

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

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

RECEIVED  
FEB 19 1992

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

*Historic name:* Abilene Fire Station Number 2

*Other name/site number:* 4917

2. LOCATION

*Street & number:* 441 Butternut

*not for publication:* N/A

*City/town:* Abilene

*State:* TX    *County:* Taylor

*code:* 441    *zip code:* 79602

3. CLASSIFICATION

*Ownership of Property:* Private

*Category of Property:* Building

<i>Number of Resources within Property:</i>	<i>Contributing</i>	<i>Noncontributing</i>
	__1__	_____ <i>buildings</i>
	_____	_____ <i>sites</i>
	_____	_____ <i>structures</i>
	_____	_____ <i>objects</i>
	__1__	__0__ <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.

*Curtis Munnell*

2-12-92

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.

*Alan S. Evans* 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):

*fu*  
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**6. FUNCTION OR USE**

---

*Historic:* Government

Sub: Firehouse

*Current:* Commerce/trade

Sub: Specialty store

---

**7. DESCRIPTION**

---

*Architectural Classification:* Late 19th and Early 20th Century Revivals

<i>Materials: foundation</i>	brick
<i>walls</i>	brick
<i>roof</i>	asphalt
<i>other</i>	cast stone

*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*

*Area(s) of Significance: Architecture*

*Period(s) of Significance: 1926*

*Significant Dates: 1926*

*Significant Person(s): N/A*

*Cultural Affiliation: 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 ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7/8 Page 5Historic and Architectural Resources  
of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas

## Description:

The Abilene Fire Station Number 2 is a 2-story rectangular building with brick, load bearing masonry construction. Large Tudor arches, each with double wood doors and cast stone hood moldings, highlight the first floor of the 2-bay, front (west) elevation. The 3-bay second floor includes paired, double hung windows at each end and a tripartite grouping of similar windows in the center bay. Each of the windows, which have 1/1 light patterns, are detailed in low relief with buff brick laid to represent an in-and-out bond. The brick is then laid in a combination of header and rowlock courses to form a hood molding above each window. A continuous cast stone cornice molding adds continuity to the length and width of the building. A brick parapet with an embellished cast stone coping obscures what is presumed to be a flat roof. The interior stairwell and fire pole remain intact.

## Statement of Significance:

The Abilene Fire Station Number 2, built in 1926, is nominated under Criterion C in the area of Architecture, as Abilene's best and least altered example of a local government building. It is the city's only fire station that retains its integrity and stands as a vivid reminder of municipal efforts to provide basic services for local residents. 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."

Abilene's boom of the 1920s severely strained the city government's ability to provide adequate fire protection for its citizens. In response, the city undertook an aggressive building program by the mid-1920s and erected a main fire station at 402 Cedar on the north side of the tracks of the Texas and Pacific Railway Company. Because the tracks were a physical barrier and hindered traffic, the city decided to build another station on the south side.

Having acquired a lot at the northeast corner of Butternut and North Fifth, the city erected a \$10,565 fire station in 1926. It was of similar design (emphasizing classicism and Tudor detailing) to the main station but was of a smaller scale. It occupied a central location that enabled a short response time (Abilene Reporter-News March 16, 1936).

Subsequent growth required the city to build a substation at 1902 South Eleventh on the south side and another substation at 1601 Orange on the north side.

Of these four historic fire stations, only two still stand. The one at 1602 Orange has been severely altered on both the exterior and interior and is presently a private residence. Although the station at 441 Butternut has been converted into a specialty store, it retains its historic interior and exterior integrity and character.

**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>430740</i>	<i>3589800</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>_____</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>_____</i>

*Verbal Boundary Description:*

Abilene Original Townsite, Block 52, West 80' of Lots 7 and 8

*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

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

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

Historic and Architectural Resources  
of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas

---

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

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Abilene MPS  
TEXAS

COVER	Date Listed
<del>Substantive Review</del>	12/18/91
92000225 1915 Taylor County Courthouse	3/23/92
92000193 Abilene Christian College Administration Building	5/23/92
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 Abilene Fire Station No. 2  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Abilene MPS  
NAME:

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: 92000200

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



Desert  
Rose  
JEWELERS

634-6AM

ABILENE FIRE STATION NUMBER 2  
441 BUTTERNUT  
ABILENE, TAYLOR CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 8 of 48

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500625