

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

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NRIS Reference Number: 95000776

Date Listed: 07/06/95

Property Name: Welsh Presbyterian Church  
County: Brown State: South Dakota

Rural Resources of Brown County MPS  
Multiple Name

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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

July 6, 1995  
Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 10. Geographical Data

UTM grid does not appear on the USGS quadrant map. The following UTM reference point has been determined by CRGIS and is, hereby, added to the nomination: Easting 553829, Northing 5040616.

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Melissa Dirr, National Register coordinator for the South Dakota, State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment on July 6, 1995.

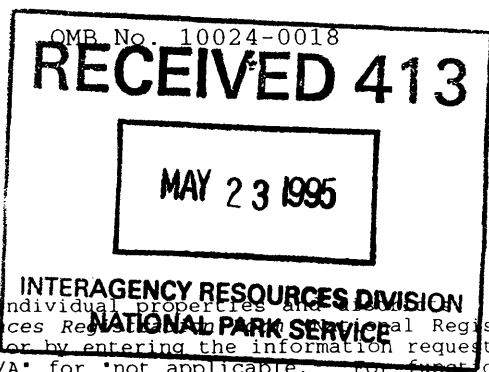
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**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions 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

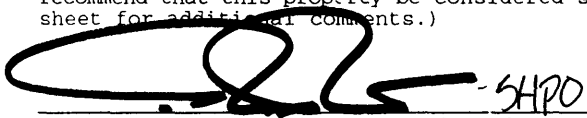
historic name Welsh Presbyterian Church  
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 7 mi. north of Hwy 12 and 1 mi east of Hwy 16  
N/A not for publication  
city or town Plana, Cambria Township N/A vicinity  
state South Dakota code SD county Brown code 013 zip code 57433

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.)

  
Signature of certifying official/Title

5-16-95  
Date

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 of 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.  
 See continuation sheet.  
 removed from the National Register.  
 other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Linda McClelland Date of Action 7/6/95

Welsh Presbyterian Church  
Name of Property

Brown, South Dakota  
County and State

### 5. Classification

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include listed resources within the count)	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-state	<input type="checkbox"/> site		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure		structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		objects
		<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Rural Architectural and Historical Resources of Brown County, South Dakota

0

### 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/Religious Facility

VACANT/NOT IN USE

### 7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
NO STYLE

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
foundation concrete  
walls weatherboard  
roof asphalt shingles  
other \_\_\_\_\_

### Narrative Description

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

### 8. Statement of Significance

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

Areas of Significance  
(Enter categories from instructions)

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.

Architecture

Period of Significance

1887

Significant Dates

1887

Welsh Presbyterian Church  
Name of Property

Brown, South Dakota  
County and State

Significant Person  
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

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 of age achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Cultural Affiliation  
N/A

Architect/Builder  
Unknown

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

### 9. Major Bibliographic 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:  
Dacotah Prairie Museum, Aberdeen, SD

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u>	3 <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u>
Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
2 <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u>	4 <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u>
Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
	<u>see continuation sheet</u>

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 Christina Slattery and Barbara M. Kooiman  
organization U.S. West Research, Inc. date 10 February 1995  
street & number 421 Main Street, Suite 306 telephone 608/782-3338  
city or town La Crosse state Wisconsin zip code 54601

Welsh Presbyterian Church  
Name of Property

Brown, South Dakota  
County and State

**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 Cambria Township c/o Ron Ringenberg  
street & number RR 1 Box 118 telephone 605/229-0632  
city or town Columbia state South Dakota zip code 57433

**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.

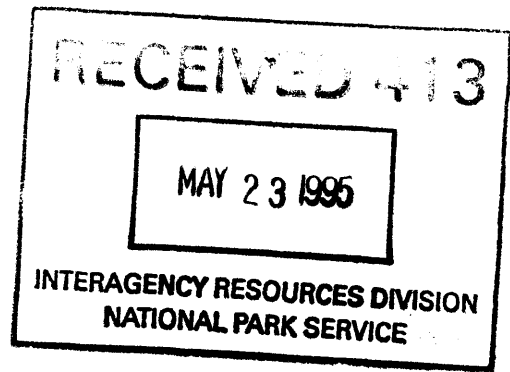
NPS Form 10-900-a  
(Rev. 8-86)  
Wisconsin Word Processing Format  
(Approved 1/92)

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 1

Welsh Presbyterian Church, Plana, Cambria  
Township, Brown County, South Dakota



**Section 7: Architectural Description**

The Welsh Presbyterian Church is located in Cambria Township in the former village of Plana in Brown County, South Dakota. The church is sited on Lot six of the Original Town of Plana and is located south of First Street. The one-story, front gable vernacular form building was constructed in 1887. It has a new concrete foundation, horizontal weatherboard siding, painted white, and an asphalt shingle roof. A simple rectangular floor plan is accented by a front vestibule with a shed roof and a gable peak over the main entrance. All four exterior elevations of the building feature horizontal weatherboard, painted white, and corner boards. The church has an interior brick chimney on the north side of the gable. A frame outhouse is located south of the church. Although the church is currently only used for special occasions, the grounds are well maintained. The church rests in an open area, void of trees, in what was part of the village of Plana. Today the Plana School remains standing to the east and a farmhouse is located across the street to the north.

