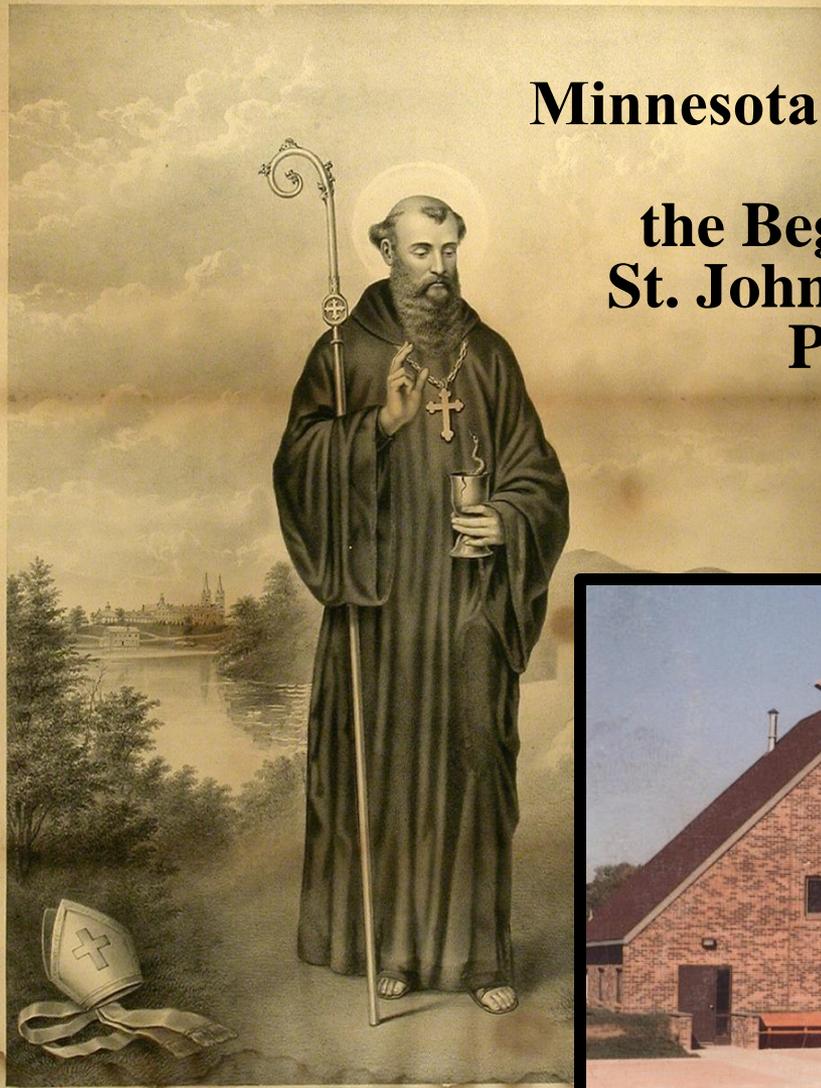
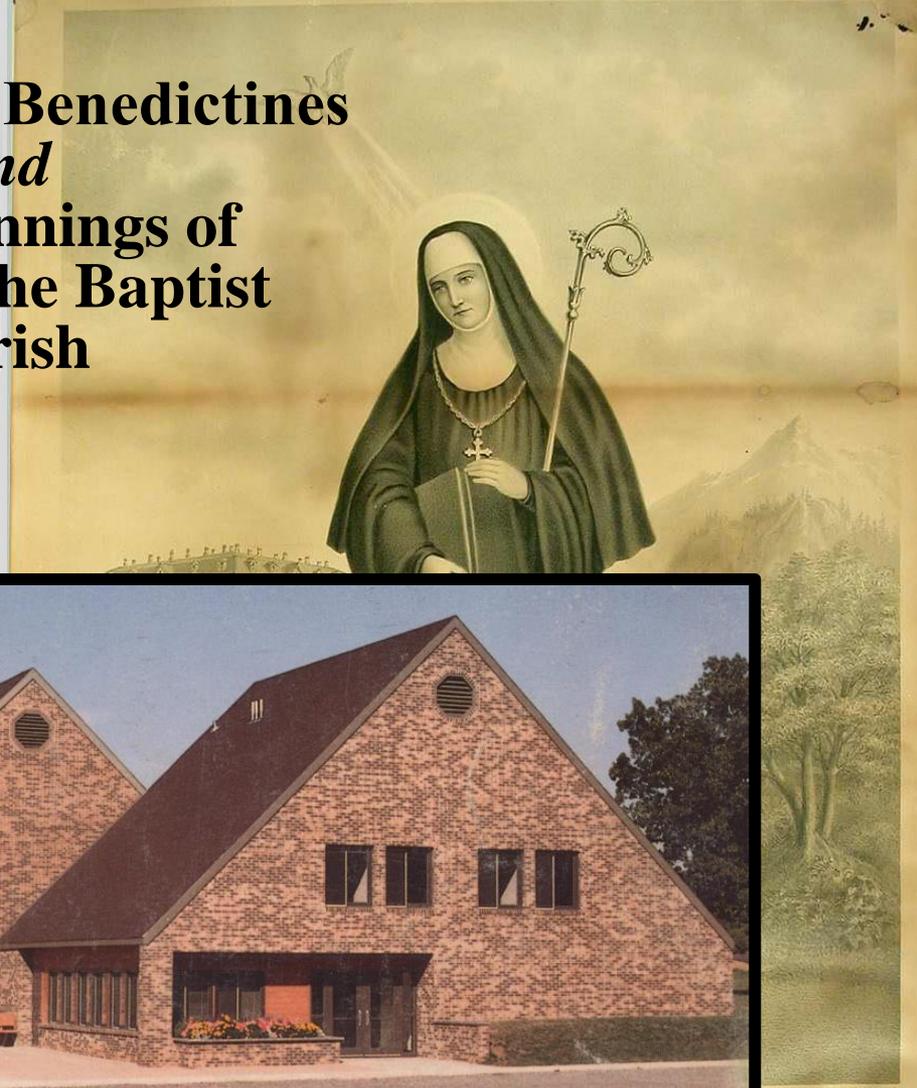


**Minnesota's Benedictines
and
the Beginnings of
St. John the Baptist
Parish**



ST. BENEDEICT.



ST. SCHOLASTICA.



Lithographs of St. Benedict and St. Scholastica

Books about St. John's

- [LIBRARIES](#)
- [ARCHIVES OVERVIEW](#)
- [ABOUT THE ARCHIVES](#)
- [SJU HISTORY](#)
- [DIGITAL ARCHIVES](#)
- [FINDING AIDS](#)
- [PHOTOS AND MAPS](#)
- [SJU PUBLICATIONS](#)
- [STUDENT NEWSPAPERS](#)
- [SPECIAL COLLECTIONS](#)
- [TIMELINE](#)

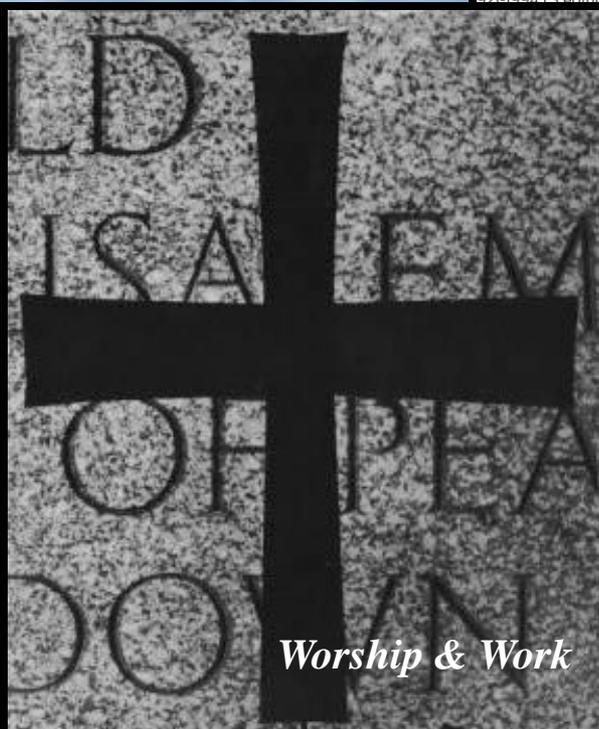
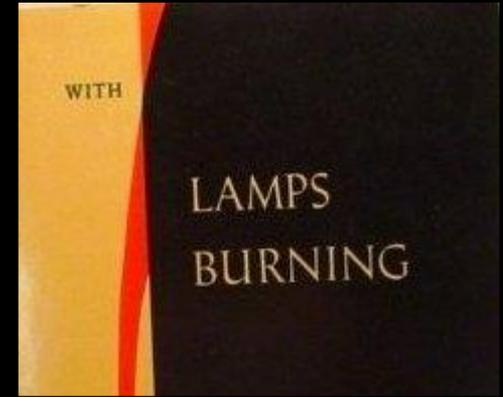
See also [Resources on SJU History](#) for some online sources that aren't "books"

Title: *Saint John's at 150: a portrait of this place called Collegeville, 1856-2006* / edited by Hilary Thimmesh.
 Publisher: Collegeville, Minn.: Saint John's University Press, c2006.

1 col. map, ports. (some col.); 31 cm.
 Collection: BX2525.C6 S3 S36 2006

[e. Minnesota: a sketch of its history](#)
 Press, 1907.
 s: ill., ports.; 23 cm.
 and in the SJU Library's General Collection

921.1994 (3 editions:)
 sity 1856
 cm.
 ary's General Collection
 sity, 1856
 C6 S3 1
 rsity, 1856



Home / College of Saint Benedict Archives / CSB History

Media about St. Ben's

See also [Documents on the History of CSB/SJU](#)

Author: Atkins, Annette
 Title: *Challenging women since 1913: the College of Saint Benedict*
 Publisher: St. Joseph, Minnesota: College of Saint Benedict, 1994.
 Description: xx, 266 pages: illustrations, portraits.
 Available in the CSB and SJU Libraries' General Collection

Author: Jarchow, Merrill E.
 Title: *Private liberal arts colleges in Minnesota*
 Publisher: [St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1907.
 Description: xvi, 345 p. [24] p. of plates: ill., portraits.
 Available in the CSB Library's General Collection

Title: *History of CSB pageant* [sound recording]
 Publisher: [St. Joseph, Minn. : College of St. Benedict, 1994.
 Description: 1 sound cassette (ca. 45 min.) : 1 cassette.

Title: *Pageant* [film]
 Publisher: [St. Joseph, Minn. : College of St. Benedict, 1994.
 Description: 1 film reel (15 min.) : si., col. with sound.
 Available in the CSB Library's Media Collection

Author: McDonald, M. Grace, OSB
 Title: *With lamps burning*
 Publisher: Collegeville, Minn.: Saint John's University Press, 1907.

A complex graphic with a blue background. At the top, it says 'Challenging Women Since 1913' in a large, elegant font. Below that, it says 'THE COLLEGE OF Saint Benedict' and 'Annette Atkins'. The graphic is decorated with various circular icons: a cross, a globe, a person, a building, a book, and other symbols. There are also some text elements like 'RECYCLE!' and 'PATRIOT'.

Saint John's University Archives

The Saint John's University Archives was established in 1975 to collect, house, and make available the historical records that document the origin, development and achievements of the University, its faculty, staff, and alumni.

- [LIBRARIES](#)
- [ARCHIVES OVERVIEW](#)
- [ABOUT THE ARCHIVES](#)
- [SJU HISTORY](#)
- [DIGITAL ARCHIVES](#)
- [FINDING AIDS](#)
- [PHOTOS AND MAPS](#)
- [SJU PUBLICATIONS](#)
- [STUDENT NEWSPAPERS](#)
- [SPECIAL COLLECTIONS](#)
- [TIMELINE](#)

See also [College of Saint Benedict Archives](#)

[About the Archives](#)

Hours, location, mission and goals, staff, contact information and policies.

[SJU History](#)

A starting point to explore SJU's history. Also includes lists of [administrators](#), [awards](#), [buildings](#), [early students](#), etc., and other resources such as [A Visual History of Saint Benedict's and Saint John's](#) and short visual ["history lessons"](#) on a variety of topics.

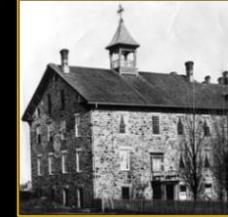
[Digital Archives](#)

Many of the Archives' resources are freely available digitally.

Fires at St. John's

1873: First Mill	1939: Woodshop
1877: Old Stone House	1964: Ski Hill Shelter
1882: Second Mill	1969? Maple Sugar Shack
1883: Indianbush	1984: Tommie basement
1903: First Chapel	1988: Old Gym roof
1927: Cow Barn	1993: Sexton
2014: Paint Shop	

"Lost" Saint John's Part 1



...and Part 2, and Part 3

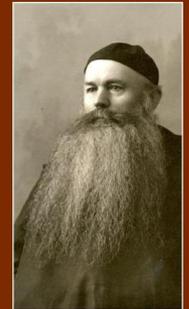
An Historical Look Back at Snowstorms at Saint John's



1891

A Historical "Bite" of Johnnie Bread

Br. William
Baldus, OSB



St. John's Indian
Industrial
School
1884-1896



1892 Indian School

The Institute for Regional Culture
presents
the SWAYED PINES
fiddle contest,
music festival
AND
crafts fair
May 10th and 11th

ST JOHN'S UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL FIELD
FRI., May 10: MUSICIAN'S NIGHT 7:30 - on
SAT., May 11: CRAFTS FAIR 8am - all day
local crafts displayed
FIDDLE CONTEST 12noon -
FOLK TIME DANCE 5pm - on -
groups, contest winners
no admission charge HOORAY

**Swayed
Pines:
Community
Building
through
Music,
Crafts, Food
& Fun**

SJU History

LIBRARIES ARCHIVES OVERVIEW ABOUT THE ARCHIVES SJU HISTORY DIGITAL ARCHIVES FINDING AIDS PHOTOS AND MAPS
SJU PUBLICATIONS STUDENT NEWSPAPERS SPECIAL COLLECTIONS TIMELINE

- [Administrators](#) (Presidents, Deans, etc.)
- [Athletics](#): each sport's coaching history and MIAC entry date
- [Awards](#)
- [Books about St. John's](#)
- [Buildings and Places](#)
- [Commencement speakers](#)
- [Convocation speakers](#)
- Cooperation with CSB: [Digitized Documents](#), 1962-1972 [documents list](#), and [more](#)
- [Publications](#) on Vivarium
- [Student Newspapers](#)
- [Students 1857-1915](#): list of the earliest students at St. John's
- [Timeline](#)
- [Vignettes](#) – short PowerPoint/pdf "[history lessons](#)" on assorted topics

1857-1915



https://www.csbsju.edu/cs...



myCSBSJU



COLLEGE OF
Saint Benedict



Saint John's
UNIVERSITY

ACADEMICS

ADMISSION & AID

STUDENT LIFE

ATHLETICS

ABOUT

GIVE NOW

APPLY NOW

Students 1882-1927 (at St. Ben's)

LIBRARIES

ARCHIVES OVERVIEW

ABOUT THE ARCHIVES

CSB HISTORY

DIGITAL ARCHIVES

FINDING AIDS

PHOTOS AND MAPS

CSB PUBLICATIONS

STUDENT NEWSPAPERS

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

TIMELINE

This is the most definitive listing known of the early students at the College of Saint Benedict (and Saint Benedict's Academy). It is presumed that the list was compiled from lists of students that were published in the early Catalogs.

An attempt has been made to correct obvious errors, but please [email the Archivist](#) concerning any that may remain.

For questions about the students, contact the [Saint Benedict's Monastery Archives](#).

For a list of early students at Saint John's University, click [here](#).

