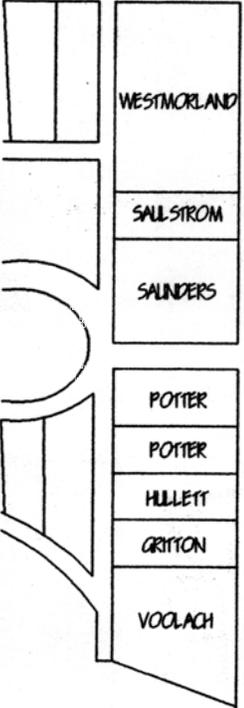
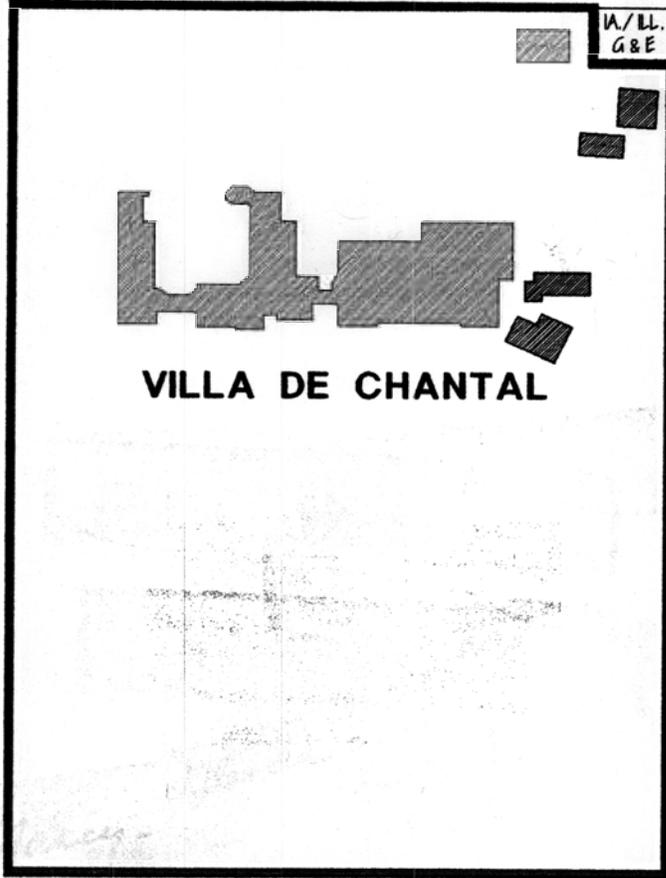


13TH AVENUE



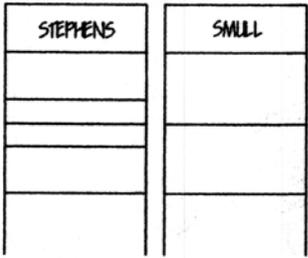
20TH STREET



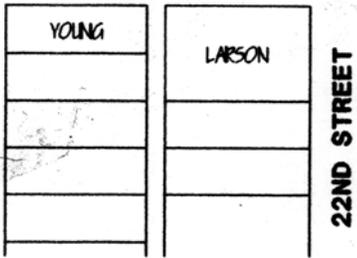
R.I. PARKS & RECREATION

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

16TH AVENUE

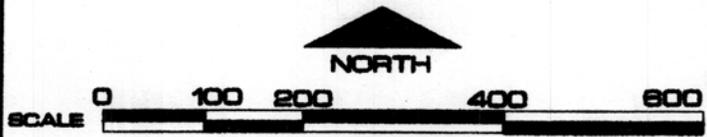


21ST STREET



22ND STREET

CITY OF R.I.



CITY OF
ROCK ISLAND
COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
PLANNING AND REDEVELOPMENT

LANDMARK NOMINATION

LEGEND
— SUBJECT PROPERTY
VILLA DE CHANTAL
2000-16TH AVE.

94-2

DR. BY: L.R.O.
APPR. BY: J.D./ANC



ROCK ISLAND PRESERVATION COMMISSION
NOMINATION FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION

CASE # 94-2 DATE 1-3-94 TIME 3:15 p.m.

Common Street Address of Property: 2000 16th Avenue, Rock Island, Il

Name and Address of Property Owner:

Villa de Chantal - Sisters of the Visitation

Please attach a simple statement setting forth the reasons for requesting designation. Please refer to the criteria listed on the reverse side. (These are excerpted from the Rock Island Preservation Ordinance.)

Name(s) and Address(es) of Applicant(s):

Rock Island Preservation Society

Rock Island Preservation Society

Suzanne Curry, President
Signature

Suzanne Curry, President
Name

902 23rd Street Rock Island, Il 61201
Address

309-786-1902
Telephone

Please attach the following:

1. Legal description of property (available from abstract or County Recorder of Deeds office).
2. Map indicating location of property proposed for designation (assistance available from Planning and Redevelopment Division).
3. Recent photograph (copies of old photographs or drawings may also be included).
4. Indicate whether or not the owner is aware of the proposed designation.

OWNER IS NOT AWARE OF PROPOSED DESIGNATION

NOMINATION FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION

VILLA DE CHANTAL

2000 16th Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

NOMINATION CRITERIA

Criteria (1): The Sisters of the Visitation and their academy, the Villa de Chantal, have significant value as part of cultural heritage of this community.

Criteria (3): The Villa de Chantal is representative of the Gothic Revival architectural style which is very appropriate for a religious order and school.

Criteria (4): The Villa de Chantal is the most extensive design project of local architect George Stauduhar to be built in Rock Island. Stauduhar's status as a master architect has been validated by the National Register of Historic Places designation of his family home at 1608 21st Street, Rock Island, Illinois in 1982 and St. Teresa Hall and Sacred Heart Chapel as contributing structures in the St. Benedict's Convent and College Historic District in St. Joseph, Minnesota in 1989.

Criteria (5): The Villa de Chantal has been a visual landmark situated high on the bluff of Rock Island since 1900.

CRITERIA (1)

HISTORY OF THE ORDER OF THE VISITATION

It was St. Francis de Sales who founded an order of cloistered nuns named in honor of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin. Originally, he did not have a religious order in mind but wanted women to lead a contemplative life and to visit the sick and the poor, thus the name "Visitation". A young widow, Baroness de Chantal, with four children, met Bishop de Sales through her brother, the Archbishop of Bourges. Time passed, her children were older and Madame Jane Frances de Chantal (later canonized as Saint) was chosen as the leader of the new religious community. The congregation of four was canonically established on Trinity Sunday, 6 June 1610, in their house near Annecy, France. There were 170 foundations in fifteen countries when the Visitation Order held its tercentenary celebration.

The official date used for the beginning of the Order of Visitation in the United States is 1816. Since its beginning, it was one of few orders which received not only virgins, but also widows, aged,

crippled and the sick within its ranks. The order was founded for one purpose and that was to be contemplative. The needs of the times, however, forced many of the monasteries to open within their cloisters, schools for young girls. The Annecy house had, along with the others in France, been dissolved during the revolution but later were allowed to reopen on the promise that the sisters would establish schools for the local children and be no expense to the new government. The midwest bishops had requested Sisters of the Visitation to come to this area for several years before their request was granted. Six sisters (Visitandines) from France arrived in Keokuk, Iowa in 1853 under the guidance of Bishop Loras and Father de Villars. Their academy opened in 1855. Due to many unfortunate incidents, the nuns decided there was no future in Keokuk and accepted an offer from the bishop in Kentucky to open a house and a school in Maysville. The community was canonically established 6 June 1865. For more that thirty years, the Visitation sisters had been in Maysville and their community had grown greatly. There was no dissatisfaction with the people or clergy, but with the climate. Twenty-six deaths which were mostly young and valuable members had been caused by consumption. Bishop Spalding of Peoria, Illinois, responded to a request from the Kentucky bishop to find the sisters a place. They were offered a choice of Moline, Peoria, or Rock Island. Mother Frances Borgia and a companion/advisor chose Rock Island as the most desirable location for their new academy.

THE VISITANDINES IN ROCK ISLAND

Bringing the convent bells from Maysville, the Visitandines established their first school in Rock Island in 1898. The Reynolds house became a temporary school with the third floor becoming two dormitories, one for the sisters and one for the boarders. For the time being, the day school would receive boys to the age of twelve, as well as girls. The Visitandines were also going to teach in a parochial school opening later in the year. The academy opened on 8 September, was incorporated under state laws, and given the name Villa de Chantal. The Villa was very near the Sacred Heart Church on Fifth Avenue and next door to the Cable homestead. The students called it "2939". The community stayed at 2939 for nearly two years while looking for something more suited to their needs.

Bells on Two Rivers by Katherine Burton describes the site selection for the new school. "One day Dean Thomas Mackin, the rector at St. Joseph's came to see Mother Borgia. He said he wanted to show her what he declared was the very place to build, and he had brought his carriage to take her there. It was, he said, a site known locally as Ball's Bluff, and it was evident from his tone that he considered it a wonderful location. Mother Borgia and Sister Mary Agnes went with Dean Mackin to look it over.

