

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Wisconsin
COUNTY: Walworth
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE DEC 27 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Heart Prairie Lutheran Church

2. LOCATION

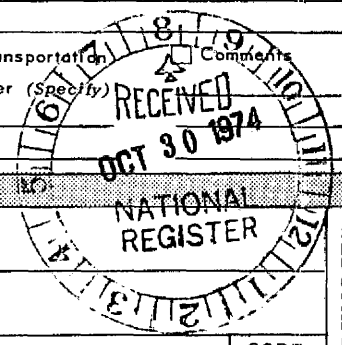
STREET AND NUMBER: 5 of Whitewater on
Town Line Road

CITY OR TOWN: near Whitewater vicinity CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: First

STATE: Wisconsin 53190 CODE: 55 COUNTY: Walworth CODE: 127

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)



4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: First English Lutheran Church

STREET AND NUMBER: 401 West Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Whitewater STATE: Wisconsin 53190 CODE: 55

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Walworth County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Elkhorn STATE: Wisconsin 53121 CODE: 55

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Wisconsin's Historic Preservation Plan, Volume II, The Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1973 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: State Historical Society of Wisconsin

STREET AND NUMBER: 816 State Street

CITY OR TOWN: Madison STATE: Wisconsin 53706 CODE: 55

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Wisconsin

COUNTY: Walworth

ENTRY NUMBER: DEC 27 1974

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered
(Check One)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Situated close to the edge of Whitewater Lake, the Heart Prairie Lutheran Church is visible for miles. It is a simple, rectangular, one-story building of brick with a cornice of brick dentils, and three slightly recessed windows on each side. There is a wooden tower in two stages with a short spire. In the 1950's the Heart Prairie Lutheran Church was restored to its original condition. There is no electricity in the building which has its original oil lamps, a pump organ, pews, altar and bell. In the nineteenth century the members of the church frequently arrived by water in boats, and the church was sited so as to be visible from across Whitewater Lake.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1855-7, restored, 1950's.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Heart Prairie Lutheran Church is an unusually fine vernacular building. It features fine brickwork in which not only is the brick used to build the walls but also to supply ornamental detail such as cornices, belt courses and other decorative features. Heart Prairie is one of the two finest surviving specimens of vernacular brickwork in Wisconsin.* (The St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Woodland is the other.) It illustrates typically Norwegian ecclesiastical architectural features, with a central pulpit surrounded by a semi-circular chancel and altar rail. It is one of the oldest Norwegian Lutheran churches in America still in use.

* Perrin, Historic Wisconsin Buildings, p. 58.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Perrin, Richard W. Historic Wisconsin Buildings, a Survey of Pioneer Architecture, 1835-70. pp. 58, 60-1.

Beckwith, A.C. History of Walworth County, Wisconsin (Vol. I), Indianapolis: Bowen Company, 1912, p. 469.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

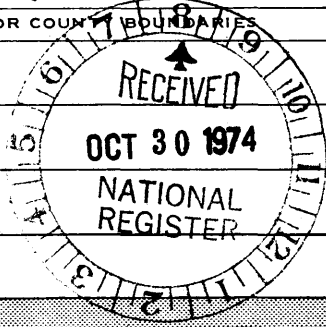
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

U.T.M. Zone 16:
360,730 E.
4,734,980 N.

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one 6

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Charlene Stant Engel, Preservation Planning Assistant

ORGANIZATION: State Historical Society of Wisconsin DATE: 1 Aug. 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
816 State Street

CITY OR TOWN: Madison STATE: Wisconsin 53706 CODE: 55

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: James Morton Smith
James Morton Smith

Title: Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

Date: Oct. 23, 1974

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

Alf Mortensen
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 12/27/74

ATTEST:
W. Hunter
Keeper of The National Register

Date: DEC 26 1974