

PH035060X

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED AUG 17 1976

DATE ENTERED

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
 AND/OR COMMON

Union Church

Brick Church

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Clark at Sycamore Streets

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Davis City

VICINITY OF
CODE

Fifth

STATE

COUNTY

CODE

Iowa

19

Decatur

33

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Two branches of Methodists, Presbyterians, & Christian Societies

STREET & NUMBER

Charles Bolon
Hedrad Martin
Lee Abolite } Trustees
Davis City Iowa

see SHPo 9/15/77

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Davis City

VICINITY OF

Iowa

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Courthouse, Clerk of Court, will registry

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Leon

Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This church measures 36' x 56'. It is constructed of red brick on a stone foundation. The symmetrical front is marked by a very slightly protruding pavilion which at the roof line becomes a square clock-and bell-tower. There is a clock on each face; the bell sits atop the flat tower roof.

Windows in the front facade are 4-4 double-hung sash in Romanesque style. This theme is repeated in the fan lights over the two entrance doors. The side walls have four segmented-arched windows with 2 lights each. All sills are stone.

Detailing includes the simulated cornice and frieze of brick on the sides of the main structure, and the front and rear faces of the tower. An interesting feature is the slanting brick of the gable parapet.

The interior is reached by two separate vestibules. The main floor is the church sanctuary, with a balcony at rear with a balustrade of spindles.

Little change has been made in this structure. It is located in a residential area dating from the late 19th century and compliments the surrounding neighborhood.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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

1878

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This church exhibits good proportions in its design, with strong vertical lines. The tower, with its bell mounted outside, is very unusual.

Contrary to the traditional pattern of early settlement activities, the founders of Davis City waited over 20 years to construct a church, and when a church was built, it was at the instigation of a private individual. John Clark, a native of Scotland, became wealthy in the local milling and textile industries, particularly in the processing of woolen cloth.

The brick church was constructed in 1878, entirely at Clark's expense. Clark identified himself with no particular religious denomination, but considered the moral and religious training of the Christian faith of fundamental importance. His church was made accessible to a variety of denominations, "without regard to Creed, Color, or religious notions," in an expression of ecumenism unusual for its place and time. This situation obtains even today, for the church is owned jointly by Methodist, Presbyterian, and Christian societies.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Author unlisted, Biographical and Historical Record of Ringgold and Decatur Counties, Iowa, Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Co., 1887, pp. 609-11.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY one

UTM REFERENCES

A

15	430175	4490870
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

H. L. Graves, President

ORGANIZATION

Decatur County Historical Society

DATE

2/20/75

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Leon

STATE

Iowa

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Adrian D. Anderson

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

August 11, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12/12/96

ACTING DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

12/6/76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER