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Football by the Quad? Mystery of the Uprights

Peggy L. Roske

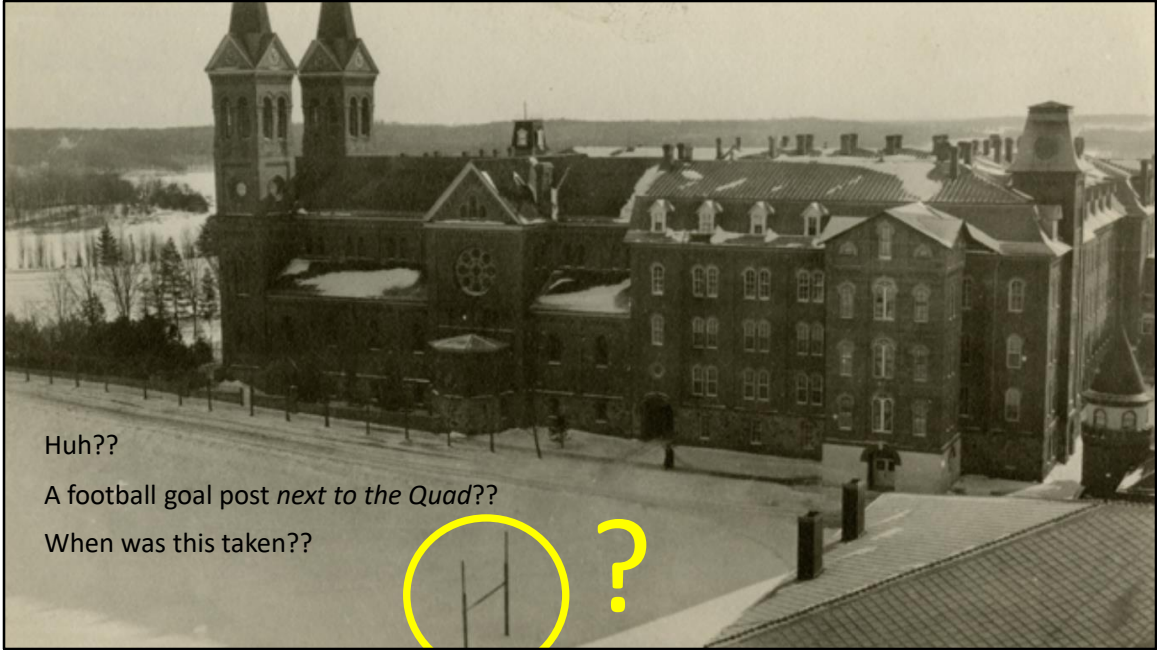
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Huh??

A football goal post *next to the Quad*??

When was this taken??

Photo from Stearns History Museum
"Mystery of the Uprights: Football by the Quad?"

