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(S.D.)-One Of Lead's Oldest Churches To Be Saved Through Renovation



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 03/11/2013 07:36 AM

LEAD, S.D. (AP) - A Lead resident is working to restore one of the city's oldest churches.

The structure at Wall and Addie streets was built in the 1880s and has vaulted ceilings and huge windows - and a foundation that's crumbling from years of neglect.

Randall Havlik says that he bought the property thinking he'd have to demolish it. He's since changed his mind and thinks he can save it with contractors' help. So far, the building's been stabilized on jacks, pillars and columns to allow a new foundation to be built. Then contractors will tackle a back corner that's detaching from the building.

Havlik says his wife's dream is to turn it into a home. He says it would be "a shame" to destroy the building.