

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only  
received NOV 06 1979  
date entered DEC 26 1979

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

**1. Name**

historic Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church

and/or common Our Saviours Lutheran Church of Ham Lake

**2. Location**

street & number 2200 Swedish Drive, N.E. \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Ham Lake \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district 8th

state Minnesota code 22 county Anoka code 003

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture <span style="margin-left: 100px;">___ museum</span>
___ building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial <span style="margin-left: 100px;">___ park</span>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational <span style="margin-left: 100px;">___ private residence</span>
___ site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	___ entertainment <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious</span>
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government <span style="margin-left: 100px;">___ scientific</span>
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial <span style="margin-left: 100px;">___ transportation</span>
		___ no	___ military <span style="margin-left: 100px;">___ other:</span>

**4. Owner of Property**

name Congregation -- Our Saviours Lutheran Church

street & number Swedish Drive

city, town Soderville, \_\_\_ vicinity of state Minnesota

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anoka County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Anoka state Minnesota

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

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

date 1978, 1979 \_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society -- 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota

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## 7. Description

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**Condition** excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church is located on a wooded hilltop, surrounded by a cemetery, in the northcentral rural area of Anoka County, known as Ham Lake. The design of the church, which is simple and restrained, is characteristic of Swedish Lutheran churches throughout rural Minnesota. The well-preserved exterior and interior of the church represent one of a few such churches that remain in their original condition in the state.

The church is the result of three building phases. The original church, constructed by members of the congregation in 1872 of locally logged and sawn pine, is a simple rectangular shaped structure on a stone foundation. This gabled structure is embellished with Gothic arched, stained glass windows, and by corner pilaster strips. This section of the church originally faced west; it was later moved by a team of horses to face north. In 1891 an enclosed front entryway and bell tower were constructed on the church's front facade. The exposed stickwork and the shingled spire on the bell tower reflect features characteristic of Victorian styles popular at the time. A one story gabled rear wing was added in 1947 to provide a Sunday School room and a sacristy.

The interior of the church, based on a simple, central-hall plan, is in an excellent state of preservation. The interior furnishings, including the altar and pulpit, were constructed by Swedish craftsmen at Reed and Sherwood Sash and Door Company of Anoka -- a firm that gained statewide fame for their quality of design and craftsmanship.

Although the use of the church is for ceremonial purposes only, it is maintained in an excellent state of preservation.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1872

**Builder/Architect** Per August Gustafson

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

This Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church, one of Minnesota's best-preserved rural Swedish Lutheran churches, is the most representative structure associated with the Swedish heritage of Ham Lake.

The congregation that planned, designed, and built this church was formed in 1872 by Anoka County's largest community of immigrants -- Ham Lake's Swedish settlers. The land for the church, the lumber for its construction, the interior furnishings, and the planting of trees, were all donated, manufactured, or grown by members of this Swedish community. The religious, social, and educational needs of Ham Lake's rural Scandinavian population were met by this church.

Although the congregation has constructed a new church nearby, this church continues to be maintained and preserved for periodic use by the congregation.

PLEASE NOTE: The manuscript for this nomination was prepared before the one paragraph limit for significance statements was stipulated.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

# 10. Geographical Data

DATA NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name Coon Lake Beach

Quadrangle scale 7.5

### UMT References

A 

1	5	4	8	3	3	8	0	5	0	1	5	3	7	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

C 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

D 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

E 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

F 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

G 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

H 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

### Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lynne VanBrocklin Spaeth

organization Minnesota Historical Society

date May 1979

street & number 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House

Contact Dennis Gimmestad

telephone (612) 296-9545

city or town St. Paul

state Minnesota

# 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Russell W. Fridley*

Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date

11/1/79

For HCERS use only

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

*Sally G. Oltch*

date

12/26/79

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

*Kristin O'Connell*

date

12/26/79

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

NOV 06 1979

DATE ENTERED

Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

T32, R23, Sec. 4 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ . A plot of ground com. at a pt. 23.49 chains S & 5.15 chains E / Variation 8 Deg. 51 Min. in 1887/ of quarter cor. on N side of Sec. 4 32 23 th S 29 Deg. E / Variation 8 Deg 51 Min in 1887/ 9 1/2 Rod to a Tamarac stake, th N 64 Deg E 14 1/2 Rods, th. N 29 Deg W 10 1/2 Rods, th S 60 102 Deg W 14 1/2 Rods to pt. of com. containing 1 acre more or less being a pt. of SW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Sec. 4.