

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: 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: 56 East First Street
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public[] b. private [X]
5. PRESENT OWNER: Paul Bennett ADDRESS: 22 West Fourth Street
Present: commercial
6. USE: Original: residence
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:

11. INTEGRITY

Addition to south facade, bay addition to west facade ca. 1898-1903; north facade porch removed 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. It is an example of an asymmetrical, L-shaped structure with a low-pitched, cross-hipped roof. As noted in A Field Guide to American Houses (McAlester), the structures's additional identifying features include: two stories; overhanging eaves; and tall, narrow windows.

Both stories of 56 East First Street are covered with clapboards. The house features small porches at the north and south entrances, a one-story projecting bay on the west facade, and a decorative dentil course immediately below the eaves.

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 resembles the 1852 footprint, and it is probable that it is a remnant of the original building. In 1890 the property was sold by Kate Barnes, widow, to Adaline DeWolf, also a widow, for \$5,500.00. Throughout the early twentieth century, the house was occupied by persons employed in local business and industry, including the Corning Glass Works. The property was purchased in 1955 by Dr. Paul Bennett, a dentist, who presently uses the house as a a medical office. The custom of Corning physicians 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.

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.

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[]
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:



56 E. 1ST