

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

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received **FEB 12 1986**  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Barney Burton - Christian Rosenmeier House

and/or common N/A

**2. Location**

street & number 606 1st Street Southeast N/A not for publication

city, town Little Falls vicinity of N/A

state Minnesota code 22 county Morrison code 097

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<u>N/A</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Gordon and Margaret Rosenmeier

street & number 606 1st Street Southeast

city, town Little Falls vicinity of N/A state Minnesota 56345

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Morrison County Courthouse

street & number 2nd Street Southeast at Broadway

city, town Little Falls state Minnesota 56345

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Minnesota Statewide Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1984  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society  
Ft. Snelling History Center

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota



# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** ca. 1900      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Burton - Rosenmeier House is significant architecturally as the outstanding example of the Classical Revival style in Little Falls, and for its associations with its first two inhabitants: Barney Burton, a prominent local store owner, and Christian Rosenmeier, a long-time state senator and attorney. Burton operated a clothing and dry goods store that was the largest retail store in the county. Rosenmeier, who occupied the house following his relocation to Little Falls about 1914, had a distinguished political career, and carried on a private legal practice, ~~there served as legal counsel~~ for the Morrison County Lumber Company, a subsidiary of the Pine Tree Lumber Company. These firms were operated by Charles A. Weyerhaeuser and Drew Musser, whose houses occupy the tract of land immediately to the south of the Burton - Rosenmeier House.

Barney Burton arrived in Little Falls in 1886, at which time he established a store that grew to become the largest retail establishment in Morrison County. Burton carried clothing, men's furnishings, dry goods, and ladies ready to wear apparel. The store had its main facility in downtown Little Falls, and a branch in Pierz. Following his marriage in 1898 and the birth of several children, Burton erected the large, Classical Revival house along South 1st Street. The house has become a prominent building on this street, which was among the first in the city to be illuminated by electric street lights in 1913, becoming known as the "White Way."

Christian Rosenmeier rose to prominence in the county following his graduation from the University of Minnesota Law School, as president of his class, in 1906. Initially settling at Royalton, he established a law office. He relocated to Little Falls about 1914, following his election to the office of county attorney. In 1920, he resigned this post to become a vice-president of the American National Bank of Little Falls and the newly-established American Savings and Trust Company. The following year he became president of both operations (Burnquist, Minnesota and Its People, IV:122). In 1922 he ran and was elected to be the state senator for the area. At the time of his death in 1932 he was chairman of the Senate Rules Committee. His work in the senate included authoring legislation creating the C. A. Lindbergh State Park at Little Falls, and the National Guard Camp at Fort Ripley. His law practice in Little Falls was active. Rosenmeier served as attorney for the Morrison County Lumber Company. In this position he was closely associated with his neighbors, Charles A. Weyerhaeuser and Richard Drew Musser, who jointly managed the Pine Tree Lumber Company and its related companies.

The Burton-Rosenmeier House represents a local highpoint in Classical Revival architectural style popular at the turn of the century. The house contains a number of ornamental features, of which the front porch is the most prominent. The house has remained virtually unchanged since it was built.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre.

Quadrangle name Little Falls East, Minn.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UTM References

A 15 394300 5091500  
Zone Easting Northing

B                    
Zone Easting Northing

C                  

D                  

E                  

F                  

G                  

H                  

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 1 - 8; Subdivision of Mississippi River Addition to the city of Little Falls.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Thomas L. Jenkinson and Norene Roberts

organization Historical Research, Inc.

date March 20, 1985

street & number 5535 Richmond Curve

telephone (612) 929-2921

city or town Minneapolis

state Minnesota 55410

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

   national    state     local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 2/5/86

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Entered in the  
National Register

date 3/13/86

Jayne M. McPherson  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Barney Burton-Christian Rosenmeier House

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet    Resource Count    Item number    7    Page    1

---

The Barney Burton-Christian Rosenmeier House nomination contains  
2 contributing buildings.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Bibliography

Item number 9

Page 2

Burnquist, Joseph A., editor. Minnesota and Its People. Chicago: The  
S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1924.

Christianson, Theodore, editor. Minnesota: The Land of Sky-Tinted Waters.  
Chicago: The American Historical Society, Inc., 1935.

Fisher, Harold L. The Land Called Morrison. St. Cloud, Minnesota:  
Volksmuth Printing Co., 1972.

Fuller, Clara K. History of Morrison and Todd Counties. Indianapolis,  
Indiana: B. F. Bowen and Co., 1915.