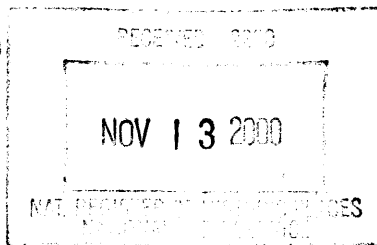


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

12008



National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to 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 Heck, Albertine and Fred, House

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 8941 Audubon Rd  not for publication

city or town Chanhassen  vicinity

state Minnesota code MN county Carver code 019 zip code 55317

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.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Ian R. Stewart Date 10/30/00

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

State of Federal agency and bureau Minnesota Historical Society

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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson H. Ball

12/27/00

Heck House  
Name of Property

Carver Co., Minn.  
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	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	Total

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

NA

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Chaska Brick Farmhouse

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls brick

roof asbestos shingle

other

**Narrative Description**

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

Heck House  
Name of Property

Carver Co., Minn.  
County and State

**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)

Industry

**Period of Significance**

c. 1895

**Significant Dates**

c. 1895

**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:

Carver County Historical Society, Waconia, MN

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Narrative Description

The Albertine and Fred Heck House is a well-preserved Chaska-brick farmhouse in Chanhassen built c. 1895 for a German-immigrant family that arrived in Minnesota in 1881. The house is 2 stories, arranged in a "T" plan. Its solid masonry walls, laid with a common bond on a rubble stone foundation, are constructed of Chaska brick, a cream-colored brick manufactured in nearby Chaska and Carver from c. 1857 until 1957. The gabled roof is covered with cement asbestos shingles laid in a diamond pattern. The house is situated in a rural landscape that is experiencing rapid suburban development, although the surrounding area visible from the property retains an agricultural character. The house lies at the foot of a large hill to the north with Bluff Creek and a low area to the south. Originally the house enjoyed views of farm fields to the west, but extensive fill placed on nearby Audubon Road has obscured these. The farm's barns, granary, and various sheds lie to the east of the house. The outbuildings were all of frame construction except for a small smokehouse (now in ruins) and a combination ice-house/milk-house (destroyed c. 1950) which were constructed of Chaska brick.

A one-story open porch with turned support posts originally faced the road on the west side of the house and defined the house's entry; this was removed and replaced with an enclosed porch constructed of wood and glass before 1930. Above this enclosed porch is an open porch which is reached through a door on the second story. A balustrade with turned posts was constructed around this porch in the 1990s. The house's windows are original and are double-hung one over one; these are arranged in fairly symmetrical patterns with second story windows generally placed directly above windows on the first story. In the south and west gable ends, small windows bring light into the attic, and are placed next to vents of equal size. Chimneys were originally situated in each of the three gable ends, and these are visible in the interior and in the attic, but the chimney on the west gable no longer protrudes from the roof; a chimney near the center of the building is a later addition. Further, the chimneys have been capped with concrete and lack their original, ornate terminations.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Narrative Description

A frame addition on the east side was installed as a summer kitchen; it shares a rubble stone foundation with a framed pantry. The summer kitchen and pantry were added before 1930. On the east side of these appendages, an enclosed entry porch was added which rests on a poured concrete foundation.<sup>1</sup>

The home possesses elements typical of Chaska brick farmhouses built in the 1880s and 1890s: segmentally-arched brick hoods over the windows, a water-table in the brick above a fieldstone foundation, and brick window sills. A photograph taken in about 1920 shows shutters on all windows, but none of these are now in place.<sup>2</sup> The ornate cross-bracing in the gable eaves is thought to be original; the bracing on the east side is currently being copied and replaced. This elaborate cross-bracing, the symmetrical fenestration, cornice returns, and decorative eave brackets contribute to an ornamented appearance.

The interior of the Heck House retains its original millwork, although the original flooring has been covered or replaced with maple flooring. A second-story bathroom, installed before 1930, is said to have been the first indoor bathroom in the area.<sup>3</sup> Since ca. 1930 water to the dwelling was supplied from a windmill and cistern located on the hill to the north of the house. The property was connected to city water

- 
1. All of the major changes made to the house (kitchen relocation, summer kitchen addition, bathroom installation, west-side porch enclosure) are attributed by the family to the era before the death of Fred Heck Jr. in 1930. Marion Michel, the home's current owner and the daughter of Fred Heck Jr., thought the summer kitchen had been built by Fred Sr. and Albertine Heck before they left the farm in 1916. The photograph discussed in note 2, below, shows the summer kitchen in place and the original west porch intact. The poured concrete foundation for the enclosed east porch is also visible; the central chimney is not.
  2. The photograph is hand-colored in an oval format; a copy is in the possession of Marion Michel.
  3. Interview with Lester Molnau, December 1, 1998. Molnau, born in 1917, was raised in the Gustav Molnau house, another Chaska brick farmhouse located one half mile north on the west side of Audubon road.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Narrative Description

in 1998.

The kitchen originally occupied the entire first floor of the south wing. Providing access to, and views of, the farm's fields, entry, barnyard, and buildings, the kitchen's two entrances were dominant features of the house. The six windows in the kitchen's three exterior walls provided cross-ventilation, and a cistern below the kitchen floor, in the southeast corner of the wing, provided a supply of soft water. The cellar below the south wing extends only partially under the wing, but its stone foundation includes two large niches into which shelves were fitted for the storage of canned foods.

A significant change to the house occurred when, sometime before 1930, the kitchen was moved from the south wing to the southeast corner of the east wing.<sup>4</sup> After the kitchen was moved it no longer occupied an entire wing and no longer benefited from the ventilation provided by windows in three exterior walls. This shortcoming was apparently foreseen and remedied by the previous addition of a summer kitchen in new construction immediately to the east of the old kitchen. The house's central chimney was undoubtedly built to accommodate the relocation of the kitchen, and probably corresponded to the installation of a central heating furnace that replaced or supplemented the home's wood stoves.

The house was once part of a 105 acre farm in Chanhassen Township. Chanhassen was an agricultural area settled in the mid 1850s which contained fewer than 600 people in 1860. A small village named Chanhassen was incorporated in northern Chanhassen township in 1896; the population of the village was 175 people in

---

4. Kitchens were universally placed in dependencies or wings, and they occupied the entire volume of these spaces, according to Steve C. Martens, *Ethnic Tradition and Innovation as Influences on a Rural, Midwestern Building Vernacular: Findings from Investigation of Brick Houses in Carver County, Minnesota* (Thesis, Master of Architecture, Univ. of Minnesota, 1988). Marion Michel, the home's current owner, grew up in the house and remembers using both the summer kitchen and the cistern access in the floor of the south wing which is still visible today.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Narrative Description

1900, and then fluctuated between a low of 128 in 1930 to a high of 244 in 1960.

The township remained agricultural until the 1950s, when it began to become more populated and suburbanized. In the early 1960s the annexation of the southwest corner of Chanhassen township by Chaska was followed by the annexation of the northwest corner by Victoria. This activity led to a 1965 petition by Chanhassen township to incorporate as a municipality. A May 1967 referendum resulted in the merger of the remaining township and village after a few more parts of Chanhassen township had been lost to Victoria and Chaska. In 1969, the newly-formed village of Chanhassen joined the Southwest Sanitary Sewer District and the area entered an era in which suburban development rapidly displaced farms. In 1973, as a result of a state-wide reorganization of municipal designations, the village became the city of Chanhassen.<sup>5</sup>

Including the village and the township together, Chanhassen's population began to rise gradually from about 1,000 in 1870 to nearly 2,000 in 1950. For several decades after the latter date the population grew by about 1,400 per decade, but after 1980 the rate of population increase escalated markedly, and the population nearly doubled between 1980 and 1990 and again between 1990 and 1999. The population was 1,977 in 1950; 3,411 in 1960; 4,839 in 1970; 6,359 in 1980; and 11,739 in 1990. The population in 1999 was estimated by the city to be 20,500.

The Heck farm was continued as a dairy operation until about 1957, and then the fields were leased to other farmers. The barn was rented out for hay storage until 1974. After the death of Ida Heck Johnson in 1975, the 105 acre Heck farm was divided and distributed to family members.<sup>6</sup> Disputes within the family delayed the distribution

---

5. Daniel J. Hoisington, *Chanhassen: a Centennial History*. Chanhassen: City of Chanhassen, 1996, p. 174-178.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Narrative Description

until 1985, when the 12.5 acre parcel surrounding the house was acquired by the present owner, Marion Michel, the daughter of Fred Heck Jr. and Ida Heck Johnson. The 12.5 acre parcel ceased to be used for farming in 1985, with the exception that hay continued to be cut on parts of the low section on the south end. The other portions of the 105 acre farm were sold soon after 1985 and, conforming to the local trend, developed into housing.

The boundary of the Heck house historic property includes the house and one non-contributing garage. The garage, 18 x 22 feet, is built of sculpted concrete block with a pyramidal hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles. The doors, which face south, are the original "folding" style, and hang from a horizontal track mounted across the top of the doorway. The garage is in very good condition and appears to have been constructed c. 1930. It is considered non-contributing because it is built of concrete block, whereas the basis of the home's significance is the builder's use of Chaska brick.

- 
6. All of the information in this paragraph was provided by Marion Michel. Ida Heck Johnson (1896-1975) was the widow of Fred Heck Jr; she acquired a life estate in the Heck farm after his death in 1930. Ida Heck married Olaf Johnson in about 1935; he died in about 1940. Ida Heck Johnson continued living on the farm until 1974.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Statement of Significance

The Albertine and Fred Heck House meets National Register Criterion A under the Area of Significance "Industry" as a well-preserved example of a building constructed of Chaska brick, and relates to the "Railroads and Agricultural Development (1870-1940)" statewide historic context. The house is significant for its association with brick manufacture in Chaska, an important local industry which produced a distinctive building material.

