

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Parramore Historic District
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Area bounded by Orange, N. 8th, alley between Grape and N/A not for publication
city, town Abilene Mulberry, and N. 7th Streets N/A vicinity
state Texas code TX county Taylor code 441 zip code 79601

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>27</u>	<u>7</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>27</u>	<u>7</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Signature] 18 July 1991
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.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): _____

[Signature] 8/29/91
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single dwellingDomestic: Multiple dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single dwellingDomestic: Multiple dwellingCommerce/trade: Business

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Prairie SchoolBungalow/Craftsman20th Century Revivals

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete, woodwalls brick, weatherboardroof asphalt, ceramic tileother N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Parramore Historic District includes a cohesive collection of 1920s and 1930s dwellings and encompasses parts of a 6-block area northwest of Abilene's central business district. Most of the city's terrain, including the historic district, is relatively flat. Forming a rectangle, the district is bounded by North 8th Street on the north, Orange Street on the east, North 7th Street on the south, and the alley between Grape and Mulberry streets on the west. The majority of houses were built in the tradition of the Prairie School and bungalow architectural movements, popular locally from the 1910s to the 1930s. With two exceptions, Contributing properties are still used for residential purposes, and minimal new construction exists within the district's confines. A total of 27 buildings, comprising 79 percent of the district, are classified as Contributing elements. Seven properties are considered Noncontributing.

Abilene, founded in 1881, serves as county seat for Taylor County. The Callahan Divide, the topographic boundary between the Brazos and Colorado basins, crosses from east to west through this central west Texas county. The landscape surrounding the community features grassy prairies. Several small waterways flow within the community, although none are proximate to the district. Live oak, post oak, mesquite and cedar are native to the area; non-native vegetation includes pecan and sycamore trees.

The tracks of the Texas and Pacific Railroad, now part of the Missouri Pacific system, bisect Abilene and its central business area. Abilene's commercial and business center is primarily north of the railroad tracks, and most of the oldest commercial buildings are in this part of the city. An area of mixed land use and zoning, which includes commercial buildings, churches, parking lots, and a few isolated residential buildings, surrounds the central business district. Approximately four blocks northwest of the business district, in what was initially part of Block 149 of the original town site, this historic district marks the beginning of a residential area concentrated with early 20th century houses.

The Parramore Historic District lies between Grape and Hickory streets, two important north-south thoroughfares now lined with stores, offices and a few domestic buildings. Thus, areas immediately east and west present a distinctly commercial and contrasting character to that of this residential historic district. To the north and south of the district, on the other hand, are relatively intact residential neighborhoods that, despite maintaining cohesive streetscapes, contain houses more modest in scale with less distinctive detailing than those within the district.

 See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

As is typical for much of pre-1945 Abilene, a grid system of streets extends through the district and detached single family dwellings prevail. The majority of buildings face east onto primary north-south streets, although a small number of dwellings face north or south on secondary east-west streets. Several houses in the district have detached garage/apartments at the rear of their lots; most of these ancillary buildings echo the dwellings in detail, add to the overall quality of the district's historic fabric, and are considered Contributing buildings. (See Continuation Sheet 7-4.)

When property encompassing the district was first developed in the early 20th century, the James H. Parramore House, an 1885 mansion, was the only building in the immediate area. It stood at the southeast corner of the district and, at one time, marked the entrance to this small subdivision. The house was razed in 1959; the entire block now remains vacant. Historic photographs reveal that the building was a sprawling, 2 1/2-story frame dwelling with French Second Empire detailing. Traces of the old driveway and foundation, as well as landscaping features such as iris beds and uniformly planted mesquite trees, mark the site. Supposedly, some architectural elements were bulldozed into the basement cavity at the site. An old cistern, once covered, was recently discovered. A scattering of surface artifacts, such as glass and ceramic fragments and kitchen utensils, have been observed at the site. Disruptive influences have been minimal. No subsurface testing has been attempted. An archaeological investigation is strongly recommended if the property is developed in any capacity.

The district's earliest residents built bungalow dwellings in the late 1910s along Orange Street. The bungalow is typically of frame construction and was "built in duplicate, no doubt as speculation property" (Beasley 1979:33). Numerous examples of this house type are throughout the district and city. These bungalows have front, side or cross gable roofs with exposed rafters at the eaves and triangular brackets that suggest Stick Style design at the gable ends. Other less prominent details, such as broad front doors and geometric designs in the upper sashes of double hung windows or screens, are similar to comparable elements on Prairie School-influenced houses. It seems, therefore, that these features are less indicative of a specific style or type and are more representative of a particular period when certain architectural tastes and preferences prevailed. These features could also reflect the limited selection available from lumberyards and building suppliers at that time.

Of the three subtypes of bungalow dwellings found within the district, the side gable version is the most prevalent. Because the low gable's apex parallels the ground, emphasizing the building's horizontal lines, these houses appear very linear when viewed from the front. Often, a gable front porch intersects the roof as a secondary component in the overall form of this house type. Examples of side gable dwellings include 1546 Parramore Avenue and 768 Mulberry Street. The Sellers-Guffey House at 760 Orange Street, a side gable bungalow, is the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

most illustrative of this subtype within the district and is one of the best examples in the city. Although it is not apparent from the front facade, this house is one of the largest in the district.

The other subtypes, cross and front gable bungalows, are less common. The house at 772 Mulberry Street is particularly noteworthy for its broad, 1-bay porch that extends across the entire length of the house and is set within a front-projecting gable. The buildings at 1541 North 8th, 1542 North 7th and 702 Mulberry streets have complex roof systems with gables that cross at right angles.

All subtypes of bungalow residences have modest ornamentation. Earlier versions, however, are often larger and more elaborately detailed. The Sellers-Guffey House is an instance of an earlier version with greater decorative embellishments. The cast stone coping on the solid balustrade, columns and porch piers, and the course shingling in the gable ends are particularly noteworthy.

The focal point of the Parramore Historic District is Abilene's best and most cohesive group of Prairie School-influenced houses along the west side of the 700 block of Beech Street. Each 2-story dwelling occupies a large lot that comprises approximately one-quarter of a block. Uniform siting and similar massing and forms reinforce the visual unity of these houses. All but one have brown- or buff-colored brick; the exception, 704 Beech Street, has white stuccoed walls. Each house has a detached 1-story garage/apartment also with Prairie School-styled elements. Other noteworthy examples of similarly detailed residences in the district have hipped roofs with broad extended eaves and long, linear, 1-story porches with large, squared brick supports. Examples include the Clifton M. Caldwell House at 790 Orange Street and the Eugene V. and Sue Sellers House at 760 Mulberry Street; both closely resemble the dwellings on Beech Street.

