

Canada’s Indian Residential Schools

1876–1996

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Scroll

It looks like you live near **Edmonton**.

This visualization uses your current location to explore a story from nearby. If this is correct, continue to scroll. If not, or if you prefer to explore somewhere else, select a different option below.

Vancouver Island	Edmonton	Winnipeg
Vancouver	Calgary	Toronto

Scroll

The **Beaver Lake Cree Nation** reservation is 164km nw of **Edmonton, Alberta**.

2017

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2017



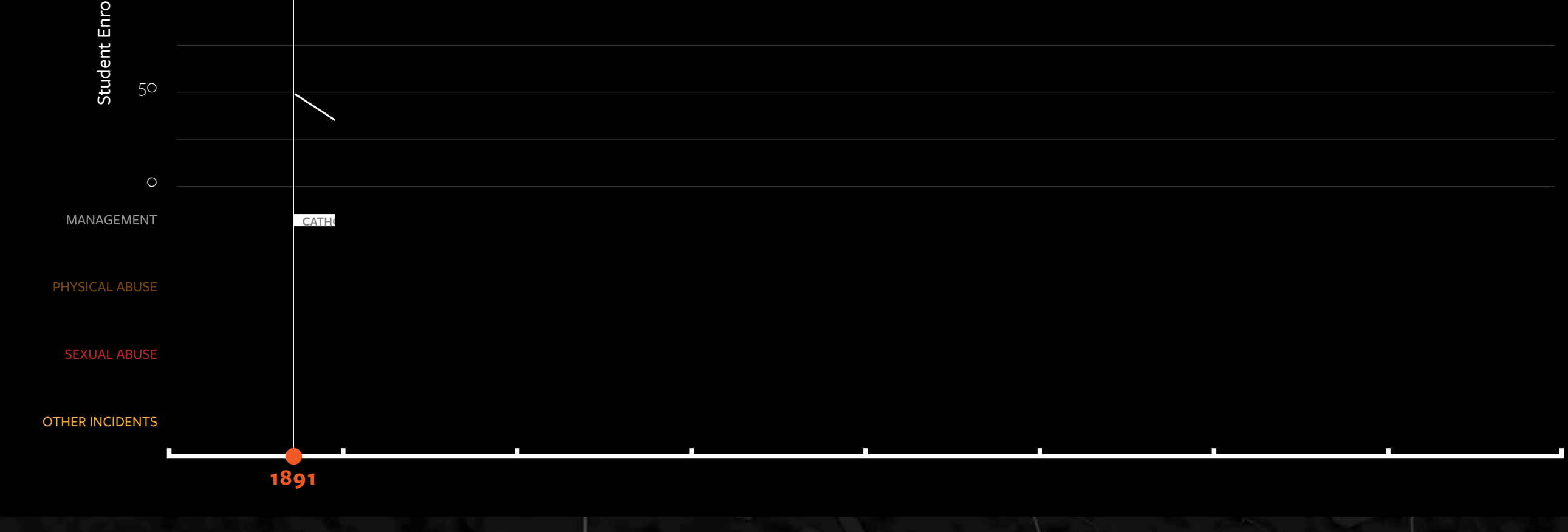
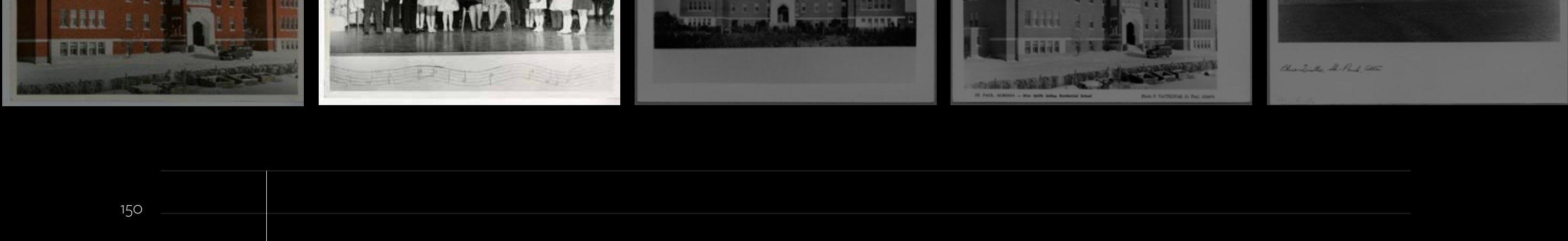
The **Blue Quills Residential School** opened on the reserve in **1891**.

This visualization will walk you through the story of this residential school. Scroll on to explore.

Scroll

The **Blue Quills Residential School** was open until **1979**.