Chaska brick is a well-known cream-colored brick, the product of the clay used as a raw material, the amount of oxygen in the kiln, the duration of firing and the temperatures achieved. One historian, Steve Martens, a professor of architecture at North Dakota State University, believes that the visual characteristics of Chaska brick can be attributed especially to the beehive wood-fired kilns used and the resulting low-oxygen environment. "No other native brick in Minnesota" writes Martens, "is so conspicuously associated with its single place of production."<sup>1</sup> Martens describes it as "relatively soft, modular brick (1500-2000 psi)."<sup>2</sup> The brick is said to have consistent properties which led to its widespread use for structural backup, but its uniform cream color was desirable as well. Masons appreciated its porous nature, which drew moisture from the mortar and allowed it to quickly set, thus permitting more rapid construction.<sup>3</sup> The aesthetic qualities of the brick were noted in the 19th century and are notable now, and the colors of the brick have been compared to the natural colors of the local autumn, while the unique hue of the brick and mortar combination makes Chaska brick farmhouses clearly distinguishable, and commonly recognized and

- 
1. Martens, Steve C. *Ethnic Tradition and Innovation as Influences on a Rural, Midwestern Building Vernacular: Findings from Investigation of Brick Houses in Carver County, Minnesota*. Thesis, Master of Architecture, Univ. of Minnesota, 1988, p. 53, 57-8.
  2. Martens p. 54.
  3. Klein, cited in Patrick Smith, "Chaska Brick" (research paper, University of Minnesota) 1999, p. 5.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Statement of Significance

appreciated by area residents today.<sup>4</sup> Chaska brick alone was used for the town's nineteenth century masonry buildings. In the surrounding countryside, the presence of the nearby brickyards had a similar influence, creating a collection of brick farmhouses of homogenous material and color. The proliferation of so much local brick in the area makes it a place where the color of the brick is a pronounced feature of the architectural landscape.

The extensive presence of the historic brick continues to exert an influence on, and define, the visual character of Chaska's downtown. In the downtown, builders have continued to use cream-colored brick even though the brick is no longer locally produced; the city government has encouraged the use of cream brick for commercial construction throughout the city, and has specified it for public buildings which the city government has commissioned, including the city hall/library and a community center.<sup>5</sup>

The Chaska brickyards operated from c. 1857 to 1961 under the management of numerous companies and at numerous sites. Operated seasonally, from about April to November, they were a mainstay of the town's economy. It appears that most of the foremen responsible for the manufacturing process were American-born brickmakers who had learned the trade in places such as Milwaukee or the Eastern U.S. Production began when Lucius Howe, a native of Vermont, exploited a clay deposit at the east end of Chaska in 1857.<sup>6</sup> The west section of a brick house still standing on lot 6, block 30

---

4. Martens, p. 55. The mortar is characteristically brown in color.

5. Interview with Patrick Smith, Associate Planner for the City of Chaska, August 2, 2000.

6. LaVonne Barac, *Chaska: a Minnesota River City*, Chaska: Chaska Bicentennial Committee, 1976, vol. I, p. 268-280, vol. II, p. 199. The origin of the brickyards is discussed in Ted Lofstrom and Lynne VanBrocklin Spaeth, *Carver County: A Guide to its Historic and Prehistoric Places*, St. Paul: MHS, 1978, p. 57. On the first brick house in Chaska see also: Edward D. Neill, *History of the Minnesota Valley, Including the Explorers and Pioneers of Minnesota*. Minneapolis, North Star publishing Co., 1882, p. 364, biography of mason Lyman Noble.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Statement of Significance

in Chaska, is thought to date from 1857, and is considered Chaska's first brick house; the supposition derives from a requirement imposed on John Humpel by the Chaska Land Company to construct a house on the property within one year. A store at Second and Walnut streets, constructed in 1858, is thought to be Chaska's first brick commercial building.<sup>7</sup>

The clay deposits at Chaska are particularly rich, and were called "practically inexhaustible," measuring 20 to 40 feet in thickness, and covered with till two to six feet thick. The clay was found to contain pockets of sand, but few rocks. At most of the Chaska yards, a layer of yellow clay rested upon a layer of blue clay; both were used for brickmaking, and both produced Chaska's characteristic, cream-colored brick, but the blue clay seems to have been preferred.<sup>8</sup> By 1866, four yards were operating, and local masons were making general use of the brick for homes and buildings; in 1868 the Howe yard produced 1.6 million bricks, some of which went to St. Paul and Hastings. The Chaska newspaper in 1871 boasted that "the Chaska brick command the largest price in St. Paul and elsewhere and have justly become celebrated, and are equal to the Milwaukee brick."<sup>9</sup> In 1878, one yard was producing 5,000 bricks per day. Following the Minneapolis mill explosion and fires in 1878, 600,000 Chaska bricks were supplied to rebuild the Humboldt mill in Minneapolis, and another 600,000 to rebuild the Washburn mill. In nearby Carver, two and a half miles southwest of Chaska, an identical brick was produced. Brickyards there opened in the mid-1850s and operated intermittently during the nineteenth century; despite the obvious inaccuracy, the bricks produced in Carver are included under the generic term "Chaska

---

7. Lofstrom and Spaeth, p. 57, 70, 72-3.

8. N. H. Winchell, *The Geology of Minnesota; vol. II of the Final Report*. St. Paul: Pioneer Press Co., 1883, p. 142-4.

9. "Clay Holes are Part of Heritage," by Jim Faber, *Valley Herald*, (Chaska), October 6, 1994, p. 4. "Brick Yards," *Weekly Valley Herald*, (Chaska) September 8, 1871, p. 1.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Statement of Significance

brick.”<sup>10</sup>

Chaska brick was initially transported by wagon and barge. These modes of transport largely limited its distribution to the Chaska area, and to St. Paul, to which the river route from Chaska was relatively straightforward. In 1869, for example, 80,000 bricks were used for a St. Paul hotel, probably the Ryan. After railroads reached Chaska in 1871, the brick was used in various cities and villages for commercial buildings and for sewers and other subterranean applications, where its durability was sought. Because the Chaska brickyards produced “common” brick until late in the century, much of the exported Chaska brick was used as backup behind pressed brick facades or for side and rear walls in commercial buildings. When used for utilitarian buildings such as mills, however, all of the walls, including the front facade, would typically be composed of common Chaska brick. During the nineteenth century in Chaska and environs, Chaska common brick was generally used throughout a structure, and was used again for all the facades of residences, commercial, and public buildings.

Apparently due to occasional rifts between the brickmakers and the railroads over rates, barges continued to be used for more than a decade after the railroad reached Chaska; the owners of the steamboat *Aunt Betsey* contracted to move 800,000 brick by barge to an unspecified place in 1878. In 1879, it was announced that the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad had agreed to run a spur to the brickyards, and that all brick “are hereafter to be shipped over that road to St. Paul and Minneapolis at a stated price.”<sup>11</sup> Twenty-five cars of brick were being shipped from Chaska daily via two railroads in

- 
10. Faber, “Clay Holes.” “Brick Shipments,” *Weekly Valley Herald*, August 15, 1878. Carver Cottage, dating from the mid-1850s, is thought to be the first house constructed of brick in Carver. See: Lofstrom and Spaeth, p. 83. In 1859, the Carver newspaper announced that J.W. Hartwell had burned a kiln of 80,000 brick, and compared the Carver brick to the “celebrated Milwaukee brick.” “Carver Brick,” *Carver County Democrat*, August 3, 1859, p. 3.
11. “Brick Shipments,” *Weekly Valley Herald*, August 15, 1878. “Spur Track,” *ibid*, August 24, 1879.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Statement of Significance

1883. In 1889, however, the Chaska brickmakers joined together to operate a fleet of barges between Chaska and St. Paul because of an "extortionate freight tariff" of \$1.50 per thousand brick. The brickmakers hoped to save about half the transportation cost by using barges.<sup>12</sup>

Unfortunately, no formal survey has been undertaken to determine the brick's distribution in the region. While many Minnesota River towns contained brickyards, including Shakopee, Jordan, Blakeley, Henderson, Belle Plaine, New Ulm, Le Sueur, St. Peter, Mankato, and Redwood Falls, most were in use for short periods of time. Chaska's brick production was continuous during the nineteenth century, and was for a time the most prolific in the state.<sup>13</sup>

In 1873, 100,000 of "the celebrated cream brick" were produced per day by 75 workers in three yards. Chaska had "come to the front" as a commercial village because of its brick industry. In 1880, when the village numbered about 2,000, the Chaska newspaper estimated (with apparently too much enthusiasm) that 600 men and boys were working in the brick-related industries, including manufacturers of brick-making machinery such as Frank and Fred Ess who frequently advertised their

---

12. "Brick Shipments," *Weekly Valley Herald*, July 19, 1883. "Railroad Extortion: A Fleet of Flat Boats for the Purpose of Transporting Brick to St. Paul." *Weekly Valley Herald*, April 18, 1889, p. 4.

