

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. _____

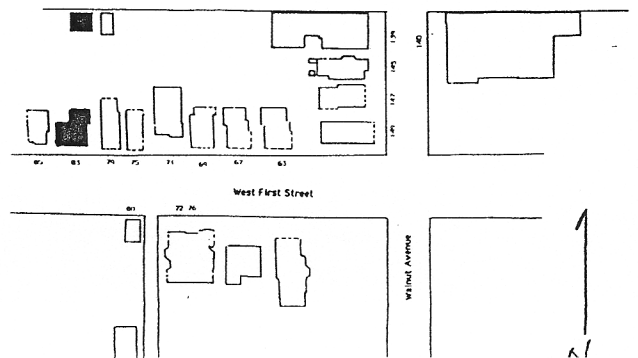
YOUR NAME: Matt O'Brien DATE: May 14, 1992
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY TELEPHONE: (607) 255-6851
ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 83 West First Street.
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [x]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Rose M. Cutler ADDRESS: 31 Buffalo Street, Corning
- 6. USE: Original: Private Residence Present: 3 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 [] b. stone [] c. brick [] d. board & batten []
 - e. cobblestone [] f. shingles [] g. stucco [] other: composition board siding
- 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 [] c. fair [x] d. deteriorated []
- 11. INTEGRITY:
 - a. original site [] b. moved [x] if so, when? Between 1903 and 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: ca. 1835-1840.

ARCHITECT: Unknown.

BUILDER: Unknown

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

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83 West First Street
Corning, New York

11. INTEGRITY

The only building on the north side of West First Street that predates 1857, this house was altered between 1888 and 1893 when porches on the south and southeast end of the east wing were added. By 1903 the extension on the rear (south) was removed and a two-story addition was constructed in its place. After 1948 a one-and-one-half story section was added to the northeast corner of the rear facade.

There is one remaining building on the rear (north side) of the parcel. Known originally as 24 1/4 West First Street and today as 83 1/2 West First Street, this front-gabled wood-sheathed dwelling is ca. 1898-1903. The one story addition on the west side was added between 1930 and 1948. A previous extension to the rear (south) was removed before 1921. At that time it was known as 24 1/4 West First Street but is now listed as 83 1/2 West First Street.

Three other outbuildings shown on the Southside neighborhood survey plan for this parcel are no longer in existence. They had dated from ca. 1903, 1908 and 1921, respectively. Their foundations are still visible. One of them had been listed as 85 1/2 West First Street, for which there is still a separate listed owner in tax records.

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, there is a church in this row of residences that 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.

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18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This two-story house has composition board siding with sheet metal end caps and a composition shingle roof. The main entry on the west portion of the house does not conform to the fenestration pattern of the windows on this face and, despite its Federal Style design, may have been a later addition. The east portion of the house is recessed behind a porch with a roof.

The building's main hipped roof is set at a slight angle and the chimney that projects from the roof is constructed of brick that has been parged. The rear (north) addition in the rear is clad in composition board siding and has two different types of windows illustrating the different building campaigns which the house has survived, wounded but undaunted nevertheless.

As for 83 1/2 West First Street, it is a two-story front-gabled barn form clad with vertical board and batten siding. Attached to the east side of this barn is a one-story addition. Both the roof of the barn and its addition are covered with sheets of asphalt, and there are two pairs of barn doors that open onto the alley. It is unclear if this building is vacant.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

Built prior to 1857, 83 West First Street was listed by 1948 as apartment building. The remaining outbuilding, 83 1/2 West First Street, described above was built between 1898 and 1903. A separate owner is currently listed for that property.

In 1893, 83 West First Street was owned by Mrs J. B. Lawrence, widow of John Lawrence who had lived at this location since at least 1872-73. Mr. Lawrence was an employee of Fall Brook Freight House of Corning in 1891. The house is presently listed as a three-family residence and 83 1/2 West First St is presently denoted as "residential vacant land with improvements."

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83 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.

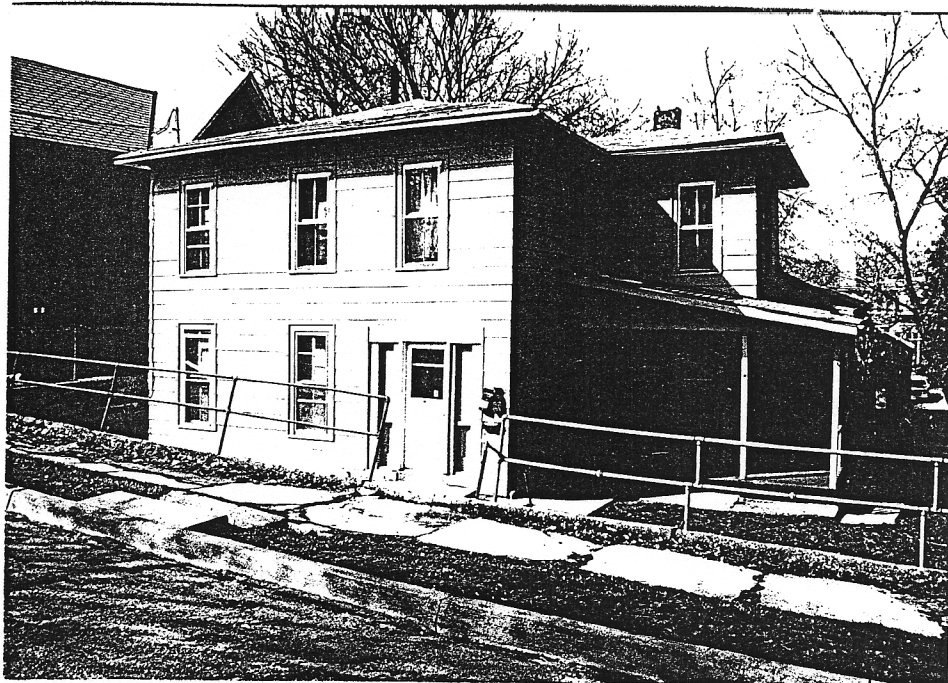
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21. SOURCES, continued:

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.



83 W. First ↗