

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

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

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 89000981

Date Listed: 8/3/89

Ward Congregational Church  
Property Name

Boulder  
County

CO  
State

Metal Mining and Touris Era Resources of Boulder 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.

*Beth Boland*  
Signature of the Keeper

*8/3/89*  
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Item #8: Significance:

The period of significance is 1894.

DISTRIBUTION:

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

981

NPS Form 10-900  
(Rev. 8/86)  
NPS/CHS Word Processor Format  
(Approved 03/88)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

JUN 28 1989

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable". For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries. Use letter quality printers in 12 pitch. Use only 25% or greater cotton content bond paper.

NATIONAL REGISTER

**1. Name of Property**

historic name: Ward Congregational Church  
other names/site number: Ward Community Church #5BL.803.5

**2. Location**

street & number: 41 Modoc (NA) not for publication  
city, town: Ward (X) vicinity Boulder  
state: Colorado code: CO county: Boulder code: 031 zip code: 80481

**3. Classification**

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	No. of Resources within Property	
		contributing	noncontributing
(x) private	(x) building(s)		
( ) public-local	( ) district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
( ) public-State	( ) site		<u>      </u> sites
( ) public-Federal	( ) structure		<u>      </u> structures
	( ) object		<u>      </u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Metal Mining and Tourist Era Resources of Boulder County  
No. of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

**4. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.  
( ) See continuation sheet.

Barbara Sudler

6-15-89

Signature of certifying official

Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Colorado Historical Society  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Commenting or Other Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal Agency and Bureau

**5. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

() entered in the National Register.  
() See continuation sheet

Beth Boland

8/3/89

( ) determined eligible for the National Register. ( ) See continuation sheet

( ) determined not eligible for the National Register.

( ) removed from the National Register.

( ) other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

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**6. Functions or Use**

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**Historic Functions**  
(enter categories from instructions)

Religion / Religious Structure

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**Current Functions**  
(enter categories from instructions)

Religion / Religious Structure

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**7. Description**

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**Architectural Classification**  
(enter categories from instructions)

Other: Vernacular: Wood Frame

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**Materials**  
(enter categories from instructions)

foundations Stone

walls Wood / Clapboard

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roof Metal

other Wood Trim

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**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The Ward Community Church is a simple vernacular frame church located in the historic metal mining community of Ward, Colorado. The building is located in the heart of the community on one of the many steep slopes within the mountain town. It is surrounded by residential development, primarily historic houses. The church is a prominent part of the cultural landscape of the community. Its distinctive ecclesiastical lines combined with its dramatic hillside location create a picturesque scene that contributes much to the historic alpine character of Ward.

The church building is one of the few remaining historic structures in town today. Like the school, the uphill position and concerted efforts to protect the church building saved it from the 1900 fire that destroyed the lower buildings of Ward. It has been in continual use as a church since its original construction. As a result, the building has been maintained, unlike many other older buildings of the town, and its integrity and distinctive architectural features have been preserved.

The Ward Church is a rectangular one story structure built into the hillside with its side elevations barely visible from the street. The roof is front gabled with a steep slope and is corrugated metal. Typical of the institutional buildings of this period, the church is sided with clapboard.

Although the Ward Church is a vernacular style building, there are several distinctive features that embellish its facade. The gable is trimmed with decorative bargeboards held in place with rosette-shaped fasteners. Lancet windows, a common ecclesiastical window form, flank the entrance to the building. Also, a pointed arch transom heads the entry door and a round window decorates the gable. The transom and round window have been boarded over but their forms remain discernible.