During the early 20th century, only a small number of architectural styles were popular locally. By the late 1920s and continuing through the 1930s, stylistic preferences in domestic architecture diverged and a variety of forms and ornamentation became acceptable. Two other architectural expressions that exerted minimal influence on design within the district were the Colonial and Tudor Revival styles. While none are pure examples, a few houses in the district exhibit some characteristics associated with these styles. For example, the gambrel-roofed dwelling at 1547 Parramore Avenue exhibits the influences of Colonial Revival design (McAlester and McAlester 1986:322). One lot in the district remained vacant until 1941 when the 2-story duplex at 736-42 Mulberry Street was constructed. It defies classification into any one architectural style or type, but its strong vertical emphasis, round arched openings and brick veneer walls are suggestive of Tudor Revival stylistic elements.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

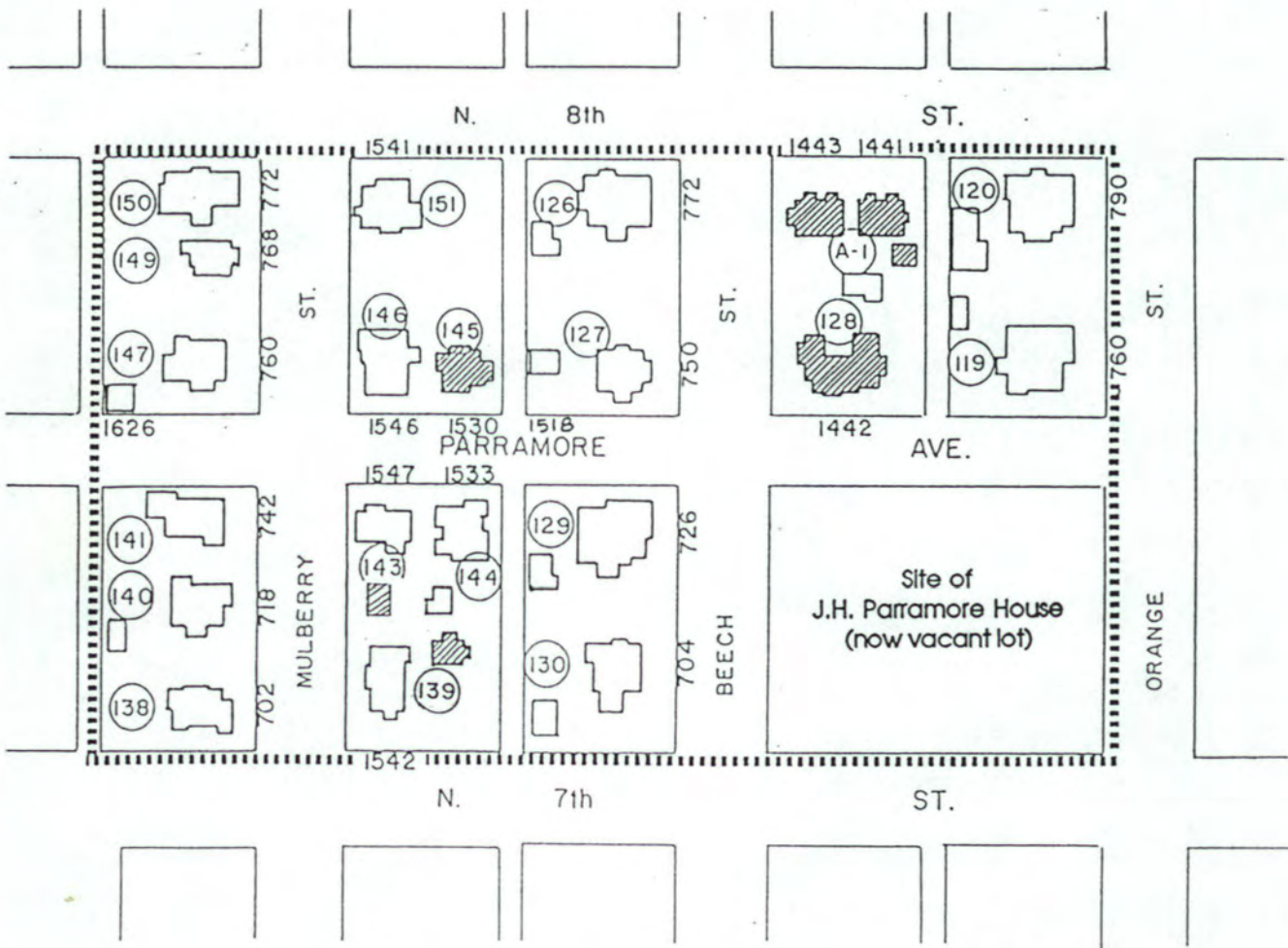
Only seven properties within the district boundaries are considered Noncontributing. The 2-story house at 1530 Parramore Avenue was moved to its present location in 1927. Severely altered, the house exhibits some features, including front entrance details and a hipped roof, suggestive of hybrid residences built earlier in the 20th century that incorporate elements of Victorian era and Classical Revival styles. The dwelling at 1442 Parramore Avenue has experienced recent, unsympathetic alterations that detract from the historic fabric of the district. The only instances of demolition are the James H. Parramore House that was at Orange and North 7th streets, now a vacant block, and a frame house that was just east of 1542 North 7th Street, replaced with another frame dwelling that is considered Noncontributing. Another house, which burned, was at the southeast corner of Beech and North 8th streets; it was replaced about 1985 with a 2-unit apartment complex and a garage. A small frame garage at the rear of 1547 Parramore Avenue is also Noncontributing.

This collection of buildings retains all aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. They have been well maintained and stand virtually unaltered since their original construction. One dwelling is now used as a beauty parlor, while another has been converted into offices. Recent rehabilitation efforts on the latter building have preserved significant interior features, such as the staircase, mantels, and wood trim.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4



PARRAMORE HISTORIC DISTRICT
ABILENE, TEXAS

MAP KEY

- District Boundary
- Contributing Buildings
- ▨ Noncontributing Buildings
- Site Numbers



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Photo Log:

1542 North 7th Street
Parramore Historic District
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photograph by the Abilene Preservation League
October 1988
Negative with the Abilene Preservation League
South facade, camera facing north
Photograph 1 of 12

1441-1443 North 8th Street
Parramore Historic District
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photograph by the Abilene Preservation League
October 1988
Negative with the Abilene Preservation League
North facades, camera facing south southwest
Photograph 2 of 12

West side of 700 block of Beech Street
Parramore Historic District
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photograph by the Abilene Preservation League
October 1988
Negative with the Abilene Preservation League
Camera facing northwest
Photograph 3 of 12

Goodwin Sears House
726 Beech Street
Parramore Historic District
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photograph by the Abilene Preservation League
October 1988
Negative with the Abilene Preservation League
East facade, camera facing northwest
Photograph 4 of 12

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 6

Lewis J. Ackers House
772 Beech Street
Parramore Historic District
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photograph by the Abilene Preservation League
October 1988
Negative with the Abilene Preservation League
Southeast corner, camera facing northwest
Photograph 5 of 12

Thomas R. Spencer House
736-742 Mulberry Street
Parramore Historic District
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photograph by the Abilene Preservation League
October 1988
Negative with the Abilene Preservation League
East facade, camera facing west
Photograph 6 of 12

Eugene V. and Sue Sellers House
760 Mulberry
Parramore Historic District
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photograph by the Abilene Preservation League
October 1988
Negative with the Abilene Preservation League
East facade, camera facing west
Photograph 7 of 12

768 Mulberry Street
Parramore Historic District
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photograph by the Abilene Preservation League
October 1988
Negative with the Abilene Preservation League
East facade, camera facing west
Photograph 8 of 12

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 7

Clifton M. Caldwell House
790 Orange Street
Parramore Historic District
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photograph by the Abilene Preservation League
October 1988
Negative with the Abilene Preservation League
East facade, camera facing west southwest
Photograph 9 of 12

Garage/apartment at 790 Orange Street
Parramore Historic District
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photograph by the Abilene Preservation League
October 1988
Negative with the Abilene Preservation League
East facade, camera facing west northwest
Photograph 10 of 12

1518 Parramore Avenue (garage/apartment behind 750 Beech Street)
Parramore Historic District
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photograph by the Abilene Preservation League
October 1988
Negative with the Abilene Preservation League
South facade, camera facing north
Photograph 11 of 12

Site of demolished James H. Parramore House (now vacant lot)
Parramore Historic District
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photograph by the Abilene Preservation League
October 1988
Negative with the Abilene Preservation League
Camera facing southeast
Photograph 12 of 12

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1917-1941

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Parramore Historic District is a remarkably intact historic neighborhood that includes a high concentration of Prairie School- and bungalow-inspired houses. The district is named for James H. Parramore, a prominent local businessman who once owned all the property within the district. The Parramore Historic District is significant at the local level between 1917 and 1941 in the area of Architecture, and meets Criterion C as Abilene's finest collection of early 20th century houses.

