



---

MISSOURI PROVINCE GENERAL GOVERNANCE COLLECTION  
1823-2009 [BULK 1823-1990]

---

MIS.2.001

JESUIT ARCHIVES: CENTRAL UNITED STATES  
4511 West Pine Boulevard, Saint Louis, Missouri, 63108  
Telephone: 314.361.7765 Fax: 314.758.7182 Web: [www.jesuitarchives.org](http://www.jesuitarchives.org)

## Collection Summary

---

*Collection number:* MIS.2.001  
*Repository Code:* MoSIJA  
*Repository:* Jesuit Archives: Central United States  
*Title:* Missouri Province General Governance collection  
*Date [bulk]:* 1823-1990  
*Date [inclusive]:* 1823-2009  
*Extent:* 5.5 linear feet (6 boxes)  
*Creator:* Jesuits. Missouri Province  
*Language of material:* English and Latin

*Abstract:* The Missouri Province of the Society of Jesus, established as a mission in 1823, was the second Jesuits province to be established in the United States. The General Governance collection contains foundational documents and general administrative records to the Missouri Province of the Society of Jesus from its foundation to the early 2000s. This collection was compiled from various sources by Province Archives Staff.

*Processing history:* Originally processed by Missouri and Midwest Jesuit Archives staff, Nancy Mertz, Martin Bredeck, and David Miros. Additional processing and description completed by Alexandra M. Bisio in 2016.

*Conditions governing access:* This collection is open for research.

*Conditions governing reproduction and use:* The archival records in the Jesuit Archives: Central United States are the property of the Central and Southern, Chicago-Detroit, Northeast, and Wisconsin Provinces of the Society of Jesus. Copies may not be duplicated or deposited elsewhere without the prior written consent of the archivist. Supplying a copy is not an authorization to publish or circulate. Written permission to publish any records in their entirety or a substantial portion thereof must be requested and approved prior to publication. The researcher has the sole legal responsibility for obtaining this written permission.

*Preferred citation:* [Identification of item], [Box number], [Folder number]. Missouri Province General Governance, MIS.2.001. Jesuit Archives: Central United States, St. Louis, Missouri. [Date accessed].

*Processing note:* This collection consists of items originally described as “foundational documents,” in the Midwest Jesuit Archives finding aid. Some items in this collection given that description were created many years after the foundation of the Missouri Mission in 1823 and the Missouri Province in 1863, the title was changed for the sake of clarity to “general governance.”

*Additional finding aids:* Legacy finding aids are available upon request.

## Historical note

---

In 1823, seven Belgian novices, two brothers, and two priests traveled down the Ohio River and across Illinois to establish a mission in, what had been until 1821, the Missouri Territory. The original Jesuit Missouri Mission extended from the Alleghenies to the high plains, with principle outposts in St. Louis and Florissant. Upon their arrival, the Jesuits began to minister to the Osage, Kickapoo, and Potawatomi tribes. In 1829, they assumed responsibility for Saint Louis College, the future Saint Louis University. The Missouri Mission became a vice-province in 1840 and a province in 1863.

The second province to be established in the United States, Missouri served as a home province for many missionaries and explorers of the American west, including Father Pierre-Jean De Smet who mapped much of the western United States, including the Oregon Territory. The Missouri Province also staffed several missions outside North America, including in Belize and Puerto Rico.

New Orleans became an independent mission in 1847 and later a province with Jesuit ministry in Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana and Texas. As the Church grew in the center of the country, three provinces developed out of the Missouri Province. In 1928, the Chicago Province was granted independent control of the governance of the Society in Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and Kentucky. Likewise, in 1955 the Province of Wisconsin was formed to administrate the Society in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North and South Dakota.

In 2014, reconfiguration of the American provinces led to the joining of Missouri and New Orleans into the Central and Southern Province.

## Scope and content note

---

The General Governance collection contains foundational documents and general administrative records related to the Missouri Mission, Vice-Province, and Province of the Society of Jesus. This collection documents the history of the Province from the Mission's foundation in 1823 until the early 2000s, and was compiled from various sources by Missouri Province Archives Staff.

