NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

931

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

RECEIVED 2280
NOV 01 2013
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Harms, J. Casten and Magaretha, Farmhouse
Other names/site number:

Name of related multiple property listing:
"Chaska Brick Resources in the Vicinity of Carver County, 1857-1961"
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing

2. Location

Street & number: 11110 County Road 152
City or town: Benton Township State: MN County: Carver
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: X Cologne

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this _X_ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property _X_ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___national ___statewide _X_local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

_X_A ___B _X_C ___D

Barbara Howard October 10, 2013

Signature of certifying official/Title: Barbara Mitchell Howard, Deputy SHPO, MHS **Date**

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

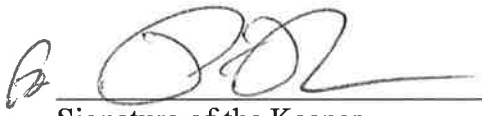
✓ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____



Signature of the Keeper

12/18/13
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:	X
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	X
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing

Harms, J. Casten and Magaretha, Farmhouse | Carver Co., MN
Name of Property | County and State

1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
OTHER: Chaska brick farmhouse

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The J. Casten and Magaretha Harms Farmhouse, built in 1878, is located in a rural setting in southeastern Minnesota's Carver County. It is a moderately large, two-story, L-shaped farmhouse built of cream-colored Chaska brick manufactured in Carver County. The designer is unknown. The construction crew was led by German-born masons Henry and Herman Pinz of the village of Carver. The house has two wings. The larger and more formal wing has a Georgian Style-inspired design with a symmetrical, five-bay main facade and central entrance. Extending to the north is a 1½-story kitchen wing. This wing has an entrance that faces the farmyard to the east and for that reason was used more frequently than the formal main entrance. The house is well-built and retains historic integrity. It is still used as a private residence. The nominated property includes the farmhouse and surrounding lawn. The rest of the farmstead, which contains the ruins of several outbuildings, is excluded from the nominated property due to loss of historic integrity.

Narrative Description

See Continuation Sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [x] A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [ ] B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [x] C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- [ ] A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- [ ] B. Removed from its original location
- [ ] C. A birthplace or grave
- [ ] D. A cemetery
- [ ] E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- [ ] F. A commemorative property
- [ ] G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
ARCHITECTURE
AGRICULTURE
ETHNIC HERITAGE: EUROPEAN

Period of Significance
1878

Significant Dates
1878

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
See Continuation Sheet

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The J. Casten and Magaretha Harms Farmhouse, built in 1878, was evaluated for the National Register using the Registration Requirements in Section F of the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) entitled "Chaska Brick Resources in the Vicinity of Carver County, 1857-1961." The property meets the Registration Requirements and is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C (architecture) and Criterion A (association with important events). Under Criterion C, the Harms Farmhouse embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. It clearly illustrates the features common to an important property type – Chaska brick farmhouses. The farmhouse has characteristics that represent the transference of German-American cultural practices to Carver County and the blending of traditional European practices with American cultural practices of the time. Under Criterion A, the property is an excellent illustration of the local use of Chaska brick for an agricultural building. As a well-preserved example of German-American vernacular architecture, the farmhouse is also significant for its associations with the settlement of Carver County and the Upper Minnesota River Valley by German immigrants. The property was also evaluated using the National Register eligibility guidelines established for the historic context "Euro-American Farms in Minnesota, 1820-1960." It meets that context's eligibility guidelines for Criterion C (architecture). The Harms Farmhouse is significant in the areas of Architecture, Agriculture, and Ethnic Heritage: European. The level of significance is Local. The period of significance is 1878.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

See Continuation Sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

See Continuation Sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
____ previously listed in the National Register
____ previously determined eligible by the National Register
____ designated a National Historic Landmark
____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
____ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

__X__ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
____ Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): CR-BNT-124

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: Longitude:
2. Latitude: Longitude:
3. Latitude: Longitude:
4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or
UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

[X] NAD 1927 or [ ] NAD 1983

1. Zone: 15	Easting:	436160	Northing:	4955530
2. Zone:	Easting:		Northing:	
3. Zone:	Easting:		Northing:	
4. Zone:	Easting :		Northing:	

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the nominated property is shown by the solid gray line on the Sketch Map on Page 1 of Additional Documentation. The nominated property measures 200' (east-west) by 230' (north-south). The eastern boundary line is 87' east of the southeastern corner of the house. The southern boundary line is 120' south of the southeastern corner of the house. The property is located in Section 23 of Benton Township (T115N R25W) in Carver County, Minnesota.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated property is comprised of the parcel of land historically associated with the Harms Farmhouse. The rest of the farmstead has lost historic integrity and was excluded from the boundary of the nominated property.

