

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:* Stith, William and Evla, House

*Other name/site number:* 1324

2. LOCATION

*Street & number:* 346 Mulberry 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*not for publication:* N/A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>	<u>      </u> buildings
	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> objects
<u>  2  </u>	<u>  0  </u> Total	

*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 J. Russell*  
Signature of certifying official

2-12-92  
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.

*Arlene 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):

*f*

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action



**6. FUNCTION OR USE**

*Historic:* Domestic

Sub: Single dwelling

*Current:* Domestic

Sub: Single dwelling

**7. DESCRIPTION**

*Architectural Classification:* Tudor Revival

<i>Materials: foundation</i>	brick
<i>walls</i>	brick
<i>roof</i>	wood
<i>other</i>	stucco

*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: c. 1925*

*Significant Dates: c. 1925*

*Significant Person(s): N/A*

*Cultural Affiliation: N/A*

*Architect/Builder: Castle, David S.*

*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 William and Evla Stith House is a 1 1/2-story frame, Tudor Revival dwelling with an asymmetrical plan and a distinctive clipped gable roof. The exterior walls are brick veneer and the roof has wood shingles that provide a thatched appearance. The house is in a mostly residential neighborhood northwest of the city's business district, facing east onto Mulberry Street.

A two bay inset porch on the front (east) elevation, as well as overall asymmetrical composition, contributes to the house's irregular plan. The focal point of this residence is the front projecting bay with its gable and arched porch entrance. Both of the upper front gable ends have decorative half timbering. The house is further embellished through the use of brackets along the eaves. Wood windows with a 12/1 light pattern are utilized on all the elevations. A subtle feature to be noted is the use of projecting header bricks to create a relief pattern along the brick porch rail.

A brick veneer garage stands at the back of the lot and displays elements similar to those on the main house. Because of its noteworthy architectural features and craftsmanship, the garage is a Contributing property.

## Statement of Significance:

The William and Evla Stith House, built about 1925, is nominated under Criterion C in the area of Architecture, as one of Abilene's premier examples of Tudor Revival architecture. Noted local architect David S. Castle designed the house, particularly noteworthy for its wood shingle roof that presents a thatched appearance. 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." Few alterations detract from the building's integrity.

Local builders and contractors enjoyed considerable success during the 1920s when Abilene's population doubled in size. This increase created an acute housing shortage and many new homes were erected. Although bungalows were preferred by most of those in the construction business, many houses with Tudor Revival features were also built, presenting varying degrees of stylistic detailing and craftsmanship. This house is exemplary of the Tudor Revival movement in Abilene and is distinguished by its "thatched" wood shingle roof.

David S. Castle designed the building for William and Evla Stith, who acquired the property in 1921 from W.P. Maffey for \$2,000 (Deed Records 127:221). William Stith, a successful local businessman involved in many commercial ventures, lived in the house until his death on April 20, 1930. His widow continued to reside in the house until her death in about 1956 (Probate Records U:580; V:294; Deed Records 516:434).



**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**

Acreege of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing    Zone Easting Northing

A	14	430440	3590660	B			
C				D			

Verbal Boundary Description:

Abilene Original Townsite, Block 152, south 10' of Lot 2 and all of Lot 3

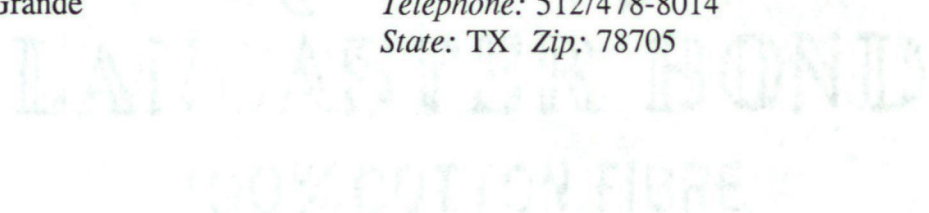
Boundary Justification:

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



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ PHOTOS \_\_\_\_\_ Page 6 \_\_\_\_\_

Historic and Architectural Resources  
of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas

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Samuel A. Chambers House  
224 Merchant  
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas  
Photographed by David Moore  
Winter 1989  
Negative with Texas Historical Commission  
East facade, camera facing west  
Photograph 21 of 48

A.T. Jones House  
418 Merchant  
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas  
Photographed by David Moore  
Winter 1989  
Negative with Texas Historical Commission  
East facade, camera facing west  
Photograph 22 of 48

**William and Evla Stith House**  
346 Mulberry  
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas  
Photographed by David Moore  
Winter 1989  
Negative with Texas Historical Commission  
Southeast oblique, camera facing northwest  
Photograph 23 of 48

William and Mary Ackers House  
802 Mulberry  
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas  
Photographed by David Moore  
Winter 1989  
Negative with Texas Historical Commission  
Southeast facade, camera facing northwest  
Photograph 24 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 3/9/92
92000213	Stith, William and Evla, House	3/23/92
92000203	Thomas, Oscar P., House	3/23/92
92000208	Universal Manufacturing Company Building	3/23/92
92000217	West Texas Utilities Company Power Plant	3/23/92
92000202	Williamson, E. D., House	3/23/92
92000238	Wooten, Horace O., Grocery Company Warehouse	Substantive Review 3/23/92
92000197	Wooten, Horace O., House	3/23/92
92000227	Zabloudil--Hendrick House	Substantive Review 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: Stith, William and Evla, 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: 92000213

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 & EVLA STITH HOUSE  
346 MULBERRY  
ABILENE, TAYLOR CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 23 of 48

346 Mulberry  
Photo 24 of 70

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500625