

Rev. J. Clayton Murray, S.J. Archives General Information

Karen Bordonaro, Associate Director/Archives
and Special Collections/Information Literacy

Archives Telephone Number : 888-2530 or
ext. 2530

Hours of operation:
8:30-5:00pm Monday-Friday

Websites of interest :

Rev. J. Clayton Murray S. J. Archives at
<http://www.canisius.edu/archives>

Rev. J. Clayton Murray S.J. Digital Collection
<http://www.canisius.edu/archives/digital>

Andrew L. Bouwhuis Library at
<http://library.canisius.edu>

Brochure Credits

Cover Photo: Canisius College Class of 1905 with Faculty

*Design Concept and Layout by Marnie Davis
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Rev. J. Clayton Murray, S.J.
*Devoted Director of Archives (1975-1983)
Archivist in Residence (1983-1988)*

Rev. J. Clayton Murray was instrumental in the creation of the Archives department in 1960. As a young man, he attended Canisius High School and graduated in June 1918. In 1935, Rev. Murray joined the Canisius College faculty as a professor of philosophy. In his classes, students took delight in his storytelling of Canisius in the early 1900's. Rev. Murray was also meticulous about recording historical events. Any facts about Canisius could be found in the memories of Rev. Murray. He proclaimed himself "the only living archive." As the oldest living archive, Rev. Murray was always glad to share a good story and a greater laugh with anyone interested. In 1965, Rev. Murray reduced his teaching duties to work part time in the college's Archives department. In 1975, he gave up his teaching duties to become Director of Archives. As director, Rev. Murray created the Datelines which is a published historical timeline of Canisius since its inception in 1870. It is an impressive publication that chronicles years of Canisius facts, people, and dates. Rev. Murray served as archives director until his retirement in 1983. After retirement, he became the Archivist in Residence. He held this position until his death in 1988. The Archives was dedicated in his name in 1990. Rev. Murray served the college as a devoted teacher, archivist, mentor, and friend for 53 years. He has left a legacy of history for the Canisius Community that can be cherished for many generations to come.

The Datelines still continue today. The most recent years can be found on the archives website.
(See General information for website address)

REV. J. CLAYTON MURRAY, S.J.

ARCHIVES



Canisius College | 2001 Main Street | Buffalo, NY 14208

About the Archives

The Archives was established in 1960 to collect, preserve, and make available documents pertaining to the history of Canisius College.

The purpose for maintaining an Archives Department is fourfold:

1. To identify and preserve items related to Canisius College history.
2. To inform and educate the primary users of our collections.
3. To provide administrative support to members of the current Canisius work community.
4. To enrich scholarship by cooperating with those members of the Canisius community engaged in making historical research relevant to student learning.

The Archives Audience

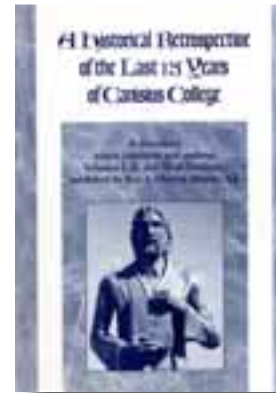
The primary audience for Archives is members of the current Canisius College community. This would include present administrators, staff, faculty, and students. Alumni and interested members of the public are also welcome to make use of the collection in a secondary user capacity. Those people engaged in genealogy pursuits are welcome to use the collection as well, although support for such research is a courtesy rather than a primary service.



The Archives Collection

Materials collected are non-current items relating to the College. "Non-current" generally refers to material more than two years old, although material that is of immediate archival importance may also be covered by this definition. Such material includes items like the Board of Trustee minutes, faculty and administrator committee minutes, policy papers of the president, vice-president, deans and directors, and official college publications such as press releases, yearbooks, newsletters, and the datelines historical perspective.

Further material to be collected may also include other items deemed to be of sufficient long term institutional historical value. Such items might include historical souvenirs like student journals and coins from the 1911 cornerstone laying of Old Main,



Souvenir Cornerstone Laying Coin from 1911



Student Journal from 1890



programs from drama productions, materials relating to academic programs offered by the College, photographs of campus grounds and members of the college community (ie sports teams and student organizations).



Canisius Basketball Team of 1910-1911

How Archives Can Help You

The friendly and knowledgeable staff of the archives will research and retrieve information from our collection for visitors whenever needed. The staff is also willing to consult on projects with an individual or group at any time. Our goal is to provide accessibility and good customer service to the Canisius community and friends. For more information about archives and its services please call the office at 888-2530.