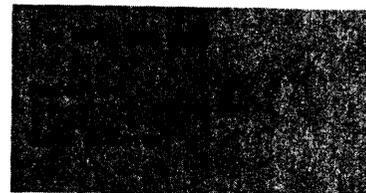


**United States Department of the Interior  
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**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Item number 1, 2, 4, 7, 8

Page 1

Eddy County, Artesia  
Artificial Stone Houses of Artesia Thematic Group

1. Name: Ross, Dr. Robert M., House (Artificial Stone Houses of Artesia Thematic Group)
2. Location: 1002 ~~South~~ Roselawn Avenue
4. Owner: Leonard E. McCutcheon  
#1 Coachman Circle  
Big Springs, Texas 79720
7. Description: The Dr. Robert M. Ross House is a one-and-a-half story gabled roofed cottage with shed roof dormers facing north and south, a bay window at the east end, and a porch inset in the northeast corner. It is constructed of artificial stone and reflects the Queen Anne Style.

The house is rectangular in plan. The roof, gable ends, dormers, and bay window are shingled. The original wooden windows are double-hung; the upper sashes are multi-paned, the lower sashes single-paned. The roof flares at the eaves.

The walls are constructed of "rock face" artificial stone concrete blocks. The blocks are solid-cast. At the corners of the house, a crude, cobblestone-like texture at the ends of the blocks suggests rusticated quoins. A belt course of smooth cast concrete blocks circles the house at the level of the window sills. An open-work pattern of small artificial stone blocks forms the guard rail of the porch and terrace on the east side of the house. These small blocks are solid-cast. Large, smooth face concrete blocks are used for window and door lintels. The house is painted white.

Behind the southeast corner of the house is a wooden lattice-work gazebo with a shingled roof. This is a contributing structure. On the property to the west of the house are a non-contributing garage and a non-contributing house.

The house is in good condition, although the concrete blocks of the porch and terrace guard rail are becoming displaced.

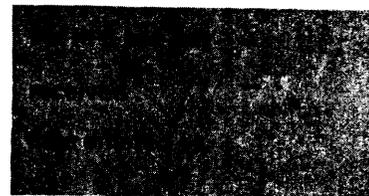
8. Significance: The Dr. Robert M. Ross House is significant as a good example of the vernacular residential types built of artificial stone in Artesia soon after the founding of the town.

The builder of the house, Dr. Robert M. Ross, came to Artesia in 1903 from St. Louis, Missouri where he had been a practicing physician. He had the house constructed about 1904.

Dr. Ross served as the first president of the First National Bank of Artesia, organized in 1903. He and Mrs. Ross were charter members of the First Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Ross served as postmistress and was a founder of the Artesia Library which was first located in the post office. The Rosses also had a farm on the Penasco River near Artesia.

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

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



Continuation sheet

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Page 2

Eddy County, Artesia

Artificial Stone Houses of Artesia Thematic Group

Ross, Dr. Robert M., House (Artificial Stone Houses of Artesia Thematic Group)

Dr. Ross sold the house about 1910 to S. W. Gilbert, who was the second president of the First National Bank of Artesia. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert were also charter members of the First Presbyterian Church, and Mrs. Gilbert was also a founder of the library. Mr. Gilbert had been a teacher in Missouri. He served as Chief Justice of the Municipal Court of Artesia. The gazebo behind the house was built by the Gilberts. In 1917, they sold the property to Mrs. Dora J. Polk.

10. Geographical Data: The nominated property consists of Lot 1 of Block 4 of the Roselawn Subdivision. The lot measures 410' on Center Street and 150' on Roselawn.

Quadrangle name: Artesia  
Quadrangle scale: 7.5 minute

UTM References:

Zone 13 Easting 556200 Northing 3632570