

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

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

**NATIONAL  
REGISTER**

**1. NAME OF PROPERTY**

*Historic name:* Minter, William A., House

*Other name/site number:* 1417

**2. LOCATION**

*Street & number:* 340 Beech *St.*

*not for publication:* N/A

*City/town:* Abilene

*State:* TX    *County:* Taylor

*code:* 441    *zip code:* 79601

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

*Ownership of Property:* Private

*Category of Property:* Building

|   |                     |                         |
|---|---------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Number of Resources within Property:</i> | <i>Contributing</i> | <i>Noncontributing</i>  |
| <u>  2  </u>                                | _____               | _____ <i>buildings</i>  |
| _____                                       | _____               | _____ <i>sites</i>      |
| _____                                       | _____               | _____ <i>structures</i> |
| _____                                       | _____               | _____ <i>objects</i>    |
| <u>  2  </u>                                | _____               | _____ <i>Total</i>      |

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

*Name of related multiple property listing:* Historic and Architectural Resources in Abilene, 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 x 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 x meets    does not meet the National Register criteria.

   See continuation sheet.

*Carsten Russell*

2-12-92  
Date

Signature of certifying/official  
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.

*Alanus Byers*

3/23/92

   determined eligible for the  
National Register  
   See continuation sheet.

   determined not eligible for the  
National Register

   removed from the National Register

   other (explain):

*[Signature]*  
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**6. FUNCTION OR USE**

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*Historic:* Domestic                      Sub: Single dwelling

*Current:* Commerce/trade              Sub: Office

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**7. DESCRIPTION**

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*Architectural Classification:* Tudor Revival

|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Materials: foundation</i> | brick      |
| <i>walls</i>                 | brick      |
| <i>roof</i>                  | slate      |
| <i>other</i>                 | cast stone |

*Describe present and historic physical appearance.   \_x\_ See continuation sheet.*

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**8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

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

*Applicable National Register Criteria:* B

*Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) :* N/A

*Area(s) of Significance:* Commerce

*Period(s) of Significance:* c. 1925-1935

*Significant Dates:* c. 1925

*Significant Person(s):* Minter, William A.

*Cultural Affiliation:* N/A

*Architect/Builder:* Nichols & Campbell

*State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.   \_x\_ See continuation sheet.*



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Continuation Sheet

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Historic and Architectural Resources  
of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas

Description:

The William A. Minter House is a 2 1/2-story, frame Tudor Revival dwelling with a steeply pitched gable roof. The exterior walls are brick veneer, while the roof is slate shingles. A steeply pitched cross gable dominates the front, which faces east onto Beech Street and north onto North Fourth street. Although the original windows have been replaced, the house retains its basic form and its most significant architectural elements. It is well maintained and used as an office for an architectural firm.

A 1-story porch with five elliptical arched openings extends across the front. These bays are framed with light colored cast stone or terra cotta that contrasts with the dark colored brick used on the remainder of the building. Each bay has a small lancet opening at its base. Modern sash windows enclose all but the central entrance bay. An interior brick chimney is at each of the north and south ends.

A 1-story garage/apartment stands southwest of the house. This outbuilding has detailing and construction materials that are similar to the main house and, likewise, has been altered. Despite these changes, the garage/apartment retains enough integrity to be Contributing.

Statement of Significance:

The William A. Minter House, built about 1925, is nominated under Criterion B in the area of Commerce, for its associations with one of Abilene's leading retailers. William A. Minter founded Minter Dry Goods Company one of the city's best known and patronized department stores for more than 60 years. Although the business is no longer in operation, this majestic building is symbolic of Minter's success as a retailer. The building is associated with the historic context "The Railroad and Abilene's Development into a Wholesale and Distribution Center in West Texas, 1881-1939." The installation of new fixed glass windows detracts from its historic character; however, the house is still recognizable to its period of association with William A. Minter and is in good condition.

William A. Minter was born in Booneville, Mississippi, on October 16, 1871. Eight years later, his father moved the family to Buffalo Gap, Texas, seeking new opportunities. At the age of 14, William Minter began working in the Rushing and Robertson Dry Goods Store and later followed A.M. Robertson to Abilene where Robertson established his own dry goods store.

In 1900 Minter opened his own firm, Minter Dry Goods Company, and a year later his cousin, George L. Minter, became a partner. The two collaborated to achieve

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of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas

tremendous success as retailers. The Minter Dry Goods Company eventually became known as Minter's Department Store, one of the largest in West Texas (Abilene Reporter-News August 15, 1935). Minter was one of the organizers of the First Presbyterian Church at 402 Orange and also successfully led efforts to establish a locally owned national gas company that is now part of the Southern Union Gas Company. Minter died on August 15, 1935.

The house was built in about 1925 for William Minter and was designed by Nichols and Campbell, an architectural firm that operated in Abilene during the 1920s. The house displays Tudor Revival detailing, such as a steeply pitched roof with a cross gable that was popular locally during the 1920s and 1930s. Minter occupied the dwelling until his death in 1935. No other residential buildings occupied by Minter are extant in Abilene; therefore, the house at 340 Beech has the most direct associations with him.



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

*\_x\_ See bibliography for associated historic context.*

*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:*

- x State historic preservation office (Texas Historical Commission)*
- \_ Other state agency*
- \_ Federal agency*
- x Local government (City of Abilene Planning Department)*
- \_ University*
- x Other -- Specify Repository: Abilene Preservation League*

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

*Acreage of Property:* Less than one acre

*UTM References: Zone Easting Northing    Zone Easting Northing*

|          |           |               |                |          |           |           |           |
|----------|-----------|---------------|----------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <i>A</i> | <i>14</i> | <i>430560</i> | <i>3590620</i> | <i>B</i> | <i>__</i> | <i>__</i> | <i>__</i> |
| <i>C</i> | <i>__</i> | <i>__</i>     | <i>__</i>      | <i>D</i> | <i>__</i> | <i>__</i> | <i>__</i> |

*Verbal Boundary Description:*

Abilene Original Townsite, Block 116, Lots 1-3

*Boundary Justification:*

The boundary includes the area that has been historically associated with the property and that retains its historic and architectural integrity.