James H. Parramore was born in Early County, Georgia, in 1840 and moved with his parents to Gonzales, Texas, in 1849. Following distinguished service in the Confederate Army, where he rose to the rank of captain with Terry's Texas Rangers, Parramore returned to Gonzales. He married Mary Jane Goodsen and they raised a family that eventually included four sons and three daughters. While in Gonzales, the family farmed cotton and raised cattle, being particularly successful at the latter. Ill health forced Parramore to depart from the coastal prairies of their homestead and take his family, upon the advice of a physician, to the drier climate of West Texas. They abandoned their farming activities and moved their herds to Runnels County, Texas, in May 1879. They remained there until October 1881 when they relocated to the newly founded community of Abilene.

Parramore acquired property in 1881 that included the present historic district. At that time, the land comprised Block 149 of the original town site and was one of a series of large outlots that surrounded the city. In 1885 he built one of the first and largest residences in the community, and it quickly became an important local landmark, a symbol of his personal success and prominence in the community. French Second Empire detailing heavily influenced the Victorian era dwelling that was featured prominently in various promotional brochures and booklets distributed to encourage Abilene's growth.

Parramore owned vast amounts of land in west Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. In addition to being a prominent Abilene citizen, he was an important benefactor of Simmons College, forerunner of Hardin-Simmons University. A dormitory on its campus is named in his honor.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet 9-1.

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Texas Historical Commission, Austin
Abilene Preservation League, Abilene

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property approx. 13 acres

UTM References

A

1	4	4	3	0	4	6	0	3	5	9	1	2	4	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

1	4	4	3	0	4	4	0	3	5	9	1	0	6	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

1	4	4	3	0	7	6	0	3	5	9	1	2	2	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

1	4	4	3	0	7	4	0	3	5	9	1	0	4	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See Continuation Sheet 10-1.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See Continuation Sheets 10-1 and 10-2.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title David Moore (with Amy E. Dase, THC Historian)

organization Hardy-Heck-Moore date July 1989; November 1990

street & number 2112 Rio Grande telephone 512/478-8014

city or town Austin state Texas zip code 78705

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7/8 Page 1

Inventory of properties by site number:

Name (where applicable), address, site number, category (Contributing or Noncontributing and number of resources), date of construction, architectural style, photograph number (where applicable)

Description

Statement of significance

1441-1443 North 8th Street, Site A-1, Noncontributing (3), c. 1985, no style, Photograph 2
Two, 2-story apartment buildings of frame construction with wood siding; gable roofs with composition shingles. Outbuilding: open garage is southeast of these buildings.

These three buildings are architecturally and historically incompatible with other buildings in the district.

Sellers-Guffey House, 760 Orange Street, Site 119, Contributing (2), 1917, Bungalow

1 1/2-story frame dwelling with exterior brick walls; low pitched crossed gable roof with composition shingles; exposed rafter ends and stick brackets; wood sash windows with 9/1 lights; broad, single door primary (east) entrance set within 1-bay porch with gable roof supported by massive, squared, brick columns with cast stone and Greek cross-shaped caps; gable dormer at south end of front elevation; cast stone coping; secondary entrances on north and south ends; secondary gable porch on south elevation; all gable ends with staggered shingling. Outbuilding: 1-story garage/apartment to the rear also displays bungalow detailing; because it closely resembles the main house and has noteworthy architectural features, this outbuilding is Contributing.

This house is the oldest extant building in the district and is among the city's finest examples of bungalow design. It was built in 1917 for Eugene V. and Sue Sellers. Sue Sellers was a daughter of James H. Parramore and acquired the property after Parramore's death when his lands were partitioned among his heirs. The Sellers lived in the house until 1919 when Ira and Ida Guffey became the owners. Guffey was a vice president at the Abilene State Bank (as was his neighbor Bascom Miller at 750 Beech Street). During the 1930s, the bank experienced financial difficulties and Guffey was forced to give up the house. In 1933 Fred Schroeder purchased the property and, according to city directories, was chief engineer and a vice president of West Texas Utilities Company. The Schroeders were well known as hospitable hosts and provided a "home away from home" for locally stationed soldiers during World War II. In

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7/8 Page 2

addition, numerous celebrities and public figures, such as Rita Hayworth, reportedly stayed in the house while visiting Abilene. Mrs. James A. Wolfe acquired the house and he maintained both his residence and chiropractic offices in the building. They resided in the house until 1975.

Clifton M. Caldwell House, 790 Orange Street, Site 120, Contributing (2), Prairie School, Photographs 9 and 10

2-story frame dwelling with exterior brick walls; hipped roof with composition shingles; broad, overhanging eaves; wood sash windows with vertical muntins; single door (beveled glass) primary entrance with transom and sidelights set in 3-bay porch with brick supports and balcony above on primary (east) elevation; cast stone continuous sill and coping; interior brick chimney offset from center; porte cochere with second story bedroom on south elevation; street access to porte cochere blocked. Outbuilding: 2-story garage/apartment with detailing similar to main house; partially burned in 1960s; some modern windows installed; because it closely resembles the main house and has noteworthy architectural features, this outbuilding is Contributing.

This dwelling, with its broad eaves and low pitched roof, exhibits a strong horizontal emphasis and is among the city's finest examples of Prairie School-inspired architecture, built in 1919 for Eugene V. Sellers, responsible for the construction of the dwelling next door at 760 Orange Street. In 1921 he and his wife sold this house (790 Orange Street) to W.C. Goodwin who subsequently conveyed the property to Clifton M. Caldwell, a lawyer and oil man from Brackenridge. For the next 42 years the house remained in the Caldwell family. Caldwell was a University of Texas Law School graduate and later served as county attorney, county judge, and district judge. He subsequently became involved in the oil business and amassed a great fortune. He moved to Abilene in 1922 and quickly assumed a position as one of the community's most influential and respected citizens.

Lewis J. Ackers House, 772 Beech Street, Site 126, Contributing (2), 1922, Prairie School, Photograph 5

2-story frame dwelling with exterior brick walls; low pitched hipped roof with composition shingles; broad, overhanging eaves; wood sash windows, upper sashes with geometric design; single door entrance with transom and sidelights set in 3-bay porch with hipped roof on primary (east) elevation; brick columns with tapered brick capitals support the porch; interior brick chimney offset from center; low pitched hipped dormer on east elevation; porte cochere on south elevation with brick supports identical to those on front porch; cast stone trim on these supports as well as on the continuous sills of the second floor. Outbuilding: 1-story brick garage/apartment stands to southwest; windows, eaves and masonry work similar to main house; because it closely resembles the main house and has noteworthy architectural features, this outbuilding is Contributing.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7/8 Page 3

Local builder Roy Boatwright erected this house in 1922, and it stands as one of Abilene's premier examples of Prairie School-inspired residential architecture. Its original owner was Eugene V. Sellers but within a few months after its completion, Lewis J. Ackers, a prominent West Texas rancher, purchased the dwelling. Ackers, who was also vice president of a local publishing venture, the Victor Publishers Company, resided in the house until 1960 when he and his wife Sybil moved to a new dwelling on Elmwood Drive.