---

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Susan Granger and Scott Kelly
organization: Gemini Research
street & number: 15 East 9th Street
city or town: Morris state: MN zip code: 56267
e-mail gemres@info-link.net
telephone: 320-589-3846
date: March 2013

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property:	J. Casten and Magaretha Harms Farmhouse
City or Vicinity:	Cologne Vicinity
County:	Carver County
State:	MN
Photographer:	Scott Kelly
Date Photographed:	November 2011

Photo 1 of 5
Western facade and southern (main) facade of the southern wing; camera facing northeast.

Photo 2 of 5
Southern (main) facade and eastern facade; camera facing northwest.

Photo 3 of 5
Eastern facade, which faces the former farmyard; camera facing west.

Photo 4 of 5
Western facade and northern woodframe addition; camera facing southeast.

Photo 5 of 5
Western door and window on the northern kitchen wing; camera facing east.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Harms, J. Casten and Magaretha, Farmhouse
Name of Property
Carver County, MN
County and State
Chaska Brick Resources in the Vicinity of Carver County, 1857-1961
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 1

DESCRIPTION

The J. Casten and Magaretha Harms Farmhouse, built in 1878, is located on the northern side of County Road 152 in Section 23 of Benton Township in Carver County. The property is about 3 miles southwest of the center of Cologne, and about 12 miles west of the towns of Chaska and Carver. County Road 152 is a two-lane, bituminous-paved, section road aligned east-west.

Benton Township, like most of Carver County, is primarily agricultural. The landscape is dominated by tilled fields, wooded creek banks, and scattered farmsteads, all located within a gridwork of rural roads. At the time of Euro-American settlement, most of the county was forested. (Carver County was part of southeastern Minnesota's so-called Big Woods.) About 775′ east of the Harms Farmhouse is Bevens Creek. It flows west to east across southern Carver County and enters the Minnesota River about 7½ miles (as the crow flies) southeast of the property.

The nominated property is a rectangle measuring 200′ (east-west) by 230′ (north-south) that contains the farmhouse and its grassy lawn (see Sketch Map). The nominated property is surrounded by an approximately 4-acre farmstead that no longer retains historic integrity and is excluded from the nominated property. The excluded area contains the ruins of about five outbuildings including a chicken house, concrete-block automobile garage, silo, milk house, and the foundation of a 1916 barn that housed about 16 dairy cows. A small Chaska brick smokehouse (also razed) once stood about 25′ northwest of the house. North and west of the farmstead is an approximately 17-acre woodlot, also excluded from the nominated property. The Harms farmland historically extended north, west, and east of the farmstead and woodlot.

The farmhouse stands on a knoll approached by a 1,600′-long gravel driveway that leads north from County Road 152 and ends at the former farmyard southeast of the house. The house is surrounded by mowed turf and informally spaced, mature, deciduous and coniferous trees and shrubs. The terrain gently slopes away from the house in all directions, but descends more quickly eastward to the creek.

The Harms Farmhouse was built of cream-colored brick manufactured in Chaska (Photo 1). The house is a well-built, moderately large building with an L-shaped plan. It has an intersecting gabled roof covered with asphalt shingles that replace original wood shingles. Each of the building's two wings has an interior brick chimney. The interior chimney on the southern (main) wing replaces a symmetrical pair of original interior endwall chimneys, and the house possibly had one more chimney originally (Henning *Phase III* 2005).

The exterior walls are load-bearing, rather than being a brick veneer over wood frame. The exterior brick was laid in eight-course American bond with gray-tan mortar. There are tie-rods with S-shaped ends on three sides of the southern wing, evidently added later to stabilize the brick (Photo 1). The house has a thick foundation of local stone laid in a random rubble pattern. Above the foundation is a five-course-tall brick water table.