This collection contains records and documents created as part of the governance and operation of the Missouri Mission, Vice-Province, and Province from the Mission's foundation in 1823 until the early 2000s. The financial, legal, and property documents subseries primarily contains information related to the financial and legal foundation of the Missouri Mission. The operational records subseries contains documents created as part of the administration of the Missouri Province. Administrative materials include decrees, annual reports, custom books, permissions, guidelines, and forms. The catalogs, lists, and statistical reports subseries includes personnel rolls, biographical sketches, and statistical data reflecting membership and operation of the Missouri Mission, Vice-Province, and Province.

Seminarian records include materials related to the training, formation, and education of Jesuits at Saint Stanislaus Seminary, Saint Louis University, St. Joseph College in Bardstown, Kentucky, and Saint Mary's College, Kansas. The funeral and burial information series contains burial records, cemetery photographs, scrapbooks, and lists detailing the burial of Jesuits in the Missouri Province. The subject files series contains reports, letters, lists, published and unpublished writings, newsletters, and clippings collected on topics related to the history and operation of the Missouri Province.

#### Arrangement note

---

The General Governance collection is arranged in five series:

- Series 1. Financial, property, and legal documents, 1823-1886
- Series 2. Operational records, 1823-1995, undated
- Series 3. Catalogs, lists, and statistics, 1824-2004
- Series 4. Seminarian records, 1926-2009, undated
- Series 5. Funeral and burial information, 1909-1989, undated
- Series 6. Subject files, 1833-2007

#### Collection Contents

---

##### [Series 1. Financial, legal, and property documents, 1823-1886](#)

###### *Scope and content note*

The financial, legal, and property documents subseries primarily contains information related to the financial and legal foundation of the Missouri Mission. In addition to financial documents, a letter book of correspondence sent by the Jesuits of the Missouri Mission is included in this subseries. Of note in this subseries is a contract detailing the transfer of slaves to the group of Jesuits who established the Missouri Mission.

###### *Arrangement note*

This subseries is arranged in chronological order by date of creation.

---

Concordat regarding the Missouri Mission between Charles Neal and William Du Bourg, handwritten duplicates, circa 1823, 1886	Box 2.0021: Folder 1
Transfer of slaves by corporation of Roman Catholic clergymen of	Box 2.0018: Folder 1

Maryland to Charles Felix Van Quickenborne, contract, 1823 April 10

De Ghyseghem family loan documents, 1835-1849

Box 2.0021: Folder 2

Letter book and property inventory, 1852-1858

Box 2.0018: Vol. 1

*Scope and content note: This book contains copies of correspondence sent by various Jesuits, letters of the Superior general, and a Province property inventory compiled by Pierre Jean De Smet.*

---

## Series 2. Operational records, 1823-2006, undated

### *Scope and content note*

The operational records subseries contains documents created as part of the administration of the Missouri Province. Administrative materials include decrees, annual reports, custom books, permissions, guidelines, and forms. Several documents pertain to the establishment of the Missouri Mission in the 1820s.

### *Arrangement note*

This subseries is arranged in chronological order by date of creation.

---

Maryland Provincial's instructions to Charles Felix Van Quickenborne, 1823

Box 2.0018: Folder 2

Litterae Annuae et Historia Domuum, 1823-1958

Box 2.0019: Folders 2-11  
Box 2.0019: Vols. 1-13  
Box 2.0021: Folders 4-5  
Box 2.0021: Vol. 1

Archivii Liber Misouriane Missionis Societatis Jesu, 1821-1863

Box 2.0021: Vols. 2-7

Joannes Philippus Roothaan's permission for Missouri Province Jesuits to begin accepting tuition, 1833 February 1

Box 2.0018: Folder 19

*Provenance note: Removed from a collection of Superior General's letters by Missouri Province Archives staff.*

Declarations establishing the Missouri Vice-Province and Province, 1839, 1863

Box 2.0018: Folder 20

Pope Gregory XVI grants faculty of privileged altar to Missouri Jesuits, letter, 1841

