



Photo courtesy Dr. Wayne DeJohn

Ambrose Hall celebrates centennial

By Tony Berardi

The cornerstone of the new diocesan St. Ambrose was laid Sunday at 3 o'clock p.m. Notwithstanding the dark clouds arising at the time with sure indications of rain, a very large concourse of people was present: it being the first time that many of them had the opportunity of gazing upon the college grounds, everyone present was delighted with the location. It is without a doubt, one of the most commodious and beautiful sites for educational purposes in the west The Iowa Messenger July 11, 1885

When the cornerstone for Ambrose Hall was laid back in 1885, the building was four times smaller than it is today. The very presence of this structure is a constant reminder of the many Years St. Ambrose has served its students as well as the community.

As St. Ambrose College began to grow, so did Ambrose Hall. During the early years of the 20th century a number of additions were added in order to accommodate the College's growing population. With each addition came a new story of the College itself.

1985 marks the 100th anniversary of Ambrose Hall. The cornerstone contains a number of items of the day

such as newspapers and books. Rev. George McDaniel, who lives in Ambrose Hall, had suggested to the administration that some sort of commemorative ceremony might be in order. McDaniel presented the idea of a plaque which would have been placed above the cornerstone. All of this was to take place in conjunction with the commencement ceremony of the class of 1985.

The suggestion never went any further than that. The administration did not seem to see the need for such a dedication. Edward Rogalski, Vice-President, said the matter had been considered but no immediate action was being taken

Ambrose Hall is one of the oldest and proudest symbols St. Ambrose has. It seems quite appropriate that some sort of recognition should have been given. So far the only recognition that the building received was the toppling of the statue that used to face Locust St. For the first time since 1895, one of the College's most famous institutions fell victim the most mindless and cruel acts of vandalism, last Saturday night.

Surely, we can treat our cherished landmarks with more respect than has been shown. The Statue as well as Am-

brose Hall represents all that the College is and ever was for the last 103 years.

Baecke lecture

Richard E. Geiger, associate professor of history, will present a Baecke Chair of Humanities lecture Nov. 25, 1985, at 7:30 p.m. in the Galvin Fine Arts Center.

Geiger's lecture, "Insights into Medieval Belgium," is based on his research and his findings as a Baecke Scholar in Europe. His lecture will include a color slide presentation.

Geiger's academic specialty is the history of the Middle Ages. Geiger served as the 1984-85 occupant of the endowed Baecke Chair of Humanities at St. Ambrose, and devoted a portion of his sabbatical to further study the Belgium component of the medieval and Renaissance periods of world history.

His lecture will focus on the physical layout of medieval cities in Belgium as they exist today. Investigating the religious and economic characters of modern Brugg, Ghent, Antwerp, Brussels, Tournai and Leuven.