

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 ususally 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 trasferred 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.