

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

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**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

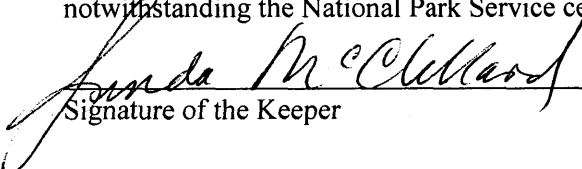
NRIS Reference Number: 07000531

Property Name: United Brethren Church in Christ

County: Hutchinson State: South Dakota

Multiple Name: N/A

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
Signature of the Keeper

June 8, 2007

Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 6: Function/Use

The sub-category, "religious facility," is, hereby, entered under the category, "RELIGION," for both Current and Historic Functions.

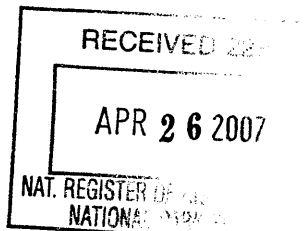
-----  
The South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

**National Register property file**

**Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name United Brethren Church in Christ

other names/site number Milltown United Brethren in Christ Church

## 2. Location

street & number Lots 5 through 10 in block 20 [ ] not for publication

city or town Milltown [ ] vicinity

state South Dakota code SD county Hutchinson code 067 zip code 57366

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jay D. Voat State Historic Preservation Officer 04-17-2007  
Signature of certifying official Title Date

South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  
(  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register
  - See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
  - See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register
  - See continuation sheet.
- other, explain
  - See continuation sheet.

Signature of the Keeper Jenna McMillan Date of Action 6/08/07

United Brethren in Christ Church  
Name of Property

Hutchinson, South Dakota  
County/State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing.**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Function**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Religion  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Religion  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Vernacular  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	Cement
walls	Wood
roof	Asphalt Shingles
other	_____
	_____

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

United Brethren in Christ Church  
Name of Property

Hutchinson, South Dakota  
County/State

**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.)

- 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.
- 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.)

Property is:

- 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**  
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Areas of Significance**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Periods of Significance**  
1880  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**  
1880  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person(s)**  
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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
- # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

United Brethren in Christ Church  
Name of Property

Hutchinson, South Dakota  
County/State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 1.5 acres

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 14 596864 4808710  
Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

[ ] See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mike Vogel

organization South Dakota SHPO date March 01, 2007

street & number 900 Governors Drive telephone 605-773-6056

city or town Pierre state SD zip code 57501

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

### Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

## Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Milltown United Brethren in Christ Church

street & number No official address telephone None available

city or town Milltown state SD zip code 57366

**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. 470 *et seq.*)

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**National Register of Historic Places  
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National Park Service**

United Brethren in Christ Church

Section number 7 Page 1  
Hutchinson County, South Dakota**DESCRIPTION**

The United Brethren in Christ Church, built in 1880, is located in Milltown, South Dakota. Milltown is in north central Hutchinson County which is located in the southeastern part of the state. The church is a few blocks west of the James River and is surrounded by trees on the north and west sides. The church sets on a gently sloping hill which begins at the entrance road and slopes to the crest of the hill to the west of the church. A driveway circles the church for entering and exiting. The gabled rectangular church has a cement foundation (which replaced the original foundation in 1945) wood clapboard siding and an asphalt shingled roof. In the late 1980's a small central bell tower on the south end of the roof was removed due to structural problems. Because the bell tower wasn't as prominent as on some churches, the removal of the tower was a minimal architectural alteration and did not compromise the historical integrity of the old church.

There is a semi-circular four stepped concrete staircase leading to the gabled entrance on the south elevation of the church. Metal handrails are attached to the church on either side of the front doors. The entrance has two over two double hung windows on both the east and west sides of the gabled entryway. There are also two basement windows on either side of the entrance on the façade. A fixed, small, round window is located near the top of the main gable on the façade.