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X
Y Z

SJU History

LIBRARIES ARCHIVES OVERVIEW ABOUT THE ARCHIVES SJU HISTORY DIGITAL ARCHIVES FINDING AIDS PHOTOS AND MAPS
SJU PUBLICATIONS STUDENT NEWSPAPERS SPECIAL COLLECTIONS TIMELINE

- [Administrators](#) (Presidents, Deans, etc.)
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- [Buildings and Places](#)
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- [Convocation speakers](#)
- Cooperation with CS
- [Publications](#) on Viva
- [Student Newspapers](#)
- [Students 1857-1915](#): a
- [Timeline](#)
- [Vignettes](#) – short PowerPoint/pdf “[history lessons](#)” on assorted topics

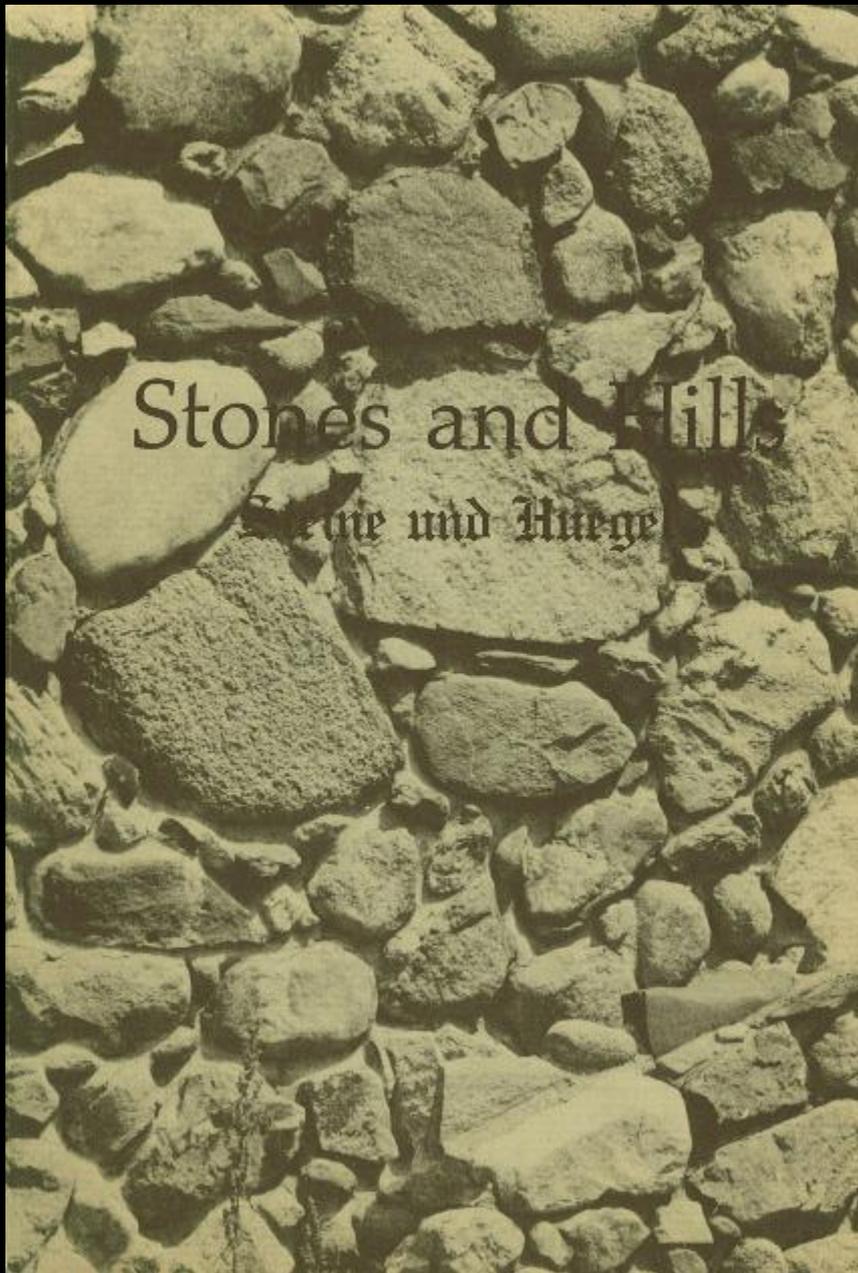
Title: ***Stones and hills = Steine und Huegel: reflections, St. John the Baptist Parish, 1875-1975.***

Publisher: Collegeville, Minn.: St. John the Baptist Parish, c1975.

Description: v, 179 p.: ill., ports.; 23 cm.

Available online, in the SJU Archives, and in the SJU Library's General

Collection: BX4603.C64 S85 1975



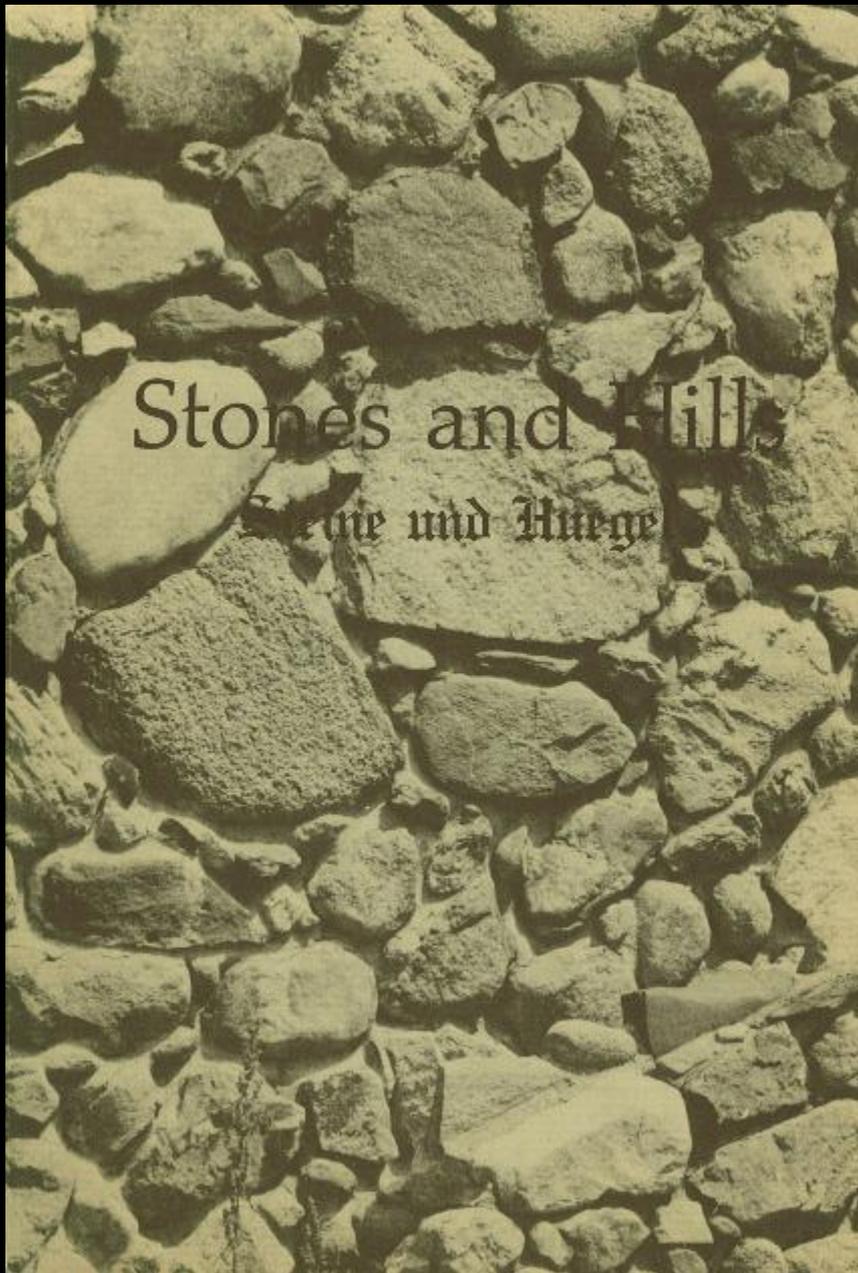
“...not a detailed history of the parish from 1875 to 1975; rather it is an accounting of major events of that century's parish life and more importantly a reflection through anecdotes and photos of the flavor of that life.”

- Chapter 1: Beginnings
- Chapter 2: Liturgy
- Chapter 3: Traditions
- Chapter 4: Education
- Chapter 5: Projections

Appendix 1: Parish Founding Charter

Appendix 2: Pastors

Appendix 3: Faithful Departed Buried in the Cemetery

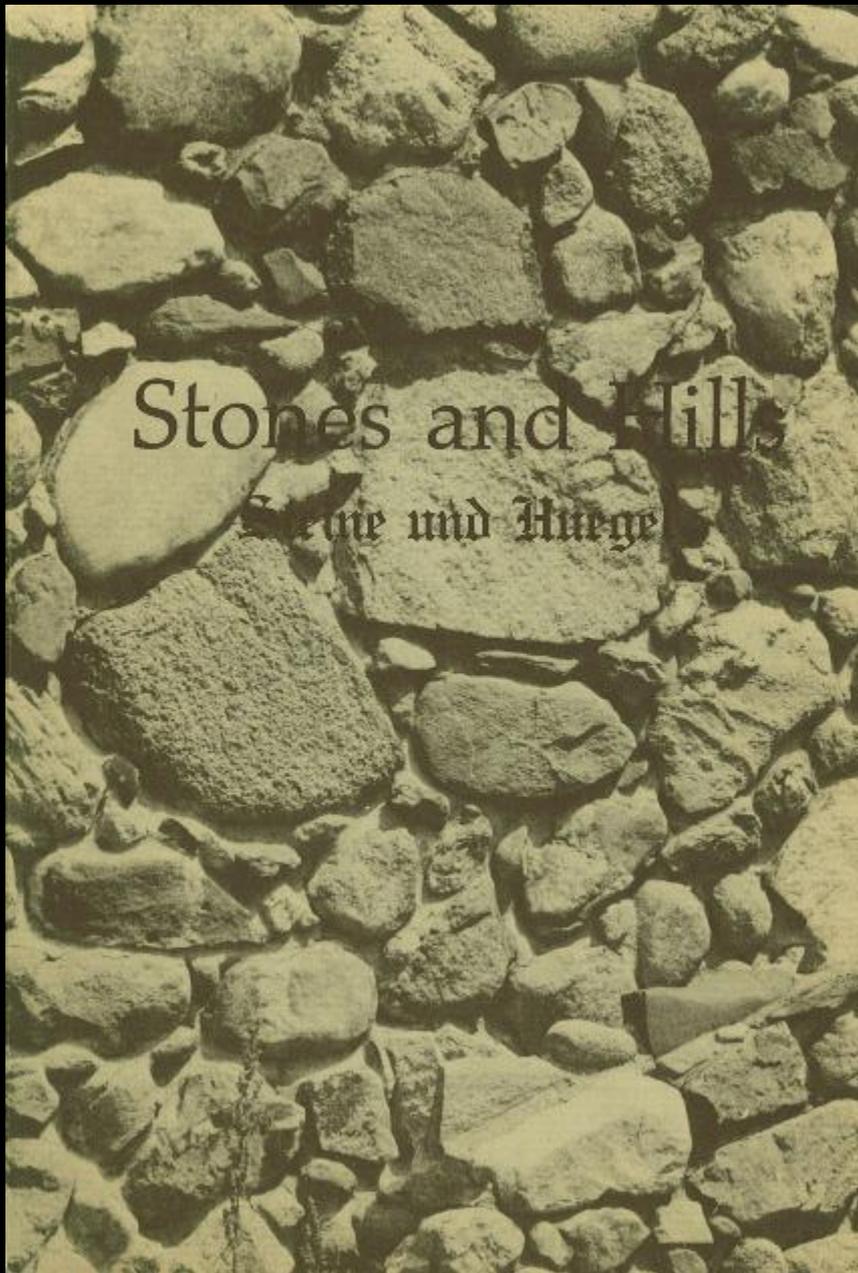


Pastors of the Parish in *Stones and Hills*:

APPENDIX 2

Pastors of St. John the Baptist Parish.

Fr. Clement Staub, OSB	Jan. 1876–Nov. 1876
Fr. Bernard Locnikar, OSB	Dec. 1876–Feb. 1878
Fr. Gregory Steil, OSB	Feb. 1878–Sept. 1882
Fr. Alfred Mayer, OSB	Sept. 1882–Feb. 1886
Fr. Ulric Northmann, OSB	Mar. 1886–Mar. 1887
Fr. Isidore Siegler, OSB	Apr. 1887–Sept. 1890
Fr. Severin Gross, OSB	Sept. 1890–Sept. 1893
Fr. Pancratius Maehren, OSB	Sept. 1893–Feb. 1895
Fr. Abbot Peter Engel, OSB	Feb. 1895–Aug. 1895
Fr. Alphonse Kuisle, OSB	Aug. 1895–Sept. 1904
Fr. Gregory Steil, OSB	Sept. 1905–Sept. 1909
Fr. Conrad Glatzmeier, OSB	Sept. 1909–Aug. 1910
Fr. Abbot Peter Engel, OSB	Aug. 1910–Sept. 1917
Fr. Joseph Kreuter, OSB	Sept. 1917–June 1922
Fr. Alfred Mayer, OSB	June 1922–June 1929
Rev. Joseph Kreuter, OSB	June 1929–June 1930
Fr. Valerian Thelen, OSB	June 1930–Sept. 1932
Fr. Magnus Hermanutz, OSB	Sept. 1932–Sept. 1933
Fr. Jerome Simmer, OSB	Sept. 1933–Sept. 1935
Fr. George Scheffold, OSB	Sept. 1935–June 1937
Fr. Timothy Majerus, OSB	June 1937–Sept. 1939
Fr. Christopher Bayer, OSB	Sept. 1939–Sept. 1944
Fr. Cyril Ortmann, OSB	Sept. 1944–Feb. 1947
Fr. Rembert Bularzik, OSB	Feb. 1947–Aug. 1956
Fr. Lancelot Atsch, OSB	Aug. 1956–Aug. 1965
Fr. Harold Fuchs, OSB	Aug. 1965–June 1966
Fr. Jordan Stovik, OSB	July 1966–July 1967
Fr. Benjamin Stein, OSB, assistant pastor	— 1966 – 1967
Fr. Wendelin Luetmer, OSB	Aug. 1967–Feb. 1972
Fr. Alexander Andrews, OSB	Feb. 1972–June 1972
Fr. Simeon Thole, OSB	June 1972–Aug. 1972
Fr. Kieran Nolan, OSB	Aug. 1972 –



Pastors of the Parish since *Stones and Hills*:

Kieran Nolan: Aug. 1972 – July 1978
Roger Klassen: July 20, 1978 – June 1990
Robert Pierson: July 1990 – June 1991
Simeon Thole: July 1991 – June 1996
Jonathan Licari: July 1996 – May 2001
Blane Wasnie: August 2001 – June 2003
Eugene McGlothlin: July 2003 – August 2010
Jerome Tupa: August 2010 – June 2012
Wilfred Theisen: interim: June – August 2012
Nathanael Hauser: Sept. 2012 – August 2014
Gregory Miller: August 2014 – June 2019
Jerome Tupa: July 2019 – July 2021
Roger Klassen: July 2021 – July 2022
Bradley Jenniges, OSB, August 2022 –

Appendix 1: Parish Founding Charter

Appendix 2: Pastors

Appendix 3: Faithful Departed Buried in
the Cemetery

**St. John the Baptist
Parish**



**Centennial
Commemoration**

Dec. 12, 1975

*Saint John the Baptist Parish
Collegeville, Minnesota*

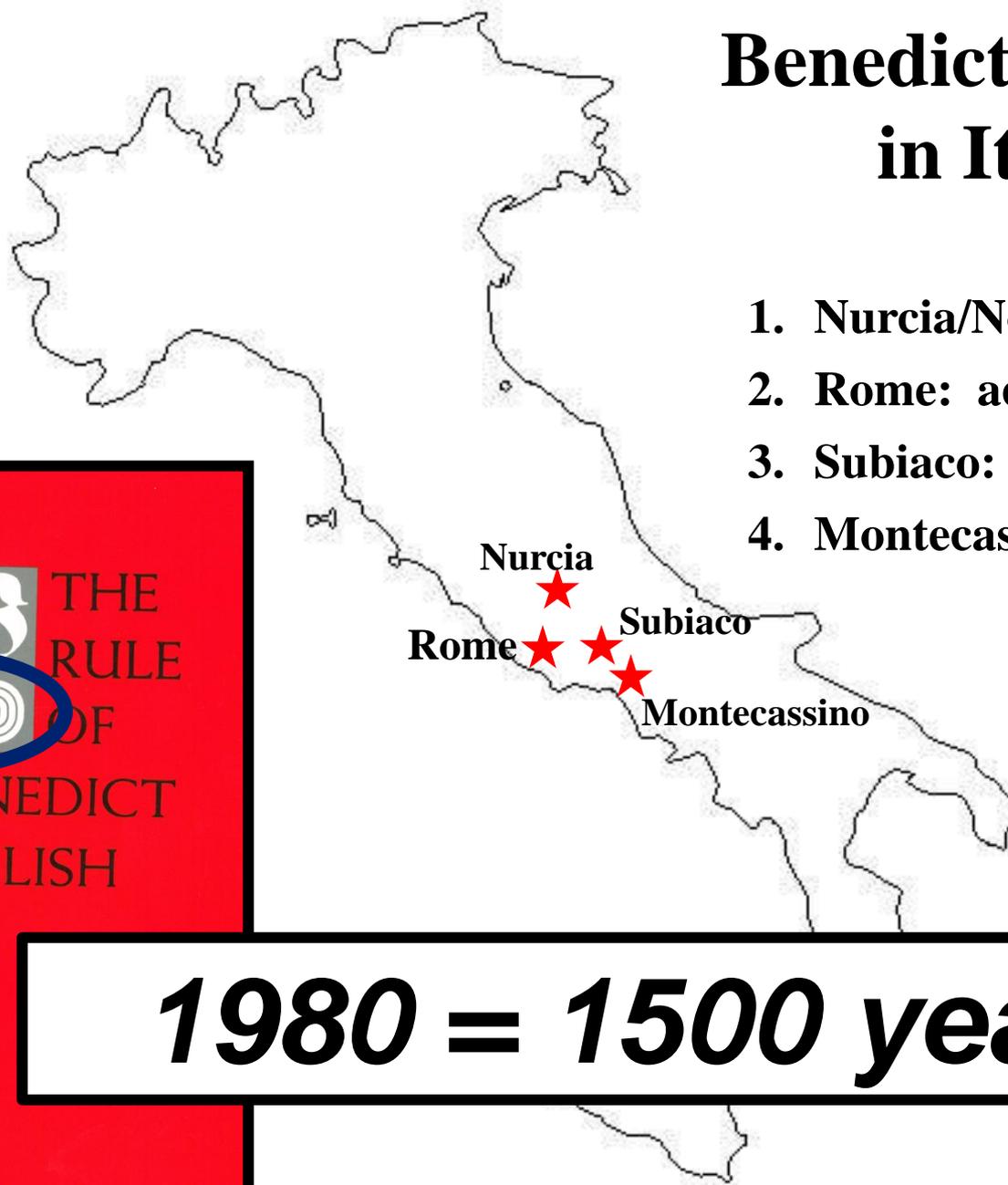


We are the Church, and God is with us ...

