

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

MAR 28 1989

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 Dover Church
other names/site number 011391

2. Location

street & number Washington between Third and Fourth N/A not for publication
city, town Dover N/A vicinity
state Idaho code ID county Bonner code 017 zip code 83825

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

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/ANumber 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.

Thomas J. Green
Signature of certifying official

6/19/89
Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
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:) _____

Beth L. Savage
Signature of the Keeper

8/8/89
Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Religion/religious structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Religion/religious structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: rustic architecture

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls Wood: weatherboard/bark

roof Asphalt

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Dover Church sits on a gently sloping lot at the southern end of this small town. Across the street are modest frame dwellings, while behind is a large open area separating the town from the mill site. To the west is a one-story frame building used by the community as a meeting house. The Dover Church does not conform to typical church design. It was originally planned and built as a summer cottage for A. C. White and his family, but due to unfortunate circumstances it was never used as a residence.

The one-story frame building is H-shaped in plan, with only the addition of the entry belfry breaking the symmetry. A moderately pitched hip roof covers the structure. The main ridge is higher than those of the ells. The belfry roof mirrors that of the main structure, spreading wide above the louvered vents.

An unusual feature of the frame church is the exterior wall finish of cedar bark. The strips of bark are laid vertically over shiplap sub-siding, giving a rustic appearance. The rustic theme is continued in the unpeeled cedar poles used to form the figure-four brackets that support the roof corners and a flower box under the left front windows. While unusual for a church building, these rustic touches would have been entirely appropriate for the building's intended use as a summer cottage for a well-to-do lumberman.

Windows provide a unifying element in the design of the Dover Church. All are multi-paned frame sash. The facade windows, along with those in the center rear, are pairs of narrow eight-paned casements set primarily in groups of two. Other windows include similarly sized six-over-six double-hung sash along with smaller casements and double-hung sash. Windows are trimmed with one-by-six-inch milled boards.

Simple wooden steps lead up to the double front entry. The wooden doors contain a single large panel below a plain window. The doorway is sheltered by a shed roof, probably added at a later date.

The Dover Church, while moved and altered from its original use and plan, has remained essentially unchanged since 1923. Rolled roofing has replaced the original cedar shingles and a temporary entry has been made in the west wall. The Dover mill is once again idle and the town has changed from a self-contained community to an extension of the nearby town of Sandpoint. But the Dover Church bells still ring every Sunday, and Sunday School continues as it has for 66 years.

☐ See continuation sheet

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)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

1922- ca. 1930

1922-23

Exploration/settlement

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Whitehouse and Price, architects

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

The Dover Church is significant historically as the only public building extant of more than 50 structures moved in an unprecedented fashion from the small town of Laclede to Dover. It is also significant architecturally as a rare example of a professionally designed Rustic style building in this North Idaho community.

In the early 1920s A. C. White commissioned one of Spokane's leading architectural firms, Whitehouse and Price, to design a new summer cottage on the Pend Oreille River near Laclede. The eight-room summer residence cost \$8000 to build and replaced an earlier cottage the family had used on the same site. The building's conventional design was made to look rustic by the use of cedar bark for the exterior siding material. This bark can be removed in large pieces easily from dead trees and proves to be a very durable material. It is readily available in North Idaho but is rarely seen on anything other than an occasional farm outbuilding. The rustic look of the White cottage was continued in the use of unpeeled cedar poles which form figure-four brackets at the roof corners and under a flower box.

A. C. White was a prominent lumber man in Bonner County. He moved to Laclede from Michigan in 1909, bringing with him many years of experience in the timber industry. The A. C. White Lumber company grew to include a mill, planer and a large sash and door factory. The economy of Laclede depended on these industries and it suffered a devastating blow on August 17, 1922, when a fire wiped out the mill, factory and yards. Residents remained hopeful that White would rebuild at Laclede but he announced that he was relocating to Dover where he planned to renovate and expand the idle Dover mill. As one woman wrote in her diary on September 1, 1922, "well the thunder bolt fell on Laclede. AC has decided to move to Dover. He bought the Dover Mill Plant, so I guess Laclede is dead." (footnote 1)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

MAR 28 1989

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

What was a blow to one town was a boon to the other. White was soon hiring men to remodel the mill and to build dry kilns and a new sash and door factory, the largest in the Inland Empire and the only one in North Idaho. With so many workers flocking to Dover, White immediately realized the need for more housing. Since he owned close to 50 houses in Laclede and needed that many in Dover, he arranged to have them moved ten miles to his new location.