When the carriage stopped the religious at first thought they had merely made a temporary halt and waited to go on. But Father Mackin helped them out of the surrey and then looked around with deep

satisfaction. "Here, Sister, is the place where you are to erect your throne," he told them solemnly.

They looked about with mixed emotions at the place he was showing them with such an air of triumph. It had been, they learned, an old cow pasture, and it still showed traces of its former occupants. It was late November and snow lay here and there in soiled patches on the rough ground. The trees were small and scraggly and there were tall dead weeds everywhere. But when they lifted their eyes from the ground they felt better, for a wonderful view greeted them. The land stood on a bluff and when one came close to the bank, one could see both Rock Island, in Illinois, and its sister city, Davenport, in Iowa. Between the two cities flowed the majestic width of the great Mississippi River."

Mother Borgia was dismayed by the site; however, she was impressed by Dean Mackin's reasoning. After consultation with attorneys, the nuns purchased the property for \$11,000.00. The money for building would have to be borrowed.

Ground was broken in July 1900 for the new edifice that would be called by the same name as the original academy, Villa de Chantal. Architect George P. Stauduhar designed the structure with the idea of additional wings being added at a later date. The first building on the site was a small brick structure to be used as a kitchen and eating place for the workmen. Work on the main building began in September. N. Juhl was the general contractor and other contractors included C.J. Larkin for the brick work, Blake & Murphy for the plumbing and hot water heating plant and Tri-City Electric for the electric lighting. Total cost for this first wing of the building was \$30,000.00. Some of the sisters moved to "The Property", as it was affectionately called, in January of 1901. The balance of the nuns and all of the boarders moved in on Washington's birthday. Dedication of the building was held on 19 March 1901. At that time, the location was described as Twenty-first Street and Thirteenth Avenue even though the street and avenue did not go through. While the main approach was planned from the south, now Sixteenth Avenue, a much shorter route for pedestrians, a series of steps, had been constructed from the northwest side leading up from Twentieth Street at Twelfth Avenue towards the rear of the building.

The Villa was only five years old when the sisters had to rent a large house near their own to use for the grade pupils. It proved, for a time, to be adequate to handle the increasing enrollment. But soon it was time to consider building the first addition to the monastery. Enrollment at the academy had swollen to sixty boarders and an ever increasing number of postulants (probationary candidates for membership). The news of the decision to break ground was announced in July, 1906, to the Visitandines and neighbors by ringing the convent bell. The new addition would include an intern chapel, a chapel for guests, service, reception and classrooms, and private rooms for the boarding students. Architect George P. Stauduhar

designed this second building to be joined to the original structure, in the same Gothic Revival style. The new building was to serve as the main entrance to the academy and an impressive entry was designed that included a towering belfry to house the convent bell. Inside, oak was used for the wainscoting of the parlors and for Gothic arches in the parlors and guest chapel. Marble was used extensively as well as stained glass windows ordered from Munich.

The cost of this new addition was considerable. Some \$80,000.00 had to be borrowed. The sisters were fortunate to have had extraordinary volunteers who aided them in raising money. Businesses donated food, mothers of the students served dinners in donated downtown store fronts, and "entertainments" were staged at the old opera house. The new chapel was dedicated in early June 1907, followed by a tour of the new school and the second floor boarders' rooms. Even with this expansion, it was obvious that another addition would be needed in the future.

The Villa Guild was established by a group of women in 1908 with the goal of helping the school both socially and financially. The nuns through the years had many benefactors - students, friends, relatives, parents, businessmen, clergy, to mention just a few.

An article in The Rock Island Argus on January 31, 1908 announced that an Eastern philanthropist, P.J. Kieran of Rochester, N.Y. donated the money for a library in the newly completed addition. He also pledged \$20,000.00 for the improvement of the academy grounds. He secured the services of a Rochester landscaping firm who sent a landscape architect to Rock Island in the fall of 1907. The landscape plan included a master circulation plan with walks and drives as well as gardens and pavilions. An Italian pergola with a red tiled floor was designed for an area near 22nd Street, and a sunken garden with hardy flowers and shrubs was designed for the rear of the grounds. Evergreens and shrubs for the project arrived from New York and work progressed steadily until bills began to arrive addressed to the Sisters of the Visitation. The horticulturist demanded payment and legal proceedings against the community began. Faithful relatives and friends of the sisters came to their rescue and public sale of the property was prevented by an insurance company loan. A Rock Island businessman provided surety. A reeling disaster was averted but final payment on this debt was not made until 1946.

In 1919 Father James Quinn was appointed the first resident chaplain of the Villa. He wanted his own quarters which would include room for his housekeeper, be located close to the school and yet offer some seclusion. A story and a half bungalow was designed by Stauduhar and built to the east of the academy with the cost shared equally by Father Quinn and the Visitandines. Upon his death, the bungalow became the property of the community.

In that same year the Villa de Chantal affiliated with North Central Association of high schools and colleges. It was now numbered among

the best schools of the day. In 1926 what had been apparent to the sisters was also pointed out by the Association. The academy would be dropped from the association unless classroom accommodations for its increased number of students were met.

Two years passed during which time the sisters made plans for a new building but could not find a way to fund the expansion. At commencement ceremonies in 1928 an announcement was made that the situation was now critical - especially with the North Central Association. A Chicagoan who had two daughters attending the academy, came to a partial rescue. Frank Lewis offered \$50,000.00 towards the new addition on condition that the community raise twice that amount by the end of the year. The sisters accepted the challenge. Through their efforts and those of their friends and students, by mid-1929, bids were being considered and Bishop Dunne gave his approval for construction to begin.

This east wing of the academy was designed by a Rock Island architect, Edward Lerch. Stark Construction Company of Cedar Rapids, Iowa had the general construction contract. The three story building contained classrooms, a gymnasium, cafeteria, offices, science laboratories, a study hall, an infirmary and individual rooms for the boarding students, along with an elevator shaft (no elevator yet). It was dedicated on 10 June 1930 and named Lewis Hall.

In the early summer of 1950, the Sisters of the Visitation marked the occasion of the golden anniversary of their transfer from Maysville with three days of jubilee celebrations. The Villa grounds have a ravine near the south entrance winding down around the bluff to Twentieth Street that had never been landscaped. Steps were constructed from the entrance drive to a terrace at the lower level of the ravine where a wrought iron kneeling rail and a large statue of the Lady of Fatima were placed. One of the jubilee celebrations was the dedication of the Fatima shrine. What had been a thorn on the hillside was now a pleasure to behold.

The Visitandines had been a cloistered community in Maysville. When they came to Rock Island, the grilles from their old convent came with them. Bishop Spalding, however, refused to allow them to be installed here until their school was well established. One reasonable argument he made was that the area was mainly Protestant and families would more likely send their children to an open community than a cloistered one. The situation began to change as a result of decisions made in Rome in 1951. By late August 1953, all requirements for minor papal enclosure had been met. The bishop underscored the importance of the event by telling the Visitandines they would be the only such order in the diocese as long as they maintained their cloister. It was a very solemn occasion when the curtain was drawn for the first time across the oak grille.

By 1959, the community had grown enough to make an addition to their monastery a necessity. It would contain sleeping rooms, shower

rooms, and utility closets on the second floor and a large porch on the first floor. Shortly before this time businessmen of the Tri-Cities formed a Villa Fathers' Club to assist the sisters in any way needed. Their assistance provided both professional ideas and material items and ranged in scope from advertising to resurfacing tennis courts.

Housing for the community's growing fleet of buses and chaplains' cars was also a problem in the late 50's. The north east corner of the property at Twenty-first Street and Twelfth Avenue was never really used and consequently was also poorly maintained. The power company expressed an interest in the corner for a field transformer. Their first offer for the unused lot was almost ignored until a higher one was received and accepted by the community. A four space garage was built at another site with the proceeds.

The decision was made in 1958 to close the boarding school and devote full attention to the constantly expanding day school. It was not an easy decision to make. After all the facts were discussed and a vote taken, it was agreed to close the boarding school the following year. The entire school closed after June of 1978. Each year, at the time of graduation, students was presented with a small gold crescent. The crescent, an incomplete circle, symbolized the fact that though their years at the Villa were complete, their life was not. With the crescent came the admonition that each graduate should strive to develop the crescent of their life into a perfect circle of maturity. To this day, graduates enthusiastically recognize the impact of the Villa on their lives and have an exceptional degree of loyalty to and pride in the Villa.

The bells which came with the Visitandines to Illinois from Kentucky in 1898 have tolled for grief, death, joy and life. Even though the bells have ceased to toll here, the Sisters of the Visitation have left an indelible mark on Rock Island, nearby communities and far away places with their contributions of superb education and a landmark quality structure symbolizing the tower bells tolling for life.

CRITERIA (3)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Villa de Chantal is designed in the Gothic Revival style reminiscent of European cathedrals. It is actually an original building plus three additions, some of the additions having been planned from the beginning to allow the school to grow as usage increased and funds allowed.

