

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

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic name: E.D. Williamson House

Other name/site number: 5227

2. LOCATION

Street & number: 641 Chestnut SA

not for publication: N/A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>
	__2__	_____ <i>buildings</i>
	_____	_____ <i>sites</i>
	_____	_____ <i>structures</i>
	_____	_____ <i>objects</i>
	__2__	__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.

Carlisle Dunnell

2-12-92

Signature of certifying official

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.

Ailana Bryan 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):

fa
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7/8 Page 5

Historic and Architectural Resources
of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas

Description:

The E.D. Williamson House is a 1-story, frame vernacular dwelling with weatherboard siding and a side gable roof covered with standing seam sheet metal panels. (The roof was originally wood shingle.) It has an interior brick chimney, offset from the center, that extends from the ridge. The front facade is asymmetrical in design, with a single door entry to the left (north) of the center. Tuscan columns support a 2-bay porch with a standing seam, sheet metal, hipped roof that extends across the front (west) elevation. Wood balustrades close the north and south ends of the porch. Decorative shutters flank the double hung windows.

A 1-story shed with a gable roof is at the southeast corner of the lot. Its date of construction remains unknown but it appears to have been built in the early 20th century. It remains virtually unaltered and is Contributing.

Statement of Significance:

The E.D. Williamson House, built about 1898, is nominated under Criterion C in the area of Architecture, as Abilene's best and least altered example of a 2-room vernacular house. This dwelling is representative of pre-World War I building traditions that are sometimes overlooked because of the predominance of 1920s buildings in historic Abilene. 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 building is in good condition and retains its integrity.

The southeast quadrant of Abilene's original town plan includes the city's greatest concentration of late 19th and early 20th century houses. The vast majority are examples of vernacular architecture that include a diverse collection of dwellings such as L-plan, modified L-plan, 2-room and shotgun houses. The E.D. Williamson House represents a 2-room dwelling, the least common of Abilene's vernacular house forms. This building is Abilene's best preserved example. The porch railing has experienced the most severe alteration.

Throughout its history, the house has had many owners and occupants, although it appears that Williamson owned the property when the building was constructed. The city directory for 1907-08 identified Charles P. Rowland as its occupant. By 1915 J.O. Reiersen lived in the building. Other past occupants included S.P. Ramey (1921), A.J. Manuel (1926), T.J. Morman (1929), J.W. Smith (1934-35) and Mrs. Martha A. Chauncey (1939) (Abilene City Directories).

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>431040</i>	<i>3589520</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 129, Lot 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 3 _____

Historic and Architectural Resources
of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas

George W. and Lavina McDaniel House
774 Butternut
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photographed by David Moore
Winter 1989
Negative with Texas Historical Commission
Southeast oblique, camera facing northwest
Photograph 9 of 48

E.D. Williamson House

641 Chestnut
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photographed by David Moore
Winter 1989
Negative with Texas Historical Commission
West facade, camera facing east
Photograph 10 of 48

Oscar P. Thomas House
210 Clinton
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photographed by David Moore
Winter 1989
Negative with Texas Historical Commission
East facade, camera facing west
Photograph 11 of 48

J.W. Evans House
258 Clinton
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photographed by David Moore
Winter 1989
Negative with Texas Historical Commission
East facade, camera facing west
Photograph 12 of 48

2/19/92

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Abilene MPS

TEXAS

Section number _____ Page _____

		Date Listed
92000095	Sayles Boulevard Historic District SR	<u>3/9/92</u>
92000213	Stith, William and Evla, House	<u>3/23/92</u>
92000203	Thomas, Oscar P., House	<u>3/23/92</u>
92000208	Universal Manufacturing Company Building	<u>3/23/92</u>
92000217	West Texas Utilities Company Power Plant	<u>3/23/92</u>
92000202	Williamson, E. D., House	<u>3/23/92</u>
92000238	Wooten, Horace O., Grocery Company Warehouse	<u>Substantive Review 3/23/92</u> S.A.
92000197	Wooten, Horace O., House	<u>3/23/92</u>
92000227	Zabloudil--Hendrick House	<u>Substantive Review 3/23/92</u> S.A.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Williamson, E. D., 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: 92000202

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



641

E.D. WILLIAMSON HOUSE
641 CHESTNUT
ABILENE, TAYLOR CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 10 of 48

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500625