

# Architectural And Historic Survey

## Identification

<b>STREET ADDRESS:</b> 1702 Gordon Avenue	<b>HISTORIC NAME:</b> Wood-Bidgood House
<b>MAP &amp; PARCEL:</b> 9-1	<b>DATE / PERIOD:</b> 1891, c. 1910
<b>CENSUS TRACT AND BLOCK:</b>	<b>STYLE:</b>
<b>PRESENT ZONING:</b> R-2	<b>HEIGHT (to cornice) OR STORIES:</b> 2½ storeys
<b>ORIGINAL OWNER:</b> Thomas T. Wood	<b>DIMENSIONS AND LAND AREA:</b> 100' x 80.5' (8,050 sq. ft.)
<b>ORIGINAL USE:</b> Residence	<b>CONDITION:</b> Good
<b>PRESENT USE:</b> Fraternity House	<b>SURVEYOR:</b> Bibb
<b>PRESENT OWNER:</b> Column Club, Inc. (Phi Sigma Kappa)	<b>DATE OF SURVEY:</b> Winter, 1982
<b>ADDRESS:</b> P. O. Box 254	<b>SOURCES:</b> City/County Records
Ch'ville, VA 22902	Sanborn Map Co., - 1920

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This house apparently originally faced east toward Seventeenth Street. Later, after the addition of a west wing, it was re-oriented toward Gordon Avenue on the north, ignoring the lack of continuity between the two sections. The original section is 2½ storeys tall, two bays wide (eastern elevation) and double pile. It is set on a low brick foundation with a full basement. Walls are stuccoed and painted white with black trim. It has a high-pitched hip roof with steep gables over projecting bays on the east and north and an extension of the hip roof over a semi-octagonal projecting bay on the south side. The roof is covered with slate and has exposed rafter ends. There is one interior chimney with a small cap. There are two hip-roofed, stuccoed dormers on the south elevation, each with a 4-light casement window with plain trim. There is a shed-roofed, slate-walled dormer with a pair of 4-light casement windows on the west elevation. A semi-elliptical arched third storey balcony with a broad and steep gable roof is set into the roof in the north bay of the east facade. It has a door flanked by two small windows in a Palladian window effect. Below it, the roof bends into a steeper shed roof above the entrance. The large windows are double-sash, 2-over-2 light, with architrave trim. Some are arranged in pairs, and they are nearly the same height at all three levels. Windows in the side planes of the semi-octagonal bay are narrow 1-over-1 light and in the center plane are paired 1-over-1 at the 2nd level and a single wide 3-over-3 at the first level. There is a pair of 6-light casement windows above the east entrance. At one time a one-storey veranda covered the east facade. It was replaced with a small entrance porch c. 1920. There is a nearly identical porch on the north facade. They have steep hip roofs covered with slate with boxed cornice, plain frieze, square pillars (paired on the east porch), no balustrade, and brick-bordered concrete floors. The north porch has built-in wooden benches between the pillars. Both entrance doors are multi-light over four panels with architrave trim. The east door is somewhat wider, and the north door has a 2-light rectangular transom. In the eastern bay of the south elevation, there is a pair of French doors with a transom, sheltered by a slate shed-roofed hood. This would suggest that there was once a veranda there, but the Sanborn maps do not show one. The 2-storey west wing nearly doubles the size of the house. It has a low-pitched hip roof which dips into a steeper pitched shed roof at the western end. It is covered with standing-seam metal and has exposed rafter ends. Because of the slope of the land, the basement is above ground at the west and south. The walls are stuccoed, and the windows on the north facade are similar to those in the original section.

## HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

Thomas T. Wood purchased three lots in Preston Heights in 1891 (ACDB 95-383) and built this house the same year, according to tax records. He sold it to Mrs. Belle M. Bidgood in 1902 (ACDB 123-243). Tax records suggest that the addition was built c. 1910 by Mrs. Bidgood's children, to whom she had left the house in 1909 (ACWB 31-437). Ellen S. Shaw bought the house from the Bidgoods in 1927 (City DB 58-116) and sold it in 1931 to A. P. Walker (DB 74-111), who sold it to Annie Atkinson Walker (Mrs. Charles M. Walker) in 1941 (DB 108-247). Apparently it was the Walkers who stuccoed the house and changed its orientation from Seventeenth Street to Gordon Avenue. In 1952 Mrs. Walker sold the house to Chi Corporation of Zeta Beta Tau for use as a fraternity house (DB 164-397). In 1958 Zeta Beta Tau purchased a house on Maury Avenue and sold this house to Allen J. Berry, et al (DB 204-432), who immediately resold it to Column Club, Inc. (DB 208-322), the house corporation of Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity which has occupied the house since that time.

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# VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File No. 104-130

Negative no(s). 7215

## HISTORIC DISTRICT SURVEY FORM

Page 1 of 2 (see also 3 attached sheets)

Street address 1702 Gordon Ave.

Town/City Charlottesville

Historic name Wood-Bidgood House

Common name Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity House

- Material
- wood frame (siding:  weatherboard,  shingle,  aluminum,  bricktex,  \_\_\_\_\_)
  - brick (bond:  Flemish,  stretcher,  \_\_\_\_\_-course American,  \_\_\_\_\_)
  - stone ( random rubble,  random ashlar,  coursed ashlar,  \_\_\_\_\_)
  - log (siding:  weatherboard,  shingle,  aluminum,  bricktex,  \_\_\_\_\_)
  - stucco  cast iron
  - concrete block  ter a cotta
  - enameled steel  glass and metal
  - other: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Stories	Roof Type	Roof Material
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2½ <input type="checkbox"/> 1½ <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> shed <input type="checkbox"/> mansard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gable <input type="checkbox"/> gambrel <input type="checkbox"/> pediment <input type="checkbox"/> parapet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> hipped <input type="checkbox"/> flat <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> slate <input type="checkbox"/> tile <input type="checkbox"/> wood shingle <input type="checkbox"/> pressed tin <input type="checkbox"/> composition <input type="checkbox"/> not visible <input type="checkbox"/> standing seam metal <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Dormers	Number of bays — Main facade
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> shed <input type="checkbox"/> hipped <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> gable <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> pedimented	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 7 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 <i>asym.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/> _____

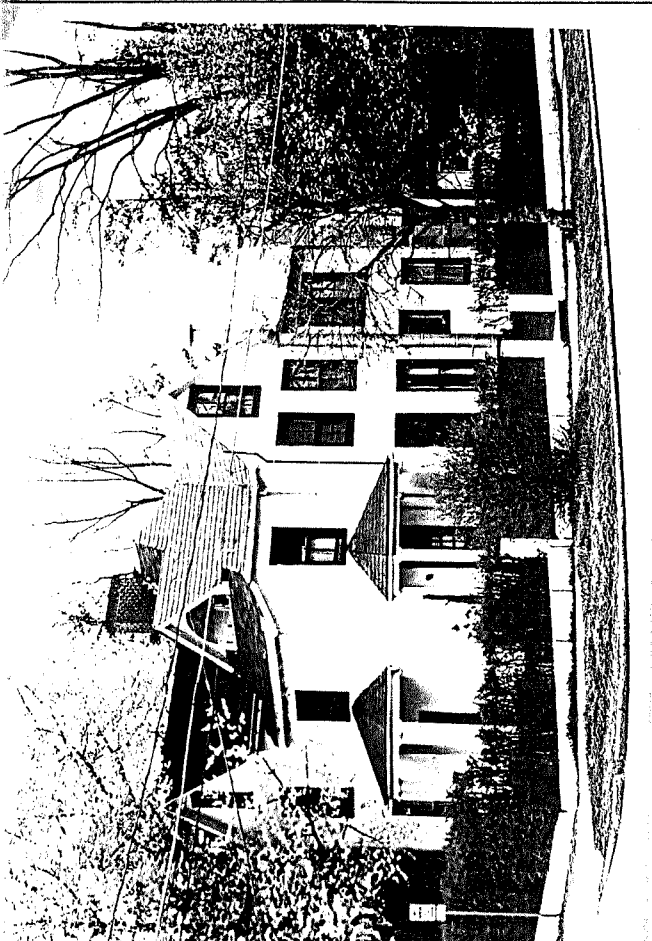
Porch	Stories	Bays	General description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 (center) <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 (side) <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<p>Two small hipped-roofed porches with paired square posts.</p>

