



ArchivesSpace

# St. Francis High School and St. Francis College Collections, 1818-1980

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Saint Francis College History Collection

Abplanalp Library  
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Portland, Maine 04103  
[cgurley@une.edu](mailto:cgurley@une.edu)  
URL: <http://www.une.edu/schc>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Saint Francis College History Collection
<b>Title:</b>	St. Francis High School and St. Francis College Collections
<b>ID:</b>	001
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1818-1980
<b>Date [bulk]:</b>	1934-1978
<b>Physical Description:</b>	6 linear feet 5 records cartons, 1 document case, 1 flat file box
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English

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## Biographical/Historical Note

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In the 1930's on the same spot where the Wabenaki had camped, Franciscans from Montreal established a high school and junior college -a college sraphique, as it was called- to prepare young Franco-American descendants of the Que'be'cois for the priesthood. The Franciscans named their college seraphique St. Francis College in honor of the founder of their order, St. Francis of Assisi, who would have been at home among the birds and animals of the Saco. In 1953, the Franciscans changed the college from a seminary preparatory school to a four-year private liberal arts college to prepare young Catholic men to take their place in the dominant society. For several years the college prospered and grew. Then, once again, the need changed. In the early 1970's, enrollments decreased, and small private liberal arts colleges throughout the Northeast began to close. Burdened doubly by declining enrollments and a huge debt, engendered in part by years of growth, St. Francis College also faced closing. In the late 1970's the college made an agreement with the New England College of Osteopathic Medicine to merge and in 1978 became the University of New England.

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## Collection Scope and Content

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The collection includes records documenting both the student experience as well as the administration of both St. Francis High School and St. Francis College. The earliest records in the collection include

deeds for the the properties owned by the college dated from the early to mid 19th century. The majority of records date from 1934-1978. The records are arranged in the following series: Archives and Special Collections, Artifacts and Memorabilia, Audio Visual, Catalogs, City of Biddeford Maine, Commencement, Ephemera, Faculty Handbooks, Governance, Human Rights Symposium (Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. visit), Library, Photographs, Public Relations, Real Estate, Reports, Student Publications, Student Strikes, Transfer of Ownership, and Yearbooks.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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URL: <http://www.une.edu/schc>

### Access

Collection is open for research.

### Publication Rights

Property rights reside with the University of New England. For permissions to reproduce or to publish, please contact the Head of Special Collections and Archives.

### Custodial History

The materials making up the St. Francis collection are primarily made up of records kept in vault in the library director's former office and alumni donations.

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## Collection Inventory

### Archives and Special Collections

Title/Description	Instances	
Incorporation Documents, 1934	Box 1	Folder 1
Notes Describing St. Francis Campus, undated	Box 1	Folder 2
Estelle Tatterson Scrapbook, 1928	Box 1	Folder 3
Map Illustrating the King's Highway, undated	Box 1	Folder 4
John Peterson collection, 1962, 2008	Box 1	Folder 5
"The Crime Against Kansas, The Apologies for the Crime, the True Remedy; Speech of Honorable Charles Sumner", 1856	Box 1	Folder 6
Historic New Hampshire, November 1945	Box 1	Folder 7
"Letters from Abbot Lawrence to William C. Reeves", 1846	Box 1	Folder 8
"Little Susan or the Young Christian", 1830	Box 1	Folder 9
Tarkington Collection, 1967-1980	Box 1	Folder 10

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### Artifacts and Memorabilia

Title/Description	Instances	
Basketball Warm-up shirt, 1978	Box 3	
Hockey Jerseys, 1978	Box 3	
Lightweight Jacket, undated	Box 3	
Sweater, undated	Box 3	
Jackets, undated	Box 3	Box 4
Beanies, undated	Box 4	
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
3 red St. Francis College beanies, unknown date.		
Mug, Winter Carnival, 1965	Box 4	
Pennants, undated	Box 4	

## Scope and Contents

2 red St. Francis College pennants.

