

HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY FORM

1. Identification

County Taylor City Abilene

Current name Old WTU Power Plant & Ice Plant Historic name West Texas Utilities Company Power (and Ice) Plant

Address E HWY 80 & 100 Block N 2nd

Owner/address American Electric Power Co./American Electric Power Texas North Generation Co., LLC/1 Riverside Plaza,Columbus, OH 43215

Photo data: Roll _____ Frame _____ to Roll _____ Frame _____

Current Designations: NR NR District (Is property contributing? Yes No) RTHL HTC SAL Local Other

Recorded by: Hanaba Munn Welch Date recorded: 10-11-2011

General architectural description reinforced concrete and brick industrial building with smokestacks, windows and skylights;

bold motif in concrete bands, vertical & horizontal; four units; elevations are one-story, two-, three- and four-stories tall; concrete smokestack 182-foot tall

Outbuildings (Specify number and type):

Garage _____ Barn _____ Shed _____ Other 4 contributing storage buildings and 5 non-contributing out-buildings/structures

Archeological evidence of outbuildings, specify _____

Landscape/site features:

Sidewalks Terracing Drives Well/cistern Gardens Other Creek runs through area; Two contributing stone entry gates.

2. Architectural Description

Stylistic Influence(s):

- | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Log Traditional | <input type="checkbox"/> Shingle | <input type="checkbox"/> Gothic Revival | <input type="checkbox"/> Pueblo Revival | <input type="checkbox"/> International |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greek Revival | <input type="checkbox"/> Romanesque Revival | <input type="checkbox"/> Tudor Revival | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish Colonial | <input type="checkbox"/> Post-war Modern |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Italianate | <input type="checkbox"/> Folk Victorian | <input type="checkbox"/> Neo-Classical | <input type="checkbox"/> Prairie | <input type="checkbox"/> Ranch Style |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Second Empire | <input type="checkbox"/> Colonial Revival | <input type="checkbox"/> Beaux Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> Craftsman | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial Style |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eastlake | <input type="checkbox"/> Renaissance Revival | <input type="checkbox"/> Mission | <input type="checkbox"/> Art Deco | <input type="checkbox"/> No Style |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Queen Anne | <input type="checkbox"/> Exotic Revival | <input type="checkbox"/> Monterey | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moderne | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other '20s Indust. |

Structural Details:

Roof Type:	Wall Facade:	Windows:	Plan:
<input type="checkbox"/> Gable <input type="checkbox"/> Hipped <input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flat w/parapet <input type="checkbox"/> Dormers: <input type="checkbox"/> gable <input type="checkbox"/> hipped <input type="checkbox"/> shed <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	16__ Number of bays <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco <input type="checkbox"/> Stone <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Wood shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Log <input type="checkbox"/> Terra Cotta <input type="checkbox"/> Metal <input type="checkbox"/> Siding, type _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone veneer <input type="checkbox"/> Awning(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed <input type="checkbox"/> Wood sash <input type="checkbox"/> Double hung <input type="checkbox"/> Casement <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum sash <input type="checkbox"/> Decorative screenwork <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other steel frame plus skylites Doors: <input type="checkbox"/> Single-door primary entrance <input type="checkbox"/> Double-door primary entrance <input type="checkbox"/> With transom <input type="checkbox"/> With sidelights <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other various including sliding	<input type="checkbox"/> L-plan <input type="checkbox"/> 2-room <input type="checkbox"/> T-plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input type="checkbox"/> Modified L-plan <input type="checkbox"/> Center passage <input type="checkbox"/> Bungalow <input type="checkbox"/> Shotgun <input type="checkbox"/> Irregular <input type="checkbox"/> Four Square <input type="checkbox"/> Rectangular <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
Roof Materials: <input type="checkbox"/> Wood shingles <input type="checkbox"/> Tile <input type="checkbox"/> Composition shingles <input type="checkbox"/> Metal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Tar</u>	Chimneys: 4__ Specify number(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Interior <input type="checkbox"/> Exterior <input type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Stone <input type="checkbox"/> With corbelled caps <input type="checkbox"/> Stuccoed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>conc.&metal smokestax</u>	Porches: <input type="checkbox"/> Shed roof <input type="checkbox"/> Hipped roof <input type="checkbox"/> Gable roof <input type="checkbox"/> Inset <input type="checkbox"/> Wood posts <input type="checkbox"/> Brick piers <input type="checkbox"/> Box columns	Foundation: <input type="checkbox"/> Slab <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pier and beam <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Perimeter wall <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
Construction: <input type="checkbox"/> Frame <input type="checkbox"/> Adobe <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solid brick <input type="checkbox"/> Solid stone <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____			

Stories: 1, 2, 3 & 4 **Basement:** None Partial Full **Dimensions:** L _____ x W _____ = Square feet 3304

3. Integrity

- Location Design Materials Workmanship Setting Feeling Association

4. Function

Historic Use: Agriculture Commerce/trade Defense Domestic Educational Government Healthcare
 Industry/processing Recreation/culture Religious Social Other Electricity generating plant for most of 20th C; ice plant 'til 1951
Current Use: Agriculture Commerce/trade Defense Domestic Educational Government Healthcare
 Industry/processing Recreation/culture Religious Social Vacant Other _____

5. Architectural History

Architect: Wyatt C. Hedrick Builder: W. C. Hedrick Construction Co. of Dallas
Construction date: 1921-22 Actual Estimated Source: Abilene Register of Historic Places; Abilene Survey 1988-'89
 Additions/modifications, specify dates: Three additions: 1926, 1948, 1949
 Relocated, specify former location and reason: _____
Other associated contexts and information of interest: Creek is liability but also a potential plus contingent on type of adaptive use

6. Archeology Ground

Original state Disturbed Explain _____
Is a State Archeological Survey Form available for this site? Yes No Not known
Details: _____

7. Other Information

Is prior documentation available for this resource? Yes No Not known **Type:** HABS Survey Other _____
Details: National Register; Abilene Historic Survey

Accessible to the public: Yes No Not known **Possible threat(s):** None Damage (i.e. natural disaster) Neglect
 Development Major alteration Relocation Other _____ * **Note:** Also see Endangered Historic Property Identification Form

8. Geographic Information

USGS quad #: _____ Year: _____ Map scale: _____
UTM zone: _____ Easting: _____ Northing: _____
Legal description (Lot/Block): Lot 1/Block A Abilene Power Plant Subdivision/Abilene Power & Light Subdivision
Addition: Dallas Year of addition: unknown

9. Significance

Applicable National Register (NR) criteria:

- A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history;
- B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
- C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic value, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction;
- D. Has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history;

Areas of significance: Wyatt C. Hedrick of Fort Worth was one of the world's most prolific architects. This plant is one of many examples of his work in Texas. The building is a flagship for WTU and compliments plants built elsewhere in West Texas by the Abilene-based company. The plant is remarkable for its natural lighting via generous windows and skylights. The smokestack is a dominant feature of the Abilene skyline.

Period(s) of significance: Important regional electricity provider esp. from 1920s - 1960s; architecturally significant per style and tall smokestack

Level of significance: National State Local

Possible NR district: Yes No **Is property contributing?** Yes No

10. Priority (See manual for definitions.) High Medium Low

Explain The current owner plans to demolish the property if a buyer cannot be found.

Questions?

Contact survey coordinator
History Programs Division, Texas Historical Commission
at 512/463-5853 or history@thc.state.tx.us.