1988

Benedictine sites in Italy

1. Nurscia/Norcia: childhood
2. Rome: adolescence
3. Subiaco: cave
4. Montecassino: monastery

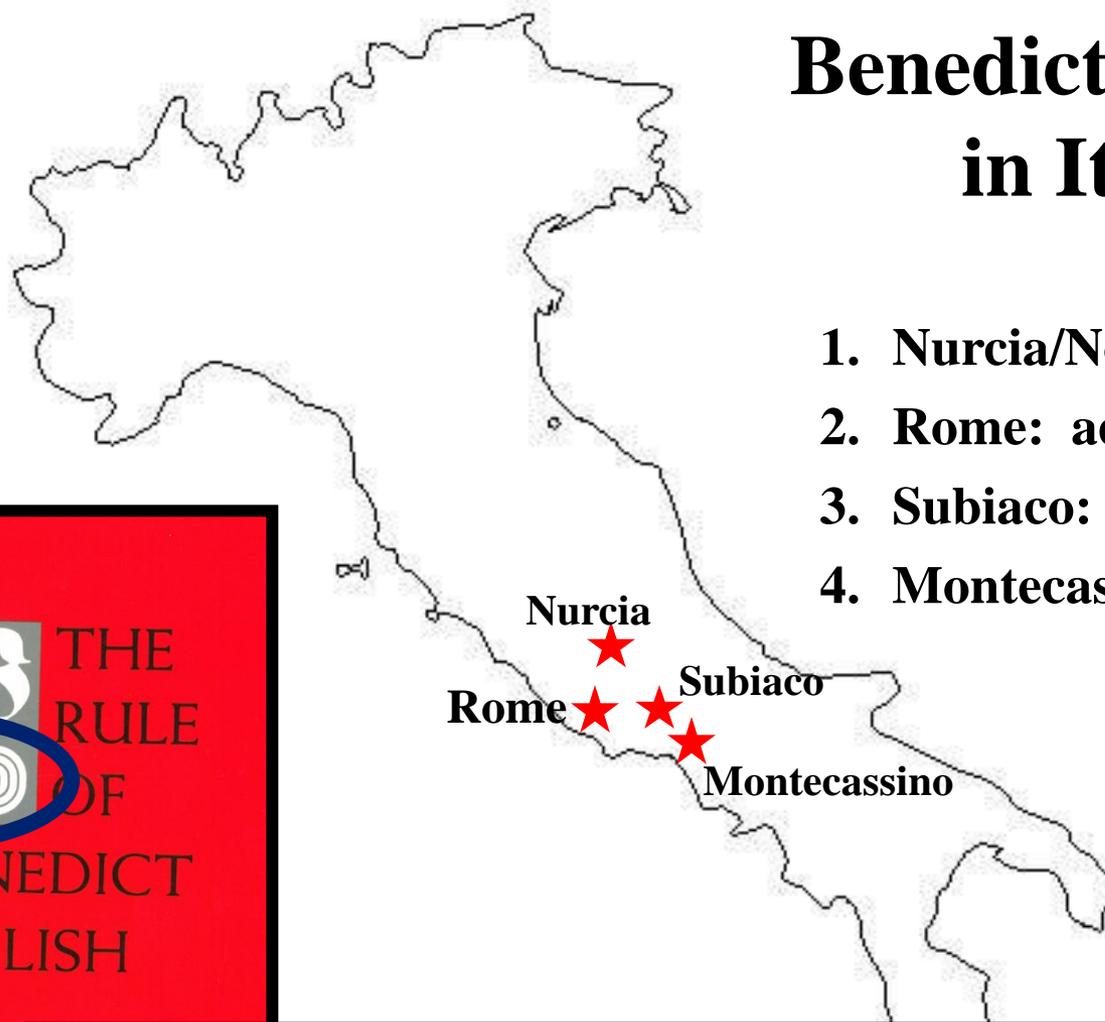


MB THE
RULE
OF
1980 OF
ST. BENEDICT
IN ENGLISH

1980 = 1500 years

Benedictine sites in Italy

1. Nurscia/Norcia: childhood
2. Rome: adolescence
3. Subiaco: cave
4. Montecassino: monastery



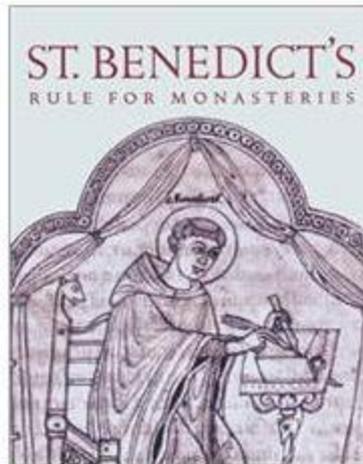
MB THE
RULE
OF
1980 OF
ST. BENEDICT
IN ENGLISH

**1980 = 1500 years
= *Sesquimillennial***



Books

Home > Miscellaneous/OOP > St. Benedict's Rule For Monasteries



St. Benedict's Rule For Monasteries

Leonard J. Doyle, Translator

\$5.95



THE
RULE
OF

ST. BENEDICT
IN ENGLISH



Subiaco





Montecassino





Oslo
Stockholm
Sweden

Dublin
Ireland

London
United Kingdom

Copenhagen
Denmark

Amsterdam
Netherlands

Brussels
Belgium

Luxembourg
Luxembourg

Berlin
Germany

Paris
France

Bern
Switzerland

Prague
Czechia

Vienna
Austria

Bratislava
Slovakia

Budapest
Hungary

Ljubljana
Slovenia

Zagreb
Croatia

Sarajevo
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Podgorica
Montenegro

Tirana
Albania

Lisbon
Portugal

Madrid
Spain

Rome
Italy

Warsaw
Poland



St. Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury, was where Christianity was brought to England.



Ireland
Dublin
United Kingdom
London
Netherlands
Amsterdam
Belgium
Brussels
Luxembourg
Luxembourg
France
Paris
Germany
Berlin
Czechia
Prague
Slovakia
Bratislava
Austria
Vienna
Switzerland
Bern
Hungary
Budapest
Slovenia
Ljubljana
Croatia
Zagreb
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Sarajevo
Italy
Rome
Spain
Madrid
Portugal
Lisbon
Denmark
Copenhagen
Sweden
Oslo
Stockholm
Poland
We
Slovenia
Belgium
Herzegovina
Se
Montenegro
Podgorica
Kosovo
Tirana
Albania



Metten Monastery, Bavaria
founded in 766 by Charlemagne
with monks from Montecassino







Familiar names: Weber, Maier, Reber, Ritter (& Wimmer!)



Fr. Boniface Wimmer left Metten to become a missionary to pioneer Catholics in the U.S.

He brought 18 young men with him from Germany.



Initially they went to the new Pittsburgh diocese, where the bishop asked him to pastor a small parish 40 miles SE of Pittsburgh.

He founded St. Vincent's Monastery there in 1846.
It was the first Benedictine monastery in the western hemisphere.



Five years after St. Vincent's was established there were 100 monks.

Within nine years, there were 200 – and it became an Abbey, with Boniface as its Abbot.

By the time of his death, he had founded ten Benedictine Abbeys in the U.S.,
152 Roman Catholic Parishes, and many schools.

King Ludwig I of Bavaria financed Boniface Wimmer

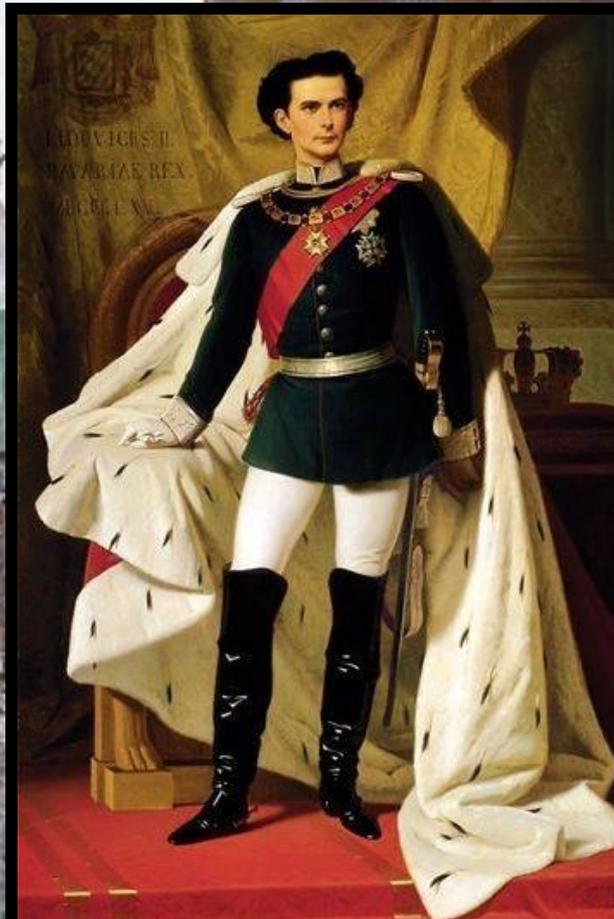
- Opposed his father's support for Napoleon, who had closed monasteries and convents all over Europe
- Re-opened Catholic monasteries, including Metten
- Supported the Church's mission efforts in America
- Trivia: His 1810 wedding was the first Oktoberfest



King Ludwig I of Bavaria financed Boniface Wimmer



Ludwig's castle





**Fr. Francis Pierz, missionary,
attracted German Catholics to Minnesota with his
glowing descriptions of the land in the west**

MAP
OF THE
TERRITORY OF MINNESOTA
DRAWN BY
GEO. H. RITCHIE
1858

BRITISH POSSESSIONS





"Forward, always forward, everywhere forward!
We must not be held back by debts, bad years or
by difficulties of the times. Man's adversity is
God's opportunity."

Abbot Boniface Wimmer

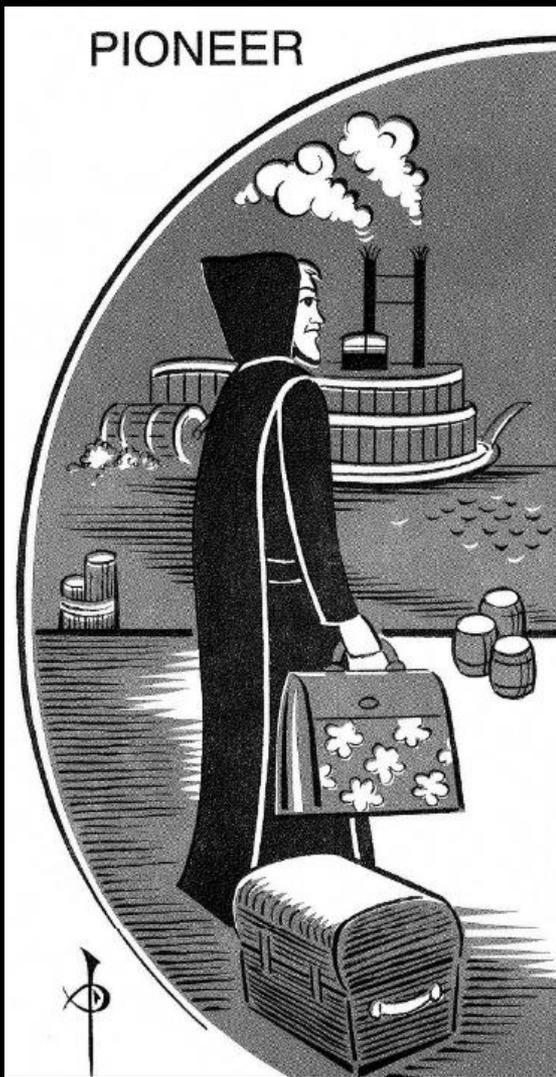


Bishop Joseph Cretin
invited the Benedictines to Minnesota

*(St. Paul "won the race" – Cretin's
response to Boniface Wimmer was
the first one he received.)*

Boniface sent five monks west.

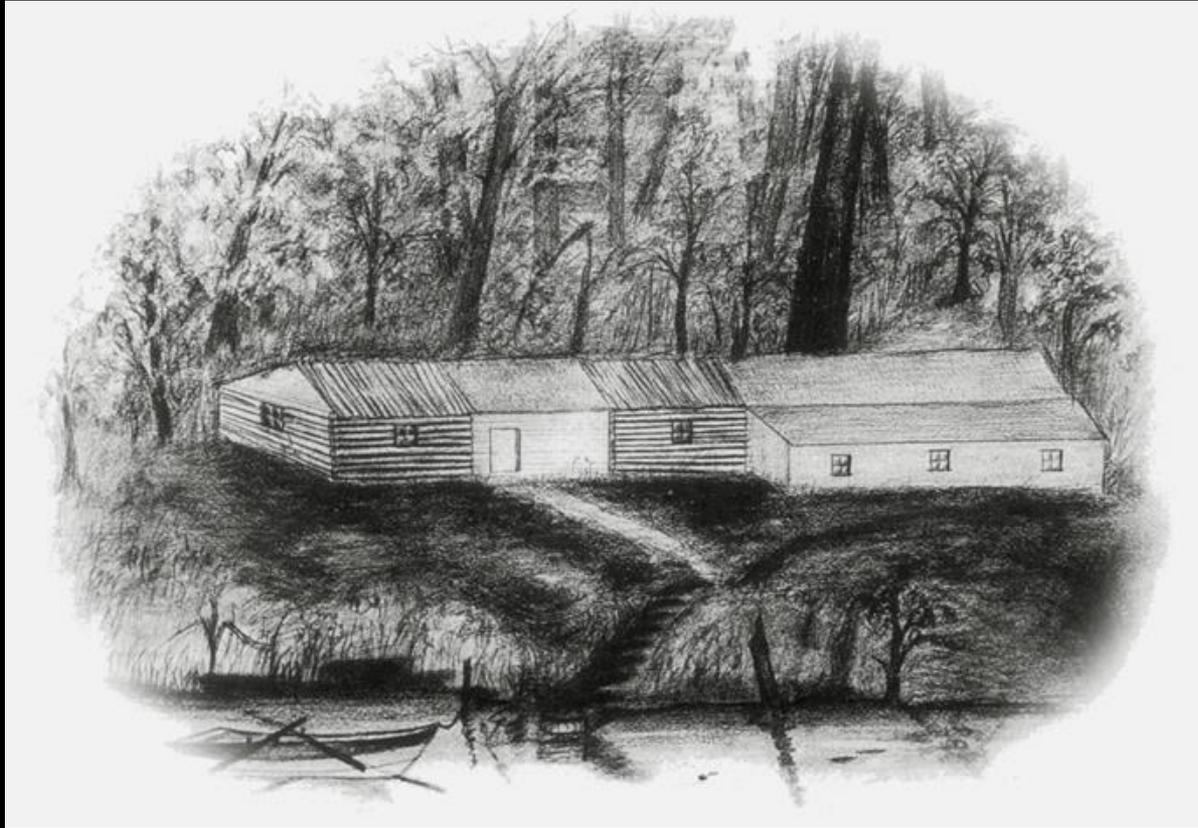
PIONEER



VOLUME 23 — No. 1 April 1984

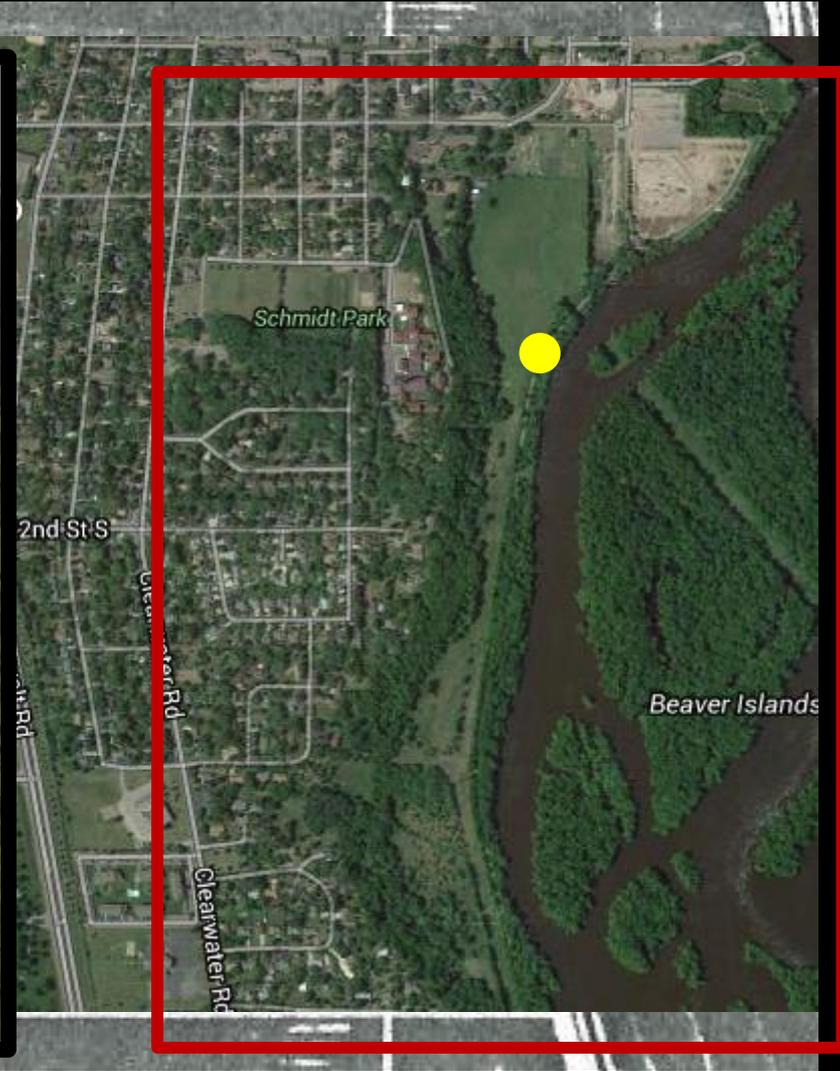
SCRIPTORIUM

St. Cloud Priory on the Mississippi River, 1856,
the first structure built by the monks in Minnesota,
drawn by one of the first students, Henry Emmel.