Building type

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> detached house	<input type="checkbox"/> garage	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
<input type="checkbox"/> detached town house	<input type="checkbox"/> farmhouse	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial (office)	<input type="checkbox"/> school
<input type="checkbox"/> row house	<input type="checkbox"/> apartment building	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial (store)	<input type="checkbox"/> church
<input type="checkbox"/> double house	<input type="checkbox"/> gas station	<input type="checkbox"/> railroad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>fraternity house</u>

Style/period Queen Anne Date 1911; c. 1910 Architect/builder

Location and description of entrance two entrances; one on Gordon and one of 17th St.



Miscellaneous descriptive information (plan, exterior and interior decoration, cornice/eave type, window type and trim, chimneys, additions, alterations)

This house is distinguished from others in the neighborhood by its stucco cladding, double entrances, complex roofline, and gable pierced by an arch that provides an attic-level porch.

Historical information

This house originally faced on 17th Street. It served as the home of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity house ca. 1912-1958. Since 1958 it has been home to Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity.

Corks & Curls, 1954 and 1968; City Landmarks survey; Source Eugenia Bibb; Real Estate Dept., etc.

R-2  
100x80.5  
(8050)

1702 Gordon Ave  
(502 17th NW)

P.O. Box 254

- 208-322 Colum Club Inc, 1958 \$23,500 plat 58-117
- 204-432 Allen J Booy et al " "
- 164-397 Chi Corp. of Z B Tau 1952
- Annie A Walker " "

Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity

2-3, basement, 13 rooms, 4 1/2 baths

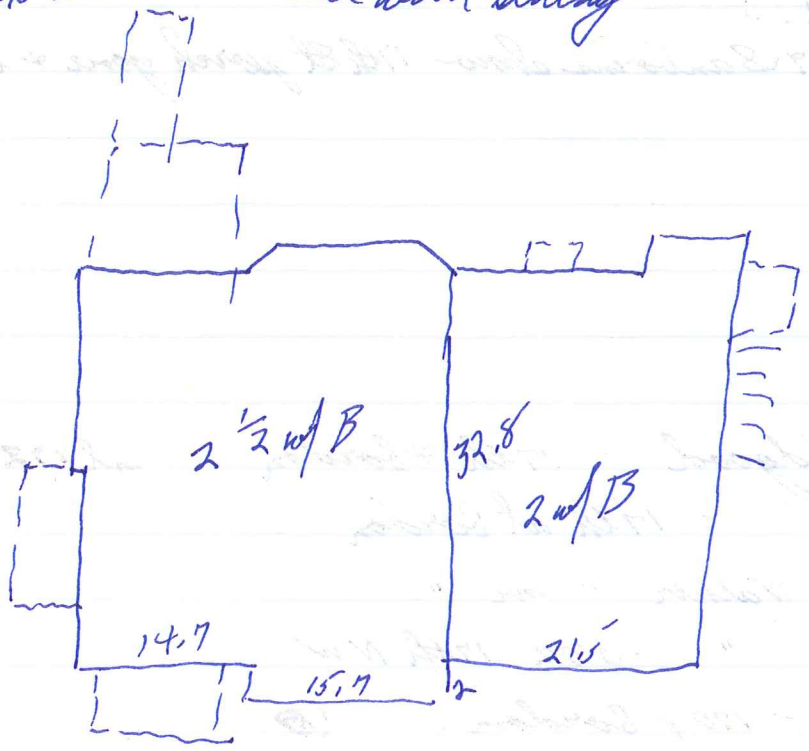
brick found., stucco, slate & metal gable  
2 fireplaces

built 1892-1902; "old-remodeled"

1976 - alterations & repairs

Apr 1958 stucco over wood siding

Wood-Bidgood House  
1892, 1910?



