

Structure/Site Information Form

IDENTIFICATION 1

Street Address: 355 Ontario UTM: 12 458350 4499090
 Name of Structure: Park City, Summit County, Utah
 Levins D. Gray House T. R. S.
 Present Owner: Lula Collins
 Owner Address: c/o K. W. Everson
 314 Narcissus Street, Corona Del Mar, CA 92625
 Year Built (Tax Record): Effective Age: Tax #: PC 449
 Legal Description: Kind of Building:
 Lots 17, 18, and 19 Block 54 Park City Survey
 Less than one acre.

STATUS/USE 2

Original Owner: Levins D. Gray Construction Date: 1902 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.):
Salt Lake Tribune. October 18, 1948, p. 18. Levins D. Gray obituary.

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Building Materials: Wood

Building Type/Style: Pyramid House (variant)

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:

(Include additions, alterations, ancillary structures, and landscaping if applicable)

This house is a one story frame house with a truncated hip roof. It is a variant of the pyramid house type. Elements of this house that are common to the pyramid house are the truncated hip roof and the square plan. Dormers were also typical of the pyramid house, but the dormer on this house is a recent addition. It, however, was built in a scale and of materials that are complementary to and appropriate for this house type. Instead of having a porch spanning a symmetrical facade, as was the typical facade arrangement of a pyramid house, the northwest corner was recessed to form a small front porch. The porch spans half of the facade, which consists of a door and a window. It is supported on lathe turned piers which have decorative brackets at the tops, and the balustrade has a geometric design. This type of balustrade was a popular element of the Victorian period, but there are few extant examples of the type in Park City. Because porch elements are the first to deteriorate and be replaced, it is difficult to determine if indeed this type of decoration was common in the area. A broad single sash and transom window is centered on the other half of the facade. There is a second entrance on the north side of the building. A shed extension was added to the rear of the house with a section of the shed extending beyond the north wall. The separate entrance into that extension probably provides access to a coal (See continuation sheet)

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date: 1902

The Levins D. Gray House, built in 1902, at 355 Ontario is architecturally significant as one of only five well preserved examples of a variant of the pyramid house. The pyramid house is one of the three most common house types built during the early period of Park City's mining boom era and was built with a number of variations. This one is characterized by the typical square form and a hip roof, but is distinguished from the basic pyramid house in that instead of having a porch spanning the facade, the porch is set into a recessed section of the facade. Pyramid houses make up about 20% of the total number of in-period buildings in Park City, and about 30% of the pyramid houses are included in this nomination.

Levins D. and Stella Gray purchased this property in October of 1901, and had this house built the following spring. A lien was placed on this property in April of 1902 by the Summit Lumber Company for non-payment of a portion of the \$546.77-worth of materials used to construct the "one story dwelling house on Lots 18 and 19."¹ Neighboring houses were also constructed at about that time as the area was being rebuilt after the great fire of 1898. It is unknown whether the Grays used this house as their own home or as rental property. They sold it in 1909.

Levins De Eston Gray was born in New York in 1856 and came to Park City in 1888, probably drawn by the opportunity to work in the booming mining industry there. He worked in some of the mills in Park City for many years. In 1916, one year after Stella's death, Levins moved to Salt Lake City, where he was engaged in the lumber business and remained until his death in 1948.

Frank J. McLaughlin, a postman, bought this house in 1909 and lived there until 1921. Subsequent owners include R.B. Dunbar (1921-27) and Lawrence L. Martin (1927-78).

355 Ontario

Description continued:

or wood storage area. This type of extension was extremely common. 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 house is in excellent condition and has received no alterations which have affected its original integrity.

History continued:

¹Summit County Records, Liens Book "B" page 63.