Box 2.0018: Folder 21

Ordinationes et Litterae Encyclicae, 1870-1910

Box 2.0021: Vol. 8

Ordinationes Majoris Mementi Admodium Rev. Patris Nostri Praeposti Generalis, 1979	Box 2.0021: Folder 10
Custom book and proposed revisions, 1908-1933	Box 2.0020: Folders 3-7
Indults, permissium, and resciptium, 1927-1964	Box 2.0020: Folder 8
Missouri province publication forms, 1940-1950	Box 2.0020: Folder 9
Historia Provinciae Missourianae, 1946-1967	Box 2.0020: Folder 17
Superior's handbook, drafts and publications, 1952-2002	Box 2.0017: Folder 1-2
Policies and norms of the Missouri Province, 1974-2006	Box 2.0017: Folder 3-10
Policies and norms of Provinces other than Missouri, 1979-2003	Box 2.0023: Folder 5-6 Box 2.0023.5: Folders 1-4
<i>Physical description note: This file contains a VHS tape and digital media.</i>	
Job descriptions, 1985-1994	Box 2.0022: Folder 11
Relator's report, 1990	Box 2.0020: Folder 27
Priests in good standing form, 1995	Box 2.0022: Folder 18
Fructus Spritualis record and submission guidelines, undated	Box 2.0020: Folder 28
Instructions for drafting an annual letter, house history, or obituary, undated	Box 2.0020: Folder 29

---

### Series 3. Catalogs, lists, and statistical reports, 1824-2005

#### *Scope and content note*

The catalogs, lists, and statistical reports subseries includes personnel rolls, biographical sketches, and statistical data reflecting membership and operation of the Missouri Mission, Vice-Province, and Province. Personnel rolls include catalogs, which list all members of the Missouri Province, Necrologies, which list all members of the Province who have died, and the Elenchi. Biographical sketches include Summarium Vitae and menologies. Statistical reports include Fructus Ministerii, Quaedam Ministeria Spiritualia Exercitata, Tabulae Statisticae, and education statistics.

#### *Arrangement note*

This subseries is arranged in chronological order by date of creation.

---

Catalogus Primus, 1824-1902	Box 2.0014: Folder 1 Box 2.0018: Folders 3-18 Box 2.0021: Folders 3
“Menology of the Society of Jesus,” 1852 <i>Processing note: This bound volume was formerly labeled “Father Smarius’ Menology.”</i>	Box 2.0021: Vol. 9
Catalogus Secundus, 1853-1913	Box 2.0014: Folder 2 Box 2.0018: Folders 22-27 Box 2.0019: Folder 1
Elenchi, 1857-1920	Box 2.0019: Folder 12 Box 2.0019: Vols. 14-24 Box 2.0021: Folder 6
Summarium Vitae, 1868-1932, 1951	Box 2.0021: Folder 13 Box 2.0022: Folder 39
Fructus Ministerii, 1879-1935	Box 2.0021: Folders 7-9
Menology, submissions and drafts, 1893-1902, 1924-1968	Box 2.0022: Folders 40-48
“Menology of the Society of Jesus: Province of Missouri” and accompanying documents, 1893, 1926	Box 2.0022: Folder 49 Box 2.0023: Folders 2-4
Catalogus Rerum, 1896-1913	Box 2.0020: Folders 1-2
Enumeration of members of the Mission, Vice-Province, and Province of Missouri, list and notes, circa 1901	Box 2.0021: Folder 11
Necrologies, 1896-2005	Box 2.0022: Folders 53-54 Box 2.0023: Folders 1
Elenchus Triennalis, 1927-1968	Box 2.0014: Folder 6 Box 2.0020: Folder 24
Secondary and higher education statistics, 1940	Box 2.0022: Folder 38
Quaedam Ministeria Spiritualia Exercitata and Elenchus Statisticus Collegiorum, 1941-1949	Box 2.0020: Folders 10-16
Assistancy and Province personnel information and statistics, 1947-2001	Box 2.0020: Folders 18-22
Tabulae Statisticae, 1947-1979	Box 2.0020: Folder 23

School and retreat statistics, 1949	Box 2.0020: Folder 25
Retreat statistics, 1950	Box 2.0020: Folder 26
Missouri Province Provincials, list, 2004	Box 2.0022: Folder 1

---

#### Series 4. Seminarian records, 1926-2009, undated

##### *Scope and content note*

This series contains records related to the training, formation, and education of Jesuits at Saint Stanislaus Seminary, Saint Louis University, St. Joseph College in Bardstown, Kentucky, and Saint Mary's College, Kansas. Materials in this series include lists of seminarians, seminarian biographies, vow formulas and declarations, catalogs and syllabi, examination results, student grades, candidate material, and wavers of compensation. Some seminarian and candidate records in this series are restricted due to privacy concerns.

