

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

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

**NATIONAL  
REGISTER**

**1. NAME OF PROPERTY**

*Historic name:* Castle, David S., House

*Other name/site number:* 733

**2. LOCATION**

*Street & number:* 1742 North Second *St.*

*not for publication:* N/A

*City/town:* Abilene

*State:* TX    *County:* Taylor

*code:* 441    *zip code:* 79603

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

*Ownership of Property:* Private

*Category of Property:* Building

<i>Number of Resources within Property:</i>	<i>Contributing</i>	<i>Noncontributing</i>
	<u>  1  </u>	<u>      </u> <i>buildings</i>
	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> <i>sites</i>
	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> <i>structures</i>
	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> <i>objects</i>
	<u>  1  </u>	<u>  0  </u> <i>Total</i>

*Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:* 0

*Name of related multiple property listing:* Historic and Architectural Resources in Abilene, Texas

4. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

*Curtis J. Jernell*

2-12-92  
Date

Signature of certifying official  
State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.  
\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  
\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

*Autumn K. Lee*

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):

*fn*

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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**6. FUNCTION OR USE**

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*Historic:* Domestic Sub: Single dwelling

*Current:* Domestic Sub: Single dwelling

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**7. DESCRIPTION**

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*Architectural Classification:* Bungalow

*Materials:* foundation brick  
walls wood  
roof asphalt  
other asbestos

*Describe present and historic physical appearance.  See continuation sheet.*

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**8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

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*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:* 1916-1939

*Significant Dates:* 1916

*Significant Person(s):* Castle, David S.

*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.  See continuation sheet.*

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of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas

## Description:

The David S. Castle House is a 2-story frame bungalow with a modified rectangular plan and a low pitched, complex hipped and gable roof. The exterior walls are sheathed with drop wood weatherboard siding and the roof has composition shingles. The house faces south onto North First Street. Although it is only in fair condition, the house is relatively unaltered with few changes.

The front (south) elevation is a compound composition of various forms and angles. The 1-bay porch with a hipped eyebrow window on the roof above it has tripartite box columns that rest on brick piers. The primary entrance has a single door with a transom. A secondary single door entrance is on the west wall of the porch. The house has wood windows with 4/4 lights and vertical muntins.

## Statement of Significance:

The David S. Castle House, built in 1916, is nominated under Criterion C in the area of Architecture, for its associations with the prominent local architect. Castle resided in the house from its construction in 1916 until his death in 1956. Castle established the local architectural firm, David S. Castle & Company, that designed virtually every major building in Abilene from the late 1910s through the 1950s. This firm also served as architect of numerous buildings throughout West Texas and was one of, if not, the most prolific architectural firm in this part of the state. 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.

Born on February 13, 1884, in Constantine, Michigan, Castle left home at age 15 and eventually settled in Chicago, Illinois. He held several odd jobs but became interested in engineering soon after he was hired by the Chicago Telephone and Telegraph Company. He worked in the drafting department and went to night school at the Lewis Institute for two and a half years. He later enrolled in the Armour Institute (now the Illinois Institute of Technology) where he graduated in 1909. He returned to the Chicago Telephone and Telegraph Company and provided plans for telephone company buildings. In 1910 he moved to Texas and worked for Southwestern Bell Telephone. He joined the Texas Company (Texaco) Engineering Department in 1911 and two years later became associated with Fort Worth architect M.L. Waller who designed many institutional buildings throughout the state.

While employed by M.L. Waller, he moved to Abilene to open a branch office and oversee construction of the Oldham Building (razed) at North First and Cypress streets. The following

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year, in 1914, Castle established his own firm and soon received several important commissions. He and his firm designed residences for several of Abilene's most prominent citizens, including J.G. Higginbotham, George B. Paxton, C.W. Bacon, T.C. Campbell and George R. Davis. The Abilene School District hired his firm to design practically every school facility erected between 1920 and 1935. He also was architect of all the buildings on the campus of McMurry College, and he designed several buildings at Hardin-Simmons University and Abilene Christian University. He provided plans and specifications for the Hilton Hotel, the Wooten Hotel and the Federal Building, all of which are in Abilene (Cosby 1955:356-359).

Two of his best clients were the West Texas Utilities Company [WTU] and J.M. Radford. He reportedly designed about 20 buildings for WTU and 30 for Radford in various communities throughout West Texas. Other important commissions included the Petroleum Building and the Scarborough Building in Midland, the Settles Hotel in Big Spring and the Burch Hotel in Breckenridge (Abilene Reporter-News October 29, 1956).

