

**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: Matt O'Brien  
 YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY  
 ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

DATE: May 12, 1992  
 TELEPHONE: (607) 255-6851

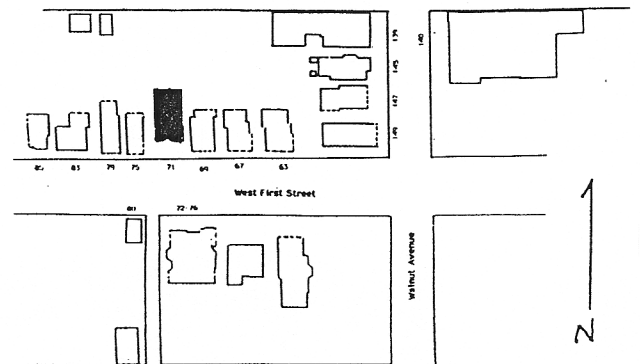
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**IDENTIFICATION**

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): Faith Lutheran Church
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 71 West First Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [ ] b. private [ x ]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Faith Lutheran Church ADDRESS: 71 West First St.
- 6. USE: Original: Evangelical Church Present: Lutheran Church
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes [ x ] No [ ]  
 Interior accessible: Yes [ x ] No [ ] Explain: During Services

**DESCRIPTION**

- 8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard [ ] b. stone [ x ] 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 [ ]  
 c. masonry load bearing walls [ x ]  
 d. metal (explain)  
 e. other
- 10. CONDITION: a. excellent [ ] b. good [ x ] c. fair [ ] d. deteriorated [ ]
- 11. INTEGRITY: a. original site [ ] b. moved [ x ] if so, when? 1908.  
 c. list major alterations and dates (if known):
- 12. PHOTO:
- 13. MAP:



14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known  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  e. commercial   
f. industrial  g. residential   
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: Originally constructed at southwest corner of Denison Parkway and Walnut Street in 1854. Moved and Reconstructed on Present Site in 1908.

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

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71 West First Street  
Corning, New York

11. INTEGRITY:

This church was originally constructed in 1854 on the site presently occupied by the Post Office at the corner of Walnut Street and Denison Parkway (Erie Avenue). The church was subsequently dismantled and reconstructed, in its present form, on this site in 1908.

The addition to the rear (north) was added by the church after 1948.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

This side of West First Street in the block to the northwest of Courthouse Park is characterized by a scattering of houses on the parcels. The setbacks along this north side of West First Street are relatively consistent. In addition, while there is a similarity in form of many of the buildings on this block, the styling and materials are different enough so as to minimize the coherency of the block as a whole. Only one of the buildings on this side of the street dates from 1857 or earlier, unlike the other side of West First Street. Finally, this structure further adds to the feeling that this varied enclave of structures is like a small neighborhood, separate from the park to the southeast and the commercial areas to the north and east. The hilly terrain further serves to isolate this neighborhood from its surroundings.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This single story, with basement, Gothic Revival-style church is constructed of rough cut random ashlar stone. It has a two-story square crenellated tower at the southeast corner. On each of the four facades of the tower is a large pointed arch opening. Inside these openings are wood infill panels with louver vents for the belfry and ecclesiastical-inspired carved elements. A stone watertable divides up the mass of the tower into two parts and stone corbelling lines the underside of the crenellated parapets. The double entry doors on the front of the church again pick up the pointed arch theme. The entry stairs are poured-in-place concrete and look to be a recent change, as does the entry sidewalk. There is a datestone on the southwest exterior corner of the entry porch. The roof has been covered with

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18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

composition shingles and it appears that some form of waterproof coating has been applied to the entire exterior of the building and this has resulted in a glossy finish to the stone.

The only changes to the massing of the church since 1908 has been the addition of a single story shed roofed clapboarded addition that runs along the northern (rear) face of the church, below an enormous cross and two pointed arch window openings.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

Faith Lutheran Church was built on this location in 1908 by members of the German Evangelical Church, the owners of the church at the time. They received financial assistance from the federal government which was preparing to construct a post office on the previous site of this church at the corner of Denison Parkway and Walnut Street. The present building is smaller in width than the earlier building but is constructed from the same stone.

The church had originally been built in 1854 to be the home for the Christ Episcopal Church but once they had moved on to larger accommodations in the Southside neighborhood, the German Evangelical community purchased the old Christ Episcopal Church building.

