

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

UNIQUE SITE NO.
QUAD
SERIES
NEG. NO.

YOUR NAME: Kara C. Hamley
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): John E. and Mary E. Gill House
2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
3. STREET LOCATION: 36 West Fifth Street
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [x]
5. PRESENT OWNER: Thomas C. and B.F. O'Brien ADDRESS: 36 W. 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[x] b. stone [] c. brick [] d. board & batten []
e. cobblestone [] f. shingles [] 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):
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: 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
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: 1909

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES:

There have been no significant alterations to the original structure of the house. In summer 1984, the rear porch, which was probably original, was removed. In its place, a 12' x 29' shed-roof addition was constructed. It is set on a parged (probably concrete block) foundation, has clapboard siding, and a skylight in the roof.

Interior remodeling was completed in winter 1981 when the third-story was converted into a recreation room. In 1991, the kitchen was remodeled.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

The houses on the south side of West Fifth Street between Pine and Walnut streets have an even setback from the road, although they are inconsistent in their east-to-west spacing. The houses of this block are typically of the Queen Anne Style, with a few exceptions, including this structure.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This two-and-a-half story house is designed in the Queen Anne Style, yet it has many Colonial Revival-Style elements. The house is front-gabled with a rectangular plan. The windows are one-over-one double-hung sash. Other window treatments include: a stained-glass window above the side(east) entry and a half-round window above a first-story window on the east facade. Both the similarity to other houses and the detailing may indicate speculative development by a local developer. The unique treatment of the windows, dormers, etc. may indicate that the home was architect designed.

Colonial Revival-Style elements include the Palladian window in the front gable end and the detailing of the front porch. The one-story, full-width front porch has a shed roof supported by Doric columns beneath a simple entablature. The railing and the balusters are composed of simple wooden members. The exterior wall material is clapboard, but there are Queen Anne-Style scalloped shingles in the gable end which flare at the top of the second story. Each dormer has a hipped roof with scalloped shingles on the cheeks. There is a cut-away bay at the northwest corner of the first-story of the house. There is a simple chimney at the interior ridge of the house.

This house bears a remarkable resemblance to at least two houses in the neighborhood, namely, 241 Cedar Street and 212 Chemung Street. The house is set on a partially raised basement. The foundation is of cast-stone blocks.

In summer 1992, a 24' x 32' three-car garage with a studio above was built at the rear of the property. This replaced an earlier one-car garage built between 1913 and 1921.

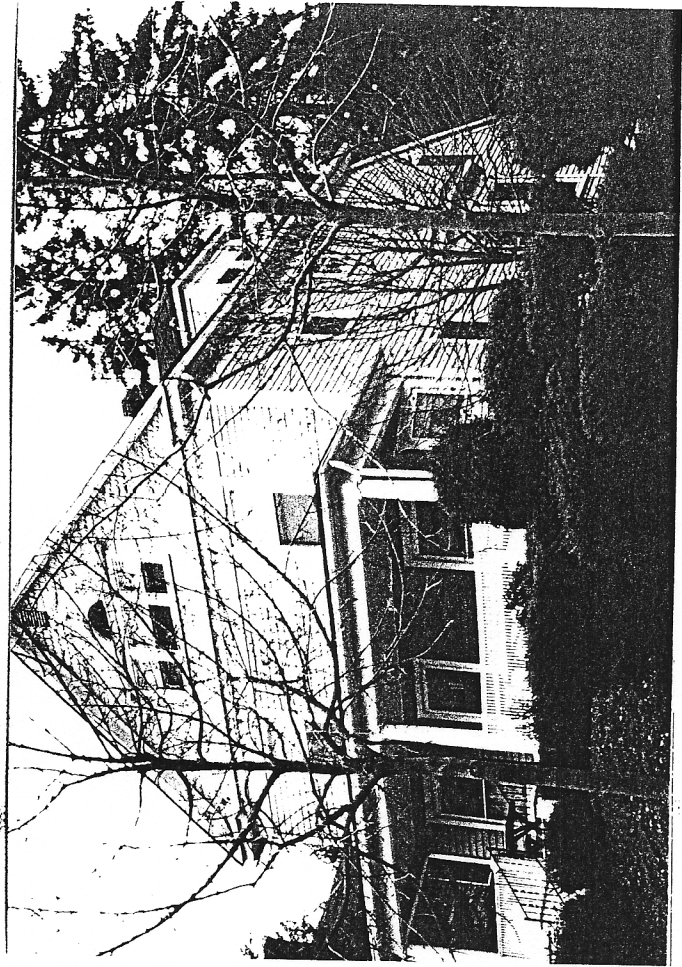
20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