The original building, now the west wing, was completed in March of 1901. It is a three story structure, with a high basement, running

north and south and facing in the latter direction. The exposed basement is built of red chipped brick and the remainder is built of buff colored St. Louis pressed brick. The two surfaces are separated by a stone belt course. The original roof was grey slate highlighted with an existing black painted copper octagonal cupola.

The south facade of the original building features a gabled roof ending in a high parapeted wall. A three story bay, centered under the gable, has a flat roof with a crenelated (scalloped) parapet. Four narrow casement windows decorate the facade above the bay. They sit on stone sills and are topped with a decorative label molding. The use of stone sills and these same decorative label moldings on the windows on the south and west facades of the building affords a distinct visual separation of the three stories. The exposed basement windows are topped with flattened arches highlighted by decorative brickwork.

A smaller three story crenelated bay is again centered on a parapeted wall on the west facade. The window treatments and belt courses of the front facade are continued here. Of special note are the highly decorative copper dormers with their ornate finials on either side of the cross gable.

A four story utilitarian addition has been added to the building on the north face. It is constructed of the same red chipped and buff colored brick but does not contain any other decorative elements.

The east facade of the original building was designed with additions in mind. Spacious cloister porches overlooking what was to be a semi-enclosed courtyard line this face of the building. Three of the decorative metal dormers adorn the roof line. A square two story crenelated tower sat at the southeast corner of the building. It served as the original front entrance to the Villa and would also be the connecting point for the anticipated additions.

There were over sixty separate apartments in this original building. The basement floor contained a study hall and recreation and cloak rooms. The parlors, music rooms, and a library were on the first floor. The second floor housed the chapel and the private rooms for boarding pupils and the third story was an open dormitory area. When the remainder of the Villa was constructed this portion was to be used exclusively for the sisters' quarters and this was reflected in the interior design. A two story frame refectory that also contained the kitchen, laundry, and heating plant for this original building was adjoined to the northeast corner.

The most ornate portion of the Villa De Chantal is the center section. It was designed as a rectangular structure sitting parallel to the original building, the two being joined by an administrative building, the whole enclosing a rectangular courtyard opening to the north. The design and construction materials of this center section closely match that of the original building. The exposed basement is

built of red chipped brick, the upper three stories of buff pressed brick. Belt courses and label moldings of the original building are again used here as is the cross gabled roof line ending in parapeted walls rising above crenelated three story bays.

The focal point of this central building is without doubt its main entrance. It is framed by two symmetrical towers, one crenelated in the manner of the numerous bays, the other supporting an octagonal belfry with a red slate roof and gothic shaped openings. A band of stone plaques connects and encircles these towers just below their roof lines, the two central plaques bearing the construction dates of 1900 and 1906. The main entry itself is covered with white glazed terra cotta and features a multitude of decorative designs including Tuscan pilasters and an ornate arch that frames double front doors topped by an arched leaded glass transom further ornamented with wooden tracery. A large rose window is centered high above this dramatic front entrance.

Other windows in this central section of the Villa are no less dramatic and many contain beautiful stained glass patterns. Symmetrically placed double arched windows on the second floor are further enhanced by incorporation into even larger decorative arches. First story windows although simple casements, are set in pairs and embellished with a central Tuscan column and decorative moldings. Two black copper windowed dormers matching those on the original building are set at the roof line. Twisted copper downspouts, a Stauduhar trademark, grace the front of the building.

The north face of this central section, while being less ornate than the south facade, features a varied roof line again incorporating the black copper dormers and retaining the stone belt course above the second story. The red chipped brick exposed basement separated from the pressed brick upper stories by a stone belt course is also maintained.

A tablet-like detail that is repeated through out the building is particularly noticable here on windows at the back of the building. The emblem consists of a decorative "V" with a cross emerging from the top. Branches of foliage spread out from behind the cross.

The west face of this second wing allows for the semi-enclosed courtyard between itself and the original building. Elaborate wooden lattice faces the courtyard on the first floor. A corner stone on a room at the rear of this wing is dated September 15, 1918, but no written evidence of any additions added at this time has been found.

To the east of this central section, a final wing was added to the Villa in 1929. Much less ornate in design than the other buildings, it retains several of their design features. Again an exposed basement of red chipped brick is separated from the upper stories by a stone belt course. Buff brick is used on the upper stories of the south and east facades of the building. More common red brick is used

on the north face. The roof line is cross-gabled and the familiar crenelated three story bays are placed on tall parapeted walls. The belt course between the second and third stories is maintained but is on this section of the building undecorated. In general the windows are of a plain institutional nature.

The entrance to the east wing of the Villa features double front doors centered under a decorative stone arch. Four mascarons (a representation or a face, a human or partly human head) flank the sides of the arch and seven stone squares featuring ornate leaf patterns are set above the doors. Two sets of three windows are centered one on top of the other above the central entrance. The upper set is enhanced by ornate tracery.

The north facade of this east wing now features portions ranging from one to three stories and while appearing utilitarian in nature still incorporates stone belt courses and two parapeted walls in keeping with the overall design of the Villa.

In 1919 a chaplain's bungalow was built on the property. It stands just to the east of the main structure. The one and one-half story house shows craftsman and prairie style influences with its decidedly horizontal lines and exaggerated eave overhangs. It is constructed of buff brick sitting on a red brick base. The low gabled dormer features a decorative eyebrow window and roof brackets decorate the front entrance as well as the porch eaves. Square upper columns rest upon more massive piers at the porch corners but decorative Corinthian columns sit atop the piers on either side of the porch entrance. A concession to the general Gothic style of the Villa itself is the shape of the side openings on the porch.

Several other buildings stand on the Villa property. Directly behind the north extension of the center wing, a root cellar is dug into the hillside. A two story brick and frame structure thought to be the original power plant for the Villa sits near the north east corner of the property. There are three non-contributing garage structures on the site. One car garages sit to the south of the original building (just off the circle drive) and to the east of the bungalow. A four stall garage accessible from 12th Avenue is cut into the hillside on the north edge of the property.

THE VILLA LANDSCAPE

The Villa grounds were at one time extensively landscaped. Reference has been made to a New York landscape architect whose design included a master circulation plan with walks and drives as well as gardens and pavilions. In recent years landscape architect Dean Sheaffer has seen actual documents that were stored at the Villa bearing the name of Alling S. de Forest, Landscape Architect, Rochester, N.Y. and Landscape Department, Glen Brothers, Glenwood Nurseries (E.S. Mayo, Proprietor) Rochester, N.Y. The whereabouts of these documents today

is unknown

In addition, George Stauduhar submitted plans for a bridge the large ravine on the Villa grounds and a grotto shrine to be built in the southeast slope. The bridge is non-existent but piers and footings remain marking its spot in the ravine. Although financial considerations prevented all these plans from being implemented immediately, in subsequent years graduating classes donated landscaping items in keeping with the overall plan. A small gazebo sits on the bluff top to the northeast of the original building. An inscription in the walk leading to the gazebo says "gift of the class of 1916." These donations led to the present configuration of the approximately 14 acre Villa landscape. One landscape feature noticeably missing in 1994 is the presence of any statuary.

The fact that the grounds were part of a master plan is particularly significant in light of the other major landscape efforts occurring in Rock Island around that time. Jens Jensen designed the grounds of the Denkmann home (now Hauberg Civic Center) in his prairie/naturalistic idiom around 1908; and Longview Park, formerly Bailey Davenport's pasture, was being designed by O.C. Simonds, starting around 1902. This significant beautification of three major properties extending along Rock Island's bluff must have been a source of amazement and pride to area residents. No such significant landscaping efforts are believed to have occurred since that time. Both Jensen and Simonds were based in Chicago and espoused a style of landscaping that emphasized native plant materials to enhance the natural beauty of a site. Although the Villa's design seems to have been more Picturesque in nature, incorporating sunken gardens and specimen plantings, the natural landscape of what had previously been a cow pasture was emphasized and enhanced.

CRITERIA (4)

George P. Stauduhar

Wings one and two of the Villa de Chantal and the chaplain's bungalow were designed by local architect George P. Stauduhar. Stauduhar was born in Decatur, Illinois on December 25, 1863. He grew up in Mahomet, Illinois where he showed an early aptitude for architectural design that was furthered by his studies at the University of Illinois Academy in 1885-86 and the College of Engineering (which included the Architecture Department) in 1886-88.

In 1890 Stauduhar established an architectural practice in Rock Island that continued until his death on September 23, 1928. According to materials contained in the Stauduhar Architectural Collection at the University of Illinois, the architectural practice involved the entire Stauduhar family. The four sons assisted in business arrangements and supervised on-site construction work, while the four daughters maintained financial records and inventories. The eldest son, Charles, operated his own construction company and was

Stauduhar's principal business partner.