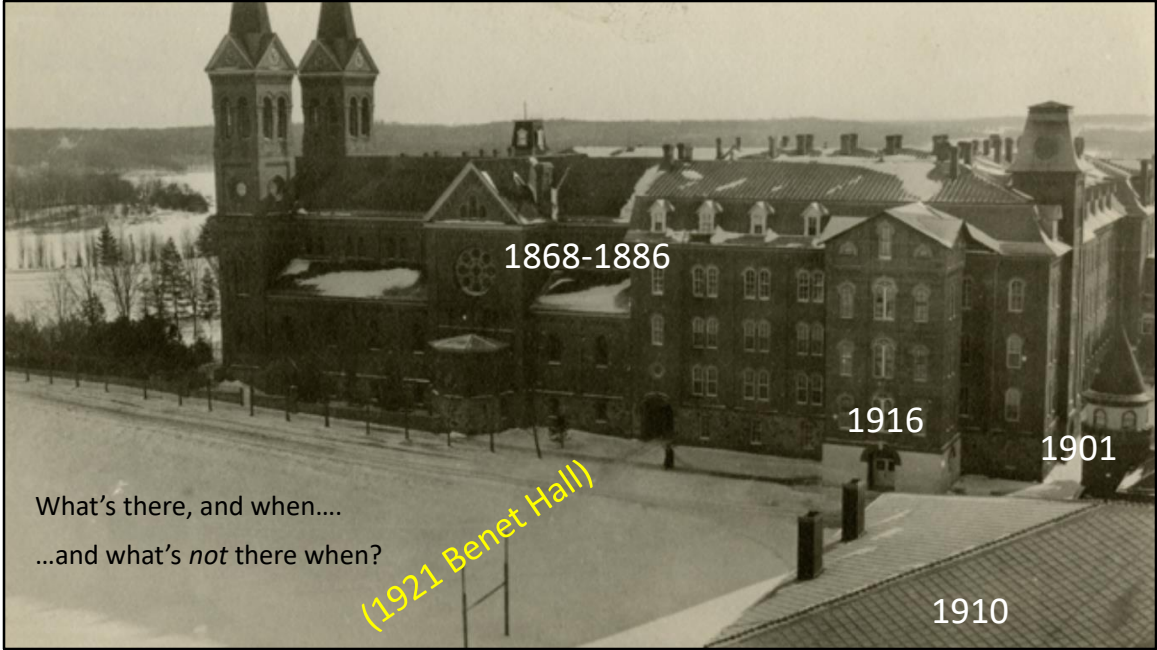


Photo from Stearns History Museum

Dates from Buildings & Places at SJU, <https://www.csbsju.edu/sju-archives/sjuhistory/sjubuildings>

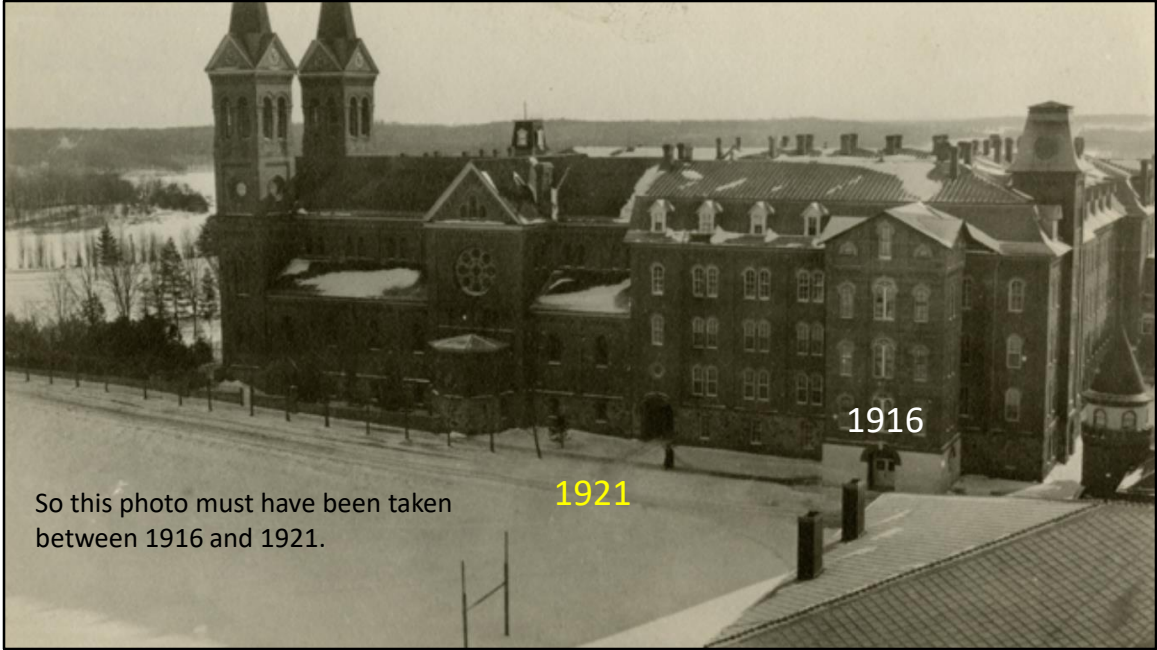
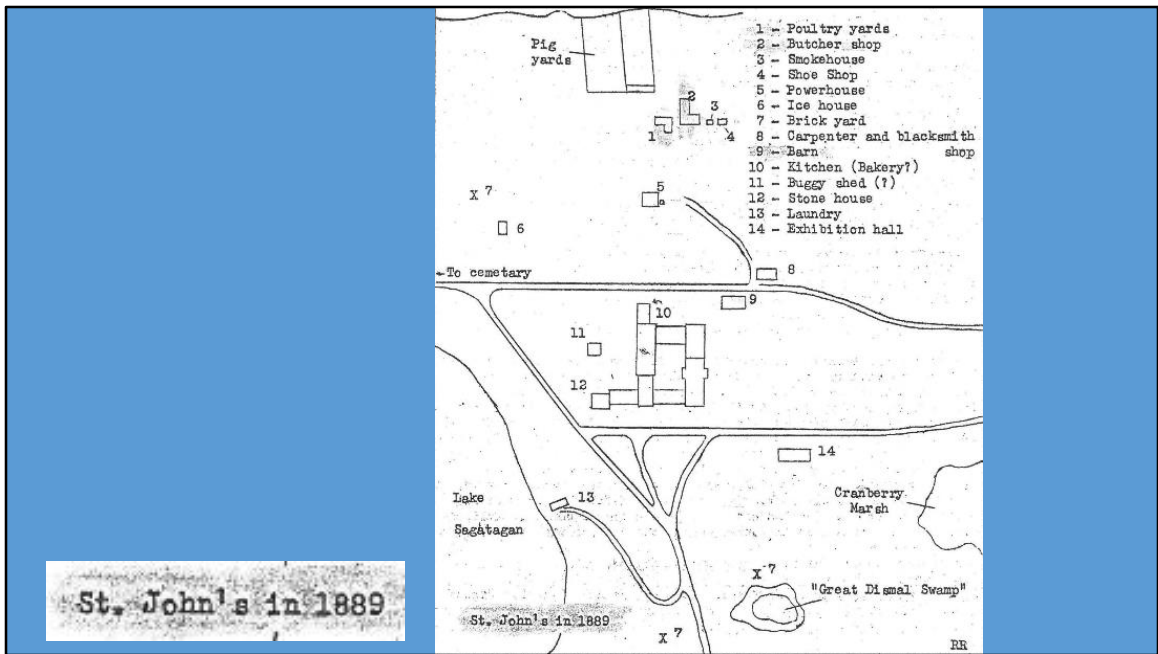