Miller-Radford House, 750 Beech Street and 1518 Parramore Avenue, Site 127, Contributing (2), 1926, Prairie School, Photograph 11

2-story frame dwelling with exterior brick walls; low pitched hipped roof with composition shingles; broad, overhanging eaves with paired consoles; wood sash windows with 6/1 lights; single door entrance with transom and sidelights set in 1-bay porch on primary (east) elevation; brick corner piers with narrow, round arched opening; interior brick chimney offset from center; secondary entrance on south elevation that opens onto porte cochere to front porch; wood balustrade above front porch suggests use as a balcony although a doorway does not open onto balcony; small hipped dormer on east elevation. Outbuilding: 2-story garage/apartment, like the main house, has buff brick walls; because it closely resembles the main house and has noteworthy architectural features, this outbuilding is Contributing.

Built in 1926 for Bascom Miller, this house is one of four Prairie School-inspired houses that line the west side of the 700 block of Beech Street. Its original owner, Bascom Miller, was a vice president of the Abilene State Bank. He retained the title to the house until financial problems at the bank forced him to sell the property to business man Omer E. Radford in 1933. Radford was president of J.M. Radford Grocery Company, a wholesale grocery concern that was prominent throughout the region. Radford also was vice president of the Abilene Building and Loan Association and was president of the Gold Bond Casket Company. Victor L. Shiflet acquired the property in 1956.

Oscar Rose House, 1442 Parramore Avenue, Site 128, Noncontributing (1), Contributing (1), 1941, Spanish Colonial Revival

1-story frame dwelling with exterior brick walls; gable roof with composition shingles; box eaves; metal casement windows with four lights and horizontal muntins; single door entrance set in 3-bay porch with shed roof supported by square posts on primary (south) elevation; two, interior brick chimneys. Outbuilding: 1-story garage/apartment with details similar to main house; this ancillary building retains its original tile roof; although the main house is Noncontributing, this outbuilding remains unaltered and is Contributing.

Contractor Oscar Rose built this house in 1941 and lived in it until his death in 1971. His widow still lived in the building as of 1989. Rose was an active and successful businessman

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7/8 Page 4

and served on the Parks and Recreation Board for more than 17 years. In 1968 Fair Park was renamed in his honor. Although the house is a unique example of Spanish-inspired architecture in the district, the removal of the red tile roof detracts from its historic integrity and is therefore considered Noncontributing. The detached garage/apartment, however, still retains its tile roof and provides a vivid reminder of the main house's historic appearance.

Goodwin-Sears House, 726 Beech Street, Site 129, Contributing (2), 1922/1927, Prairie School, Photograph 4

2-story frame dwelling with exterior brick walls; gable roof with composition shingles; broad, overhanging eaves; wood sash windows in groups of three, upper sashes with geometric detailing; single door entrance with beveled glass in transom and sidelights set in 2-bay porch with hipped roof supported by brick columns with tapered brick capitals on primary (east) elevation; exterior brick chimney at north gable end; porte cochere on south elevation with detailing similar to that of the front porch. Outbuilding; 1-story brick garage/apartment with detailing similar to the main house; because it closely resembles the main house and has noteworthy architectural features, this outbuilding is Contributing.

Originally, this house was a 1-story building; a second floor was added a few years after its initial construction. Today it stands in good condition and is an outstanding local interpretation of a Prairie School-inspired dwelling. Built in 1922 for W.C. Goodwin, a prominent rancher, five years later Arth Sears, descendant of an early pioneer family of West Texas, purchased the house. Sears and his wife, Mae, had seven children and are reported to have added the second floor soon after they acquired the property. Sears died in 1929 and his wife resided in the house until 1945 when local businessman Alton J. Willingham bought the dwelling; Willingham and his wife still lived in the house as of 1989.

Edward W. and Mary Douthit House, 704 Beech Street, Site 130, Contributing (2), 1920-21, Prairie School, Photograph 3

2-story frame dwelling with stucco exterior walls; hipped roof with broad, overhanging eaves with paired consoles; wood sash windows, most grouped in twos or threes, with 6/1 lights; single door entrance with sidelights set in 3-bay porch with hipped roof supported by large, brick piers on primary (east) elevation; interior brick chimney offset from center; porte cochere on south elevation with detailing similar to that of front porch; hipped dormer on east elevation. Outbuilding: 1-story stucco garage/apartment with detailing and exterior finish similar to that of the main house; because it closely resembles the main house and has noteworthy architectural features, this outbuilding is Contributing.

This dwelling is one of the district's best examples of a Prairie School-inspired design and is among the city's most noteworthy illustrations of this style. Edward and Mary Douthit were

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7/8 Page 5

married in 1901; she was one of James H. Parramore's daughters. The Douthits first lived in Howard County, where, with Parramore's assistance, they learned the ranching business. They returned to Abilene after Parramore's death and constructed this 1920-21 house on land that Mary received from her father's will in 1917. They resided here for the rest of their lives. Besides working as a successful rancher, Edward Douthits was co-owner of the Anderson and Douthit Book and Music Store and allowed a small private library, the forerunner of the city's public library, to operate out of the rear of the store. Mary Douthit died in 1964 and Edward Douthit died in 1970.

702 Mulberry Street, Site 138, Contributing (1), 1920, Bungalow

1-story frame dwelling with exterior stucco walls; gable roof with composition shingles, exposed rafter ends and stick brackets; paired wood sash windows with 3/1 lights, upper sashes with vertical muntins; single door primary entrance set in 2-bay porch with cross gable roof supported by large, stucco posts on primary (east) elevation; exterior brick chimney on south elevation.

This bungalow is believed to have been built in 1920 for Elijah Guffee, and since that time, has had several owners and occupants including Arther W. Balfanz of Balfanz Construction Company, J. Duran Perry and John Simpson. By 1937, Adam N. Wimberly owned the building and the house remained in that family until the late 1950s. The house combines elements of double gable and cross gable bungalows, two important subtypes of this popular house form.

1542 North 7th Street, Site 139, Contributing (1), Noncontributing (1), 1924, Bungalow,
Photograph 1

1-story frame bungalow with 117/121 wood siding; gable roof with composition shingles, exposed rafter ends, and stick brackets; wood sash windows have vertical muntins in upper sashes and A-B-A fenestration pattern is in window bays of main facade; a single door entrance is set within a 1-bay porch with gable roof braced by tapered box supports that rest on brick piers on the primary (south) elevation. Outbuilding: a small frame house stands just east of the main house; because of its recent date of construction it is Noncontributing.