Stauduhar died of heart failure in 1928 in Valley City, North Dakota, at a recently completed hospital that he himself had designed, while supervising the construction of a nearby church. His son Charles was killed in an auto accident while traveling from North Dakota to Rock Island after making arrangements to return his father's body. And thus the Stauduhar architectural practice came to an abrupt end.

Stauduhar is primarily noted for his eclectic designs of homes and business structures and even steamboat interiors in the Quad City area, but he gained his wider midwest reputation through his design of churches. Over two hundred churches of his design were constructed in the upper Mississippi Valley, most Roman Catholic of Gothic Revival style. The Villa is unique in combining his experience in ecclesiastical architecture with educational and residential functions.

CRITERIA (5)

The buildings of the Villa are set well back from the north edge of the bluff, away from the view of the river valley, and offer their open gates to Highland Park. Stauduhar's design allowed for privacy of the convent while still making it an integral part of Highland Park.

Although attorney Frank Kelly platted Highland Park in the 1890s, this area, then on the distant outskirts of town, had only three homes built there prior to the construction of the Villa. These homes, all designed by Stauduhar, included Kelly's, his law partner John Looney's house and Stauduhar's own. After the construction of the Villa, many other homes were built in Highland Park, with most of the homes completed by 1915. The Villa was critical in the development of Highland Park and the expansion of Rock Island neighborhoods up onto the bluff.

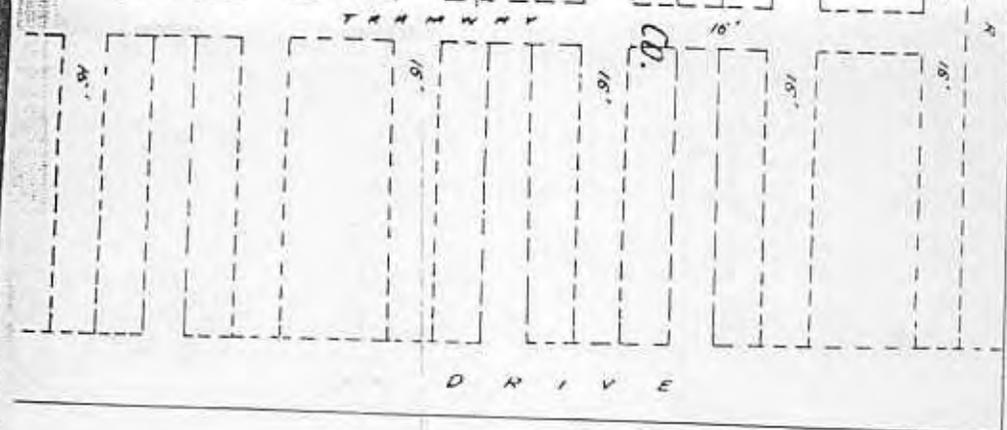
The Villa de Chantal has stood as a prominent architectural feature atop the bluff overlooking Rock Island since 1900. Over the years, thousands of people have passed through the gates onto the Villa de Chantal grounds. It has most certainly become an established and familiar visual feature in our community.

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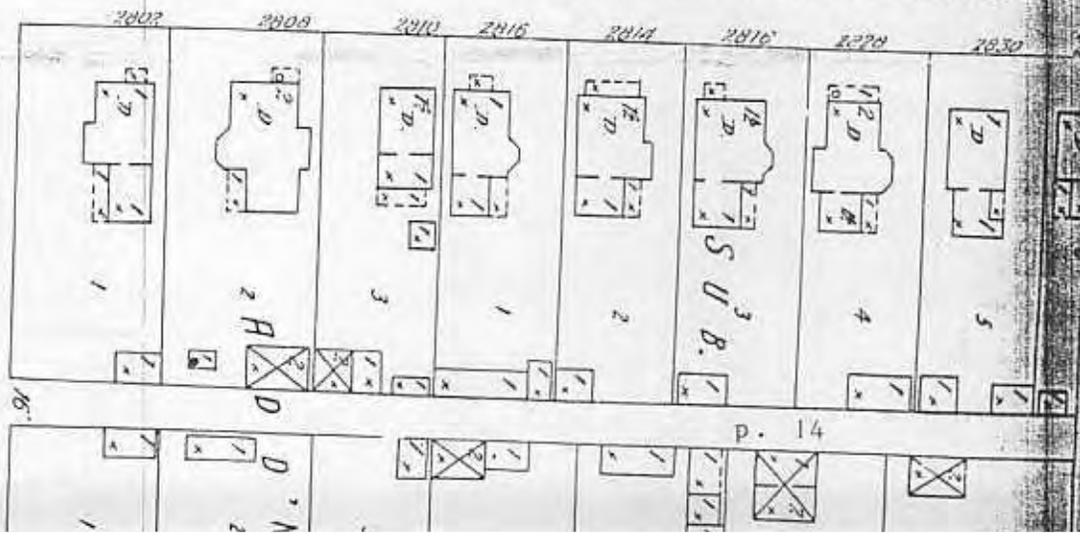
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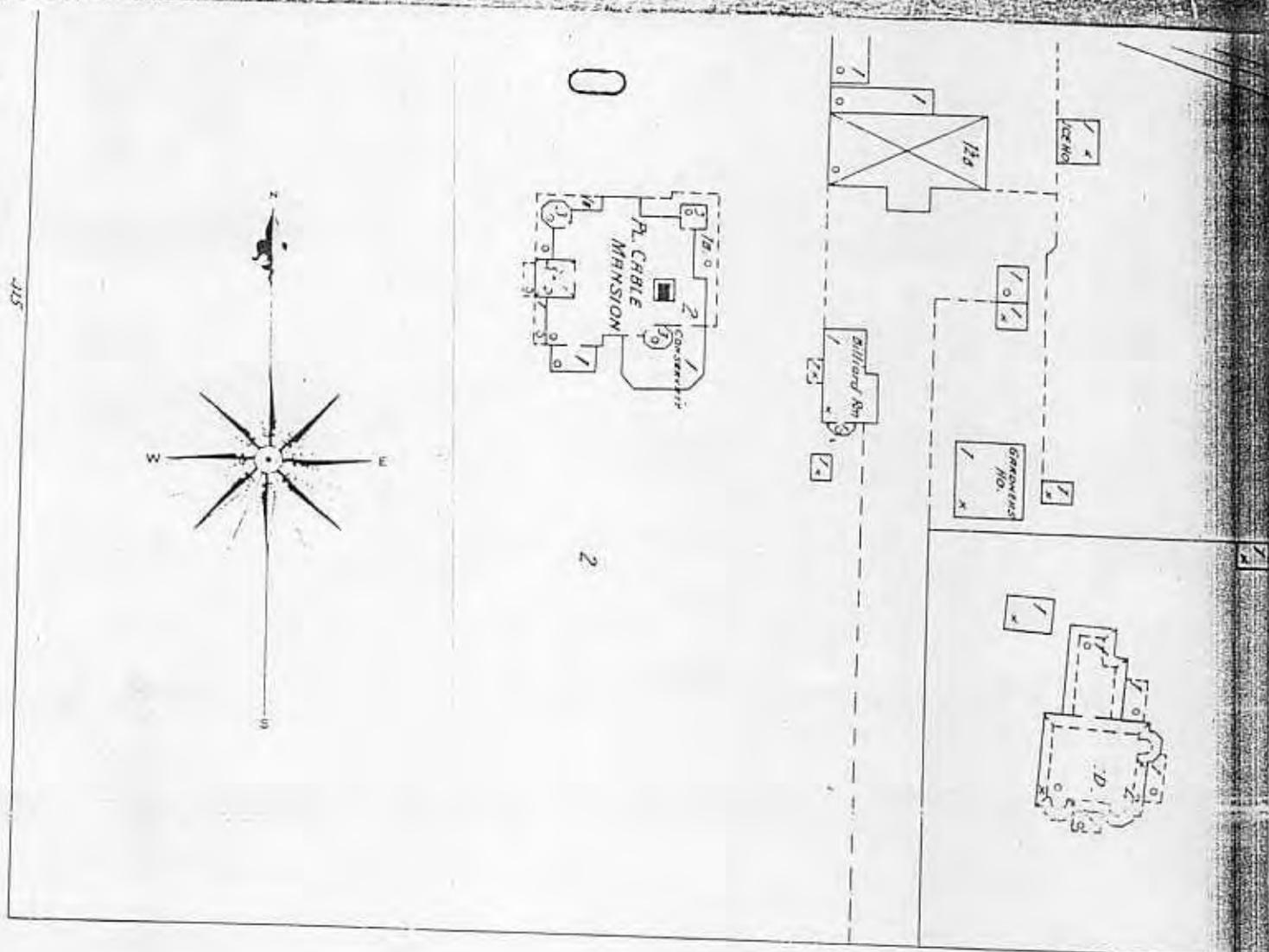


