

Laurel Daigle album of Fort Kent images

MCC-00421

Prepared by
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Acadian Archives / Archives acadiennes
University of Maine at Fort Kent
Fort Kent, Maine
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Laurel Daigle album of Fort Kent images (MCC-00421)

Shelf List Number: BM-421

Collection Overview

Creator

Daigle, Laurel

Dates

1882-1924

Extent

1 box (0.2 cubic feet)

Provenance

Material was acquired from Laurel Daigle of Fort Kent, Maine on October 7, 2014.

Language

Not applicable

Conservation Notes

Images were taken out of the album and inserted in clear Melinex sleeves. A rigid archival board was placed in the back of each image to keep it from curling and all images were placed in an archival box.

Conditions Governing Access and Use

Restrictions

Access: No restrictions

Physical: No restrictions

Technical: No restrictions

Rights Statement

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Recommended Citation

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Collection Description

Historical and Biographical Information

Laurel J. Daigle has lived, worked, and raised a family in Fort Kent. He was born in 1939 the son of Alcide Hilaire Daigle and Gertrude (Daigle) Daigle. Mr. Daigle graduated from the

Madawaska Training School with the class of 1960. He was president of the Alumni Association in 1964. Laurel worked as guidance director at the Fort Kent Community High School. He was the owner of Country Cottage in Fort Kent. He's also the author of local history volumes such as *Fort Kent (Images of America)*; *A chronological history: Fort Kent's Saint Louis Catholic Church*; *History of public education in Maine School Administrative District No. 27: a long tradition of service and excellence*; *Holy Family Parish, Daigle, Maine, 1906-2000: commemorating 94 years of ministry*. Furthermore, Laurel has been a member of the Fort Kent Historical Society for some years.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of 19 black and white images measuring 10¾ in. x 13¾ in. The collection depicts old photographic scenes of Fort Kent such as the old and new St. Louis Catholic Church at its former and present location, the St. Louis Convent, Father Arthur Decary, and the first Little Franciscans of Mary sisters who came to Fort Kent to staff their first mission. All images were published in Mr. Daigle's books *Fort Kent* and *A chronological history: Fort Kent's Saint Louis Catholic Church / written for the observance of its 125th anniversary, 1870-1995*.

Arrangement

Unknown.

Separated Materials (If Applicable)

Not applicable

Location of originals

Some originals are in the possession of Chad Pelletier from Fort Kent, Maine

Published in

A chronological history: Fort Kent's Saint Louis Catholic Church / written for the observance of its 125th anniversary, 1870-1995, by Laurel J. Daigle for the Fort Kent Historical Society (LC call # ACADIAN STACKS BX1418.S134 D35 1997)

Fort Kent Laurel J. Daigle (LC call # ACADIAN STACKS F29.F67 D3 2009)

Subject Headings

Acadians--Maine--Saint John River Valley
Fort Kent (Me.: town)
Fort Kent (Me.)--History
Fort Kent (Me.)--Religious life and customs
Saint Louis Church (Fort Kent, Me.)

Related Materials

Fort Kent Historical Society collection on Fort Kent (Me.), MCC-00123, Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

Fort Kent Public Library (Fort Kent, Me.) photograph collection, MCC-00178, Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

Fort Kent (Me.) postcards, MCC-00372, Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

Laurel Daigle's collection on Fort Kent, Me. (MCC-00555). Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

Marc Chasse Collection: *Chad Pelletier on Father Decary: 100th Anniversary of St. Louis Parish* (see Marc Chasse coll.: Acadian A-V DVD F27.S35 C43 2011).

Collection Inventory

Image #	Description	Date(s)
1	Panoramic view of part of Fort Kent taken in 1900 by area photographer Michele Morin of Portage Lake. The Madawaska Training School buildings are depicted in the middle right. Seen in the middle of the photograph is the old St. Louis Catholic Church that burnt in 1907. The rectory, built in 1886, is seen opposite the old St. Louis Catholic Church.	1900
2	Military Square in Fort Kent in 1908. The first three buildings in the image were all part of the G.H. (George) Page store. The fourth building is H.A. Sawyer Jewelry Store (the Sawyer family was from Ashland, Maine. The fifth building was a rented office used by a lawyer.	1908
3	The St. Louis Convent was the early school/convent which was used as classrooms and apartments for the Little Franciscans of Mary. The second floor was used to celebrate mass before the church was built. Construction of this building was started in May 1907 after the first church burnt in March of 1907. In the foreground is Fr. Arthur Decary, 3 rd pastor of St. Louis Catholic Church in Fort Kent from 1904 to 1919.	Undated
4	Same as # 3.	Undated
5	The first St. Louis Catholic Church was built in 1882. It was destroyed by fire on March 30, 1907.	Undated
6	Inside of the first St. Louis Church built in 1882. The church was destroyed by fire on March 30, 1907. Photo taken at Easter in 1906.	1906
7	The Fort Kent mission of the Little Franciscans of Mary staffed in 1906 by (front l. to r.) Sister Marie-Candide (Delina Daigle) and Sister Marie l'Ange Gardien. Back row l. to r. Sister Marie-Gertrude (Esther Bérubé) and Sister Marie-Antoine-de-Padoue (Léda Bergeron). (Photo taken in 1907 by Mary Bernier). The Little Franciscans of Mary were brought to Fort Kent at Father Arthur Decary's request.	1907

- 8 Sitting, Father Arthur Decary, third Pastor for St. Louis Parish from 1904 to 1919. 1917
To his left is an unidentified person and to the right is Reverend Vital Nonorgues,
associate to Father Decary from 1916 to 1918. Father Nonorgues later became
Pastor in Eagle Lake, Maine. After leaving Fort Kent, Father Decary went to
Biddeford, Maine and was instrumental in founding the Saint Francis College
which is now the University of New England (UNE).
- 9 Father Arthur Decary's ordination picture from le Grand Séminaire de Montréal, 1899
P.Q. in 1899. Father Decary's ordination took place at St. James Cathedral in
Montreal on November 12, 1899. Father Decary was born in 1872 in St-Laurent,
P.Q.
- 10 Father Francois-Xavier Burque, 2nd pastor of Fort Kent. 1893
- 11 This is the present St. Louis Catholic Church. Construction started in 1910. 1911-07-03
The first mass was celebrated January 15, 1911. The interior of the Church was
completed in 1914. This picture was taken by photographer Basil Woods on July
3, 1911 as per Chad Pelletier.
- 12 Same as # 11. 1911-07-03
- 13 Front door to the present-day St. Louis Catholic Church. Undated
- 14 Interior of present-day St. Louis Catholic Church. Photo by Steven Young. Undated
- 15 Interior of the present-day St. Louis Catholic Church. Photo by Velma Daigle. Undated
- 16 Old St. Louis Catholic church presbytery, 1886-1965, was located where the Undated
Daigle Funeral Home is located today.
- 17 Memorial Day 1924, Fort Kent, Maine. This is the Old St. Louis Catholic 1924-05
Church Cemetery located along the Fish River facing the present-day St.
Louis Catholic Church. Note: With significant flooding that happened, part
of this cemetery was lost. The cross in the background is no longer there. (The
photographer was Jean-Baptiste Chassé as per Chad Pelletier).
- 18 Religious procession in Fort Kent. ca. 1912-1922
- 19 A horse-drawn hearse leads Mrs. P. A. Daigle's funeral procession up Main 1912
Street in Fort Kent in 1912. Saint Louis Convent can be seen in the background
and the train platform is on the left.