

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION
(518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:
UNIQUE SITE NO.:
QUAD:
SERIES:
NEG. NO.:
DATE: May 1, 1992
TELEPHONE: (607)255-6851

YOUR NAME: Allison Rachleff
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY

ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME(S):
2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
3. STREET LOCATION: 7 West First Street
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [X]
5. PRESENT OWNER: Corning Comm. College, Development Fdn. ADDRESS: Corning Community College, Corning
6. USE: Original: Office 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
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
a. clapboard [X] b. stone [] c. brick [] d. board & batten []
e. cobblestone [] f. shingles [] g. stucco [] other:
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 [X] 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: Parking lot north of the structure.

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 BUILDINGS AND SURROUNDINGS:

(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

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. 1898-1903

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

- 11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES
Between 1930-1948, 7 West First Street was converted from an office into a single family dwelling.
17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:
See Continuation sheet.
18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE
See Continuation sheet.
20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE
See Continuation Sheet.
21. SOURCES
See continuation sheet.

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7 West First Street
Corning, New York

11c. INTEGRITY:

7 West First Street possesses most of its original integrity. Although the front porch has been replaced and the roof has been re-shingled in asphalt, the building still survives intact from the late nineteenth century, without additional alterations. Between 1930-48, 7 West First Street was converted from an office into a single family dwelling.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

7 West First Street is situated on the north side of that street, near the northwest corner of Pine and West First streets. The home is sandwiched between the World War Memorial Library to its east and a larger residential structure to its west, leaving a space of roughly ten feet on both sides. The structure west of 7 West First Street functions as its parent building because the original owner of that house had this cottage built to serve as his office. Although they are evaluated separately, 7-9 West First Street must be viewed as a unit in order to understand its full historical impact.

In comparison to its neighbors, 7 West First Street is unique in style, setback and size. Surrounded by more classically inspired public and private structures, this Free Classic Queen Anne Style building is immediately noticeable on the streetscape. McAlester's Field Guide to American Houses describes this style as having porches with classical columns and other classical details like Palladian windows. The home is set back twenty feet from the thoroughfare and faces a public park. In addition, its one-and-a-half-story height provides a sharp contrast to surrounding structures which average two or more stories with much smaller set backs. To the rear or north of the building, a vacant lot used for parking dominates the space.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING & SITE:

7 West First Street is an example of a one-and-a-half-story Free Classic Queen Anne-style Cottage. The Queen Anne Style was dominant in New York between 1880-1910. The style is identified by its steeply pitched roof, front facing gable, bay windows and asymmetrical facade with partial or full-width porch.

The south or principal facade of 7 West First Street is three bays wide. Each bay is delineated by a different form of fenestration. The first bay is defined by a fixed colored glass window set in a wood surround, which portrays elements of an entablature. The second bay is the site of the main entry. This entry contains of a twelve pane sash storm door protecting an interior nine pane sash door with a transom. The third bay is formed by an one-story bay with one-over-one sash a full story in height. A one story porch

dominates this facade and is supported by slender wood posts with stylized capitals. The roof scape on this facade is quite complicated, as the broad overhanging eaves which forms the roof of the porch is balanced by two small gables on each side. A dormer window, capped by a broken swan's neck pediment embellished with a classical swag, juts out between the gables and strongly identifies the structure's classical tendencies. To the rear of these features, the roof assumes a hipped form and flares out over the porch.

Perpendicular to this front portion is a side gabled section which continues the classical theme. Both the east and west facades have gable ends adorned with cornice moldings with pent returns. This structure contains an entry evident on the south facade,

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7 West First Street
Corning, New York

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (con't):

located at the southwest corner of the edifice. Like the main entry, a twelve pane sash storm door protects the interior door.

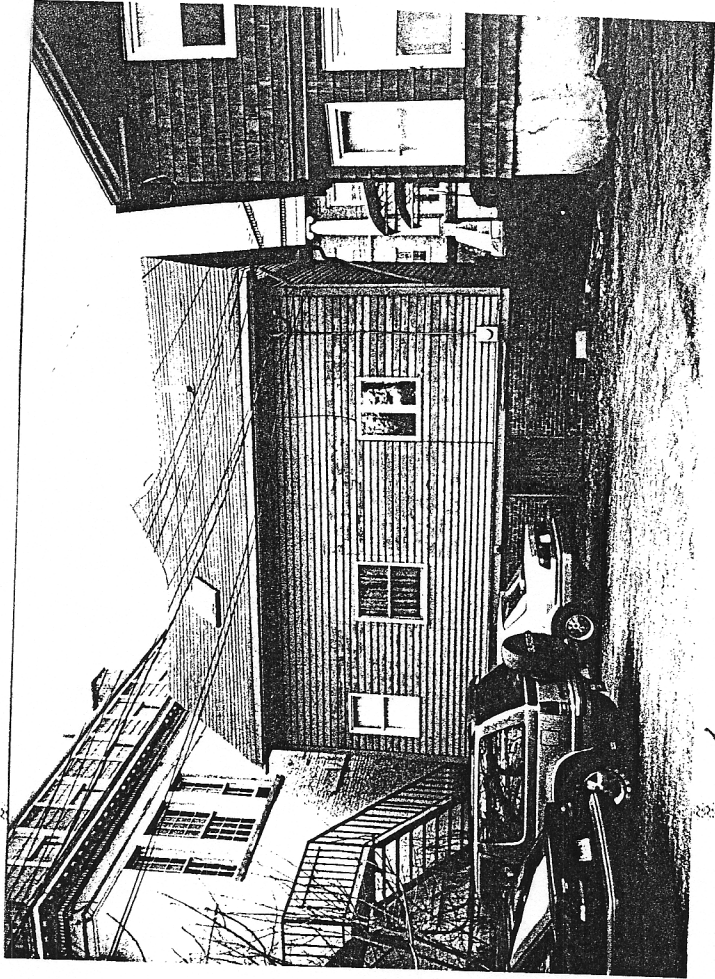
While the cottage has no chimney, it is built on a brick foundation, evident on both portions of the structure. The house is sheathed in wood clapboards and the roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles.

20: HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See 9 West First Street.

21. SOURCES:

See 9 West First Street.



N 7 West First

