

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ANNANDALE, MINNESOTA

MCDONALD, COLLIN, INTERVIEW

Collin McDonald is a long time member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, just outside of Annandale, Minnesota.

This tape covers his family background, with the church, the early church, and the present church. It also includes the size of the church and how this affects the future of the church.

INTERVIEWERS: John LeDoux and Mark Stone

DATE: August 3, 1978

SUBJECTS COVERED: Tape 1 Part 1

007 PERSONAL/FAMILY BACKGROUND:

- 009 Father was born in French Lake Township, in 1861.
- 011 Collin McDonald's paternal grandfather came from Nova Scotia.
- 012 His paternal grandmother came from Boston.
- 014 Came here in 1858 to Cokato Township.
- 015 His mother was born in Cokato Township in 1867,
- 018 Her mother was born in Tennessee in 1830.
- 020 His grandfather, Samuel Allen, was born in Henryville, Indiana.
- 027 Collin McDonald had an aunt born in St. Paul, in 1858.
- 031 His grandmother's name was Rebecca Allen, Rebecca Lake was named after her.
- 037 Collin McDonald had an aunt born in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1860.
- 039 Then they came back to Minnesota.
- 041 Eathan Allen, the oldest in Collins McDonald's mothers family left home in 1867.
- 049 Eathan Allen had four sisters (Collin McDonald list these).
- 056 They moved to Cokato due to the extension of the railroad to that town.
- 071 Collin McDonald's brother's family is in Cokato.
- 079 Collin McDonald's father owned a grain elevator in Howard Lake.
- 082 In 1886 he married, and moved to Annandale.
- 096 The first buildings were built in Annandale in 1885-86.
- 099 Lost interest in the elevator and lumber yard and sold them, then got into the banking in 1893.
- 103 Collin McDonald explains the start of the town.
- 118 The predominant ethnic group was largely English, although Germans, Swedes, Finns, Irish, and French all came to the Wright County area.
- 140 The town was not dominated by any one religion.
- 151 Collin McDonald was born in Annandale, October 13, 1901.
- 176 Went to high school in Annandale, and college at the University of Minnesota.
- 180 He started banking when he was about 15 or 16, when banks were open on Saturdays and everyday until 6 P.M.
- 197 Married Marianne (Marian?) Jones in 1926.
- 201 The recessions caused all banks to close in 1933. (The banking business suffered during major recessions.)

226 EARLY CHURCH HISTORY:

- 235 Notation made by Mrs. Bliss, one of the early members of the church, that the Mission was organized in 1874, but that is incorrect, it was 1872.
- 242 The present structure was built in 1871 and dedicated in 1872.
- 249 All the communicants in 1891 were (Collin McDonald named all of these).
- 292 Church has never had a full time pastor.
- 299 Longworth was warden of St. Mark's Church in Williamsburg New York.
- 309 The warden is the chief lay officer of the church.
- 322 The church warden's duties are (McDonald, listed them.)
- 326 This is a mission, and owned by the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota.
- 337 Nobody was able to determine if it was a corporation.
- 354 Longworth came here in 1857, 1858.
- 365 The stain glass window was donated from St. Mark's in Williamsburg, New York, the window came from Italy.
- 388 Longworth ran a bookstore in New York and purchased a large area of land in Annandale. Later he donated the land to the church.
- 407 The church is the same now as it was in the beginning.
- 425 Longworth, who started the church, died in 1889.
- 430 The original structure is still there.
- 437 They only added electric lights, and a foundation.
- 461 It was a country Episcopal Church, and the first Episcopal Church around.

SUBJECTS COVERED: Tape 1 Part 2000 EARLY CHURCH HISTORY, CONTINUED:

- 005 His mother was Baptized by Bishop Gilbert.
- 010 Longworth's son and 2 daughters never married, and never followed in father's steps in the church.
- 023 Had intermittent services when a priest was available.
- 026 When Collin McDonald was small, a man named Hudson came from Paynesville and gave services early in the 1900's.
- 042 Early 1920's Bishop Macowean bought a cabin on a lake, and did services during the summer.

053 THE PRESENT CHURCH:

- 053 The church never had a full time priest.
- 057 The services have alternated with a variety of Bishops, and priests.
- 064 No one has ever searched for a full time priest.
- 067 A priest named Bill Goddard takes care of services now.
- 069 He is an ordained priest. He was at St. Edward's. He left St. Edward's.
- 070 He is a chaplain at a treatment center in St. Louis Park.
- 076 This church has never had a permanent priest.

093 THE SIZE OF THE CHURCH:

- 095 Currently there are 20 to 30 members.
- 098 Beginning in October, and continuing through the winter, there is only one service a month.

- 101 If it is extremely cold, they have services in a home.
- 108 During the summer, services are held every Sunday.
- 109 The attendance is up in the summer, from all the vacationers.
- 116 The congregation is self supporting; asks for no funds from the diocese.
- 121 Collin McDonald explained the relationship with the diocese when a church does not have a full time priest.
- 133 The members of the congregation contribute to charities in the diocese.
- 148 Hardly any young people active in the church.
- 152 Fairly older people are active in the church.

154 FUTURE OF THE CHURCH:

- 154 No concern of regarding the future even though there are not too many young people in the church. They have had that problem several times in the past.
- 160 Women's groups are active in the church. Some women's groups go all the way back in the history of the church.
- 185 Today the church membership is a mixture of various ethnic groups.
- 233 The number of churches in the area have been reduced considerable.
- 254 Bishop Whipple was quite active in the church.
- 301 Indian Mission; Good Thunder, Bishop Whipple was active here. Considered "Prince of the Church".
- 314 Bishop Whipple dedicated and accepted the property for the diocese.
- 319 Bishop Knickerbocker had more to do with the church than Longworth.
- 323 Bishop Knickerbocker came from New York.
- 325 His brother farmed here.
- 329 He was friends with Longworth in New York. *Gesemenee*
- 332 He went to Minneapolis and was at Gesemenee Church.
- 334 He then started at St. Barnabas Hospital.
- 336 Was appointed Bishop of Indiana and also died there.
- 337 He was very active in Missionary Churches.
- 349 There have been no storms or fires which damaged the church.
- 355 Had some vandalism.
- 358 Patrol service in winter time and at other times as well.
- 363 Had problems with teenagers drinking there.
- 368 When he was a boy not a lot of social happenings, or community activities.
- 377 St. Mark's played a very small part in community activities.