From left to right on the east elevation there are four two over two double hung windows on the main floor. On the foundation level from left to right there is a single pane window, an outside entry into the basement with concrete steps, wood siding and a metal roof and another single pane foundation window near the north end. The outside entry was built in 1945 at the same time that a new basement and foundation was constructed.

The north elevation has only two window openings and they are located on the foundation level and are single paned. A centered chimney rises from the foundation to a few feet above the roof line.

From left to right on the west elevation there are four two over two double hung windows on the main floor and four single pane foundation windows.

The interior of the church has an entryway with a stairway on the west side to the basement. Double doors separate the entrance from the nave. The rectangular nave has wooden floors with a center aisle and wooden pews on either side. The one step elevated altar area retains its original configuration. The basement has a meeting hall and a kitchen to accommodate church activities.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

United Brethren in Christ Church

Section number 8 Page 2  
Hutchinson County, South Dakota

## SIGNIFICANCE

The United Brethren in Christ Church is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as it represents the distinctive characteristics of the small rural churches that were constructed in South Dakota during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The church also meets Criteria Consideration A for religious properties as it is primarily significant for its architecture. "The buildings associated with the religious history and ethnic heritage of South Dakota are significant physical expressions of the people who built them and the period in which they were constructed. In terms of architectural evolution, churches represent a synthesis of cultural and religious traditions manifested in a building that served as a spiritual and social center for communities over a long period of time."<sup>1</sup>

There were two plans followed by congregations when constructing their church. The first was the ritual, or liturgical plan. This plan features a central altar and the nave, apse, chancel, and transepts (if present) are apparent from the exterior. The second plan was the non-ritual, denominational plan. In this plan the pulpit receives more emphasis than the altar. Interior organization is also less evident from the exterior in this plan. The most common church design in South Dakota was nave plan, the simplest of the ritual plan versions. Churches built according to this plan are rectangular with a nave, a narthex beneath a central front bell tower, and generally lack transepts.<sup>2</sup> Most of these simple nave-plan churches have been identified as vernacular adaptations of the Gothic Revival style because while they do have lancet arches on windows and doors, they generally have little or no other forms of decoration.<sup>3</sup> The United Brethren in Christ Church in Milltown, South Dakota is representative of the simple nave plan architecture.

Hutchinson County was created in 1862 from the Dakota Territory. The county was officially organized in 1871 and was named after John S. Hutchinson. Hutchinson was the first Secretary of Dakota Territory and acting Governor during much of the period of William Jayne (1861-1863).<sup>4</sup>

In 1873, Daniel Shearer's family was the first to settle and start the town called Milltown. Shearer's home served as the first store, hotel and post office.<sup>5</sup> Daniel Shearer was given credit for building the first dam on the James River and then building the mill with M.T. Wooley a few years later.<sup>6</sup>

In 1888 the Mennonite Colony bought the mill and ran it for 32 years grinding for people in a large area around Milltown. The mill was eventually torn down in 1935 when people were no longer grinding their own grain.<sup>7</sup>

In 1873 the Legislature created Armstrong County and on August 1, 1874 Milltown was made the

<sup>1</sup> Edaes, Megan. *Churches in South Dakota*, 17

<sup>2</sup> Erpestad and Wood, *Building in South Dakota*, 63

<sup>3</sup> Edaes, Megan

<sup>4</sup> Doane Robinson, *Doane Robinson's Encyclopedia of South Dakota, First Edition*, Will A. Beach Printing Company, Sioux Falls, SD. 1925 p. 368

<sup>5</sup> Donna Stainbrook, *Our Place in Rural America*, Parkston, SD 1996

<sup>6</sup> Ibid

<sup>7</sup> Ibid

**National Register of Historic Places  
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United Brethren in Christ Church