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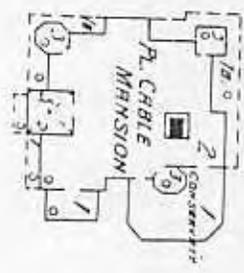
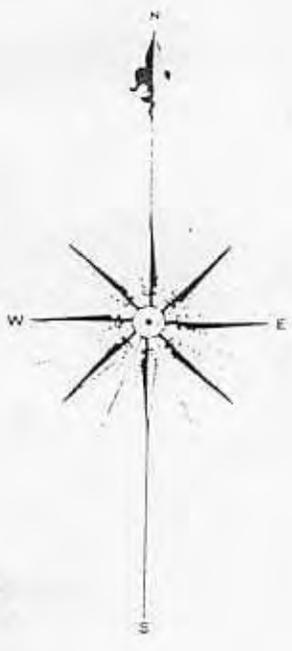
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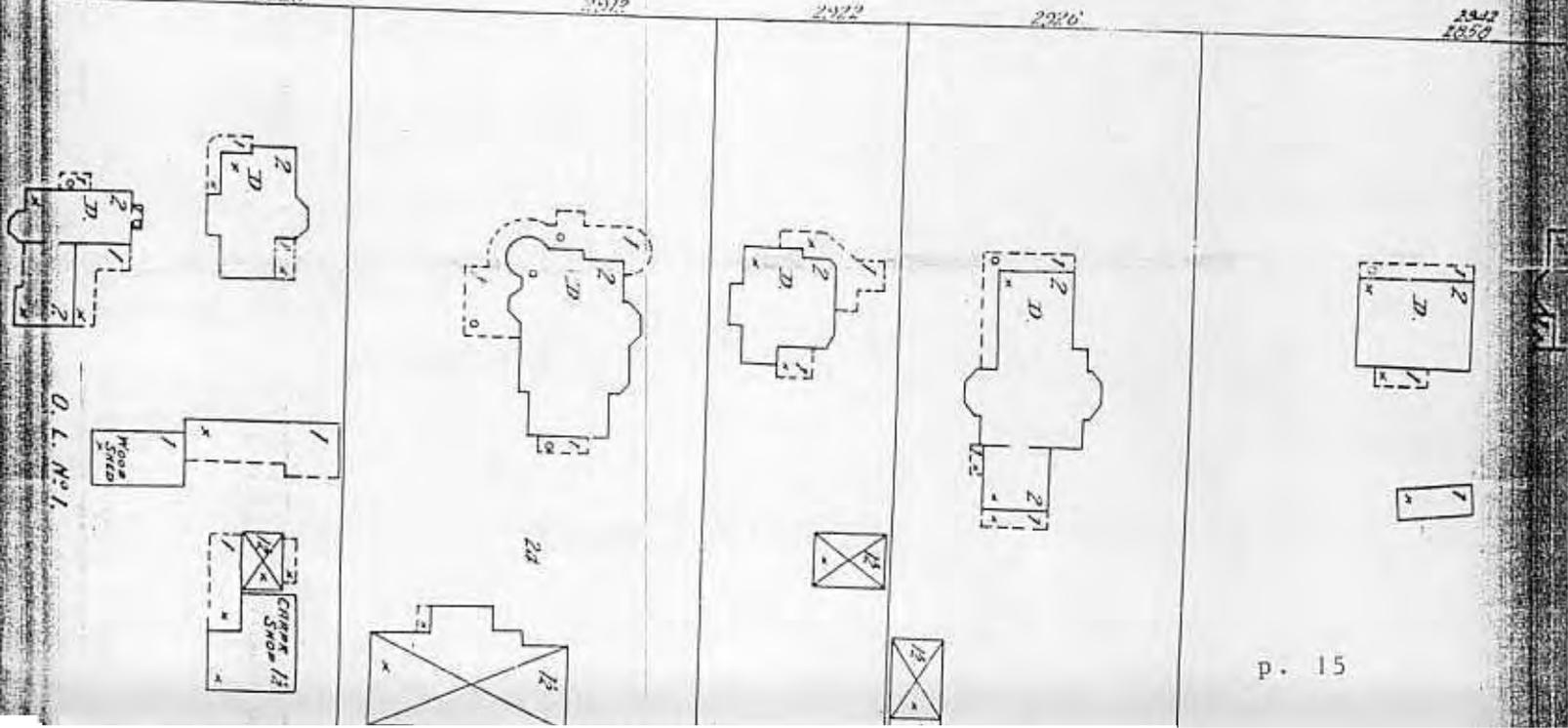
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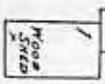
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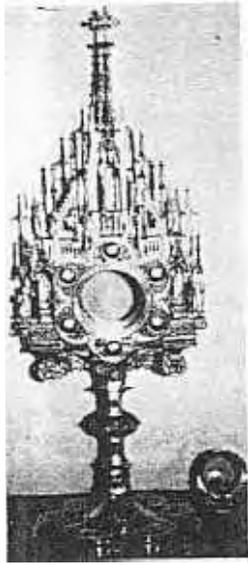
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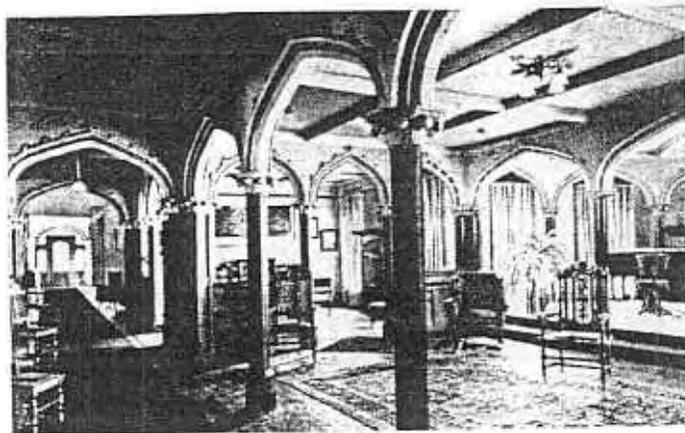
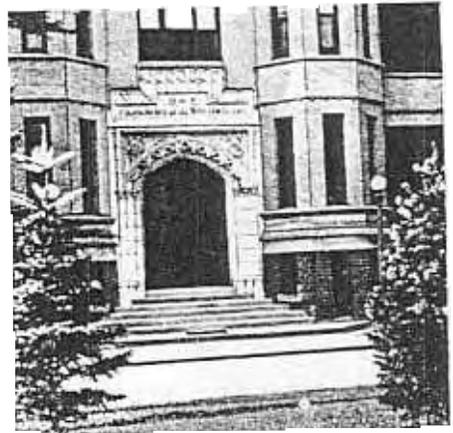


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Shrine to the Immaculate Hear
 of Mary.

Cloister gate, look from the
 monastery grounds ward the
 school





*Mother Francis Borgia and
Mother Mary Agnes Egan,
foundresses of Villa de Chantal.*



The first wing of Villa de Chantal in 1903.



*The shovel used for turning earth for four
buildings — 1901, 1907, 1929, 1954.*

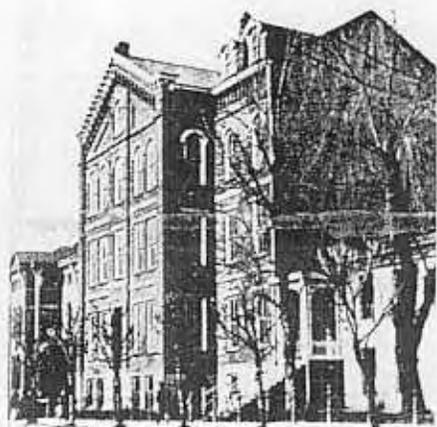


Entrance to Villa de Chantal.



*The bridge and brook in the ravine on
the Villa grounds.*

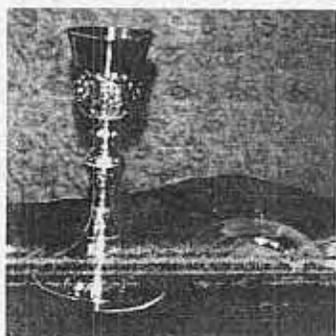
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St. Francis de Sales Academy with house where the founding sisters lived in 1865.



Mother Mary Gonzaga Carragher, foundress of Marysville, Kentucky, Cardome, Kentucky, and Teanna Washington



The chalice of Fr. Villors now at Villa de Chantal.



The refectory.



A bed from the Keokuk Monastery now in use at Rock Island.

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IN THE NEW ACADEMY

Visitation Sisters Complete Removal to the Villa de Chantal.

LOCATED IN A PRETTY SPOT

Other Buildings to Go up Soon-- Large and Handsome School Planned.

The sisters of the Visitation Academy have completed the removal of their effects from the old Reynolds mansion on Fifth avenue, where they have been domiciled since taking up their residence in this city, to the handsome new building they have constructed on the brow of the bluff near the reservoir, and which will be known as the Villa de Chantal.

Although the interior of the new quarters were not entirely finished, school was opened on the lower floors last Monday, and the removal of the furniture has been going on all week. No ceremonies have marked the occupation of the new building, but March 10 there will be dedicatory services. After March 15 the public will be welcomed as visitors.

