

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: Siobhán K. Kelly
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY
ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

DATE: Fall 1993
TELEPHONE: (607) 255-4331

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): The Thierfeldt House
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 249 Cedar Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [x]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Jean A. Griffin ADDRESS: Same
- 6. USE: Original: single-family residence Present: single-family residence
- 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: asbestos
- 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): See Continuation Sheet
- 12. PHOTO:
- 13. MAP:

14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known b. zoning c. roads
d. developers e. deterioration
f. other:
15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS 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:

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: ca. 1865

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES:

It is believed that in the 1890s a one-story addition and accompanying porch were added to the north of the original structure. That porch was situated at the northeast corner. In 1903, a three-sided projecting bay was removed from the eastern facade of the original structure. A northeastern porch was extended to conceal the position where the bay window had been. Furthermore, an east-west gabled extension was added to the north-south cross gable, and a one-story porch was constructed at the southwest corner of the house. Sometime after 1948 Edition of the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, the southwestern porch was enclosed. On May 27, 1972, Mary Graham was issued a permit to remove a one-story garage from the property although it is not clear where this structure was situated. In 1973, Permit # 7615 was granted to Frederick Graham to replace the roof of the house at a cost of \$1,436.00. Vinyl windows have replaced the original wood sash.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

The house at 249 Cedar Street is situated on the northwest corner lot at the junction of East Fifth and Cedar streets. It is located on the southern third of Lot 16, Block 55 as laid out on the Brewer and Canfield map of Corning (1855). This lot slopes downhill toward the north. Because of this decline, the house has traditionally experienced water drainage problems with the run-off from East Fifth Street on its southern edge. Although the house is similar in size, setback, scale, and age to its neighbors, it is positioned very close to the building on the north. To the west, however, there is a vacant lot between this house and the house at 31 East Fifth Street. The main entrance faces east on Cedar Street, but the house is easily accessible and highly visible from East Fifth Street, as well.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

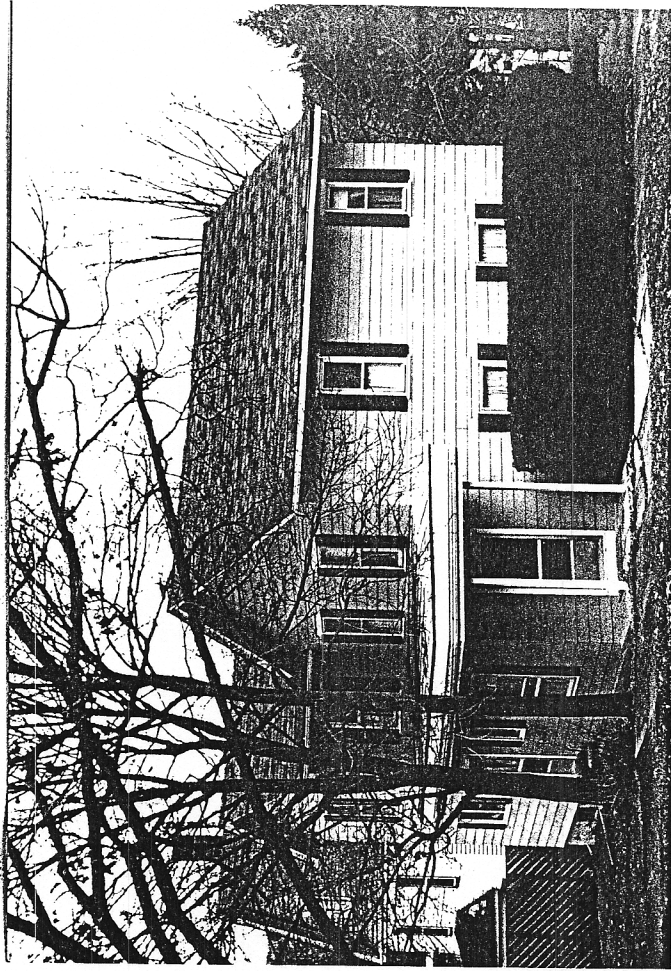
The residence at 249 Cedar Street is a two-and-one-half story gable-front-&-wing structure (as defined by Gottfried and Jennings) with an additional east-west gable extending to the rear of the house on its northwestern end. The original house, currently the southern portion, consisted of a simple linear, two-bay, front-gabled structure facing the east. The main entrance is still in the northernmost bay of this facade. A two-story, cross gable bisects the northern facade. All of the roofs are of moderate pitch and covered in asphalt shingles. There is an interior central brick chimney, but this is non-functioning. The siding on the lower two stories is asbestos shingle, while the upper story of the main gable has decorative wooden shingles in an octagon pattern. All of the windows have been replaced by one-over-one, vinyl-encased sash. The original front door remains, however, hidden beneath a modern storm door. This heavy oak door is composed of three horizontal panels in its lower half, a row of dentils in the middle, and a large glass light above. The simple roofed porch on the eastern facade is augmented by a triangular pediment right above the front door. The porch roof is supported by five square-cut posts. Wooden latticework serves as the porchskirt. The foundation walls are made of fieldstone.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