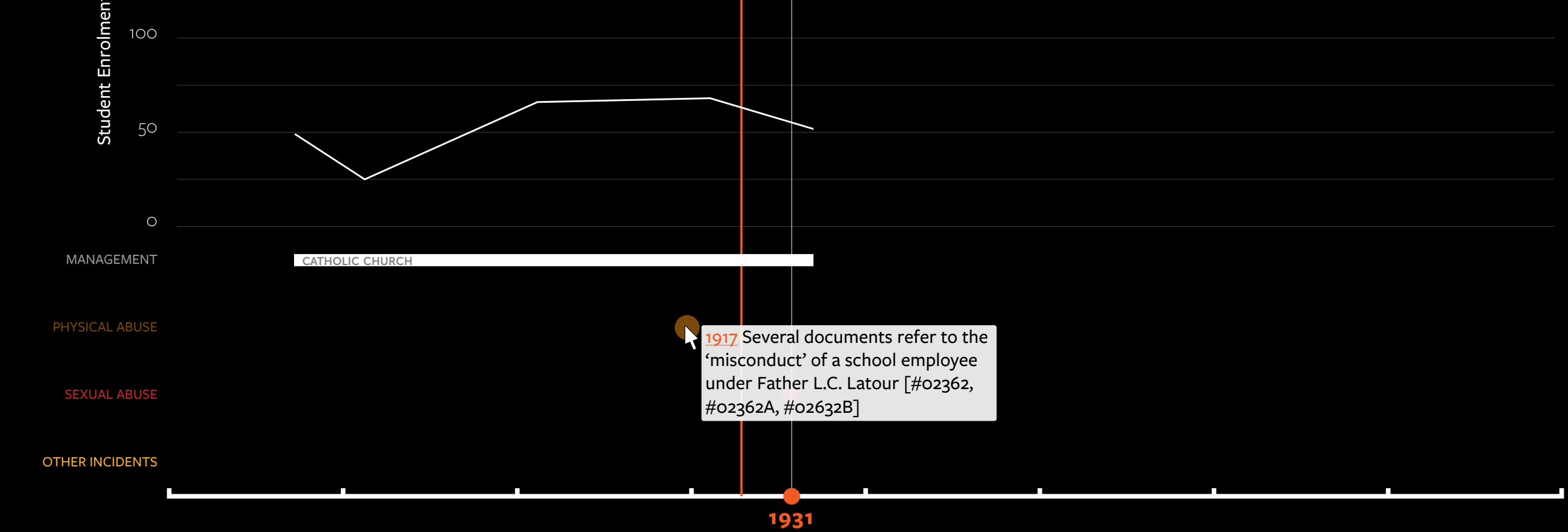
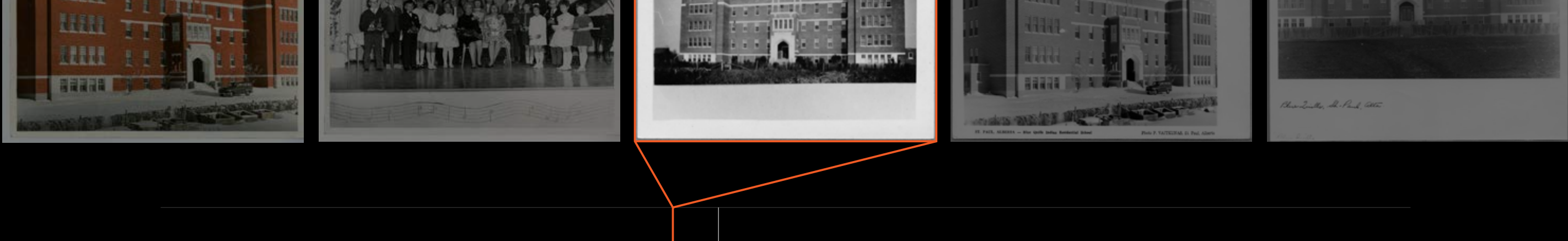
In **1891**, the school was known as **Lac la Biche Boarding School**. It had approximately **40** students and was under the control of the **Sisters of Charity, Grey Nuns of Montreal**, part of the **Catholic Church**. The principal was **unknown**.



Scroll

The **Blue Quills Residential School** was open until **1979**.

