

**BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY \_\_\_\_\_

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: Ivette M. Valle

DATE: Fall 1993

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ORGANIZATION (if any): Preservation Planning Workshop, Cornell University

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**IDENTIFICATION**

1. BUILDING NAME(S):

2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:

3. STREET LOCATION: *97 West Fifth Street*

4. OWNERSHIP: a: public [ ] b: private [ X ]

5. PRESENT OWNER: *John Wenck* ADDRESS: *97 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 [ ] b. stone [ ] c. brick [ ] d. board & batten [ ]  
e. cobblestone [ ] f. shingles [ ] g. stucco [ ] other: asbestos 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  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 BUILDING 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. 1904

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

CONTINUATION SHEET, Page 1  
97 West 5th Street  
Corning, New York

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

A canted bay was added to the south facade of this house after 1908. The entry porch is not original and a concrete block chimney has been added at the rear wall of the north facade, dates of these alterations are unknown.

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

The house is located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Chestnut and West Fifth streets. The residence is one of a row of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century homes. This house has a setback and scale which are inconsistent with that of its neighbors as it is the east-to-west spacing. It appears to have been constructed much earlier than the house to the east.

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

The house is located on lot 9, block 74 as designated on the Brewer and Canfield map of Corning of 1855. The residence was built circa 1904. It is an example of the vernacular Queen Anne Style although it can also be defined as a "gabled-ell cottage" according to Herbert Gottfried & Jan Jennings in their book American Vernacular Design. This type of gabled-ell cottage is an earlier version of this style, and probably predates the T-shaped gabled-ell cottages found along this street. The main facade is oriented to the south, and the front gable has a two-story bay with symmetrically-placed windows. A square window is found in the clipped gable end. A porch is recessed into the reentrant angle on the east side of the house.

The house has large one-over-one double-hung sash-windows. The residence is sided in asbestos shingles and the roof has asphalt shingles. The foundation is constructed of stone and covered with stucco.

#### 20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

According to Auwaerter, in the development of the Southside Neighborhood in Corning, "as late as 1911, there was much open land along Fifth Street and above." There were many Irish people living on this area of the southside neighborhood to the point of being called "Irish Hill".

Ben Bacheller owned a house on this lot in 1893. Mary Moran lived in the house in 1905; she was a music teacher. Thomas and Helen McMahon were related to this property afterwards.

Across the street, the world famous circus performer John Comosh lived. At that time, he chose Corning to live in because of its clean air.

CONTINUATION SHEET, Page 2  
97 West 5th Street  
Corning, New York

21. SOURCES:

Auwaerter, John. Reconnaissance Level Survey. Southside Neighborhood Proposed Historic District. Corning, New York, 1991.

Gottfried, Herbert and Jan Jennings. *American Vernacular Design. 1870-1940*. Iowa State University Press, 1988.

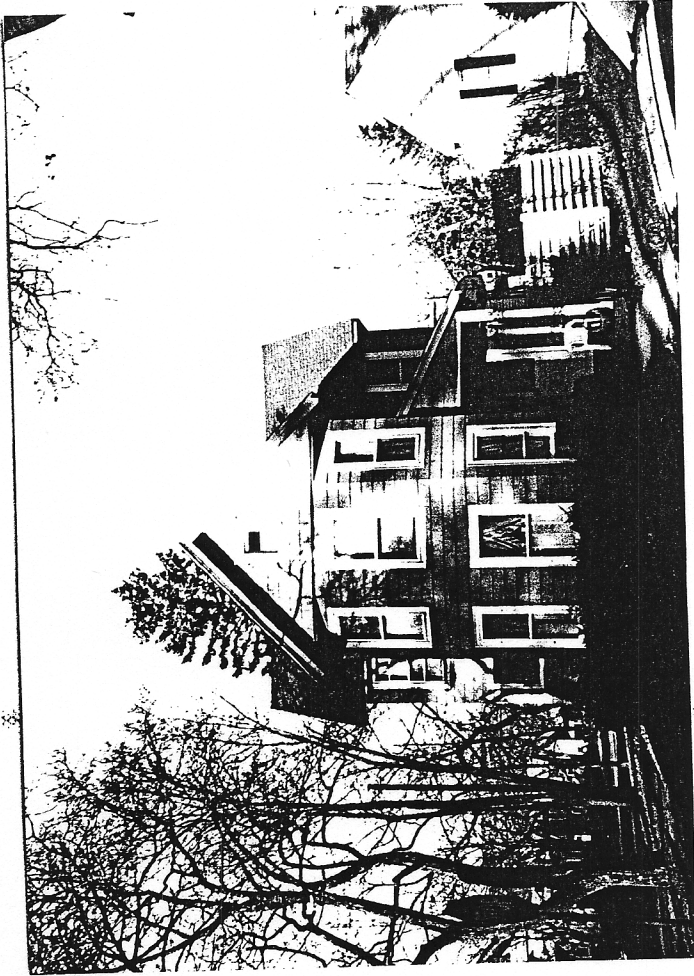
New York, Corning and Painted Post Directory 1905, 1915-1916, 1936, 1939, 1944, 1947, 1950, 1952, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1958, 1959, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1967, 1970, 1978, 1986.

Sanborn Map Company. Fire insurance Maps of Corning, New York (1898, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, 1930 and 1948).

Steuben County Deed Records, Steuben County's Clerk's Office, Bath, NY. Liber 1187, page 296; liber 1138, page 214; liber 1056, page 661; liber 1051, page 545; liber 355, page 505; liber 323, page 350.

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS:

West Facade



97 West Fifth

