

better in town. I might have made more money on a farm, but I have done fairly well and now at 84 I have nothing to complain about. Except, of course," he added, "the many little thing with which we all find fault. This hot weather we've had, for instance, mosquitoes, rheumatism and a few things like that."

Paul Joseph Fischer believes that when a man has held down a job until he is 83 years old, he is entitled to a regular daily schedule here, although he does quite a bit of "puttering" just for exercise. He has a right to be proud of his record and he is appreciated by his friends here as a man who always was "on the job" which, when one stops to ponder on the matter, is a strong recommendation for any man.

When Paul Fischer was 95, the former resident of Shakopee, died at St. Joseph's home in St. Cloud on March 21, 1938, according to the **Shakopee Argus-Tribune**, March 24, 1938. Death was attributed to the infirmities of age.

Funeral services were conducted by the Fr. Sava at St. Mark's church and burial was in Catholic Cemetery.

During his 43 years of residence in Shakopee Mr. Fischer made many friends, many of whom have long since passed on. Despite his advanced years he continued to have an active interest in all that went on about him. Relatives frequently visited him and he always found great pleasure in their calls.

Although he left Shakopee more than 25 years ago he never lost his interest in the community and those he knew here. Until recent years he made regular visits to Shakopee renewing old acquaintances and recalling old times.



Paul Joseph Fischer lived at the St. Joseph's home in St. Cloud, Minnesota. He was buried at the Catholic Cemetery in Shakopee.

Guest <u>Fischer, Paul</u>	Entered <u>August 8, 1929</u>
Date of Birth <u>August 30, 1842</u>	Birthplace <u>Bamberg, Bavaria</u>
Occupation <u>Farmer</u>	<u>Single/Widowed</u> Widowed <u>Julia Boppe</u>
Religion <u>Catholic</u>	Nationality <u>German</u>
Former Residence <u>Shakopee, Minn.</u>	In United States since <u>1847</u>
Address at time of admission <u>St. Paul, Minn.</u>	
Mother's Maiden Name <u>Margaret Schmitt</u>	Birthplace <u>Bamberg, Bavaria</u>
Father's Name <u>Mathias Fischer</u>	Birthplace <u>Bamberg, Bavaria</u>
Dues paid by <u>Himself and later by Pension</u>	
Telephone Call <u>-120Shakopee for Cyrus or Mrs. Joseph Fischer</u>	
Relatives (daughter-in-law) <u>Mrs. Joe Fischer, 304-E. 3rd St., Shakopee, Minn.</u> (only daughter) <u>Mrs. Mary Hoffman, 1028-St. Clair St., St. Paul, Minn.</u>	
Name of Doctor <u>Hornstead / Bascher</u> Saw Patient <u>Nov. 13, 1931/Jan. 28, 1934</u>	
Patient Left <u>M. J. Kern, Feb. 7, 1938</u>	
Patient Died <u>March 21, 1938 at 1:25 P.M.</u>	



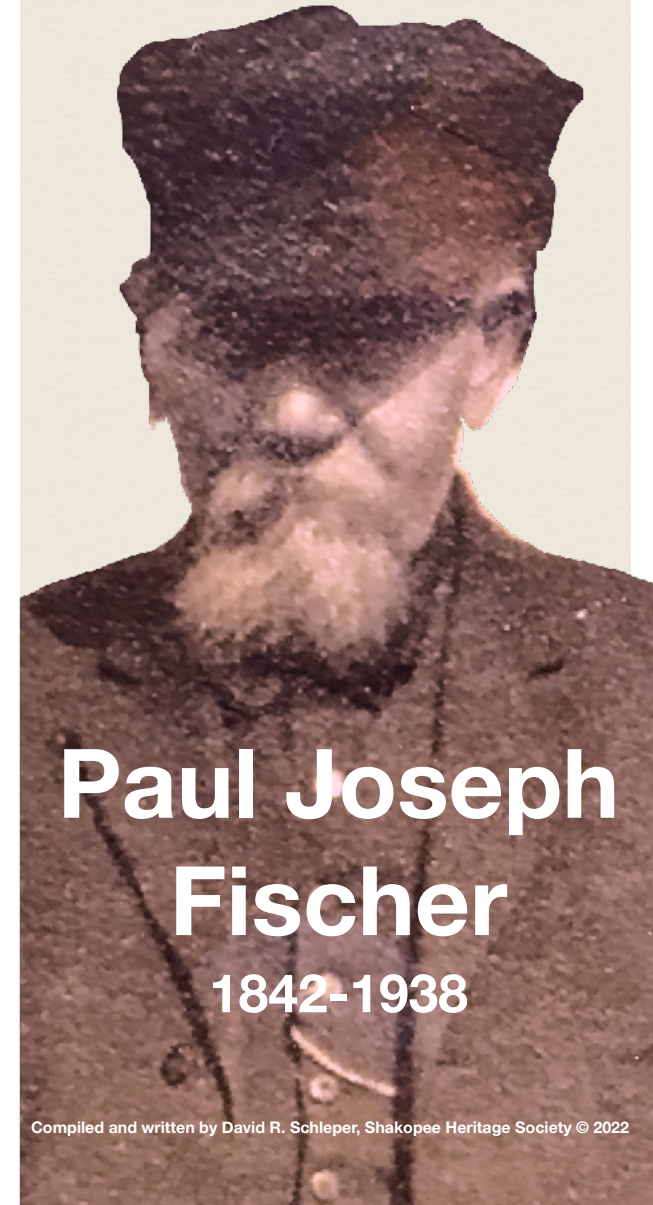
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SHAKOPEE HERITAGE SOCIETY



Paul Joseph Fischer

1842-1938



Paul Joseph Fischer was born in Bamberg, Bavaria on August 20, 1842. Paul's parents were Mathias Burkard Fischer (1801-1861) and Margaretha Schmidt (1800-1860.)

Paul moved to Ontario, Canada in 1850 at age 8. When he was 18 years old, Paul's mother died, and a month later his father died, both in Ontario, Canada.

When he was 24 years old, Paul Joseph Fischer married Julianna Boppre on February 22, 1867. They married at St Agatha, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. Three years later, Paul and Julianna came to Minnesota. According to an article *Pioneer Arrived for July Fourth* by **Shakopee Argus Tribune** on August 19, 1926, Paul arrived on July 3, 1870.

Paul mentioned that he and relatives came from Germany in 1850 and settled in eastern Canada. "But father didn't like it there. Land was high and it was hard for a poor farmer to get started. So we came out to St. Paul. We stayed there a while, but I decided to come to Shakopee as I heard there was work to be had on farms here. I had been married three years before."

"We had three children when I left St. Paul to seek work here, and my wife remained in St.

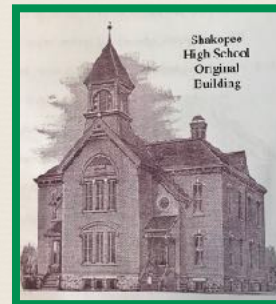


District 41 in 1870

District 1 organized in 1854. The first school was taught in 1855 by John H. Brown. It was on the second story of the old post office building. It later was a stone building. For seventeen years, Paul Joseph Fischer was employed as a janitor of School District 1. It burned down in 1880.

In the 1870s, three schools served Shakopee residents. District 1 was a stone building with Paul as the janitor. District 2 was the white-painted school. It became the residence of Herman Duede. And the third school in Shakopee was the District 41 school house was on 4th Street. It was served the district until 1918, and was destroyed in 1935 after being condemned as a hazard to life and limb.

In July 1881, Shakopee consolidated school District 1 and 2, and built the Union School. It was located one block south of old District One, and west of St. Mary's Church. The building is still there. It most recently was the Central Family Center, at 505 Holmes Street South.



Union School

Paul with them," said Paul Fischer in the article on August 19, 1926. "I hired out to Math Everling on July 5, 1870, and went to work on his farm near Prior Lake. I received \$26 a month and stayed there three months. Then I sent for my family and went to Peter Stemmer's place, seven miles east of Shakopee. Later my brother Adam and I rented the Ries place, 2 1/2 miles east of town."

The following ten years were spent in farming. But Paul was tired of farming, so the family moved to the town of Shakopee, where Paul worked at the Omaha shops.

Fifteen children were born to Paul and Julianna. One child, Nicholas, at age 6, was run over by the local freight train, according to an article on August 14, 1891. Nicholas was hanging on the side of the passing cars. He lost his right foot. The amputation was made by Drs. Dunn and Smith.

In 1883, Paul Fischer became a janitor at a school in Shakopee. District 1 organized in 1854. The first school was taught in 1855 by John H. Brown. It was on the second story of the old post office building. It later was a stone building. For 17 years, Paul Joseph Fischer was employed as a janitor of School District 1. It burned down in 1880.

Paul remembered, "I spent lots of time in that school building," he chuckled, "but show how I never seemed to be on hand when the classes were held, so I didn't learn much from the teachers."

After resigning as janitor of the school, Paul Fischer became associated with his son Joseph in cement work, but after the death of his wife, Julianna Boppre Fischer in 1910, he went to St. Paul, where he obtained employment in the city park department. At age 83, he resigned after putting in 15 years.

Paul Joseph Fischer was closely identified with life in Shakopee from 1870 until he left here in 1910 – a period of 40 years, according to the article in the **Shakopee Argus Tribune** on August 19, 1926.

When Paul first came to Shakopee in 1870, Huntsman and Geyermann were prominent storekeepers and he also knew David L. How, the veteran banker, Theodore Weiland and other civic leaders. "This city has grown remarkably in my time," he observed. "It certainly didn't look much like it does now back in 1870."

"But I always liked it here," he explained, "and I believe that is why I got so I preferred living in town. Farming was discouraging work when I started in here and I decided that I could do