The larger of the two wings, the southern, measures about 26′ x 40′ (north-south by east-west). It has a somewhat imposing Georgian-inspired design with a formal main facade that faces south toward the county road (Photo 2). This facade has a symmetrical, five-bay arrangement of windows and central

doorway, all segmental-arched. The entrance has a simple brick surround, a transom light, and a single-leaf door. Typical of many Chaska brick houses of this style, the southern facade originally had no porch. A hip-roofed open porch was added at some point (see the "ghost" of the porch roof on Photo 1), and removed fairly recently. The southern wing's eastern and western sidewalls have segmental-arched windows on the first and second stories. Each has a small, high, rounded-arched window to light the attic. The wing's first floor has a stairway, two bedrooms, a living room, and a room the family called the "library." Around 1910 one of the bedrooms was reduced in size to create a bathroom. The second floor of the southern wing has four bedrooms (Krueger 2011).

The northern or kitchen wing measures about 26′ x 28′ (north-south by east-west) (Photo 3). It has a segmental-arched exterior entrance on each of the long walls (Photo 5) and on the northern end. The eastern entrance was especially important because it faced the farmyard, driveway, barn, and other outbuildings. The northern wing has segmental-arched window openings, including one at the attic level on the northern end. One window opening – the northern one on the eastern facade – is now rectangular. On the eastern facade is a shed-roofed porch that shelters the house's eastern entrance. The porch is also entered from the southern wing. The porch is tucked into the brick massing so that it has brick walls on three sides. It was originally open on the eastern side, and there was probably one turned wooden column supporting the eastern edge of the roof. (This unusual configuration of shed-roofed, brick-walled, open porch with a single wooden column can be found on at least two other extant Chaska brick farmhouses in Carver County.) In the 1930s or 1940s the eastern wall of the porch was enclosed with screens. The porch's current poured-concrete floor may also date from circa 1940. More recently, the eastern side of the porch was enclosed with three 4/4 windows and clapboard siding above four courses of concrete block. The porch interior retains segmental-arched window and door openings and exposed brick walls. A porch, perhaps small, may have been removed from the western side of the kitchen wing.

The first floor of the kitchen wing has a dining room (the southern room) and a kitchen (the northern room). There was a cistern under the kitchen from which water was pumped for washing. The kitchen wing's small attic room usually served as a bedroom for the boys of the family and hired men. Direct first-floor access to this upper room was provided when an interior stairway was added circa 1910; it became the house's second stairway. The kitchen once had a woodframe summer kitchen on the northern end that was replaced in the 1940s by the current woodframe kitchen workroom addition (Krueger 2011). The one-story, clapboard-covered addition measures about 18′ x 35′ (north-south by east-west) and has a gabled roof with a hipped eastern end (Photo 4). The southeastern part of the addition shelters steps to the basement.

The arched window and door openings of the farmhouse are topped by double rows of headers. On all but the basement window openings, the upper row of headers projects slightly to shed water while the lower row is flush. The window openings have sills made of local gray striated limestone (Photo 5). The second-story windows retain their original 4/4 sash while the first-story openings have 1/1 replacement sash. The rounded-arched attic windows have original 2/2 sash.

The interior retains wood floors, plaster walls, stained woodwork, and some built-in cupboards and closets. Walls and floors are covered with modern carpet, wallpaper, and other materials.

The house is in good condition and exterior alterations are generally modest. They include, as described above, asphalt shingles, removal of approximately two chimneys, enclosure of the eastern porch, alteration of one window opening on the eastern facade, and replacement of first-story sash. Soffit vents have been added to help vent the attic. A porch has been removed from the southern facade, but it was not original. A one-story 1940s woodframe addition was built on the northern end of the house where a summer kitchen had been located. (See also the integrity discussion in Section 8.)