13. See attached extracts from U.S. Census showing Minnesota brick production in 1860, '70, and '80. Aside from works treating Chaska, only four studies of Minnesota's local brick production are known to the author: Fred W. Peterson, *Building Community, Keeping the Faith: German Catholic Vernacular Architecture in a Rural Minnesota Parish*. St. Paul: MHS Press, 1998; Paul C. Larson, "Red Brick Houses in Wabasha, Minnesota, Associated with Merchant Tradesmen," National Register Multiple Property Registration Form, 1987; Kathy Becker, *From a Ribbon of Clay: Brickton, Minnesota*, 1979; Dennis J. Hagen, *Historical Geographical Study of the Clay-Related Industries of the Mankato Area*, Masters Thesis, Mankato State University, 1975.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Statement of Significance

"Nameless brick machine" in the newspaper.<sup>14</sup> Two yards were employing "patent machines," while a third was producing "an extra quality of brick." A total of five brick yards in Chaska produced over 9 million bricks in 1880.<sup>15</sup> By 1887 much of the work was mechanized, and in one yard, a patented crusher and temperer were part of an efficient system perfected by the Bierlines.<sup>16</sup> The work of excavating the clay, however, was still being performed by pick and shovel as late as 1907.<sup>17</sup>

The labor conditions of the brickyards received some attention in the local press in the late 1880s. Brick yard laborers worked arduously in a dangerous environment, and their lives were not improved by perennial unemployment in winter. In 1887, The *Evening Journal* of Minneapolis revealed that the "Brick Baron's grip" had firmly "tightened on the throats of Chaska's toilers," who were "little more than slaves." The brick barons reportedly withheld wages, paid miserly sums, and exploited the workers through company stores. In response, the Chaska newspaper claimed that the reported conditions obtained two or three years previously; since then, wages had been raised, hours shortened to ten hours per day, and a daily production limit of 30,000 bricks prescribed. In 1890, however, when a storm and freezing weather destroyed 200,000 unburned bricks, the laborers were expected to compensate for the loss. Wages were

- 
14. The claim of 600 employees seems greatly exaggerated, since the 1880 census lists only about 75 employees in the Chaska brickyards.
  15. "Chaska Still has Place in Industry," *Weekly Valley Herald*, April 11, 1929, p. 1. "Does Fame for Brick Belong Only to Past?" by Jim Faber, *Valley Herald*, December 15, 1994, p. 5. "Chaska," *Weekly Valley Herald*, July 24, 1873, p. 1. Mike and Jacob Bierline patented a machine for sanding molds in 1884 (*Weekly Valley Herald*, April 3, 1884). The Bierline brothers expanded their machine shop and foundry in 1890 to manufacture the "Nameless" machine; "New Machine Shop and Foundry," *Weekly Valley Herald*, November 20, 1890;
  16. "Seven Millions of Brick," *St. Paul Daily Globe*, May 21, 1887, p. 2.
  17. William H. Pagelkopf, untitled memoir, Chaska Historical Society, p. 5. Pagelkopf's memoir describes his work in the Chaska brickyards beginning at age 10.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Statement of Significance

reduced by 10¢ per day, causing an unfruitful two-day strike.<sup>18</sup>

The brickyards of Chaska flourished in the 1890s, about the time that the Heck house is thought to have been built. A million brick were ordered for a Minneapolis building in 1892, which were supplied by more than one yard.<sup>19</sup> In 1896, 500,000 bricks were sold by the Klein yard for a flour mill in New Prague, while the Riedele and Strobach-Faber yards each supplied 100,000 bricks for the Dakota County poorhouse.<sup>20</sup> In the same year, the Strobach and Faber yard received the first premium for "firm, sound body and well burned brick of unexcelled quality" at the World's Fair.<sup>21</sup> In 1897, 300,000 "sewer brick" were ordered for the basement of the State Capitol in St. Paul; other Twin Cities buildings incorporating Chaska brick include the Donaldson Department Store in Minneapolis, the 1896 Scott building on 7th Street in St. Paul, the 1925 Minneapolis Auditorium, and the Northwestern National Bank built in Minneapolis in 1929.<sup>22</sup>

By 1902 production in the brickyards of Chaska had expanded considerably. With six yards employing 250 workers, the combined production of the town was reported to be about 3.5 million brick per day. A single new kiln at the Greiner and Corning yard was capable of firing six million bricks at a time. By 1910 all of the brick yards had been acquired by Charles and Christian Klein, whose family entered the business as creditors following the financial recession of 1893. A description of the

- 
18. "Brick Baron's Grip," *Evening Journal*, Minneapolis, June 9, 1887 p. 1. "Brick Baron's Grip," *Weekly Valley Herald*, June 16, 1887, p. 4. "Damage by Storm," *Weekly Valley Herald*, May 8, 1890, p. 4; *ibid*, "Still Running," August 21, 1890, p. 4.
  19. "Brickmaking," *Weekly Valley Herald*, July 28, 1892, p. 1 col. 4.
  20. "Klein Brick Works," *Weekly Valley Herald*, August 6, 1896, p. 1; Untitled notice, January 30, 1896, p. 1, col. 3.
  21. "Worlds Fair Award," *Weekly Valley Herald*, June 4, 1896, p. 5.
  22. Barac, *Chaska*, vol. I, p. 268-280. Untitled notice, *Weekly Valley Herald*, March 5, 1896 p. 1, col. 1 (Scott building).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

### Statement of Significance

four Klein yards written in 1917 reveals that coal was being used to fire the kilns, and that the manufacturing process had become more mechanized, involving a steam shovel to excavate the clay, a disintegrator to process the clay and mix it with sand, a molding machine to form the bricks, and trucks to move the molded bricks into a drier. Bricks were carefully stacked in kilns by hand, and 90,000 to 500,000 bricks were burned for four to ten days, with the firing process controlled manually.<sup>23</sup> The Klein brothers prospered until the 1930s, when a decline ensued, and the Chaska brick yards finally closed in 1961.<sup>24</sup> Three reasons for the demise of the brickyards cited by James Klein, a grandson of Christian Klein, were: changing fashion in architecture which called for a darker colored brick; the advent of alternative materials such as concrete block and tile and the decreased demand for structural or back-up brick; and a "division between laborers and management" in the 1960s which adversely affected the price of Chaska brick.<sup>25</sup>

Chaska brick was used for the construction of farmhouses from the 1850s until about 1900. The structure of these farmhouses includes brick veneer over log, brick veneer over frame, and *Fachwerk* (timber-framed with brick in-fill). However, the majority, including the Heck house, are constructed of brick load-bearing walls with roof and floor joists let into the masonry.<sup>26</sup> Employing the practice of configuring the

---

23. "Chaska Brick Manufactories are Booming," *Weekly Valley Herald*, April 10, 1902, p. 1. Roy T. Lindenberg, "Manufacture of Bricks," *Chaska Herald*, June 14, 1917, p. 7. Coal was first tried in Chaska in 1881, solving "the fuel question, which had become a serious one." "Building Stone and Brick," *Pioneer Press* (St. Paul), February 25, 1882, p. 10.

24. "Kiln Fires Rekindled by Iowa Brick Firm," *Carver County Sun* (Chaska), May 22, 1969, p. 1. After closing the Chaska yard in 1961, the C.H. Klein Brick Company continued to operate other facilities in Minnesota. The Chaska yard was leased to the Goodwin Company of Des Moines in 1969, which apparently operated the yard briefly as the Chaska Brick and Tile Company.

25. Klein, James, quoted in Patrick Smith, "Chaska Brick," p. 13-14.

26. Martens, p. 62.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Statement of Significance

house as an upright and ell with the kitchen as the formal entrance and circulation element, local masons relied almost exclusively on brickyards in nearby Carver and Chaska. Increasingly grand structures were constructed as the century progressed, with Old-world influences more discernable at the end of the century than at the beginning: during the 1860s and '70s Chaska brick farmhouses embodied a variety of architectural features that originated in houses built in the eastern U.S., while after 1870 they began to manifest features from houses traditionally built in the Rhineland of Germany.<sup>27</sup>

The cost of shipping such a heavy material localized its use for house construction; most Chaska brick was hauled by the farmers themselves (sometimes with the help of neighbors) from the brick yards to the construction site by sled. This restricts the area in which we find farmhouses constructed of Chaska brick to a relatively compact one roughly corresponding to Carver County, with the strongest concentration contained in an area of about six-mile's radius around Chaska.<sup>28</sup> After

---

27. Martens, p. 35-36.

28. Martens, p. 59-60. Figure 1.2 in Martens' text (following page 8) shows the distribution of Chaska brick houses found in his survey. The history of the Charles and Johanna Buschkowsky farmhouse, immediately north of the Heck house, provides details that illustrate the mechanism of planning and building in the area. Charles Buschkowsky himself "bargained for the brick necessary" with a Chaska brickyard in 1893 before finalizing the home's design or securing a contract with a builder. If his methods were typical, he would have hauled the bricks to his farm himself, perhaps delivering cordwood to Chaska on the inbound trip. When the Chaska newspaper reported Buschkowsky's intent to build, the paper noted the opportunity for local tradesmen to secure the work. In January, 1894, the paper announced that an architect, carpenter, and mason had been retained. The building material for the home was reportedly on the site when the January announcement was published. The house was completed for a housewarming party in September, 1894. *Weekly Valley Herald*, (untitled notice:) "Chas. Buschkowsky of Chanhassen has contracted . . ." January 18, 1894, p. 1. Ibid, (untitled notice:) "Chas. Buschkowsky, one of the thrifty go ahead farmers of Chanhassen, . . ." September 13, 1894, p. 1.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Statement of Significance

about 1900 bricks from other localities began to be used for farmhouse construction, perhaps because the cream color was no longer fashionable.

