

HISTORIC SITE FORM - HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY

PARK CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (10-08)

1 IDENTIFICATION

Name of Property: **Wilson-Shields House**

Address: 139 Park Avenue

AKA:

City, County: Park City, Summit County, Utah

Tax Number: PC-3X

Current Owner Name: Roman Catholic Church

Parent Parcel(s):

Current Owner Address:

Legal Description (include acreage):

2 STATUS/USE

Property Category

- building(s), main
 building(s), attached
 building(s), detached
 building(s), public
 building(s), accessory
 structure(s)

Evaluation*

- Landmark Site
 Significant Site
 Not Historic

Reconstruction

- Date:
Permit #:
 Full Partial

Use

- Original Use: Residential
Current Use: Residential

- *National Register of Historic Places: ineligible eligible
 listed (date: 7/12/1984 - Mining Boom Era Residences Thematic District)

3 DOCUMENTATION

Photos: Dates

- tax photo:
 prints:
 historic: c.

Drawings and Plans

- measured floor plans
 site sketch map
 Historic American Bldg. Survey
 original plans:
 other:

Research Sources (check all sources consulted, whether useful or not)

- abstract of title
 tax card
 original building permit
 sewer permit
 Sanborn Maps
 obituary index
 city directories/gazetteers
 census records
 biographical encyclopedias
 newspapers
 city/county histories
 personal interviews
 Utah Hist. Research Center
 USHS Preservation Files
 USHS Architects File
 LDS Family History Library
 Park City Hist. Soc/Museum
 university library(ies):
 other:

Bibliographical References (books, articles, interviews, etc.) Attach copies of all research notes and materials.

Blaes, Dina & Beatrice Lufkin. "Final Report." Park City Historic Building Inventory. Salt Lake City: 2007.

Carter, Thomas and Goss, Peter. *Utah's Historic Architecture, 1847-1940: a Guide*. Salt Lake City, Utah:

University of Utah Graduate School of Architecture and Utah State Historical Society, 1991.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1998.

Roberts, Allen. "Final Report." Park City Reconnaissance Level Survey. Salt Lake City: 1995.

Roper, Roger & Deborah Randall. "Residences of Mining Boom Era, Park City - Thematic Nomination." National Register of Historic Places Inventory, Nomination Form. 1984.

4 ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION & INTEGRITY

Building Type and/or Style: T/L cottage

No. Stories: 2

Additions: none minor major (describe below) Alterations: none minor major (describe below)

Number of associated outbuildings and/or structures: accessory building(s), # ____; structure(s), # __1__.

General Condition of Exterior Materials:

Researcher/Organization: Preservation Solutions/Park City Municipal Corporation Date: 12-2008

- Good (Well maintained with no serious problems apparent.)
- Fair (Some problems are apparent. Describe the problems.):
- Poor (Major problems are apparent and constitute an imminent threat. Describe the problems.):
- Uninhabitable/Ruin

Materials (The physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time in a particular pattern or configuration. Describe the materials.):

Site: Stone retaining wall significant aspect of site.

Foundation: Not verified.

Walls: drop siding.

Roof: Cross-wing roof form sheathed in standing seam metal.

Windows/Doors: square casement and grouped double-hung sash type.

Essential Historical Form: Retains Does Not Retain, due to:

Location: Original Location Moved (date _____) Original Location:

Design (The combination of physical elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style. Describe additions and/or alterations from the original design, including dates--known or estimated--when alterations were made): The two-story frame T/L cottage remains unchanged from the description provided in the 1983 National Register nomination form (see Structure/Site Form, 1983).

Setting (The physical environment--natural or manmade--of a historic site. Describe the setting and how it has changed over time.): The setting has not changed from what is seen in the earliest photographs. The lots rises gradually from a stone retaining wall at the street edge.

Workmanship (The physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during a given period in history. Describe the distinctive elements.): The physical evidence from the period that defines this as a typical Park City mining era house are the simple methods of construction, the use of non-beveled (drop-novelty) wood siding, the plan type, the simple roof form, the informal landscaping, the restrained ornamentation, and the plain finishes.

Feeling (Describe the property's historic character.): The physical elements of the site, in combination, convey a sense of life in a western mining town of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Association (Describe the link between the important historic era or person and the property.): The "T" or "L" cottage (also known as a "cross-wing") is one of the earliest and one of the three most common house types built in Park City during the mining era.