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architect/Builder, Continued

Pinz, Henry William (builder)
Pinz, Herman F. (builder)
Harms, J. Casten (builder)
Harms, Casten Heinrich (builder)

Significance

Criterion C. The Harms Farmhouse retains most of the physical character-defining features of a Chaska brick farmhouse described in the Registration Requirements in Section F of the MPDF, as follows:

- It stands on its original site about 12 miles from the town of Chaska where the brick was manufactured.
- It stands on a farmstead surrounded by open farmland. (There are no outbuildings that retain historic integrity.)
- It has a Georgian-influenced, vernacular design.
- The original massing and rooflines are intact. The house has an intersecting gable-roofed form with an L-shaped footprint and a moderately pitched roof. The northern end of the kitchen wing, where a summer kitchen was once located, has a woodframe addition that is modest in scale. The addition does not significantly diminish the property's historic integrity.
- Two interior endwall chimneys have been removed from the Georgian wing, and the roof now has asphalt shingles and soffit vents. These alterations do not significantly diminish historic integrity.
- The house has a formal main facade that faces away from the farmyard and has a little-used main entrance. It has a secondary or more informal facade that faces the farmyard and has a frequently used entrance to the former kitchen.
- The exterior brick remains exposed which allows, for example, the masons' workmanship to be clearly visible. The brick is obscured only on part of the first story of the northern (rear) facade where there is a woodframe kitchen addition, and on part of the first story of the eastern facade where the porch has been enclosed. Within the porch, all three brick exterior walls remain exposed and unpainted.
- Ornamentation is generally confined to brick arches above the windows and doors. The exterior retains smooth broad surfaces, a spare use of brick detailing, and a lack of ornamentation, all of which emphasize the design's solid geometric forms.
- The segmental-arched window and door openings are intact with the exception of one opening on the eastern facade that is now rectangular. The attic windows on the Georgian wing remain rounded-arched. The window and door openings are topped with characteristic brick arches. The double-hung sash on the second story and attic level is original, while the first story has compatible replacement double-hung sash. The doors remain single-leafed and the main (southern) entrance has a transom light.
- The house retains one porch. It is the eastern porch, which has been enclosed but retains its original footprint. It is still an unheated transitional space between indoors and out that retains

original exposed brick walls and segmental-arched window and door openings. The wall that creates the enclosure has a large proportion of windows to solid wall surface. A porch may have been removed from the western side of the kitchen wing. A porch has been removed from the southern facade but it was not original. The porch changes do not significantly diminish the property's historic integrity.

- The Georgian wing retains its original four-over-four room plan. The room at the northwestern corner of the wing's first floor has been reduced in size so a bathroom could be created. The interior of the kitchen wing has a large central room that was once a large farm kitchen. The room retains opposing windows for cross-ventilation and opposing doors allowing easy access to the surrounding farmstead. A stairway has been added to this wing to access the attic bedroom. The kitchen has been moved to the northern end of the wing. The interior retains some wood floors, plaster walls, dark-stained woodwork, and built-in cupboards and closets. The interior changes do not significantly diminish the farmhouse's historic integrity.

The Harms Farmhouse embodies the influence of German-American cultural practice, which is described in this MPDF, in the following ways:

- The farmhouse was built of brick for German immigrant farmers when brick farmhouses were relatively rare in Minnesota. The Harms Farmhouse represents a conscious choice by a German immigrant family to design and build in a way that reflects traditional German cultural practice, uncommon in Minnesota at the time.
- The farmhouse's Georgian-inspired design, simple or solid geometric forms, exposed exterior brick, arched window and door openings, lack of ornamentation, four-over-four plan, and large central kitchen are characteristics attributed by scholars to German-American cultural preference. (The Harms house may have other Germanic characteristics not yet identified.) While some of these elements are present in Minnesota farmhouses built by other ethnic groups during the period, the combination of all of these features is strongly indicative of the cultural influence of this particular ethnic group.

The Harms Farmhouse retains essential integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, consistent with the Registration Requirements.