According to one source on Milwaukee architecture, cream-colored brick was popular until the late nineteenth century, but was supplanted by darker materials including brown and red brick and brownstone. Cream color, or "a light brownish yellow," was also associated with bricks produced in London, and such bricks were reportedly preferred for house building, because "the colour is more pleasing to the eye."<sup>29</sup> Minneapolis was described in 1874 as a city with business buildings "all of a most substantial character, and mostly constructed of a handsome cream brick, or of the beautiful granite which is found in the state." In 1896 cream brick was being produced in Chaska, Carver, Jordan, Ostego, Glenwood, Fergus Falls, Moorhead, Minneapolis, Brainerd, Shingle Creek, Frankford in Mower County, Dayton, and Evansville in Douglas County.<sup>30</sup>

Evidence indicates that the use of brick for homes and buildings in Southern Minnesota ensured permanence and quality to those who commissioned them. In 1855, when Laurence Oliphant visited Minnesota and published a memoir of his impressions he mentioned the manifestations of civilization that he found there: "four or five hotels, and at least a half a dozen handsome churches, with tall spires pointing heavenward, and sundry meeting-houses, and a population of seven or eight thousand to go with them, and good streets with side-walks, and lofty brick warehouses, and stores, and

---

29. Randy Garber, ed., *Built in Milwaukee: an architectural view of the city*. Milwaukee: City of Milwaukee, [1981], p. 39. A.C. Smeaton, *The Builder's Pocket Companion*. Philadelphia, Henry Carey Baird, 1869, p. 23. The material on London bricks is attributed to Mr. Partington's *Builder's Complete Guide*.

30. A.T. Andreas, *An Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Minnesota*. Chicago, A.T. Andreas, 1874, p. 228. "Building Stone and Brick," *Pioneer Press* (St. Paul), February 25, 1882, p. 10, lists the Minnesota towns producing brick by the color (red, pink, cream or ash) of the brick.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Statement of Significance

shops.”<sup>31</sup>

A.J. Downing compared the construction of a house to the making of a statue, and suggested that stone and brick were obviously more durable and therefore to be preferred.<sup>32</sup> At Chaska, brick may have offered an advantage if farmers were able to trade cordwood for building material. Brickyards required enormous quantities of wood for firing kilns, and farmers who could cut wood on their land and haul it directly to the brickyards may have found it expedient to build with brick procured by barter.

Further, brick construction offered superior fire resistance, infrequent maintenance, and superior insulation against cold. In fact crudely-made brick was sometimes used to insulate balloon-frame houses.<sup>33</sup> An authority on building materials quantified the difference between brick and frame construction in 1879, suggesting that the average life of a brick dwelling was about 75 years, while a frame dwelling would last only fifty. During these fifty years, the siding on the average frame house would have to be replaced at thirty years, while the sills and first floor joists would be unserviceable after twenty-five. The sills and first floor joists of a brick dwelling, on the other hand, would perform for forty years.<sup>34</sup> The reported longevity is too

---

31. Laurence Oliphant, *Minnesota and the Far West*. Edinburgh: W. Blackwood, 1855, p. 254.

32. A.J. Downing, *The Architecture of Country Houses*, New York, D. Appleton, 1853, p. 49. Fred W. Peterson, on the other hand, studying construction around a particular parish near St. Cloud, Minnesota, concluded that brick houses were cheaper to construct than frame houses; his evidence, however, is of questionable quality. Peterson compares the cost of two homes, one brick and one frame. His evidence for the cost of the frame example is “based on the recall of a daughter of the family,” and Peterson himself believes the figures to be suspect. His brick example is “based on receipts that are in the family’s possession,” which Peterson apparently did not examine. Peterson, *Building Community, Keeping the Faith: German Catholic Vernacular Architecture in a Rural Minnesota Parish*. St. Paul: MHS Press, 1998, p. 79, and notes 31-33, p. 176.

33. Fred W. Peterson, *Homes in the Heartland: Balloon Frame Farmhouses of the Upper Midwest, 1850-1920*. Lawrence Kans.: University Press of Kansas, 1992, p. 23.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 12

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Statement of Significance

conservative, but the comparison demonstrates that brick was acknowledged as a superior material. Disparaging the frame house for its lack of “soundness and style,” architect E.C. Gardner in 1880 predicted a future in which farmhouses would generally be built of brick or stone.<sup>35</sup>

Perhaps the best evidence of the ‘value’ of brick as a symbol of stability and prosperity lies in its use for important houses and buildings in Chaska. Not only did merchants and tradesmen in the town frequently select brick for their homes and commercial buildings, but as a rule, Chaska’s nineteenth-century public and parochial schools, churches, railroad depots, and municipal buildings — many of which still survive — were built of local brick.

Brick would certainly have been familiar to German-American immigrants, who came from a country where it was the dominant building material; one scholar speaks of a “basic inclination of Germans to build in brick whenever income permitted.”<sup>36</sup> Familiarity with brick has been suggested as an important influence in the case of the Heck family home by one of their descendants.<sup>37</sup> According to family tradition, the Heck house replaced an older house, probably frame, which stood across Audubon road from the present house.

During a survey of the houses, Martens found about 75 extant Chaska-brick farmhouses in Carver County. They are generally well-preserved, with the masonry “sound, clean and intact.” He attributed this in part to the low level of atmospheric pollutants in the area, “which has preserved most of the farmhouses from the tendency

- 
34. A.W. Spaulding, “The Wear and Tear of Building Materials,” in: John M. Hazen, *Building Laws Relating to the Construction of Buildings in the City of Minneapolis*. Minneapolis: L. Kimball Printing Co., 1891, p. 165. Spaulding’s work dates from 1879.
35. Fred W. Peterson, *Homes in the Heartland*, p. 21-2.
36. Allen G. Noble, “Patterns of Building Material as Revealed in the Farm Housing Survey of 1934.” *Material Culture*, 32:1 (Spring 2000) p. 63.
37. Interview with Fred Heck III, Stillwater, June 5, 2000.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 13

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Statement of Significance

elsewhere toward abrasive cleaning." He noted that most alterations to these structures have taken the form of wood-framed additions and stucco overlays.<sup>38</sup>

The term "Chaska Brick" seems to have begun as a simple phrase describing brick produced in a particular geographic location. As the prominence of the Chaska brickyards grew, the term began to be used in ways that suggest that the brick itself had become a recognizable entity. W.B. Griswold, who had offices in the Minneapolis Lumber Exchange Building, advertised himself in 1889 as a "Chaska brick broker and general contractor." The Greiner and Corning company, whose offices were in St. Paul's Ryan Building, advertised in 1908 as "manufacturers of Chaska brick, hollow brick and building tile," a phrase also used by its successor, the Chaska Brick & Tile Company in 1910. The C.H. Klein Brick Company, whose offices were in Chaska, described itself in 1908 as "manufacturers of celebrated Chaska brick and hollow brick."<sup>39</sup>

### The Heck House

Fred Heck was born in Germany in 1845; Albertine Heck was born in Kreis Hochberg, Germany, in 1852. The Heck family (which then consisted of two daughters, Martha and Mary, born in 1877 and 1878 respectively) immigrated to Chanhassen in 1881 and purchased the property in 1893. Eventually the family grew to include eight children. In 1911 the Chaska newspaper announced a 51 acre addition to the farm and noted that "Mr. Heck is rapidly becoming one of our large land owners." The family concentrated their farming efforts on wheat and cattle until 1916, when Fred

---

38. Martens, p. 5.

39. *Minneapolis City Directory for 1889-90*. Minneapolis: Harrison & Smith, 1889, p. 144.  
*Directory. Builder's Exchange of St. Paul*. [St. Paul], The Exchange, 1908, p. 27, 39. Ibid, 1910, p. 29.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 14

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Statement of Significance

and Albertine Heck transferred the farm to their son, Fred Heck Jr. Fred Heck Sr. died in Chaska on August 20, 1921; Albertine Heck died on July 31, 1926. In nineteenth century records the family name is occasionally rendered as Hoeck or Höck.<sup>40</sup>

Family oral tradition asserts that the Heck house was built for the Albertine and Fred Heck family. Aside from the Heck family's oral tradition, documentation of the home's original construction is not extant, and the exact date of construction could not be determined from tax records, mortgages, or newspaper notices.

Martens created a taxonomy that characterizes the Chaska brick farmhouse according to periods of construction. According to this taxonomy, the Heck house belongs to the "late period," which involved construction of new residences tending toward the "high style," and farming practices tending toward mixed farming.<sup>41</sup> Further, Martens recognizes five "types" of Chaska brick farmhouses, based on planimetric and volumetric characteristics: stylistically, the Heck house belongs to the fourth type, which Martens describes as follows.<sup>42</sup>

---

40. *Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900*. Population Schedule for Chanhassen Township, family 169. *Weekly Valley Herald* (Chaska), (untitled notice:) "Fred Heck of the eastern section, . . ." February 2, 1911, p. 1; a plat map of 1911 (*Map of Carver County, Minnesota*, St. Paul, The Farmer) shows two contiguous parcels of 105 and 112 acres. *Weekly Valley Herald*, "Obituary of Fred Heck," September 1, 1921, p. 8; *Weekly Valley Herald*, "Obituary of the Late Mrs. Fred Heck, Sr.," August 12, 1926, p. 1; Carver County Recorder's Office, Chaska, Warranty Deed of October 17, 1893 to Fred and Albertine Heck in deed records: *Book 9*, p. 349.

