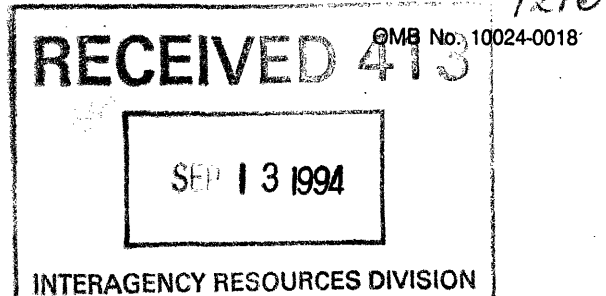


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions on the back of this form. Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Norway Lutheran Church and Cemetery

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 10 miles south of Denbigh N/A not for publication

city or town Denbigh N/A vicinity

state North Dakota code ND county McHenry code 049 zip code 58732

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James E. Sperry 9/9/94
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
James E. Sperry, State Historic Preservation Officer

State of Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is:
- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 - determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
 - determined not eligible for the National Register.
 - removed from the National Register.
 - other, (explain): _____

Edson H. Beall for Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
Entered in the National Register 10-14-94

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3		buildings
1		sites
		structures
		objects
4	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility
FUNERARY/cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility
FUNERARY/cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late Gothic Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE
walls BRICK
roof ASPHALT
other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1907

Significant Dates

1907

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

Lillian Espeseth

Norway Lutheran Church

McHenry County, ND

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 4.38 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 14 380018 5337586
Zone Easting Northing
2 14 380000 5337467

3
Zone Easting Northing
4

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lillian Espeseth, Stanley Markusen & Ramon Anderson

organization Norway Lutheran Congregation date July 12, 1994

street & number Star Route 3 Box 74 telephone (701)728-6878

city or town Towner state ND zip code 58788

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Norway Lutheran Church Congregation [c/o Howard Garnaas]

street & number Star Rt 3, Box 77 telephone (701)338-2034

city or town Towner state ND zip code 58788

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

RECEIVED 418
OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

SEP 13 1994

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
Norway Lutheran Church & Cemetery
McHenry County, North Dakota

DESCRIPTION

The Church

The Norway Lutheran Church and Cemetery consists of a rural church, cemetery, and two contributing privies. The church and privies stand on a 1.5 acre tract of land in Section 6 of Township 154 North, Range 77 West, and the cemetery is across a township road in Section 7 on 2.88 acres of land.

Located ten miles south of Denbigh, North Dakota, Norway Lutheran Church can be seen for a distance of many miles as it stands on a hill overlooking the Souris (Mouse) River. The church faces south and can be approached from the east and west on the township road. The east, north, and west sides of the church grounds are outlined by a barbed wire fence that separates the yard from an adjacent pasture. Norway Lutheran Church sits on a yard bed of native prairie grasses, which is mowed regularly during the warmer months of the year. Large cottonwood trees, grown from volunteer seed, stand in the southeast corner of the yard. In the northeast corner of the grounds are three fifteen-foot evergreen trees which were planted in 1984.

Resting on a foundation of mortared rocks, Norway Lutheran Church is a one-story sand brick building built in 1907. The exterior architectural plan consists of the rectangular main body of the church, which measures 36 feet by 40 feet, and a southern 10-foot by 12-foot central bell tower entrance rising 65 feet from the foundation of the building.

With graceful simplicity, the church follows the basic massing and detailing for the Late Gothic Revival style. Norway Lutheran Church exhibits the stylistic elements of a steeply pitched gable roof and dormers, tall bell tower with elongated metal spire, lancet door and window openings, and smooth monochromatic brickwork.

Asphalt shingles cover the main gable roof, pent eaves, and central gable dormers on the east and west elevations. Large ornamental vergeboard fills the dormer peaks, and a graceful oval in brick is visible below. A brick chimney with a concrete block extension is located on the west slope of the roof, nearest the rear of the church. The roof soffits and pent eaves are decorated with unique sawn, single-bore brackets.

Fenestration includes twelve gothic arch double hung stained glass windows which measure 33-inches by 88-inches. Five of these windows are grouped as one-three-one along the east elevation, and repeated on the west elevation. The remaining two windows are on either side of the bell tower on the south front facade. No windows exist on the north elevation. The door and window openings are supported by brick voussoirs and a keystone.