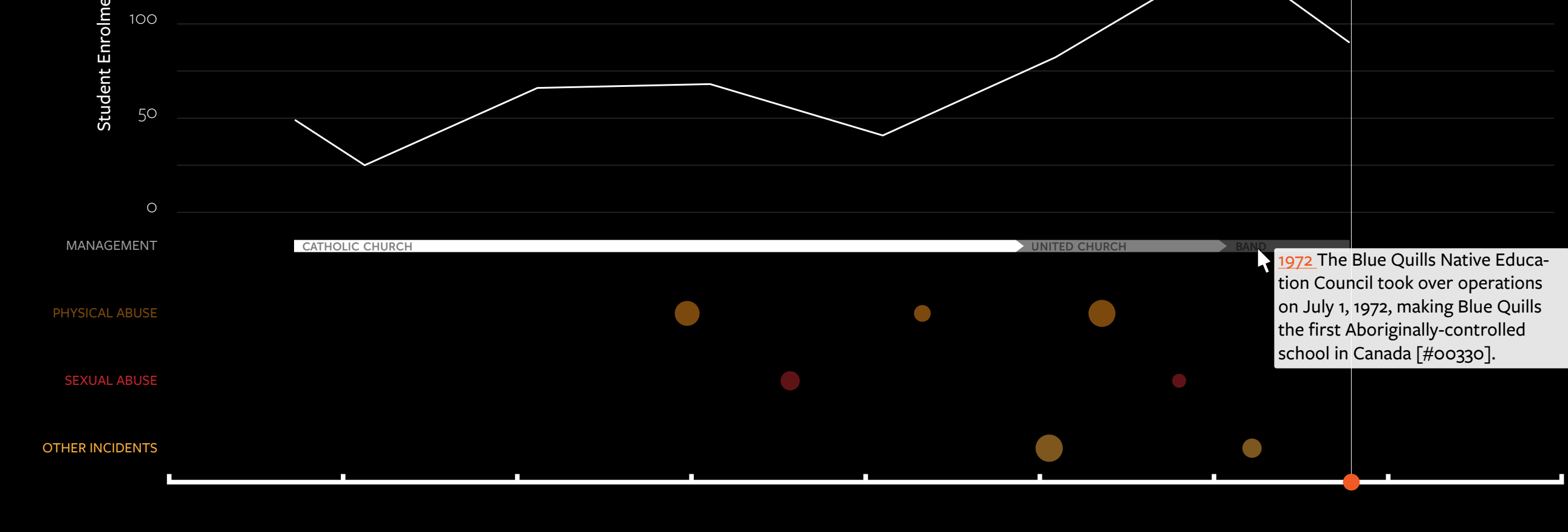
In **1931**, the school was known as **Blue Quills Indian Residential School**. It had approximately **80** students and was under the control of the **Oblates of Mary Immaculate**, part of the **Catholic Church**. The principal was **Rev. Joseph Anglin, OMI**.



Scroll

The **Blue Quills Residential School** closed in **1979**.

In **1979**, the school was known as **Blue Quills School**. It had approximately **40** students and was under the control of **Blue Quills Native Education Council**, part of the **Blue Quills Tribal Band**. The principal was **Mike Steinhauer, BQNEC**.



Scroll

Visualizing Canada’s Indian Residential Schools

A single scroll-based design with limited need for hovering, clicking, or other interaction.

This simplifies how the visualization is used, allowing it to maintain its value on tablet and mobile devices. This also makes the project as a whole quite intuitive for users who are not familiar or comfortable with using web based visualization.

i. Introduction

The project starts with a simple text page, introducing the IRS system.

A “dot” element on the right-hand side tells the viewer where they are within the piece.

The colour scheme is simple: white text on a black background, using orange as a contrast colour. A main serif font with a complimentary sans-serif font reflects the seriousness of the topic.

ii. Location Detection

If permitted, the user’s location is automatically detected and, if not, or if the user would like to explore elsewhere, they can select from pre-defined options.

Predefined options might be a good idea in general, to limit the scope of the project within this timeframe

Elements on any page from now on that *change* depending on viewer prefs, are underlined and displayed in orange.

Instructional information is in sans-serif and grey to distinguish from body text.

The user’s location is used to tell the story of a school and reserve located nearby. The viz will decide which is closest to the user’s location and display that story, grounding the data and making it more reliable.

map scrolls/fades in, fullscreen

iii. Nearest Reserve Today

We zoom in on a custom MapBox map, *fullscreen*, showing the location of the nearest reserve in relation to the user, and that reserve’s boundaries *today*.

Again, changing data is displayed in orange and underlined.

The timeline element is introduced on this page, telling the user the info displayed is from the year 2017.

zoom level: user location and reservation

map zooms in into next panel

text panel scrolls/fades out

map zooms in from previous panel

iv. Story of the School 1

We zoom in on the map, showing the location of the school when it opened in relation to the reserve it was built on or near.

Again, the orange colour is used to signify changing data (i.e. this is *orange*, so this is what we are talking about).

zoom level: school location

text panel scrolls/fades in expands with scroll

text panel expands from previous panel with scroll

v. Story of the School 2

The map remains as a full screen background. As the user scrolls the school opening text box comes in, inviting the user to scroll to explore.

text panel expands into next panel with scroll

text panel expands from previous panel with scroll

v. Story of the School 3

The text box is divided into five regions:

1. The name of the school
2. Yearly quantitative data (This data changes as the user scrolls *through time*, updating with data for each year.
3. Timeline entries (Again, this data changes as the user scrolls.
4. Photos and other media (yearly qualitative data about the school). If available, these will change with the year as the user scrolls; however, there aren’t always enough available, so an orange outline and callout will “attach” each media to its place in time. Hovering over will bring its opacity up, while clicking will enlarge the media within a lightbox containing more meta info.
5. Time-based chart (This chart graphs student enrollment as a line chart, management and operations as a horizontal, stacked bar chart, and abuse and incident reports are plotted along the bottom, increasing in size according to number of students involved. This chart builds itself as the user scrolls *through time*.

v. Story of the School 4

The charts continue to build as the viewer scrolls. The viewer can hover over plotted items to reveal more info, while clicking links to the original document at the NCTR.

text panel shrinks into next panel with scroll