

SCHOOL KNOLL PARK

15501 83rd Street NE, Otsego, MN

TOWNSHIP OF OTSEGO

est. 1858

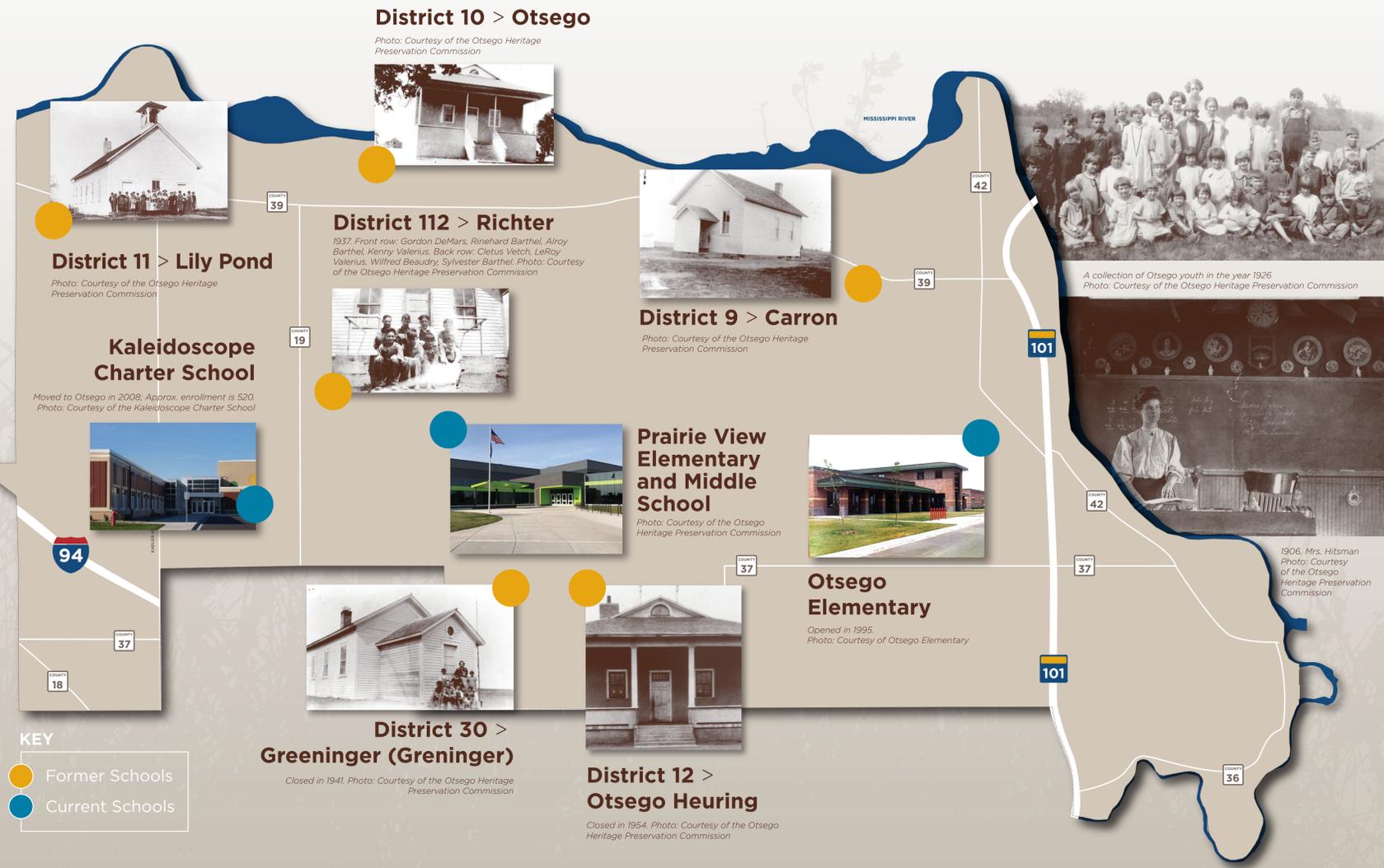
In the 1940s, eight rural schools provided an education for the children of Otsego.