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Roloff, Fr. Ronald O.S.B. "Now It Is In Building," *Scriptorium*, Spring 1946, p. 69-70:

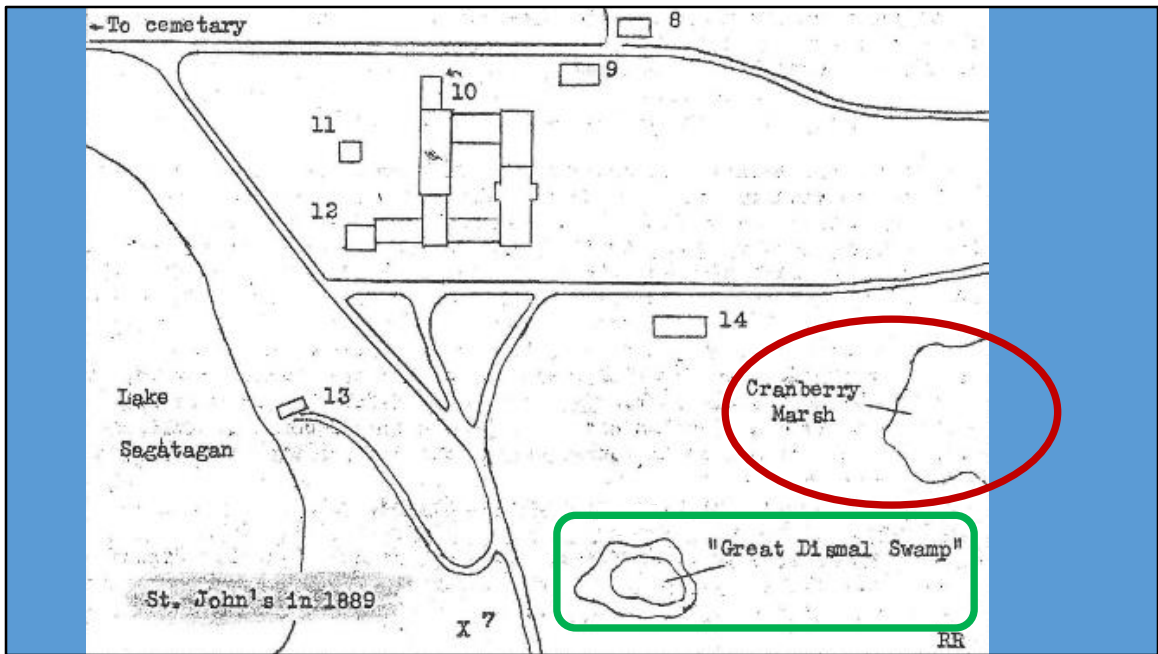
1908 - April-May: the cranberry marsh was drained and made into an athletic field 800'x 240' (AA VII 35). Heretofore all athletic activities had been carried on north of the quadrangle--on either the upper or the lower fields--or on the "campus"--the field lying east of the main buildings, stretching to the "great dismal swamp".

