

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION
ALBANY, NEW YORK (518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE _____
UNIQUE SITE NO. _____
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG.NO. _____

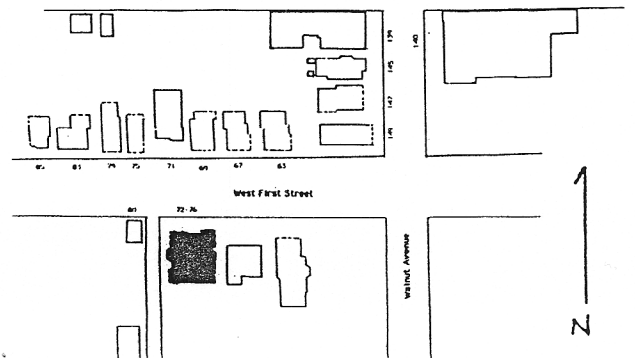
YOUR NAME: Matt O'Brien
DATE: May 14, 1992
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY
TELEPHONE: (607) 255-6851
ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 72-76 West First Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [x]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Stephen & Carmela Allen ADDRESS: 76 West First Street, Corning
- 6. USE: Original: Private Residence Present: Three 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: a. clapboard [x] b. stone [] c. brick [] d. board & batten []
e. cobblestone [] f. shingles [x] g. stucco [] other: vinyl siding
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: a. wood frame with interlocking joints [x]
b. wood frame with light members [x]
c. masonry load bearing walls []
d. metal (explain)
e. other
- 10. CONDITION: a. excellent [x] b. good [] c. fair [x] d. deteriorated []
- 11. INTEGRITY: a. original site [x] b. moved [x] if so, when?
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: Between 1893 and 1898.

ARCHITECT: Unknown.

BUILDER: Unknown

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

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72-76 West First Street
Corning, New York

11. INTEGRITY:

This house was built between 1893 and 1898 on the site of previous house that was moved to the rear (south) of this parcel between 1888 and 1893 so that this house could be built. The bays on the front (north) and west sides were added between 1898 and 1903. The two porches on the rear (side) and the projecting bay on the east were added between 1903 and 1908.

As for the original, pre-1888 house that was relocated to the rear of the site (later to become 76 1/2 West First Street), it was torn down between 1921 and 1930 and no evidence of that house remains today.

The shed and barn complex shown on the first Sanborn maps of the area in 1893 were removed after 1930.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

The south side of West First Street in the block to the west of Courthouse Park is characterized by larger houses than those on the north side of the street. The structures to the east of the former location of the now-channelized Monkey Run Creek are all large houses set on large lots. Many of these parcels in Block 77 were developed prior to 1857. This voting booth was built after much of this side of West First Street was already developed.

There is no consistent setback among the houses on the south side of this block of West First St nor is there a common theme in architectural styles either.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This Queen Anne-style house was built between 1893 and 1898, presumably by John and Henry Beck, operators of a local meat market, who owned the property in the early 1890s. Its cutaway bay windows, steeply pitched cross gable roof and preponderance of prominent gables are typical of the Queen Anne style of domestic architecture as described in A Field Guide to American Architecture (Virginia and Lee McAlester).

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18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE, continued:

The exterior is covered with vinyl siding, but the gables ends are decorated with fish scale wood shingles. There is a prominent Palladian-style window in the larger gable end of the front (north) facade. There is a porch on the northeast and northwest corners of the house. The porch on the northeast corner abuts the square three-story tower form. The tower form is capped with a pyramidal roof form which sits on eaves supported by carved wood brackets. Beneath this roof form are three nine-over-one elongated double-hung sash windows on each facade of the tower.

The double-hung sash windows found on all of the facades are one-over-one in makeup and probably, because that feature post-dates the Queen Anne-style, are not the original sashes for the house.

The projecting bay on the north facade has elaborately carved window hood mouldings at the second floor level.

The roof is covered in composition shingles. The porch on the east facade, to the rear, has latticework detailing at the landing.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

Built on the location of a previous dwelling that had dated back to at least 1857, this double house used to look out onto Monkey Run Creek directly adjacent to the north of the property until 1893 when the creek was covered over in this area and the present Gaiss Lane was constructed. The house was constructed by John and Henry Beck, brothers who owned a meat market and wholesale sausage manufacturing company. The Becks lived to the east of this house in 65 West First Street. As for the Becks, themselves, the first reference to them had been an 1874-75 directory reference to a John Beck who was listed as a bartender.

This is the only Queen Anne-style residence in this block of West First Street with a prominent tower form. The wood hood mouldings above the window are also unique to this area.

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Corning, New York

21. SOURCES:

Texts and Miscellaneous:

- Boyd's Corning City Directories 1872-73, 1874-75.
City of Corning Deed Research: Deed 1248, Page 51.
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.

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72-76 West First Street
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21. SOURCES:

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



72-76 West First