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9-29-2015

RG 01.10 Records of Provincial Edward M. O'Flaherty, S.J.

New England Jesuit Province Archives

New England Province of the Society of Jesus

Edward M. O'Flaherty SJ

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Digitized Record Information

New England Jesuit Province Archives; New England Province of the Society of Jesus; and O'Flaherty, Edward M. SJ, "RG 01.10 Records of Provincial Edward M. O'Flaherty, S.J." (2015). *Finding Aids, Record Groups*. 33.
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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: 1, Records of the Provincial

Name of Collection: Rev. Edward M. O'Flaherty, SJ Records

Record Group Number: 1.10

Dates of Collection: 1979-1985

Size of Collection: 13 linear feet. 28 boxes: 24 - 5" boxes + 4 - 2.5" boxes

Biographical Sketch of Provincial:

Edward M. O'Flaherty was born October 29, 1934 to Edward M. and Rose R. O'Flaherty in Roslindale, a section of Boston, MA. Following his graduation from Boston College High School, he entered the Society at Shadowbrook, Lenox, MA, on August 14, 1952. When fire destroyed Shadowbrook in 1956, he went briefly to the New York Province house of studies at Plattsburg, NY. Then, he studied philosophy at Facultes de Saint-Albert de Louvain, Belgium, earning a Licentiate of Philosophy in 1959. He taught Latin, French, and history at Cheverus High School, Portland, ME from 1959 until 1961. From 1961-1962 he studied anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania and was awarded a M.A. in anthropology in 1964. From 1962 to 1966 he studied theology at Weston College, Weston, MA, earning an M.A. in 1966. He also was ordained there in 1965. His tertainship was at St. Robert's Hall, Pomfret, CT from 1966 until 1967. Then, he returned to the University of Pennsylvania as a Ph.D. candidate continuing his studies in anthropology and was awarded his doctorate in 1979. He was a lecturer in anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania in the Fall of 1970 and from 1971 until 1973; a lecturer in anthropology and philosophy at St. Joseph's College, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from 1970-1971; and a visiting lecturer of moral theology at St. Charles Seminary, Philadelphia, PA from 1971 until 1972. From 1973 until 1976 he taught anthropology in the Sociology Department at Boston College.

After three years of teaching at Boston College, he was asked to become rector of the community at the Jesuit School of Theology, in Berkeley, California—the first of three jobs leading important Jesuit institutions through dramatic changes in unsettled times. After his term as rector, he was provincial of the New England Province from 1979 to 1985 and, after a sabbatical in Paris, president of Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, MA, from 1986 to 1992.

When he stepped down as president, it was to move in an entirely new direction. For years he had been a member of the Ministers' Club, a Boston institution since the 19th century, where clergy from different faiths come together for fellowship and ecumenical conversation, and he had also long been involved in regular work on weekends in the parishes of the Archdiocese of Boston. These two interests converged when the Archdiocese asked him in 1992 to become Director of the Office of Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs and to head the Office of Pastoral Support of Priests, working especially with recently ordained clergy. He moved back to Boston College, which became his home

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for the rest of his life. There he also took on jobs as assistant rector and community treasurer. He died from a brain tumor on February 21, 2012 at Campion Center, Weston, MA, where he is also buried.

Scope and Content:

The papers for each Provincial and Vice Provincial are divided into 15 categories, called Series. Below is a list of the series for the Records of the Provincial and Vice Provincial. Though the titles themselves may be self-explanatory, short explanations of each series are provided.

Series 1 through series 11 pertain solely to matters of the New England Province in relation to the subject matter of the series. Series 12-14 include the rest of the American Assistancy Provinces, International Provinces/ Jurisdictions and Non-Jesuit Catholic organizations.

Series 1: Province Governance includes papers relating to governing matters of the Provincial. Examples are Circular Letters and Notices to the Province, Province policy information, Province planning, Province Consultors' meetings, and so on.

Series 2: Finances Any financial material relating to the Province is located under Series 2, including the papers of the Treasurer (Procurator) and Revisor. Also included are budgets, benefactor information, retirement fund information, etc.

Series 3: Personnel includes any documents regarding individual Jesuits in the New England Province, Director of Personnel, personnel assignments, deceased Jesuits, departures from the Society, housing information, residency statistics, etc.

Series 4: Formation refers to the training of Jesuits prior to final vows. Subjects include spiritual formation, education, vows, and so on.

Series 5: Pastoral and Spiritual Apostolates and Matters includes retreat work and work performed in churches, the Apostleship of Prayer, Ignatian Spirituality, Mission Band, etc.

Series 6: Education Apostolate and Academic Training of Jesuits refers to higher learning apart from seminary training such as Jesuits getting a master's or doctorate degree at a university. Some titles found in this series are Prefect of Studies and Higher and Secondary Education Apostolates.

Series 7: Social Apostolate pertains especially to any work involving the labor movement and minorities.

Series 8: Houses/ Communities includes any school, parish, community and residence that is under the auspices of the New England Province.

Series 9: Missions and International Apostolates contains material involving any of the work performed outside the United States by the New England Province. Some examples are Iraq and Jamaica.

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Series 10: Curia, Rome documents to or from the Curia in Rome are placed in this series, such as Numbered Circular Letters from Father General.

Series 11: General, Procurators', and Provincial Congregations contains any material referring to these congregations.

Series 12: Jesuit Jurisdictions and Organizations: American Assistancy includes information produced for or by the American Assistancy Provinces other than New England Province.

Series 13: Jesuit Jurisdictions and Organizations: International includes any province that is outside the American Assistancy.

Series 14: Non-Jesuit Catholic Church Jurisdictions and Organizations holds papers regarding Bishops, Military Ordinariate, Conference of the Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) and so on.

Series 15: Other Organizations, Individuals, and Issues includes any matter that doesn't fit into the categories listed above is placed under Series 15. Some issues may be Morality in Media, Priests and Political Office, etc.

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Access / Restrictions: This collection is open to researchers with the exception of permanently restricted material. Permanently restricted material consists of all Consultors materials, all visitation materials, all correspondence with Fr. General and some other materials. Restricted folders are identified in this finding aid.

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Cite As: Rev. Edward M. O'Flaherty, SJ Records
Record Group 1, Records of the Provincial
Archives of the New England Province of the Society of Jesus
College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA.

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Jesuit Conference – Board Meeting – Minutes and meeting material	1980, February	15A	5
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Jesuit Conference – Board Meeting – Index of Minutes: February, May and October 1980	1980	15B	3
Jesuit Conference – Board Meeting – Minutes and meeting material	1981, February	15B	4
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