This is one of the best examples of a bungalow in the district and it remains virtually unaltered. Unlike others in the district, this house has had numerous owners over the years and no pre-1945 owner lived in the house for more than five years. The earliest known occupants were T. Carter Rogers and his wife Ena. He was a pharmacist at McLemore-Bass Drug Company. Since the 1930s part of the building has been used as a beauty shop.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7/8 Page 6

Thomas E. Roberts House, 718 Mulberry Street, Site 140, Contributing (2), 1922, Bungalow
1-story frame dwelling with 117/121 siding; massive gable roof with composition shingles; wood sash windows; single door entrance set in small 1-bay porch with paired wood posts on primary (east) elevation; porte cochere on south elevation with tapered box columns that rest on brick piers and cast stone bases; windows on front have 48 small panes that are probably replacements. Outbuilding: 2-story frame garage/apartment stands to the west of the main house; like the main house, this ancillary building has frame construction with 117/121 siding; displays bungalow details such as exposed rafter ends and stick brackets; because it closely resembles the main house and has noteworthy architectural features, this outbuilding is Contributing.

This house was built in 1922 for Thomas E. Roberts. City directories note that while he owned the dwelling, Roberts was employed as a bookkeeper with the Texas Mill and Elevator Company and later worked for the Missouri Life Insurance Company and General American Life Insurance Company. He resided in the house until his appointment as the first superintendent of the Hendrick Home for Children in 1939. His stepfather, Thomas R. Spencer, lived in the house in 1939. William W. Haynes purchased the property in 1941. Haynes was manager of Universal Motors and lived in the house until the 1960s.

Thomas R. Spencer House, 736-742 Mulberry Street, Site 141, Contributing (1), 1941, Prairie School, Photograph 6

2-story frame duplex with exterior brick walls; bellcast hipped roof with wood shingles; box eaves; wood sash windows with 4/1 lights, upper sashes with vertical muntins; two, single door entrances, one for each duplex; door at 736 faces south while door at 742 faces east; 1-bay porch with flat roof and balcony on south elevation serves 736; round arch openings in this porch; exterior brick chimney on east elevation; small balcony above round-arched opening of the north (742 Mulberry) side of duplex; metal railings on both balconies.

This building is the district's lone example of a duplex dwelling. Despite its construction in 1941, it displays several architectural features that are similar to the Prairie School-inspired district's dwellings built in the 1920s. W.S. Wagley is believed to have built the building for Thomas R. Spencer in 1941. Spencer was a hardware salesman who moved to Abilene in 1906. He lived in this house until his death in 1956.

Frances B. Olds, House, 1547 Parramore Avenue, Site 143, Contributing (1), Noncontributing (1), c. 1924-25, Colonial Revival

2-story frame dwelling with exterior brick walls; gambrel roof with wood shingles; wood sash windows with 6/6 lights; single door entrance set under a semicircular arch set in a 3-bay, 1-story porch with hipped roof on primary (west) elevation; squared brick outer supports and squared wood supports on inner bays; exterior brick chimney on west elevation; shed dormer

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7/8 Page 7

with stucco facing and 6/6 windows on front; pent roof at base of gable on front. Outbuilding: small frame garage at rear of lot that is Noncontributing.

This dwelling, built in 1924 or 1925 for Frances B. Olds, is a rare local example of a Colonial Revival residence and is the only such building in the district. Mrs. Olds resided in the house until the 1950s. Her son F.C. "Pete" Olds was an architect/engineer who worked for local architect David Castle. Olds gained considerable recognition as a designer of Art Moderne buildings. His residence at 1041 Elmwood is a noteworthy illustration of the style.

George Callihan House, 1533 Parramore Avenue, Site 144, Contributing (2), c. 1937, Tudor Revival

2-story frame dwelling with exterior brick walls; clipped gable roof with composition shingles; double hung windows; single door primary entrance under a segmental arch; porch has been enclosed with louvered windows; exterior brick chimney on west elevation. Outbuilding: 1 1/2-story garage/apartment with clipped gable roof and details and construction similar to the main house; because it closely resembles the main house and has noteworthy architectural features, this outbuilding is Contributing.

George Callihan built this house soon after he purchased the property on September 4, 1937. Callihan was a contractor involved in drilling oil wells during Abilene's and West Texas' oil boom of the 1930s. David and Grace Morris purchased the house in 1954. Although it has been altered, it retains enough of its historic fabric to be Contributing. It exhibits detailing associated with the Tudor Revival style that gained popularity during the late 1920s and 1930s.

Finberg-Allison, 1530 Parramore Avenue, Site 145, Noncontributing (1), c. 1905/1927, Other: vernacular

2-story frame dwelling with exterior stucco walls; hipped roof with composition shingles; wood sash windows, some with geometric designs, some with modern metals sashes; single door entrance with transom and sidelights set in 4-bay porch with hipped roof supported by 2-story box columns on primary (south) elevation; a modern sliding glass door on second floor; details and form of house suggests a transition from asymmetrical Victorian era to early 20th-century eclecticism.

This house originally stood at 1442 North 3rd Street. U.S. Hamilton moved it in 1927 for George and Hattie Finberg. For much of the 1920s and 1930s, the house was used as for rental purposes; its most significant tenant was Thomas L. Blanton. While residing in the house, Blanton was a member of a locally prominent law firm and served in the United States Congress. On January 1, 1934, I.L. Allison, Dean of the Music Department at Simmons College, acquired the house and lived there for three years. Because of alterations, the house in its present state is Noncontributing.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7/8 Page 8

Graves and Ellen Cayce House, 1546 Parramore Avenue, Site 146, Contributing (1), 1922, Bungalow

1-story frame dwelling with weatherboard siding; gable roof with composition shingles; stick brackets; wood sash windows; single door entrance with sidelights set in 3-bay porch on primary (south) elevation; tapered box supports that extend to base of porch; brick chimneys; two, clipped gables on primary facade; trim around front entrance shows a strong influence of Craftsman style; vertical lights in sidelights and door.

This bungalow was erected in 1922 for Graves and Ellen Cayce. Although he died in 1928, Cayce's widow remained in the house until 1950. After her death the following year, the land was conveyed to her four children and they sold the residence to Ada Crofton for \$17,500 on November 3, 1951.

Eugene V. and Sue Sellers House, 760 Mulberry Street and 1626 Parramore Avenue, Site 147, Contributing (2), 1922, Prairie School, Photograph 7

1-story frame dwelling with exterior brick walls; hipped roof; broad, box eaves on both levels; wood sash windows, upper sashes with geometric design; single door entrance with transom and sidelights set in 3-bay porch with hipped roof supported by squared, brick columns with tapered brick capitals on primary (east) elevation; two, brick chimneys. Outbuilding: 2-story garage/apartment with detailing similar to that of the main house; porte cochere on south elevation with detailing similar to that of the front porch; tripartite transom at front entrance comprised of small, narrow lights; most windows are grouped in pairs; because it closely resembles the main house and has noteworthy architectural features, this outbuilding is Contributing.

This outstanding local example of Prairie School-inspired architecture was built in 1922 for Eugene V. Sellers, an executive with West Texas Utilities Company. Although Sellers and his wife Sue, a daughter of James H. Parramore, built other houses in the neighborhood, this dwelling is known locally as the Sellers House and has the strongest associations with the Sellers family. In 1937 David Huddelston, a rancher, bought the house.