“Early German settlers included...Joseph Emmel, carpenter
and church painter...and Wolfgang Eich, carpenter.”

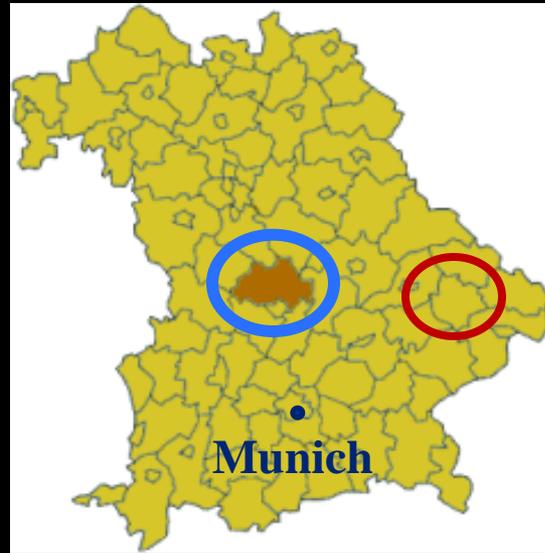
Worship & Work, p. 35





**Bavaria
(Bayern)**

Eichstätt



Munich

Metten

Abbot Wimmer recruited Benedictines from St. Walburg Convent, Eichstätt, Bavaria

The sisters' route:

In 1852 to St. Mary's, Pennsylvania

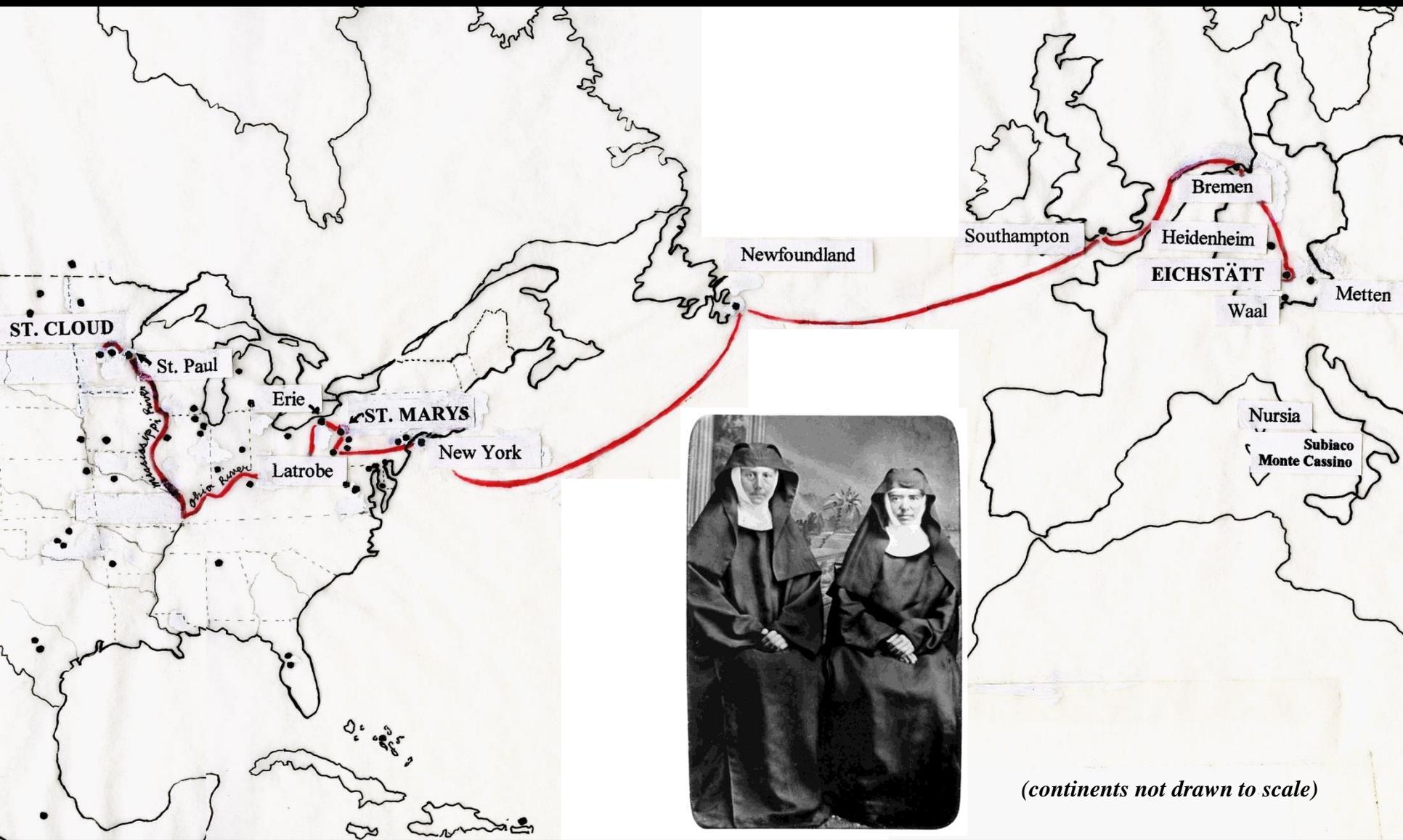
In 1857 to St. Mary's Parish, St. Cloud

In 1863 to St. Joseph



St. Walburg's, 2009





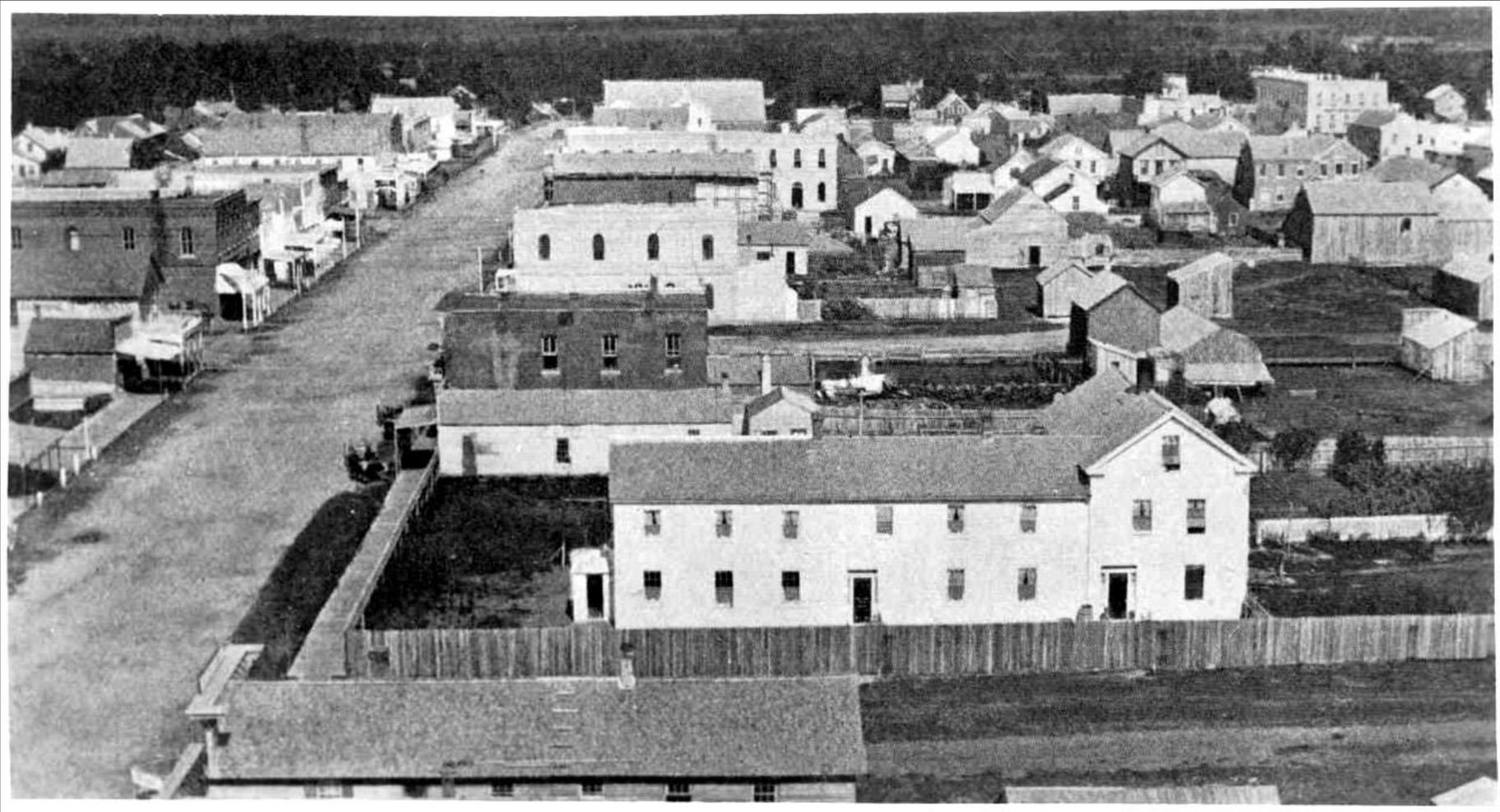
(continents not drawn to scale)

Route of the Sisters from Eichstätt, Germany to St. Joseph, Minnesota

NORTH STAR, the riverboat which brought the Benedictine sisters to St. Cloud.
The riverboat was stranded on a sand bar two miles from St. Cloud.

After two days, on July 4, 1857, the sisters were taken ashore in small boats
and accompanied to St. Cloud by its Benedictine Prior, Demetrius di Marogna.





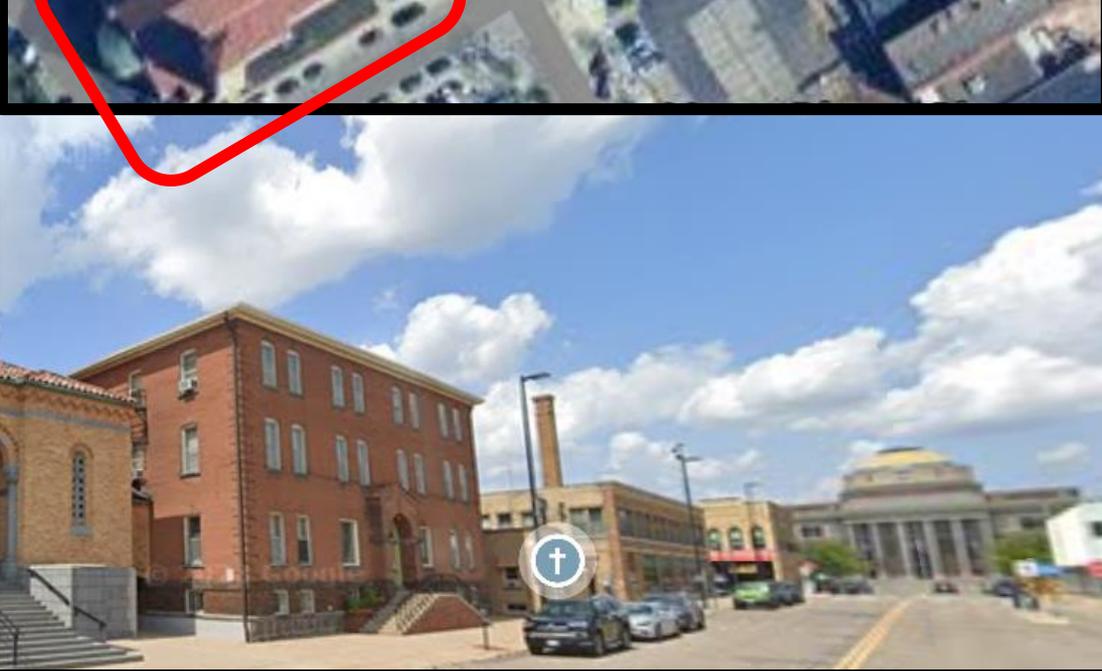
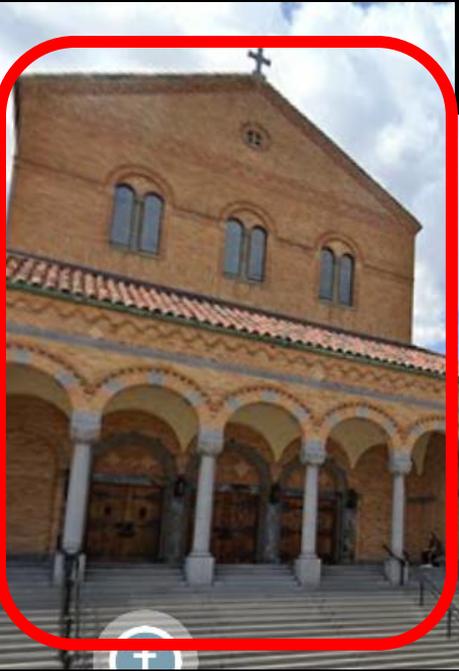
The Sisters' St. Cloud convent/church and school, St. Agnes Academy, 1860