The David S. Castle House follows bungalow design concepts. Although a large number of bungalows were built, the vast majority reflect the same basic elements and appear as variants of the same form. The workmanship and detailing, suggestive of the Arts and Crafts movement, is exhibited in this dwelling's low pitched hipped roof with curved eaves. The porch, with its massive roof and narrow supports is indicative of bungalow architecture.

Castle's influence far exceeded the city limits of Abilene and he left his mark on the built environment in the largest and most important West Texas communities. Most, if not all of his firm's architectural drawings are now stored at the offices of Tittle, Luther and Loving Architects.

**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>430260</i>	<i>3590760</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:*

*Keeble Addition (1-2), Block 183, Lot 6*

*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

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

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Historic and Architectural Resources  
of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas

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David and Docia Fritz House  
1325 North Eighteenth  
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas  
Photographed by David Moore  
Winter 1989  
Negative with Texas Historical Commission  
Northeast oblique, camera facing southwest  
Photograph 25 of 48

Charles Motz House  
1842 North Fifth  
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas  
Photographed by David Moore  
Winter 1989  
Negative with Texas Historical Commission  
Southeast oblique, camera facing northwest  
Photograph 26 of 48

West Texas Utilities Company Power Plant  
100 Block North Second  
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas  
Photographed by David Moore  
Winter 1989  
Negative with Texas Historical Commission  
Southwest oblique, camera facing northeast  
Photograph 27 of 48

David S. Castle House  
1742 North Second  
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas  
Photographed by David Moore  
Winter 1989  
Negative with Texas Historical Commission  
South facade, camera facing northwest  
Photograph 28 of 48

2/19/92

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Abilene MPS  
TEXAS

COVER		Date Listed
	<del>Substantive Review</del>	12/18/91
92000225	1915 Taylor County Courthouse	3/23/92
92000193	Abilene Christian College Administration Building	5/23/92
91001811	Abilene Commercial Historic District	12/18/91
92000200	Abilene Fire Station No. 2	3/23/92
92000205	Abilene Street Railway Company Barn	3/23/92
92000191	Abilene and Northern Railway Company Depot <i>owned by</i>	3/23/92
92000214	Ackers, William and Mary, House	3/23/92
92000234	Blanton, Thomas L., House <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000229	Boyd--Hall House	3/23/92
92000206	Caldwell Hall <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000195	Cash, W. A. V., House <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000218	Castle, David S., House <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000211	Chambers, Samuel A., House	3/23/92
92000237	Davis, George R., House	3/23/92
92000199	Dillingham, O. D. and Ada, House	3/23/92
92000222	Dodd--Harkrider House <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000204	Evans, J. W., House	3/23/92
92000228	Federal Building ( <i>now returned</i> )	Ret.
92000210	Finley, Eugene L., House	3/23/92
92000226	First Presbyterian Church <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000215	Fritz, David C. and Docia, House	3/23/92
92000192	Fulwiler, William J., House <i>owned by</i> <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000232	Goodloe, Albert S. and Ruth, House	3/23/92
92000207	Green, Roland A. D., House	3/23/92
92000236	Higginbotham, J. G., House	3/23/92
92000196	House at 1127 Ash Street	3/23/92
92000224	Hughes, Ed S., Company Warehouse	3/23/92
92000212	Jones, A. T., House	3/23/92
92000221	Lanius, C. A., House <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000194	Luce Hall <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000220	Magee, J. D., House	3/23/92
92000201	McDaniel, George W. and Lavina, House	3/23/92
92000219	McDonald Hall	3/23/92
92000209	McMurry College Administration Building <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000198	Minter, William A., House	3/23/92
92000216	Motz, Charles, House	3/23/92
92000230	Parramore, D. D., House	3/23/92
92000223	Radford, James M., Grocery Company Warehouse	3/23/92
92000231	Reading, Jhules, House	3/23/92
92000235	Roberts, Nathan J. and Nancy, House	3/23/92
92000233	Sacred Heart Catholic Church	3/23/92

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 92000218 Date Listed: 3/23/92

David S. Castle House

Property Name

Taylor

County

TX

State

Abilene MPS

Multiple Name

-----  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*fr* *Antonio A. Daze*  
Signature of the Keeper

*3/23/92*  
Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

**Statement of Significance:** Under applicable National Register criteria, B is added.

This information was confirmed with Amy Daze of the Texas State historic preservation office.

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**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Castle, David S., 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: 92000218

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: Y    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    3/23/92 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The David S. Castle House is significant for its association with  
Castle, a prolific architect in Texas who designed nearly  
every major building in Abilene.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept / B+C  
REVIEWER Antoinette G. Lee  
DISCIPLINE History  
DATE 3/23/92

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

Other information of importance to the nomination...

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



DAVID S. CASTLE HOUSE  
1742 NORTH SECOND  
ABILENE, TAYLOR CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 28 of 48

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500625