



BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION
& HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
(518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

UNIQUE SITE NO. _____
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

YOUR NAME: S. Elspeth Stanfield DATE: 7/13/92

YOUR ADDRESS: 201 Maple Ave, Ithaca TELEPHONE: 256-3530

ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME(S): _____
2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE: _____
3. STREET LOCATION: 131 East First Street
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private
5. PRESENT OWNER: New York State ADDRESS: _____
6. USE: Original: Residence Present: Community House
7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes - No
Interior accessible: Explain _____

DESCRIPTION

8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard b. stone c. brick d. board and batten
e. cobblestone f. shingles g. stucco other: _____
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: (if known) a. wood frame with interlocking joints
b. wood frame with light members
c. masonry load bearing walls
d. metal (explain) _____
e. other _____
10. CONDITION: a. excellent b. good c. fair d. deteriorated
11. INTEGRITY: a. original site b. moved if so, when? _____
c. list major alterations and dates (if known): _____

12. PHOTO:

13. MAP:

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11. INTEGRITY (major alterations):

The specific dates for the following changes are unknown. The lower story has had siding installed. A third window was added to the cant on the south-east corner of the first floor, and extending from this added wall was a one story section extending beyond the northern limit of the main house. Approximately 12' back from the canted windows the addition widens, at which point there is a south facing door, which fills most of the exterior wall space at this point. While this addition features a shed roof for most of its length, it terminates at the north with a gable. Also added to the structure is a fire escape at the northwest corner and a wheelchair ramp attached to the addition. These two elements were most likely added when the property was converted into

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

This structure is situated on the north side of East First Street, which features a variety of architectural styles. The block is predominantly late nineteenth century structures. This structure was built between 1888 and 1893 in a style similar to the majority of homes on the block. It differs from its immediate neighbors, both in setback and style. The houses western neighbor is Greek Revival Style, while the house to the east is Colonial Revival Style. Both flanking houses are smaller than this structure. 137 East First Street (the Colonial Revival) has a larger setback than its neighbor. The placement of this structure between two dissimilar homes makes it appear very large, although it is not the largest home on the block.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This structure was built between 1888 and 1893, in the Queen Anne Style. According to A Field Guide to American Houses (McAlester), this style was inspired by the work of English architect Richard Norman Shaw. Although the name Queen Anne is inaccurate, the style has been referred to by that name since it was introduced to this country in the 1870s. This style is noted for its eclectic nature and great variety of decorative motifs, and its primary characteristic is its asymmetrical massing.

This house features asymmetrical massing, a cross gable roof, with a gable projection, and cants. The cross gable roof line reflects the overall massing. At the corner created on the southwest, there is a portico with a shed roof with one simple

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18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (continued):

column. The door is multi-paneled and faces south. The other south facing entrance at the east side of the structure is a metal single-light, with two "panels" below.

The lower story of the south facing gable has a canted wall with hood (no brackets) at the west end and a cant at the east end. This cant was originally one width window deep and two windows wide. It has since had another window added to it. Above this cant is a canted bay with a decorative semi-circle in its gable. The second story features flared walls all around the structure. At the division of the second and third story the gable features an overhang, which is repeated above the third story windows. All the windows are one-over-one double-hung sash, with one exception; the south facing window on the first story, which is a two-over-two double-hung sash.

The lower story features horizontal siding. The second story is clapboard. The gables are shingle and lattice pattern stick work. The foundation is rough cut stone except at the additions. The addition to the cant is random ashlar pattern concrete block.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

This house was built between 1888 and 1893 when the property was owned by John H. Lang, vice president of the Fall Brook Coal Company. Lang purchased the property in March 1880, and lived there until his death in 1934. Within 10 months of probate, his widow, Louise, sold the property to Dr. Marion J. Chimera. Dr. Chimera had his offices in the building for many years.

In 1980 the State of New York appropriated the house for a community home. Pathways Community Residence, operated by a private organization.

21. SOURCES:

Steuben County Deeds; Corning City Directories; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, 1888, 1893, 1898, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, 1930; Maps of Corning, 1857, 1893.

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MAP INFORMATION:

- 1888 - Sanborn - No structure shown- "NEW DWG. TO BE BUILT HERE"
- 1893 - Sanborn - Current structure shown, labeled "41".
- 1903 - "41" becomes 131.

CITY DIRECTORY INFORMATION:

- 1903 - John H. Lang, vice-president Fall Brook Coal Co., listed.
- 1935 - Doctor M. Chimera, office and home.
- 1981 - Corning Community Residence.
- 1983 to present - Pathways Community Residence.



131 East First