1 St. Stephen's Church in Nijmegen

After the noble count Otto had taken in pledge the power over Nijmegen,[1] like I have written above, he wanted to protect the town. So in June 1254 he and 1254
the judge, the sheriffs and other citizens of Nijmegen obtained permission to demolish the parish church that lay outside the town walls,[2] to move it inside the walls and to rebuild it new. This operation was necessary and useful both for Otto himself and for the inhabitants of the town. The reverend father Conrad of Hochstaden, archbishop of Cologne,[3] gave his permission. So did the reverend dean and canons of the chapter of St. Apostles' in Cologne, who had long[4] been the true and benevolent patrons of the church—but they did not allow Otto to do anything without their knowledge, nor to infringe their rights, nor to damage their property.

And so the count and the town voluntarily gave an open space in town called Hundisburg, which was owned by the aforementioned king William, to the dean and chapter of St. Apostles' in order to build and consecrate a church and graveyard. King William approved and the town of Nijmegen explicitly expressed its assent. A new ditch was dug on property of the church near the castle and the harbour,[5] causing the demolition of the presbytery. In compensation, the count and citizens committed themselves to giving the parish priest another suitable space close enough to the new church that was about to be built. A letter about these transactions, with the seals of count Otto and the town of Nijmegen, is kept at St. Apostles' church.[6]

// One additional line to show synchronization. //

[1] In 1247 William II (1227–1256) count of Holland needed money to fight his way to Aachen to be crowned King of the Holy Roman Empire. He gave the town of Nijmegen in pledge to Otto II (1229–1271) count of Guelders.

[2] Since the early seventh century old St. Stephen's church had been located close to the castle, at today's Kelfkensbos square. Traces of the church and the presbytery were found during excavations in 1998–1999.

[3] Conrad of Hochstaden († 1261) was archbishop of Cologne in 1238–1261. Nijmegen belonged to the archdiocese of Cologne until 1559.

[4] They probably became the patrons when the chapter was established in the early eleventh century. About the church and the chapter, see Gottfried Stracke, *Köln: St. Aposteln*, Stadtspuren – Denkmäler in Köln, vol. 19, Köln: J. P. Bachem, 1992.

[5] Nowadays, the exact location of the medieval ditch—and of two Roman ones—can be seen in the pavement of Kelfkensbos square.

[6] The original letter is lost. A 15th century transcription of it is kept at the Historisches Archiv der Stadt Köln (HAStK).