PROJECT SCROLL · ONE-PAGE SUMMARY

Michael Urbanski

Independent historian and author

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53	183	6	6
stories researched and written	findings in the register	research notes with DOIs	notes in preparation

About

Michael Urbanski goes back to the original records, the deeds, surveys, treaties, letters and newspapers of the day, and writes the history of the St. Joseph River Valley of southwest Michigan and northern Indiana from what they actually say. Every quotation is read from the page image, every paragraph is marked with what it rests on, and what no modern history has goes into the site's discoveries register; the larger findings are published as research notes with DOIs. His training in visual communications is behind the site's maps, plates and 3D landscapes.

Selected findings

1. **A chief alive in Kansas, the year the plaque says he died**
   National Archives microfilm shows a "Ship she won no" signing Potawatomi papers in Kansas and Washington through 1841.
2. **The Cassopolis lodge of 1846**
   The earliest lodge of E Clampus Vitus yet found with its founders named, and the first known in Michigan. Research note 2, with a DOI.
3. **The earliest L in Kalamazoo**
   Schoolcraft's "Kikalemazo" of 4 September 1820, a year older than the treaty the histories credit. Research note 4, with a DOI.

Research areas

- The St. Joseph River Valley
- How the towns got their names
- County, township and land records
- Historic newspapers; maps, plats and surveys
- Family history; lore tested against the record

Tools and methods

- Archival research and palaeography
- Archival imaging and enhancement
- LiDAR terrain modelling, GIS and cartography
- 3D modelling and animation
- Editorial and graphic design

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