**11. FORM PREPARED BY (assisted by Amy E. Dase, Historian, THC staff)**

*Name/Title:* David Moore, Historian  
*Organization:* Hardy Heck Moore  
*Street & Number:* 2112 Rio Grande  
*City or town:* Austin

*Date:* June 1989; January 1992  
*Telephone:* 512/478-8014  
*State:* TX *Zip:* 78705

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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ PHOTOS \_\_\_\_\_ Page 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Historic and Architectural Resources  
of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas

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Horace O. Wooten House  
242 Beech  
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas  
Photographed by David Moore  
Winter 1989  
Negative with Texas Historical Commission  
East facade, camera facing west  
Photograph 5 of 48

**William A. Minter House**  
340 Beech  
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas  
Photographed by David Moore  
Winter 1989  
Negative with Texas Historical Commission  
East facade, camera facing west  
Photograph 6 of 48

O.D. and Ada Dillingham House  
1625 Belmont  
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas  
Photographed by David Moore  
Winter 1989  
Negative with Texas Historical Commission  
West facade, camera facing east  
Photograph 7 of 48

Abilene Fire Station Number 2  
441 Butternut  
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas  
Photographed by David Moore  
Winter 1989  
Negative with Texas Historical Commission  
Southwest oblique, camera facing northeast  
Photograph 8 of 48



2/19/92

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Abilene MPS  
TEXAS

Date Listed

| COVER    | Substantive Review  | Date Listed |
|----------|---|-------------|
|          |   | 12/18/91    |
| 92000225 | 1915 Taylor County Courthouse   | 3/23/92     |
| 92000193 | Abilene Christian College Administration Building                     | 3/23/92     |
| 91001811 | Abilene Commercial Historic District                                  | 12/18/91    |
| 92000200 | Abilene Fire Station No. 2  | 3/23/92     |
| 92000205 | Abilene Street Railway Company Barn                                   | 3/23/92     |
| 92000191 | Abilene and Northern Railway Company Depot <i>owned by</i>            | 3/23/92     |
| 92000214 | Ackers, William and Mary, House                                       | 3/23/92     |
| 92000234 | Blanton, Thomas L., House <u>Substantive Review</u>                   | 3/23/92     |
| 92000229 | Boyd--Hall House  | 3/23/92     |
| 92000206 | Caldwell Hall <u>Substantive Review</u>                               | 3/23/92     |
| 92000195 | Cash, W. A. V., House <u>Substantive Review</u>                       | 3/23/92     |
| 92000218 | Castle, David S., House <u>Substantive Review</u>                     | 3/23/92     |
| 92000211 | Chambers, Samuel A., House  | 3/23/92     |
| 92000237 | Davis, George R., House   | 3/23/92     |
| 92000199 | Dillingham, O. D. and Ada, House                                      | 3/23/92     |
| 92000222 | Dodd--Harkrider House <u>Substantive Review</u>                       | 3/23/92     |
| 92000204 | Evans, J. W., House   | 3/23/92     |
| 92000228 | Federal Building ( <i>now returned</i> )                              | Ret.        |
| 92000210 | Finley, Eugene L., House  | 3/23/92     |
| 92000226 | First Presbyterian Church <u>Substantive Review</u>                   | 3/23/92     |
| 92000215 | Fritz, David C. and Docia, House                                      | 3/23/92     |
| 92000192 | Fulwiler, William J., House <i>owned by</i> <u>Substantive Review</u> | 3/23/92     |
| 92000232 | Goodloe, Albert S. and Ruth, House                                    | 3/23/92     |
| 92000207 | Green, Roland A. D., House  | 3/23/92     |
| 92000236 | Higginbotham, J. G., House  | 3/23/92     |
| 92000196 | House at 1127 Ash Street  | 3/23/92     |
| 92000224 | Hughes, Ed S., Company Warehouse                                      | 3/23/92     |
| 92000212 | Jones, A. T., House   | 3/23/92     |
| 92000221 | Lanius, C. A., House <u>Substantive Review</u>                        | 3/23/92     |
| 92000194 | Luce Hall <u>Substantive Review</u>                                   | 3/23/92     |
| 92000220 | Magee, J. D., House   | 3/23/92     |
| 92000201 | McDaniel, George W. and Lavina, House                                 | 3/23/92     |
| 92000219 | McDonald Hall   | 3/23/92     |
| 92000209 | McMurry College Administration Building <u>Substantive Review</u>     | 3/23/92     |
| 92000198 | Minter, William A., House   | 3/23/92     |
| 92000216 | Motz, Charles, House  | 3/23/92     |
| 92000230 | Parramore, D. D., House   | 3/23/92     |
| 92000223 | Radford, James M., Grocery Company Warehouse                          | 3/23/92     |
| 92000231 | Reading, Jhules, House  | 3/23/92     |
| 92000235 | Roberts, Nathan J. and Nancy, House                                   | 3/23/92     |
| 92000233 | Sacred Heart Catholic Church  | 3/23/92     |



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Minter, William A., House

MULTIPLE NAME: Abilene MPS

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Taylor

DATE RECEIVED: 2/19/92      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/06/92  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/22/92      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/04/92  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 92000198

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    3/23/92 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





WILLIAM A. MINTER HOUSE  
340 BEECH  
ABILENE, TAYLOR CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 6 of 48



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500625