Section number 8 Page 3  
Hutchinson County, South Dakota

county seat (being the only settled area in the county).<sup>8</sup> Although Milltown experienced steady growth including a saloon, hotel, general store, two blacksmith shops, a grain mill, drug store, a shoemaker, two doctors, two churches and a new bridge across the James River, the county seat was taken from Milltown by Acts of the Legislature in 1879. At this time Armstrong County was annexed in Hutchinson County.<sup>9</sup>

Hutchinson County was one of several counties which was organized by the first Legislative Assembly. It lies in the Dakota or James River Valley, the first county north of Yankton. Geographically, the county is located in the southeastern part of the state and its surface is gently rolling prairie land. The soil of the county is similar to that of all counties lying in the valley, and is a deep, dark loam.<sup>10</sup>

The United Brethren in Christ Church was first organized in South Dakota in 1878. Church records show the first progression of ministers and leaders at this time. The first bishop of the church was Milton Wright, the father of Orville and Wilbur Wright. Bishop Wright was also responsible for the startup of Huntington College in Indiana. The United Brethren in Christ Church of Milltown has been affiliated with Huntington College. The connection between the Church and the college allowed for exchange and growth for not only the local community but also nationally with other members of the same faith.<sup>11</sup>

The United Brethren in Christ Church in Milltown is architecturally similar to many other small rural churches that were constructed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The simple, rectangular nave-plan with little or no ornamentation was quite prevalent during this period, just shortly after homesteaders came to South Dakota to make their claim. As towns grew in size and church congregations became larger, the need for bigger churches soon evolved. In most cases these old, original community churches have not survived. For those that have, such as this historic church in Milltown, a significant part of history is still with us. The architectural integrity of the church still exists and thus the United Brethren in Christ Church is eligible under Criteria C for the National Register of Historic Places as a good example of the vernacular Gothic Revival church constructed in South Dakota during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid

<sup>9</sup> Ibid

<sup>10</sup> Donald Dean Parker, *History of our County and State; Hutchinson County*. History Department, South Dakota State College. 1960 p.1-H

<sup>11</sup> Dennis Schutt, *Personal Correspondence*, December, 2006



**National Register of Historic Places  
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**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

United Brethren in Christ Church

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Hutchinson County, South Dakota

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**National Register of Historic Places  
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National Park Service**

United Brethren in Christ Church

Section number 9 Page 5  
Hutchinson County, South Dakota**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Edaes, Megan, *Churches in South Dakota*, (Pierre SD; South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office 2002)

Erpestad and Wood, *Building in South Dakota* (Pierre, SD; South Dakota State Historical Society 1997)

Doane Robinson, *Doane Robinsons's Encyclopedia of South Dakota, First Edition*, Will A. Beach Printing Company, Sioux Falls SD 1925

Donna Stainbrook, *Our Place in Rural America*, Parkston, SD 1996

Donald Dean Parker, *History of Our County and State; Hutchinson County*, History Department, South Dakota State College, 1960

Dennis Schutt, *Personal Correspondence*, December, 2006

**National Register of Historic Places  
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United Brethren in Christ Church

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Hutchinson County, South Dakota

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**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA****VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The United Brethren Church of Milltown South Dakota is located in the west central part of the small community two blocks west of the James River that runs through the center of town. The boundary of the church is an imaginary line encompassing only the church itself. The line starts at a point 10 feet northwest of the northwest corner of the church and runs eastward to a point 10 feet northeast of the northeast corner. The line then runs south to a point 10 feet southeast of the southeast corner of the church and then westward to a point 10 feet southwest of the southwest corner of the church. The line then runs north to the original starting point.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The boundary includes only the church . A parsonage sits on the property but it does not retain historical integrity.

**National Register of Historic Places  
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National Park Service**

United Brethren in Christ Church

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Hutchinson County, South Dakota

**PHOTOGRAPH LOG**

The following information pertains to photograph numbers 1-\_\_ except as noted:

Photographer:  
Date of Photographs:  
Negatives:

Photo No.	Photographic Information
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