

THE WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

REGISTER: Creative Irish Gifts Catalog Photographs

PG NO.: 522

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Editor: Jane Avner, John J. Grabowski

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Creative Irish Gifts Catalog (f. 1986) was established in Illinois, by an Irish man, Robert O'Connor (b. 1939), and his wife, Diane O'Connor, and is currently located in Streetsboro, Ohio. This company was set up for the purpose of providing funds for The Irish Children's Fund, Inc. (f. 1982) which promotes events and positive relations between Catholic and Protestant children in Northern Ireland. For a history of this organization, the researcher should consult the register to MS. 4882 Creative Irish Gifts Catalog Records.

The Creative Irish Gifts Photographs, 1984 - 2001, consist of 103 photographs, 16 black and white photographs, and 87 color prints. The collection is arranged alphabetically by subject, then chronologically.

This collection is of value to those seeking illustrative materials about the Irish community in northeast Ohio. There are images of the participation of The Irish Children's Fund in St. Patrick's Day Parade, the premises belonging to Creative Irish Gifts Catalog Company. This collection also includes several photographs of Catholic and Protestant children interacting with other and outlines the many social events, retreats and fundraising activities of this group, in both the United States and Northern Ireland.

The researchers should also consult MS. 4882 Creative Irish Gifts Catalog Records, MS. 4881, Robert O'Connor Papers, and a video, *Today is the Day*, Irish Children's Fund, Inc. 1995. The latter has been removed to the video collection.

Provenance: Robert O'Connor, 2002.

Number of Containers: 1 Oversize Folders: 0 Oversize Volumes: 0

Size: 0.20 linear feet / 0.06 linear meters

Restrictions: None.

Container

- 1 Folder 1: Northern Ireland, Fellowship House, retreat home, property of The Irish Children's Fund, located at Ballycastle, County Antrim, Northern Ireland, 1984, undated.
- Folder 2: _____, Mary Cassidy, participant in The Irish Children's Fund, Belfast, undated.
- Folder 3: _____, nightly activities at Ballyscillan Leisure Center for children by The Irish Children's Fund, located Belfast, Northern Ireland, 1988, 1998, undated.
- Folder 4: United States, arrivals and departures of children at O'Hare International Airport, Chicago, 1991, 1999, undated.
- Folder 5: _____, fundraising activities in Indiana, Chicago, and other cities for The Irish Children's Fund, Inc., 1986, 1988, 1990s.
- Folder 6: _____, parades, St. Patrick's Day Parade, 1992.
- Folder 7: _____, parades, Southside Irish Parade, 2000.
- Folder 8: _____, premises, Creative Irish Gifts Catalog Company, Streetsboro, Ohio, 2002.
- Folder 9: _____, summer program, Chicago and Indiana, 1991, 1992, 1994, 1996-1999, 2001.
- Folder 10: _____, teen obstacle course, ca. 1985, 1994, 1996, 2000, 2001.