41. Martens, p. 19.

42. Martens, p. 67; note that Martens mistakenly identifies the Buschkowsky/Barinsky house as the Molnau/Barinsky house. Because the Heck house is organized in a "T" plan in which all parts are equally dominant, this house shares characteristics of both type 3 and type 4 houses, and may represent a transition between the types. A similar example is situated in the northeast corner of section 13, Dahlgren Township, and identified by Martens in his survey as #18, the Haegerle/Worm house.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 15

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Statement of Significance

The fourth variety of cross-plan houses occurs later than the other examples. These houses show evidence in their size and ornamentation of greater economic resources. Again, the increasing tendency of chimneys toward the center anticipates the emerging foursquare plan. Type 4 is transitional from the three-room plan with clearly expressed interior functions toward the centralized Foursquare.

The date assigned to the Heck house's construction ("circa 1895") is based on the style of construction and the information that the Heck family, which acquired the land in 1893, commissioned it. Further, an 1880 map of Carver County shows no house on the site, while one of 1898 does.<sup>43</sup>

### Summary

Chaska brick was continuously produced from about 1857 to 1961. Used in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and other towns, the brick is most prominent in the region surrounding Chaska, where it was used exclusively for homes, public, and private buildings. The area of distribution was first dictated by river and wagon transport, but widened after railroads were available in 1871. Used as a utilitarian brick elsewhere, the material was given wide latitude in Chaska and environs, where entire buildings were constructed from it.

The aesthetic properties of the brick were appreciated in the nineteenth century and are appreciated now. Brick was considered a superior material for building, and the farmhouses which utilized it must have conspicuously represented economic

---

43. *Map of Carver County Minnesota, Drawn from Actual Surveys and the County Records.* Minneapolis: Warner and Foote, 1880. *Plat Book of Carver County, Minnesota.* Chicago: Northwest Publishing Co., 1898.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 16

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Statement of Significance

accomplishment. In Chaska, brick was the only material used for edifices such as churches, the courthouse, and schools, and many homes and stores were constructed of it. By the turn of the century, Chaska brick was widely recognized in the area.

The Heck house is one of about 75 of Carver County's surviving Chaska brick farmhouses built from c. 1858 to c. 1900, all of which are physical manifestations of an important local industry which thrived in Chaska and Carver. Together with examples of homes, commercial, and public buildings in Chaska and Carver, the extant farmhouses and miscellaneous country buildings form a collection of structures related by the local origin of their primary material. Aside from these buildings, no local vestige of this once-prominent industry remains; the sites on which the brick was manufactured have been reclaimed, including one which is now a lake known locally as "the clayhole." The Heck house is a good example of a highly visible sub-group of structures utilizing the product of the local brick industry because its exterior appearance retains an unusually high degree of integrity including its original mortar, millwork, and windows. Built in the period during which Chaska brick was used for the building of farmhouses in the area, the Heck house exemplifies a unique period of local production of brick. No other Minnesota brick is so conspicuously representative of its place of production, and the Heck house is a direct link to this production. Built at the apex of the industry, the Heck House retains excellent historical physical integrity and is a significant manifestation of the impact this product had on the local building industry.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Bibliography

#### Books, Maps, Archival Records, and Journal Articles

- Andreas, A.T. *An Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Minnesota*. Chicago, A.T. Andreas, 1874
- Barac, LaVonne. *Chaska: A Minnesota River City*. Vols. I and II, Chaska: Chaska Bicentennial Committee, 1976.
- Carver County Recorder's Office, Chaska. Deed records: Book 9, p. 349.
- Directory. Builder's Exchange of St. Paul*. [St. Paul]: The Exchange, 1908, and 1910.
- Downing, A.J. *The Architecture of Country Houses*, New York, D. Appleton, 1853.
- Garber, Randy, ed., *Built in Milwaukee: an Architectural View of the City*. Milwaukee: City of Milwaukee, [1981].
- Hoisington, Daniel J. *Chanhassen: a Centennial History*. Chanhassen: City of Chanhassen, 1996.
- Lofstrom, Ted and Lynne VanBrocklin Spaeth, *Carver County: A Guide to its Historic and Prehistoric Places*, St. Paul: MHS, 1978.
- Map of Carver County Minnesota, Drawn from Actual Surveys and the County Records*. Minneapolis: Warner and Foote, 1880.
- Map of Carver County, Minnesota*. St. Paul: The Farmer, 1911.
- Martens, Steve C. *Ethnic Tradition and Innovation as Influences on a Rural, Midwestern Building Vernacular: Findings from Investigation of Brick Houses in Carver County, Minnesota*. Thesis, Master of Architecture, Univ. of Minnesota, 1988.
- Minneapolis City Directory for 1889-90*. Minneapolis: Harrison & Smith, 1889.
- Neill, Edward D. *History of the Minnesota Valley, Including the Explorers and Pioneers of Minnesota*. Minneapolis, North Star publishing Co., 1882.
- Noble, Allen G. "Patterns of Building Material as Revealed in the Farm Housing Survey of 1934." *Material Culture*, 32:1 (Spring 2000) p. 57-77.
- Oliphant, Laurence, *Minnesota and the Far West*. Edinburgh: W. Blackwood, 1855.
- Pagelkopf, William H. Untitled memoir, Chaska Historical Society,
- Peterson, Fred W. *Building Community, Keeping the Faith: German Catholic Vernacular Architecture in a Rural Minnesota Parish*. St. Paul: MHS Press, 1998.
- Peterson, Fred W. *Homes in the Heartland: Balloon Frame Farmhouses of the Upper Midwest, 1850-1920*. Lawrence Kans.: University Press of Kansas, 1992.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 2

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Bibliography

- Plat Book of Carver County, Minnesota.* Chicago: Northwest Publishing Co., 1898.
- Smeaton, A.C. *The Builder's Pocket Companion.* Philadelphia, Henry Carey Baird, 1869.
- Smith Patrick, "Chaska Brick" (research paper, University of Minnesota) 1999.
- Spaulding, A.W. "The Wear and Tear of Building Materials," in: John M. Hazen, *Building Laws Relating to the Construction of Buildings in the City of Minneapolis.* Minneapolis: L. Kimball Printing Co., 1891.
- U.S. Census of 1900, *Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900.* Population Schedule for Chanhassen Township, family 169.
- U.S. Census of 1920, *Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920.* Population Schedule for Chanhassen Township.
- Winchell, N[ewton] H. *The Geology of Minnesota; vol. II of the Final Report.* St. Paul: Pioneer Press Co., 1883.

### Newspapers.

*Carver County Democrat* newspaper, Carver, Minn.  
"Carver Brick," August 3, 1859, p. 3.

*Weekly Valley Herald* newspaper, Chaska, Minn.  
"Brick Yards," September 8, 1871, p. 1.  
"Chaska," July 24, 1873, p. 1.  
"Brick Shipments," August 15, 1878.  
"Spur Track," August 24, 1879.  
"Brick Shipments," July 19, 1883.  
Untitled notice: "It is said that Mike and Jacob Bierleine have invented . . ." April 3, 1884  
"Brick Baron's Grip," June 16, 1887, p. 4.  
"Railroad Extortion: A Fleet of Flat Boats for the Purpose of Transporting Brick to St. Paul." April 18, 1889, p. 4.  
"Damage by Storm," May 8, 1890, p. 4.  
"Still Running," August 21, 1890, p. 4.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 3

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Bibliography

- "Brickmaking," July 28, 1892, p. 1 col. 4.  
"New Machine Shop and Foundry," November 20, 1890.  
Untitled notice: "Chas. Buschkowsky of Chanhassen has contracted, . . ." January 18, 1894, p. 1.  
Untitled notice: "Chas. Buschkowsky, one of the thrifty go ahead farmers of Chanhassen, . . ." September 13, 1894, p. 1.  
Untitled notice, January 30, 1896, p. 1, col. 3.  
Untitled notice, March 5, 1896 p. 1, col. 1 (Scott building).  
"Chaska Pressed Brick," April 23, 1896, p. 1.  
"Worlds Fair Award," June 4, 1896, p. 5.  
"Klein Brick Works," August 6, 1896, p. 1.  
"Important Enlargement," November 9, 1899, p. 1.  
"Chaska Brick Manufactories are Booming," April 10, 1902, p. 1.  
Untitled notice: "Fred Heck of the eastern section, . . ." February 2, 1911, p. 1.  
"Manufacture of Bricks," by Roy T. Lindenberg, June 14, 1917, p. 7.  
"Obituary of Fred Heck," September 1, 1921, p. 8.  
"Obituary of the Late Mrs. Fred Heck, Sr.," August 12, 1926, p. 1.  
"Chaska Still has Place in Industry," April 11, 1929, p. 1.  
"Clay Holes are Part of Heritage," by Jim Faber, October 6, 1994, p. 4.  
"Does Fame for Brick Belong Only to Past?" by Jim Faber, December 15, 1994, p. 5.
- Evening Journal*, Minneapolis  
"Brick Baron's grip," June 9, 1887, p. 1.
- Pioneer Press*, St. Paul  
"Building Stone and Brick," February 25, 1882, p. 10.
- St. Paul Daily Globe*  
"Seven Millions of Brick," May 21, 1887, p. 2.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Heck House, Carver County, Minn.

---

### Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the historic property includes the house and a non-contributing garage. The boundary is defined:

Beginning at a point 44 feet NE on a bearing of  $14^{\circ}$  true from the northwest corner of the house; thence NW on a bearing of  $288^{\circ}$  150 feet to the edge of the gravel shoulder of Audubon road; thence along the shoulder SW on a bearing of  $190^{\circ}$  249 feet to the intersection of the shoulder of Audubon road and the south edge of the home's driveway; thence along the south edge of the driveway NE on a bearing of  $074^{\circ}$  95 feet; continuing along the south edge of the driveway NE on a bearing of  $069^{\circ}$  60 feet; thence SE on a bearing of  $096^{\circ}$  75 feet to the northwest corner of the smokehouse; thence NE on a bearing of  $020^{\circ}$  143 feet; thence NW on a bearing of  $288^{\circ}$  90 feet to the point of beginning.