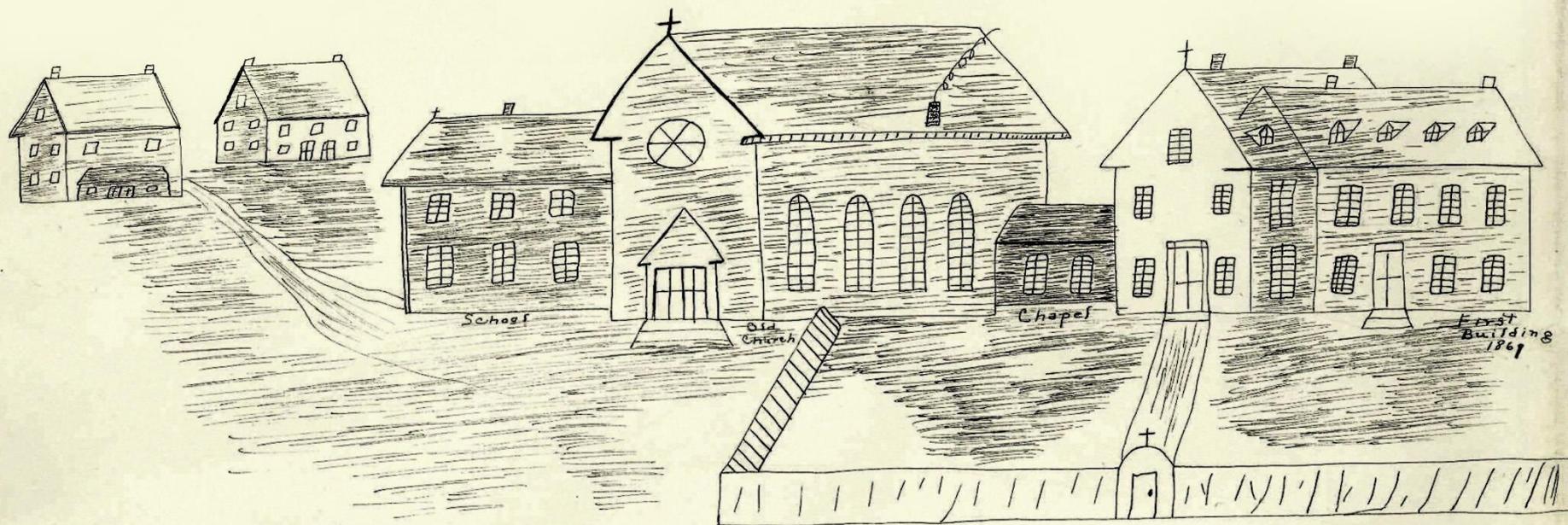
St. Germain Street and 8th Avenue



The Sisters' St. Cloud convent/church and school, St. Agnes Academy, 1860

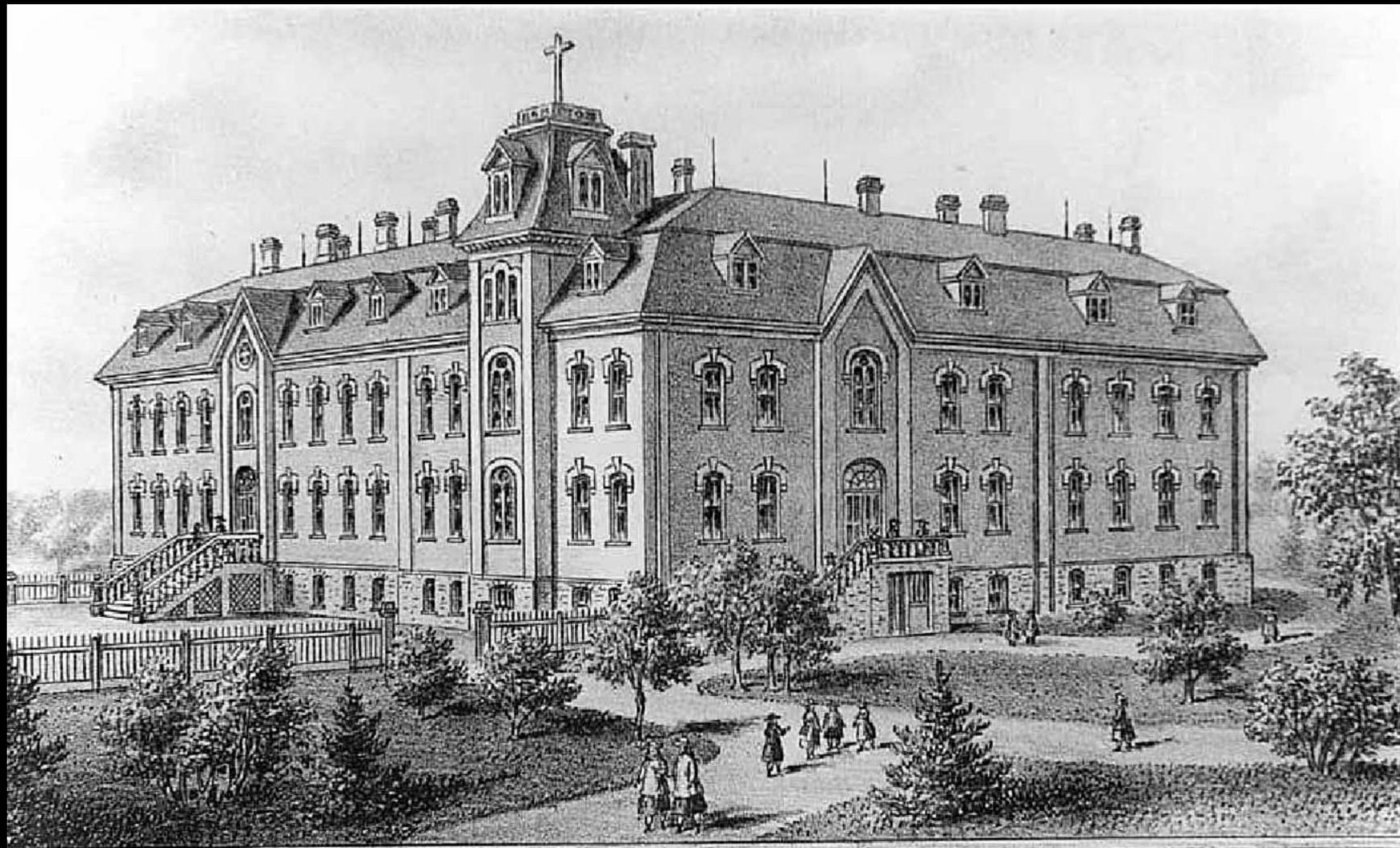
St. Germain Street and 8th Avenue





Our first convent in St Joseph 1843
Drawn by Sr. Paula Bachert OSB (1980)

The first convent at St. Joseph



KURT C. ALLISON'S ART STUDIO, CHICAGO

ST. BENEDICT'S ACADEMY, ST. JOSEPH, STEARNS COUNTY, MINN.

Saint Benedict's Academy, 1882

SAGATAGAN SAGA

FR. CLODOALD MENBERG, O.S.B.

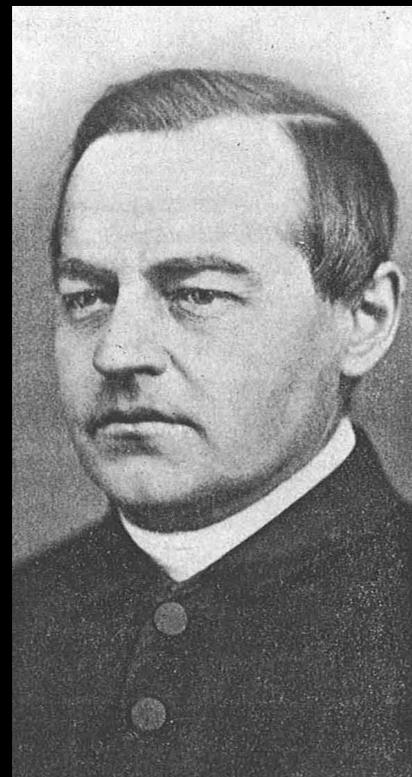
IN 1856 when Fr. Bruno Riss set out from St. Joseph, Minnesota to find new land for a monastery he came into a new country indeed. The State of Minnesota was only eight years old, Stearns County only two. There were, it seems, no other settlers as yet in what is now Collegeville Township. Boundary lines were vague and claimants numerous. The only Government survey made up to this time was marked by notches cut in trees every six miles

An account by Fr. Bruno Riss (Riess):

THE FIRST BEGINNING OF ST. JOHN'S ABBEY.

III.

AT the same time the orders of P. Prior Demetrius directing me to take charge of Richmond, St. James and St. Joseph reached me, I was instructed by the Rt. Rev. Abbot of St. Vincent's to select a suitable piece of land on which a monastery could be erected. The two claims held by the Rothkopps furnished little fuel and no pasture. In making a selection, therefore, I had to keep in view these two essentials, besides a third, water.

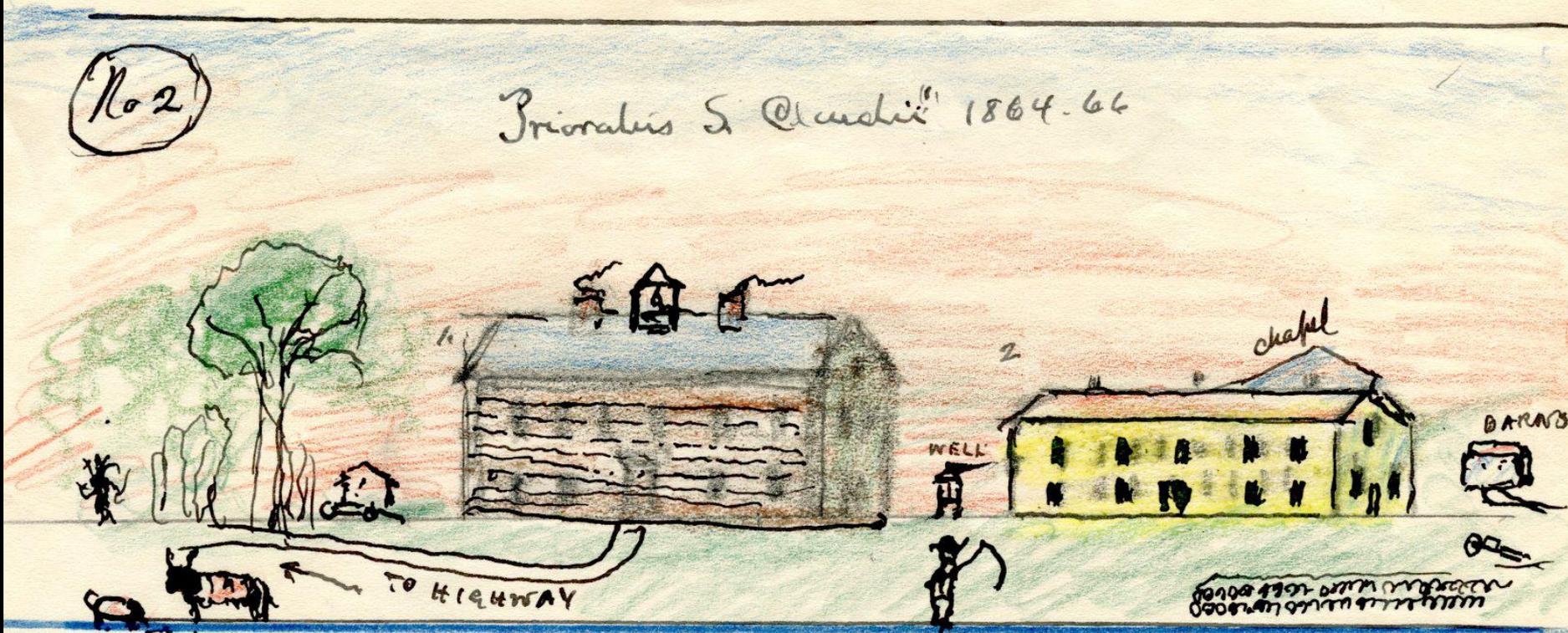


St. John's in the Indian Bush, 1864-1867

St. John's in the Indian Bush, 1864-67.

No 2

Prioratus S. O'Connell 1864-66



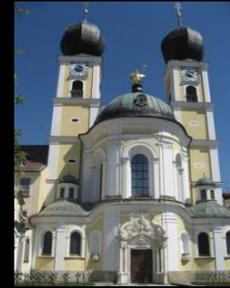
1. Main Building, College
built 1853.

A.H. 218
who saw it 8 years
1875-83

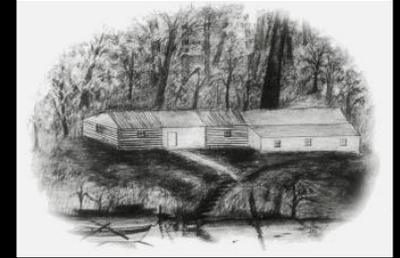
2. Manse.
This house was removed to
St. Louis Lake and stood
off to the south side of the
Stone House till 1856
then abbot Rupert was
elected 1866

Chronology

1846: Boniface Wimmer leaves Metten, Germany



1856: Monks leave Pennsylvania; arrive in Saint Cloud

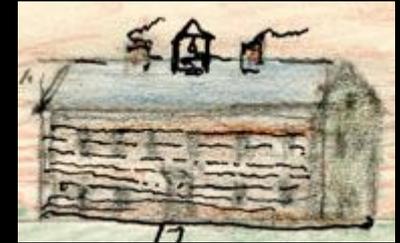


1858: Monks move to Saint Joseph because of land litigation

1859: Monks move back to Saint Cloud

1861: Civil War breaks out

1862: Indian uprising



1864: Saint Cloud land litigation goes against Saint John's;
Monks move to “Indianbush”

1866: Monks move to the shores of “Lake Saint Louis”



Chronology

1846: Boniface Wimmer leaves Metten, Germany

1852: Sisters leave Eichstätt, Germany

1856: Monks leave Pennsylvania; arrive in Saint Cloud

1857: Sisters leave Pennsylvania; arrive in Saint Cloud

1858: Monks move to Saint Joseph because of land litigation

1859: Monks move back to Saint Cloud

1861: Civil War breaks out

1862: Indian uprising

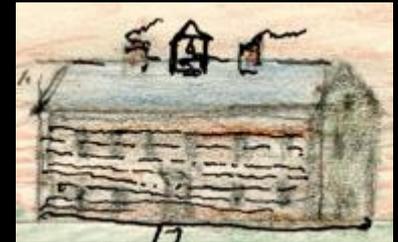
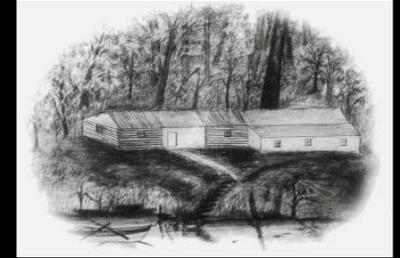
1863: Sisters move to Saint Joseph (and some go to Kansas)

1864: Saint Cloud land litigation goes against Saint John's;

Monks move to “Indianbush”

1866: Monks move to the shores of “Lake Saint Louis”

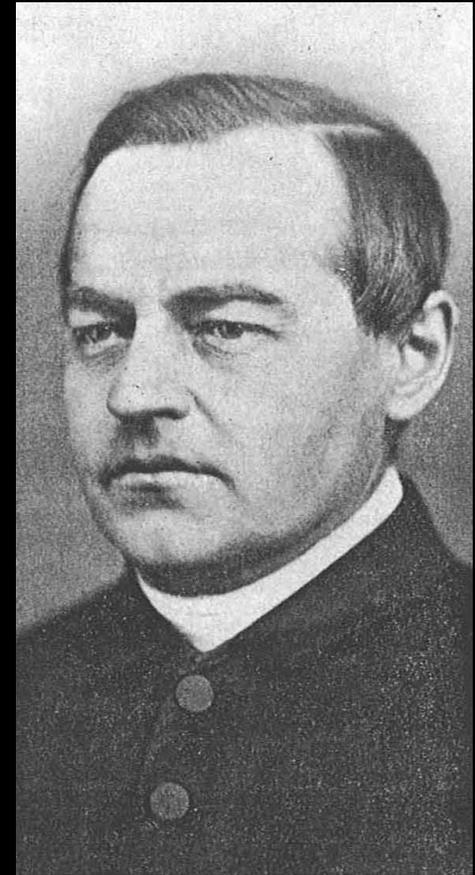
1875: *Saint John the Baptist Parish is founded*





Boniface Wimmer,
Abbot

From its very beginnings, the history of St. John the Baptist Parish has been closely intertwined with that of the Benedictine monks of St. John's Abbey who came to Minnesota to minister to the spiritual needs of the German Catholic immigrant settlers.

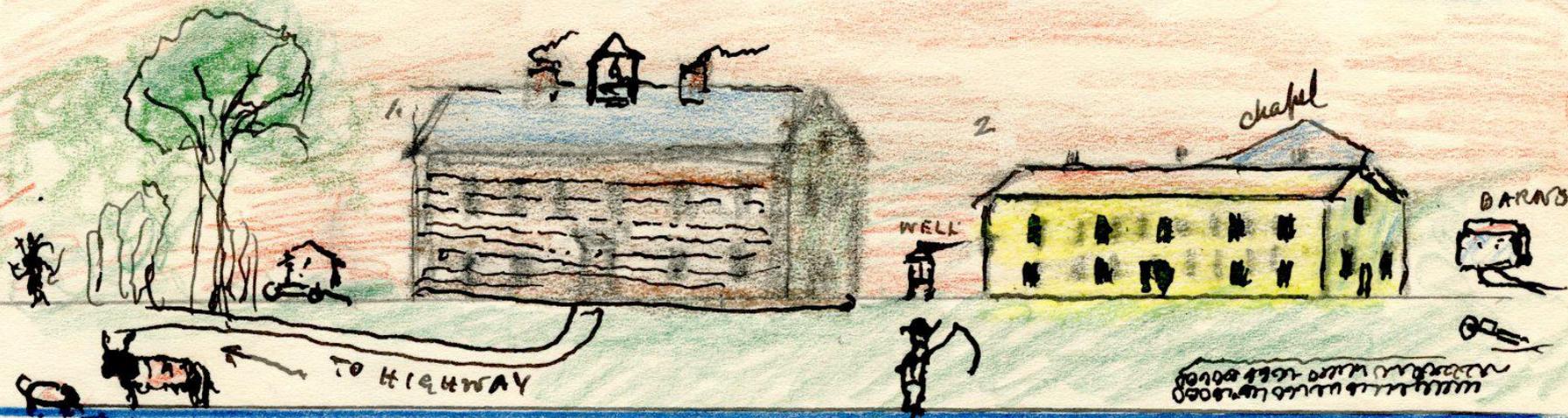


Fr. Bruno Riess

St. Johns with the Indian Brook, 1864-67.

No 2

Prioratus S. Ousehii 1864-66



1. Main Building, College
burnt 1883.

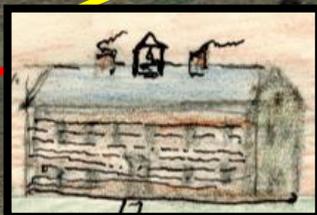
A.H. ANV
who saw it 8y ears
1875-83

2. Monastery.
This house was removed to
St. Louis Lake and stood
off to the south side of the
Stone House till 1876
then abbot Rupert was
elected 1866

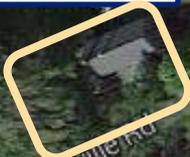
the venerable landmark ~~70~~ disappeared, leaving not a trace of buildings of any kind.



70 "History," p. 147. In May, 1953, Father Roman Homar, O.S.B., pointed out the spot to the Reverend Paschal Botz, O.S.B., and a group of the Brothers where the buildings formerly stood. He had come just two years after the fire, but remembered seeing the charred remains while, as a novice, he worked in the fields nearby. The site is now part of the cultivated fields. It is on a slight elevation from which the land slopes towards the Watab. The site is approximately 1,000 feet Southwest of the Diekmann house, and about 350 feet West of the present Collegeville road.



Diekmann House
(Collegeville Station)

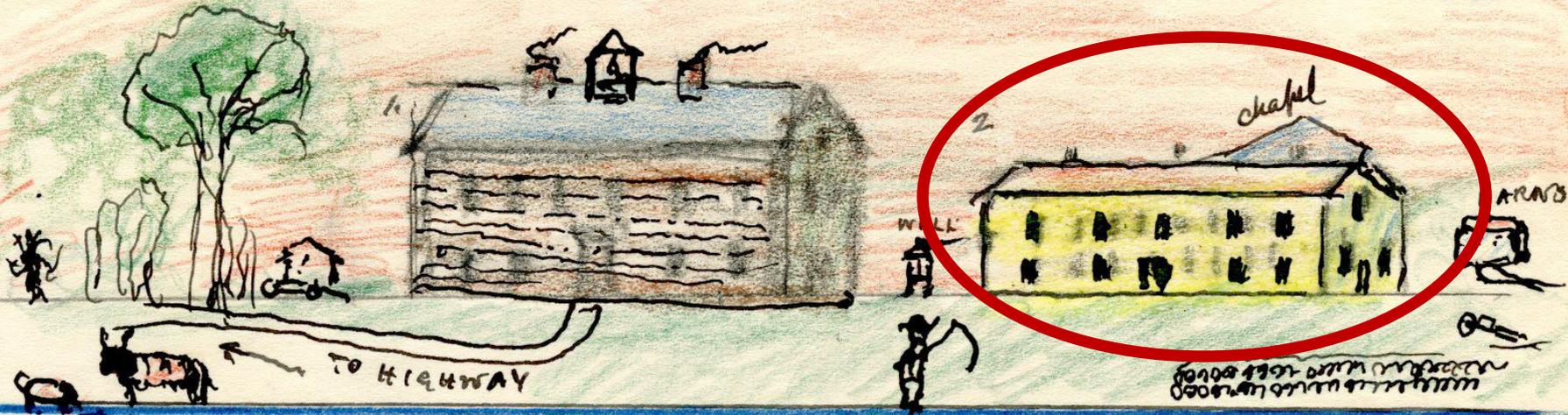


The site is approximately 1,000 feet Southwest of the Diekmann house, and about 350 feet West of the present Collegeville road.

