

Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada

Finding Aid - Jamaica Annals series (HF01-S002)

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Language of description: English

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Jamaica Annals series

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Summary information

Repository: Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada

Title: Jamaica Annals series

ID: HF01-S002

Date: 1989-2011 (date of creation)

Language: English

Physical description: 8 cm of textual records
90 photographs : col.
1 photo album

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

In 1987, General Superior Sr. Ann Marshall was president of CRC-O. A request was made to Jim Webb, SJ, Superior in Jamaica, to plan a third world immersion experience for religious leaders in the province. In 1989, Sisters Ann and Katrina Rooney attended a three week mission preparation experience at the University of the West Indies. During this visit the Sisters, in consultation with the Jesuits serving in Kingston, agreed to set up a mission in Annotto Bay, Jamaica. Sisters Ann and Katrina opened the mission on March 22, 1990. Sister Nancy Sullivan joined them in 1993.

During their time at Annotto Bay, the Sisters were primarily involved with pastoral ministry, and attended to health care needs that presented at their home or requested by Sister Shirley Thomas, Matron of the Annotto Bay Hospital. Through the fundraising efforts of John Shea and Jordon Livingston of the Hamilton Rotary Club, a building was erected at the Annotto Bay All Age School dedicated to literacy where the Sisters taught for several years. In 1992, Brian Guest, Dr. Danny Kraftcheck, Hamilton, and Paula Carere, RN, of St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph, visited the mission providing five containers of surplus equipment, medical supplies, and equipment to the 127 bed Annotto Bay Hospital. During their visit it was determined that there was a critical water problem at the Port Maria Infirmary. The following year the Congregation donated \$10,000 for the reconstruction of a water holding tank, and other structural repairs. In 1990, the principal of the Annotto All Age School, Mr. Smikle, asked the Sisters to teach a Family Life Program to grades 7, 8, and 9, which they did until 1992 when they began a literacy program in a building funded by the Rotary Club.

In February 1992 General Superior, Sister Teresita McNally visited Annotto Bay and agreed to sponsor a wood working program at the school. Library books were collected through the efforts of the Hamilton Wentworth Separate School System, and the first library at the school opened. Church sponsored Basic School programs were opened at the site of the five Churches served by the mission. These programs were similar to kindergarten. Through generous donations the children were served a hot meal each day. The Sisters received great support and financial assistance from a Peterborough, Ontario based charity, Jamaican Self Help.

The Sisters were involved in the parish ministry in the five church communities associated with St. Theresa's Church in Annotto Bay. In 2001 Fr. Martin Royacher, Pastor, was murdered and Sister Nancy was appointed Administrator of the mission by Archbishop Lawrence Burke. Sister Katrina returned to Canada in 2000 to serve on the leadership. In June 2007, the mission was transferred to the Missionary Order of the Poor from the Philippines. Sisters Ann and Nancy returned to Canada but left part of their heart with the people in Annotto Bay.

Scope and content

This series includes annals which chronicle the daily lives of Sisters Ann Marshall, Katrina Rooney, and Nancy Sullivan while they lived and performed charity work in Annotto Bay, Jamaica. These records detail their efforts in healthcare, education and pastoral ministry. A large photo album provides a snapshot into what life was like for the Sisters while they lived in Jamaica. The series also details the types of aid provided to Annotto Bay residents at the time. Finally, the series contains newsletters as well as correspondence.

Notes

Title notes

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

Immediate source of acquisition

Records transferred from Mount St. Joseph Centre to the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada Archives - Hamilton site, and then to the main archives.

Arrangement

Order was imposed on the series.

Location of originals

The records are stored off-site in London, Ontario.

Restrictions on access

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

There is a series and file list.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
- **Level of detail:** Partial
- **Status description:** Revised

Access points

- Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada - Hamilton (subject)
- Graphic material (documentary form)
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Photographs (documentary form)
- Correspondence (documentary form)
- Albums (documentary form)
- Health and social services (subject)
- Women (subject)
- Religion (subject)
- Jamaica (place)
- Hamilton (place)

Collection holdings

Subseries: HF01-S002--01 - Annals

Title: Annals

ID: HF01-S002--01

Date: 1990-1999 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

These annals chronicle the daily lives of Sisters Ann Marshall, Katrina Rooney, and Nancy Sullivan while they performed charitable works in Annotto Bay, Jamaica. These records discuss their efforts in healthcare and education, including their donation to fix critical water problems in the Infirmary as well as setting up several educational programs to help children to learn and read. The annals also provide nuanced detail by describing the Sisters' living quarters, thoughts about their works, and about the town itself. The sub-series also includes Katrina Rooney's photographs. These images show Katrina Rooney teaching in school, posing with community members, and relaxing in her leisure time. These images offer a "snapshot" of life in Annotto Bay. A larger photo album along with a folder of photographs also makes up this sub-series. The album's images provide further examples of Annotto Bay life. This sub-series also has records that detail the 2001 murder of Father Martin Royackers, who also lived and worked in Annotto Bay. He was a member of the Upper Canada Province of the Canadian Jesuits and had served Annotto Bay for six years. This news shocked and saddened the Congregation. They were upset to hear the news of the violent attack in a place they considered as a home. The Sisters set up a memorial liturgy in response to the news. The sub-series also included several drawings from children to the Sisters.

Physical description: 3 cm of textual records

82 photographs : col.

