

Description of the Girardville School Municipality Archival Group

Date of description: January 28th, 2020

Title: Girardville School Municipality Archival Group

Outside Dates: 1946 to 1972

Measurement Indicators: 1 conventional box, equivalent to 0.33 linear meter

Biographical Notes and Administrative History:

Girardville is a municipality located in the county of Roberval in the Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean. It was first erected by settlers from St.Félicien under the name of Girard Township in 1909. In 1921, the first municipal council was held and the name Girardville was adopted in honour of former Member of Parliament Joseph Girard.

The history of the municipality of Girardville is marked by the "Schisme du Grand rang" that occurred in the 1930s. The construction of the new church created a polemic between the inhabitants of the Grand Rang and the ecclesiastical authorities in place. The inhabitants of this rang wanted to obtain the church, but it was finally built in the Sixième Rang. This decision led the inhabitants of the Grand Rang to express their dissatisfaction by converting to the Protestant religion. This change of religion was considered an act of betrayal and divided the population of Girardville throughout the 1930s. Tensions eased in 1943 with a court order from the Roberval district court granting burial permits to converts. Reconciliation between the two parties then began.

This division within the population explains the construction of a French-speaking Protestant school in 1937 to accommodate students from families who had converted. The documents in the archival group provide information on the period between 1961 and 1972, with the exception of the class register, which dates back to the 1946-1947 school year. These same documents tell us that the Protestant school in Girardville was under the direction of the Girardville Protestant School Board. This school board would be annexed to the Saguenay Valley School Board in 1972.

Location:

At the time, civic numbers had not yet been assigned to the buildings; sometimes even the streets were not even named. Nevertheless, letters concerning the sale of the dissident school in Girardville provide a geographical location for the school:

- Lot P-9, rang VI, canton Girard
- Rang Notre Dame, Girardville, comté de Lac St-Jean ouest

Employee income tax returns also allow us to know the mailing address of the school board:

- Commission scolaire protestante de Girardville
Girardville
Albanel
C.P. 131, P.Q

Conservation History:

The documents, originating from the Saguenay region, are stored in a vault under controlled environmental conditions at the Central Québec School Board's Document Management Centre located at the Eastern Québec Learning Centre in Québec City.

Scope and Content:

The documents testify to the documentary management of the school municipality of Girardville. The evolution of teaching activities, the reflection of the linguistic and cultural situation as well as financial activities are represented by the archival group.

Support:

All documents in the series are in paper form. No objects (trophies, flags, etc.), graduation albums or student photos can be found.

Preservation State:

The documents are in good condition for consultation and digitization, if necessary. Pins, paper clips and nails were removed to limit rust damage.

Language of the Documents:

Most of the documents are in French; some documents are bilingual, English and French.

Related Terms:

Commission scolaire protestante de Girardville

Commission scolaire dissidente de Girardville

Commission scolaire de Girardville

Municipalité scolaire de Girardville

Municipalité scolaire dissidente de Girardville

School Municipality of Girardville

Filing:

The archival group consists of the following series:

1. Education Resources;
2. Financial Resources;
3. Human Resources; and
4. Administrative and Property Resources.

1. Education Resources:

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|----------------------|------------------------|
| • School Census | 1961 to 1971 |
| • Record Book | 1946-1947 to 1979-1980 |
| • Statistical Report | 1964-1965 |

2. Financial Resources:

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| • Financial Statements | 1969 to 1972 |
| • Annual Financial Statements | 1965-1966 to 1971-1972 |
| • Budget Estimate | 1970-1971 |
| • Summary of the post-standardization of the financial statements | 1970-1971 to 1971-1972 |
| • Inventory of physical assets | 1972 |

3. Human Resource:

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| • Income Tax Reports and the Staff Census for 1971 | 1966 to 1971 |
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4. Administrative and Property Resources:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Letters on the sale of the dissident school in Girardville* | June 2 nd , 1983 and March 7 th , 1984 |
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*Letters are past the end date of the archival group but provide important information about the school's geographic location.

Access:

The documents constituting this archival group are subject, among other things, but not limited to, the Act respecting Access to documents held by public bodies and the Protection of personal information.