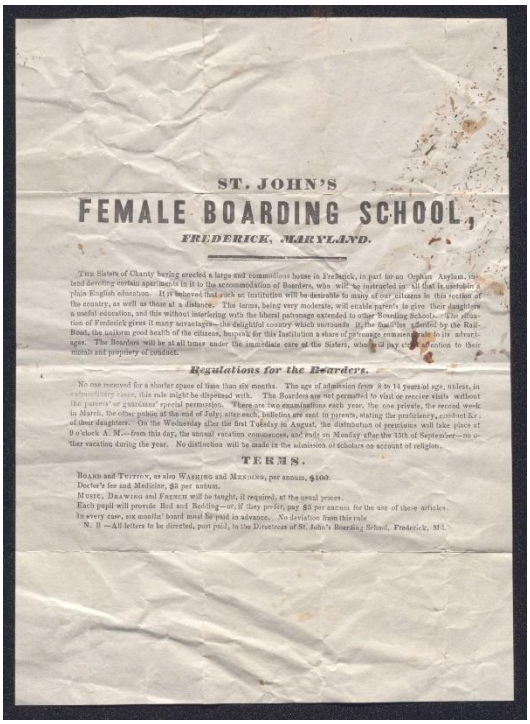
Frederick MD – St. John's School and Asylum

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

2024



ST. JOHN'S

FEMALE BOARDING SCHOOL,

FREDERICK, MARYLAND.

The Sisters of Charity having erected a large and commodious house in Frederick, in part for an Orphan Asylum, intend devoting certain apartments in it to the accommodation of Boarders, who will be instructed in all that is necessary in plain English education. It is believed that such an institution will be desirable to many of our citizens in this section of the country, as well as those at a distance. The terms, being very moderate, will enable parents to give their daughters a useful education, and this without interfering with the liberal patronage extended to other Boarding Schools. The situation of Frederick gives it many advantages—the delightful country which surrounds it—the healthiness of the Rail-Road, the uniform good health of the citizens, bespeak for this Institution a share of patronage commensurate to its advantages. The Boarders will be at all times under the immediate care of the Sisters, who will pay every attention to their morals and propriety of conduct.

Regulations for the Boarders.

No one received for a shorter space of time than six months. The age of admission from 8 to 14 years of age, unless, in extraordinary cases, this rule might be dispensed with. The Boarders are not permitted to visit or receive visits without the parents' or guardians' special permission. There are two examinations each year, the one private, the second week in March, the other public at the end of July; after each, bulletins are sent to parents, stating the proficiency, conduct &c. of their daughters. On the Wednesday after the first Tuesday in August, the distribution of premiums will take place at 9 o'clock A. M.—from this day, the annual vacation commences, and ends on Monday after the 15th of September—no other vacation during the year. No distinction will be made in the admission of scholars on account of religion.

TERMS.

Board and Tuition, as also Washing and Mending, per annum, $100

Doctor's fee and Medicine, $5 per annum.

Music, Drawing and French will be taught, if required, at the usual prices.

Each pupil will provide Bed and Bedding—or, if they prefer, pay $5 per annum for the use of these articles.

In every case, six months' board must be paid in advance. No deviation from this rule

N. B.—All letters to be directed, post paid, to the Directress of St. John's Boarding School, Frederick, Md.

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.

Box 2 Folder 7 acquired and added to collection in 2026.

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		
11-1-10-1	Sisters buried in Frederick	Personnel	2	7		