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NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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: Becker-Hildebrandt House
other names/site number: Dittmann, Louis E., House; #283

2. Location

street & number: 1402 South Church
city, town: Brenham
state: Texas code: 048 county: Washington code: 477
N/A not for publication
N/A vicinity
zip code: 77833

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	1	1
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure		
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	1	1
			Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic and Architectural Resources of Brenham, Texas
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.

Barbara J. Jannell
Signature of certifying official
Texas Historical Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau
Date: 9 Feb. 1990

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):

Entered in the National Register
Melony Byer
Signature of the Keeper
Date of Action: 3/29/90

LANCASTER POND

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions):

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions):

Domestic/Single Dwelling

7. DescriptionArchitectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions):

Greek Revival

Material (enter categories from instructions):

foundation: Pier and beam

walls: Wood/Clapboard

roof: Asphalt Shingles

other: Brick

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

[X] See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

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

[] nationally [] statewide [X] locally

Applicable National Register Criteria []A []B [X]C []D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) []A []B []C []D []E []F []G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

Architecture

Period of Significance:

c.1860

Significant Dates:

c.1860

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.

[X] See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

7. Description

The Becker-Hildebrandt House is a 1-story frame, center-passage dwelling in a vernacular Greek Revival style. A gable-roof portico covers a single wooden door with sidelights and transom. The property reflects a popular vernacular housing form from the middle 19th Century. This house was moved from its original location in 1912, and was renovated in 1979-80.

The Becker-Hildebrandt House is a 1-story frame, center-passage dwelling facing east in a largely residential neighborhood of South Brenham. It rests on a brick pier-and-beam foundation and is covered with asphalt shingles. The house is clad in a narrow clapboard siding. The original (c. 1860) main block of the house consists of five rooms: living and dining rooms, center hall, and front and rear bedrooms. Rear additions including a kitchen, storage area, and sun room were added after 1881, but have no confirmed date. All windows on the main block are the original 6/6 with wooden louvered shutters. Lush vegetation and mature plantings surround the house. A modern iron fence surrounds the property.

The house reflects the vernacular center-passage form common in the mid-to late-19th Century. It is commonly adorned with Greek Revival architectural elements also from the 19th Century. Greek Revival elements include the projecting front portico, principal front door with sidelights and transoms, and even fenestration of multi-paned windows. Gable end chimneys also were common to the period; only one remains on this property.

The 5-bay principal facade is in an A-A-B-A-A pattern with a dominate center entryway highlighted by a projecting front gable supported by boxed columns and covering a single exterior paneled wood door with sidelights and transom.

The interior of the main block retains many of its original features including 6-inch flooring in the living room, 4-inch flooring in the dining room, moldings on doors and windows in the dining and living rooms, and the decorative ceiling of the dining room.

Renovations in 1979-80 include the addition of fireplaces on the west (rear) facade and north gable-end facade. The portico was rebuilt when moved in 1912. The only original fireplace once on the south facade was never rebuilt.

A noncontributing garage is at the northwest corner of the house. The property is in excellent condition.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 1

8. Significance

The Becker-Hildebrandt House (c. 1860) is eligible under Criterion C for its representation of the Greek Revival style in domestic vernacular architecture. The property is one of several extant residences from the mid-19th Century in Brenham and, although relocated, has attained significance at this site and retains much of its architectural integrity. It is associated with the local context "Immigration, Settlement, and Community Organization 1820-1870."

The Becker-Hildebrandt House (c. 1860) was built on the corner of College and Key Streets for Dr. Becker. He practiced medicine in Brenham and Kinney for a number of years. In 1912, the house was moved to its present site. The Hildebrandt family, owners of the local ice company, purchased the property in 1919 and renovated it into a duplex.

The property is an excellent example of mid-19th Century vernacular domestic architecture with Greek Revival influence. This is one of the few properties extant in Brenham from this period and the only known one of this scale and style.

In spite of its move and alterations, the property retains a high degree of integrity.

(See context statement for more discussion of the period and architecture.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

See bibliography of context statement

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A
 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:

Texas Historical Commission, Austin, TX

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property: less than one

UTM References:

A 1/4/ /750/780/ 333/8780
Zone Easting Northing
C // / / / /
Zone Easting Northing

B // / / / /
Zone Easting Northing
D // / / / /
Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description: Washington Park, Lot D-4 of the City of Brenham, Texas

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification: The boundary includes the nominated property and entire city lot that
historically has been associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Dwayne Jones/Preservation Planner
organization: (with assistance from Sally Victor)
street & number: Texas Historical Commission
city or town: 1511 Colorado, Austin

date: 1984; 1989
telephone: 512/463-6094
state: TX zip code: 78701

2/16/90

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Brenham ~~County~~ MPS TEXAS Washington County

DATE LISTED

COVER

Substantive Review

1. Becker--Hildebrandt House
2. Blinn College Substantive Review
3. Blue Bell Creameries Complex Substantive Review
4. Brenham High School
5. Brenham High School Gymnasium
6. Brenham School
7. Brenham Water Works Substantive Review
8. Brockschmidt--Miller House
9. East Brenham Substantive Review
10. Holle, Edmund, House
11. Lenert, Dr. Robert, House
12. Matchett, Edgar, House
13. Mt. Zion Methodist Church Substantive Review
14. Reichardt--Low House
15. Santa Fe Railway Company Freight Depot Substantive Review
16. Schlenker, Almot, House
17. Schlenker--Kolwes House
18. Schuerenberg, F.W., House
19. Schuerenberg, R.A., House
20. Seelhorst, W.E., House

3/28/90

3/29/90

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Becker--Hildebrandt House

MULTIPLE NAME: Brenham MPS

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Washington

DATE RECEIVED: 2/16/90 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/27/90
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/15/90 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/02/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90000456

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 3/29/90 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

___ count ___ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___ historic ___ current

DESCRIPTION

___ architectural classification
___ materials
___ descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- ___ summary paragraph
- ___ completeness
- ___ clarity
- ___ applicable criteria
- ___ justification of areas checked
- ___ relating significance to the resource
- ___ context
- ___ relationship of integrity to significance
- ___ justification of exception
- ___ other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___ acreage ___ verbal boundary description
___ UTMs ___ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___ sketch maps ___ USGS maps ___ photographs ___ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone _____

Signed _____

Date _____



BECKER-HILDEBRANDT HOUSE (#283)

BRENHAM, TEXAS

DWAYNE JONES

OCTOBER 9, 1989

NEGATIVE ON FILE - TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

CAMERA FACING WEST

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500628