

**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

1. Name

historic First Congregational Church

and/or common The Lord's Chapel

2. Location

street & number 715 Kansas

NA not for publication

city, town Rapid City

vicinity of

congressional district

First

state South Dakota

code

046

county

Pennington

code

103

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Lord's Chapel of South Dakota, Inc.

street & number 715 Kansas City, P.O. Box 2789

city, town Rapid City

vicinity of

state South Dakota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Director of Equalization

street & number 315 St. Joe

city, town Rapid City

state South Dakota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title NA

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

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

date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The two-story rectangular (approximately 55' wide x 73' deep) church has a raised basement and is constructed of masonry and brick. Characterized by its formal composition, the building exemplifies Renaissance Revival architecture with its regular placement of fenestration, front (north) parapet, and unadorned projecting cornice surrounding the building on all sides except the back facade.

The church's front facade has three bays. The central bay is distinguished by its pedimented gable, its parapet, and by its three large (approximately 6' x 15') triple-hung windows capped with hoods and separated by pilasters. Flanking the central bay are raised entranceways. The east, west and north windows have stained glass.

On the interior, the central bay of the building is open from the first floor to the second level ceiling. This massive open area is vaulted at the ceiling and supported by oak beams, girders and trusses. The rest of the interior space is accented with oak including the doors, columns, railings, trim and basement meeting room floor.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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 1914 **Builder/Architect** H.E. Waldrum, Rapid City

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Congregational Church is significant in the areas of both architecture and religion. Still retaining many of its original features including its unadorned projecting cornice, decorative pilasters and large triple-hung windows with stained glass panels, the church is a fine example of Renaissance Revival architecture - a style seldom used for the design of ecclesiastical buildings in South Dakota.

The first church organized in Rapid City was the Congregational. Its history began in January of 1879 when the Rev. Bartlett became the church's first pastor. The first permanent building was constructed of frame in 1883, and, for many years, was distinguished as the only self-supporting church in the Black Hills. Built for a cost of \$20,500, the present brick Congregational Church replaced the original frame building in 1914.

9. Major Bibliographical References

"Holiday Greetings 1915 Rapid City South Dakota"; issued by the Rapid City Daily Journal; Joseph B. Gossage - Editor.

"Forward through the Ages - First Congregational Church of Christ", issued by the First Congregational Church, 1979.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Rapid City East

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Property includes Lots 6, 7, and the east 21' of Lot 8 in Block #103 of the original town.

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

state NA code county code

state NA code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Scott Gorder (with the assistance of Melanie Betz)

organization Lord's Chapel of South Dakota, Inc.

date November 3, 1983

street & number P.O. Box 2789

telephone (605)343-7126; 348-6330

city or town Rapid City

state South Dakota

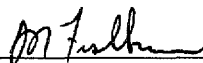
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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



title Director, Office of Historic Preservation

date 11/16/84

For HCERS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date

2/23/84

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUL 6 1987

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

First Congregational Church

STATE SOUTH DAKOTA

COUNTY Pennington

Date/Signature

Nomination/Type of Review

1. Change of Address approval

for Keeper *Alvin Byrd* 7/6/87
Attest _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JL 6 1987

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page 1 of 1

First Congregational Church
Amendment

AMENDMENT TO NOMINATION: CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

1. First Congregational Church (The Lord's Chapel).
NRIS Reference No. 84003372.

2. Recent NRIS print-outs indicated a need to clarify the address/location of this property. Apparently, the address was incorrectly recorded at the time of entry. The proper address for this property is:

715 Kansas City Street
Rapid City
First Congr. District
Pennington County Code: 103
South Dakota Code: 046

All other items of the original nomination should remain unchanged.

11. FORM PREPARED BY:

John E. Rau, National Register Coordinator
South Dakota State Historical Preservation Center
P. O. Box 417, Vermillion, SD, 57069
phone: 605-677-5314.

June 30, 1987.

12. STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION:

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X local.

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (PL 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 National Park Service.



State Historic Preservation Officer signature
Deputy SHPO

title

6-30-87
date