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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

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: Kerri King
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):
2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
3. STREET LOCATION: 52 East Fifth Street
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [X]
5. PRESENT OWNER: Richard and Carolyn Bromberg ADDRESS: 52 E. Fifth Street
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 [] g. stucco [] other: aluminium siding
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 [] b. good [X] 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[X] 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: See Continuation Sheet
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[X]
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: 1894

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:
20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet
21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet
22. THEME:

11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES:

There appear to have been several different alterations made to the exterior of this house, however no specific dates are known. Areas of the house that appear to be altered are the main entrance off of Cedar Street, the added garage to the south of the house, the cladding of the porch on the northeast corner of the house, and a one-story addition to the eastern wall of the house on the second floor. In addition, the exterior walls of the house have been clad in aluminium siding at some unknown date. It is known that between 1903 and 1908, the porch was either reduced in size or replaced. Also, a framed carport, measuring 26'-0" x 21'-0" x 14'-0", was added to the property in December 1960 with Fairman as the contractors. This carport is no longer standing near the house; it is assumed that the present garage was built to replace the carport. A bathroom was installed on the third floor of the house in November 1983.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

Located on a corner lot, this large two and one-half story house is a focal point at the corner of East Fifth and Cedar streets. Partially hidden by large coniferous trees, the home has a shallower setback than its neighbor to the east. This southern side of East Fifth Street is slightly higher in elevation than the northern side.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This two and one-half story structure is designed in the Queen Anne style of architecture. The house, referring to the book, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, exhibits many identifying characteristics of this style, including steeply-pitched cross gables, an asymmetrical principal facade, and different sizes and groupings of windows. The decorative detailing associated with structures designed in the Queen Anne style appears to have been removed or covered with aluminium siding in this house on East Fifth Street. The basic plan of the house is in a cross-shape, with a wider north/south section being dissected by a east/west segment. Both parts of this house feature gabled roofs, however the east/west segment has roofs that have the same profile as the main north/south one but are lower in height.

The walls of the house are clad in aluminium siding and except for the approximately 3" borders around the window and door openings, the house has little ornamentation. There are console brackets below the projecting eaves on several parts of the house's complex roofline. The main entrance is located on the west side of the house, facing Cedar Street. This entrance is in a crossing gable which is also not as tall as the main north/south gable of the house. To the south of the main entrance on the western facade is the garage, a gabled, single story addition with its roof ridge parallel to Cedar Street. The northern facade of the building, facing East Fifth Street, features a complex roofline, a cantilevered bay on the second story on the western side of this facade, and a one-story porch on the northeast corner. Both the eastern and southern facades of this house are hard to see because of the close proximity of this house to its neighbors, 60 East Fifth Street to the east and 262 Cedar Street to the south.

The house is set on a partially raised basement. Most of the foundation is constructed of smooth, dressed stone. There are two chimneys located within the roof, both off center of the main north/south gable. Both of the

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52 East Fifth Street
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18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (continued):

chimneys are constructed of yellow brick in a running bond. There are also two shed-roofed dormers on this house. One, containing one casement window, is at the northern end of the easterly side of the main gable and the other, with two windows, is found on the western elevation within the main roof gable, to the south of the main entrance gable.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

This house, probably architect-designed, was built for George W. Drake on the northern part of Lot 1, Block 53 as referenced by Brewer and Canfield's map of Corning from 1855. The Drake family built this house on the corner of East Fifth and Cedar streets between 1894 and 1895, when George Drake, then the newly appointed postmaster, a partner in Clute and Drake, and the president of Corning Stove Works, decided to move his family from their home at 165 Pine Street. There are discrepancies at this time between the deeds for the property and the history of the Drake family found through Corning City Directories, however. According to research through deeds, the land was purchased in a document dated from March 15, 1900, in which Frederick, Martha, and Harriet Mallory of El Paso, Texas, acting on behalf of Anna Mallory (deceased), sold all of Lot 1 and all but the northern 140'-0" of Lot 2 to Anna Drake. The northern part of Lot 2 had been sold by Anna Mallory of Towanda, Pennsylvania in 1893 to Willard Way of Corning; this is approximately the same time that the Drake Family moved to East Fifth Street. According to a map by Harry C. Heermans, City Engineer, from 1893, Lot 1 and Lot 2, except for the northernmost 140'-0", belonged to someone named H. O. Dorman. No records of this exist in deeds or city directories.