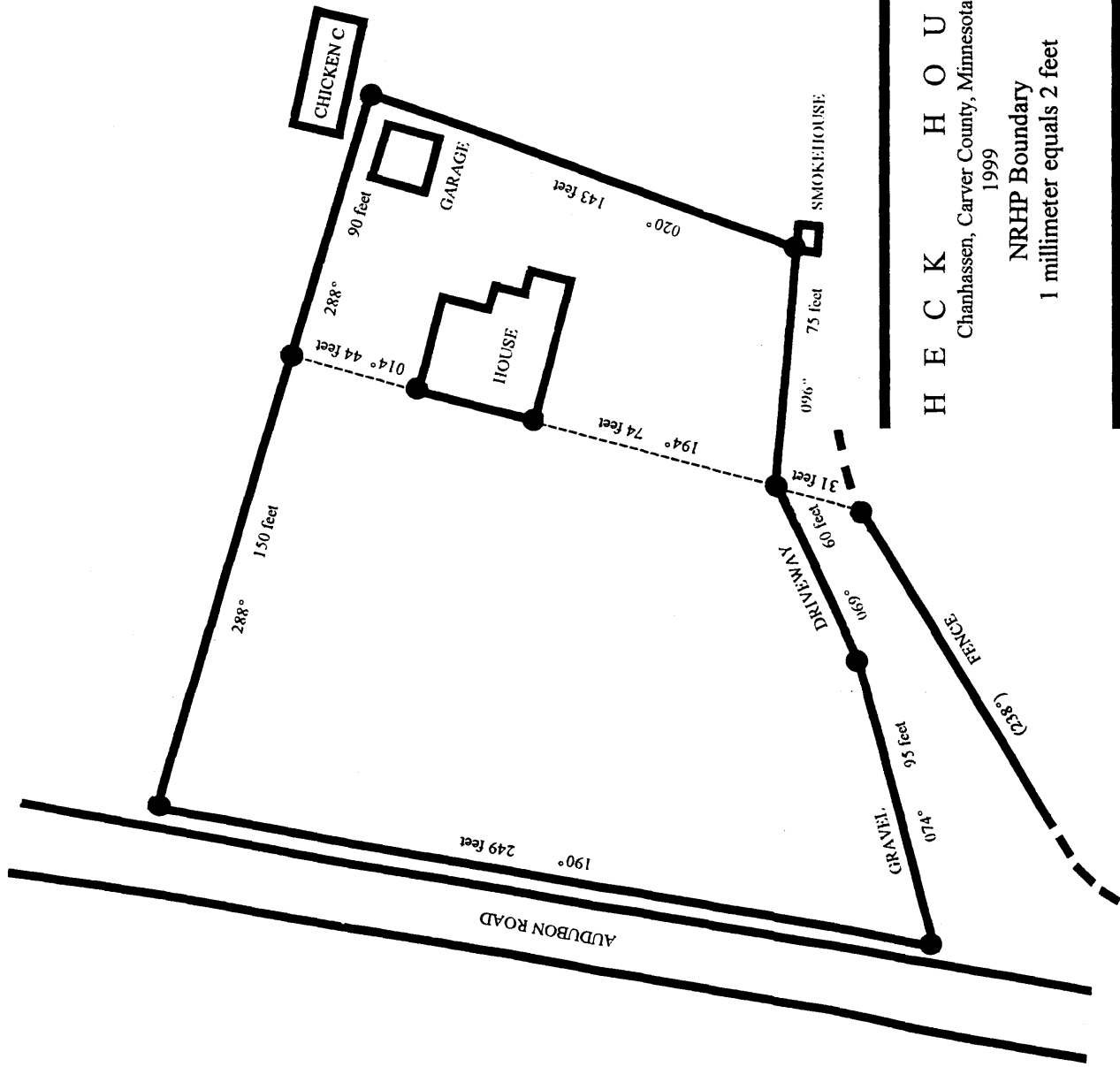
### Boundary Justification

The farm originally comprised 105 acres in the:

NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  and the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 22, Range 23 Twp. 116 (Chanhassen Township).

Most of the 105 acres were across Audubon Road to the west of the 12.5 acre parcel which now contains the house.

The 12.5 acre parcel includes six outbuildings which lie outside the boundaries of the parcel described in this nomination. Because the significance of the Heck House derives from the local brick of which it is constructed, the boundaries have been drawn to exclude the outbuildings, which are constructed of other materials. The single exception is the smokehouse, which is built of Chaska brick but which is excluded because of its deteriorated condition.



**H E C K H O U S E**

Chanhassen, Carver County, Minnesota

1999

NRHP Boundary

1 millimeter equals 2 feet

Version 1.0 E



Heck House, Carver County Minn.  
Appendix I.

### Minnesota Brick Production: 1860

Extracted by Paul Maravelas from: U.S. Census: Nonpopulation Schedules: Census of Manufactures, 1860.  
Records include no return from Carver County.

	PLACE	EMPLO- YEES	BRICKS (THOUS- SANDS)	VALUE (DOL- LARS)
Charles Kemelmann	Stillwater	3	150	750
Alexander Wright	Preston Twp., Fillmore Co.	4	200	1500

Heck House, Carver County Minn.  
Appendix II.

**Minnesota Brick Production: 1870**

Extracted by Paul Maravelas from: U.S. Census: Nonpopulation Schedules: Census of Manufactures, 1870.  
Listed in order of value of production. "Months" signifies number of months of production.

		EMPLO- YEES	M O N T H S	BRICKS (THOUS- ANDS)	VALUE (DOLLARS)
Minneapolis Brick Co.	Minneapolis	60	6	4500	40500
<b>L. Howe</b>	<b>Chaska</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>20000</b>
<b>Lucien Warner</b>	<b>Chaska</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>20000</b>
Sherwood & Johnson	Dresbach, Winona Co.	14	6	1500	10000
Whitcomb Bros.	Rochester	12	4	1000	7000
Insane Asylum	St. Peter	14	4	1000	6500
Jones & Butler*	Winona (City)	10	7	700	5600
Daniel Woodbury	Minneapolis	12	6	600	5400
William William	Stillwater Twp., Washington Co.	12	6	600	4800
William Kelmsun	New Ulm	7	--	600	4200
Wm. Launderman?	Hastings	8	6	500	4000
Will Kugel	St. Cloud Twp., Stearns Co.	9	3	450	4000
<b>J. Neinsinger</b>	<b>Chaska</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>4000</b>
Henry Leas?	Henderson	4	5	400	4000
Otto Vill	Rollingstone Twp., Winona Co.	6	6	600?	3600
M. Davidson	St. Peter	7	4	500	3500
Dekelle & Brother	St. Joseph Twp., Stearns Co.	8	5	500	3500
John Comer?	Manshaw, Dakota Co.	8	3	30	3000
Charles Peltier	Faribault	4	4	400	2800
O.R. Mather	Lake Crystal, Blue Earth Co.	4	6	40	2600
Hermann Mathy	Henderson	5	5	500	2500
S. Plehild	Blue Earth City, Faribault Co.	10	4	300	2400
Peter Craven	St. Cloud Twp., Stearns Co.	4	6	300	2100
Jacob Krantz	Belle Plaine	4	7	300	2000
Chas. Kuske	Sibley, Sibley Co.	4	5	300	1800
George Wooley	Red Rock Twp., Mower Co.	2	10	---	1800
J.E. Caldwell	Winnebago City, Faribault Co.	7	3	220	1700
Peter Stotz	Salen? Twp., Washington Co.	3	6	240	1680
Michael Zickrick	St. Charles, Winona Co.	7	6	200	1600
Henry Schlink	Winona Twp., Winona Co.	4	3	200	1600
Charles Rodell	Jordan	8	5	300	1500
Tilson & Co.	Olmsted Co.**	8	4	200	1400
E. Huntington	Winnebago City, Faribault Co.	6	2	160	1200
James Smith	Spring Valley, Fillmore Co.	7	3	140	1120

\* Also listed in census as: "stone and brick masons and house builders" with 30 employees; used 1,500,000 brick and completed four buildings during the year ending June 1.

\*\* Listed under: "Marion, Pleasant Grove, & High Forest, Olmstead Co."

Heck House, Carver County Minn.  
Appendix II.

		EMPLO- YEES	M O N T H S	BRICKS (THOUS- ANDS)	VALUE (DOLLARS)
Fred Krieg	Winona Twp., Winona Co.	2	6	150	1050
S.D. Hart	Pine Island, Fillmore Co.	6	2	120	840
W. Stafford	Almira Twp., Olmstead Co.	4	3	100	800
Michael Shields	Forestville Twp., Fillmore Co.	4	5	75	700
N.N. Humphrey	Taylors Falls	4	2	7000†	280

† Humphrey manufactured "Concrete Brick," using lime and gravel.



Heck House, Carver County Minn.  
Appendix III.

**Minnesota Brick Production: 1880**

Extracted by Paul Maravelas from: U.S. Census: Nonpopulation Schedules: Census of Manufactures, 1880. Listed in order of value of production. "Employees" shows "average number of hands employed." "Months" signifies number of months of production; appears in the original record in four columns as months at full time, half time, etc. Here, the information is consolidated and rounded to nearest whole number, so 5 months at half time in the original record would appear as 3 months here. A footnote is made in each instance of rounding or consolidation.

