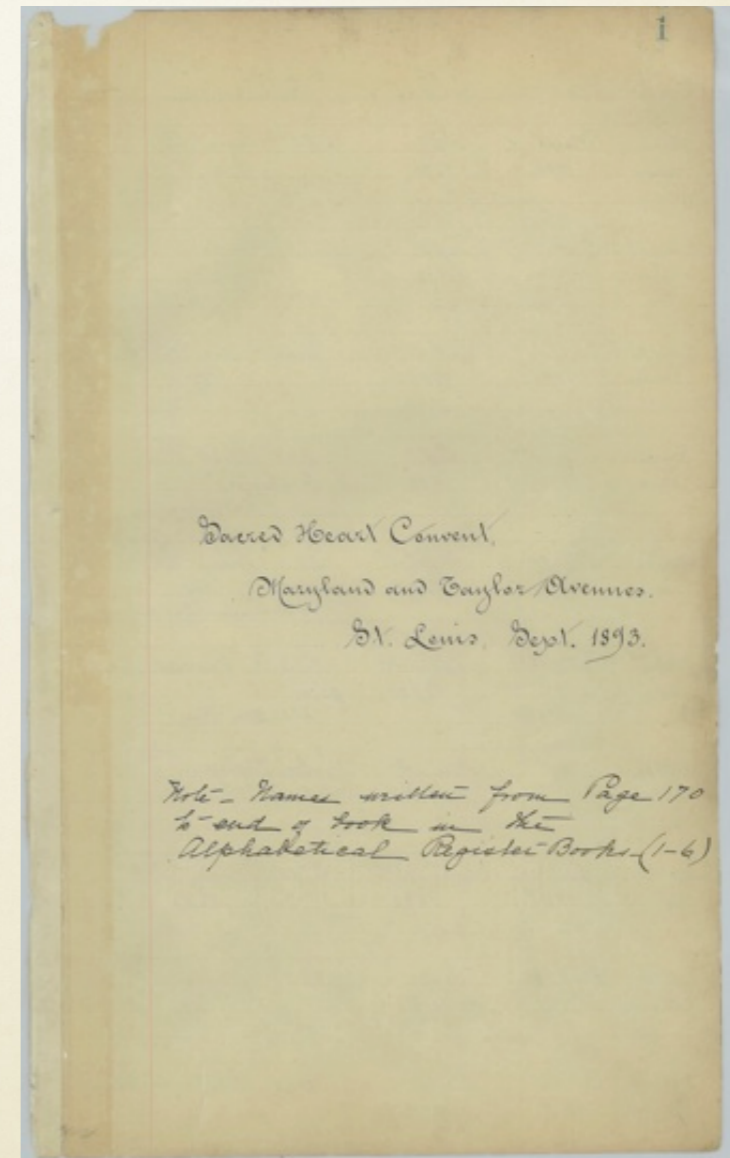
Material on each Sacred Heart schools, ministry, and house

Including treasures such as:

