

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only
received **JAN 24 1984**
date entered

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

and or common St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

2. Location

street & number Section 34 W of Caribou N/A ___ not for publication

city, town Caribou Twp. vic. vicinity of Caribou, Minnesota

state Minnesota code 22 county Kittson code 069

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use | |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public | <input type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input type="checkbox"/> educational | <input type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <input type="checkbox"/> in process | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, George Kowaliuk, Church Comm. Chmn.

street & number N/A

city, town Lancaster N/A vicinity of state Minnesota 56735

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kittson County Courthouse -- Registrar of Deeds

street & number Fifth St. at Douglas Ave.

city, town Hallock state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Survey of Historic Resources has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes no

date 1981 ___ federal state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Minn. Historical Society -- Ft. Snelling History Center

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota 55111

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church is located in a rural setting in the hamlet of Caribou in the remote northeastern corner of Kittson County. The small frame structure consists of a rectangular plan sanctuary, a central entrance tower, and a small rectangular apse. The sanctuary and apse have hipped roofs. The entrance tower has a large square first level topped by a slightly smaller square portion, which in turn is covered by a pyramidal roof. Double doors, with decorative wood designs, are set into a round arched entrance. The remaining fenestration consists of two double-sash rectangular windows on each side of the church and a single sash window at the rear of the apse.

Copper-colored onion domes project from the ridge line of the sanctuary and the apse. Both domes, as well as the tower, have Greek crosses formed of bent metal rod.

The interior is paneled with unpainted knotty boards. Chairs line each wall and face simple wooden benches. An iconostasis dividing the sanctuary and apse is covered with religious icons and images.

8. Significance

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900– | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates 1905 Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church is significant for its association with Ukrainian settlement in northwestern Minnesota. In the late decades of the nineteenth century, many East Slavs migrated to Minnesota, North Dakota, and the prairie provinces of Canada. Ukrainians arrived in Kittson County shortly after the turn-of-the-century, having moved south from the Winnipeg area in search of good farm land. Several small communities were established. One - that at Caribou - found itself in Minnesota after a 1909 American-Canadian border survey. The Caribou group built St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in 1905. The congregation continued to participate with the Ukrainian communities across the border in Manitoba, only a mile from the church. The church remained in regular use until the 1940s but since then has been used only for special occasions. The building has been maintained by former parishioners who live in the area. It continues to serve as an important symbol of the small ethnic community. Both interior and exterior are in good condition and are being well preserved.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Holmquist, June Drenning. They Chose Minnesota: A Survey of the State's Ethnic Groups. St. Paul, MHS Press, 1981, pp. 410-412.
Our Northwest Corner: Histories of Kittson County, Minnesota. Taylor Publishing Co., Dallas, 1976, pp. 229, 495.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property @ 1.75

Quadrangle name Caribou, Minn.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 4 |
|---|---|

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 0 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

 Zone Easting Northing

B

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

 Zone Easting Northing

C

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

D

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

E

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

F

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

G

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

H

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

Verbal boundary description and justification

Portion of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 34, T.164N, R.45W: From a point 58 rods, 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ feet north and 26 rods west of the SE corner of Sec. 34, west 22 rods, 1 foot; north 12 rods, 5 feet; east 22 rods, 1 foot; south 12 rods, 5 feet to pt.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries of beg.

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Thomas Harvey, Contract Historian

organization N/A date 31 October 1983

street & number 1916 Drew Ave. S. telephone 612-920-6917

city or town Minneapolis state Minnesota 55416

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Russell W. Fridley

Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 1/20/84

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Beth Groves

date 3/8/84

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper *Melvin Lynn*
1/19/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Note: These changes apply to
St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in
Kittson County, Minnesota.

REFERENCE NUMBER: 84001480

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Kittson

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC):

CITY:

VICINITY OF: Lancaster

ADDRESS: Co. Hwy. 4

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988

Date