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/207> "Now It Is In Building"
p. 69-70



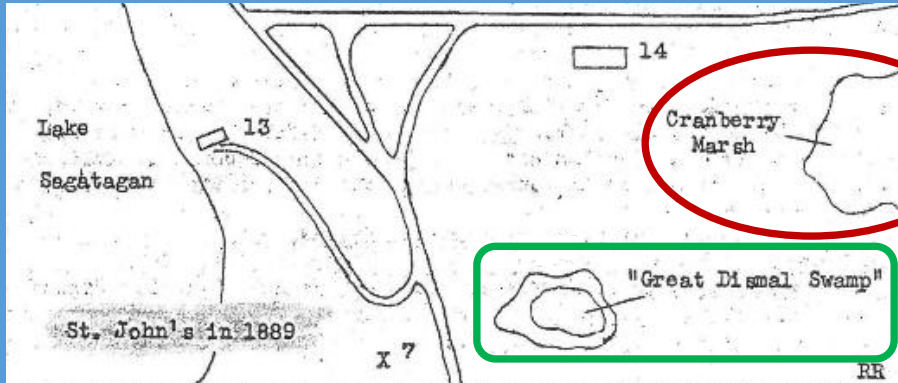
1889 Conceptual map by Ronald Roloff, OSB

<https://www.csbsju.edu/images/SJU%20Archives/1889Drawing.jpg>



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<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/207> "Now It Is In Building"
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1889 Conceptual map by Ronald Roloff, OSB

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In 1909, the first SJU football field, referred to as the 'Natural Bowl,' was completed...

However, just a year later, football at SJU was abolished on the grounds that it promoted "unfriendliness towards other schools."

'The Bowl' stood vacant for ten years until 1920, when the Johnnies joined the MIAC.

- from the [Football Field \(building\) page](#)

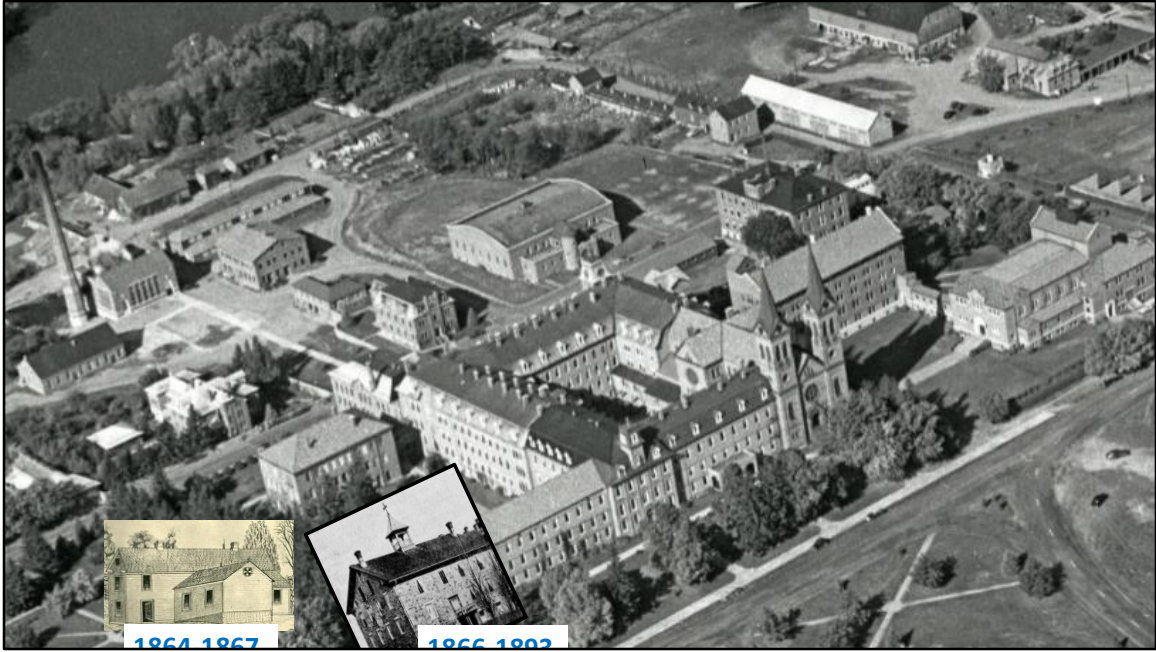
<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/207> "Now It Is In Building"
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So the photo would be further proof that football was indeed still being played at St. John's between 1916 and 1921, but in the open space just north of the Quad, not in the "Natural Bowl" nor against other schools.