This site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984 as part of the *Park City Mining Boom Era Residences Thematic District*. It was built within the historic period, defined as 1872 to 1929 in the district nomination, and retains its historic integrity. As a result, it meets the criteria set forth in LMC Chapter 15-11 for designation as a Landmark Site.

5 SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: Not Known Known: (source:)

Date of Construction: c. 1889¹

Builder: Not Known Known: (source:)

The site must represent an important part of the history or architecture of the community. A site need only be significant under one of the three areas listed below:

¹ NR nomination form, 1983.

1. Historic Era:

- Settlement & Mining Boom Era (1868-1893)
- Mature Mining Era (1894-1930)
- Mining Decline & Emergence of Recreation Industry (1931-1962)

Park City was the center of one of the top three metal mining districts in the state during Utah's mining boom period of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and it is one of only two major metal mining communities that have survived to the present. Park City's houses are the largest and best-preserved group of residential buildings in a metal mining town in Utah. As such, they provide the most complete documentation of the residential character of mining towns of that period, including their settlement patterns, building materials, construction techniques, and socio-economic make-up. The residences also represent the state's largest collection of nineteenth and early twentieth century frame houses. They contribute to our understanding of a significant aspect of Park City's economic growth and architectural development as a mining community.²

2. Persons (Describe how the site is associated with the lives of persons who were of historic importance to the community or those who were significant in the history of the state, region, or nation):

3. Architecture (Describe how the site exemplifies noteworthy methods of construction, materials or craftsmanship used during the historic period or is the work of a master craftsman or notable architect):

6 PHOTOS

Digital color photographs are on file with the Planning Department, Park City Municipal Corp.

Photo No. 1: Northeast oblique (primary façade). Camera facing southwest, 2006.

Photo No. 2: Northeast oblique (primary façade). Camera facing southwest, 1995.

Photo No. 3: Southeast oblique. Camera facing northwest, 1983.

² From "Residences of Mining Boom Era, Park City - Thematic Nomination" written by Roger Roper, 1984.

Structure/Site Information Form

IDENTIFICATION 1

Street Address: 139 Park Park City, Summit County, Utah UTM: 12 458210 4498750
 Name of Structure: Wilson-Shields House T. R. S.
 Present Owner: Roman Catholic Church
 Owner Address: P.O. Box 669, Park City, Utah 84060
 Year Built (Tax Record): Effective Age: Tax#: PC 3X
 Legal Description: Kind of Building:
 Lots 5-10, 21-28 portions of Lots 4 and 29 Block 1, Park City Survey, being in Section 16, T2S R4E Salt Lake Base and Meridian .67 acres.

STATUS/USE 2

Original Owner: probably Martha F. Wilson Construction Date: c. 1889 Demolition Date:
 Original Use: Residence Present Use:
 Building Condition: Integrity: Preliminary Evaluation: Final Register Status:
 Excellent Site Unaltered Significant Not of the National Landmark District
 Good Ruins Minor Alterations Contributory Historic Period National Register Multi-Resource
 Deteriorated Major Alterations Not Contributory State Register Thematic

DOCUMENTATION 3

Photography: Date of Slides: 1983 Slide No.: Date of Photographs: 1983 Photo No.:
 Views: Front Side Rear Other Views: Front Side Rear Other
 Research Sources:
 Abstract of Title Sanborn Maps Newspapers U of U Library
 Plat Records/ Map City Directories Utah State Historical Society BYU Library
 Tax Card & Photo Biographical Encyclopedias Personal Interviews USU Library
 Building Permit Obituary Index LDS Church Archives SLC Library
 Sewer Permit County & City Histories LDS Genealogical Society Other Census Records

Bibliographical References (books, articles, records, interviews, old photographs and maps, etc.):

1900 Census Records. Summit County, Park City Precinct, p. 183-B.
 Park Record. December 12, 1919, p. 1. Henry Shields obituary.