The Harms Farmhouse also meets the guidelines for National Register eligibility under Criterion C established by the historic context "Euro-American Farms in Minnesota, 1820-1960." The guidelines state that, under the Euro-American Farms historic context, "A farmhouse is not likely to be individually eligible under Criterion C unless it is outstanding." Among the ways a farmhouse may meet the definition of "outstanding" is to embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction by, for example, displaying "distinctive or unusually well-developed ethnic-influenced design or construction or an important cultural tradition" or "distinctive or unusually well-developed use of significant materials," as well as being largely intact (Granger and Kelly 2005: 7.20-7.25). The Harms Farmhouse fulfils these conditions, and meets the context's Criterion C integrity guidelines by:

- being on its historic location
- retaining the physical elements that express its historic agricultural function
- having additions and alterations that are modest and do not obscure historic design characteristics

- having a historic footprint, roofline, door and window openings, and massing that is readily apparent
- retaining a substantial amount of historic materials
- retaining a setting that allows it to convey its historic character, associations, and significance
- clearly displaying historic workmanship without alteration
- retaining integrity of feeling by possessing enough characteristics in the areas of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship to allow an observer to clearly discern the property's historic character, associations, and significance
- retaining integrity of association by displaying enough characteristics in the areas of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship to maintain a perceptible link with the events, patterns, people, and economic, physical, and social forces that shaped it (Granger and Kelly 2005: 7.6-7.25).

Criterion A. The Harms Farmhouse is significant for its associations with the agricultural development of Carver County as an excellent example of the local use of Chaska brick for an agricultural building. The house served as the headquarters for family farm operations, housing the extended Harms family and hired help, providing a large farm kitchen, porches, a farm office, and other work spaces, and serving as the center for domestic, social, and cultural life on the farm. As a well-preserved example of German-American vernacular architecture, the farmhouse is also significant for its associations with the settlement of Carver County and the Upper Minnesota River Valley by German immigrants, particularly those who populated rural townships and developed the region's strong agricultural economy. The Harms Farmhouse was built, owned, and occupied by German immigrants and their German- and American-born children. In 1860, more than 80% of the population of Benton Township was comprised of first- and second-generation German immigrants, and nearly a generation later when the Harms Farmhouse was built, the same group continued to constitute 50% to 75% of the population. The Harms family's decision to build their farmhouse of Chaska brick, and the other design and construction choices made, are among the ways the property reflects the distinct and long-lived cultural practices of this important ethnic group. The Harms family and other German immigrants to the region collectively comprised one of Minnesota's largest concentrations of people representing a single ethnic group, and this ethnic group influenced the economic, political, social, and cultural development of a significant portion of Minnesota in widespread and pervasive ways. (See the MPDF and the sources it cites for further information.)

Developmental History

The Harms Farmhouse was built in 1878 by a family of German immigrants who collectively operated the Harms farm. Between 1878 and about 1930, the extended family was large and there were often three generations living under one roof. The size of the family decreased around 1930. Today the house is the home of fourth- and fifth-generation members of the Harms family.

The original owners were J. Casten ("Casten") Harms (1819-1890) and his wife Magaretha Uetzmann Harms (1830-1906). The couple was among the first Euro-American settlers to Carver County, arriving less than five years after the county's earliest pioneers. J. Casten and Magaretha were born in Germany in 1820 and 1830, respectively. The young couple moved from Hanover to the United States in 1855 with their first child, a two-year-old son named Casten Heinrich ("Henry"). The Harms moved

onto the property in Benton Township in 1856. Most of their neighbors in Benton and surrounding townships were also farmers of German descent. The Harms family attended nearby Zion Lutheran Church, a Missouri Synod congregation established in 1855 which is one of Minnesota's oldest German Lutheran congregations.

Casten and Magaretha first lived in a log house (built 1856) which they eventually replaced with a woodframe farmhouse. They had nine children between 1853 and 1870, seven of whom lived to adulthood.

By 1878 the Harms were financially successful. In 1880 their farm was one of the largest in Carver County at 480 acres (*Map* 1880). The first railroad had been built across Carver County in 1872, an event that helped stimulate robust farm development and population growth. In 1878 the Harms replaced their woodframe farmhouse with this larger structure built of local brick. On May 9, 1878, the *Chaska Weekly Valley Herald* announced: "Mr. C. Harms, one of our wealthiest farmers, will build a brick house 26 x 40 with addition 16 x 20 [sic]. When completed this will be one of the nicest buildings in town [Benton Township]." (Farmers in the county had been building brick farmhouses since the mid-to-late 1850s; see Sections E and F of the MPDF for contextual information.)