So football was indeed still being played at St. John's between 1916 and 1921, but in the open space just north of the Quad, not in the "Natural Bowl" nor against other schools.

Photo from Stearns History Museum
Dates from Buildings & Places at SJU, <https://www.csbsju.edu/sju-archives/sjuhistory/sjubuildings>



<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/6309>

Aerial view ca1948 B&W looking NW

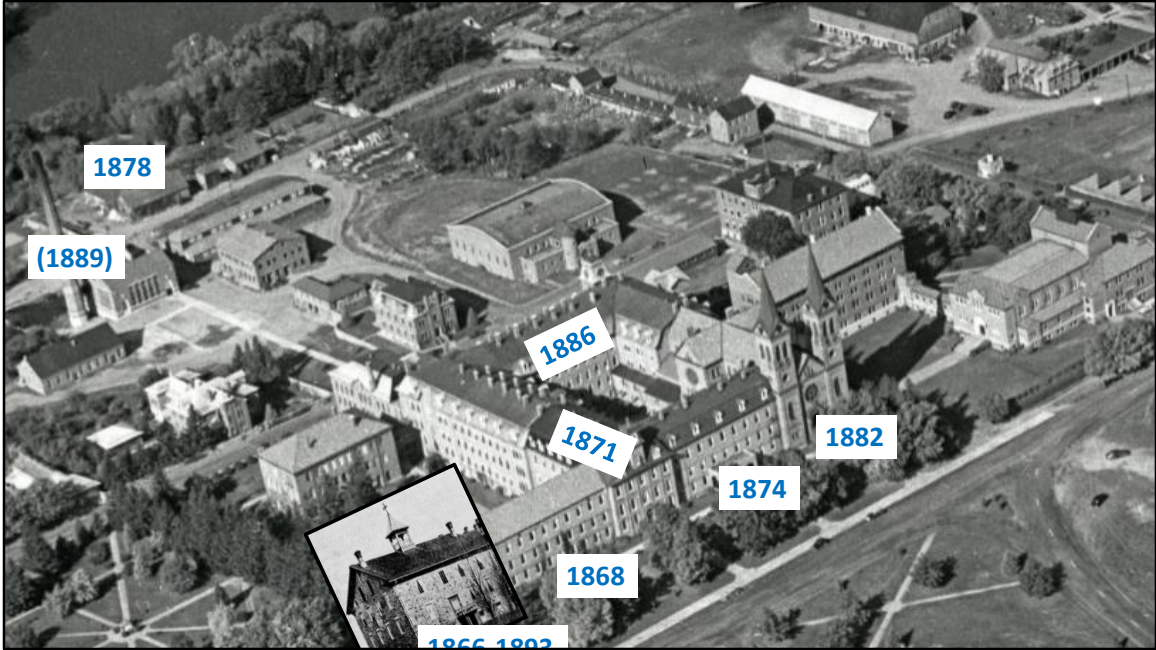
According to a handwritten notation in the 1949 Sagatagan yearbook, this photo was taken in 1948 by M. Hall.