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Building Materials: Wood

Building Type/Style: T/L Plan House

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:
(Include additions, alterations, ancillary structures, and landscaping if applicable)

This house is a two story frame house with a T/L plan, a one story rear shed extension on the southwest corner, and a gable roof. There is a difference in the roof heights of the two wings which probably indicates that the house was built in two sections, although the house is shown in its current configuration on the 1889 Sanborn Insurance Map. It is likely that the cross-wing, the larger of the two wings, was added to an existing 1 1/2 story hall and parlor house. A porch supported on slender piers spans the east side of the stem-wing. The north corner of the porch was enclosed to form a vestibule sometime after 1900, as indicated on the Sanborn Insurance Map. It, however, was built of drop siding that matches the rest of the building, dates within the historic period, and does not affect the original character of the building. There are two windows per story on the gable end of the cross-wing, the two over two double hung sash type on the second story, and the one over one double hung sash type on the first story. There are two square, single pane windows over the porch roof of the stem-wing. There is a second story door in the north wall, and a door and two windows in the south wall. The window openings in the south wall are not original, but do not detract from the original character of the building. The main roof extends over the one
(See continuation sheet)

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date: c. 1889

Built c. 1889, the Wilson-Shields House at 139 Park is architecturally significant as one of only two well preserved large houses with a T/L plan by addition. The other example is 920 Norfolk, and is included in this nomination. The typical T/L cottage by addition is a one story building, a hall and parlor house with a cross-wing added to one end. This house was included, however, with the one story T/L cottages when the numbers of various Park City house types were analyzed. T/L cottages by addition make up 9% of the total number of in-period buildings, and represent 30% of the total number of houses with T/L plans. The scale of this house is larger than any other examples of the type. It has a one and one half story stem-wing, and a two story cross-wing. The house at 920 Norfolk by contrast has a one story stem-wing, and a one and one half story cross-wing. This house represents one extreme of the range of possibility of the T/L cottage by addition. This house is also historically significant for its association with Henry Shields, a prominent attorney in the Park City area, who served as Park City Attorney, Summit County Attorney, and Summit County Probate Judge.

This house was built by at least 1889, as indicated by the Sanborn Insurance Maps, having probably been built that year for Martha F. Wilson. In 1884, Robert N. Wilson, apparently Martha's husband, and William Dix together purchased this and some adjacent property from Mrs. Gillia A. Brack. Their mortgage that year for \$300 may have been to finance the construction of this house, or perhaps only the original section of this house, which appears to have been constructed in two sections. However, since both Wilson and Dix were involved in the deal, it is more likely that the mortgage was to finance other real estate or business ventures, rather than to construct a private
(See continuation sheet)

139 Park

Description continued:

story rear extension. In-period rear extensions are part of Park City's architectural vocabulary. Although in many cases an extension represents a major alteration of the original house, it usually contributes to the significance of a house because it documents the most common and acceptable method of expansion of the small Park City house. The exterior alterations that have been made to this house are minor, and it maintains its original character.

History continued:

residence In October of 1889, Carrie Hirschmann, a local contractor, placed a lien on this property for unpaid materials and services which he had furnished in completing a house, or perhaps the second portion of this house, for Martha Wilson on August 30, 1889.¹ Dix had deeded his interest in the property to Martha in May of that same year, apparently to give her sole ownership in the property preparatory to her having the house constructed. Judging from Martha's marriage in 1890 to a Mr. E.M. Gillis, Robert Wilson had apparently died at some point between 1884 and 1889. The Gillises owned this house until 1892.

Henry and Aramintha Shields purchased this property in 1892, and it remained in their family for the next 29 years. Henry was one of the prominent attorneys in Park City and Summit County during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Born in Belfast, Ireland in 1842, he came to the U.S. with his parents at the age of eight. He came to Utah in 1871, settling in the mining camp of Alta, after having worked in the mines in Montana during the late 1860s. He had previously worked as a boilermaker in New York and as a fireman on a Mississippi River boat. In Alta, Henry engaged in mining activity and also served as deputy U.S. marshall for several years. He moved to Park City in 1879, and three years later began practicing law, although he was not admitted to the bar until 1889. He was a partner for a time with W.I. Snyder, another prominent Park City attorney of the period. In 1888, he was appointed to the position of probate judge for Summit County, a position which he held for at least three terms. He later served two years each as Summit County Attorney and Park City Attorney. He and his wife, Aramintha Bates Shields, had three children.

The Shields apparently lived in this house until Henry's death in 1919. The property was then transferred to one of their daughters, Margaret Shields Worel, who sold it in 1921 to George Kelly. That same year, Kelly sold it to the Roman Catholic Church, the current owners, whose church is located adjacent to this property.



Wilson/Shields House

139 Park

Park City, Summit County, Utah

View from Southeast corner

Photo by Roger Roper, October 1983

Negative: Utah State Historical Society





NO
PARKING
BETWEEN
POLES



1000