The main (east) facade has a wooden porch and two steps which lead up to the main double doors of the vestibule that display six panels and a transom. The gable of the entryway shows boards that slant towards the peak and in the main gable there is a wooden sign which reads, "1887." The peak of the main gable roof and the gable of the entryway both feature metal ridge tops and round metal ornaments. On the north side of the door a wooden sign reads, "Welsh Presbyterian Church, Plana, So. Dak., Built 1887, Closed 1941, In Memory of Our Pioneers." To the south of the entrance another painted wood plaque reads:

Trees Planted in Memory of Founders of Plana Church: Ben F. Jones, Bert G. Williams, Charles W. Jones, Morgan E. Jones, Edward L. Williams, Thomas E. Williams, John J. Jones, John Goldsmith, George Williams, Robert O. Davies, William Williams, John B. Roberts, John Elmer Jones, Daniel D. Jones, Robert Roberts (North), Harry J. Roberts, John W. Owen, Thomas A. Jones, John T. Hughes; Chet Olson (planted trees).

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Section 7 Page 2

Welsh Presbyterian Church, Plana, Cambria  
Township, Brown County, South Dakota

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The north elevation contains three tall, narrow windows and one tall, narrow window on the vestibule to the east. All the windows have wood lintels and sills and are wood sash four-over-four and were constructed with wooden pegs, rather than with nails. The rear (west) elevation is a solid wall void of fenestration. The south elevation is identical to the north elevation and also contains the trio of tall, narrow windows on the main elevation and a tall, narrow window in the vestibule, all of which are four-over-four sashes with wood lintels and sills.

The interior of the Welsh Presbyterian Church includes a vestibule, two storage areas, and the main nave. Inside the vestibule there is a second set of interior double doors that feature two tall vertical panels over two smaller vertical panels. To the north and south of the entryway are two storage closets with four-panel wood doors and four-over-four sash windows. The church exhibits a wood floor with floorboards about five inches wide, plaster walls, and a drop ceiling of acoustic tile. The main space of the church has wainscoting around the room with boards about 2 1/2 - 3 inches wide. A raised pulpit is located at the western end of the main room and is probably not original to the construction of the building because ghost lines on the floor of the area indicate that a larger pulpit was in its place at an earlier time. The wainscoting on the western wall curves upwards around the area of the pulpit and is higher than the wainscoting of the rest of the room.

All of the interior woodwork, including the wainscoting, the window frames, the doors and the pews are wood that has been hand-grained to give it a richer appearance which appears to be original to the interior design. The interior space also contains seven long pews and four shorter pews loosely placed in rows around the room. The wood pews are multi-colored with the seats and backs stained red with black trim, while the sides are hand-grained to match the rest of the woodwork within the church. There are L-shaped wooden benches in both the northeast and southeast corners of the room, at the back of the church, which are also grained. The wainscoting on the north, south and west walls display shadow lines where it is apparent that the church

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Section 7 Page 3

Welsh Presbyterian Church, Plana, Cambria  
Township, Brown County, South Dakota

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pews have been moved because the area where the pews were originally placed does not feature the graining, thus the graining was done after the pews were in place. There is a wood stove in the northeast area of the rear of the church. In the main space there are two schoolhouse globe light fixtures which hang from the ceiling. These are not original to the construction of the building and were probably installed at the same time as the acoustic ceiling tile.

A one-seater frame outhouse is located to the south of the church and displays a rectangular plan and gable roof. The outhouse has wide horizontal weatherboard siding, corner boards and a roof covered with wood shingles. The entrance to the structure is on the east side by a vertical board wood door and a window opening is located on the north side of the outhouse. The outhouse is in severe disrepair.

The Welsh Presbyterian Church is well maintained and in excellent condition. Thus, the church retains a high degree of architectural integrity.