##### *Arrangement note*

This series is arranged in chronological order by date of creation.

##### *Access note*

Student records from 1947 forward are restricted due to privacy.

---

Catalogus eorum qui ad Sacros Ordines promoti sunt in Universitate Sti Ludovici, 1826-1910	Box 2.0015: Volume 2
First probation biographies, 1827-1833, 1859-1942	Box 798: Volume 1 Box 2.0012: Folder 4
Sextus Liber Archivii Domus Probationis Sti Stanislai Missionis S.J. Missouriiana: Catalogi & Syllabus, 1827-1905	Box 2.0014: Volume 4
Quintus Liber Archivii Domus Probationis Sti Stanislai Missionis S.J. Missouriiana: Formula Votorum, 1833-1884	Box 2.0014: Volume 2-3
Liber Continens Ordinationes Generalium, Ordinationes Provincialium, Catalogus Admissorum ad vota et Mortuorum in Collegio Bardstown, 1837	Box 2.0016: Volume 1
Requests for and declarations of first vows, record books, 1837-1969	Box 2.0010: Folders 6-7 Box 2.0010: Volumes 2-5
Septimus Archivii Liber Missouriiana Missionis Societatis Iesu Catalogi Eorum Qui, 1837-1862	Box 2.0014: Folder 3



Examina Annua, test records, 1848-1967	Box 2.0011: Folders 1-11 Box 2.0011: Volume 1 Box 2.0012: Folders 1-3 Box 2.0012: Volumes 1-2
<i>Scope and content note: These records include the test results of seminarians who left the Society.</i>	
<i>Restriction note: Test results from 1948 forward are restricted due to privacy.</i>	
Missouri Province examination reports, 1848-1870	Box 2.0015: Volume 1
Examina Ad Gradum, test results and related correspondence, 1851-1989	Box 2.0010: Folders 1-4 Box 2.0010: Volume 1 Box 798: Volume 2
Septimi Libri Archivi Provinciae Missourianae Societatis Iesu, Pars Secunda: Catalogus admissorum ad 1am et 2am Probationem, 1862-1909	Box 2.0014: Volume 4
Wavers of compensation, 1865-1991	Box 2.0016: Folder 1 Box 2.0016: Volume 2-10
Ordinations: Church of St. F. Xavier, St. Louis, 1900-1965	Box 2.0015: Volume 3
Liber Archivii Domus Probationis Sti Stanislai Tertuis Catalogi et Syllabus, 1905-1923	Box 2.0014: Folder 4
<i>Physical condition note: Photocopy. The original bound volume was discarded due to poor condition.</i>	
Catalogus Admissorum ad 1am et 2am Probationem, 1910-1932	Box 2.0014: Folder 5
Professional grades for short course theologians, 1929-1930	Box 2.0015: Folder 4
Ordinations: St. Mary's College, St. Mary's Kansas, 1932-1967	Box 2.0015: Volume 4
Examina Ad Gradum, alphabetical card index, circa 1950s-1960s	Box 2.0010: Envelopes 1-8
<i>Scope and content note: This index was made for the bound volume of examination results recorded between 1851-1944.</i>	
Dismissal instructions, typed copy, 1962	Box 2.0011: Folder 1
Ordinations, 1967-1976	Box 2.0015: Volume 5

Declaraciones de Vi Quarti Voti Rite Intellecta: Jesuit Novitiate of Saint Stanislaus Kostka, 1972-1994	Box 2.0014: Volume 5
Liber Primorum Votorum: Jesuit Novitiate of Saint Stanislaus Kostka, 1972-1994	Box 2.0014: Volume 6
Candidates of the Missouri Province, correspondence and applicant material, 1975-1990	Box 2.0010: Folder 5
<i>Restriction note: This folder is restricted due to privacy.</i>	
Novitiate Registry: Jesuit Novitiate, Saint Stanislaus Kostka House, 1975-2009	Box 2.0014: Volume 7
Last Vow card indexes, undated	Box 2.0015: Folders 2-3
Septimi Libri card index, undated	Box 2.0014: Folder 7 Box 2.0015: Folder 1

