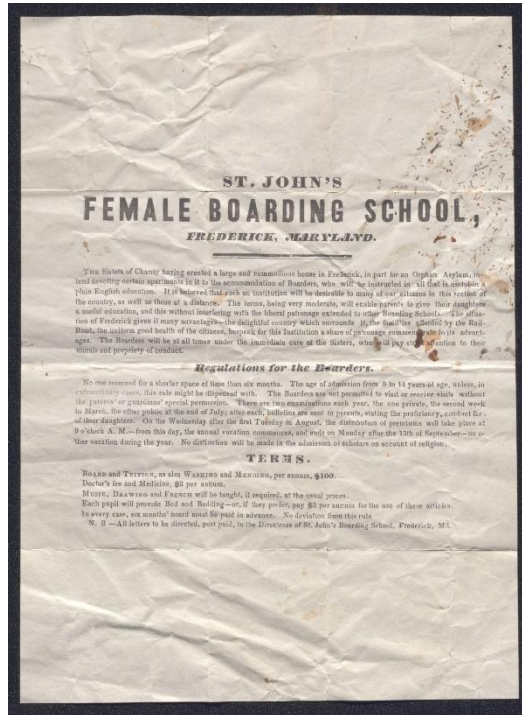


Frederick MD – St. John's School and Asylum

Archives of the Daughters of Charity, Province of St. Louise

2024



Creator: St. John's School and Asylum, Frederick, MD
Title: Frederick, MD – St. John's School and Asylum
Dates: 1824 - 1995, bulk 1824-1845
Extent: 2 boxes, 1.5 linear feet
Identification: SEP-FSJS 11-1
Language: English
Subjects: St. John's Asylum & School (Frederick, MD)
African American Catholics - History - 19th century
Dubois, John, 1764-1842
Frederick (Md.)--History
George, Mother Margaret (1787-1868)
McElroy, John, 1782-1877
VonDrehle, Sr. Mary Augusta (1919-2014)

Historical Note

At the invitation of Father John McElroy, S.J. of St. John's Parish in Frederick, three Sisters of Charity started St. John's Free School in January 1825. While initially being a girls' day school, it eventually grew to house boarders, orphans, paid and free students, members of the free Black community, and a boys'

school. During its operation, it went by a number of names, including St. John's Female Benevolent School, St. John's Free School, Frederick Free School, and St. John's School and Asylum. In 1843, the orphans was transferred to be cared for in Emmitsburg. After a fire severely damaged the structure in 1845, the Sisters determined that they were unable to bear the financial burden of repair and reopening, and in 1846, the school was transferred to the ownership of the Visitation Sisters, when it began its history as the Visitation Academy.

Scope and Contents

Contains historical diaries; correspondence to families, church officials, and community Superiors; and financial information and accounts related to St. John's School and Asylum. The collection also contains lists of student names and communion lists, sometimes including African American student names, presumably from the community of free people of color. Also contains historical publications of the modern parish long after the transformation of St. John's into the Visitation Academy.

System of Arrangement

Collection arranged into 6 series: 1) Administration, 2) History, 3) Correspondence, 4) Financial, 6) Publications, and 10) Personnel

Correspondence and Finance series contain item-level inventories.

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Custodial History

Originally part of the Archives of the Daughters of Charity, Southeast Province, Emmitsburg, MD.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Transferred to Archives of the Province of St. Louise during provincial merger of 2011.

Preferred Citation Format

Document/File Name, RG #, Collection Name, Daughters of Charity Archives, Province of St. Louise, Emmitsburg, MD

Inventory

RG Number	Title	Series Name	Box/Drawer	Folder	Date From	Date To
11-1-1-1	Regulations for the boarders [DIGITIZED]	Administration	1	1		
11-1-2	Diary of Sr. Margaret George, SC [DIGITIZED]	History	1	2	1824	1832
11-1-2	Historical information	History	1	3		
11-1-3	Original correspondence [DIGITIZED]	Correspondence	1	4	1824	1845
11-1-3	Acid-free copies of the correspondence [DIGITIZED]	Correspondence	1	5	1824	1845
11-1-4-3	Accounts & receipts [DIGITIZED]	Financial	2	1	1831	1839
11-1-4-3	Accounts & receipts [DIGITIZED]	Financial	2	2	1840	1845
11-1-4-3	Acid-free copies of accounts & receipts [DIGITIZED]	Financial	2	3	1831	1845
11-1-6-2	Brochure of "Margaret Cecilia George the Woman and Her Spirit"	Publications	2	4		
11-1-6-2	Brochures of John McElroy Award	Publications	2	5	1995	
11-1-10-1	Research by Sister Mary Augusta VonDrehle, DC	Personnel	2	6		