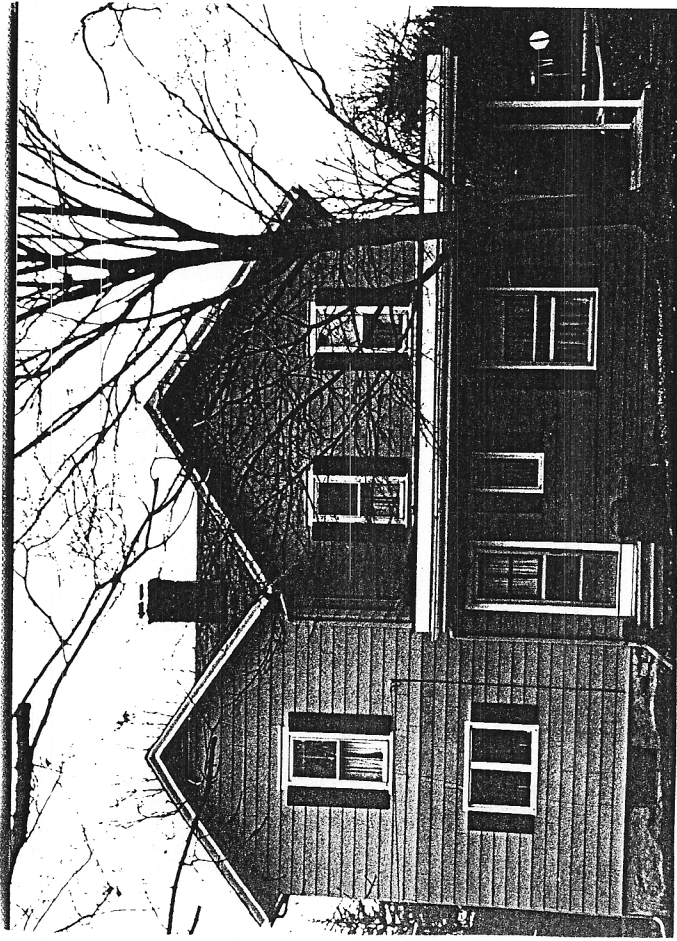
This building is significant in that it is reputed to be one of the oldest houses on the upper section of the Southside Neighborhood. Although the tax rolls list that lot was vacant until 1881, the earliest known photograph of the area shows the building present in 1875. Local lore dates the original house to the time of the Civil War. The basement floor is made of compacted earth, and the stream which traditionally supplied fresh water for the occupants still bubbles up in the cellar. The building is listed on an 1893 property map as being the home of W. Taylor. William and Martha H. Taylor sold the property

249
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