Philippine Duchesne's Office Book

School Registers and Daybooks, such as those of the City House, St. Louis

Correspondence of all kinds



- *City House Register*

# THE ARCHIVES COLLECTIONS

## PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDS





# THE ARCHIVES COLLECTIONS

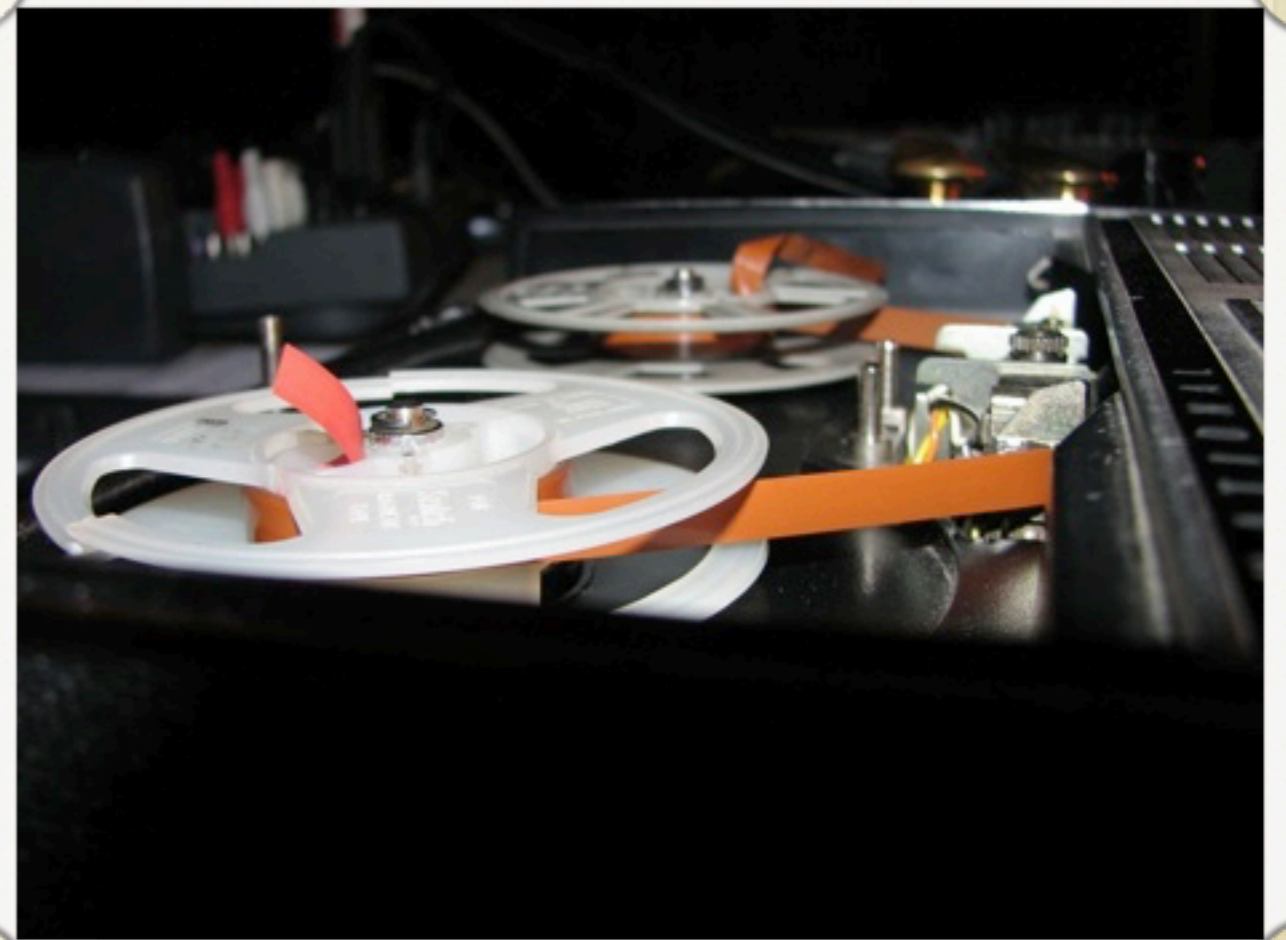
## AUDIO RECORDS

Over 2,500 hours of recordings, in many formats

Vast majority has been digitized

A wealth of oral history

Contains lectures, teleconferences, Sacred Heart music, and much more



*-Image by brianflakes.org*

# THE ARCHIVES IN ACTION

- COLLECT
- PRESERVE
- PROVIDE ACCESS



*-Lyn Osiek, RSCJ, Archivist, and Mary Lou Gavan, RSCJ*

# THE ARCHIVES IN ACTION

## COLLECT

The Archives collects financial, legal, personal and school records from RSCJ and ministries across the province.

These include:

