

Renotification/80 Amendments

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

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

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

For HCRS use only
received 1-8-81
date entered MAR 5 1982
MAR 5 1982

1. Name

historic Palestine Evangelical Lutheran Church
and/or common Palestine Lutheran Church

2. Location

street & number NE of Veblen _____ not for publication
city, town Veblen S.D. —X vicinity of congressional district First
state South Dakota code 46 county Marshall code 091

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
___ district	___ public	—X occupied	___ agriculture
—X building(s)	—X private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government
	___ being considered	—X yes: unrestricted	___ industrial
		___ no	___ military
			___ museum
			___ park
			___ private residence
			—X religious
			___ scientific
			___ transportation
			___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Palestine Lutheran Church Council % Frank Cimburek
street & number RR
city, town Lidgerwood _____ vicinity of state North Dakota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Marshall County Courthouse
street & number
city, town Britton _____ state South Dakota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title _____ has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes ___ no
date _____ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local
depository for survey records
city, town _____ state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered some	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Palestine American Lutheran Church is still used by its original congregation. The frame building, built in 1903, is a simple rectangle with a square steeple on the front which housed the original entrance and an apse and flanking sacristies on the rear. The sides are three bays with Gothic windows. Gothic arches on the belfry and a simplified broach spire distinguish the steeple. In plan, the church has a traditional central aisle with ten pews to each side. Added in 1914, the Sanctuary is divided from the Nave by three arches which are divided by slender wood columns. The chancel arch dominates the two smaller lancets to each side, one of which is filled by the pulpit. The curved communion rail, set within the chancel, the altar and the reredos installed in 1914, are all of the standard type built by woodworking companies in the East (i.e. Milwaukee and Chicago) for purchase by Lutheran churches. From 1850-1920, these Gothic Revival furnishings, painted white with gold accents, were very popular among Lutherans. The reredos is filled by a large canvas, in this case painted with a scene of the crucifix. Above the wainscote of beaded tongue and groove paneling on the wall is pressed metal paneling of a Gothic design, which extends across the ceiling. The metal paneling dates from 1929. All of these features are original. The church was renovated in 1948-1950, including the excavation and finishing of a basement with Sunday School facilities and a kitchen and the addition of the vestibule on the front.

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

ethnic history: Norwegian

Specific dates 1903 **Builder/Architect**

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Palestine Evangelical Lutheran Church is significant in the areas of Norwegian settlement history and vernacular architecture. As the first church organized on the Sisseton-Waupaton reservation after its opening in 1892, the Palestine Church is one of the earliest structures associated with that period of settlement history. Most settlers moved from Minnesota or Day and Marshall Counties and were of Scandinavian descent. Those who were Norwegian were organized by the Reverend T.A. Gunnerson in the home of Olaus Hoines on June 6, 1893. After ten years of meeting in homes, the congregants erected this building under the supervision of head carpenter, Charles Kocourek of Lidgerwood, North Dakota. The church maintained the use of the Norwegian language until the late 1940's, although it was slowly adopting English from 1920 on. Among its notable members were Ed Veblen, for whom the town of Veblen was named, and Mrs H.J. Hanson, who were brother and sister of the distinguished visitor, Thorstein Veblen, a major American economic theorist. Architecturally, the structure exemplifies the rural, prairie church decorated with mass produced products: opalescent glass, pressed metal wall coverings and mail order pews, altar, communion rails and baptismal font. It's simple, standard naveplan form was reproduced over and again across rural America; yet few retain their period features is such a good state of preservation as found in the Palestine Church.

9. Major Bibliographical References

"Norsk Lutherske Menigheter i Amerika" 1843-1916
 Palestine Evangelical Lutheran Church. "Sixteenth Anniversary, 1893-1953." Phamphlet.
 Palestine Evangelical Lutheran Church. "Seventy-fifth Anniversary, 1893-1968." Phamphlet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 1.5

Quadrangle name Veblen NE, N. Dak-S. Dak

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

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 Zone Easting Northing

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 Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The site is enclosed by a fence, which is indicated on the USGS map, and which consitiutes the boundaries. The property lies in the SE¹/₄ of the SW¹/₄ of Section 26.

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Frank Cimburek, Hattie Gorsuch
Technical Editing: Carolyn Torma, John Burrows

organization Historical Preservation Center date 5 Nov 1980

street & number University of South Dakota telephone 605-677-5314

city or town Vermillion state South Dakota

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 *James R. Fishburn* date 11/21/82

title Director, Office of Cultural Preservation date

For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register Entered in the National Register <u><i>John A. Beyer</i></u> Keeper of the National Register Attest: Chief of Registration	date <u>3/5/82</u> date
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