The schools were established through Wright County. Districts were formed as needed when residents petitioned the County Board. The district boundary lines were constantly changing with the population and a numbering system revision in the 1950s renamed several of them.

The last rural school to close was District 11, Lily Pond School, which consolidated with Monticello and Elk River in 1955. It was a two-room stucco schoolhouse built in 1914. Otsego City Clerk Jerome Perrault attended the Lily Pond School. The building is located on CSAH 39 at Kadler Avenue. It has been remodeled into a private home.

The Otsego School, District 10, was located in the Village of Otsego. Perrault believes the existing building was erected in the mid-1920s after the first building burned. Perrault recalls as a boy seeing the rectangular indent in the ground where the previous building had stood. "Report on Rural School House," by A. A. Zech, school superintendent, provides an inventory card of the Otsego School before the fire. It is dated June 26, 1916.

The 1916 Otsego School was a frame building in good condition on one half acre. It was built in about 1885. The school house had one room in fair condition 28.26 feet by 25.33 feet, a hall and a basement. There was a Storm King No. 240 furnace in the basement. The Otsego School had 125 square feet of slate blackboard, 51 single desks, and an ordinary teacher's desk in poor condition (\$4 value.) Pupils could get a drink with individual cups at the water cooler. A basin and towels were provided for washing hands. Two outhouses in good condition were lighted and had toilet paper.



District 10 > Otsego
Photo: Courtesy of the Otsego Heritage Preservation Commission

District 11 > Lily Pond
Photo: Courtesy of the Otsego Heritage Preservation Commission

District 112 > Richter
1937. Front row: Gordon DeMars, Rinehard Barthel, Alroy Barthel, Kenny Valerius. Back row: Cletus Vetch, LeRoy Valerius, Wilfred Beaudry, Sylvester Barthel. Photo: Courtesy of the Otsego Heritage Preservation Commission

District 9 > Carron
Photo: Courtesy of the Otsego Heritage Preservation Commission

Prairie View Elementary and Middle School
Photo: Courtesy of the Otsego Heritage Preservation Commission

Otsego Elementary
Opened in 1995. Photo: Courtesy of Otsego Elementary

District 30 > Greeninger (Greninger)
Closed in 1941. Photo: Courtesy of the Otsego Heritage Preservation Commission

District 12 > Otsego Heuring
Closed in 1954. Photo: Courtesy of the Otsego Heritage Preservation Commission

Kaleidoscope Charter School
Moved to Otsego in 2008. Approx. enrollment is 520. Photo: Courtesy of the Kaleidoscope Charter School

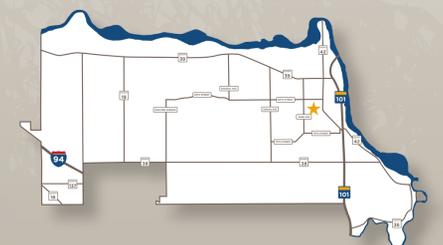
KEY
● Former Schools
● Current Schools

1906. Mrs. Hitsman. Photo: Courtesy of the Otsego Heritage Preservation Commission

A collection of Otsego youth in the year 1926. Photo: Courtesy of the Otsego Heritage Preservation Commission

Otsego Heuring School, District 12 (later 2633) closed in 1954. This building is now a private home located on CSAH 37 at ODean Avenue. The St. Michael Village School building (District 20) was located outside the city limits of present day Otsego although Otsego children attended. It was a brick building constructed in 1908.

Joint District 39 (later 285) was shared between Wright and Hennepin Counties, serving children from Otsego and Frankfort. The Richter School, District 112, the Greeninger School, District 30, and the Carron School, District 9, all closed in the 1940s. The Richter School was located near McIver Avenue and 80th Street. The Greeninger School was at McAlister Avenue and 67th Street in the area known as "The Crossroads." The Carron School was located on River Road (now vacated) across from the Lefebvre farm. This area is now the Country Ridge development.



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