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Continuation Sheet

Norway Lutheran Church & Cemetery
McHenry County, North Dakota

Section number 7 Page 2

DESCRIPTION (continued)

With the installation of a basement in 1929, access to the basement is gained from an outside entrance on the east side of the church. Not to detract from the overall view of the church, a horizontal wooden door covers a series of concrete steps. This door, when closed, lays flush with the surrounding church grounds. At the bottom of these steps a door opens into the church "parlor," as the basement is referred to. The original windowed wooden door has been replaced by a weather tight insulated steel door. Eight small windows give outside light to the basement. Outside wooden covers protect the well area and windows from the elements. Storm/screen windows were installed in 1985.

The square bell tower is visually divided into segments. At ground level, the wooden front doors, stained glass overlight, and side lights are recessed slightly under a pointed arch into the brick walls. An apron of asphalt shingles over the entrance doors separate the brick segment from the wood frame portion of the bell tower. A triple set of rounded windows, which measure 4.5 feet by 1.5 feet, and a 3.5-foot by 6-foot sunburst panel decorate this section. The third segment is perforated by sets of louvered rounded arch window openings on each of the four sides of the steeple. The cedar shingled roof is crowned with an ornamental metal spire. Brackets, identical to those elsewhere on the building, decorate the soffits of the bell tower.

Small exterior alterations have occurred over the years, none of which have altered the historic integrity of the property. Four small dormers were removed from the steeple in 1983. The dormers are stored at a nearby farm and will need repairs before reinstallation. The exterior walls of the whole structure were caulked and glazed in 1947. Fortunately, the glazing weathered and deteriorated without damaging the bricks and mortar. In 1959, a fence railing was placed around the church basement entrance for safety. Wrought iron railings on each side of the original concrete steps and a concrete sidewalk leading to the basement entrance were added in 1974. The original heavy wooden doors, each called a "lem" in Norwegian, were replaced with lighter doors, but are historically compatible. West of the church entrance steps is an 8-foot by 4-foot sign with wrought iron lettering which reads NORWAY LUTHERAN CHURCH. This sign, put up in 1982, was given as a memorial.

The architectural plan of this church tends to be functional and clearly organized, consisting of a narthex, nave, and sanctuary. The narthex entrance is an archway with a set of wooden doors, a decorative stained and leaded glass overlight in a floral pattern, and two clear glass side lights. Due to the age of the leaded glass and fear that the leaded pieces would fall out, the overlight was releaded and safeguarded with clear glass on both sides. The lower one third of the narthex walls has

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Norway Lutheran Church & Cemetery
McHenry County, North Dakota

DESCRIPTION (continued)

the original wainscoting which is now varnished. The upper walls are plastered. Decorative pressed tin, which is still in place, covers the entrance ceiling. The upper narthex walls and ceiling are painted a soft blue.

In the ten-foot ceiling of the narthex is a trap door leading to the bell and can only be reached by the use of a step ladder. Two ropes hang from the narthex ceiling: one, when pulled, rings the regular call-to-worship bell, and the other rope rings the same bell but the action is more significant. The bell does not swing but is struck with a clapper causing a solemn sound. This bell is used for funerals and is referred to as a hammer bell.

Leading into the nave from the narthex is a set of double doors hung on hinges that swing in and out. Original fixtures in the nave and sanctuary stand out. Sixteen solid oak pews, which are eleven feet long render decorative elements in scroll carvings. The flooring under the pews consists of four inch fir floor boards. Originally the floor was unfinished, but it has now been sanded, sealed, varnished, waxed and polished.

The importance of the chancel is emphasized by one step up from the nave. The chancel floor and center aisle were carpeted in 1923 and recarpeted in 1952 and 1987. The lower walls under the windows have the original varnished fir wainscoting. Upper walls are plaster over wood lath.

One of the church's finest features is the decorative pressed tin which matches the narthex ceiling. The panels cover the whole of the high curved ceiling of the church. The upper walls and ceiling are painted peach and blue.