St. Johns with the Indian Beach, 1864-67.

No 2

Prioratus S. @uschie" 1864-66

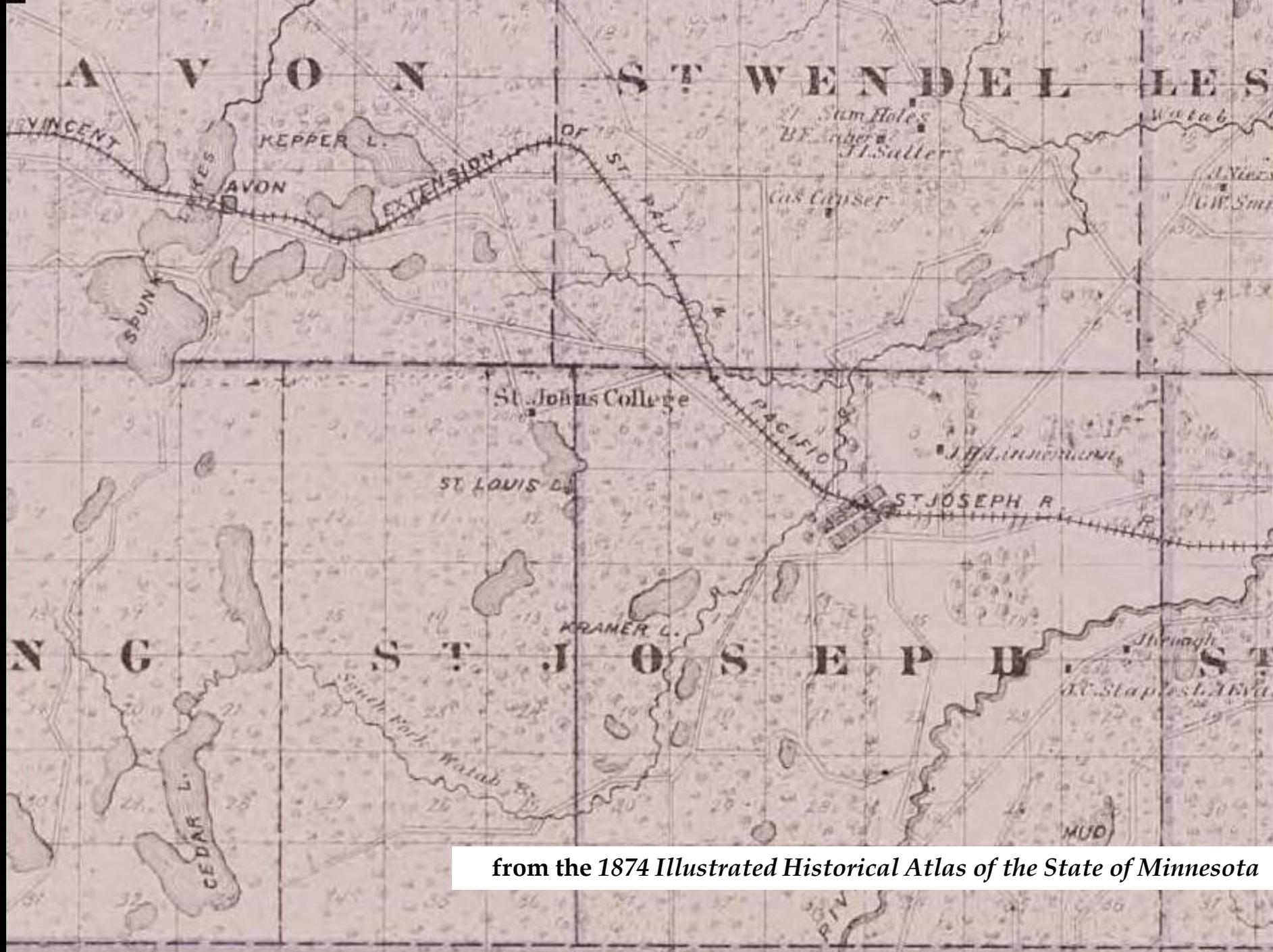


1. Main Building, College
burnt 1883.

A.H. ANV
who saw it 87 years
1875-83

2. Monastery.
This house was removed to
St. Louis Lake and stood
off to south side of the
Stone House till 1886
then abbot Rupert was
elected 1866

"This house was removed to St. Louis Lake and stood off to south side of the Stone House."

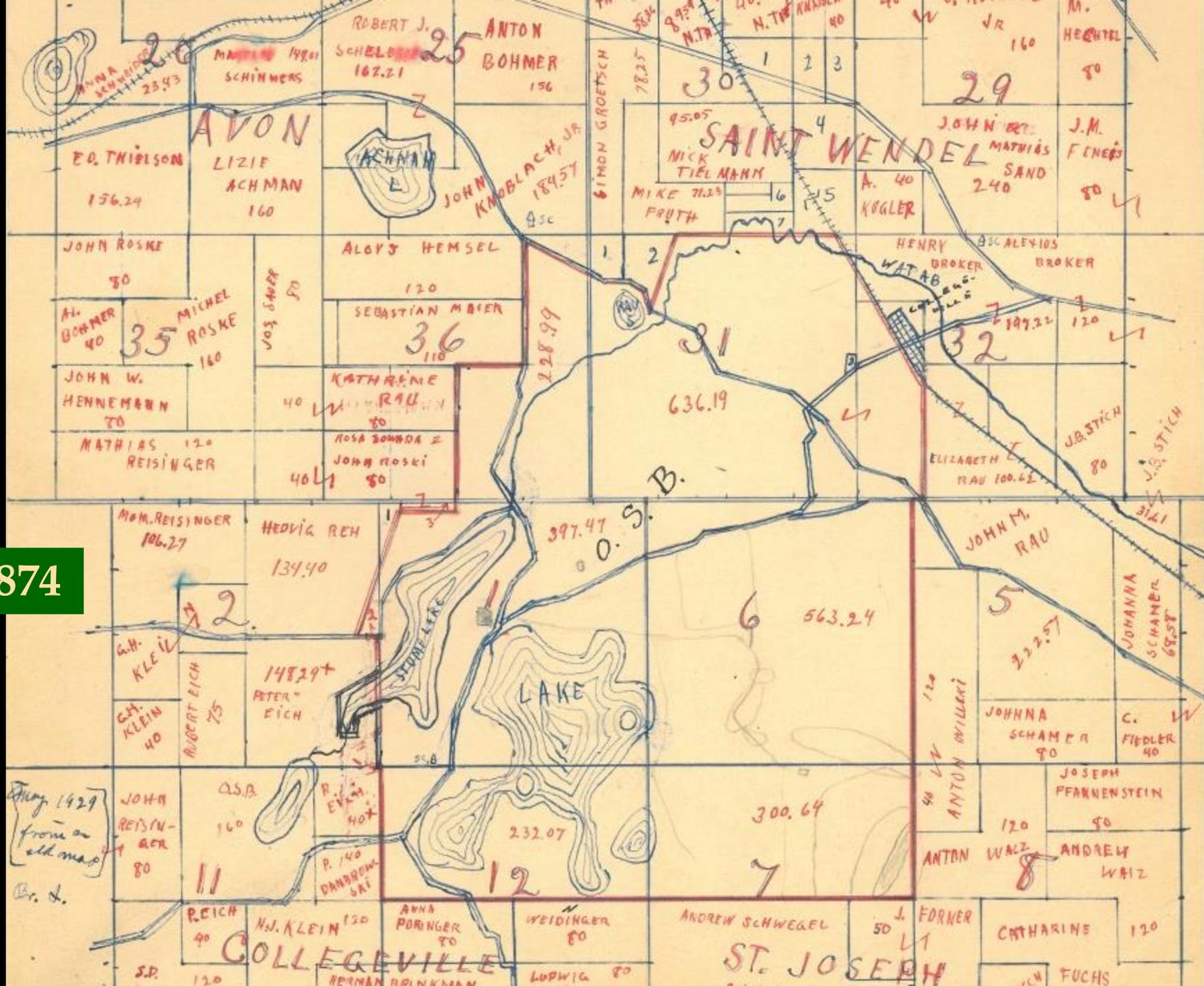


from the 1874 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Minnesota

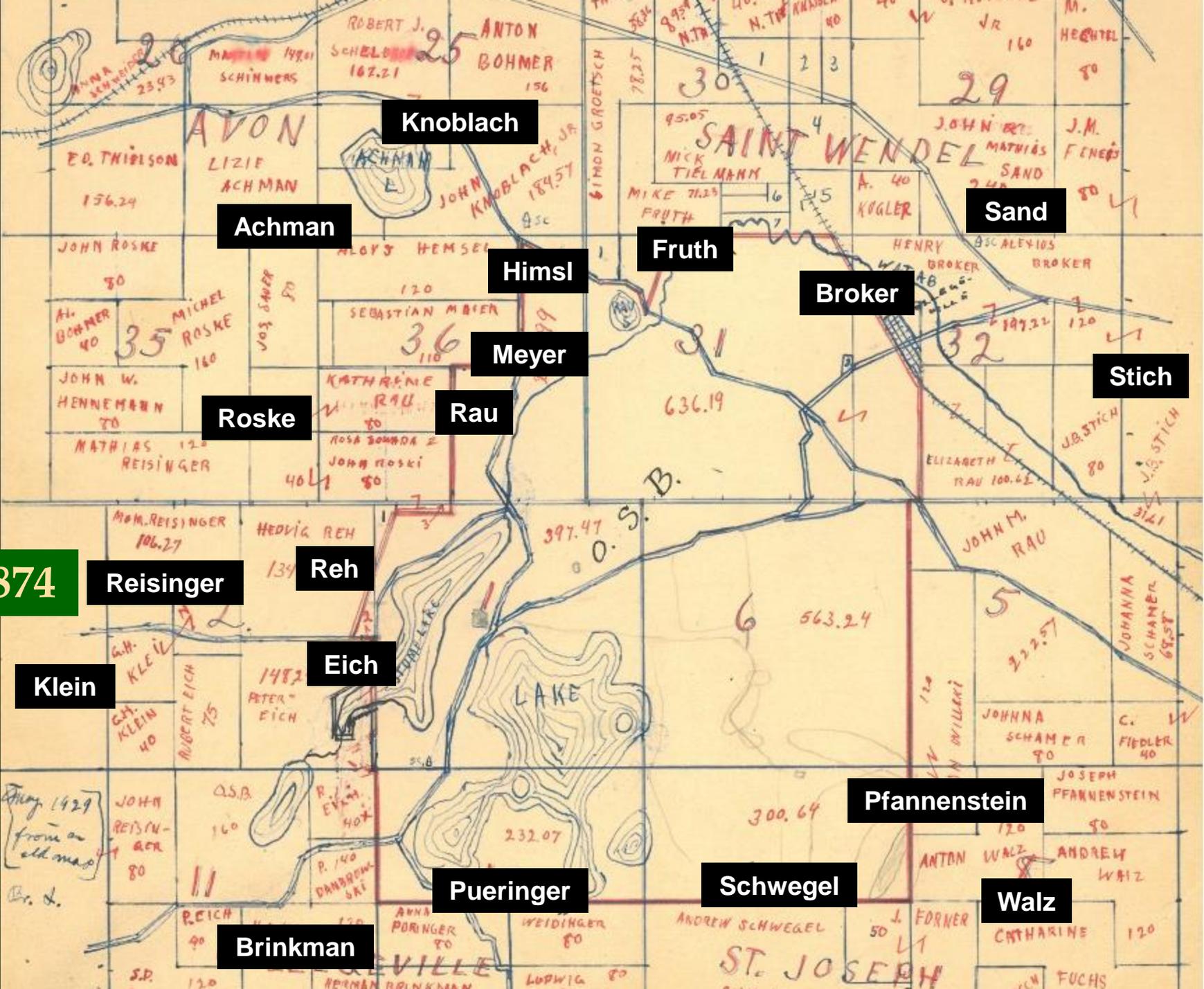


1874 Atlas, close up

1874



1874



Knoblach

Achman

Himsl

Fruth

Sand

Broker

Stich

Roske

Rau

Reisinger

Reh

Klein

Eich

Pfannenstein

Pueringer

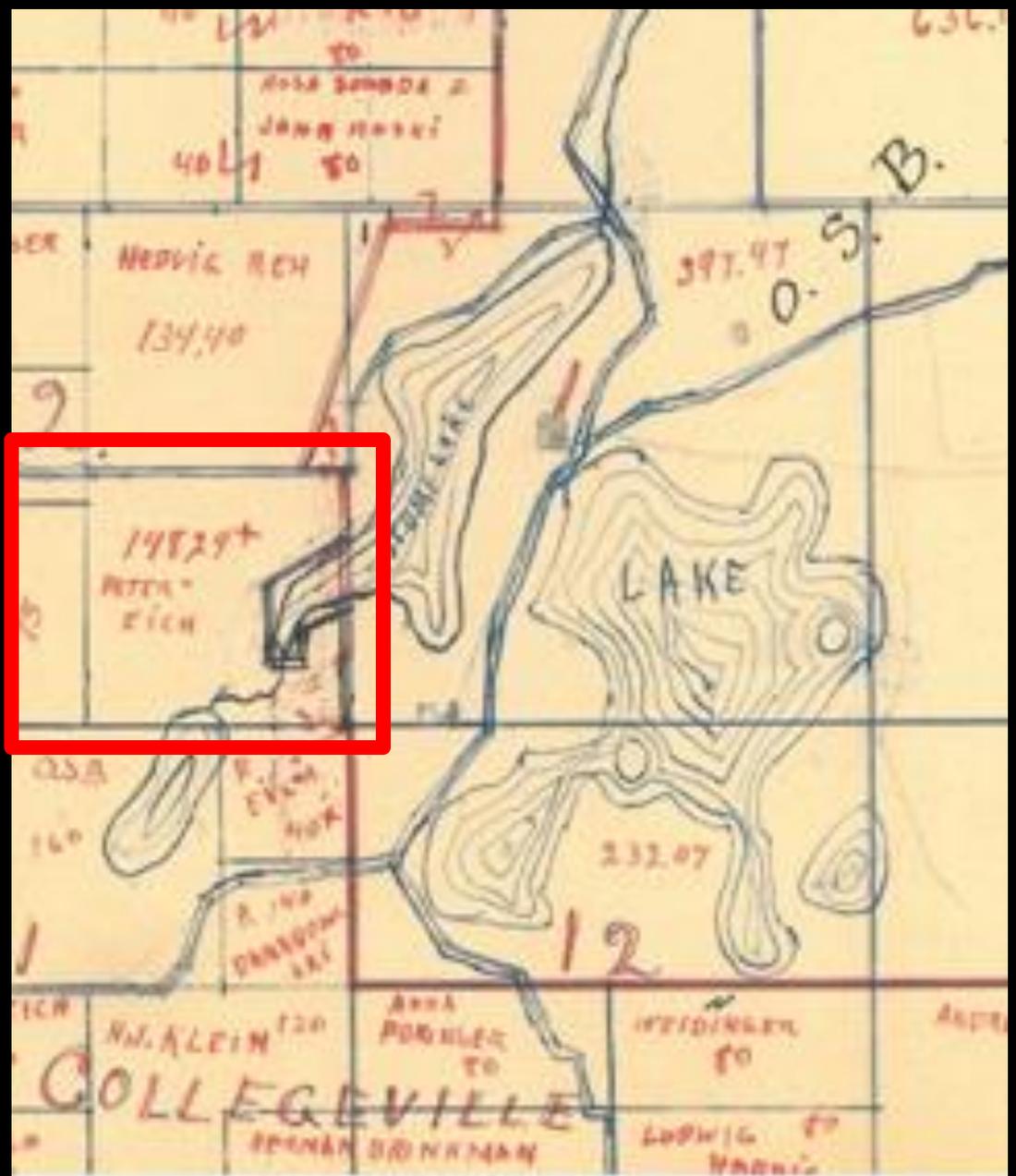
Schwegel

Walz

Brinkman

May 1429
from an
old map
Dr. J.

In 1866, the year the Benedictine Monks moved from St. Cloud to Collegeville, a skilled carpenter and farmer, Peter Eich, also settled along the banks of Stumpf Lake.



In 1866, the year the Benedictine Monks moved from St. Cloud to Collegeville, a skilled carpenter and farmer, Peter Eich, also settled along the banks of Stumpf Lake.

