

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: Sarah L. Burks
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall
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: 51 West Fifth Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [x]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Gregory and Melcenia Williams ADDRESS: 51 West 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[] 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 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: ca. 1927

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

CONTINUATION SHEET, Page 1
51 West Fifth Street
Corning, New York

11c. Major Alterations and Dates (if known):
A new roof of asphalt shingles was added in 1988.

15i. Landscape Features
The primary landscape feature is the downward sloping driveway which turns to access the basement garage.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

Situated on the north side of West Fifth Street, this residence the only example of a "gabled Colonial cottage" type house on this block; the neighboring residences are examples of Italianate-style residences. This house was built after all the houses surrounding it. The scale of this house is smaller than the double house at 63-63½ W. Fifth and of the same scale as its neighbors on Walnut Street. The east-to-west spacing is generous in this area, while the setback of this structure is consistent to that of its neighbors. This residence is situated a little above the grade of the street.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This two-story home was designed as a "gabled Colonial cottage." This style is discussed in Gottfried and Jennings' American Vernacular Design, (p. 190). Its characteristics include a pedimented entry, three-bay organization, gable parallel to street, and symmetrical fenestration.

The house is sided with clapboards. The gabled roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The fenestration on the front (south) facade includes five four-over-one double-hung sash windows, a central entrance with pedimented porch. The entry has a wood paneled door. The pediment is supported by slender square posts. A one-story bay projects from the east facade; it is supported by brick piers. Returns are evident on the east and west facades. Two small brick chimneys are centered one at either gable end. Two quarter circle lights are positioned around each chimney. A secondary entrance is located on the rear (north) facade, and has a paneled door with glass. The one-car basement-level garage was part of the original design for this house. It is located at the northwest corner of the house. The door faces west. This residence rests on a poured concrete foundation.

CONTINUATION SHEET, Page 2
51 West Fifth Street
Corning, New York

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

This house was constructed on the southern third of Lot #16 of Block #74, as surveyed in the 1855 Brewer and Canfield map of Corning. Michael Callahan purchased Lot #15 from Francis A. Williams in 1891, according to a deed in book #291 p. 115 which was not recorded until 1907. Lot #16 was bought by Callahan from John J. and Dudley A. Olcott in 1891 as recorded in deed book #297 p. 322, also not recorded until 1907. Michael Callahan was listed as a laborer and later as an employee of Standard Oil Company. At Michael's death in 1919, he left the northern portion of these lots to his son, Martin J. Callahan. The southern portion was left to his other four children, Catherine M. Patterson, Marguerite Dineen, Edward J. Callahan, and Harriet Francois. Martin and his wife Helen bought this portion of the lot from his siblings in 1920. Helen sold the property to Thomas and Jeanette Carr in 1926. Thomas Carr ran a dry cleaning business at 14 East Erie Ave. The Carrs built this house ca. 1927. In 1973, Jeanette Carr sold the property to Charles and Barbara Sorge. Decker bought the house in 1974 and the current owners, Gregory and Melcenia Williams subsequently purchased the property from Decker.

21. SOURCES:

Corning City Directories, Boyd's 1872-73, 1874-75, Hanford 1893-1930.

Gottfried, Herbert and Jan Jennings. American Vernacular Design. (Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press, 1988.)

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

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

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

Map of Corning. Philadelphia: Philadelphia Publishing House, C.J. Corbin, 1882.

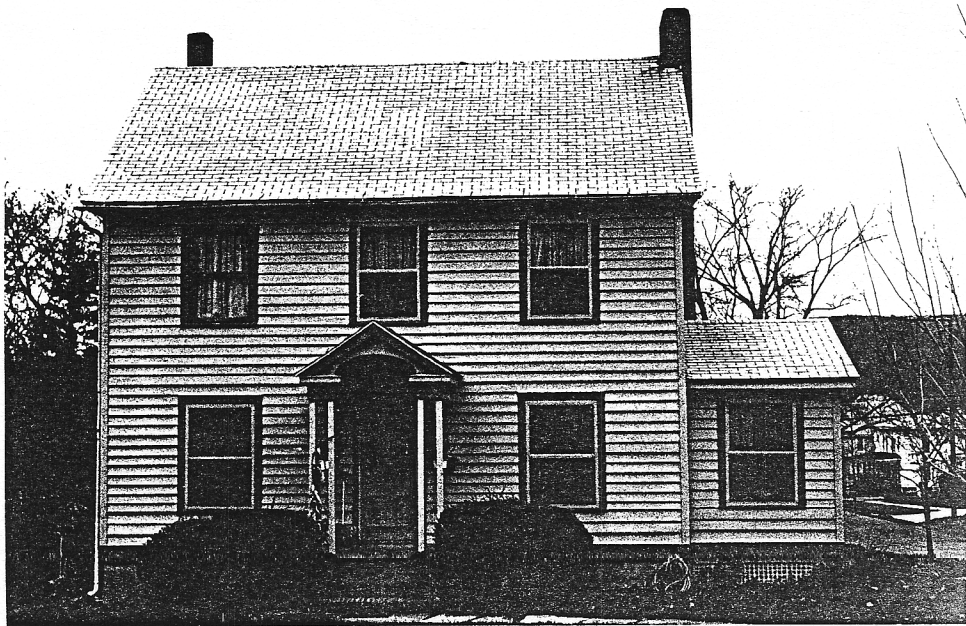
Sanborn Map Company. Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, New York, (1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, 1930, and 1930 revised 1948).

Steuben County Deed Records, Steuben County Clerk's Office, Bath, New York.

Steuben County Tax Records, Steuben County Records Center, Bath, New York (18??-1909), Steuben County ??? Office, Bath, New York, (1910-present).

CONTINUATION SHEET, Page 3
51 West Fifth Street
Corning, New York

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS:



51 West 5th