When the church was built a setting was prepared in the center of the high ceiling for a chandelier. In the meantime a 1934 photograph shows the lighting to be an Aladdin lamp with a milk glass shade hung on a chain and hook from the original setting. After the church was wired for electricity in 1940, a single light bulb hung from that setting until a chandelier, which was given as a memorial, was installed in 1954. Ceiling fans were installed in 1986.

The altar which is also oak is designed with multiple projections on its six spires with a cross at its tip. The altar picture, which measures 8-foot by 12-foot, features Jesus praying in the Garden of Gethsemane. The altar peak reaches sixteen feet toward the sanctuary's twenty-five foot domed ceiling. The base of the altar is four feet in height. It bears

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Norway Lutheran Church & Cemetery
McHenry County, North Dakota

DESCRIPTION (continued)

the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. These letters stand out on the face of the altar base and are nine inches in height. The altar railing stands separate around the altar front and its kneeling pad is upholstered in maroon velvet.

Two "preachers" chairs stand on either side of the altar; one is the original from the early church furnishings, the other is an exact duplicate of the original chair hand-crafted and given as a memorial in 1982. The pulpit purchased in 1914 stands on the right side of the altar. It is of a lighter wood with detailed multiple carvings painted in gold.

Another original feature is the Packard Pump Organ purchased in 1912 which still functions. A Kingsbury upright piano purchased in 1918 is in excellent condition and is currently used. The electronic Alan organ purchased in 1980 replaces the Electronic Connsonata Organ which had been given as a memorial in 1953. The speakers for the Alan organ are mounted on the wall in the northeast corner of the chancel. They blend in well with their surroundings.

The wood burning stove in the sanctuary was removed in 1917. A wood and coal furnace was placed in a cellar type excavation under the church proper. With the source of heat now under the church building, a heat register was placed in the floor in the center of the nave - directly over the furnace below.

The most striking feature of the basement is the exposed rock foundation and cement walls. Calcimine was used on the rocks and walls as a cover in earlier years. Later years saw the walls painted in tones of pinks, greens and white as they are at present.

The church parlor is divided into a kitchen area and a section for tables and chairs - a dining area. The basement of the church was wired for electricity in 1940. The kitchen area was remodeled in 1983. No indoor plumbing was or has been installed. Water for use is carried in and carried out. The original tables, which were built by the Granville School Vocational Agricultural Students and congregational members, are still in use today.

The Privies

Two contributing privies are located along the north fence slightly to the west of the back of the church building. For additional privacy the toilets are shielded on the south by six-foot high wooden enclosures. Both privies are wood frame construction with wood siding and shed roofs covered with asphalt shingles.

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Continuation Sheet

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Norway Lutheran Church & Cemetery
McHenry County, North Dakota

DESCRIPTION (continued)

The Cemetery

Across the township road directly south from the church proper, is the Norway Lutheran Cemetery, an integral part of the property, and a contributing resource in this nomination. The cemetery is definitely rural. Cultivated farm land borders the east and south sides and a pasture borders the west side. Native grasses cover the flat to gently rolling terrain which was partially leveled in 1958. The outside border of the cemetery is outlined with a wire netting fence. The entrance has a double gate of wrought iron. Volunteer ash trees grow along the south fence and volunteer juneberry bushes can be found in a gully-like area along the west fence. Evergreen trees and lilac bushes have been planted in various areas of the cemetery grounds.

There are 165 marked graves and 26 unmarked graves in Norway Lutheran Cemetery. The original log church was located in the northeast corner of the cemetery. A pyramidal-shaped stone monument topped with an iron cross marks the spot today. A plaque with the names of the congregation's charter members was placed on this monument in 1959.

Sondre Norheim, internationally known Norwegian skier, was buried in the cemetery in 1897. A plaque given in memory of Sondre Norheim, from the country of Norway, was dedicated in a ceremony on June 12, 1966. This plaque mounted on a large boulder, marks the Norheim grave.