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Continuation Sheet**

Section 8 Page 1

Welsh Presbyterian Church, Plana, Cambria  
Township, Brown County, South Dakota

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**Section 8: Statement of Significance**

The Welsh Presbyterian Church was constructed in 1887 in the former village of Plana in Cambria Township, Brown County, South Dakota. The vernacular form, frame church displays high quality craftsmanship in its construction, including the interior grained woodwork and construction methods. The Welsh Presbyterian Church is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C: Architecture. The church can be placed in the historic context "Permanent Rural and Urban Pioneer Settlement: Religion (1858 to present)" as defined in *Historic Contexts for Historic and Architectural Resources of South Dakota* by the South Dakota State Historical Preservation Center. The Welsh Presbyterian Church can also be evaluated in the context of the Multiple Property Document, "Rural Architectural and Historical Resources of Brown County, South Dakota."

History of Area

Plana, located in Cambria Township, was established in 1887, following the placement of the Great Northern Railroad through the township. Welsh settlers came from Wisconsin to settle in the area after hearing about the rich soil and available land from the railroad agents. The town became known for its large Welsh immigrant population. The first name of the town was Hadley, but since that was the name of another town in the territory the name was changed to Plana. The name Plana may have derived from the Plana (or Plano) Manufacturing Company of Chicago, Illinois that had intended to establish a manufacturing plant there. The plant, which was to produce horse-drawn farming equipment, never materialized. In the late 1880s the development of the village began with the construction of a store by D.D. Jones in 1887 (not extant), the establishment of the post office (not extant) the same year and the construction of the Welsh Presbyterian Church (extant). The village grew to include three grain elevators, a depot, community hall, school, barber shop and residences (Sneve ca. 1950s, 119; Brown County Territorial Pioneer Committee 1970, 79; Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 48-49, 338-339). The village began to decline

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Section 8 Page 2

Welsh Presbyterian Church, Plana, Cambria  
Township, Brown County, South Dakota

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following the burning of the general store in 1927 ("Brown County Town Files, Plana," Dacotah Prairie Museum). In 1994 the only structures that remain to indicate that the village of Plana once existed are the community hall, now used as a garage, the Plana School and the Welsh Presbyterian Church.

Welsh Presbyterian Church

The Welsh Presbyterian Church, as its name suggests, was constructed by Welsh settlers in Plana in 1887. Prior to its construction, services took place in the Bath Depot and private residences from 1882-1887. The church was constructed with the donations of its members and at one time even featured an organ. The first ministers of the church were Welshmen and two services were offered each Sunday, one in Welsh and one in English, although all singing was performed in Welsh. The first minister was Reverend J.W. Morgan from Wisconsin, where many of the parishioners also had immigrated from.

In 1900 the congregation built a parsonage near the church, but in 1928 it was no longer needed and was purchased by George Little and moved to his farm one mile south of Plana. Services were held in the church until 1941 and since then the church has been opened by descendants of the original Welsh settlers for special occasions such as the national bicentennial in 1976 and the church's centennial in 1981 (Dacotah Prairie Museum, "Area Churches - Brown County - Edmonds County File).

Architecture

The Welsh Presbyterian Church is vernacular in form and is an excellent example of early craftsmanship techniques of the late nineteenth century. The building retains a high degree of craftsmanship exhibited in its traditional construction methods. The window frames of the church building were constructed with wood pegs, rather than using a quicker method of machine cut nails. Prior to the nineteenth century, nails were hand forged in iron and fairly expensive. Machine cut iron nails, first

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Section 8 Page 3

Welsh Presbyterian Church, Plana, Cambria  
Township, Brown County, South Dakota

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produced in 1786, were being mass produced and sold relatively inexpensively by 1820. By the mid-1880s steel nails were being mass produced (Peterson 1992, 12-13). It is likely that machine cut nails would have been readily available in nearby Aberdeen at the time of the construction of the church building. Instead the builders of the Welsh Presbyterian Church chose to use hand carved pegs in the construction of the window frames. The hand-graining throughout the interior of the church is also a highly skilled craftsmanship technique. The purpose of the hand-graining is to give a lesser quality of wood a richer, more expensive appearance through the use of painting. The style of grain of a richer wood is painted onto the less expensive wood creating a faux appearance.

The Welsh Presbyterian Church in Plana is in excellent condition and appears much as it did at its time of construction in 1887. The church is being nominated under Criterion C: Architecture for its craftsmanship that represents a bygone era and preserves a quality that cannot be duplicated.

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Section 9 Page 1

Welsh Presbyterian Church, Plana, Cambria  
Township, Brown County, South Dakota

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**Section 9: Bibliography**

Brown County Territorial Pioneer Committee. *Early History of Brown County, South Dakota*. Aberdeen, SD: North Plains Press, 1970.

Dacotah Prairie Museum. "Brown County Towns File - Plana" and "Area Churches Brown County - Edmonds County File." Located in the collection of the Dacotah Prairie Museum, Aberdeen, South Dakota.

History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society. *Brown County History*. Aberdeen, SD: North Plains Press, 1980.