		EMPLO- YEES	M O N T H S	BRICKS (THOUS- ANDS)	VALUE (DOLLARS)
Mankato Brick Co.	Mankato	35	6	5000	27000
Sherwood & Johnson	Dresbach, Winona Co.	28 <sup>1</sup>	8 <sup>2</sup>	3500	17500
J.G. Swenson & Co.	Minneapolis	35	6	2000	16000
Stanton H. Charles	Oneota, St. Louis Co.	25	6	1500	15000
Lamb Bros.	Moorhead	15	6	2000	15000 <sup>3</sup>
<b>Gregg &amp; Griswold</b>	<b>Chaska</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>8<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>2800</b>	<b>15000<sup>5</sup></b>
And. Peterson	Minneapolis	30	6	1800	14500
S.D. Morrison	Minneapolis	15	6	1700	13600
Andrew Ahlin	Carver	23	3 <sup>6</sup>	2500	13200
Edmund W. Bazille	St. Paul	21 <sup>7</sup>	7 <sup>8</sup>	2005 <sup>9</sup>	13100
Fred Steinecker	Stillwater	20	7	2000	13000
Johnson Bros.	Minneapolis	12	6	1500	12000
<b>Strobach &amp; Streissguth</b>	<b>Chaska</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7<sup>10</sup></b>	<b>2500</b>	<b>12000</b>
<b>Lucien Warner</b>	<b>Chaska</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8<sup>11</sup></b>	<b>2500</b>	<b>12000<sup>12</sup></b>
<b>Weist Bros.</b>	<b>Chaska</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8<sup>13</sup></b>	<b>1800</b>	<b>10000<sup>14</sup></b>
Polchow & Co.	Mankato	15	6	2000	10000
Krugell & Ferrett	Moorhead	10	6	1200	10000
Steam Press Brick Yard	Crookston	12	6	1000 <sup>15</sup>	10000

1. Listed as: 25 males more than 16, 3 children.
2. Listed as six months at full time, three at half time.
3. Includes \$500 of "other products."
4. Recorded as 6 months at full time, 2 months of three-quarter time.
5. Includes \$300 in tile.
6. Recorded as six months, half time.
7. Includes 10 males more than 16 and 2 children.
8. Listed as: 6 months full time, 2 months three-quarter's time.
9. Recorded as 2,000,000 common and 5,000 fire brick.
10. Recorded as 5 months at full time, 2 months of three-quarter time.
11. Recorded as 6 months at full time, 2 months of three-quarter time.
12. Includes \$200 in tile.
13. Recorded as 6 months at full time, 2 months of three-quarter time.
14. Includes \$200 in tile.
15. Listed as pressed brick.

Heck House, Carver County Minn.  
Appendix III.

		EMPLO- YEES	M O N T H S	BRICKS (THOUS- ANDS)	VALUE (DOLLARS)
Charles J. Johnson	Dist. 43, Anoka Co.	44	5	1600	10000
Wm. Schwartz	[Brainerd], Crow Wing Co.	9	6	900 <sup>16</sup>	9800
Crookston Cream Brick Co.	Crookston	12	6	1200	9600
Johnson Bros. & Berg	Crystal Mills? Hennepin Co.	10	5	1700	8500
Brink Williams & Co.	Red Wing	9	5	950 <sup>17</sup>	8000
W. Kugel	St. Cloud Township, Stearns Co.	8	5	1000	8000
S.D. Morrison	Crystal Mills? Hennepin Co.	10	5	1500	7500
Mankato Brick Co.	Mankato	14 <sup>18</sup>	6	1500	7500
Fred Steinecker	Stillwater	9	7	1000	7500
W.W. Woodward	Minneapolis	6	6	600	7000
Peterson & Benson	Dist. 43, Anoka Co.	17	6	1100	7000
C.W. Jagger	St. Paul	15	5	1100	6600
Litchfield Brick Co.	[Litchfield], Meeker Co.	8 <sup>19</sup>	6	2000	6000
W.B. Lutz	Florence & Central Pt., Douglas Co.	20	4	700	5600
John Jagger	St. Paul	9	4	800	5600
John Nye & Co.	Carver	16	3 <sup>20</sup>	1000	5500
Herman & Henry Schroeder	Shakopee	14	6	1000	5000
Edward Whitcomb	Rochester	12	5	700	4900
Jacob Krantz	Belle Plaine	6	8	800	4500
William Wiedhoff & Co	Milford, Brown Co.	6	4	800	4400
McKay & Howard	Alexandria	12	6	525	4200
J.R. Child & Co.	Evansville, Dodge Co.	10	5	500	4000
Charles Meyer	St. Paul	9	5	600	3900
Wm. Sonderman	[Hastings]	6	5	600	3800
New Ulm Brick Yard	New Ulm	4	4	700	3500
Rusfelt Kleven & Co.	Albert Lea	14 <sup>21</sup>	4	600	3500
Edward Brown	Rochester	10	5	500	3500
Christian Siverson	Blue Earth, Faribault Co.	5	6	500	3500
Henry Kruse?	LeSeur	4 <sup>22</sup>	6	850	3400
John F. Roads	Kasson, Dodge Co.	7	3 <sup>23</sup>	400 <sup>24</sup>	3100 <sup>25</sup>
Hasty & Anderson	Crystal Mills? Hennepin Co.	5	5	600	3000

16. Includes 600,000 pressed brick.
17. Includes 800,000 common brick, 150,000 pressed brick.
18. Recorded as 10 males over 16 yrs. and 4 children.
19. Listed as: 4 males more than 16; 4 children.
20. Recorded as six months, half time.
21. Recorded as 10 males over age 16; 1 female over age 15; 3 children.
22. Recorded as 2 males over age 16; 2 children.
23. Recorded as six months at half time.
24. Includes 400,000 common brick, 10,000 fire brick, 10,000 pressed.
25. Includes \$2,800 tile, \$300 drain pipe.

Heck House, Carver County Minn.  
Appendix III.

		EMPLO- YEES	M O N T H S	BRICKS (THOUS- ANDS)	VALUE (DOLLARS)
Herman Mattie	Henderson	6	5	600	3000
Latcher & Malakrader	Wabasha, Wabasha Co.	4	6	500	3000
Balmos & Krote	Mankato	12 <sup>26</sup>	6	600	3000
Jacob F. Jagger	St. Paul	22	2	500	3000
Geo. M. Erhardt	Minneapolis	4	5	375	2700
Madore Arsneau	Ostego, Wright Co.	5	6	500	2700 <sup>27</sup>
John Goff	Wilson, Winona Co.	6	5	500	2500
John Meyer	Henderson	5	5	500	2500
D. Woodbury	Minneapolis	10	3	300	2500
Morehouse and Anderson	Owatonna	8	4	800	2400
William Strafford	Chatfield	9	3	400	2400
Charles Rodell	Jordan	6	2 <sup>28</sup>	450	2250
Wm. B. Ward	Pine Island, Goodhue	4 <sup>29</sup>	5	300 <sup>30</sup>	2100
David Pangburn	Sauk Center	3	4	350	2100
Anderson & Soiningson?	Sparta, Chippewa Co.	7	3	300	2100
Artin Sane?	Glenwood, Pope Co.	6	6	250	2000
T.J. McCarthy	Faribault	10 <sup>31</sup>	3	300	1800
Kelsey Bros.	Grove Twp., Anoka Co.	11	5	300	1800
Michael Zickrick	St. Charles	5	5	300	1800
Henry Dunham	Faribault	7	3	350	1800
Phillip Birsanz	Winona	12	1	300	1700
C.H. Whitney	Marshall	4	4	225	1575
Ernest Stoll & Co.	Viola Twp., Olmsted Co.	3	5	220 <sup>32</sup>	1500
K. Partridge	Evansville, Dodge Co.	4 <sup>33</sup>	7	160	1500
E.R. Tuttle	Janesville	12	5	200	1400
H.G. & J.P. Ward	Pine Island, Goodhue	4	4	200 <sup>34</sup>	1400
J.M. Lockey	Marshall	3	4	180	1200
Conklin Larson	Hennepin Co.	18		1500	1000
Wm. A. Crooks	Marshall	3	2	125	900
Wm. W. Webb	Brownsdale, Mower Co.	4	2	115	800
John Linderman	Winona	3	6	160	800
Thomas Zack	Scott Co.	5	7	100	800

26. Recorded as 4 males over 16 yrs. and 8 children.  
27. Includes \$200 of tile.  
28. Listed as 4 months at half time.  
29. Recorded as 2 males over age 16; 2 children.  
30. Includes 100,000 common brick, 200,000 fire brick.  
31. Includes 8 males above 16 years and 2 children.  
32. Includes 120,000 common and 100,000 fire brick.  
33. Recorded as "3-6."  
34. Includes 75,000 common brick, 125,000 fire brick.

Heck House, Carver County Minn.  
Appendix III.

		EMPLO- YEES	M O N T H S	BRICKS (THOUS- ANDS)	VALUE (DOLLARS)
Tilten Richard	Pleasant Grove, Olmsted	3	3	100	600
W.S. Bailey	Des Moines, Jackson Co.	6	2	100	750
G.W. Dunton	Princeton	4	3	60	600
Burkhardt and Son	Reads Landing	1	4	100	500
William Gerson & Co.	Winona	3	6	100	500
Whitcomb & Son	Byron, Olmsted Co.	5	3	75	375 <sup>35</sup>

35. Marked: "Under \$500; not included on voucher" and crossed out.

Heck House, Carver County Minn.  
Appendix IV.