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Norway Lutheran Church & Cemetery
McHenry County, North Dakota

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Norway Lutheran Church is nominated under Criterion C deriving its primary significance from its architectural distinction. The property is owned and used by a religious group, and a cemetery is part of the property, therefore Criteria Consideration A and D are applicable. Three reasons are offered by the congregants of the church as to why the property should be placed on the National Register of Historic Places: First, it is one of best and well-maintained examples of a rural church, a resource that is vanishing from the North Dakota prairie. Secondly, the church is not a more common wood frame structure, but rather it was built of Denbigh sand bricks, a local building material no longer produced. And finally, no structural additions, and relatively few alterations, have been made to the original structure. The few changes have not detracted from the historical integrity or significance of the church.

In an eight county survey of churches in North Dakota conducted by Frank Vyzralek in 1985, it is apparent small town and rural churches are vanishing. The resources experiencing the greatest losses of integrity were the rural churches. The descriptions included: changed affiliations, used as a local museum, rarely used, used as a storage building, modified, heavily altered, and abandoned. Fortunately, Norway Lutheran Church escaped the fate of many rural churches.

Popular among rural churches at the turn-of-the-century, the Late Gothic Revival style was employed gracefully and simply in the Norway Lutheran Church. As discussed by Marcus Wiffen in American Architecture Since 1780, "Late Gothic Revival buildings are quieter and 'smoother' in design than those of the High Victorian Gothic. Silhouettes are simpler, polychromy is rare, and top-heavy effects and calculated clashes of scale are no longer employed." Also apparent in the Norway Lutheran Church and mentioned in Wiffen's discussion of the Late Gothic Revival style is the use of brick at a construction material.

Norway Lutheran's Denbigh sand brick structure makes it unique among Lutheran churches of the early 1900's. Most Lutheran churches in this area and of that period were of wood frame construction. The Denbigh Brick Plant, located a half mile south of Denbigh North Dakota, was erected in 1906, and closed in 1917 in financial ruin, but it left some legacies in the area. Its bricks were used to build the Norway Lutheran Church, the Denbigh School, located in Denbigh, and nearby Granville and Norwich schools. Norway Church and Denbigh School still stand.

Three parts sand from nearby hills mixed with one part imported lime and water were used in the Denbigh bricks. This mixture needed a 12 hour period to properly blend the sand and lime. After firing, the yellowish

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Continuation Sheet

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Norway Lutheran Church & Cemetery
McHenry County, North Dakota

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

bricks remained soft enough to carve your initials into but were strong enough to shape buildings that continue to stand after years of exposure to the sometimes harsh North Dakota elements.

The first Scandinavian settlers came to the Souris River in 1882 but there was an influx of homesteaders to this area in 1883. They left their former homes looking for an ideal spot to put down roots. Their main interest was a supply of water and wood in a protected area. It was common for families of the same nationality and religious background to congregate in close but rural neighborhoods.

Church services were held in these Christian pioneers' homes conducted by traveling pastors called missionaries. They visited the new settlements of Dakota Territory to preach the work of God, baptize children, organize congregations, and also officiate at funeral and wedding services. One of these missionaries, the Reverend O.H. Aaberg first visited the Souris River area in the fall of 1881 from Grand Forks County, Dakota Territory and on a return trip to the Souris River in 1883 he conducted the first Lutheran services at Villard Post Office which was a small log house on the Wintering River, 2.5 miles east of the present site of Norway Lutheran Church.

Consequently, on another trip to the Souris River, Reverend Aaberg organized Norway Lutheran congregation July 20, 1884. Heads of the households of fourteen Scandinavian families were charter members of the congregation. At a congregational meeting in 1886 it was decided that a meeting house should be built. Consequently, a log church was constructed measuring 18 feet by 24 feet, and was located in the northeast corner of what is currently the cemetery. Worship services in the log church were held in the meeting house until 1890.

A larger and more dignified structure was to be in the congregation's future. In preparation, a 1.5 acre tract of land across from the log meeting house and cemetery in Section 6 of Township 154 North, Range 77 West, was given to the congregation by L. J. Markusen in 1906. Despite extensive research, the architect of the church remains unknown. Since no architectural plans exist for Norway Lutheran Church and the similarity is very strong to the Balfour Lutheran Church, built in 1906, it can be assumed the earlier church was used as a model. (See pg. 12)

Improving upon the wood frame construction of the Balfour Lutheran Church, the congregation decided upon a more permanent material, the locally made Denbigh bricks. Stories have been passed along that, during the construction of the church, the farmers in the vicinity of Norway Lutheran congregation hauled their wheat to the elevator in Denbigh with

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Norway Lutheran Church & Cemetery
McHenry County, North Dakota

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

wagons and teams of horses and hauled the Denbigh sand bricks back to the church site. Church construction was completed in 1907.