Kooiman, Barbara M. and Mary Kay Schmidt, U.S. West Research, Inc. "A Survey of Standing Structures in Southwestern Brown County, South Dakota, Final Project Report." 1992. Prepared for the Aberdeen/Brown County Historic Preservation Commission, Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Peterson, Fred W. *Homes in the Heartland: Balloon Frame Farmhouses of the Upper Midwest, 1850-1920*. Lawrence, Kansas: University of Kansas Press, 1992.

Sneve, Virginia Driving Hawk. *South Dakota Geographic Names*. Sioux Falls, South Dakota: South Dakota Department of Agriculture. ca. 1950s.

South Dakota Historical Preservation Center. *Historic Contexts for Historic and Architectural Resources in South Dakota*. Vermillion, South Dakota: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center. 1989.

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Continuation Sheet**

Section 10 Page 1

Welsh Presbyterian Church, Plana, Cambria  
Township, Brown County, South Dakota

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**Section 10: Geographical Data**

Verbal Boundary Description

The Welsh Presbyterian Church is located in the Southeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 29, Township 124 North and Range 62 West on Lot 6 of the plat of the Original Town of Plana.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the Welsh Presbyterian Church encompasses the area of the church and the outhouse that were historically associated with the property.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
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Section Photos Page 1

Welsh Presbyterian Church, Plana, Cambria  
Township, Brown County, South Dakota

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**Photographs**

The following information applies to all photographs.

Welsh Presbyterian Church  
Plana, Cambria Township  
Brown County, South Dakota

Photographer: Barbara M. Kooiman, U.S. West Research, Inc.  
Date: July 1994  
Negatives: Located at the South Dakota Historical Preservation  
Office, Vermillion, South Dakota

Photo # 1 of 11  
Exterior, east elevation  
Photographer facing west

Photo #2 of 11  
Exterior, east and north elevations  
Photographer facing southwest

Photo #3 of 11  
Exterior, north elevation  
Photographer facing south

Photo #4 of 11  
Exterior, north and west elevations  
Photographer facing southeast

Photo #5 of 11  
Exterior, west and south elevations  
Photographer facing northeast

Photo #6 of 11  
Exterior, south and east elevations  
Photographer facing northwest

Photo #7 of 11  
Exterior, north elevation window detail  
Photographer facing south

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Section Photos Page 2

Welsh Presbyterian Church, Plana, Cambria  
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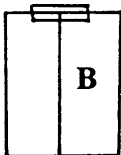
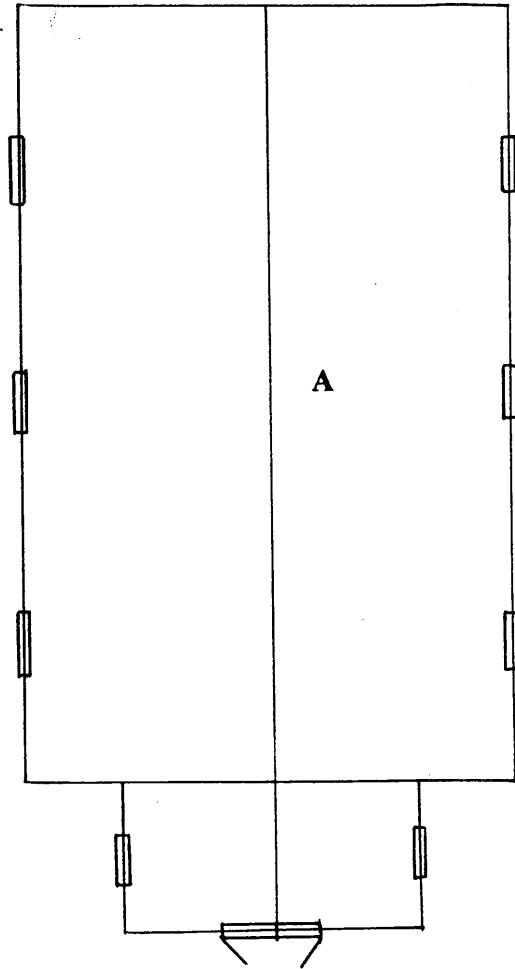
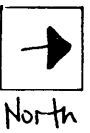
Photo #8 of 11  
Exterior, Outhouse, east and north elevations  
Photographer facing southwest

Photo #9 of 11  
Interior, Pew detail  
Photographer facing south

Photo #10 of 11  
Interior, Detail of wainscoting showing hand graining and ghost  
lines of a pew  
Photographer facing north

Photo #11 of 11  
Exterior, Window detail showing wood pegs  
Photographer facing south

**Welsh Presbyterian Church  
Plana, Cambria Township  
Brown County, South Dakota**



**A = Church (contributing)**  
**B = Outhouse (contributing)**