1 photo album

Publication status:

published

Access points:

- Graphic material (documentary form)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: HF01-S002--01--01 - Jamaica Annals 1990-1999

Title: Jamaica Annals 1990-1999

ID: HF01-S002--01--01

Publication status:

published

File: HF01-S002--01--02 - Jamaica Ministry and Trip Information 1991

Title: Jamaica Ministry and Trip Information 1991

ID: HF01-S002--01--02

Publication status:

published

File: HF01-S002--01--03 - Jamaica Annals 1996-1998Title: Jamaica Annals 1996-1998ID: HF01-S002--01--03Publication status:

published

File: HF01-S002--01--04 - Newspaper Articles re: Annotto Bay, Jamaica 1994Title: Newspaper Articles re: Annotto Bay, Jamaica 1994ID: HF01-S002--01--04Publication status:

published

File: HF01-S002--01--05 - Sr. Katrina Rooney's Jamaica Photographs 1990sTitle: Sr. Katrina Rooney's Jamaica Photographs 1990sID: HF01-S002--01--05Publication status:

published

File: HF01-S002--01--06 - Jamaica Photo AlbumTitle: Jamaica Photo AlbumID: HF01-S002--01--06Publication status:

published

File: HF01-S002--01--07 - Fr. Martin Royackers, Annotto Bay 2000-2001

Title: Fr. Martin Royackers, Annotto Bay 2000-2001

ID: HF01-S002--01--07

Publication status:

published

File: HF01-S002--01--08 - Jamaica: Farewell and Good Luck Messages from Children

Title: Jamaica: Farewell and Good Luck Messages from Children

ID: HF01-S002--01--08

Publication status:

published

File: HF01-S002--01--09 - Photographs

Title: Photographs

ID: HF01-S002--01--09

Publication status:

published

Subseries: HF01-S002--02 - Correspondence

Title: Correspondence

ID: HF01-S002--02

Date: 1989-2011 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The correspondence records both the daily happenings and important charitable works of Sisters Ann Marshall, Katrina Rooney, and Nancy Sullivan during their mission in Annotto Bay, Jamaica. This includes details such as attending symposiums at the local university, watching the sunsets over the Caribbean Sea, going to the market and the price of food, and observing local people and culture. One piece of correspondence, a memorandum written by Sisters Ann and Katrina to Sr. Teresita McNally and Council on February 19, 1990 details reasons why the Jamaica mission should be carried out, and

the significance it would hold to the community. Reasons include experiencing the life and struggles of Jamaican people, learning about Jamaican history and culture, as well as illuminating problems experienced by developing countries. Another notable correspondence includes an April 17, 1991 overview report which details the healthcare needs of Annotto Bay, as well as provides suggestions for improvement. There is also a very detailed list of materials sent to Jamaica, including books, crayons, medal supplies and cots. This sub-series also includes accounting expenditures related to various projects. Donation letters and requests also make up a portion of this sub-series. There are records of Sister Ann Marshall's correspondence and dealings with C.U.S.O. regarding the Jamaica trip. These documents include information about medical expenses.

Physical description: 4 cm of textual records
8 photographs : col.

Publication status:

published

Access points:

- Graphic material (documentary form)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: HF01-S002--02--01 - Jamaica Correspondence 1989-1990

Title: Jamaica Correspondence 1989-1990

ID: HF01-S002--02--01

Publication status:

published

File: HF01-S002--02--02 - Jamaica Annotto Bay Correspondence 1989-1991

Title: Jamaica Annotto Bay Correspondence 1989-1991

ID: HF01-S002--02--02

Publication status:

published

File: HF01-S002--02--03 - Sr. Ann Marshall CUSO Information 1990-1994

Title: Sr. Ann Marshall CUSO Information 1990-1994

ID: HF01-S002--02--03

Publication status:

published

File: HF01-S002--02--04 - Jamaica: Letters of Donation 1990-1992

Title: Jamaica: Letters of Donation 1990-1992

ID: HF01-S002--02--04

Publication status:

published

File: HF01-S002--02--05 - Jamaica Project Correspondence 1990-1992

Title: Jamaica Project Correspondence 1990-1992

ID: HF01-S002--02--05

Publication status:

published

File: HF01-S002--02--06 - Jamaica: Annotto Correspondence Jan. 1992-Nov. 1994

Title: Jamaica: Annotto Correspondence Jan. 1992-Nov. 1994

ID: HF01-S002--02--06

Publication status:

published

File: HF01-S002--02--07 - Jamaica Correspondence 2000-2011

Title: Jamaica Correspondence 2000-2011

ID: HF01-S002--02--07

Publication status:

published

Subseries: HF01-S002--03 - Newsletters

Title: Newsletters

ID: HF01-S002--03

Date: 1990-2007 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The newsletters provide a detailed summary of Sisters Nancy Sullivan, Katrina Rooney, and Ann Marshall's charity work in Annotto Bay, Jamaica. Several of their projects are discussed, including providing sewing machines to single mothers, providing poor families with bus money, conducting healthcare education, sponsoring children to go to school, and building extensions on family homes. The Sisters' work at the All Age School is discussed in detail, as well as their work in the Annotto Bay Hospital and Infirmary. One notable newsletter from April 27, 1995 provides a schedule of "A Day in The Life of The Sisters of St. Joseph, Annotto Bay, Jamaica." This schedule offers a detailed look into a typical day of work the Sisters experienced while on their mission. These newsletters also offer nuanced information about what life was like in Jamaica. Many images are included in the later issues of the newsletters, providing further detail into Jamaican life, people, and culture.

Physical description: 1 cm of textual records.

Publication status:

published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: HF01-S002--03--01 - Newsletters from Jamaica 1990-2007

Title: Newsletters from Jamaica 1990-2007

ID: HF01-S002--03--01

Publication status:

published