<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/6309>

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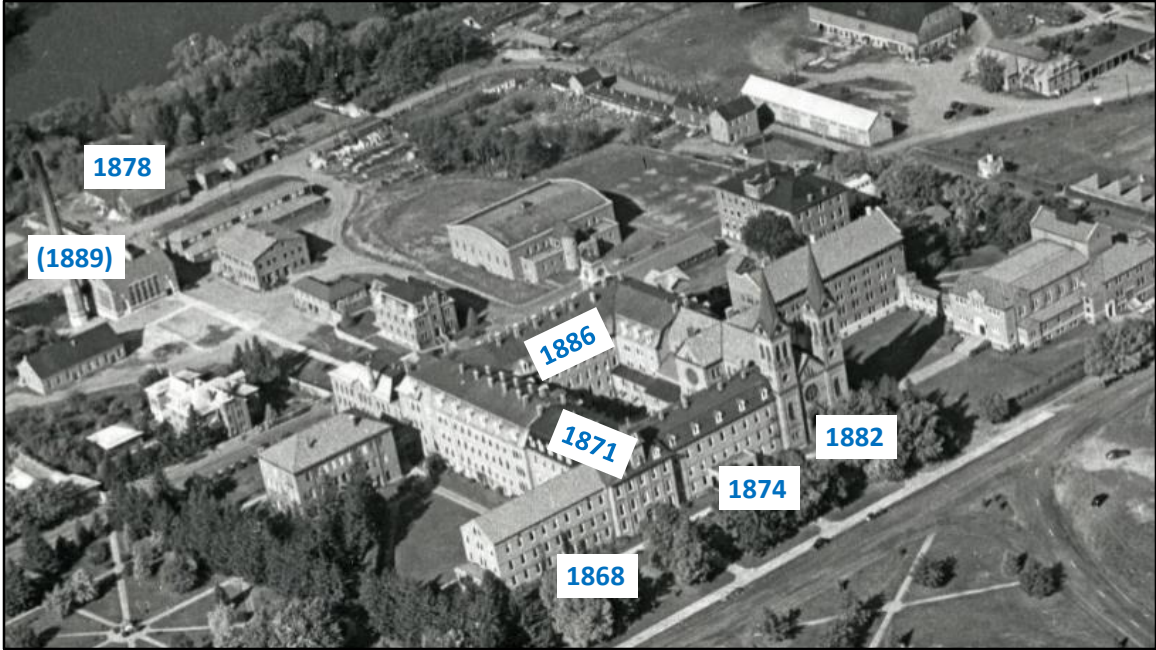
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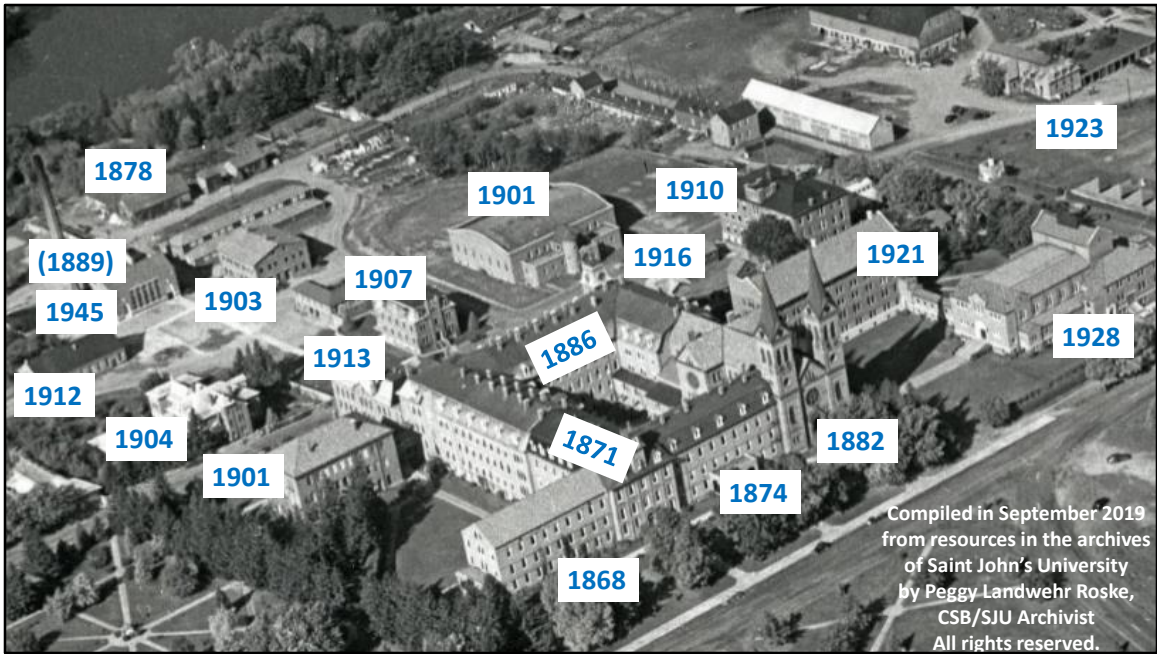
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