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RG 10.19 St. Philip Neri School for Delayed Vocations Records, Finding Aid

New England Jesuit Province Archives

New England Province of the Society of Jesus

St. Philip Neri School for Delayed Vocations, Boston and Haverill, Mass.

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Archives of the New England Province Society of Jesus
c/o College of the Holy Cross Archives & Special Collections
One College Street, Worcester, MA 01610-2395

Record Group: 10
House/Community/Parish Records

Name of Collection: School of St. Philip Neri for Delayed Vocations
126 Newbury Street, Boston &
Our Lady's Hall, Haverhill, MA

Record Group Number: 10. 19 STPN

Dates of Collection: 1940s-1960s

Size of Collection: .75 linear feet: 1-5" box + 1-2.5" box

Historical Background:

In 1945, Frs. Edward L. Murphy and Richard V. Lawlor discussed the need to open a school for delayed vocations for veterans of military service who desired to enter the religious life. In 1946, Fr. George M. Murphy planned and publicized such a school to be opened in Boston, MA using the Campion House, in Osterley, England, as a model. The school in England had opened as a school for delayed vocations after World War I. Its purpose was to teach Latin so the students could go on to seminaries, which required a foundation of Latin for acceptance.

The St. Philip Neri School opened in September, 1946 in Boston and a second branch opened in Haverhill, MA in 1949. The Haverhill, MA school closed in 1964 and the Boston, MA school closed in 1969. The School closed due to a dwindling number of students because United States seminaries in the mid-1960s were no longer requiring knowledge of Latin for admission as the liturgy was being conducted in English.

The average enrollment was around ninety students per year from all over the United States and Canada. Graduates of the school were candidates for priesthood in over fifty diocese and thirty religious and missionary societies. In its first twenty years, 1633 students were certified and of this number 375 continued studies in seminaries (1967-68 Catalogue, p. 5). The average certification took about nine months. Between 1952 and 1969, 544 alumni were ordained: 371 as diocesan priests for 96 dioceses and 173 religious order priests for 33 orders (Closure of school letter).

The first Director of the School was Rev. George M. Murphy, S.J. from 1946 until 1958 when Rev. James F. Geary, S.J. was appointed. In 1964, Rev. Walter J. Martin, S.J. was named Director and he served until the school closed in 1969. Fr. Martin then went to work at Boston College High School and continued to administer the records from that location.

Scope and Content:

The collection consists of yearbooks, deeds & correspondence pertaining to the Haverhill, MA property, course catalogs, correspondence, and a written history of the school.



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Access / Restrictions:

This collection is open for research with the exception of the folder marked as "Restricted".

Cite As: The School of St. Philip Neri Records
Record Group #10, House/Community/Parish Records
Archives of the New England Province of the Society of Jesus
College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA

See: For photographs of the school, please see the Province Archives photograph & scrapbook collection (Record Group 12).

Also see: The Records of the Provincial (Record Group 1) and the Records of the Province Treasurer (Record Group 3).

Resources at other archives: The Archives of Boston College High School also contain material from the St. Philip Neri School, consisting of Bulletins, 1947-52, 1957-62 and the *Suscipe* yearbook, 1947-1961. (They appear to have 1956 which the Province Archives lacks.) There are also two folders documenting Lawrence Albert, the first full-blooded Eskimo candidate for the priesthood from the Vicariate of Fairbanks.

Publications about:

"The School of St. Philip Neri," by George M. Murphy, S.J., *The Woodstock Letters*, Vol. 84, 1955, pages 123-130.

Record Group 10.19 STPN House/Community/Parish Records: 1945-1975
School of St. Philip Neri for Delayed Vocations, Boston/Haverhill, MA

Folder Title	Dates	Box	Folder
History of/Fr. George Murphy	1954	1	1
Publicity Items	1950s	1	2
Catalog-School for Delayed Vocations	1946/47	1	3
Catalog	1947/48	1	4
Catalog	1951/52	1	5
Catalog	1958/59	1	6
Catalog	1960/61	1	7
Catalog	1963/64	1	8
Catalog	1964/65	1	9
Catalog	1967/68	1	10
Graduation Program	1965	1	11
Student Residence Handbook/Rules	1950s	1	12
Guest Register of 188 Beacon Street, Boston, MA: Student Lodging House	1946-1965	1	13
Statistics	1957-1962	1	14-19
Province Financial Correspondence	1947-1961	1	20
O.L.H. Finances (Our Lady's Hall)/ Haverhill/ inventory	1957-1961	1	21
O.L.H. Finances (Our Lady's Hall)/ Financial worksheets	1950-1963	1	22-27
RESTRICTED: O.L.H. Finances Ind. Student Accts.	1960s	1	28
[Real Estate-Haverhill: w/James P. Cleary, Attorney]	1949-1962	1	29
Deeds	1918-1963	1	30
[Closure of School letters/history]	1969	1	31
[correspondence-general]	1975	1	32
House Diary	1950-1965	2	1
RESTRICTED: Consultor Diaries	1951-1957 [2 books]	2	2-3
<i>Suscipe</i> (yearbooks)	1947-55, 1957-64, 1966-68	shelf	NE authors

Also see:

Record Group 12: Audiovisual Collection: Photographs 1945-1975
10.19 STPN School of St. Philip Neri for Delayed Vocations, Boston/Haverhill, MA

People: Rev. George M. Murphy	1
Ceremonies	2
Exterior	3
Interior	4
Grounds	5

Record Group 12: Audiovisual Collection: Scrapbooks 1945-1975
10.19 STPN School of St. Philip Neri for Delayed Vocations, Boston/Haverhill, MA

Scrapbook of school, photo album	1950, circa	in 2.5" doc box
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