### Chaska Brickyard Ownership, 1860-1925

From: Martens, *Ethnic Tradition and Innovation*, appendix 'E.'

'()' indicates date of a known reference and name of proprietor. 'SE,' 'NE,' etc. indicates general location in relation to the center of Chaska.

---

- 1860-65      Lucius Howe (1857); Charles H. Gau (1866).  
SE    Barker & Gregg (1862; Ansel Barker & John W. Gregg).  
SE    Griswold & Gregg (William B. Griswold).  
      Reuben Melvin (1863-84).
- 1865-70    SE    Griggs & Gregg (1864-67; Chauncey W. Griggs).  
      SE    J.W. Gregg & Co. (1867-68). Lucius Howe (1866); Howe & Sons (1869).  
      Goetz & Foos (1866).  
      SE    George Weist (1872-82).
- 1870-75    SE    Howe & Sons; Goetz & Foos; Griswold & Gregg (1870).  
      SE    Lucius Howe - Gregg, Griswold & Schlafle (1870; Charles Schlafle).
- 1875-80    NW    Andrew Riedele (1880).  
      NW?    Mike Bierlein (1877; site at 'David Ebinger farm').  
      NE    Strobach, Greiner et. al.  
      SE    Weist Bros. (1878); Weist Bros. (1878; Reuben Melvin, foreman).
- 1880-85    NW?    Mike Bierlein brickyard - Martin Mehofer & Henry Strobach (1878).  
      SE    Weist Bros. (1878); Gregg & Griswold (1878).  
      NW    Bierlein & Riedele (1881; Andrew Riedele).
- 1885-90    SE    Strobach, Greiner & Co.; Barker & Streissguth; Barker & Eder.  
      NW?    Mike Bierlein.  
      NW    Philip Riedele (1885; Block 6); Burkhart Bros.  
      Henning & Melvin (F.W. Henning & Reuben Melvin).  
      NE?    Herrmeyer & Co.  
      (1890; three additional yards whose names are not identified.)
- 1890-95    SE    Corning Clay Works (1891)  
      NW    Brinkhaus (var. Brinkhause) brick yard (1891-98; block 5).
- 1895-99    SE    Greiner & Corning (June, 1895).  
      SE    Mike Bierlein - Paul Bierlein - Mike Bierlein - Charles Schlafle.  
      NW    Philip Riedele (1897; & Aronson); Schlafle & Sons; Burkhart Bros.  
      NW    Klein Bros. (c.1895; Charles H. & 1896; Christ, v. Christian,  
      Christopher).  
      NE    Herrmeyer - George Klein (elder) (June 1895; C.H. Klein, Mgr.)

Heck House, Carver County Minn.  
Appendix IV.

1895-99 (continued)

- NE Herrmeyer - George Klein (elder) (June 1895; C.H. Klein, Mgr.)
- NE Strobach & Faber (1899).

1900-05 (No new or confirmed citations during this period.)

- 1905-10 SE Chaska Brick & Tile (1909; John Wheeler Leavitt Corning).
- SE Klein & Corning (1910; Block 33).
- NW Klein Bros. & Caspar (1910; 6th St. between Cedar & Chestnut).
- NE Klein Bros. brick yards 'A' & 'B' (1910).

1910-15 SE Klein & Corning (Feb., 1911).

1915-20 SE Corning-Donahue (1916; Charles R. Corning, John C.I. Corning, John W. Donahue, Jr.).

- 1920-25 NE C.H. Klein Brick Co. Yard #1 (1914).
- NE C.H. Klein Coal Co. (sic) Brick Yard #2 (1924).
- NW Klein Bros. Brick Yard (1924).
- SE Chaska Brick & Tile Co. (1924; J.W.L. Corning).

1925 NE C.H. Klein Brick Co. (1931; incorporated; also shareholders: C.P. Klein, J.C.I. Corning, John J. Donahue, Jr., et. al.).

Heck House, Carver County Minn.  
Appendix V.

Ess Brothers advertisement, promoting their "Nameless Brick Machines." This ad ran repeatedly in Chaska's *Weekly Valley Herald* during the late 1890s.

**CHASKA  
FOUNDRY  
AND  
MACHINE  
SHOP:...**

---

**ESS BROS., CHASKA,  
MINN.**

---

Brick Yard Supplies, Engine Trim-  
mings and Castings of all kinds.  
Steam and Gas Fittings, Pipes,  
Tank Pumps, Brass Fittings of  
every description, Belting, Hose,  
Packing, Etc., Etc.

**The Nameless Machines**

The Nameless Brick Machine has  
gained the highest reputation  
throughout the United States and  
many old and reliable firms have  
adopted their use.

**REPAIR WORK,**

We have a blacksmith shop in con-  
nection and do all kinds of work  
to order. Plows sharpened and  
horse shoeing a specialty.

---

All orders carefully and promptly filled.

**FRANK AND FRED ESS,**  
CHASKA, MINN.

Heck House, Carver County Minn.  
Appendix V.

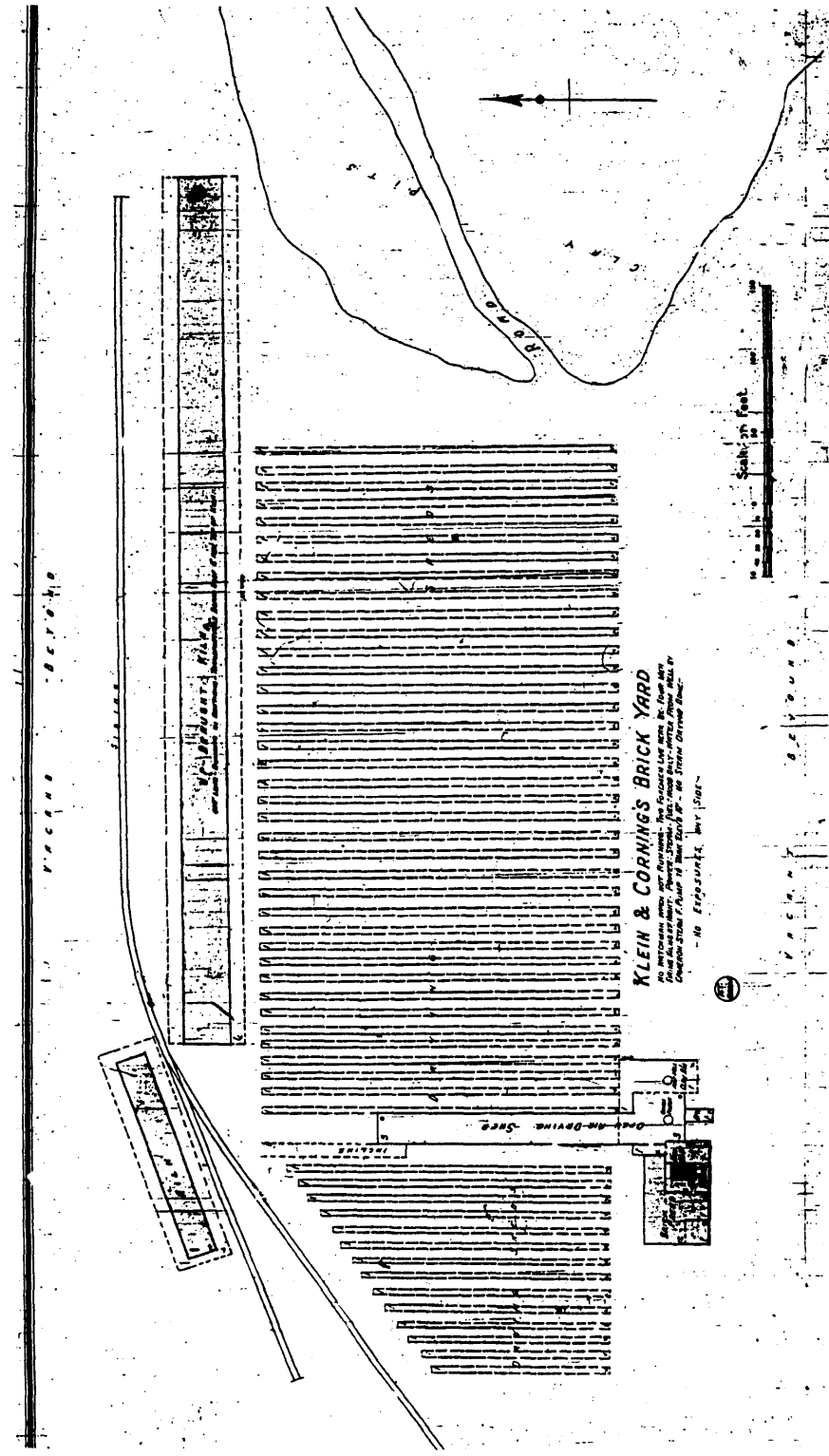
View of an unidentified Chaska brickyard, c. 1910? The view shows drying sheds in the middle ground and "beehive" kilns in the background. From a postcard in the collection of the Chaska Historical Society.





Heck House, Carver County Minn.  
Appendix V.

Klein and Corning Brickyard, Chaska, 1899. One of the two kilns shown is marked "up-draught kiln." South of the kilns are drying sheds for unburned brick and pulp mills and brick presses. The clay pits are shown to the east. Section of a "fire insurance" map published by the Sanborn Perris Map Co., New York, 1899.





Chaska brickyard workers, c. 1900. Photograph from the Chaska Historical Society.

Heck House, Carver County Minn.  
Appendix V.

A "beehive" kiln, c. 1960. The kiln (including the roof) is constructed of brick. Iron bands surround the walls. Photograph from the Chaska Historical Society.

