

20002057

Historic Name: Cross of Christ Lutheran Church**County:** Goodhue**Common Name:** Cross of Christ Lutheran Church**Community:** Welch Township**Owner's Name and Address:** Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Congregation
Welch, Minnesota 55089**Address/~~Legal Desc.~~:**

Highway 61, west of Red Wing

Classification:**Acres:****Building** **Structure** _____ **Object** _____ **District** _____

5 acres

Condition:**Verbal Boundary Desc.:****Excellent** **Good** _____ **Fair** _____ **Deteriorated** _____The north half of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$
of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of
sec. 15, T113N, R16W.**Open to the Public:****Visible from the road:****Yes** **No** _____**Yes** **No** _____**Occupied:****Present Use:****Yes** **No** _____

Religious

History:

Swedish Ev.

Date Constructed: 1878**Original Owner:**

Lutheran

Congregation

UTM Reference:

15 / 521450 / 4938350

Architect/Builder: Charles E. Johnson**Original Use:**

Religious

Red Wing Quadrangle

Description:**Level of Significance:**

The Cross of Christ Lutheran Church is located on the southeast corner of the intersection of U.S. Route 61 and Goodhue County Highway 7, in the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 15, Welch Township.

Local _____**State** _____**Nation** _____

The Cross of Christ Lutheran Church is a one-story, wood-frame structure measuring 40 by 70 feet. It has a gable roof with its end oriented to the street. Its facade is three bays wide, with a pair of narrow, Gothic-arched windows framing a square, projecting tower in the center. Entry to the church is through paneled double doors in the front of the tower, with a transom surmounted by a wide, Gothic-arched window. The upper section of the tower is embellished by a lancet in front and quatrefoils on either side. The tower is capped off by a bellcast hip roof surmounted by an octagonal belfry,
(continued)

Status:**Survey** _____ **Date** _____**Local** _____**State** _____ **5/78** _____**Nat'l. Reg.** _____**Nat'l. Land.** _____**HABS/HAER** _____**Significance:****Theme/s:**

The Cross of Christ Lutheran Church is significant as an example of the type of churches the Swedish settlers built in southeastern Minnesota, once they had passed through the pioneer phase of development.

Primary Religious**Secondary** Ethnic**Other** _____

Along with the Norwegians, the Swedes were the largest group to settle the rural areas to the south of the Twin Cities in the decades after 1850. In many districts, they predominated. In Goodhue County, for example, there were 3,224 foreign-born Swedes in 1900, compared to 3,056 Norwegians and 1,926 Germans. Wherever Swedish farms would cluster, their Lutheran Churches appeared in their midst as their religious and cultural centers.

The Cross of Christ Lutheran Church is an outstanding example of such a structure. Located in Welch Township, one of the most solidly Swedish districts in the region, its congregation was organized in 1873 by the Rev. Eric Norelius, the father of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Minnesota. In 1878, the congregation built the present commodious structure with its characteristically Swedish steeple, thereby indicating the growing numbers and
(continued)

Local Contact/Org.:

Mrs. R.H. Nelson

Red Wing, MN 55066

Prepared by and date:

B. Michael Zuckerman

August 1978

Description:

with louvered lancets, and a gabled steeple with a cross at its pinnacle. Five Gothic-arched windows run down each side of the Church.

Although the Church has a modern addition, it fortunately is small, tucked in the rear, and does not detract from the building's architectural integrity.

Significance:

prominence of the Welch Swedes in the latter half of the 19th century.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper *Helene Lyman*
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
Cross of Christ Lutheran Church in
Goodhue County, Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 80002057

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Goodhue

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC):

CITY:

VICINITY OF: Red Wing

ADDRESS: Mn. Hwy. 61

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

**Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer**

JUN 17 1988

Date