

Inventory Number 073-1740-0001

REGISTER OF HISTORIC KANSAS PLACES--COVER SHEET

Name of Property Christian and Congregational Church

Location 117 E. Third
(street and number)

Eureka
(city, town, or vicinity location)

E. 125', Lot 17
(legal description)

Greenwood
(County)

Owner of Property Christian and Congregational Church

117 E. Third
(street and number)

Eureka, Greenwood County, Kansas 67045
(city, town, county)

National Register Status:

date approved for nomination to the National Register by Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review N/A

date entered in National Register N/A

Description: See attached sheet

The Christian and Congregational Church (c. 1888, 1924) is being nominated to the Kansas State Register for its historical association with the Eureka community. The church building itself housed the Congregational congregation from 1888 until the 1976 merger with the Christian Church of Eureka, thus its historical associations are most closely tied to the Congregation Church. The Congregational Church's Home Missionary Society came to Kansas in 1854 to support the Free State movement. Its mission in Kansas after the Civil War may not be tied to such a large social issue. The Congregationalists organized their Eureka church in 1868, in 1870 the first church building, a frame structure, was erected on the site of the present church. In 1888, the present sanctuary was constructed. The design of this stone structure is attributed to Kansas architect John Haskell and was constructed by Eureka builders Daily, McKenzie, and Edwards. The sanctuary was constructed at a cost of \$10,000. In 1924 the church was dramatically expanded to the west. The addition is made of similar limestone and was constructed by Vandenberg and Son Construction Company of Wichita at a cost of \$30,000.

In 1986 and 1987 the church spent almost \$150,000 to modify the roof over the 1924 addition, to add a steeple to the bell tower of the 1888 sanctuary, to relead and reset the church's stained glass windows and protect them with lexan, and to clean, tuck point and waterproof the exterior walls. Casado-McKay of Wichita were the general contractors on the project, Johnson County Stained Glass of Lenexa was responsible for the stained glass restoration, and Mid-Continental Restoration of Fort Scott was responsible for the cleaning, tuck pointing and waterproofing. The consultant for the project was Charles Hall. Renovation work to the interior of both the original sanctuary and the addition is being planned.