Church records indicate the first service was held in the new church on November 17, 1907. Laying of the cornerstone ceremony for the new church was held on July 19, 1908. The Reverend William Coll, pastor at Norway Lutheran Church from 1907-1910, officiated. The Reverend E. T. Quam was guest speaker.

When the altar, the altar railing, and the pews were not yet in place the whole of the church was stark. A wood burning stove stood in the middle of the room with the stove pipes running to a chimney on the north wall. Ordinary wooden chairs, purchased in 1907, were used for pews. A small table served as the pulpit which stood in the unfurnished, almost empty, chancel. The altar, the altar railing, and the pews were special ordered in 1921 from St. Luke's Institute of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. They were hauled seven miles from the train depot at Verendrye, North Dakota, with a team of horses and a hay rack to the church sanctuary. The altar, railing, and pews are still in use.

Affiliated first with the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church, the building was dedicated in June of 1921. No explanation has been found as to why the dedication was not celebrated at an earlier date. Presently the church is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Feeling the need for a fellowship area, the congregation decided to install a basement under the church. The excavation of the church basement was completed in 1929. The labor intensive process involved digging under the rock foundation to a depth of seven feet. Removal of the dirt was done by the men of the congregation using shovels and when enough area was cleared a horse drawn two-handled scrapper was also used.

The excavation work was done in six foot sections in order for the poured concrete footings and walls to cure and support the rock foundation. After the completion of the walls, a wooden floor was constructed covering the dirt floor. In 1972 the wooden floor was replaced with concrete. The portion of the basement under the bell tower entrance was not completed until later. The church parlor has been, and still is, used for many functions including potluck dinners, church suppers, wedding and anniversary receptions, and vacation Bible school to name a few.

The Norway Lutheran congregation has celebrated several anniversaries. During the 90th Anniversary in 1974, the contents of the original

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Continuation Sheet

Norway Lutheran Church & Cemetery
McHenry County, North Dakota

Section number 8 Page 9

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

cornerstone were checked. The original Constitution of the Congregation and the Reverend Coll's 1908 sermon were retrieved. The original documents were not returned to the cornerstone, but copies were enclosed along with translations from Norwegian to English. The original copies are kept in the congregation's fireproof safe.

The property for the cemetery was given to Norway Lutheran Congregation by Erik Espeseth, a charter member of the congregation. The cemetery was dedicated in 1886. That same year, the original log church was constructed in the northeast corner of the cemetery. Today, a pyramidal mortared fieldstone monument, topped with an iron cross, marks the spot where the log meeting house stood. A plaque with the names of the congregation's charter members was placed on this monument in 1959.

The first recorded burial in Norway Lutheran Cemetery was in 1884. This grave remains unmarked but records show it to be that of Torger E. Skaro. The oldest marked graves, that of two infants, are dated 1886. There are 165 marked graves and 26 unmarked graves in Norway Lutheran Cemetery.

Sondre Norheim, internationally known Norwegian skier, was buried in the cemetery in 1897. A plaque, given in memory of Sondre Norheim, from the country of Norway, was dedicated in a ceremony on June 12, 1966. This plaque, mounted on a large boulder, marks the Norheim grave. He lived in the area but was not a member of Norway Lutheran Congregation.

Extensive work was done in 1959 to update cemetery records and identify unmarked graves. Cemetery plots were platted and numbered. A Perpetual Cemetery Fund was established in 1974 to insure long term care of Norway Cemetery. A formal Norway Lutheran Cemetery Association was organized April 10, 1985, with three directors and a Secretary/Treasurer to oversee the cemetery's operations.