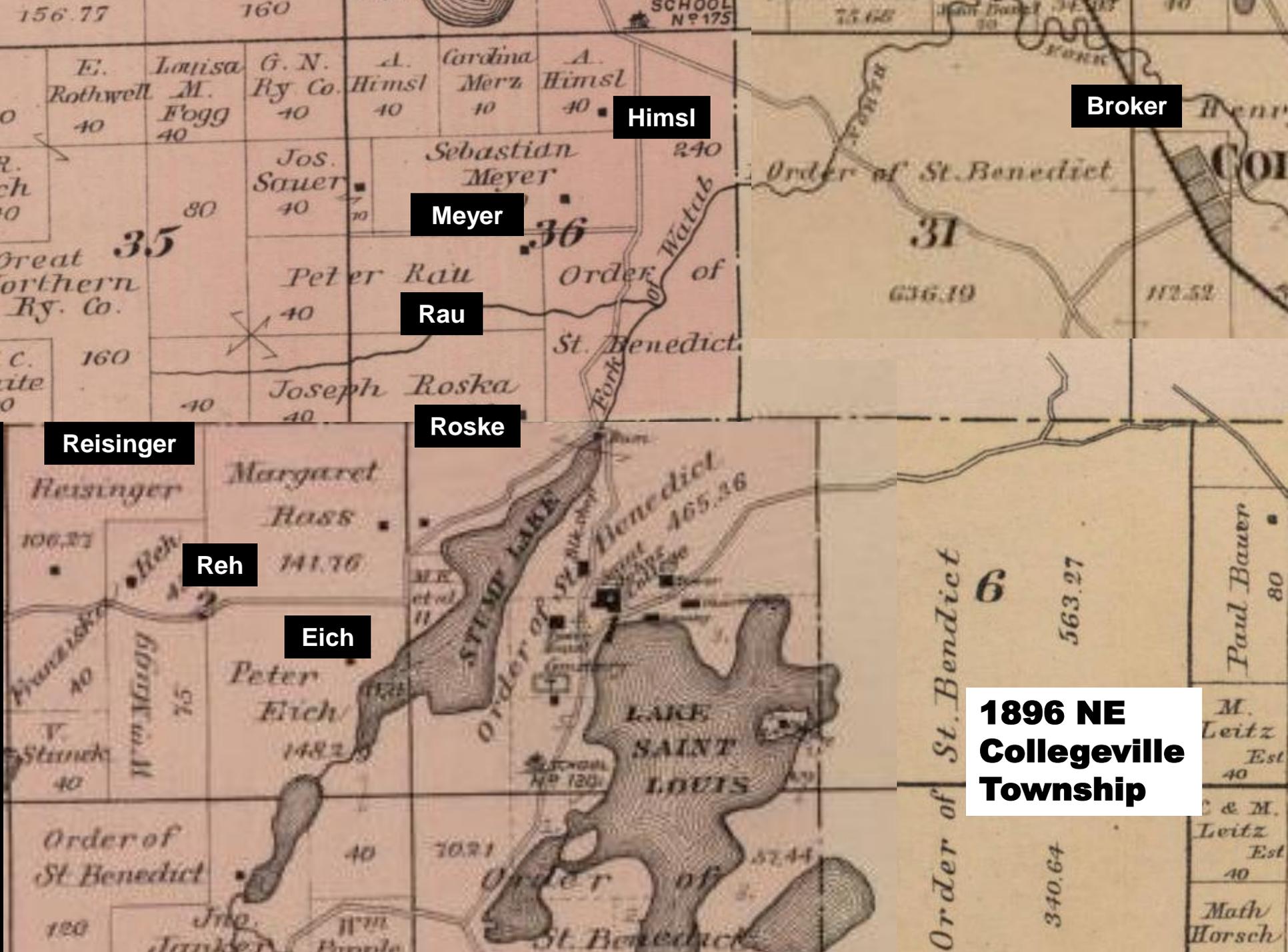


1896 map



On December 12th, 1875, in response to a request from the 22 settlers Mr. Eich had gathered together, Bishop Rupert Seidenbusch, OSB, former Abbot at St. John's and the newly-appointed vicar apostolic of northern Minnesota, established the parish at Collegeville.





Himsl

Broker

Meyer

Rau

Roske

Reisinger

Reh

Eich

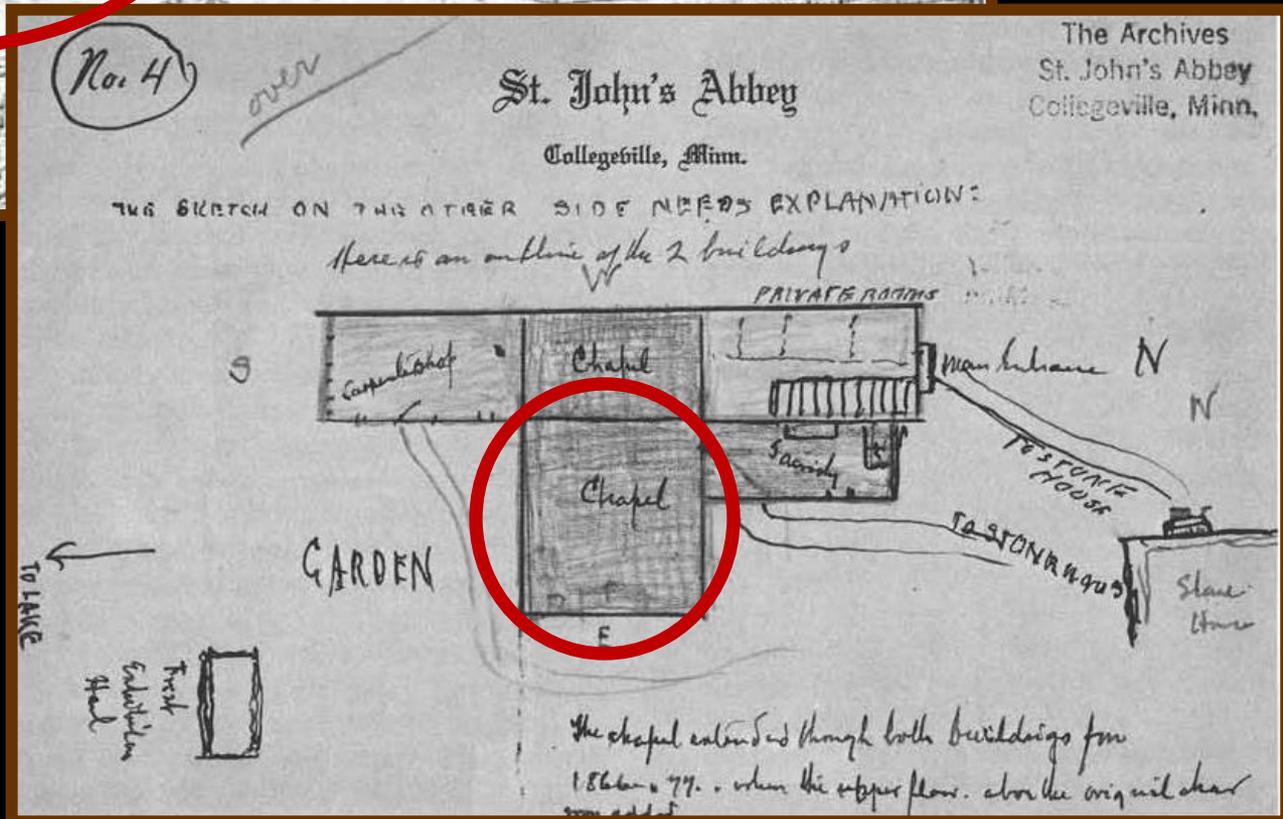
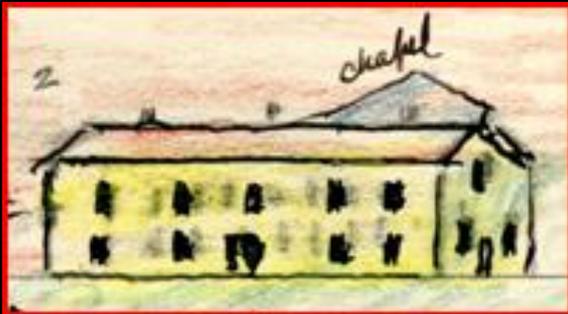
1896 NE
Collegeville
Township



1896 plat
book of
Stearns
County



Frame House:
 built in 1864,
 moved in 1867 and
 razed in 1886







The "Old Stone House," 1865 (left), and the beginnings of the Quadrangle (right)

Hauling wood for fuel across the frozen Lake Sagatagan. c. 1884.



The Old Stone House, damaged by fire, was torn down in 1893. One year later, a tornado hit the same spot.

The Abbey (right)
and the Monastery
(below) both
maintained farms to
feed themselves and
their students...



...with help from
some of the local
people whom
they hired.



Lay workers were needed at Saint John's almost from the start



...and
at Saint
Ben's, too



Sacred Heart Chapel construction, 1912

An aerial photograph of a campus. A street labeled "Minnesota Street" runs diagonally from the top right towards the center. To the west of this street, there are several large, white, arched farm buildings and other structures. To the east, there are more campus buildings, including a large, multi-story building. The foreground is dominated by a large, dark, rectangular area, possibly a field or a large building. The overall scene is a mix of agricultural and institutional architecture.

Minnesota Street

**The farm buildings at St. Ben's
were mostly on the west side of the
campus**

photo ca. 1940s

Dues For 1949

	May	June	July	Aug.
Bruns, John	Pd ✓	Pd	Pd	Pd
Elson, Herman	3 Pd	Pd	Pd ^{1.00} x	
Humphrey, Don				
COOPER Everett	Pd ✓	Pd	Pd	Pd
Kremer, Ben	Pd ✓	Pd	Pd x	Pd
Lodemeir, George	Pd ✓	Pd	Pd	Pd
Locnikar, Sib				
Lenke, Bob	Pd	Pd	Pd	Pd
Leemreis, Ben	Pd ✓	Pd	Pd x	Pd
Martini, Peter				
Meyer, Tony	Pd ✓	Pd		
Morgal, Paul	Pd ✓	Pd		
Meyer, Leander	Pd ✓	Pd		
Notch, Fred				
Pfannenstein, Al	Pd	Pd		
Pfannenstein, Martin	2 Pd ¹⁵	Pd		
Poepping, Jerry	Pd ✓	Pd		
Polipnick, Al				
Reber, John	Pd ✓	Pd		
Rademacher, Peter				
Reber, Mike	* Pd x	Pd	Pd ^{15x}	
Schadig, Oscar	Pd ✓	Pd	Pd x	Pd
Schindler, Albert	Pd ✓	Pd	Pd	Pd
Schneider, Herman	Pd ✓	Pd	Pd	Pd
Schindler, Joe	Pd ✓	Pd	Pd x	Pd
Timmers, Loren	3			
Waldherr, Joe	Pd ✓	Pd	Pd	Pd
Welle, Tony	Pd ✓	Pd x	Pd	Pd
Weyrens, Joe	Pd ✓	Pd	Pd	Pd
Wilberg, Ed	Pd ✓	Pd	Pd x	Pd
Zwack, Roman	Pd ✓	Pd	Pd	Pd

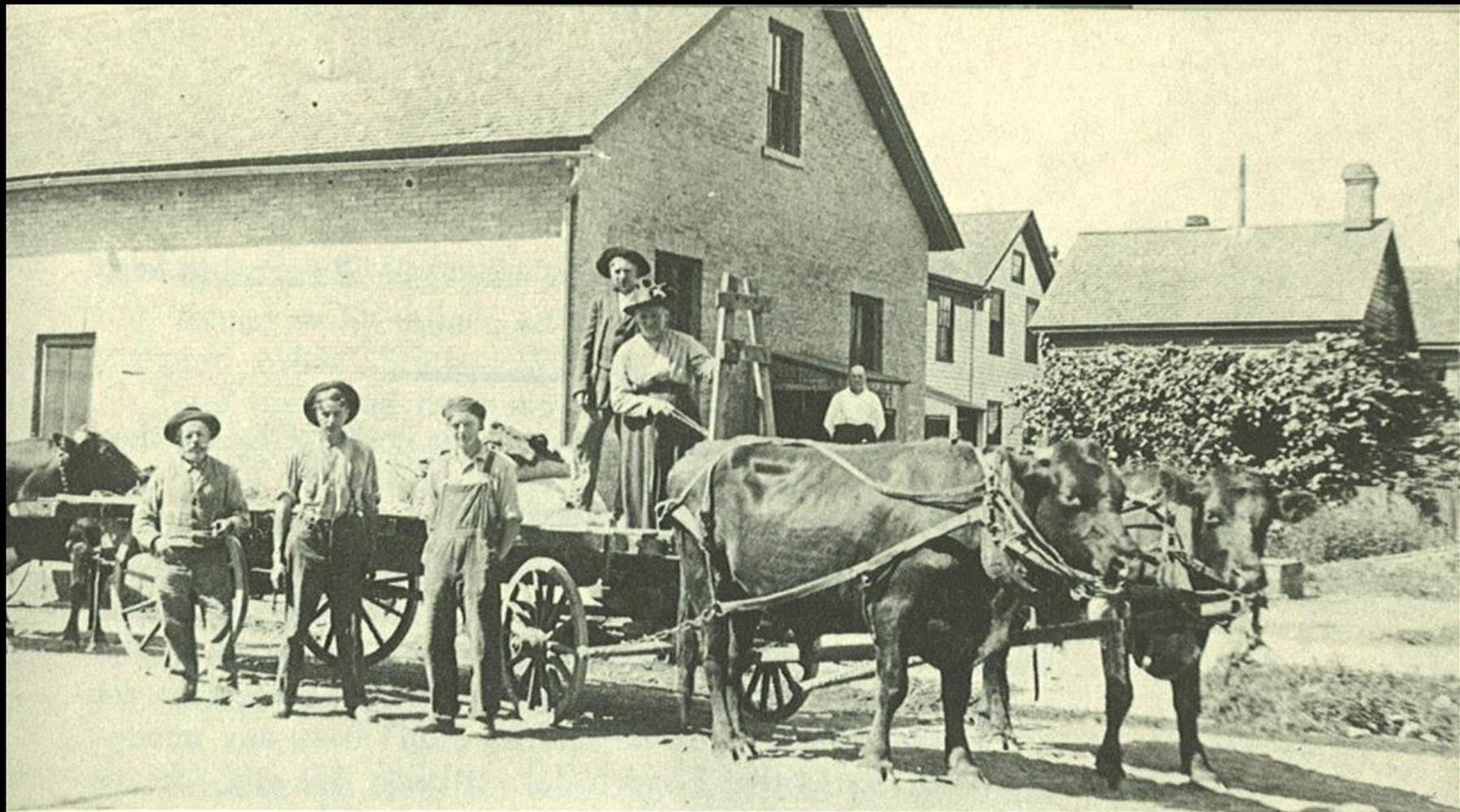
St. Benedict's

WORKMEN'S SOCIAL CLUB

The Workmen's Social Club held its first meeting on March 19, 1948, the feast of St. Joseph, in their recreation room at 10:15 a.m.

Prior Benedict's account book continues with the names of the workmen, their jobs and wages: August 13. George Fruth was hired. August 21. Bartholomaeus Zeiler was paid \$23.00 as wages. Joseph Broker and Andreas Fuchs either worked or supplied materials.

October. Zimmermann worked as a handlanger--hod carrier. Damien Schwinghammer, Anton Bork (or Bock), John Dietrich, Andreas Fuchs, and John Obermiller also worked on me at this time. Anton "Slavonier" was a Slovenian employed during this month who received this last name because of his nationality. Frank Sand was paid \$90.00 for working three months. Peter Eich helped with the threshing for one day and with the hay-making for five days and received \$1.25 per day.

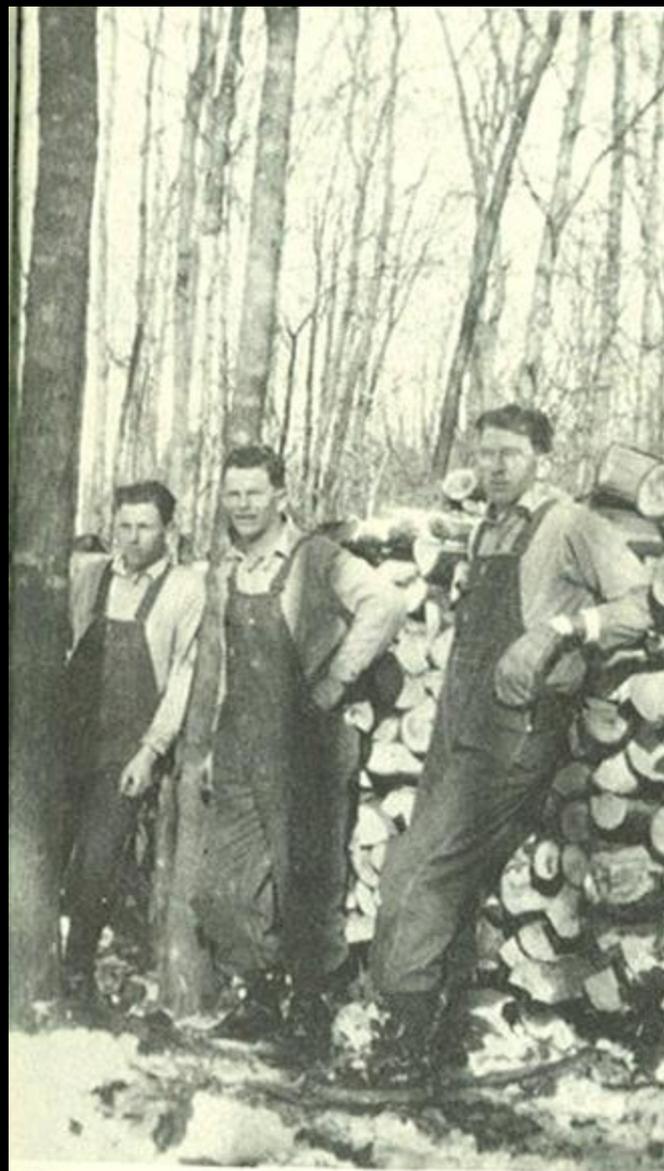


Matthew Reisinger taking team of oxen to St. Joseph. Left to right: Matthew, John, Conrad—on wagon, Rupert and Mary Reisinger, Peter Winter in back.

