
Die Deutsche Gefe

The German Corner: #19

Cranberry Prairie

David A. Hoying

Church of SAINT JOHN the Baptist ~ 1836

MARIA STEIN ~ 1833/1837

Sankt Johann der Täufer Kirche ~ 1836

Sankt Johann/Saint John/Sunt' Joan ~ 1833/1837

Three emigrants from Baden: Johann Heinrich Stelzer, Johann Leistenschneider, and Johann Thomas, founded the settlement of Saint John on 13 October 1833. The original village was not platted until 24 September 1838. The first Mass was celebrated by Father Heinrich Damian Juncker on 24 June 1836 in the Leistenschneider home. The first church, a blockhouse, built on land purchased in 1835, was dedicated on 9 April 1837. The next church, a structure in the neo-Classical style (35' x 60', 55' tower), was built by Johann Anton Göhr. The laying of the cornerstone was on 7 June 1849 and the dedication of it occurred on 13 October 1850. An addition to the east end of the building in 1837, enlarged the church and gave it transepts (50' x 40'). The nationally known Chicago architect, Adolph Druiding was employed in 1888 to design the present neo-Romanesque style brick church (58' x 137', 180' tower). The day of its cornerstone laying was on 5 May 1889 and the celebration of its dedication was held on 17 November 1891. The name of the village was that of Saint John, but with the establishment of a post office, the place name of the convent, Maria Stein, was used.

Daughter Parishes: none.

Church of SAINT ROSE of Lima ~ 1839

SAINT ROSE ~ 1842/1854

Sankt Rosa von Lima Kirche ~ 1839 Rosengarten/Rosegarden/Sankt Rosa/Rosengaorn ~ 1842/1854

The parish was established in 1839, possibly on 2 June. Mass was celebrated periodically in the home of Joseph Kleinhenz. In 1842, land was purchased from Johann Heinrich Schlarman, and there in 1844, a frame church was erected and then dedicated on 24 November 1844 by Father Louis Navarron. As like all the brick churches of the time, the next church (42' x 75'), was built in the neo-Classical style. The cornerstone of this church was laid on 15 August 1852, and the dedicating of the church took place on 18 June 1854. The present church (63' x 115', 133' tower), also of brick, but in the neo-Gothic style, was dedicated on 8 September 1912. Andrew DeCurtins was the architect of this church and the interior was decorated by Father Paulinus Trost, C.P.P.S., whose murals still grace its walls. The village of Rosegarden was platted by Archbishop John Baptist Purcell on 29 June 1854. The name was originally given to the village by the Archbishop because of a profusion of wild roses that grew near the site of the church.

Daughter Parishes: **Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary** – *Cassella* – 1847; **Saint Sebastian** – *Saint Sebastian* – 1851.

From whence they came... PROVINCE OF WESTPHALIA, KINGDOM OF PRUSSIA

Not Known: Dreses, Heckfort, Heckler, Langenhoff, Mergentrup, Reising, Rohler, Sanning, Tiegies / Tigges, Uhlenhake

From whence they came... KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS

Dahlemann, Fiely, Halsema, Hogenkamp, Hoimann, Hoostemann, Kevelder, Koke, Osterholt, Pauels, Platvoet, Schliemers, Spoltmann, van Brunckhorst, van Delft, van den Bosch, van den Brock, van den Hövel, van der Gohr, van den Harter, van der Horst, van Erp, van Oss, van Plassendal
