

St. Cloud State University

## The Repository at St. Cloud State

---

WPA Biographic Summaries

University Archives

---

9-28-1936

### Mihelich, Mathias (1875 - )

N. P. Kruchten

Follow this and additional works at: <https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/wpabio>

---

#### Recommended Citation

Kruchten, N. P., "Mihelich, Mathias (1875 - )" (1936). *WPA Biographic Summaries*. 863.  
<https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/wpabio/863>

This Interview is brought to you for free and open access by the University Archives at The Repository at St. Cloud State. It has been accepted for inclusion in WPA Biographic Summaries by an authorized administrator of The Repository at St. Cloud State. For more information, please contact [tdsteman@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:tdsteman@stcloudstate.edu).

Mathias Mihelich, a native of Austria, came to America where he became interested in the great granite industry of Saint Cloud, Stearns County, Minnesota. Mathias Mihelich was born in Noshach, Austria on September 17, 1875, a son of John and Apolonia Mihelich.

Mathias Mihelich received his childhood education in the country school of Austria, which he attended from the time he was six years old until he was seventeen. Mathias started to learn the carpenter and the stone cutting trade which he accomplished in three years and he is a master craftsman today.

At the age of twenty Mathias Mihelich was compelled to serve in the Austrian Army for three years in Regiment #17. He recalls Frans Ferdinand, a superior officer in the same company who was killed in later years before the start of the world war while he was on an inspection tour. After completing his service in the army Mathias Mihelich worked at the stonecutter trade in Austria for about three years.

In 1901, when he was twenty-six years old, he came to America on the steam ship, Zelland, which took twelve days before he arrived in New York. From New York Mathias Mihelich came directly to Saint Cloud, Minnesota and worked for an old friend, Frank Stegnar of Saint Wendel, Minnesota the first year. In 1902 he worked at some carpenter work throughout Stearns County, at times he was in Saint Joseph and later in Sauk Centre, then to Long Prairie, Minnesota where he remained about five years. He then returned to Saint Cloud, where Mathias Mihelich was engaged in the Monumental Stone business and is following the same business today.

Frank Mihelich, a brother, is in the Monumental stone business in Saint Cloud. He came to America in 1912.

Jacob, is living in Austria; Joseph, was killed in action during the world war; John, died in Austria in 1873; John, another brother, died

in Austria in 1885; Thressa and Feronica Mihelich are living in Austria. Four other sisters have died, Francisca, in 1890, Mary in 1879, Catherine, in 1891, Helen, died in 1893, all of whom have been buried in Austria.

John and Apolonia Mihelich, father and mother of Mathias, who operated a small farm in Austria have now passed away. John Mihelich died December 21, 1935 at the age of eighty-four, and Apolonia Mihelich died October 15, 1914 at the age of sixty-two. Both parents were buried in Bresje, Austria.

Interviewed: Mathias Mihelich  
Date: September 28, 1936  
By: N. P. Kruchten

Publication Granted

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE MATHIAS MIHELICH BIOGRAPHY

NO LEGAL RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE