

Historic Name: Laketown Moravian Brethren's Church Common Name: Lake Auburn Moravian Church Owner's Name and Address: Lake Auburn Moravian Church Parish, c/o Pastor Larry Christianson, Route 1, Box 696, Excelsior, Mn. 55331		County: Carver Community: Laketown Twp. Address/Legal Desc.: County Highway 11
Classification: Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure _____ Object _____ District _____		Acreage: Less than one acre.
Condition: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good _____ Fair _____ Deteriorated _____		Verbal Boundary Desc.: T116N, R24W, S11 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ See Continuation Sheet.
Open to the Public: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No _____	Visible from the road: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No _____	
Occupied: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No _____	Present Use: Church	
History: Date Constructed: 1878 Architect/Builder: Unknown		UTM Reference: 15/ 446500 / 4968390 Victoria Quad
Description: Built in 1878, the Lake Auburn Moravian Church is among the oldest standing church buildings in the county. It is constructed on a simple rectangular plan, of buff colored Chaska brick on a field stone foundation. Four arched windows, each embellished with a simple projecting brick hood, embellish the side walls. The entry faces Lake Auburn to the Southwest. The octagonal wooden steeple rises from a square base atop the southwest end of the gable roof. The entry wall is pierced by two small arched windows placed high in the wall and a round window near the peak of the gable. The overall plan, proportions, and steeple are reminiscent of Zoar Moravian Church (1863) which stands in section 32 of the same township. Details of the brickwork suggest an Italianate influence, but are perhaps more correctly attributed to a tradition of vernacular brick architecture among the German (cont.)		Level of Significance: Local _____ State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nation _____
Significance: The Lake Auburn Moravian Church is one of the two original "outposts" of the Chaska Moravian congregation, and was founded in 1858. Services were held in the John Holtmeier home until 1863, when a log church was built on what is now the Lake Auburn cemetery. This structure was demolished 30 years later. In 1878 the present church building was constructed. The building is important as a very well preserved example of period rural vernacular church architecture. On the one hand, it clearly recalls the spare, functional Greek revival architecture characteristic of the earliest churches in the county. On the other, both the material and detail anticipate the more elaborate Chaska brick churches built in Chaska, Chanhassen and Waconia. Major changes to the building include a brick addition to the rear of the building, and an open vestibule at the entry. The steeple is now clad in aluminum siding, with the consequence that the arched louvered openings in the tower are now rectangular. The interior has been extensively remodeled.		Status: Survey _____ Date _____ Local <u>9/77</u> State <u>12/77</u> Nat'l. Reg. _____ Nat'l. Land. _____ HABS/HAER _____
Theme/s: Primary <u>Architecture</u> Secondary <u>Religion</u> Other _____		Local Contact/Org.: Heritage Committee Carver County Historical Society
Prepared by and date: Ted Lofstrom January 1978		

Verbal Boundary Description:

That part of Sec. 11, T. 116, R. 24, Carver County Minnesota: Beginning at the NW'ly of gov't lot 4, of said Sec. 11; thence S. 56° 07' E. A distance of 567.7 ft.; thence S. 36° 26' 30" W. a distance of 266.6 ft.; thence N. 53° 33' 30" W. a distance 201.73 ft.; thence S. 27° 22' 30" W. a distance of 394.3 ft. thence N. 53° 33' 30" W. a distance of 100.00 ft.; thence S. 44° 01' 30" W. a distance of 165 feet more or less to the NE'ly shore line of Lake Auburn; thence NW'ly along said NE'ly shore line a distance of 325.00 ft. more or less to its intersection with a line bearing S. 36° 23' W. from the point of beginning; thence N. 36° 23' E. a distance of 688.00 ft. more or less to the point of beginning.

For the purpose of this description, the West line of said gov't lot 4 has an assumed bearing of due south.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper Melvin J. Lynn
1/19/89

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National Park Service

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**Note: These changes apply to
Laketown Moravian Brethren's Church
in Carver County, Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 80001981

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Carver

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC):

CITY: Victoria

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS: Co. Hwy. 11

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS: Property is located within the city limits of Victoria.

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988

Date