#### Series 5. Funeral and burial information, 1909-1989, undated

##### *Scope and content note*

The funeral and burial information series contains burial records, cemetery photographs, scrapbooks, and lists detailing the burial of Jesuits in the Missouri Province. This series also includes information about cemetery and gravestone conservation projects undertaken by members of the Province office and Province volunteers. Materials in this series were compiled by the staff of the Missouri Province Archives.

##### *Arrangement note*

This series is arranged chronologically by date of creation.

St. Anne's Church, Walker, Kansas, index books, 1909	Box 2.0017: Folder 11
Osage Mission burials, 1937	Box 2.0017: Folder 12
"God's Acre: Record of Jesuits buried in Mt. Calvary Cemetery, 1862-1944," album, 1944	Box 2.0017: Volume 1
Cemetery photographs, 1952-2005	Box 2.0017: Folder 13
Calvary Cemetery burials, 1972-2003	Box 2.0017: Folders 14-15

*Provenance note: Some material in this file was moved from the*

*Rector's alphabetical files series in the Saint Stanislaus Seminary collection.*

Funeral procedures, correspondence, 1972, 1982 Box 2.0017: Folder 16

Missouri Province burial project, 1981-2004 Box 2.0017: Folder 17

*Scope and content note: This project was the joint effort of Father Frank E. Reale and the Midwest Jesuit Archives. Communications from the archives are also included in this file.*

St. Fidelis Church, Victoria, Kansas burial index cards, circa 1984 Box 2.0017: Folder 28

*Provenance note: Cards made by Father John Allen of Saint Louis University.*

St. Mary's Mission, Kansas burials, 1984 Box 2.0017: Folder 18

St. Stanislaus Cemetery index, circa 1984 Box 2.0017: Folder 19

*Provenance note: Cards made by Father John Allen of Saint Louis University.*

Scheller, Christopher, "St. Stanislaus Cemetery Catalog and Survey," 1988 Box 2.0017: Folders 20-25

Saint Stanislaus Cemetery conservation project, 1989 Box 2.0017: Folder 26

*Scope and content note: This project was the joint effort of The Missouri Province office and the Museum of Western Jesuit Missions.*

Belgian graves at St. Stanislaus, list, undated Box 2.0017: Folder 27

---

## Series 6. Subject files, 1833-2007

### *Scope and content note*

The subject files series contains reports, letters, lists, published and unpublished writings, newsletters, and clippings collected on topics related to the history and operation of the Missouri Province. Of note in this series is the file called "liturgy and music," which contains information about the Saint Louis Jesuits, a music group well known for composing and performing liturgical music in the Saint Louis area.

### *Arrangement note*

This series is arranged in alphabetical order by subject.

---

Age studies, 1993	Box 2.0022: Folder 2
Canon Law, circa 1910s	Box 2.0022: Folder 3
Clerical attire, 1967-1968	Box 2.0022: Folder 4
Confessors of the Province, circa 1914-1930	Box 2.0022: Folder 5
Contact, 1990-1991	Box 2.0022: Folder 6
Ignatian Spirituality, circa 1920s-1994	Box 2.0022: Folders 7-8
Jesuit Curia, 1933-2003	Box 2.0022: Folders 9-10
Jubilee celebrations, 1974-2007	Box 2.0022: Folder 12-13
Liturgy and music, 1964-2005	Box 2.0022: Folder 14
Manifestation of Conscience, 1987-2001	Box 2.0022: Folder 15
Mass intentions, 1919-1964	Box 2.0022: Folder 16
Poverty, undated	Box 2.0022: Folder 17
Profession of faith, 1910-1937	Box 2.0022: Folder 19
Sermons and homilies, circa 1925	Box 2.0022: Folder 20
Stipends, 1833, undated	Box 2.0022: Folder 21
Vacations, 1852-1890	Box 2.0021: Folder 12