Varsity Letters, 1951, undated	Box 4
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
4 "SF" letter patches and 1 "SF 1951" shield patch.	
Zenon Decary Bust, undated	Box 4
Certificates, 1960-1965	Box 5
Medallions, undated	Box 5
Pens Used to Sign An Act Granting Powers to the Franciscan Fathers of Maine, 1953	Box 5
Apostolic Blessing, Framed, 1959	Box 5
Trowel, Ceremonial, undated	Box 5
Half Dollar, Class of 1951, 1951	Box 5
Seal of St. Francis College, 1964	Box 5
Plaque, Time Capsule, 1976	Box 5
Lighter, undated	Box 5

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## Audio Visual

Title/Description	Instances
Unidentified 16 mm Film, undated	Box 6
St. Francis Glee Club records, 1967	Box 6
John Logan "The Spring of the Thief," 1963 Symposium Christian in the Modern World, 1963	Box 6
Teirney/Grattan, undated	Box 6
May 31, 1978 Housing, 1978	Box 6
Society St. Jean Baptiste de Bienfaisance, undated	Box 6
Al Poulin, Dora Sherwood, John Logan, 1969	Box 6
Glee Club Spring Concert, 1971 / Dona Nobis Pacem, Serenade to Music, 1972, 1971, 1972	Box 6

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## Catalogs

Title/Description	Instances
St. Francis High School Bulletin, 1939-1957	volume 1-2
St. Francis College Catalogs, 1952-1978	volume 3-27

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## City of Biddeford Maine

Title/Description	Instances
City of Biddeford, 1887, 1963	Box 1      Folder 11

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## Commencement

Title/Description	Instances
St. Francis College, 1955-1978	Box 1      Folder 12-21
St. Francis College Diploma, 1964	Box 1      Folder 22
St. Francis College High School Diploma, 1949	Box 1      Folder 23
St. Francis High School Program, 1951	Box 1      Folder 24
St. Francis College High School Program, 1960	Box 1      Folder 25
St. Francis College High School Diploma, 1960	Box 1      Folder 26
St. Francis Junior College Program, 1950	Box 1      Folder 27

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## Ephemera

Title/Description	Instances
Anniversary Queen of Peace Shrine, 1956	Box 1      Folder 28
Homecoming, 1966, 1967	Box 1      Folder 29
Mardi Gras, 1949	Box 1      Folder 30
A Night of Delight at the Crescent, 1951	Box 1      Folder 31
Parents' Weekend, 1964	Box 1      Folder 32
Spring Concert, 1963	Box 1      Folder 33

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## Faculty Handbooks

Title/Description	Instances	
1976-77, 1976	Box 1	Folder 34-35

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## Governance

Title/Description	Instances	
Guild of St. Francis College By-Laws, 1974	Box 1	Folder 36
Constitution of St. Francis College, undated	Box 1	Folder 37
Report, 1970	Box 1	Folder 38

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## Human Rights Symposium (Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. visit)

Title/Description	Instances	
Program Draft, 1964	Box 1	Folder 39
Program, 1964	Box 1	Folder 40
Flyer, 1964	Box 1	Folder 41
Correspondence, Robert Sheehan, 1964	Box 1	Folder 42
The Canticle, 1964	Box 1	Folder 43

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## Library

Title/Description	Instances	
Library, 1968-1970	Box 1	Folder 44

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## Photographs

Title/Description	Instances	
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Baseball, 1950	Box 1	Folder 45
Buildings, 1943-1963	Box 1	Folder 46
Clarence LaPlante, O.F.M., President, undated	Box 1	Folder 47
Football, 1949-1951	Box 1	Folder 48
Gym, 1948	Box 1	Folder 49
Hockey Team, 1941-1942, 1950	Box 1	Folder 50
Houses on Site of St. Francis and Decary Halls, 1948	Box 1	Folder 51
Library, undated, 1963	Box 1	Folder 52
St. Francis Hall, 1939	Box 1	Folder 53
St. Francis Singers, undated	Box 1	Folder 54
Students in Library, 1946	Box 1	Folder 55