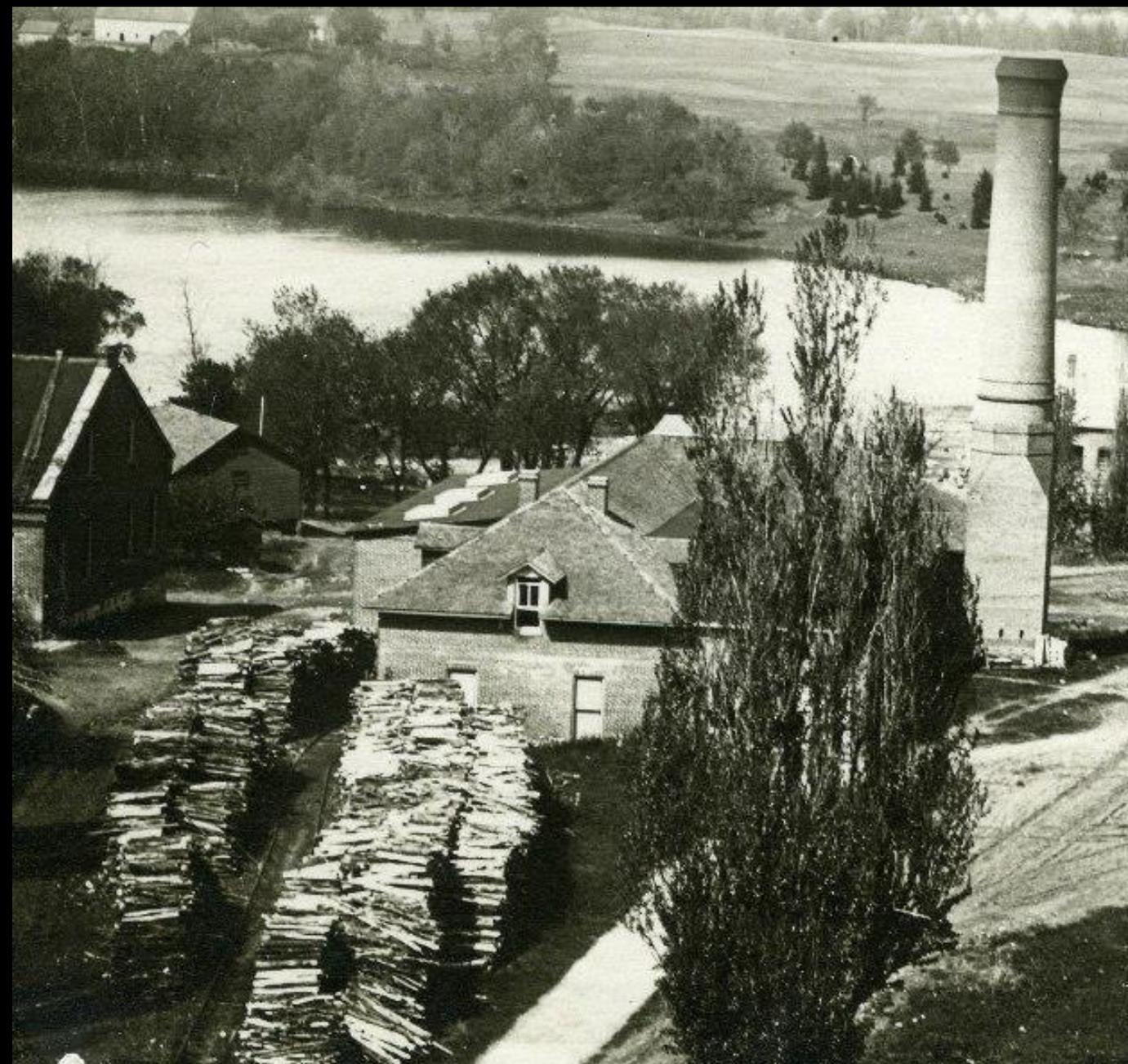


I used to cut wood at St. John's for \$1.50 a cord to keep up our church payments.

One year we cut 160 cords of wood for St. John's. You know there is a trick in cutting wood. The more knots you had the better it was. When you split the wood you put the knot down; that way it made the pile higher.



*Roman, Leander, and
Wilfred Klein*



1888
The original
power plant –
And many cords
of wood!

A HISTORY OF THE ST. JOHN'S CARPENTRY SHOP

The practice of carpentry within the St. John's community is as old as the community

SAINT JOHN'S FURNITURE 1874-1974



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY OCTOBER 9-30 1974

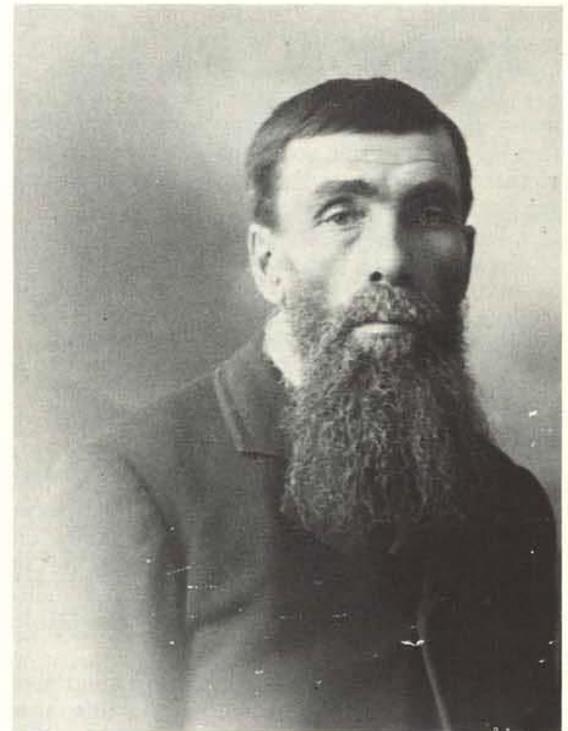
As monks arrived in the community, they began to create the furniture for their cabins along the shore. Initially they had no place for the hand of the monks (17-1859), the structure was made into a room enclosed with hay and straw. In doing mission affairs of the monks, Benno built the first mon-

ear the monks in Indianbush," the present proper- had to build bins of tamar- and sod, were of St. John's the same spirit environment seek God to- clear part of rocky soil and primitive frame of a common tributions of in memory.

A little more information has survived from the time when the community moved south from the Indianbush and settled permanently on the northern shore of Lake Sagatagan. The Old Stone House was constructed in 1865-66, in what is now the monastic gardens. Brother

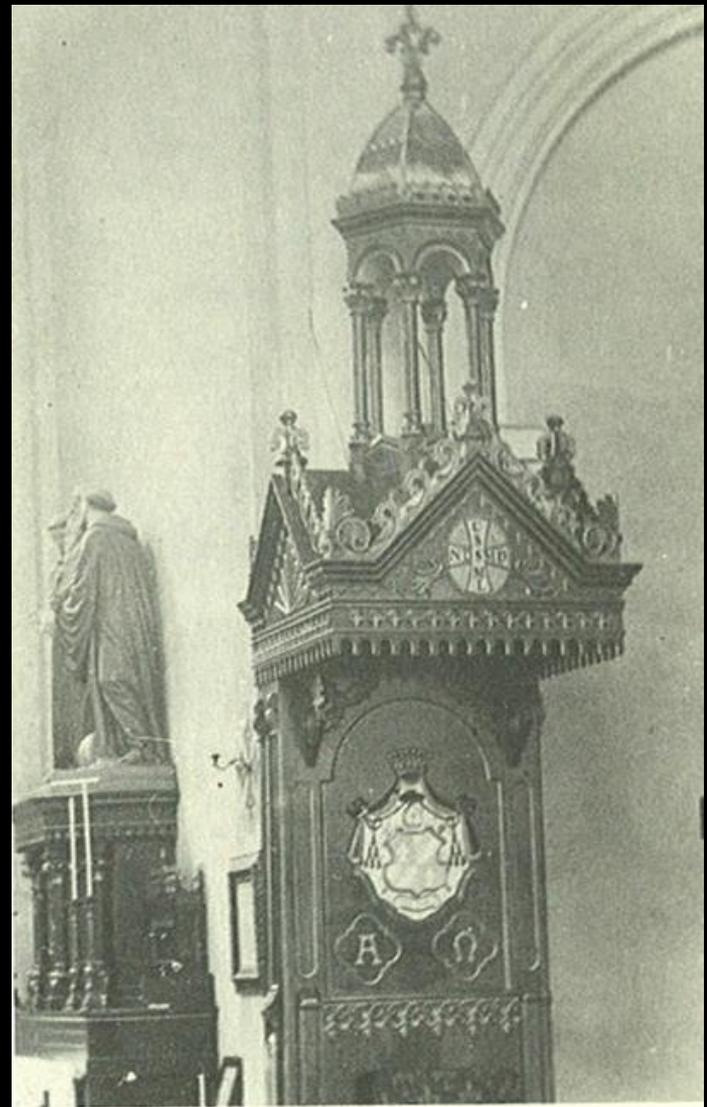
Placid Brixius (1831-1871) worked on the structure along with a number of men from nearby farms. Peter Eich (1834-1920), long a craftsman in the carpenter shop, was among them, earning a hefty \$.025 for each foot of lumber he fastened.

The old frame house from the Indianbush was moved to the new location in 1867. The chapel and housing for the monks occupied most of this modest structure, but significantly one room was set aside for the use of the carpenters. It was a "dingy apartment," as



Peter Eich

Peter Eich family



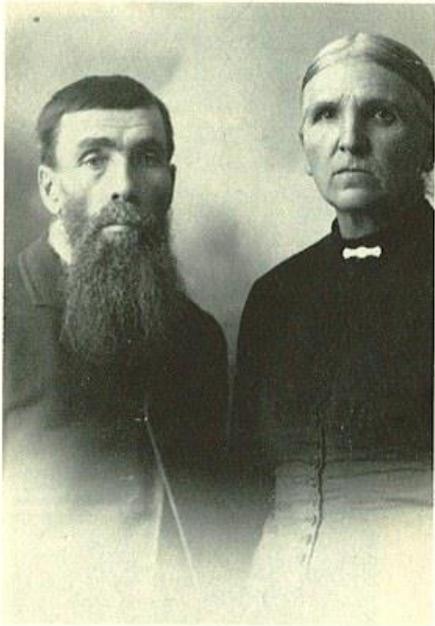
*Abbot's throne by
Peter Eich*

...and do you remember the wooden shrine in the Parish Center hall?

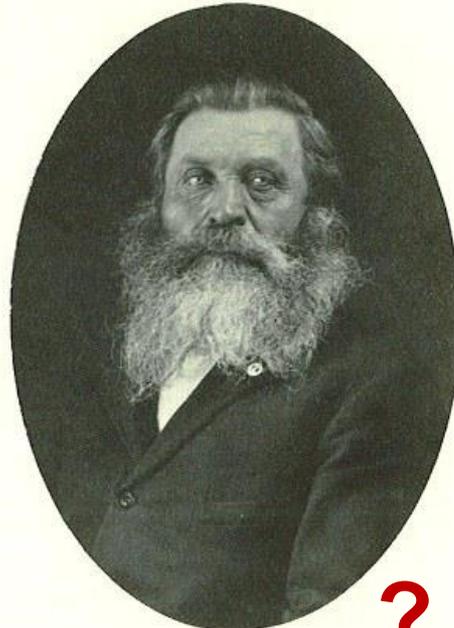
In 1875, as in 1975, the parishioners formed part of the work crew which keeps the Colledgeville scene running. A century ago Peter Eich, George Fruth, John Obermueller, and Andrew Fuchs were among the first St. John's lay employees. In the St. John's records, these names, especially Peter Eich, come up repeatedly. The books show that this founding father "fastened a thousand feet of lumber for the 'old stone house' at \$.02 per foot." Many parishioners worked with Peter Eich, some as land carriers, stone splitters and carpenters; their basic pay, \$1.25 a day.

*The work-scene
at St. John's*

Eich, Fruth, Obermueller, Fuchs ...
Sam & Adam Philippi and John Schwinghammer
are also listed in *Scriptorium* as
builders of the Old Stone House



Mr. and Mrs. Peter Eich



*Peter and Philomena Eich (great-grand-
parents), Theresa Gretsch (grandmother),
Mary Brinkman (mother), and Andrew
Brinkman (son) in 1910*

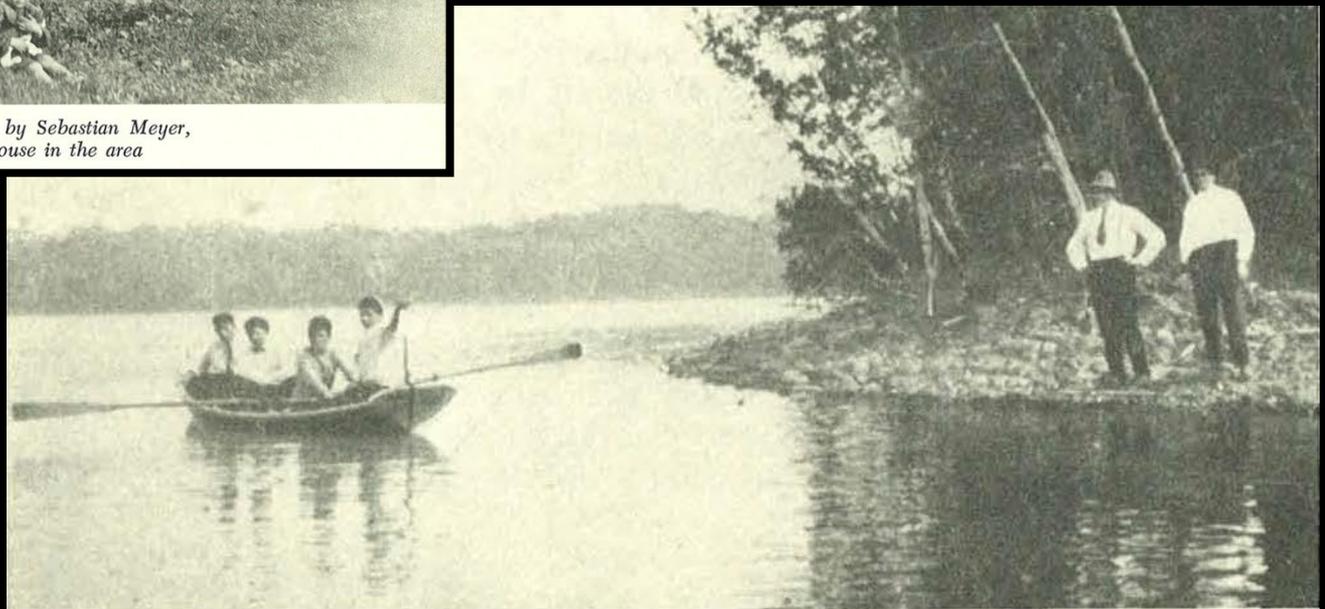


*Log house built in 1890, by Sebastian Meyer,
possibly the oldest house in the area*

From the list of Founders of the Parish:

Joseph Tom
George Fruth
George Knoblach
John Groetsch
Nicholas Theisen
Joseph Maier
Mrs. Magdalena Sollinger
Peter Thielmann

Alexius Hoffmann
refers to Meier's Bay
in his book about St.
John's first 50 years



*Meyer's Bay, so named after **Joe Meyer** charter
parishioner who lived on a little hill southeast of
Robert Pflueger's home.*

Meier's / Meyer's Bay

Rupp's?



View of Lake Sagatagan from Observatory Hill, 1886, *Worship & Work* p.70g

Rupp's Store – the “Little Linneman's” (*Stones & Hills* p. 90)

THE RECORD.

279

— Mr. G. A. Rupp, formerly of St. Cloud, is erecting a new general store within a stone's throw from the cemetery.

The Fourth Latin class held their picnic in Rupp's grove, May 22, in spite of the rain and hail which in the early afternoon threatened to dampen the ardor of the Freshmen.

— A riddle: What is it that sounds like beer, looks like beer, tastes like beer, but is not beer?—Solution at Rupp's.

Other text from *The Record*, 1901, 1904, and 1906, respectively



Rupp - 1915

Mr. Rupp's carriage & popcorn cart, ca. 1909



To be continued...

~~Part 1: January 26~~

Part 2: April 27

Part 3: October 12

Compiled in 2014, 2019-2020, and 2025
by Peggy Landwehr Roske, (retired) CSB+SJU Archivist.
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Resources used

The Archives of Saint John's Abbey, Saint John's University, the College of Saint Benedict, and Saint Benedict's Monastery

Stones and hills = Steine und Huegel: Reflections, St. John the Baptist Parish, 1875-1975

“A Visual History of Saint Benedict's and Saint John's. PowerPoint, August 2004, assembled by Br. Alan Reed OSB for the Heritage Project of the Vocation Project with research by and assistance from the archivists of these communities, S. Ruth Boedigheimer OSB and Br. David Klingeman OSB.

Ascheman Collection: Centennial Collection of Photos of Saint John's from the Abbey and University Archives

<http://stjohnthebaptistparish.org/about-the-parish/history/>

CSB/SJU website and assorted other sites and sources as noted on the slides