The Norway Lutheran Church and Cemetery are local landmarks in addition to being a place of worship and burial for those in the Denbigh and surrounding areas. Norway Lutheran Church and Cemetery are in excellent condition. The property is well preserved and has been carefully maintained. Essential repairs to the church have been made for general upkeep, and those repairs are harmoniously in keeping with the buildings original construction. The period of significance for the property is 1907, the date of construction for the church.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 10

Norway Lutheran Church & Cemetery
McHenry County, North Dakota

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Note: Records in the Secretary's Book for the Norway Lutheran
Congregation in Villard Township, McHenry County, North Dakota, July 20,
1884 - November 29, 1950 were written in Norwegian until 1938. In 1939
the secretary wrote the minutes in English starting on page 92.

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Continuation Sheet

Norway Lutheran Church & Cemetery
McHenry County, North
Dakota

Section number 10 Page 11
Dakota

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property occupies the church, two privies, and the land commencing at the southwest corner of southeast quarter of Section 6, Township 154 North, Range 77 West, thence running due east 396 ft (24 rods) along the south boundary of 6-154-77, thence running due north at right angle to said south line a distance of 165 feet (10 rods), thence due west at right angle a distance of 396 feet, thence south along the west boundary of said quarter section a distance of 165 feet to the point of beginning, and the cemetery land commencing at the northwest corner of the northwest corner of the northeast quarter of Section 7, Township 154 North, Range 77 West, thence running straight south for a distance of 412.5 feet (25 rods), thence east 371.25 feet (22.5 rods), thence north in a straight line 412.5 feet, thence 371.25 feet to place of beginning, and excluding the public roadway, in McHenry County, North Dakota.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

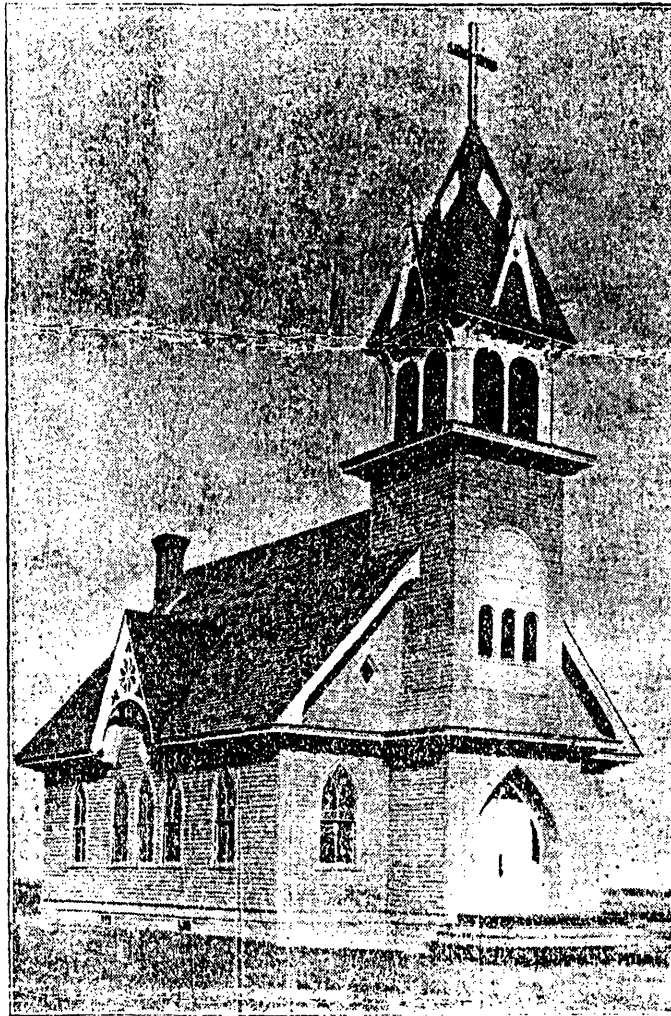
The land in Sections 6 and 7 of the nominated property is historically associated with the property. The boundary lines used in this nomination are those legally defined for this rural property and do not include the public roadway. Because the public roadway divides the nominated parcels, two UTM references are indicated and centrally located within each parcel.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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Norway Lutheran Church & Cemetery
McHenry County, North Dakota



BALFOUR NORW. LUTHERAN CHURCH

BALFOUR, NORTH DAKOTA

A. M. BUSLEE, PASTOR

1924

Balfour Lutheran Church was built in 1906.