City Dir shows 17th St address 1931  
Gordon Ave " 1945

1953 City Dir ~~Phi Sigma Kappa~~ - 1702 Gordon Ave  
Zeta Beta Tau  
Phi Sigma Kappa - 163 Chancellor St  
1962, 70 " " " - 1702 Gordon Ave  
1962, 70 Zeta Beta Tau - 124 Manay Ave  
1910-11 City Dir Belle M Bidgood (wid Willis D) - Preston Heights  
1914-15 " Bidgood n l

U Va annuals show ZBT in another house 1952, & there 1953,  
walls already stuccoed 1953

Sanborn maps show house as one unit.

1920 Sanborn shows 1-storey porch covering 17th St facade,  
nothing on Gordon Ave or S side, & 1-storey back porch SW  
corner:

Feb 1920 & 1929 Sanborns show 17th St porch gone & back porch  
enclosed.

1924 City Dir Miss Belle Bidgood - 17th & Gordon n l 1927, 31, 36  
1937 Rev. F Shaw - 17th at Gordon  
1936 Chas M & Annie A Walker " " "  
1940 " " " - 502 17th NW  
" , 45, 44, 48, 50 Belle Bidgood - 1704 Gordon (C)  
1945, 44, 48, 50 Annie Walker (wid Chas) - 1702 Gordon - furn same

1702 Gordon Ave

164-397 Annie Atkinson Walker (wid) → Chil. of ZBT \$32,500  
5/31/1952 lot of impts at SW corner 17th NW & Gordon Ave, 100' x 80-100'  
see plat 50-117  
same as 108-247

108-247 A. P. Walker (s) → Annie Atkinson Walker  
4/21/1941 SW corner 17th & Gordon  
same as 74-111; see plat 58-117

74-111 Ellen S & Pervin F. Shaw → AP Walker  
8/5/1931 lot of impts at SW corner 17th & Gordon, incl furniture  
same as 58-116

58-116 Belle Bidgood (s), Lee & Emily S. Bidgood → Ellen S. Shaw \$12,500  
9/2/1927 lot at SW corner 17th & Gordon  
part of ACDB 123-243  
Belle M. Bidgood dec 1909 (ACWB 31-437), leaving property  
to son & dau.

ACDB Thos T & Jessie P Wood → Mrs Belle M. Bidgood \$3700  
123-243 Lots 1, 2, & 3 of Block 1, Preston Hgts (plat ACDB 97-346)  
6/2/1902 same as ACDB 95-383, 7/8/1891, ~~plat~~ for Ch. West End Land Co  
Jessie P. Wood is former wife of Thos T Wood

95-383 \$700  
7/8/1891

Tap

1892, 96, 1900 <sup>01</sup>	Thos T Wood	3 lots PH	300 + 2000 = 2300	for WELCo
1903, 04	Mrs Belle M. Bidgood	PH	" " "	for Thos T Wood
1908, 09, 10	Mrs Belle M "	"	350 + " = 2350	
1911	Belle Lee "	"	" + 2500 = 2850	

17th & Gordon

2 1/2 bays, double-pile 4-6-bay N

low brick found

white stucco w/ black trim

<sup>date</sup> steep hipped roof w/ steep gables over proj. bay on E (S) & N (W)  
exposed rafter ends; hipped extension of semi-act. proj.  
bay S (W)

wing W section has low-pitched 5/5 m hips w/ steeper shed over last bay  
eaves same

int. brick chim E, sm. cap

cont. as low gable-roofed  
proj. bay rear

3rd. storey porch set into roof in E N bay E side:  
steep gable roof, semi-hipped - arched balcony, (6 posts)  
door flanked by 2 sm wind in Palladian effect  
roof below it bends into steeper shed to E

large windows 2/2 w/ oak trim, some paired, <sup>nearly</sup> same ht. <sup>all 3</sup> levels,  
pr 6-l casement over E. ent. ~~sl. shorter in W wing~~  
1/1 in semi-act. bay, paired in center plane at 2nd, wide 3/3 1st

2 hip-roofed stuccoed dormers on S el, 4-l casement w/ plain trim.  
slate-walled, shed-roofed dormer on W, pr " " " "







# 423

1702 Gordon Avenue

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE

Department of Community Development

City Hall

Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