This house is constructed on the northern third of Lot #3 of Block 70, as laid out in the 1855 Brewer and Canfield map of Corning. This parcel was originally owned by Cyrus D. Sill, and then, over time, by different members of the Eagler family. Prior to the 1890s, this lot was owned by the same person who owned the northern halves of the adjacent lots one and two, Mary Eagler. In 1906, John E. and Mary E. Gill bought the property of Lot #3, and the house was complete in 1909. Mr. Gill was a cashier at Corning Gas and Electric Company at the time he lived in this house. Prior to that he had been an employee of the Erie Freight House and a clerk at a Market Street business.

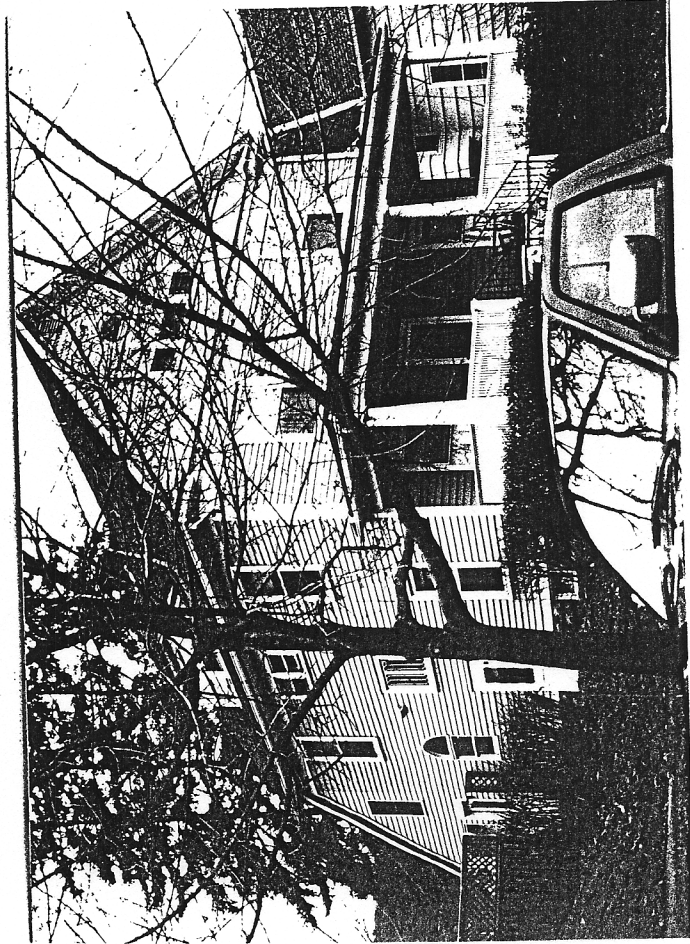
21. SOURCES:

- Auwaeter, John. Reconnaissance Level Survey Southside Neighborhood Historic District, Corning, New York.
September 1991.
- Corning City Directories. Boyd's 1872-73, 1874-75; Hanford 19-893-1920.
- Map of Corning. Buffalo: H. Brewer and C.A. Canfield, 1855.
- Map of Corning. Corning: 100 Years of Corning Building Company. Birds Eye map, 1882.
- Map of Corning. Corning: Harry C. Heermans, City Engineer, 1893.
- McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1991.
- Sanborn Map Company. Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, New York, (1898, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, and 1930).
- Steuben County Deed Records, Steuben County Clerk's Office, Bath, NY.
- Steuben County Tax Rolls 1850-1909, County Records Office at Steuben County Infirmiry, Bath, NY.
-1908 John E. Gill; Block 70, lot #3; vacant lot; value \$800
-1909 John E. Gill; Block 70, lot #3; house and lot; value \$3000
- Steuben County Tax Rolls 1910-present, County Treasurer's Office, Bath, NY.

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS:



36 West Fifth St.



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