Commanding View.
The site of the Villa de Chantal is a most commanding one. It is located at what would be Twenty-first street and Thirteenth avenue, were the streets continued, and rests on the brow of the hill overlooking the cities of Rock Island and Davenport, Rock Island arsenal, and below, a 12-mile section of the broad and beautiful Mississippi with the abutting hills rising on either side. The grounds back will be laid out in a lawn, with shrubbery and walks, a wider driveway even now being in course of construction. There will be tennis courts and a number of other provisions for outdoor exercise and amusement. A short distance to the southeast are the city reservoirs, located on the grounds which will be known as Reservoir park.

While the main approach will be from the south a much shorter route for pedestrians has been constructed from the northwest, leading from Twentieth street at Twelfth avenue by a series of steps to the rear of the building.

Three Stories High.
The portion of the building now completed and occupied will be the west wing of the villa contemplated in the matured plans. It is a 3 story structure with a high basement, 10,261 feet on the ground, running north and south and facing in the latter direction. The style of architecture is plain and there are few embellishments. Joining the main part on the northeast is the refectory, a frame building two stories in height, designed for use as a kitchen and laundry and to contain the heating plant.

The basement of the main part is built of chipped brick and the remainder is of St. Louis pressed brick. The roof is slate. On the east side are spacious cloister porches joining the first and second floors and running almost the entire length of the building. The interior is finished in yellow pine with hard maple floors. On each floor are central corridors from which the rooms can be reached.

Sixty Separate Apartments.
There are over sixty separate apartments in the building. On the lower

or basement floor are the study hall and the recreation and cloak rooms. The second floor contains the parlors, library and music rooms. On the third floor are the chapel and private rooms for boarding pupils. The dormitory is on the fourth floor. When the remainder of the villa is constructed the present portion will be used exclusively for the sisters' quarters, and for this it was designed. As now arranged, 50 boarders and 100 day pupils can be accommodated.

Work on the structure was begun in September, N. Juhl having the general contract, C. J. Larkin that for the brick work, Blake & Murphy the plumbing and the installing of the hot water heating plant, and the Tri-City Electric company the electric lighting. The total cost of the building has been \$30,000.

Whole to Cost \$30,000.
The plans for the completed villa provide for a wing east of the present structure and parallel to it joined on the south by the administration building, the whole enclosing a rectangular court opening to the north. The

DEAL IS MUCH TALKED

Reported Sale of D. R. I. & N. W. Causes Stir in Railroad Circles.

NO OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION YET

Though Manager Hughes Hears of Arrangements With Milwaukee--News Notes.

A mild sensation was caused in local railroad circles by the story in last evening's Argus of the reported purchase of the Davenport, Rock Island & Northwestern by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, while general regret was expressed among business men at the possibility of such a con-

practical a which is no win engines Further plate the headlight the cupolas at (Kupresca; Seividere, in the hou which is of men and al looking to t to the safe; It is to be companies (bau 12 hou Often whe men are for limit of end up with th the cab of every perso purpose of t trainmen fr to save the having a ma sleepy with of the engin

Yesterday of engines in 1301, pulled from a monster locomotive striking the wheels follo wide fire-box on each side represent a gine is of the form, the cyl diameter wit a very bear for the pass ers are ma nary prosa 1301 will bel on and will till through Engineer E ularly assign Train Dis jices in the his house ve Engine 32 from the illi division and James Sheha don.

Night Call signed and H his place. caller. Brakemen new names o Those say; work are Co Settle and F Joe Ames, F Firman Rar Remer. Those wh the past we; Weyrauch, C C. Hibbard; Brakeman N. Fireman R. Caldwell, Ka the new exte road.

Conductors call their tra official annou This has been of Night For Day Porter J. Switchean 2-weeks' illn Manger Ma in the City Ft J. G. Neulo at Hearstow slav. Hoatler G work after a Wiper Artl after over tw typhoid fever Switchean Brakeman report for du



THE VILLA DE CHANTAL.

east wing will be the school proper, the south part will contain the offices, parlors, etc., and the present portion the living rooms for the 25 sisters connected with the institution. The whole will cost in the neighborhood of \$30,000. The beginning of further building operations depends upon the sale of the Visitation property at Maysville, Ky., which is now pending and may be consummated at any time.

LARGE POSTAL RECEIPTS.

February Makes Best Showing in History of Rock Island Office.
The February receipts were the largest in the history of the Rock Island postoffice. They were \$7,342.71, as against \$6,821.22 the preceding month, even exceeding those of Christmas month, which were \$6,861.87. The receipts for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1901, are estimated at \$71,000. For the year ended March 31, 1900, the receipts were \$62,453.14.

Catarrh Cannot Be Cured
With local applications, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease, Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with

solidation, which would cause the disappearance of the individuality of a company that in a comparatively brief period has grown into close identification with the commercial relations of the locality, and is looked upon as the one avenue that offers an inlet to the city of one or more of the great trunk lines that it was hoped would ultimately center here.

News to Mr. Hughes.
E. E. Hughes, general manager of the D. R. I. & N. W., when interviewed by an Argus reporter last evening, said that, while he had knowledge of the negotiations between the Milwaukee and his company for the use by the latter of the former's tracks in the three cities and its bridge over the Mississippi—a deal apparently in the interest of the projected Kansas City short line—he had no official advice to the effect that either the Milwaukee or Burlington, or both, had been declaring for the purchase of his road. Neither did he understand that it was for sale.

One Improvement that will follow the arrangement between the Milwaukee and D. R. I. & N. W., which in all likelihood will be consummated, will be the disappearance of the former's forlorn shack that represents a depot of Twentieth street, a structure the city council should order removed at the first opportunity.

And speaking of depot improvements, it is said the Rock Island & Peoria plans remodeling its general offices and depot building on Twentieth street in the city, and may also

OUR
lean Up
Shoe Sale

Caught on
In great
Shape
Saturday--
Everybody
Satisfied.
Get in early.

Boston
Shoe Co.

Henry, the
Tailor

Henry, the
Tailor

Ladies' and gentlemen's reception rooms adjoin the big hall and are fitted with heavy rugs and furniture in keeping with the remainder of the quarters.

LIBRARY WILL BEAR
NAME OF KIERAN

Sisters of Visitation Will Name Beautiful Suite of Rooms After Benefactor.

The Sisters of the Visitation will dedicate the magnificent library in the recently completed addition to the Villa de Chantal as the Kieran library in honor of P. J. Kieran of Rochester, N. Y., the benefactor of the institution. Mr. Kieran donated the money for the library and gave toward other departments of the building. He also donated \$20,000 for the improvement of the grounds and secured the services of a large Rochester firm, who sent a landscape architect here last fall to outline the improvements. The work is nearly completed but some work remains to be done after the arrival of warm weather. Mr. Kieran, on his visit to the academy Wednesday, was delighted with the beauty of the place. His previous visit was made before the interior finishing was started.

Bad Stomach Troubles Cured.

Having been sick for the past two years with a bad stomach trouble, a friend gave me a box of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They did me so much good that I bought a bottle of them and have used it since in all my troubles and with a bad stomach trouble. Mrs. John Love Cooper, Maine. These tablets are for sale by all druggists.

Kennedy's Laxative Cough Syrup acts upon the breath and thereby drives the cold out of the system. It contains no opiates and is highly recommended for children. Sold by all druggists.

... from the effects of a paralytic stroke he suffered. Sunday evening Mr. Ashalm was born in Germany March 6, 1842. He came to America a number of years ago, living for time in Clinton, and for the last years in Rock Island. His last employment was that of guard during work of construction on the Twenty-fourth street bridge. He survived by his wife, two sons, Edward and Fred, two daughters, Mrs. H. Klutse and Miss Emma Ashalm of the city. Brothers and sisters survive in Germany. Burial will take place in Clinton.

Martin Funeral.

The funeral of Mrs. Mary Martin was held this morning. Services were conducted at the home, 1034 Nineteen street, at 9:30 by Rev. W. S. Marqu. The remains were taken to the farm home, Coal Valley, for burial.