There is a long history of the Drake family in the Corning area beginning in 1867, with Franklin Drake, the grandfather of George W. Drake. Franklin Drake, already having made his fortune in lumber, moved to the area to set up business with the coal fields to the south of Corning. George, born in 1870, was raised while his grandfather extended his coal-carrying Tioga Railroad to Elmira and later founded Corning's Stove Works and First National Bank. George, after attending a military academy, clerked in the family bank and in 1890 became a partner in Marvin Olcott's real estate and insurance firm.

In 1892, Drake, who had married the year before, succeeded his grandfather as president of the Corning Stove Works, a position he held until the closing of the company in 1904. In 1894, Drake was appointed postmaster by Cleveland as a reward for political support, and Drake also became partner in Clute and Drake, a book, paper, and notion business. In August 21, 1901, the Journal reported that a new glass cutting shop was to open. The article read, "The G. W. Drake Cut Glass Company has leased the Hungerford Building on Bridge Street....The company was organized a few months ago with a capital of \$10,000. G. W. Drake is president."

Although the company continued to expand and was prosperous for several years, the depression that began in 1907 brought an end to many companies and the G. W. Drake Cut Glass Company was not an exception. China, Glass and Lamps reported in February 29, 1908 that the company was subjected to an involuntary bankruptcy and at this time, Drake left Corning and spent much of his time in Oklahoma until his death two years later. The house at 52 East Fifth Street stayed in the Drake family until it was sold in 1919 to William Hedges. Hedges, a mechanical

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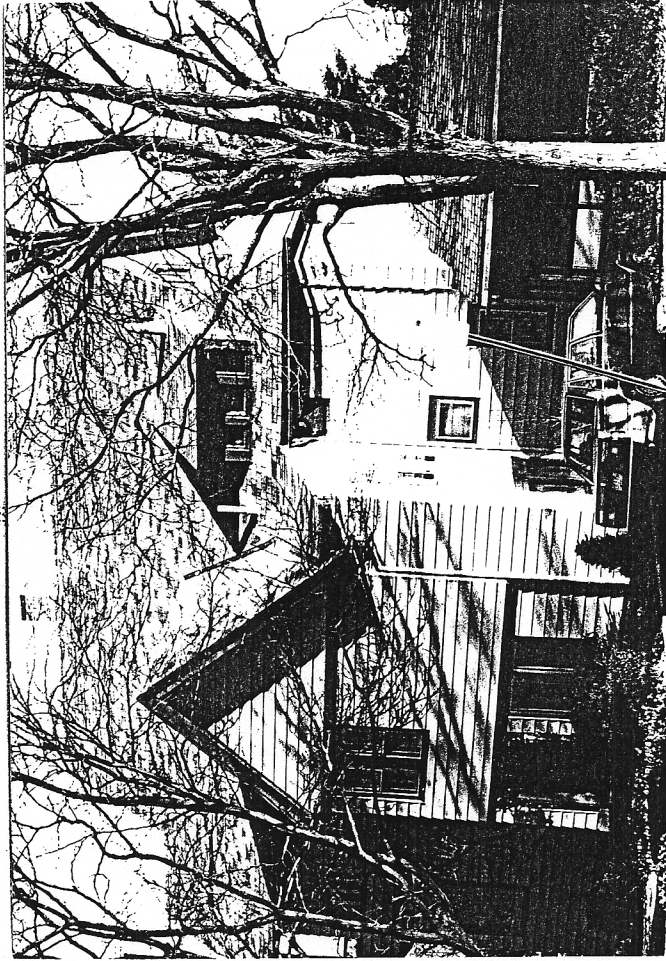
20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE (continued):

engineer for Corning Glass Works, lived at 60 East Fifth Street, the house directly east of the Drake home. After his death, Hedges' widow sold the northern 140'-0" of Lot 1 to William and Hazle Jones in 1941. This parcel of land, smaller than the original land purchase by the Drakes, is the land on which the house at 52 East Fifth is located today.

For a more detailed biography of both George W. and Franklin Drake, consult *The Complete Cut and Engraved Glass of Corning* by Estelle Sinclair Farrar and Jane Shadel Spillman. The previous information concerning the family was found in that source.

21. SOURCES:

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



52 East 54th