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## Public Relations

Title/Description	Instances	
Clippings, 1950, 1968, 1970	Box 1	Folder 56
Press Releases, 1971, 1972	Box 1	Folder 57

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## Real Estate

Title/Description	Instances	
53 Hills Beach Rd. Easement, 1978	Box 1	Folder 58
Abstract of Title to Premises at Hills Beach, Biddeford, Maine Proposed to be Conveyed to Franciscan Fathers of Maine, 1969	Box 1	Folder 59
Abstract of Title of Property, 1939	Box 1	Folder 60
Aerial Photograph, 1960	Box 7	Folder 1
Appraisal Report St. Francis College, 1970	Box 1	Folder 61
Appraisal of St. Francis College Land, 1967	Box 1	Folder 62
Appraisal of Stella Maris Property, 1961	Box 1	Folder 63
Camp Ellis Pier, 1954-1962	Box 1	Folder 64
Dallaire Property, 1974	Box 1	Folder 65
Deeds, 1818-1967	Box 7	Folder 2-3

Flood House (Site of Decary), 1934-1980	Box 1	Folder 66
Maine State Highway Commission Right of Way Map, 1960	Box 1	Folder 67
Manchester, NH Land, 1946-1967	Box 1	Folder 68
Market Value Appraisal of St. Francis College, 1975	Box 1	Folder 69
Plan of Elevations, 1961	Box 1	Folder 70
Plan of St. Francis College, 1969	Box 1	Folder 71
Plant Inventory -- Land, undated	Box 1	Folder 72
President's House, 1972-1975	Box 2	Folder 1
Stella Maris, 1959-1962	Box 2	Folder 2
Student Cottage Rentals, 1957-1967	Box 2	Folder 3
Title Research, 1935-1978	Box 2	Folder 4-5

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## Reports

Title/Description	Instances	
"Franciscans in Biddeford, Maine 1933-1975", 1976	Box 2	Folder 6
Library Annual Reports, 1962-1980	Box 2	Folder 7
President's Report to the Corporation of the Franciscan Fathers of Maine, 1960	Box 2	Folder 8
President's Speech to Faculty, 1973	Box 2	Folder 9
Report to the Maine Department of Education for the Evaluation of Our Program Leading to the BA Degree and the Certification of Our Graduates to Teach in Secondary Schools of the State, 1965	Box 2	Folder 10
Stella Maris; Its Inhabitants and History, 1977	Box 2	Folder 11
A Story of St. Francis College in Maine, 1962	Box 2	Folder 12
A Study of Student Perceptions and Student Attitudes in a Small Church Affiliated Liberal Arts College and a Small Non-Denominational Liberal Arts College, 1969	Box 2	Folder 13
Summary Report of Standards of Achievement now Operative at St. Francis College, 1960	Box 2	Folder 14
What Will the Future Demand of the Christian College?, 1970	Box 2	Folder 15

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## Student Publications

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Vigilant, circa 1948	Box 2	Folder 16
Troubadour, December 1948 - December 1949	Box 2	Folder 17
Canticle, Spring 1965 - Fall 1971	Box 2	Folder 18
The Sepian, October 28, 1961 - November 3, 1970	Box 2	Folder 19-21
	Box 7	Folder 4

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## Student Strikes

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Student Strikes, 1968, 1970	Box 2	Folder 22

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## Transfer of Ownership

### Scope and Contents

The Transfer of Ownership series includes records documenting the transfer from the Franciscan Fathers to a lay board of directors.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Transfer of Ownership, 1963, 1973-1974	Box 2	Folder 23-24

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## Yearbooks

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>
St. Francis High School, 1948-1960	volume 1-6
St. Francis College, Motus, 1962-1976	volume 7-32

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