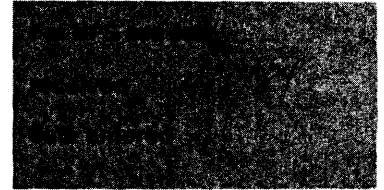


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Item number 1, 2, 4, 7, 8

Page 1

Eddy County, Artesia
Artificial Stone Houses of Artesia Thematic Group

1. Name: Gesler, Edward R., House (Artificial Stone Houses of Artesia Thematic Group)

2. Location: 411 West Missouri Avenue

4. Owner: Richard J. Mareck
P.O. Box 6
Artesia, New Mexico 88210

7. Description: The Edward R. Gesler House is a one-and-a-half story cross-gable roofed house built of artificial stone and reflecting the Queen Anne Style.

The roof is shingled and the gables are sided with clapboard and "fish scale" shingles. A shingled pent roof runs across the base of each gable. Each gable contains two double-hung windows. The other windows in the house are also double-hung.

A bay window projects on the west side of the house. A porch is inset under the north-west corner of the house which is rectangular in plan.

The walls are constructed of "rock face" artificial stone. The window lintels and sills are "smooth face" cast concrete blocks. A belt course of the same material encircles the house at one-quarter of the height of the walls from ground level.

Except for some cracks between the concrete blocks, the house is in good condition. A window has been filled in on both the south and west sides of the house. The house is painted yellow.

8. Significance: The Edward R. Gesler House is significant as a good example of the vernacular residential types built of artificial stone in Artesia soon after the founding of the town.

The house was probably built in 1907 when Edward R. Gesler and his wife, Elida, mortgaged the property to John A. Orr for \$2700. Gesler had a 480-acre farm lying along the railroad four miles south of Artesia. He was a nurseryman who came from Galesburg, Illinois in 1904.

The Gesler farm was said to be one of the show pieces of the Pecos Valley. When he bought the farm land in 1904, he dug his own Artesian well with his own machine. Within a few years he had fifteen acres of cantaloupes, five acres in cucumbers, forty acres in pumpkins and squash, ten acres in wax beans, and five acres in popcorn. On additional acres he grew seed for a Chicago seed house. He fed the melons and pumpkins to hogs and calves. In Artesia, he had a meat market.

Later owners of the house were C. F. Reynolds and Silas Rogers. The Rogers family owned the house from 1921 to 1981.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 2

Eddy County, Artesia
Artificial Stone Houses of Artesia Thematic Group

Gesler, Edward R., House

10. Geographical Data: The nominated property consists of Lot 11 in Block 41 of the Artesia Improvement Company Addition. The lot measures 40' by 140'.

Quadrangle name: Artesia
Quadrangle scale: 7.5 minute

UTM References:

Zone 13 Easting 556000 Northing 3633250