



## FINDING AID

### Jenny Lind Chapel (Andover, Ill.) records, 1850-1943

#### COLLECTION SUMMARY

- Collection Title:** Jenny Lind Chapel (Andover, Ill.) records
- Collection Number:** I/O: 1
- Dates:** 1850-1874, 1943 (bulk 1850-1861)
- Size:** 1 box (.25 linear feet), plus 18 oversized architectural drawings
- Language:** Swedish (bulk), English
- Creator/Collector:** Jenny Lind Chapel (Andover, Ill.)  
Esbjörn, Lars Paul, 1808-1870  
Inn, Wintram A.  
Ulricson, Charles, 1816-1887
- Subject Headings:** Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod of North America.  
Lutheran church--Illinois--Andover  
Lutheran church buildings  
Augustana Lutheran Church (Andover, Ill).  
Architectural drawing
- Repository:** Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, IL
- Abstract:** Jenny Lind Chapel is the oldest Swedish Lutheran church in Illinois, known as the "Mother Church" of the Augustana Synod. Swedish immigrant Lars Paul Esbjörn and ten charter members founded the congregation in 1850. This collection includes some of the earliest records of the Jenny Lind Chapel of Andover, Illinois, including minutes recorded by Lars Paul Esbjörn and others. Also includes an alphabetical index to church membership of the 1850s and communion records from 1859-1861. Collection also contains architectural drawings of both the Jenny Lind Chapel (A. Wintram Inn, architect) and Augustana

Lutheran Church (Charles Ulricson, architect) in Andover, Illinois.

## **RIGHTS AND ACCESS**

### **Conditions Governing**

#### **Access:**

Collection is open for research.

#### **Reproduction and Use:**

Unpublished manuscripts are protected by copyright. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the Swenson Center and the copyright holder.

#### **Preferred Citation:**

[item identification], in I/O:1 Jenny Lind Chapel (Andover, Ill.) records, Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois.

## **ACQUISITION AND RELATED MATERIALS**

### **Provenance:**

Documents originally donated to the Augustana Historical Society by Rubert Hull, pastor of the Andover Lutheran Church, in 1943. Date of transfer to Swenson Center unknown.

Architectural drawing of Jenny Lind Chapel ca. 1850 donated to the Swenson Center by Hortence Lindorff of Rock Island, Illinois. Mrs. Lindorff initiated the museum in the basement of the Jenny Lind Chapel and served on its board for many years.

### **Related Materials:**

I/O:8 Jenny Lind Chapel Committee (Andover, Ill.) records; SAC P:29 Hortence Lindorff papers; MSS P:310 Glen E. Brolander papers; MSS P:10 Birger Swenson papers.

MSS 1 The Lars Paul Esbjörn and Esbjörn family papers, Augustana College Special Collections; MSS 168 Jenny Lind Chapel records, Augustana College Special Collections.

### **Notes:**

Jenny Lind Chapel architectural drawing previously cataloged as I/O:1b

### **Processed By:**

Processed by Kermit Westerberg in 1980s. Finding aid written by Lisa Huntsha in January 2017 following Describing Archives: A Content Standard.

## **CONTENT AND STRUCTURE**

### **Administrative/Biographical**

#### **History:**

Jenny Lind Chapel is the oldest Swedish Lutheran church in Illinois, known as the “Mother Church” of the Augustana Synod. Swedish immigrant Lars Paul Esbjörn and ten charter members founded the congregation in 1850. The first church structure was built between 1851 and 1854. Esbjörn traveled the eastern United States to petition for money to build the church. Jenny Lind, the famous 19<sup>th</sup> century “Swedish Nightingale” singer, was on tour in America at that time. She met Esbjörn and donated \$1,500 to fund church construction. Esbjörn would later become the first president of Augustana College.

The church was dedicated on Advent Sunday, December 3, 1854. Construction was slow due to poor weather conditions and the cholera epidemic. The church has no steeple because the wood was instead needed for coffins for the cholera victims. The congregation quickly grew and, in 1867, work began on the new Augustana Lutheran Church about a block away. In 1870, the congregation moved to this new building and the Jenny Lind Chapel continued to be used for various church functions. The small church was named Jenny Lind Chapel in 1948. Today, the Jenny Lind Chapel is on the National Register of Historic Places, houses a museum, and hosts special events throughout the year under the direction of the Jenny Lind Chapel Operating Committee. The Augustana Lutheran Church serves as a community church for Andover and the surrounding area.

### **Scope and Content:**

This collection includes some of the earliest records of the Jenny Lind Chapel of Andover, Illinois, including minutes recorded by Lars Paul Esbjörn and others. Also includes an alphabetical index to church membership of the 1850s and communion records from 1859-1861.

Collection contains architectural drawings of both the Jenny Lind Chapel and Augustana Lutheran Church in Andover, Illinois. One Jenny Lind Chapel architectural drawing by A. Wintram Inn of 113 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue (town not indicated). Drawing shows front, side, and floor plans of first story and basement. Pen over pencil on paper. No date, but likely ca. 1850-51. Seventeen sketches and architectural drawings of Augustana Lutheran Church (Andover, Ill.) by Charles Ulricson, architect, Peoria, Illinois. No date, but likely ca. 1867.

### **System of Arrangement:**

Original system of arrangement unknown, but maintained. Architectural drawings are oversized and stored separately.

### **Collection Inventory:**

By folder:

1. Letter detailing materials originally donated to Augustana Historical Society by Rubert Hull and *Andover Church Tidings*, August 1943 (English)
2. Minutes of the Augustana Lutheran Church, 1855-1859, recorded by Lars Paul Esbjörn and others
3. Minutes of the Augustana Lutheran Church, 1855-1859, recorded by Lars Paul Esbjörn and others (photocopies)
4. Minutes of the Augustana Lutheran Church, 1874
5. Alphabetical index to membership records, 1850s
6. Ministerial Acts (communion) records, 1859-1861

## Oversized

### Items in I/O Shared Oversized Box 1:

One architectural drawing of Jenny Lind Chapel (Andover, Ill.) by A. Wintram Inn. Undated, ca. 1850-51

Three architectural drawings of Augustana Lutheran Church (Andover, Ill.) by Charles Ulricson, architect, Peoria, Illinois. Undated, ca. 1867.

### Oversized Boxes:

1. Two rolled architectural drawings of Augustana Lutheran Church (Andover, Ill.) by Charles Ulricson, architect, Peoria, Illinois. Undated, ca. 1867.
2. Two rolled architectural drawings of Augustana Lutheran Church (Andover, Ill.) by Charles Ulricson, architect, Peoria, Illinois. Undated, ca. 1867.
3. Ten rolled architectural sketches and drawings for the Augustana Lutheran Church at Andover, Ill by Charles Ulricson, architect, Peoria, Illinois. Undated, ca. 1867.