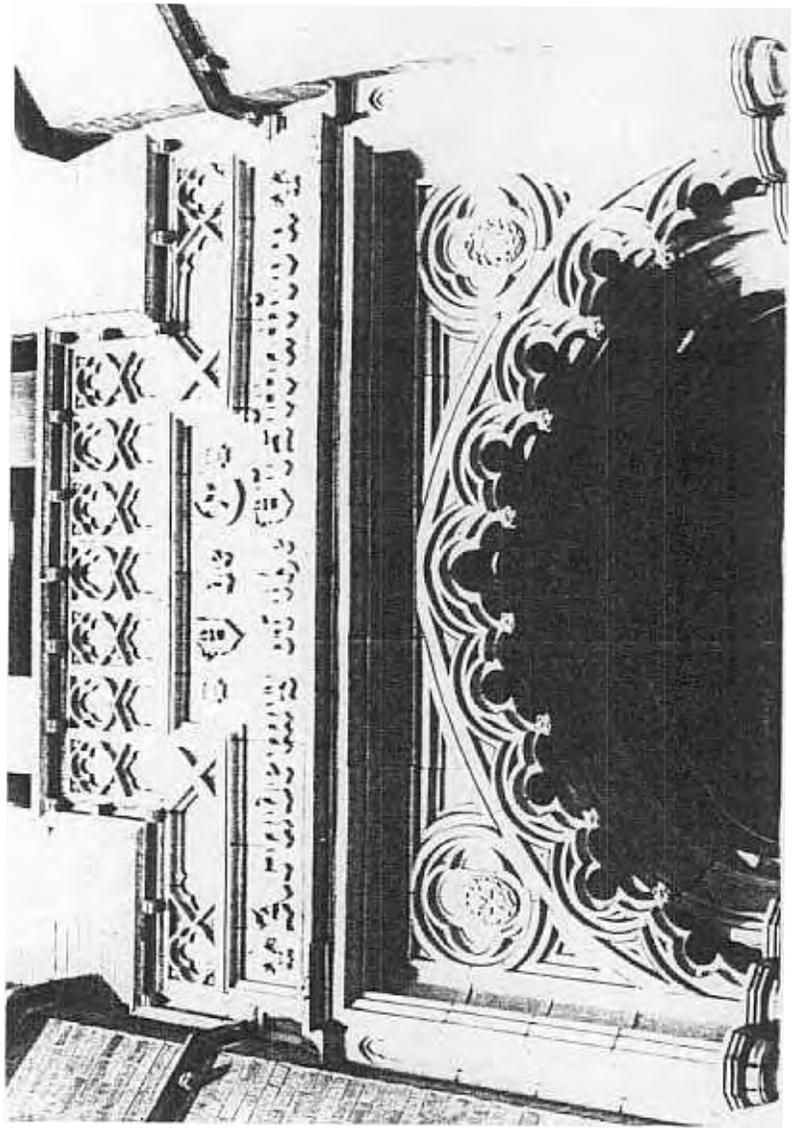
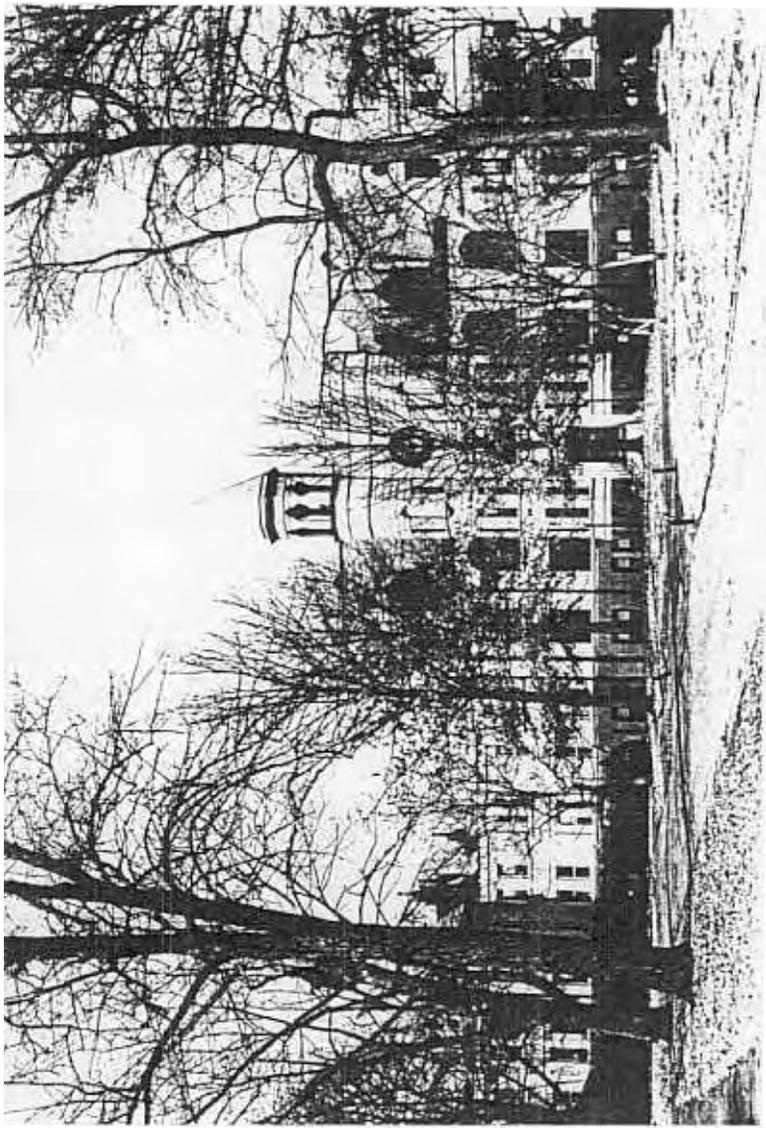
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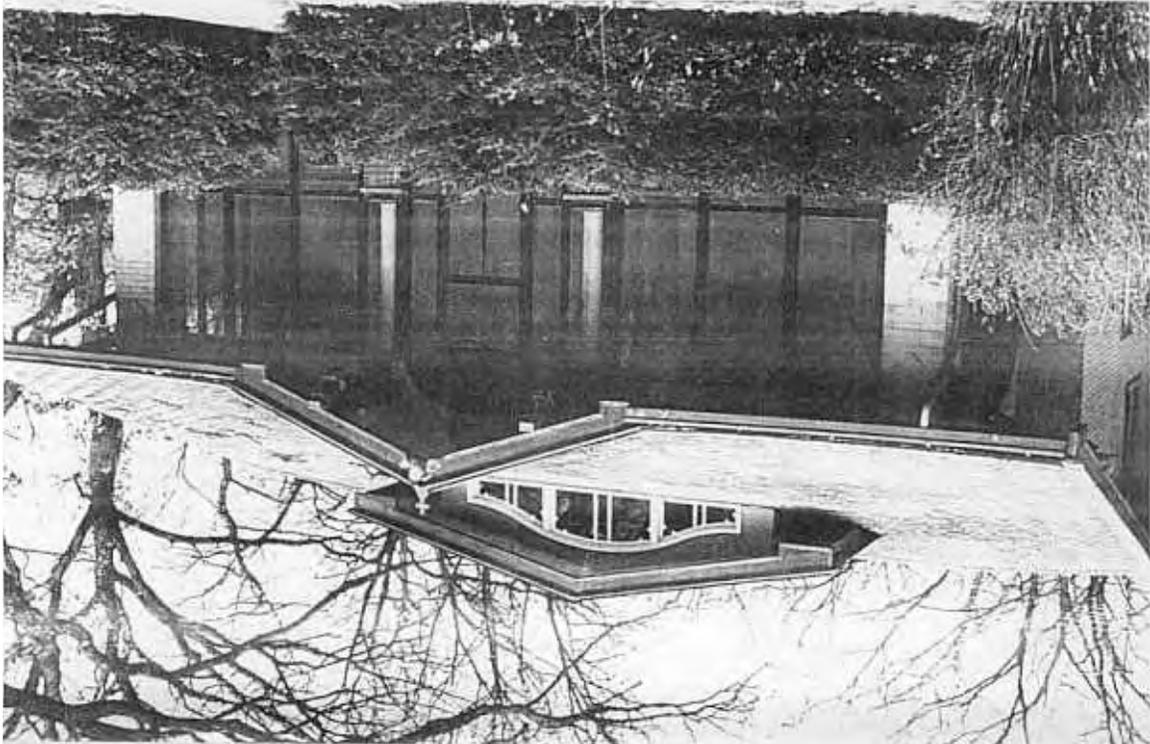
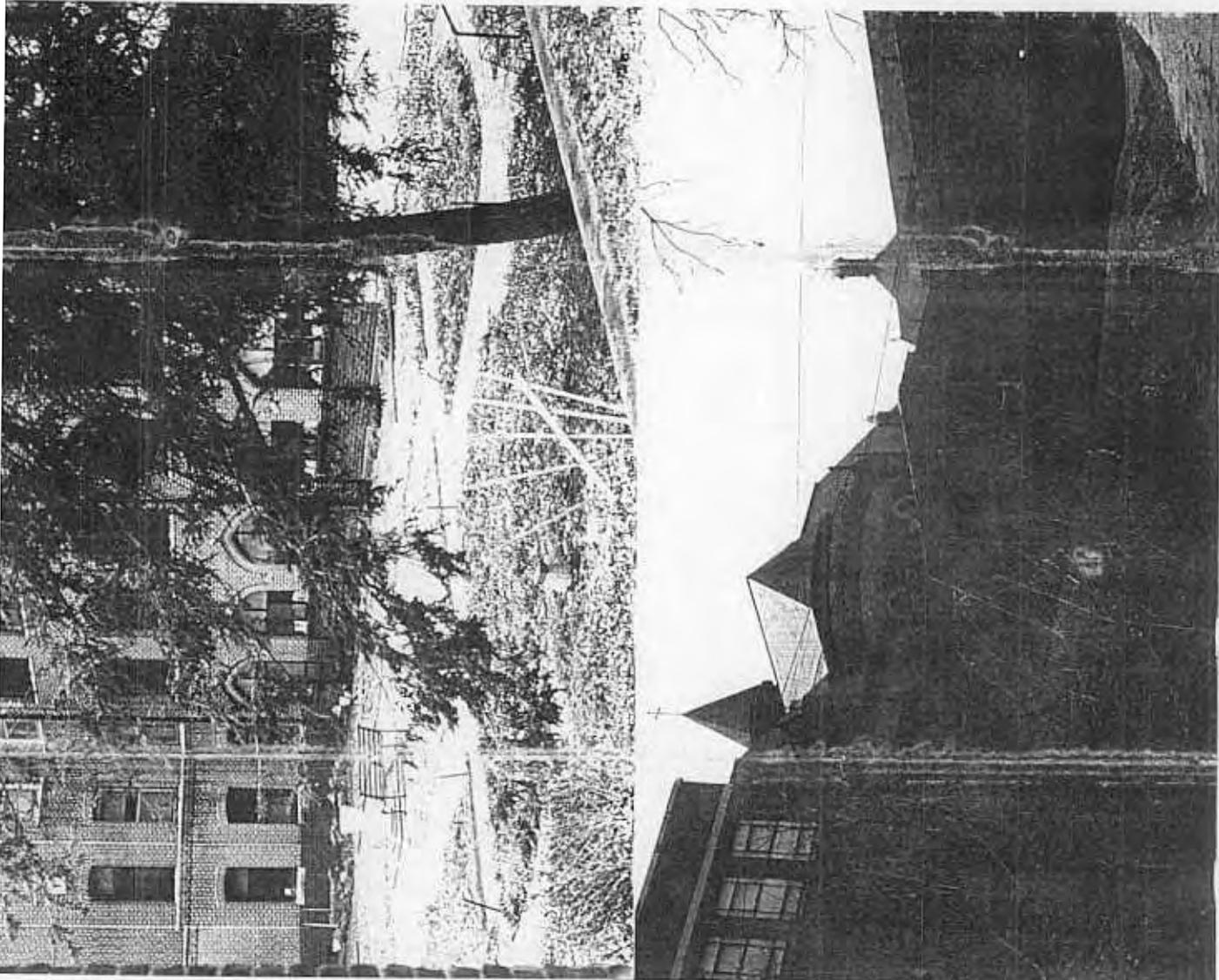
The 6-weeks-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Bjoidene died this morning 11:45 after a short illness of the boy of the parents, 234 Ninth street.