In 1942 the Redeemer Lutherans purchased the church from the German Evangelicals; the church became known by its present name in the 1970s.

71 West First Street was once a part of the property owned by the Thomas A Johnson estate. Johnson had been a New York State Supreme Court judge who had lived at what is presently the location of 147 Walnut Street.

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71 West First Street  
Corning, New York

21. SOURCES:

Texts and Miscellaneous:

Boyd's Corning City Directories 1872-73, 1874-75.

Clayton, W. W. History of Steuben County, New York, With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers. Philadelphia: Lewis, Peck and Company, 1879.

Corning Building Company. 100 Years in Corning: The Corning Building Company, 1848-1948, Corning (?): Cartwright and Sons, 1948.

Corning City Hall Tax Assessment Rolls.

Corning-Painted Post Historical Society photographic files.

Dimitroff, Thomas P. and Lois Janes. History of the Corning Painted Post Area: 200 Years in Painted Post Country. Corning: Corning Area Bicentennial Commission, 1977.

Hakes, Harlo. Landmarks of Steuben County, Syracuse: D. Mason and Company, 1896.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Adolph A. Knopf, 1990.

McMaster, Guy H. History of the Settlement of Steuben County, New York, Including Notices of the Old Pioneer Settlers and their Adventures. Bath, New York: R. S. Underhill and Company, 1853. (Reprint: Geneva: Humphrey Press, 1975).

Roberts, Millard F. Historical Gazetteer of Steuben County, New York with Memoirs and Illustrations, Syracuse: By the author, 1891. (Reprinted in two parts by the Steuben County Historical Society, 1979).

Maps and Directories:

Atlas of Steuben County, New York. M. Levy. Philadelphia: J. E. Gillette, publisher, 1857.

City of Corning. Corning: Harry C. Heermans, City Engineer, 1893.

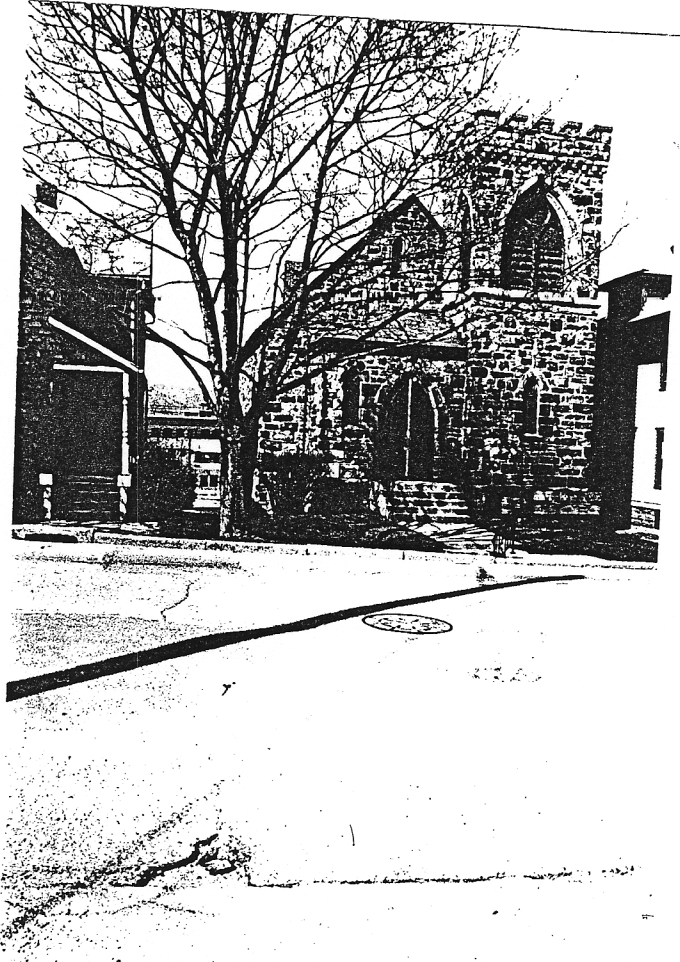
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21. SOURCES, continued:

Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, New York 1888, 1893, 1898, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921,  
1930, 1948.

Steuben County directory, Syracuse: Hamilton Child, 1868-69.

View of Corning, New York, Looking Toward the South. Philadelphia:  
Philadelphia Publishing House, C. J. Corbin, Field Manager,  
1882.



71 West First