All available records for closed schools

Active records of member schools of the Network of Sacred Heart Schools

Records of past and present Society Houses

Records of individual RSCJ

Other ministries, such as the CEDC

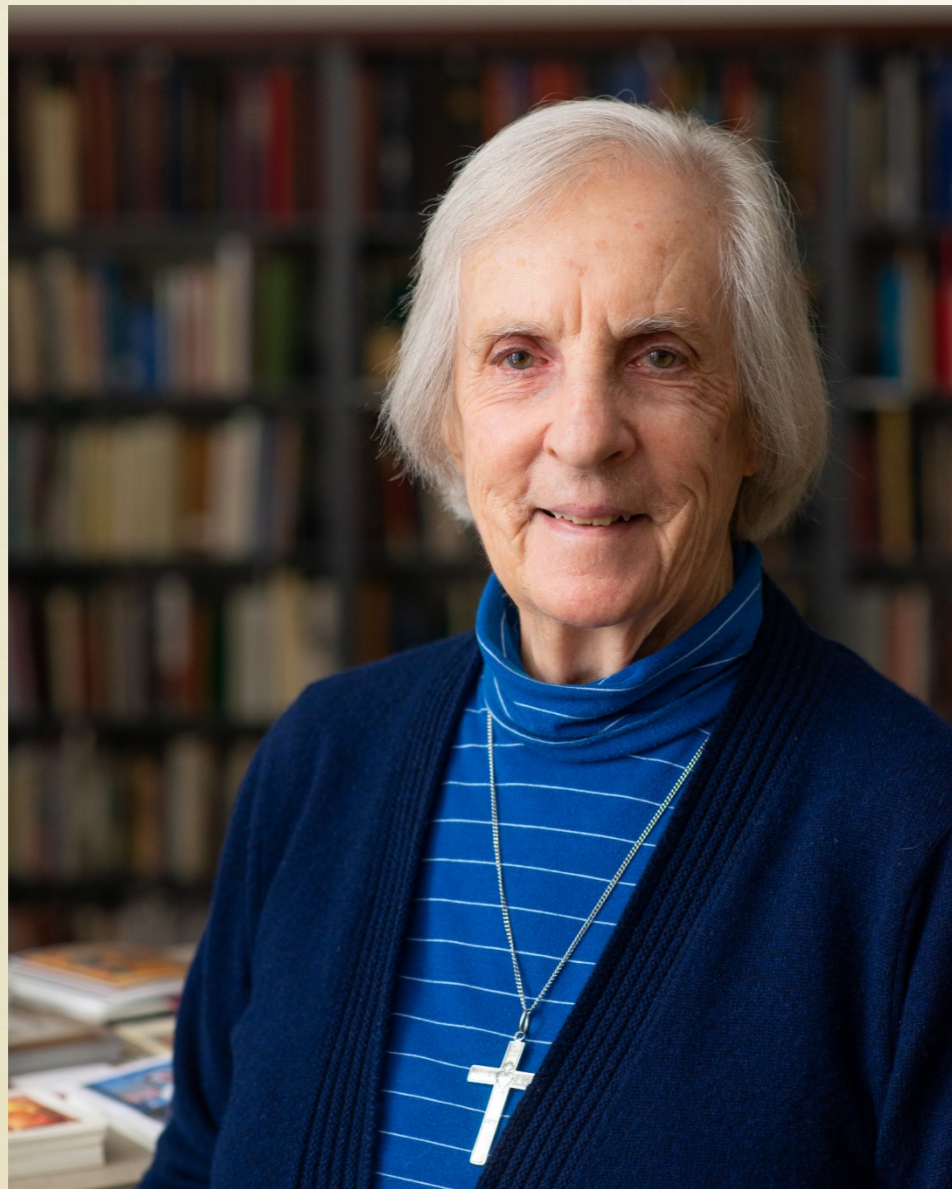
Much, much more



*-Michael Pera, Assistant Archivist*

# THE ARCHIVES IN ACTION

## PRESERVE



*Fran Gimber, RSCJ, Archivist Emerita and  
current archives volunteer*

The Archives is charged with preserving history, by following archival standards for the maintenance of records.

Tape, staples, paperclips and other destructive items are removed.

Files are stored in archival appropriate materials, such as acid-free folders and boxes.

All records are stored in our temperature and humidity controlled document room.

Items in poor repair and of unique value are professionally conserved. Three items, including the 1819-1842 Florissant Register of Vows, were recently conserved with a grant from the Missouri State Archives.

# THE ARCHIVES IN ACTION

## PROVIDE ACCESS

A major facet of the Archives mission is to provide access to our records for the Provincial Team, RSCJ, Sacred Heart ministries and schools, and the public.

In order to make records easily available, many of our records have been digitized.

We provide support for researchers, assisting them and providing guidance on our records.

We assist the Provincial Team and administration with any need for records.



*-Martha Curry, RSCJ, doing research at the Archives*

# ARCHIVES IN ST. LOUIS

- Saint Louis, where the Archives is located, is rich with Catholic heritage. The Archives is blessed to be part of a large community of religious and local archives, and actively participates in ASLAA – Association of St. Louis Area Archives.
- Additionally, the Ursuline Archives for the Central U.S. Province is located in the same building as the Sacred Heart Archives.



*-Sr. Thomas More Daley, Ursuline Archivist,  
and Sr. Sue Ann Cole, Assistant*

# SOCIETY OF THE SACRED HEART

## U.S. PROVINCE

### ARCHIVES

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*Emerita*





**“It is not here a question of memory, except to lay up a good store of it; it is a question of discernment, of application of religious principles. We must be busy with these things in order to respond fitly to the mission implied in our vow.”**

***-St. Madeleine Sophie Barat***