



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. 1880

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

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214 Chestnut Street

Corning, New York

#### 11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES:

There have been no major alterations to this property over time. Ca. 1920 a rear porch was added on the northwest side of the house. The balustrade of the front porch appears to have been enclosed and the windows have been replaced, both dates are unknown.

#### 17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

Situated on the east side of Chestnut Street facing south, this residence is one in a series of homes built in the nineteenth and early twentieth century, similar in scale and setback. These properties are inconsistent in their north-to-south spacing. This house is centered on its lot and set on the corner of the alley which divides Block 49.

#### 18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF THE BUILDING AND SITE:

This two-and-a-half-story home is built in the Queen Anne Style of architecture and exhibits many features of the style as referred to by the McAlesters in their book A Field Guide to American Houses. In form, the structure has a hipped roof with lower cross gables, an asymmetrical front facade, and decorative detailing.

Both stories of the house are covered in clapboard siding with fish scale shingled siding in the front gable end, surrounding a pair of gable window. The two corners of the front south facade have canted edges with decorative drop finials. The front porch spans the entire front facade and has a pedimented entry to mark the front door, which has sidelights. Although the balustrade has been enclosed in, there are turned posts supporting the roof of the porch. There is also a typical Queen Anne-style chimney on the north side of the house.

The house is set on a partially-raised basement, made of a rough cut stone.

#### 20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

This house is located on the northern half of Lot #9 of Block 75 as laid out by the Brewer and Canfield map of Corning from 1855. This property was originally owned by Philip Deegan, who built a house on the southern portion of the lot. In 1879, Tobias Purcell, an engineer with the railroad, married Philip's daughter Anna. They bought the northern part of the property and built this home. The Purcell family, who eventually came to own a Motor Company in Corning, remained in the house until 1925 when it was sold to Victor Hilt, a clerk at the post office. Hilt sold the property in 1927; since this time the house has been owned by several families until it was purchased by the present owners, Joseph and Margaret Ference, in 1943.

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#### 21. SOURCES:

Auwaerter, John. Reconnaissance Level Survey: Southside Neighborhood Proposed Historic District, Corning, NY. Ithaca: Cornell University, 1991.

McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York:  
Alfred A. Knopf, 1992.

Corning City Directories. Boyd's 1872-3, 1874-5. Hanford 1893-1930.

Map of Corning. Buffalo: H. Brewer and C.A. Canfield. 1855.

Map of Corning. Corning: Harry C. Heermans, City Engineer. 1893.

Sanborn Map Company. Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, New York. 1898, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, and 1930.

Steuben County Deed Records. Steuben County Clerk Office, Bath, NY.

Tax Records. Steuben County Public Records, Archives. Bath, NY.

#### ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS:

North facade