

HISTORIC NAME: Gifford House  
 COMMON NAME: Grand Ave. Church  
                   Parsonage  
 ADDRESS: 112 S. Grand, Bozeman  
 LEGAL BOUNDARY: Alderson's Addition,  
                   Blk B, Lots 15-20  
 OWNER'S NAME: Grand Avenue Christian Church  
 OWNER ADDRESS: 110 S. Grand, Bozeman  
 SPECIFIC DATE: 1894  
 ARCHITECT: Unknown  
 BUILDER: Alden B. Gifford  
 ORIGINAL OWNER: Alden Gifford  
 ORIGINAL USE: residence  
 PRESENT USE: parsonage  
 UTM REFERENCE: 12/496950/5058050  
 ACREAGE: less than one  
 U.S.G.S. QUAD: Bozeman, 1953



## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Applicable Criteria: C  
 Number of Contributing Properties: 1

This frame, vernacular Queen Anne style house is of architectural significance as a distinctive example of a relatively unusual style in Bozeman. The house is very well preserved. It was built in 1894 by Alden B. Gifford, a carpenter from New York who settled in Montana in 1882. E.B. Gifford, probably a relative and also a carpenter, built a similar house in 1900 nearby at 216 S. Grand Ave., located in the Bon Ton Historic District.

The house is also associated with both the tourist industry focused on Yellowstone Park, and the Grand Avenue Christian Church. By 1900, William W. Wylie had moved into this house, and remained here until about 1908. Wylie is listed in the 1900 and 1904 city directories as a "teamster", president and secretary of the Wylie Camping Co., and manager of the "Burket & Wylie" grocery and hay business. He was born in Ohio in 1848, came to Bozeman in 1878, and eventually served as superintendent of instruction for Montana in 1886 and 1887. At about this time he founded the Yellowstone National Park Transportation Company, also known as the Wylie Camping Co., which was an early tourist operation which took parties on tours of the park. In about 1908, the adjacent Grand Avenue Christian Church bought the house as a parsonage for \$1500. Reverend McHargue was the first pastor to live in it. The house remains in church ownership today.

## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

This two-story, single-family residence has an irregular plan with a wrap-around hip-roofed porch across the front. The porch features a spindle railing, turned wood posts, and 4" reveal bevel siding around the skirting. The facade is asymmetrical and features 1/1 double-hung windows and a central cottage window fixed with an elaborate stained glass transom. The frame construction is finished in 4" beveled siding on the first floor, shingles on the second floor (flared out at second floor line) and vertical wainscoting in the gable ends with 1" x 4" lattice covering. The structure sets on a cut stone and

concrete foundation. The gable roof is covered with cedar shingles and features gable-roofed dormers. The axis of the roof is perpendicular to the street. There is a central brick chimney.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Application for Sewer Connection: March 28, 1905, W.W. Wylie  
Republican Courier: May 12, 1908, p.6 (article confirms date of construction)  
Tract Record and other research conducted for original survey in 1983  
City Directories: 1892, p. 113; 1900, p. 201; 1904-5, p. 180; 1910

FORM PREPARED BY: James R. McDonald, P.C. (1983-84); Matthew Cohen (1985-86 revision);  
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Roll # 79 Frame # 18