768 Mulberry Street, Site 149, Contributing (1), 1923, Bungalow, Photograph 8

1-story frame dwelling with 117/121 siding; clipped gable roof with composition shingles; exposed rafter ends; stick brackets; wood sash windows with 4/1 lights, upper sashes with vertical muntins; single door entrance set in 1-bay porch with gable roof supported by paired Doric columns on primary (east) elevation; brick piers at each end of porch with concrete urns crowning each pier; brick chimney at north elevation; Palladian-like configuration on porch, but a segmental rather than round archway.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7/8 Page 9

This house was built in 1923 for Finley Holmes who owned the adjoining lot (772 Mulberry). The 1926 city directory, the earliest known directory that includes property in the district, lists Hugh Horn as the occupant of this house. Two years later, Holmes lived at this address. In 1931 Emmett E. Jones, of J & L Dye Works, is listed as a renter. He was the first of several renters who lived in the house during the next 40 years.

Finley and Josephine Holmes House, 772 Mulberry Street, Site 150, Contributing (1), c. 1923, Bungalow

1-story frame dwelling with drop siding; gable roof with composition shingles; exposed rafter ends and stick brackets; wood sash windows, multiple light over single light sashes; single door entrance set in 1-bay porch with gable roof on primary (east) elevation; brick supports; porte cochere on south elevation; asbestos shingles in gable end on front (south) elevation; brick porch piers mark entrance and provide a base for concrete urns.

Finley Holmes purchased this and the adjoining lot (768 Mulberry Street) in 1923 and reportedly built houses on each parcel. Although Holmes, who operated the Holmes & Son Grocery Store at 1146 North 2nd Street, lived in both houses at various times, he and his family lived in this house for all but five of the next 47 years, according to city directories. This house exhibits features associated with bungalow design and is one of the better examples of this style in the district.

Michael P. Brady House, 1541 North 8th Street, Site 151, Contributing (1), c. 1920, Bungalow

1-story frame dwelling with stucco exterior walls; cross gable roof with composition shingles; exposed rafter ends and stick brackets; wood sash windows with 4/1 and 6/1 lights; single door entrance on main facade set in 2-bay porch with gable roof supported by tapered box columns on stucco piers on primary (north) elevation; interior brick chimney offset from center; shingled gable ends.

Despite minor alterations, this house retains enough of its historic fabric to be Contributing. Better and less altered examples survive in the district; however, this house is illustrative of bungalow-inspired architecture, popular throughout Abilene, and is noteworthy for its 2-bay front porch with gable roof. From the 1920s through the 1950s, the house was associated with the Brady family and it possibly was built for Michael P. Brady who owned and occupied the house as early as 1926. City directories do not indicate his vocation.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Parramore died in July 1917 and his will stipulated that his seven surviving children divide his personal property and ranch land. Block 149, which included his residence, was partitioned into six equally sized blocks and conveyed to six of his children: H.C. Parramore, Eunice Parramore, John N. Parramore, Sue P. Sellers, Mary P. Douthit and James H. Parramore, Jr. (Taylor County Probate Records L:393). Property that includes Block 149 has since been renamed the Parramore Subdivision in all legal and tax records.

Partitioning the land became the critical factor in the history of the property and subsequent development of the Parramore neighborhood. In accordance with Parramore's will, the family homestead was conveyed to his daughter Eunice, who never married. The remaining blocks, undeveloped when the property was divided in 1917, soon became the scene of development activity. The present historic district comprises all but a small portion of the six original blocks conveyed to Parramore's heirs.

Aside from the Parramore House, the first dwelling built in the subdivision was the 1 1/2-story, brick veneer bungalow at 760 Orange Street. Its original owners were Parramore's daughter and son-in-law, Sue and Eugene V. Sellers, who also constructed three other houses in the district. The only other Parramore descendant to build in the neighborhood was Mary Douthit who, with her husband Edward W. Douthit, erected a 2-story frame house at 704 Beech Street. The rest of the land was sold for speculative purposes. In some cases, the land was partitioned into smaller lots changing the physical character of the area. For example, the houses and lots along Orange, Beech and, to a lesser extent, Mulberry streets are relatively large, while those along Parramore Avenue, North 7th and North 8th streets are smaller. Nonetheless, this area became a showcase in the community and some of the town's more prominent citizens chose to build or move to existing houses in the area, including Clifton M. Caldwell, Bascom Miller, Arth Sears and Lewis J. Ackers.

Census records and historical accounts show that Abilene's growth accelerated following World War I (Duff 1969; Duff and Seibt 1980), and boomed in the 1920s. Abilene's population was 10,274 in 1920; a decade later, it had risen to 23,175, an increase exceeding 110 percent. Abilene was rapidly becoming a magnet for oil operators who selected the city as a distribution base because of its strategic location, access to transportation (railroad) and other amenities, including three institutions of higher learning and two major medical facilities.

This large influx of residents heralded a construction boom that resulted in the building of many new residential and commercial buildings. Local contractors and architects turned to popular architectural trends, especially through the popularization of pattern books, to please their clients and thus boost business. These new buildings also helped to develop a sense of permanence and civic pride in the still new community and fostered promotional efforts that

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

portrayed Abilene as a progressive town with dynamic people who lived and worked in modern, new styled buildings.

As a result of this growth, the most intense development in the district occurred during the 1920s, as documented on Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps from the period. By 1925, 22 of the 31 extant historic properties were standing. Still, the east side of the 700 block of Beech Street, north of Parramore Avenue, remained undeveloped, as did several vacant lots. Between 1925 and 1929 only one new residence had been constructed, while another had been relocated into the neighborhood. The latter building, as Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps clearly show, had a front-projecting wing with angled corners, typical of houses built around the turn of the century. Mechanic's liens reveal that U.S. Hamilton moved the house in 1927 from 1442 North 3rd Street (Taylor County Mechanic's Liens; Abilene Preservation League files).

Local interpretations of bungalow and Prairie School movements dominate the architectural character of the district and are among the most common and prevalent designs applied to early 20th century dwellings in Abilene (Beasley 1979:33-34). Both styles contrast sharply to eclectic tastes that prevailed locally and nationwide during the late 19th and very early 20th centuries. Unlike Victorian era architecture and, to a lesser extent, 20th century revival architecture, these houses present a strong horizontal emphasis with low pitched roofs, broad expansive porches, and squared or tapered columns. They are more straightforward in their design, with little of the frivolity or formality that characterized earlier residences. Harmonious materials and colors that blend with the landscape became the preferred aesthetic considerations, in contrast to Victorian era polychromatic brights and 20th century revival whites. Despite diminutive front facades, especially those of bungalow dwellings, these buildings generally prove to be deceptively large and spacious.

While many examples of both architectural expressions were built throughout the city, the former was considerably more common, possibly because it was cheaper and easier to build. The bungalow movement in Abilene was most common among the rapidly expanding middle class and was popular over a long period of time, ranging from the 1910s to the 1930s.

The bungalow dwelling, as seen in Abilene and other locales across the country, can be traced to the commissions of Greene and Greene of southern California (McAlester and McAlester 1986:454). The style seemed particularly well suited for local adaptation and interpretation, and a large number of variants were built throughout Texas and the rest of the nation. While some examples may be unique and architect-designed for a specific client, bungalows generally were built from plans disseminated by other means. Mass circulated building journals as well as popular women's magazines, such as the Ladies Home Journal, widely publicized bungalow-influenced dwellings. Moreover, Sears, Roebuck and Company

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

catalogs and other similar companies offered plans and materials to builders and homeowners by mail nationwide. The advent of architectural firms that mass produced plans and specifications further proliferated the style throughout the nation. Companies such as Ye Planry, which relocated about 1914 to Texas from Los Angeles, California, offered a myriad of bungalow-inspired houses. A promotional brochure this company published states

Ye Planry . . . is what its name implies, A Place to Get Building Plans. Ye Planry rapidly gained a reputation for creating original and attractive designs for homes and are credited in Southern California as the originators of the Bungalow. Ye Planry were the first to introduce Stock Plans, and issued the first Bungalow Book ever published and have continually increased its stock of plans, keeping pace with the demand of modern home builders, and always a little ahead with new creations and conveniences. Ye Planry have moved their entire Plan Business to Texas and will in the future make headquarters at Dallas, where we will supply Modern Building Plans to home builders throughout the country (Ye Planry 1914).