This was no ordinary move, however, for all of the buildings, including an 80-by-200 foot warehouse, were transported to their new sites by barge on the Pend Oreille River. The American Lumberman called the move "an industrial feat of the first magnitude" (footnote 2) and the local papers reported that the move was accomplished without even damage to plaster. Indeed, it was noted that before the jacks could be let down the families were moved in and smoke was coming out of the chimneys. (foot note 3)

White's summer cottage was one of the last buildings to be moved, not coming upriver until late June or July 1923. It was moved in three sections and rejoined at its new site. The White family had never used it as their summer home since it was not quite finished when the mill burned. They evidently did not need a vacation home once they had moved to Dover, so they gave the building to the town for use as a church. Whitehouse and Price designed the alterations in 1923 and later that year the Community Baptist Church held services in their new building, with Reverend A. F. White as pastor. The church building, along with the schoolhouse, became a focus for the small community.

While the church remains nearly unaltered to this day, the town of Dover has changed a great deal. Hard times hit the town ca. 1930 when White's mill closed down. An unknown number of houses were barged further upriver to Sandpoint and the company store closed. The economy has gone up and down since then, depending on the status of the mill. But the town is no longer a self-sufficient entity. The church is the only one of the original public buildings extant; the store, school and pool hall are gone, the post office moved up to the highway, and the fire station replaced with a new metal building. The houses no longer form a cohesive group representative of the ones moved from Laclede; about half of the older homes have been altered, with additions, new siding or changed windows, and a scattering of newer homes breaks the unity. The Dover church remains as a lone symbol of a town and time that few people remember today.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

MAR 28 1989

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Footnotes:

- 1) From a diary of an unknown woman who lived in Laclede from 1891 until the mid-1920's. Archives of the Bonner County Historical Society, Sandpoint, Idaho.
- 2) American Lumberman, January 25, 1924.
- 3) Pend d'Oreille Review, November 24, 1922, p. 8, c. 1.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Gunby, Marion White. Interviewed by Nancy F. Renk on August 26, 1985. Tapes on file at North Idaho College and Bonner County Historical Society.

Pend d'Oreille Review, Sandpoint, Idaho: April 21, 1922, p. 4, c. 3; August 11, 1922, p. 6, 3c 3; August 18, 1922, p. 1, c. 4-6; August 25, 1922, p. 4, c. 1; September 1, 1922, p. 1, c. 1; September 8, 1922, p. 1, c. 1; September 15, 1922, p. 1, c. 2; October 27, 1922, p. 1, c. 4; November 17, 1922, p. 1, c. 3; November 24, 1922, p. 5, x. 3-4, p. 8, c. 1; December 8, 1922, p. 6, c. 3; December 15, 1922, p. 8, c. 1; March 30, 1923, p. 8, c. 5-6; June 15, 1923, p. 6, c. 1; June 29, 1923, p. 8, c. 1; July 19, 1923, p. 6, c. 4; August 9, 1923, p. 5, c. 2.

☒ 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:

Idaho State Historical Society

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property .30 acres

UTM References

A

1	1	1
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5	2	9	3	2	5
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5	3	4	3	7	5	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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☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nomination includes the Dover Church and the property on which it stands: Commencing at the northwest corner of Section 32, T57N, R2W; thence east 1040.5 feet to the center line of Fourth Street, Dover, Idaho; thence south no degrees 3' E 1169 feet; thence E 64.7 feet to the point of beginning at the northwest corner of the lot; thence S no degrees 14' E 91.85 feet; thence E 140.45 feet; thence N no degrees 14' W 91.85 feet; thence W 140.45 feet to ☐ See continuation sheet the point of beginning, containing .30 acres. Book of Deeds 54, p. 261.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire town lot that has been associated historically with the building.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Nancy Renk

organization Idaho State Historical Society date January 16, 1989

street & number 210 Main Street telephone (208) 334-3861

city or town Boise state Idaho zip code 83702

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

MAR 28 1989

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

"Industrial Feat of First Magnitude," American Lumberman, January 5, 1924.

Woodbridge, Sally B. Building Through Time: The Life of Harold C. Whitehouse, 1884-1974. Portola Valley, California: American Lives Endowment, 1981.

Spokesman Review, Spokane, Washington: March 25, 1969.

Chronicle. Spokane, Washington: September 24, 1974. (Whitehouse obituary).
January 20, 1975. (Price obituary).

Pennington, Dora. Telephone interview with Nancy F. Renk, January 6, 1989.
Sandpoint, Idaho.



DOVER CHURCH

DOVER, IDAHO

BENNETT CO

NANCY RENK

MARCH 10, 1986

NEG ON FILE IDAHO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LOOKING SE