The Harms house was constructed by brick masons Henry and Herman Pinz, assisted by Casten and his eldest son Henry. The brick came from a yard in Chaska, according to family members (Krueger 2011). The Pinz brothers were German-born masons who lived in the village of Carver. (See "Brick Masons Henry and Herman Pinz" below.) Herman Pinz evidently became acquainted with the Harms' eldest daughter Bertha while the house was being built and they were married the same year.

In 1880, two years after the house was built, the federal census recorded that the household consisted of eight people: Casten and Magaretha (ages 60 and 50); their sons Henry, Otto, and Ernest (ages 26, 16, and 9); and their daughters Louise, Wilhelmina, and Charlotte (ages 19, 13, and 12). (By 1880 eldest daughter Bertha had married Herman Pinz and moved away.)

In 1890 Casten died at the age of 71 and Magaretha continued to operate the farm with her extended family. The Harms children worked on the farm through their teenage years. Most of the children married in the 1880s and 1890s and moved to other farms in the area. Eldest son Henry and his wife remained on the home farm until their deaths, as did the second-youngest daughter Wilhelmina ("Minnie"), who remained single. The second-eldest son Otto and his wife farmed the eastern 203 acres of the Harms' 480 acres and built a farmstead there, reducing the size of the home farm to 277 acres. Living in close-knit communities with relatives, friends, and neighbors sharing farm equipment and labor for intensive chores like harvesting and barn-building was typical of Minnesota farm families of the period (Granger and Kelly 2005).

The 1900 federal census enumerated a household of 12 people. The family consisted of Magaretha (age 70), eldest son Henry and his wife Clara (ages 46 and 33), youngest daughter Wilhelmina (age 33), and Henry and Clara's five young children (Henry, Arthur, Walter, Edward, and Adeline; ages 2 to 7). Also living in the house were a 21-year-old German-born hired man, and two hired girls (ages 17 and 20, both born in the U.S. of German parentage). According to Ruth Harms Krueger, the boys and hired men traditionally slept in the small attic space over the kitchen wing (Krueger 2004).

In 1906 Magaretha died at age 76. Eldest son Henry (1853-1917) and his wife Clara (1867-1923) became the official owners, although the entire household jointly ran the operation. Henry's wife Clara Krohn Harms had been born in Wisconsin in 1867 of German immigrant parents. Henry and Clara were married in 1890, and by 1910 they had eight children.

Second-generation owner Henry Harms died in 1917 at the age of 64, and his wife Clara continued to operate the farm with her sister-in-law and children. In 1920 the federal census again reported 12 people in the household: Clara (age 52); her sister-in-law Wilhelmina (age 53); three adult sons, Arthur (25), Walter (24), Edward (22); Clara's four daughters, Adelaine (21), Elenora (18), Louise (16), Nathalie (13); Lydia Harms (the 25-year old wife of Clara's son Henry who had died at age 23); and a German-born clergyman named John S. Hentrich (75) and his Wisconsin-born wife Augusta (69).

Clara died in 1923. A 1926 plat book indicates the farm was 146 acres by that time (Hudson 1926). At the time of the 1930 census the household was comprised of four people: Wilhelmina (now age 64); Walter (33) and Edward (31), who were Clara's sons and Wilhelmina's nephews; and Walter's wife Esther (31). Walter Harms and Esther Rolf had married in 1923. The 1930 census lists Walter as the farm owner. Walter and Esther's only child Ruth was born in 1931; she grew up fluent in low and high German. She recalls teachers boarded with the family in the 1930s (Krueger 2011).

In 1940 six people lived in the Harms Farmhouse: Wilhelmina (74); brothers Walter (44) and Edward (43); Walter's wife Esther (42) and their daughter Ruth (9); and a hired man. In 1950 Wilhelmina Harms died at age 84 after living on the farm since her birth in 1866.

In 1954 Ruth, who had become a teacher, married Henry Krueger, a North Dakotan of German descent. She and her husband continued to operate the farm. (In July 1956 the Harms Farmhouse was the site of a large family reunion celebrating the Harms' century-long ownership of the property (Krueger 2004).) After Walter's death in the mid-1960s, Ruth and Henry became sole owners. Today they still live on the farm with their son Paul, the fifth generation to occupy the house.

Brick Masons Henry and Herman Pinz

Henry William Pinz (or Pintz) (1841-1924) was born in Pomerania (Prussia) and immigrated to the U.S. about 1865. In 1867 he and Rosalie Peterman were married in Wisconsin. (She had been born in Wisconsin to Prussian-born parents.) By 1880 the couple and their children were living in the village of Carver, a brickmaking center in eastern Carver County where Henry was working as a mason. Also part of the household in 1880 was Henry's nephew, 21-year-old Charles Klatt, who was also a German-born brick mason (U.S. Census 1880). Working together, Pinz and Klatt built many brick houses in Carver County (Kirchoff 2004). By 1900 Henry (age 58) and his wife and children were living in St. Paul where Henry was working as a mason. Henry was still a mason in St. Paul in 1910, but by 1920 had retired, according to census records. According to a descendant, Henry laid brick at the Waconia Creamery (1909, in Waconia, Carver County) and at the Minnesota State Capitol, which was completed in 1905 with structural elements of Chaska brick (Kirchoff 2004).

Herman F. Pinz, Henry's younger brother, was born in Germany circa 1845 and immigrated to the U.S. about 1872. Herman married Bertha Harms in 1878, the same year he and his brother served as the masons for Bertha's parents' brick farmhouse. By the time of the 1880 federal census, the couple (with an infant son) was farming in southwestern Minnesota's Jackson County. They soon moved to nearby Nobles County where they were still farming in 1910, according to the census.

Summary

The J. Casten and Magaretha Harms Farmhouse, built in 1878 in Benton Township, is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C (architecture) and Criterion A (association with an important pattern of events). It is an excellent example of a Chaska brick farmhouse – a significant property type within the historic context "Chaska Brick Resources in the Vicinity of Carver County, 1857-1961" – which displays nearly all of the defining characteristics of the type. The farmhouse was constructed for a German immigrant family by German-born masons. It displays elements of design and construction influenced by German-immigrant traditions. The house retains very good historic integrity. The property also meets the National Register eligibility guidelines for Criterion C under the historic context "Euro-American Farms in Minnesota, 1820-1960," as an unusual, distinctive, and largely-intact Minnesota farmhouse. Under Criterion A, the property represents an important local use of Carver County's Chaska brick and retains strong associations with the German immigrants who settled the Upper Minnesota River Valley.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Harms, J. Casten and Magaretha, Farmhouse
Name of Property
Carver County, MN
County and State
Chaska Brick Resources in the Vicinity of Carver County, 1857-1961
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 9 Page 1

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Casper, Louise Harms, and Sharon Natalie Casper. *Harms Heritage*. Privately published, 1956. Carver County Historical Society, Waconia.

Cologne: The First 100 Years. Cologne, MN: Cologne Centennial Book Committee, 1981.

"Death of J. C. Harms." *Chaska Weekly Valley Herald*, Oct. 23, 1890.

Granger, Susan, and Scott Kelly. *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farms, 1820-1960*. Prepared for the Minnesota Department of Transportation by Gemini Research, June 2005.

Henning, Barbara J. "Harms Farmhouse [Draft]." National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. 2005. Cultural Resources Unit, Minnesota Dept. of Transportation, St. Paul.

Kirchoff, Robin. "Henry William Pintz (b. 23 May 1841, d. 19 March 1924)." Family TreeMaker Online website. Oct. 30, 2004. <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com>. Accessed 2012.

Krueger, Ruth Harms (present owner). Personal interview by Barbara Henning, 2004.

_____. Personal interview by Susan Granger and Scott Kelly, 2011.

Lofstrom, Ted, and Lynne Van Broklin Spaeth. *Carver County: A Guide to its Historic and Prehistoric Places*. St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society, 1981.

Map of Carver County, Minnesota, Drawn from Actual Surveys and County Records. Minneapolis: Warner and Foote, 1880.

