

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  
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IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME(S): The Cyrus D. Sill House  
2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:  
3. STREET LOCATION: 4 West Fifth Street  
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [ ] b. private [x]  
5. PRESENT OWNER: Christopher H. and Mary V. Jackson ADDRESS: 4 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 [ ] b. stone [ ] c. brick [ ] d. board & batten [ ]  
e. cobblestone [ ] f. shingles [ ] g. stucco [x] 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: 1869

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES:

Between 1913 and 1921, many alterations were made. A wing at the southwest corner of the building was removed. This one-story addition may have been a later addition to the original two-story structure. Also during this time period, a one-story porch at the northeast corner of the house was removed. A new one-story Craftsman style porch was added at this time.

At the northern entry, a new one-story gabled portico has been added. While the current style of the house is of the Tudor Style, its age and massing seem to indicate that it was originally a Queen Anne-Style house.

In fall of 1993 a new garage was added to the south of the house. It has a wood frame construction covered in T1-11 plywood siding and a gabled roof covered with asphalt shingles. At some point, an outbuilding at the southwest corner of the lot was converted into a house and the property split, namely 259 Pine Street.

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. This house is at the corner of West Fifth and Pine streets is one of the oldest houses on the block. It is the only one with a slightly smaller northern setback. While its yard is larger than others on this block, it is also shallower from north to south. This is the result of an outbuilding conversion and lot split to a residence at the rear of the property.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This two-story house is currently in the Tudor Style. It is a cross-gabled house with irregular bay divisions. The windows, probably a later alteration, are six-over-one-light sash with inoperable shutters, which are also probably not original. There is an interior lateral chimney within the main east-to-west gable of the roof. The exterior of the house is stucco, but there is evidence that it was originally clapboard.

A later addition to the house is a Craftsman-Style porch at the east side of the house. It consists of a shed roof with exposed rafter tail ends, rectangular tapered columns on an enclosed railing. The exterior clapboard was covered with smooth stucco. At the northern entry, a new one-story gabled portico has been added. It is supported with heavy brackets and the entrance consists of a single door with sidelights and an elliptical fan window above.

The house is set on a partially raised basement. The foundation is rubble stone and has been parged and painted to match the house.

The outbuilding converted to the house (259 Pine Street) at the rear of the property is a cross gabled Cottage Type home. It has both one-over-one sash and six-over-one sash windows. There is a brick chimney at the interior ridge. The upright has a low pitched roof and has Greek Revival Style characteristics.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

This house is constructed on the northern third of Lot #7 and 8 of Block 70, as laid out in the 1855 Brewer and Canfield map of Corning. This house was built by Cyrus D. Sill in 1869. Mr. Sill was a liquor dealer on Market Street in Corning. After Mr. Sill's death, the house remained in his family until 1955.

CONTINUATION SHEET, Page 2  
4 West Fifth Street  
Corning, NY

21. SOURCES:

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.

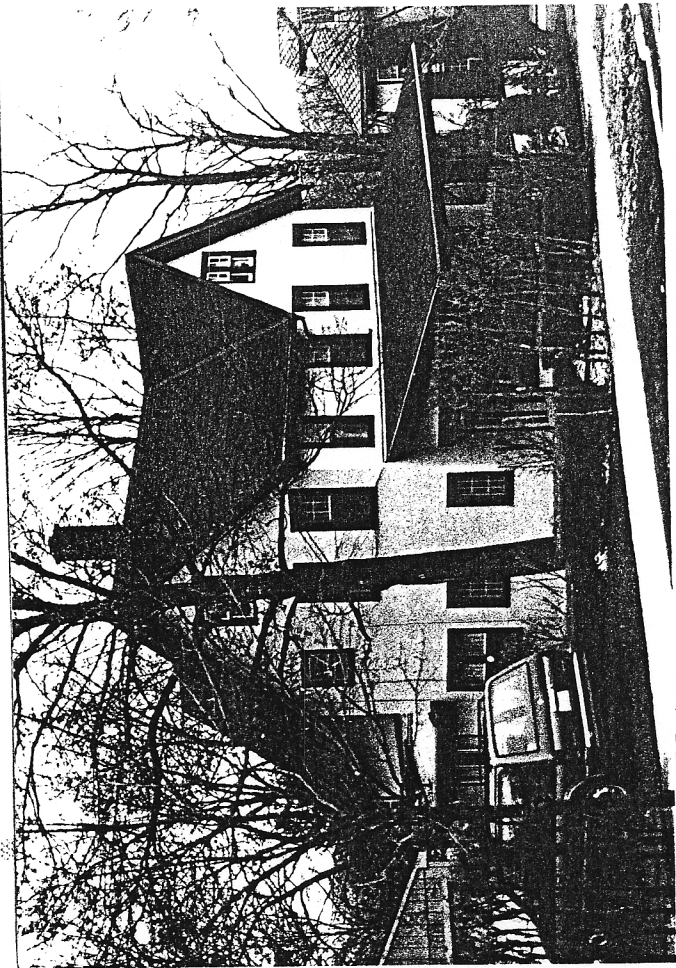
Steuben County Tax Rolls 1850-1909, County Records Office at Steuben County Infirmiry, Bath, NY.

-1868 Cyrus D. Sill; Block 70. lot #7 & 8; vacant lot

-1869 Cyrus D. Sill; Block 70, lot #6 & 8; house and lot, value \$550; dog tax \$1.00

Steuben County Tax Rolls 1910-present, County Treasurer's Office, Bath, NY.

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS:



4 West 5th (east)



4 West 5th