

Record No. _____

INVENTORY FORM FOR NOMINATED PROPERTIES

Name of Property: Dansk Evangelical Lutheran Church
Address: 400 West Capitol Drive
City: Hartland

Owner: Lake Country Congregational Church Date: 5/1985
Owner's address: Box 251/Hartland, Wisconsin/53029
County: Waukesha

*160 NRHP Certification

(a) _____ (b) _____
(c) _____ (d) _____

165 NRHP Certification Date

(a) _____ (b) _____
(c) _____ (d) _____

*170 Thematic or Multiple Resource Nomination Name

Historic Resources of Hartland

180 NRHP List Name Dansk Evangelical

Lutheran Kirke

*200 Level of Significance Local

*190 District Classification _____

*210 Applicable Criteria Architecture/Engineering (C)

Historic Development (A)

*215 Criteria Considerations

*220 Area of Significance

Architecture
Ethnic Associations

230 Period of Significance 1910 - 1931

60 Verbal Boundary Description Part of the Northwest

¼ of Section 3 Town 7N R18E; Commencing 950' S of N¼ corner & 165' W of ¼ SEC N65 43' E 100' S212' W 20' S 32' W22' S 41' W54' N 1 W 236' to beginning. Also commencing N¼ Cor S 159.34' N65 30'E 181.30' to BGN R417/1010.

70 USGS Quad Map Hartland

80 UTM Coordinates (Format: 99/999999/9999999)

16/389920/4772880

85 Listed Acreage Two Acres

340 Review Board Date 7/18/86

*use code tables for response

INTENSIVE SURVEY FORM

Record No. _____ Property Name: Dansk Evangelical Lutheran Church 400 W. Capitol Dr.

LOCATION

PROGRAM REVIEW

* 10 County Waukesha

250 Tax No. _____ Compliance No. _____

20 City or Village Hartland

* 270 A or D Grant _____

30 Civil Town _____

275 Covenant/Easement Dates _____

35 Unincorp. Community _____

* 320 Ownership Private

40 Location 400 West Capitol Drive

* 330 Lead Agency _____

Town-Range-Section (Format: 9999W-99)

335 Local Agency SEWRPC

50 _____

SURVEY

55 Quarter Sections (Format: NW-NW) _____

90 Photo Codes 107-10, 46-27

60 Verbal Boundary Description _____

100 Survey Map Hartland Intensive Survey

60 _____

110 Map Code 107-10

60 _____

120 Reconnaissance Survey Schockley

60 _____

130 Reconnaissance Survey Date 1979

* 140 Intensive Survey Hartland Intensive Survey

150 Intensive Surveyor Miller/Vogel

152 Surveyor Affiliation _____

155 Intensive Survey FY 1985

* 235 Survey Eval. Eligible

* 237 Survey District Classification n/a

* 240 Survey Level of Significance local

* 243 Survey Evaluation Criteria A/c

245 Proposed District _____

280 NHL Date _____

290 HAES No. _____ 300 HAER No. _____

* 305 Local Designation (date) _____

320 Local District _____

315 Associated Archeological Site(s) _____

315 _____

dry mount
photograph
here

* use code tables for response

400
West Capitol Drive

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Address 400 West Capitol Drive

ARCHITECTURE

Date of Construction:

* 450 Construction Date [source] 1910 (cornerstn)*

460 Date(s) of Alterations Additions [source] _____

460 _____

480 Builder [source] J.P. Peterson/Nels Lund

* 490 Designer Type (a) -

490 (b) _____ (c) _____

500 Designer Name [source] (a) unknown

500 (b) _____ (c) _____

* 510 Style or Form GOTHIC REVIVAL

510 _____

* 520 Building, Structure, Object or Site Type

520 CHURCH

* 530 Wall Material Concrete block

* 532 Trim Material wood

* 535 Foundation Material concrete

* 537 Roof Material asphalt shingles

* 540 Interior Visited no

* 550 Structural System [source] -

* 560 Plan Configuration square

* 570 Number of Stories 1

* 580 Roof Shape Gable with steeple

590 Additional Description _____

590 Wood shingles cover front gable end

590 and steeple.

590 _____

* 620 Condition Excellant

650 Related Buildings _____

650 _____

650 _____

HISTORY

430 Current Name Lake Country Congregational Chur

435 Current Function Ecclesiastical

440 Historic Names [source] Dansk Evangelical

440 Lutheran Kirke (Church)

440 _____

660 _____

660 _____

665 _____

665 _____

670 _____

670 _____

670 (b) _____

670 _____

675 Dates of Events [source] (a) _____

675 (b) _____

680 Historic Functions [source] (a) Ecclesiastical

680 (b) _____

685 Dates of Functions [source] (a) 1910-1958

685 (b) _____

* 687 Cultural Affiliation Danish

688 Cultural Subgroup -

*use code tables for response

Record: _____

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DESCRIPTION

The Dansk Evangelical Lutheran Kirke, located at 400 West Capitol Drive, was built in 1910 for the Danish-speaking Lutheran congregation of Hartland. The church was dedicated on May 7, 1911. J. P. Peterson of Hartland was the contractor, and Nels Lund of Menominee Falls executed the concrete work. Built of coursed concrete block with a rock face finish in the Gothic Revival style, the rectangular church is one tall story in height with a raised basement, and a gable roof. Shingle appears in the gable end. A concrete block and shingle tower rising to a height of forty feet dominates the main facade. The main entrance is located at the base of the tower, and consists of a recessed pair of wooden doors surmounted by a stained glass transom. Above the doorway is a panel inscribed "Dansk Ev. Luthe. Kirke". A pair of small pointed-arched leaded glass windows appear above the panel, surmounted by a set of three similar windows. Large Gothic-arched leaded glass windows flank the tower, and continue the length of the east and west facades. A non-contributing concrete block addition constructed in 1951 appears on the rear facade, east of three leaded glass lancet windows. On the interior the simplicity of the nave and chancel contrast with the ornate stained glass windows which line the walls of the nave and appear at the chancel end behind the main altar. Ceiling fans provide air circulation.

ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING SIGNIFICANCE

The Dansk Kirke is architecturally significant as a good local example of Gothic - influenced church architecture. Its architectural integrity is uncompromised by the addition, which is unobtrusive, constructed on the rear of the building of matching scale and materials. Known as the Lake Country Congregational Church since 1975, the Dansk Kirke is one of three churches being nominated to the National Register. The Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church (403 West Capitol Drive, 1910) and the First Congregational Church (214 East Capitol Drive, 1923) are both examples of simpler Gothic traditions.

The rough cast concrete blocks of the Danish church mark it as a distinctive architectural resource in the community.

690 BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Hartland News, 8/20/1910; 5/6/1911. Hartland History Group, Hartland: A Chronicle, (Hartland, WI: 1976), p. 45.

Christensen, Thomas P. "Danish Settlement in Wisconsin." Wisconsin Magazine of History XII: 19-40. (A)

Hale, Frederick. Danes in Wisconsin. Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1981. (B)

Hartland History Group. Hartland: A Chronicle 1838-1976. Hartland: 1976. (C)

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Danish immigration to the United States began in the 1830s, greatly increasing in the 1840s and 1850s. Many Danes settled in Wisconsin, entering the state in Racine. From there, the Danes spread out into the state, many ultimately moving to and settling in Minnesota. The first Dane in the Hartland area was Laurits Jacob Fribert. He lived in New Upsala, the Swedish settlement of Gustaf Unonious on Pine Lake. In 1847 he wrote the first book describing the United States to his countrymen, Manual for Immigrants to the American West, thus greatly stimulating immigration. Laurits later moved to Ashippun. (A,B,F)

Another early Dane was Ludvig Christiansen. Unlike those moving through Racine, he came to Wisconsin from New Orleans, arriving in Hartland in 1845-1846. The village's greatest influx of Danes arrived between 1855 and 1861. It became "one of the first decidedly Danish settlements...in Waukesha County." Evidence of the heavy concentration of Danes is found in the 1867 founding of the Danish Lutheran congregation, one of the states earliest outside of Racine. (A,B)

On May 5, 1867, an organizational meeting was held at the house of Jacob Blitsch. "We, the undersigned," the group at the meeting resolved,

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Although the present building replaced the original structure in 1910, it is significant under criterion A as the last tangible reminder of a once thriving Danish community in Hartland.

The Danes continued to maintain a presence in area well into the 20th century. Few known resources associated with Danish immigration and settlement in the state have been identified as of this time.

The Danes who came to Wisconsin were significant in the larger picture of Danish migration to America because they were the first non-Mormon Danes to generate a chain of movement into the country. Though they ultimately played only a minor role in the state's settlement process, the Danes founded one of the first distinctly Danish settlements in America at Hartland in 1846. Established by Christian L. Christiansen, Hartland emerged as a center of Danish-American life and as the destination of many visiting nobles. Other urban centers would later replace Hartland in terms of absolute numbers of Danish immigrants, Yet the Danish flavor remained an important part of rural Hartland.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

having had under consideration the propriety of building a Lutheran Church in or about the Village of Hartland, and having come to the conclusion that it would advance religion and Christian life; furthermore, that it would advance the interest of the village itself; therefore, we invite all and everyone, without distinction of creed or sect, to help us by contribution (of) as much as possible. Any amount will be thankfully received. The regular service will be held in the English language, but should it be desired to have it held in German, or Danish, it may be done before or after the service is over. (G)

A month later the group had received a three acre lot on Oconomowoc Street from a Mr. Middlewood and had enough money to build their church. On January 12, 1868, the joint Danish/German congregation held the first service in their new building. (C,G)

The Danish and German congregations split in 1910 with the Danes buying out the German share of the church. The old building was demolished and a new one built later that year. Ethnic identity

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was strong at the church. Half of the services were preached in the native language in 1918. This practice continued to 1931. In 1922, the congregation affiliated with the United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church; a group that was later absorbed by the American Lutheran Church. (C,D,E)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The building's period of significance has been taken up to the important 1931 date at which the native language of the church was transferred from Danish to English, representing a distinctive element in the history of this ethnic congregation.

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690 BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Hartland News, 12/7/1918. (D)

Porter, H. Boone. "The Religious History of Waukesha County." In From Farmland to Freeways: A History of Waukesha County Wisconsin, edited by Ellen D. Langill and Jean Penn Loerke. Waukesha: Waukesha County Historical Society, Inc., 1984. (E)

Stark, William. Pine Lake. Chenequa: 1984. (F)

Weed, Nellie Warren. The Hartland Story.

History File. Hartland Public Library, Hartland, Wisconsin. (G)