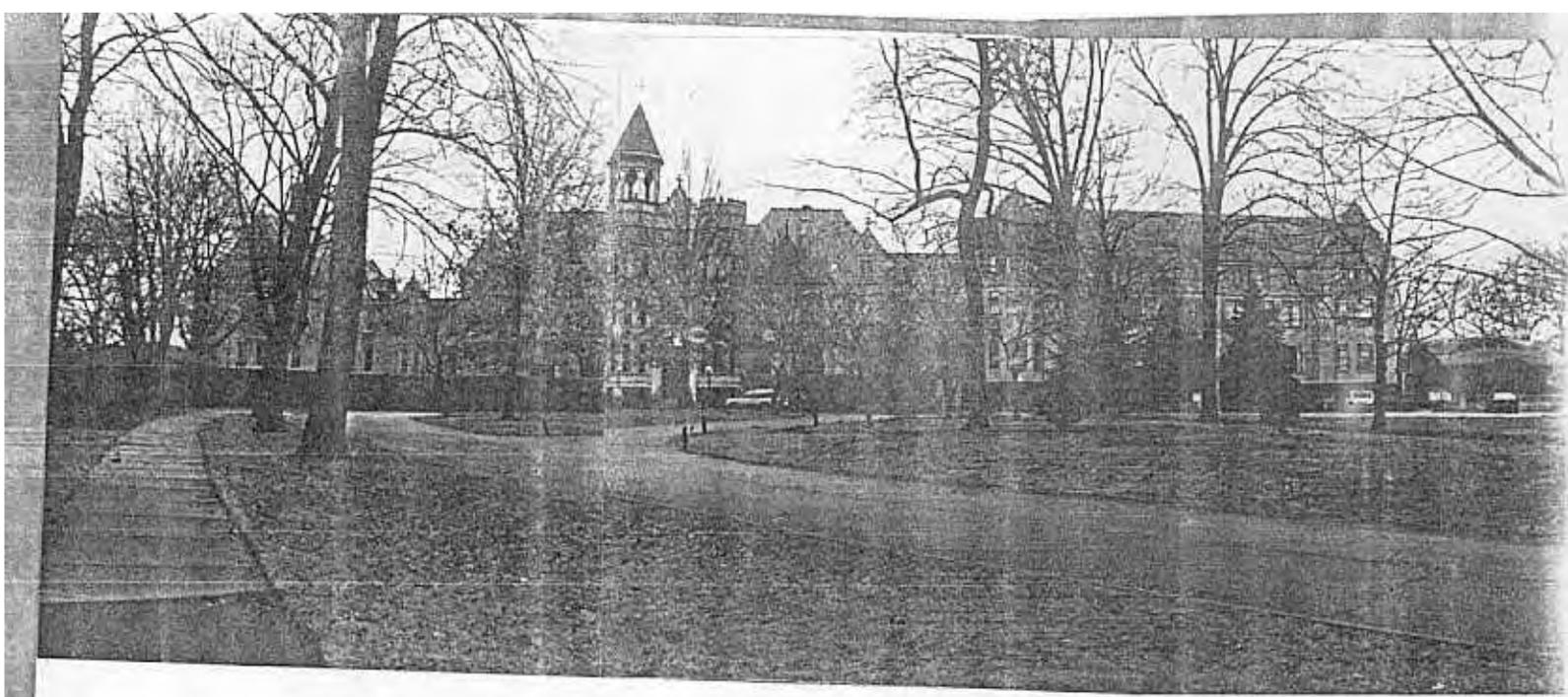
SOCIAL AFFAIRS.

[Society news, written or telephoned to the society editor of The Argus, will be gladly received and published. In either case the identity of the sender must be made known to insure reliability. Written notices must bear a name and address.]

Connolly-Shearnan.—At the residence of H. E. Walker in South Heights at 6 o'clock yesterday afternoon G. H. Connolly of Freeport and M. Shearnan of Shearnan, Tex. were called in connection with the Williams pastor of the First Methodist church, celebrating a small party relatives and close friends of the couple in the happy event was present. Following the ceremony a supper was served. Mr. and Mrs. Connolly will make their home at Shearnan, Tex. the groom will engage in the oil and gas business. They left last night.



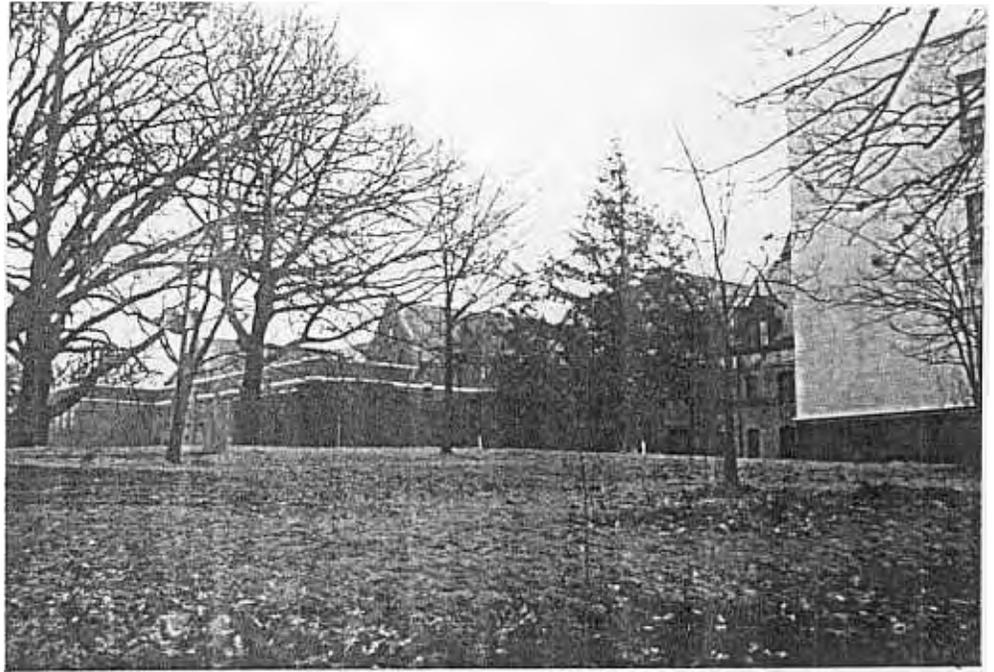




South side full Villa de Chantal



East side of East Building
West Building Built 1929
East side of Benjamin built



back view north side of building