While the firm's claim as the "originators of the Bungalow" is dubious at best, this quote reflects a trend in architecture and construction businesses that completely changed the way houses were designed and built in the United States, and the dwellings erected in Abilene's construction boom of the 1920s were part of this new tradition.

During the 1910s through 1930s, the Prairie School became a popular stylistic influence, and more affluent citizens generally chose houses with details characteristic of this architectural tradition. With its wide overhangs and strong horizontal emphasis, the Prairie School style is a distinctly American architectural expression that originated in the Chicago area at the turn of the century. It quickly spread throughout the midwestern United States and reached Texas by the first decade of this century. Its popularity was limited somewhat in time and geographical area, and relatively few pure or academic examples were built in the state. More often, local architects and contractors selected the style as a basis for residential designs and subsequently interpreted it in a more vernacular fashion. Such a trend prevailed in Abilene of the 1920s, resulting in the construction of a large number of dwellings inspired by Prairie School-styled traditions. Almost all were built in the early to mid 1920s.

The district's most affluent residents favored and built Prairie School-influenced dwellings from the 1910s through the 1930s. These houses share many common characteristics with bungalow and are typically 2-story frame buildings with brick veneers. The use of cast stone continuous sills between floors and the incorporation of a porte cochere on side elevations,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

further reinforce horizontal lines distinguishing Prairie School design (McAlester and McAlester 1986: 439-451). Other distinctive Prairie School features include low hipped roofs with broad extended eaves and long, linear, 1-story porches with large, squared, brick supports. The most noteworthy and distinguishing architectural elements on Prairie School-influenced dwellings in Abilene are tapered caps atop the porch columns that seem compressed from the excessive and massive weight of the porch. These caps appear on dwellings that local contractor Roy Boatwright built. Similarly styled houses with identical caps are throughout Abilene, and may be associated with Boatwright; however, more documentation is needed to support this claim.

Between 1929 and the start of World War II, three buildings were constructed within the district: one in 1927 and two in 1941, all Contributing to the district. More recently, three historic properties have been razed. Eunice Parramore resided in the Parramore House until her death in the 1950s. The house was demolished in 1959, obliterating a historically and architecturally important local landmark. Although sufficient information is not currently available, the site may be able to reveal important historical evidence about Parramore and his family with further investigation. A residence at 1535 North 8th Street and a small frame house just east of 1542 North 7th Street have also been torn down. The only examples of new (post-1945) construction in the district are a 2-unit apartment complex with a garage at the southeast corner of Beech and North 8th streets and a small frame house adjacent to 1542 North 7th Street.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 1

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning at the southeast corner of Lot A, Parramore Subdivision, Block 149, City of Abilene, thence north along the east boundary line of said lot, continuing across Parramore Avenue and continuing in a northerly direction until reaching the northeast corner of Lot B, Parramore Subdivision, Block 149, City of Abilene. Thence west along said lot, crossing Beech Street, continuing along the north boundary line of Lot C, Parramore Subdivision, Block 149, City of Abilene, continuing across Mulberry Street and continuing for 140 feet along the north boundary line of Lot F, Parramore Subdivision, Block 149, City of Abilene, until reaching the east side of an alley. Thence south along said alley, crossing Parramore Street, and continuing in a southerly direction for 235 feet until reaching the south boundary line of Lot E, Parramore Subdivision, Block 149, City of Abilene. Thence east along said lot, crossing Mulberry Street, continuing along the south boundary line of Lot D, Parramore Subdivision, Block 149, City of Abilene, crossing Beech Street and continuing along the south boundary line of Lot A, Parramore Subdivision, Block 149, City of Abilene, until reaching the southeast corner of said lot, the place of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

The most important factors in defining the boundaries of the historic district were: 1) the visual cohesiveness and integrity of buildings within its confines, 2) aesthetic features that distinguish the district from adjoining neighborhoods, and 3) associations with James H. Parramore, for whom the district is named.

Property within the historic district formed the core of James H. Parramore's homestead tract, which encompassed the west half of Block 149, Abilene Townsite. Following Parramore's death, the land was partitioned into six equally sized blocks and subsequently designated the Parramore Subdivision. Parramore's house was demolished in 1959, thereby destroying his most important and tangible link to the area. Nonetheless, many of his children developed the land, helping to preserve the family's strong association with the neighborhood.

The majority of buildings within the district are single family dwellings constructed between 1917 and 1941 and display architectural features associated with the Prairie School and bungalow styles. This similarity in use, age and design reinforces the visual unity of buildings within the district. Moreover, the oldest and most significant residences share the same orientation and face onto north-south streets. The lots are relatively large, especially when compared to those in adjoining neighborhoods.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 2

The district is in a predominately residential area about four blocks northwest of Abilene's central business district. The recently rehabilitated Lamar School and a modern office building abut the east boundary of the district and represent the beginning of a commercial area with mostly circa 1960s buildings facing Hickory Street, one block east of the district. The site of the James H. Parramore House is included in the district because of its associations with Parramore, who initially owned the entire subdivision, including this now vacant lot.

Neighborhoods to the south and north are almost exclusively residential, although their architectural character contrasts sharply to that of the district. The houses are smaller, less significant examples of bungalow style dwellings and are on small lots. In addition, most have been moderately altered and thus, do not retain as much of their integrity as Contributing buildings in the district. The only notable exceptions are the residences at 802 Orange and 802 Mulberry, both of which are 2-story brick dwellings with Prairie School-influenced detailing. Although both could be classified as Contributing, neither are within the Parramore Subdivision, nor do they represent any direct historic associations with the development of the Parramore property. Also, these buildings could possibly be individually eligible for listing in the National Register, therefore, the district boundaries have excluded them.

