

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: John R. Steinmeyer
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY
ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

DATE: 15 May 1992
TELEPHONE: (607)255-0751

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 54 East First Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public[] b. private [X]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Albert J. Berleue ADDRESS: 54 East First Street
Corning, NY 14830
- 6. USE: Original: residence Present: residence, commercial
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes[X] No[]

Interior accessible: yes, partially

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[] 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[X] b. zoning[] c. roads[]
d. developers[] e. deterioration[]
f. other:
15. RELATED OUT BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:
a. barn[] b. carriage house[] c. garage[X]
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[X] e. commercial[X]
f. industrial[] g. residential[X]
h. other:
17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:
See Continuation Sheet
18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:
See Continuation Sheet

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: ca. 1852

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

11. INTEGRITY

Bay addition to west facade ca. 1898-93; corner porch and bay additions to north facade ca. 1898-1903; bay addition to south facade ca. 1903-08; bay enlargement on south facade ca. 1908-13; southernmost portion of building enlargement to two stories ca. 1913-1921; porch addition to north facade, additions to east and west facades post 1930. Some records of structural alterations/additions are available at the City of Corning Building Department.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

Situated on the south side of East First Street, this residence is one of a row of nineteenth and early twentieth century homes of various styles. These houses have varying setbacks from the street and are fairly consistent in their east to west spacing.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This house is designed in the Italianate style of architecture. The structure's identifying features, as noted in A Field Guide to American Houses (McAlester), include: two stories; a low-pitched, hipped roof with widely overhanging eaves; and tall, narrow windows.

Both stories of 54 East First Street are covered with clapboards. The principle facade's horizontal roof plane is interrupted by a small cross gable with semicircular bargeboard in its tympanum. This gable highlights an arched attic window. The undersides of all of the structure's eaves are ornamented with a course of dentils and a course of decorative, fishscale detailing.

The structure has received several one and two story additions on its east, west, and south facades. Most of this building activity occurred between 1888 and 1930. The types of detailing on the additions consist of ornamental brackets on two, first-story bays, decorative window trim, and the execution of simple, geometric woodwork on wall surfaces.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

The Corning Fire Department Map of 1852 shows a footprint of a structure on the parcel where the current building is situated. The shape of the existing structure somewhat resembles the 1852 footprint, and it is possible that it is a remnant of the original building. Around 1898, the present property was sold by Phoebe M. May to Dr. Charles F. Buckland, a dentist who lived in the residence and operated a dentistry on site.

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20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: (Continued)

In 1909, the property was sold by Charles F. Buckland to Dr. Albert H. Rodgers, a physician and surgeon, who took residence and operated a medical practice in the building. The custom of Corning physicians taking residence and running medical practices in structures on East First Street was common throughout the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and in many instances still occurs in the Southside Neighborhood today.

The First Presbyterian Church of Corning purchased the property in 1949 and the Reverend H. Norman Sibley, pastor of the congregation, lived at 54 East First Street during his tenure from 1951-59. The Church relinquished ownership in 1977.

21. SOURCES:

Corning City Directories; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, 1888, 1893, 1898, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, 1930; Corning Fire Department Maps, 1852, 1893.



54 E. 1ST