Minnesota State Census. 1885, 1895, 1905.

"Mr. C. Harms." *Chaska Weekly Valley Herald*, May 9, 1878.

Plat Book of Carver County, Minnesota. Chicago: Northwest Publishing Co., 1898.

Plat Book of Carver County, Minnesota. Minneapolis: Hudson Map Co., 1926.

"Reunion held at Old Homestead." *Chaska Weekly Valley Herald*, Sept. 1, 1927.

U.S. Federal Census. 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Harms, J. Casten and Magaretha, Farmhouse
Name of Property
Carver County, MN
County and State
Chaska Brick Resources in the Vicinity of Carver County, 1857-1961
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 1

Sketch Map

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

WACONIA QUADRANGLE
MINNESOTA–CARVER CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SE/4 WACONIA 15' QUADRANGLE

7273 IV NW (MAYER)
7273 IV NE (WATERTOWN)
7273 NW (MOUND)
7273 IV SW (NORWOOD)
7273 I SW (VICTORIA)
(HAMBURG) 7273 III NW
(BELLE PLAINE NORTH) 7273 III NE
(JORDON WEST) 7273 II NW

2.2 MI. TO MINN. 7
VICTORIA 4.5 MI.
ST. PAUL 35 MI.
GLENCOE 21 MI.
NORWOOD 2 MI.
CHASKA 7 MI.
MINNEAPOLIS 32 MI.
GAYLORD (JCT MINN 19 & 22) 30 MI.
YOUNG AMERICA 3 MI.
GOTHA 2.3 MI.

93°52′30″ 44°52′30″ 47′30″ 93°45′
2 060 000 FEET
680 000 FEET
640 000 FEET
2 040 000 FEET
50′
4969000mN
4956000mN
440000mE
R 25 W
R 24 W
T 116 N
T 115 N

Camp Manakiki
Rutz Lake Cem
Rutz Lake
Swan Lake
LAKE WACONIA
Golf Course
Country Club
BM 1011
Scandia Cem
Coney Island
Waconia Ch
Boat Ramp
High Sch
Cem
Park
Waconia
Pk
BM 968
Burandt Lake
Fairground
Hosp
BM 991
St Josephs Cem
BM 969
BM 975
Waconia City Park
BM 963
Reitz Lake
Patterson Lake
BM 983
Hydes Lake
BM 992
Hydes Lake
BM 1010
BM 966
SCHNEEWIND STATE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
Rice Lake
Carver
Creek
Winkler Lake
Bartous Lake
PIPELINE
COUNTY DITCH NO 2 & 3
BM 930
Benton
Benton Lake
St Bernard Cem
Cologne
(BM 948)
Meuwissen Lake
Sew Disp Ponds
BM 962
COUNTY DITCH NO 6
Myers Lake
St Johns Ch
Bongards
Sewage Disposal Ponds
Radio Tower
BM 984
School No 104
BM 971
BM 956
Zion Ch
Cem
Creek
Bevens
Bevens Cr
WACONIA
BENTON
DAHLGREN

Harms, J. Casten and Margaretha Farmstead, Benton Twp., Carver Co., MN
15/426160/4955330

Produced by the United States Geological Survey

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA and Minnesota Highway Department
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1975. Field checked 1976. Map edited 1981
Hydrography compiled from information furnished by Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Minnesota coordinate system, south zone (Lambert conformal conic)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue
1927 North American Datum (NAD 27)
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks
The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are given in USGS Bulletin 1875
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

GN MN 0°34′ 10 MILS 3° 53 MILS
UTM GRID AND 1993 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

SCALE 1:24 000
1 MILE
7000 FEET
1 KILOMETER
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation with State of Minnesota agencies from aerial photographs taken 1991 and other sources. Contours not revised. This information not field checked. Map edited 1993

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1993

MINN. QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route U. S. Route State Route

WACONIA, MINN.
SE/4 WACONIA 15' QUADRANGLE
44093-G7-TF-024
1981
REVISED 1993
DMA 7273 IV SE—SERIES V872

CELTEC
GRAPHIC & DISPLAY MATERIALS
FLAMETEC
FIRE SAFE MATERIALS