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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

JAN 05 1988

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

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.

1. Name of Property

historic name Old St. Wenceslaus Catholic Parish House

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 227 Yankton Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Tabor

N/A vicinity

state South Dakota code SD

county Bon Homme

code SD 009

zip code 57063

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

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

Category of Property

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>      </u> buildings
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

Number 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  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.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Date

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.
- determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

*Alvina Byers*

Director, National Register

2-8-88

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

~~RELIGION/ Church-related residence~~  
~~DOMESTIC/ Single dwelling~~  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

~~DOMESTIC/ Single Dwelling~~  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Italianate  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Sandstone  
walls Brick  
Stucco  
roof Asphalt  
other Wood  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ETHNIC HERITAGE/ European  
EXPLORATION-SETTLEMENT

Period of Significance

1878-1910

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:  
South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property Less than one acre

UTM References

A 

1	4
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6	0	9	5	4	0
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4	7	5	5	7	3	0
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Zone      Easting      Northing

B 

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Zone      Easting      Northing

C 

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D 

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Quad: Tabor. Scale: 1:24000.

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the nominated property are contained within the legal description as recorded in the Bon Homme County Register of Deeds Office: West 85 feet of Lot 4, Block 5, Town of Tabor, Bon Homme County, South Dakota.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries include the parcel that has historically been associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Deborah Wildermuth (w/ technical assistance of John Rau, SHPO staff)  
organization \_\_\_\_\_ date October 30, 1987  
street & number P. O. Box 264 telephone 605-463-2415/ Rau: 605-677-5314  
city or town Tabor state South Dakota zip code 57063

United States Department of the Interior  
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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1 Old St. Wenceslaus Catholic Parish House

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Situated across the street, south and east of the church and cemetery, the Old St. Wenceslaus Catholic Parish House is a simplified vernacular adaptation of the Italianate Style. Rising from an undressed rubblestone foundation, the house is a massed brick rectangle covered with historic stucco and painted beige. The hip roof is covered with modern asphalt shingles. A brick chimney rises from the center of the roof.

The house is three bays wide and two bays deep. Fenestration includes stock four-over-four rectangular windows set into deep openings with brick jack arches and sills. The center window on the front (north) facade has been altered to accommodate a modern bathroom, but the silhouette of the original opening remains extant. A wood frame, gable-roofed vestibule projects from the center of the front facade. Projecting from the rear facade is a wood frame, shed-roofed utility room. Division of space is arranged on a three-room irregular plan. Interior appointments are limited to simple painted woodwork.

The residence has simple Italianate features including wide overhanging eaves, a hip roof, and arched window openings.

Although the parish house has long had indoor plumbing facilities, a functioning vintage handpump to draw well water is still extant on the southeast corner of the house.

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Section number 8 Page 1 Old St. Wenceslaus Catholic Parish House

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Under Criterion A of the National Register Criteria, the Old St. Wenceslaus Catholic Parish House is significant in the areas of Ethnic Heritage/European and Exploration-Settlement for its association with the migration of pioneer Czechs to the region. Built of local materials in 1878, the house is the first and oldest brick structure in Tabor, South Dakota. It served the parish until 1910, when it was replaced by a larger brick building and sold to a local resident. Under the South Dakota Historical Preservation Plan, the property relates the historic context and subcontexts labeled: IV. Permanent Rural and Urban Pioneer Settlement, B. Ethnic Enclaves, 1. Czechs; and H. Religion.

Czechs began emigrating to Dakota Territory in 1869 settling in western Yankton County. As their population grew, they moved steadily westward. In 1872, a group of these pioneers established the town of Tabor to serve as a nucleus for Czech settlers entering the region. Situated in extreme eastern Bon Homme County, this community rapidly became and remains today the major Czech settlement in South Dakota. Unlike Pischelville, Nebraska, its nearby "Free Thinker" contemporary, the Tabor area was settled by Catholics and a few Presbyterians. Since the founding of their settlement, the citizens of Tabor have actively retained the traditions of their Old World heritage including language, music, dance, folk building, and religion.

In 1872, the Catholics of Tabor founded a new parish, and, in 1874, they built their first church, a rectangular building constructed of dressed chalkrock masonry. Shortly thereafter, in 1878, the parishioners built a residence for their priest. The building was constructed of bricks manufactured at Yankton. Its first occupant was Father Joseph Krizek. A long string of short-term priests followed, until 1893 when the Reverend Monsignor Emanuel Anton Bouska assumed leadership of the parish. Bouska directed St. Wenceslaus until his death in 1941. All priests domiciled in the house emigrated from Bohemia to serve the growing Czech Catholic community in Tabor.

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In 1898 and 1910 respectively, the parish constructed a new church and rectory, both of which were listed on the National Register in 1985. Also in 1910, the old parish house was sold to Vencil (or Vaclav) (1) Mach, who lived in retirement there until his death in 1923. Mach and two brothers came to America from Bohemia in 1853. In 1870, they settled on a homestead northeast of Tabor.

The Old St. Wenceslaus Parish House remains relatively unaltered, except for a few changes to the interior. It continues to serve as a private residence in Tabor. Along with church, cemetery, and present rectory, it is a reminder of the pioneer spirit of the community's early Czechs, their perseverance, and the growth of the parish. Its period of significance extends from its construction in 1878 to 1910, when it ceased to be used as a parish house.

1.

Some sources refer to Vaclav Mach and others to Vencil Mach; nevertheless, it is clear that a Mach, who married Anna Stepanek, a daughter of Vincent Stepanek, became the owner of the parish house in 1910.

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Section number 9 Page 1 Old St. Wenceslaus Catholic Parish House

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Deed Abstract. Lot 4, Block 5, Town of Tabor, Bon Homme County, South Dakota.

Dvorak, Joseph A., comp. Memorial Book: The History of the Czech s in the State of South Dakota. Laddie E. Kostel, trans. Tabor, SD: Czech Heritage Preservation Society, Inc., 1980. pp. 113, 119, 124, 134-5.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form. "Czech Folk Architecture of Southeastern South Dakota Thematic Resources." Bon Homme and Yankton Counties, South Dakota

National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form. "St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church and Parish House." Tabor, Bon Homme County, South Dakota.