

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

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: Nienstedt, William, House  
other names/site number: Site No. 6

2. Location

street & number: SE corner of Brazos and Texas Streets  
city, town: Burton  
state: Texas code: TX county: Washington code: 477  
n/a not for publication  
n/a vicinity  
zip code: 77835

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	3	2 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	0	0 structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	0	0 objects
		3	2 Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic and Architectural Resources of  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0  
Burton, Texas

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.

*Laurel J. Jernell*  
Signature of certifying official  
State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission  
Date April 30, 1991  
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. *Antoinette Q. Pace* 6/11/91  
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:)  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions):

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions):

Domestic/Single Dwelling

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**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions):

Greek Revival

Other: Center-passage plan

Material (enter categories from instructions):

foundation: Stone piers

walls: Wood: weatherboard

roof: Shingles: asphalt

other:

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

[ X ] See continuation sheet

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**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

Art

Period of Significance:

c.1884

Significant Dates:

c.1884

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Significant Person:

Henry Nienstedt

Architect/Builder:

William Nienstedt

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

[ X ] See continuation sheet

LANCASTER BOND  
100% COTTON FIBRE

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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At the corner of Brazos and Texas Streets, the William Nienstedt House features a center-passage plan with an added rear ell. The building features Revival-inspired detailing including a projecting central portico and pedimented architraves. The house is on a large residential lot just east of the commercial district, within the primary residential development of Burton.

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Constructed as a center-passage dwelling, the building's symmetrical composition and simple classical detailing reflect influences of the Greek Revival style. A paneled front door is coupled with sidelights and a transom beneath the portico. The gabled portico exhibits slender box columns and slender balusters. Two pairs of 6/6 wood sash windows with pedimented architraves flank the portico. The building is clad in weatherboard siding and capped by a gable roof sheathed with composition shingles. Metal crests occur at the gable ends of the roof ridgeline. In alignment with the central hall, a rear ell intersects the main block.

Prominently sited on a large corner lot, the dwelling is enhanced by a horizontal-board and post fence on two sides and a variety of trees, including two mature pecans. Four outbuildings occur at the back of the property. An outhouse and a shed with board-and-batten siding are classified as Contributing elements of the property, while a modern two-car garage and a gable-roofed shed are classified as Noncontributing elements. All are roofed with composition shingles.

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The William Nienstedt House is significant under Criterion C as an intact local example of the center-passage vernacular residence typical of Burton's 19th century resources. It is also significant for its association with the work of Henry Nienstedt, one of two 19th century carpenters whose contributions to Burton's built environment are documented.

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Center-passage vernacular dwellings are among the earliest domestic buildings documented in Burton. The most common enlargement practice was to attach a rear ell. In Burton this ell typically would be equipped with a porch facing southeast, the source of prevailing breezes. The William Nienstedt House exemplifies these practices. Simple classical detailing and the formal, symmetrical plan are inspired by the Greek Revival style, a testament to the tenacity of the style in rural areas of Texas.

Very few houses exhibiting these stylistic traits exist in Burton today, although they may once have been fairly common. Few surviving resources of this type have escaped sheathing with synthetic siding. The Nienstedt House is one of the finest surviving examples, exhibiting relatively few additions and alterations that detract from its historic appearance. Sensitive restoration in 1969 retained character-defining elements such as the original native-stone piers, ensuring its place as one of Burton's outstanding early resources.

The Nienstedt House achieves further significance through its interior stenciling, executed by an immigrant German painter, artisan and carpenter named Henry Nienstedt. According to local historian A.M. Avis, Nienstedt was living and working in Burton by the 1880s. His work included stenciling, marbledizing and other painted finishes preserved in various buildings in Burton. Nienstedt died in Burton in 1921.

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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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

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**10. Geographical Data**

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Acreage of property: .40 acres (less than one acre)

UTM References:

A 1/4 / 731/680 / 334/1260  
Zone Easting Northing  
C / / / / / /  
Zone Easting Northing

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

See continuation sheet

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Verbal Boundary Description: City of Burton. Block 64/Lots 3-5 (the house stands on Lot 4)

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification: Boundaries are those historically associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

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**11. Form Prepared By**

(with Bruce Jensen, Architectural

name/title: Julie Strong Historian, THC)  
organization: for the Burton Heritage Society  
street & number: 4105 Duval Street  
city or town: Austin

date: July 1989; April 1991  
telephone: 512/454-0145  
state: TX zip code: 78751

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National Park Service

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Amendment to the Historic and Architectural Resources of Burton, Texas:  
Nienstedt, William, House (Site No. 6)

### 10. Geographical Data

UTM Reference A [14] [731660] [3341240]

5/6/91

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Burton MPS

Washington County, TEXAS

		Date Listed
COVER	Substantive Review	6/11/91
1. Burton Commercial Historic District	Substantive Review	6/11/91
2. Burton Farmers Gin	Substantive Review	6/11/91
3. Burton High School	Entered in the National Register	6/11/91
4. Hode Drugstore	Substantive Review	6/11/91
5. Kneip--Bredthauer House	Entered in the National Register	6/11/91
6. Laas, Dr. Charles, House	Substantive Review	6/11/91
7. Neumann, William, House	Substantive Review	6/18/91
8. Nienstedt, Herbert, House	Entered in the National Register	6/11/91
9. Nienstedt, William, House	Substantive Review	6/11/91
10. Sanders, William Edward, House	Entered in the National Register	6/11/91
11. Wehring Shoe Shop and Residence	Substantive Review	6/11/91

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### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 91000715 Date Listed: 6/11/91

William Nienstedt House    Washington    TX  
Property Name                      County                      State

Burton MPS  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*for* *Autumneth J. Lee*  
Signature of the Keeper

6/12/91  
Date of Action

=====  
**Amended Items in Nomination:**

**Statement of Significance:** Under Significant Person, Henry Nienstedt is removed. Under Architect/Building, William Nienstedt is replaced with Henry Nienstedt.

This information was confirmed with Bruce Jensen of the Texas State Historic Preservation Office.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Nienstedt, William, House

MULTIPLE NAME: Burton MPS

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Washington

DATE RECEIVED: 5/06/91 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/22/91  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/07/91 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/20/91  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 91000715

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: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 6/4/91 DATE 5/20/92

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*The William Nienstedt House is significant for its association with Henry Nienstedt, a skilled builder/craftsman and for its representation of a center-passage vernacular residence.*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept/c  
REVIEWER Antoinette Glee  
DISCIPLINE History  
DATE 6/11/91

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

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CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

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STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

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FUNCTION

historic       current

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DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

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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

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTM's       boundary justification

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ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps     USGS maps     photographs     presentation

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OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



WILLIAM NIENSTEDT HOUSE (SITE #6)

BURTON, TEXAS

JULIE STRONG

JULY 1989

NEGATIVE ON FILE - TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

CAMERA FACING EAST

Washington Cd

PHOTO 14 OF 18

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500629