Property immediately to the west of the district is almost exclusively used for commercial purposes, although two bungalow style dwellings stand in this section. Although this area is in the Parramore Subdivision (the west half of blocks E and F), the intrusion of modern, non-residential buildings destroys this section's historic character. The two relatively unaltered, historic (pre-1941) buildings retain their integrity but including them would require gerrymandering boundaries and would diminish the overall significance of the district.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Parramore Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Taylor

DATE RECEIVED: 7/29/91 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/13/91
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/29/91 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/12/91
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 91001153

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 8/29/91 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
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____

Date _____



Mary

Mary

1542

1542 NORTH 7TH STREET
PARRAMORE HISTORIC DISTRICT
ABILENE, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 1 OF 12



1441-1451 NORTH 8TH STREET
PARRAMORE HISTORIC DISTRICT
ABILENE, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 2 OF 12



WEST SIDE OF 700 BLOCK OF BEECH STREET
PARRAMORE HISTORIC DISTRICT
ABILENE, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 3 OF 12



GODWIN - SEARS HOUSE
726 BEECH STREET
PARRAMORE HISTORIC DISTRICT
ABILENE, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 4 OF 12



LEWIS J. ACKERS HOUSE
772 BEECH STREET
PARRAMORE HISTORIC DISTRICT
ABILENE, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 5 OF 12



THOMAS R. SPENCER HOUSE
736-742 MULBERRY STREET
PARRAMORE HISTORIC DISTRICT
ABILENE, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 6 OF 12



EUGENE V. & SUE SELLERS HOUSE
760 MULBERRY
PARRAMORE HISTORIC DISTRICT
ABILENE, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 7 OF 12



768

768 MULBERRY STREET
PARRAMORE HISTORIC DISTRICT
ABILENE, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 8 OF 12



CLIFTON M. CALDWELL HOUSE
790 ORANGE STREET
PARRAMORE HISTORIC DISTRICT
ABILENE, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 9 OF 12



GARAGE / APARTMENT AT 790 ORANGE STREET
PARRAMORE HISTORIC DISTRICT
ABILENE, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 10 OF 12



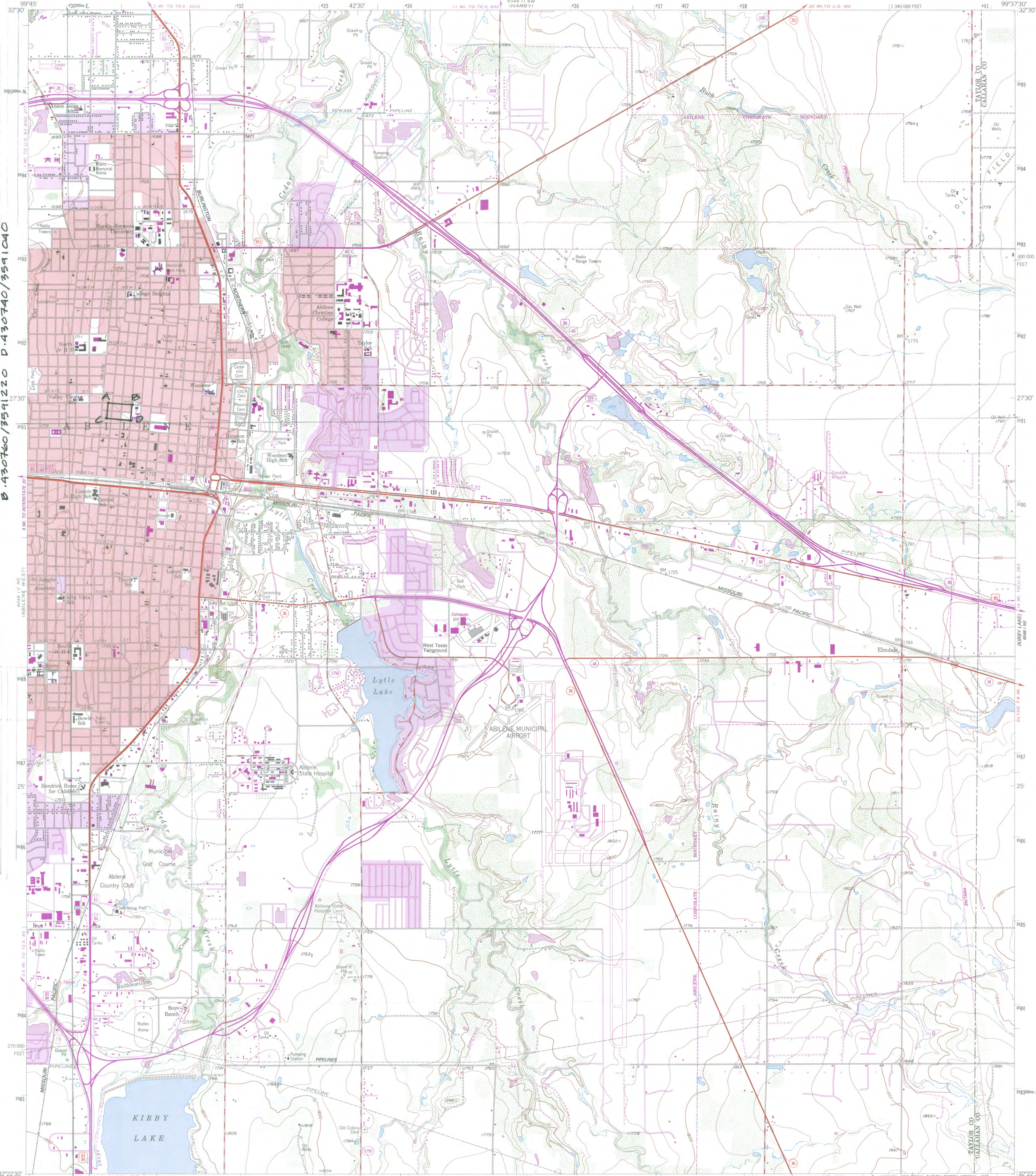
1518 PARRAMORE AVENUE (GARAGE / APARTMENT BEHIND 750 BEECH STREET)
PARRAMORE HISTORIC DISTRICT
ABILENE, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 11 OF 12



SITE OF J.H. PARRAMORE HOUSE (NOW VACANT LOT)
PARRAMORE HISTORIC DISTRICT
ABILENE, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 12 of 12



PARRAMORE HISTORIC DISTRICT
AREA BOUNDED BY ORANGE, NORTH 8TH ALLEY BETWEEN GRAPE & MULBERRY & NORTH 7TH STREETS
ABILENE TAYLOR CO. TEXAS
UTM REFERENCES: 14/A.430460/3591240 C.430440/3591060
B.430760/3591220 D.430740/3591040

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

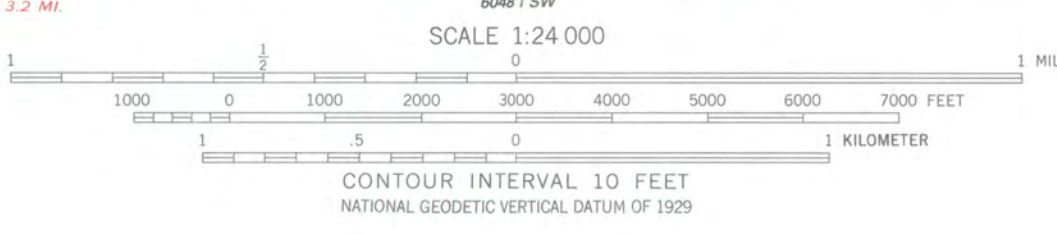
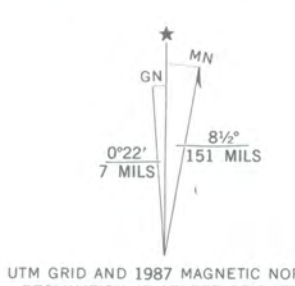
Topography from aerial photographs by ER-55 plotter
Aerial photographs taken 1954. Field check 1957

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system,
north central zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 14, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only
landmark buildings are shown

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,
move the projection lines 10 meters south and
34 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial
photographs taken 1984 and other sources
This information not field checked. Map edited 1987
Purple tint indicates extension of urban area



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

3299-243

ABILENE EAST, TEX.
NW/4 KIRBY LAKE 15' QUADRANGLE
32099-D6-TF-024

1957
PHOTOREVISED 1987
DMA 6048 1 NW - SERIES V882