

**BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY \_\_\_\_\_

DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION  
ALBANY, NEW YORK (518) 474-0479

UNIQUE SITE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
QUAD \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIES \_\_\_\_\_  
NEG. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR NAME: William J. Tomaszewski  
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY  
ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

DATE: May 1, 1992  
TELEPHONE: (607)255-6851

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**IDENTIFICATION**

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Coming VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 135-37 Cedar Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [ ] b. private [ X ]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Carmen Miller ADDRESS: 135 Cedar Street, Coming, NY 14830
- 6. USE: Original: Residential Present: Residential/Commercial
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes [ X ] No [ ]  
Interior accessible: Yes [ ] No [ X ] Explain: Private Residence

**DESCRIPTION**

- 8. BUILDING MATERIAL
  - a. clapboard [ ] b. stone [ ] c. brick [ ] d. board & batten [ ]
  - e. cobblestone [ ] f. shingles [ X ] g. stucco [ ] other:
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
  - a. wood frame with interlocking joints [ ]
  - b. wood frame with light members [ X ]
  - c. masonry load bearing walls [ ]
  - d. metal (explain)
  - e. other
- 10. CONDITION:
  - a. excellent [ X ] b. good [ ] c. fair [ ] d. deteriorated [ ]
- 11. INTEGRITY:
  - a. original site [ X ] b. moved [ ] if so, when?
  - c. list major alterations and dates (if known):
- 12. PHOTO:
- 13. MAP:

14. THREATS TO BUILDING:

- a. none known  b. zoning  c. roads   
d. developers  e. deterioration   
f. other:

15. RELATED OUT BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:

- a. barn  b. carriage house  c. garage   
d. privy  e. shed  f. greenhouse   
g. shop  h. gardens   
i. landscape features  
j. other:

16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (CHECK MORE THAN ONE IF NECESSARY)

- a. open land  b. woodland   
c. scattered buildings   
d. densely built-up  e. commercial   
f. industrial  g. residential   
h. other:

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDINGS AND SURROUNDINGS:

(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

See Continuation Sheet

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

(Including interior features if known):

See Continuation Sheet

**SIGNIFICANCE**

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: before 1888

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

CONTINUATION SHEET, page 1  
135-137 Cedar Street  
Corning, New York

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

The structure is located on the west side of Cedar Street between First Street and Denison Parkway. The surrounding buildings are a mix of residential, ecclesiastical, and commercial, especially those on Denison Parkway. This structure has a setback similar to its neighbors and is notable because it is located between Christ Episcopal Church and a commercial building on Denison Parkway. The building has no yard and a parking lot in the rear.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

The structure does not fit easily in to a defined style but has massing similar to the Greek Revival Style with a low-pitched gabled roof and a cornice return. Elements of the building such as the paired columns on the porches and the shutters are associated with the Colonial Revival Styles. These styles were popular between 1820 - 1860 and 1880 - 1940, respectively. The structure has obviously undergone many changes and renovations over the years.

The massing of the structure is asymmetrical, with a saltbox roof form (gable facing the street) projecting from a rectangular wing with a hipped form. This creates an L-shaped plan. A one-story flat roof addition is positioned along the northern side of the building at the termination of the saltbox slope. Three porches with flat roofs rest on paired Ionic columns under full entablatures. The entire building is covered in wooden square butt shingles.

21. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

The first visible evidence of the structure is on the 1888 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map. The structure is evident from the footprint and shows an attached shed positioned along the alley to the rear of the house. The shed was removed sometime after 1908 and is now a parking lot.

CONTINUATION SHEET, page 2  
135-137 Cedar Street  
Corning, New York

## 21. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE (CONTINUED):

A map of the City of Corning (Harry C. Heermans, 1893) details the ownership of each property in the city and shows the name C. A. Rubright on the property. City Directory research revealed that Rubright lived at this address between 1893 and 1915. Around 1903 the property was divided into a two-family home (135 and 137 Cedar Street) and George M. Russell, a fireman for the NYC Railroad, became the resident of 135 Cedar Street.

A brief biography of C.A. Rubright is documented in Landmarks of Steuben County (H. Hakes, 1896) and the Andaste Inquirer (C. Blakeslee, April 1972). Charles A. Rubright was born in Meilhausen, Prussia on May 14, 1842, and came to America in 1845. In 1860, he moved from Maryland to Williamsport, Pennsylvania with his mother. In July of 1861, Rubright enlisted in the Union Army in Company F, 106th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers and fought in many battles of the Civil War until he was captured and imprisoned in Andersonville, Georgia.

In 1865, Rubright and his new wife Amelia moved from Williamsport to Corning. In 1878, Rubright founded The Corning Brick Works. The manufacturing of terra cotta began in December of 1889. Bricks from the Corning Brick Works were used to build several chimneys for Corning Glass Works and the Corning Opera House. Morris E. Gregory purchased the Corning Brick Works in 1896 and changed the name to the Corning Brick and Terra Cotta Supply Company.

The Corning City Directory of 1893 lists Charles A. Rubright as the president of the Corning Brick and Terra Cotta Company with a home at 137 Cedar Street. Rubright lived at this address until his death in February of 1915.

## 21. SOURCES:

Corning City Directories; Steuben County Deeds; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, 1888, 1893, 1898, 1903, 1908; Maps of Corning, 1857, 1893; Assessment Records; Landmarks of Steuben County, by Harlo Hakes, 1896.



135-137 Cedar ↗