(x) See continuation sheet

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Ward Congregational Church

The Ward Community Church meets the registration requirements of the Multiple Property Nomination of "Metal Mining and Tourist Era Resources of Boulder County." It is an excellent example of the Vernacular Community Institutional Building property type because of the unchanged condition of its original design, materials, and workmanship. Additionally, the minimal disturbance to its setting supports the integrity of feeling and association for the historic building. As a result, the church is a valuable example of an earlier developmental period and style of building in Boulder County's mining towns.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:      ( ) nationally      ( ) statewide      (x) locally

Applicable National Register Criteria      (x) A ( ) B (x) C ( ) D  
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)      (x) A ( ) B ( ) C ( ) D ( ) E ( ) F ( ) G

**Areas of Significance**

(enter categories from instructions)

**Period of Significance**

**Significant Dates**

Architecture

N/A

1894-1895

Exploration and Settlement

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

**Architect/Builder**

N/A

Unknown

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.**

The Ward Church is nominated under Criterion Consideration A for its architectural significance. It meets Criterion C as an excellent intact example of a 19th century vernacular church. Its design is characteristic of churches in Colorado's mountain mining communities. The building also meets criterion A for its association with the history of Ward, Colorado, and early mining settlement. It is representative of those 19th century institutions which were part of the physical and social development of the late 19th century mining towns of Colorado.

The church is being nominated as part of the Multiple Property nomination, "Metal Mining and Tourist Era Resources of Boulder County." The church meets the registration requirements for the Vernacular Institutional Buildings associated property type. The history of this building is part of the Multiple Property's associated historic context "Early Settlement and Community Development in the Mountain Region of Boulder County, 1858-1910."

Ward was one of the first mining centers in Boulder County and dates from 1860 when Calvin Ward discovered gold along Lefthand Creek at 9,000 feet elevation in the mountain region of the county. The following year the Columbia vein was discovered on Niwot Hill by Cyprus Deardoff. This vein proved to be rich in both gold and silver, supporting numerous mining enterprises and producing millions of dollars of ore over its lifetime. Ward quickly grew from a camp to a full-scale settlement, as the area mines attracted settlers and created a demand for a variety of commercial concerns. By 1867, the population of the town was 200. As the 1800s progressed, the growth and prosperity of Ward were uneven, like most mining communities in the county and state. However, production of the Ward mining district, as well as expectations for future wealth, was such that the area continued to grow. By 1890, its population reached 2100.

(x) See continuation sheet

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The Ward Church, constructed in 1894-1895 meets criteria A because it was part of the turn of the century development of the community that was associated with the growth and diversification of the population following the 1893 Silver Crash. The simple, yet distinctive, construction of the church attests to Ward's prosperity during this period and illustrated the presence of organized religion in the social life of the community. The church has architectural significance because of its intact design, materials and workmanship which are typical of the building traditions of the period and make it an excellent example of the style of construction used for community buildings during this time in Boulder County. Consequently, the Ward Church is an important historic and architectural resource that should be recognized and preserved accordingly.

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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Bailey, Delores. God's Country USA: Wallstreet, Colorado, (Fort Collins: Robinson Press, Inc.), 1982

(x) 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- (x) State Historic Preservation Office
- ( ) Other State agency
- ( ) Federal agency
- (x) Local government
- ( ) University
- ( ) Other

**Specify Repository:**

Boulder County Planning Office

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**10. Geographical Data**

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Acreeage of property: Less than one acre.

**UTM References**

A	<u>1 3</u>	<u>4 5 6 6 7 0 </u>	<u>4 4 3 5 7 6 0 </u>	B	<u> </u>	<u>               </u>	<u>               </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u> </u>	<u>               </u>	<u>               </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u>               </u>	<u>               </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

( ) See continuation sheet

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

Legally recorded property lines: Lot 9, Block 6, Ward, Colorado

( ) See continuation sheet

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**Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes the land historically associated with the property.

( ) See continuation sheet

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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Name/Title: Deborah Edge Abele, Consultant

Organization: N/A

Date: 6/87; revised 12/88

Street & Number: P.O. Box 6367

Telephone: (303) 635-2065

City or Town: Colorado Springs

State: CO Zip Code: 80934



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McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. (New York: Alfred Knopf, Inc.), 1980.

Pettem, Sylvia. Red Rocks to Riches. (Boulder: Westtype Publishing Services, Inc.), 1980.

Smith, Duane. Colorado Mining: A Photographic History. (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press), 1977.

Weiss, Manuel. "Boulder County Historical Site Survey." 1981.