

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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1. *Name of Property*

=====

Historic Name: Blount, Eugene H., House

Other Name/Site Number: Nacogdoches Chamber of Commerce, Site No. 1058

=====

2. *Location*

=====

Street & Number: 1801 North Street

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Nacogdoches

State: TX County: Nacogdoches

Code: 347

Zip Code: 75961

=====

3. *Classification*

=====

Ownership of Property: Public-local

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

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

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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.

Curtis J. Jernell
Signature of certifying official

30 Dec. 1991
Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission

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

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):

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: Domestic

Sub: Single dwelling

Current : Commerce/Trade

Sub: Organizational

=====
7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival (Georgian Revival)
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Prairie School

Other Description: N/A

Materials:	foundation	Brick
	walls	Brick
	roof	Asphalt
	other	N/A

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: locally

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1923

Significant Dates: 1923

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Rulfs, Dietrich A. W.

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

The Eugene Blount House is a majestic 2-story domestic building designed in a Colonial Revival (Georgian Revival) style with some Prairie School influence. It is built in a modified rectangular plan and covered with a low-pitched hip roof. The building's core has walls that are of brick and wood. The most distinctive feature is the building's overall horizontal emphasis which is reinforced by the elongated facade, low-pitched roof and extended eaves. Detailing on the front porch and end sections are also noteworthy. Although the house has been converted into offices, the interior fixtures remain intact, and the broad central hall and staircase are distinguishing elements. The dwelling occupies a large tree-filled lot that is well-groomed and landscaped and is directly west of the campus of Stephen F. Austin University. Surrounding areas once were filled with domestic buildings but now are lined with fast-food restaurants and other newly constructed commercial buildings.

The Blount House is at the rear of a large rectangular lot and, therefore, is set back from North Street, a major thoroughfare in the city. The siting helps evoke a sense of grandeur to the building. The principal facade, which faces east, consists of a 5-part plan dominated by a recessed central section or bay where a 1-story porch with balcony is located. Corinthian columns support the porch. The projecting sections on the front (which frame the recessed bay) are of brick and have round-arched first-floor windows. The windows on the second floor are paired and have 12/12 lights. The outer sections are of frame construction and have vertical wood siding. Pilasters with Corinthian capitals provide visual interest. The symmetry and architectural details suggest a Colonial Revival (Georgian Revival) style while the horizontal thrust of the building indicates a Prairie School influence.

There are not outbuildings on the lot; however, a porte cochere extends from the rear of the building and is serviced by a driveway that runs to the south.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1

The Eugene H. Blount House is a local landmark and is nominated to the National Register under Criterion C for its architectural merits. Erected in 1923, it was one of the last and among the most important commissions of local architect Dietrich A. W. Rulfs who designed numerous residential and commercial buildings in Nacogdoches and nearby cities. It is also the only extant domestic property built in the Colonial Revival (Georgian Revival) and Prairie School expressions. The house was built for a locally prominent businessman, statesman and philanthropist, Eugene H. Blount, and it stands as a fitting symbol of a man who played an important role in the city's early 20th-century history and development. The house is associated with *Community Planning and Development in Nacogdoches: 1830-1940*.

During the early 1920s when the state legislature decided to establish a new teachers college in East Texas, to be named Stephen F. Austin Normal College, numerous communities in the region began lobbying to have the institution built in their respective towns. Nacogdoches was one of these cities and Eugene H. Blount, who was president of the Commercial State Bank of Nacogdoches, spearheaded local efforts. In 1919 the state selected Nacogdoches and a 40-acre heavily wooded parcel about two miles north of the downtown was set aside for the campus. This land was carved from the old Thomas J. Rusk homestead and was undeveloped. However, the decision to locate the campus at this site had a profound effect on Nacogdoches' physical development. Property along North Street, which linked the campus and the downtown, quickly became one of the more prestigious thoroughfares in the community as many affluent and prominent families erected majestic residences. Among the first to build was Eugene H. Blount who earlier had helped to get the school in Nacogdoches.

Blount selected Dietrich Rulfs to design the house which was to be among the last of the architect's commissions. Rulfs' professional career in the East Texas region lasted about 45 years, spanning a period of tremendous change in architectural styles and trends. This house, along with the Queen Anne-styled Jones House (1897) on N. Church Street and the Craftsman-influenced Mast and Gray Houses (1911) on Logansport Street, are perhaps Rulfs' most successful residential projects and reveal his ability to interpret prevailing architectural fashions.

Although the house no longer is a private residence and is used as the offices for the local chamber of commerce, it remains a vital landmark to one of Nacogdoches' most influential early 20th century citizens and to its most prolific architect.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Historic Context List of References.

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: 2 acres

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	15	343200	3499160	B	_____	_____
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description:

Addition: Original Town
 Block: 50
 Lot: 22

Boundary Justification:

Property includes area historically associated with building being nominated.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Edward A. Galloway/Research Assistant
(with assistance from Dwayne Jones, THC)

Organization: Hardy-Heck-Moore

Date: June 1990

Street & Number: 2112 Rio Grande

Telephone: 512-478-8014

City or Town: Austin

State: TX Zip: 78705

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Blount, Eugene H., House

MULTIPLE NAME: Nacogdoches MPS

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Nacogdoches

DATE RECEIVED: 1/06/92 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/21/92
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/06/92 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/20/92
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 92000014

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 2/14/92 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



BLOUNT, EUGENE H. , HOUSE
NACOGDOCHES CO., TEXAS
B OF 30

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500647