

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

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

UNIQUE SITE NO.
QUAD
SERIES
NEG. NO.

YOUR NAME: Eric P. Avner
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY
ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

DATE: Fall, 1993
TELEPHONE: (607)255-4331

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 130 East Fourth Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [X]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Richard M. & Susan E. Diez ADDRESS: Same as above
- 6. USE: Original: single-family residence 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: a. clapboard[] b. stone[] c. brick[] d. board & batten[]
e. cobblestone[] f. shingles[] g. stucco[] other: vinyl 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[X] b. good[] 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[X] b. zoning[] c. roads[]
d. developers[] e. deterioration[]
f. other:
15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY: a. barn[] b. carriage house[] c. garage[X]
d. privy[] e. shed[] f. greenhouse[]
g. shop[] h. gardens[]
i. landscape features: See Continuation Sheet
j. other:
16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING: (Check more than one if necessary)
a. open land[] b. woodland[]
c. scattered buildings[X]
d. densely built-up[] e. commercial[]
f. industrial[] g. residential[]
h. other:

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDINGS AND SURROUNDINGS:

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: 1906

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES:

The structure in its original form included a verandah that spanned its entire north facade. This porch was removed sometime between 1930 and 1948. Also during this period, a garage was constructed at the southern edge of the site, adjacent to the alley. This structure has been renovated in recent years. Vinyl siding was installed on the house and garage in 1988.

15i. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:

An in-ground pool was added to the site in 1989. There is a six-foot vertical wood plank fence enclosing the south half of the property between the south facade of the house and the alley.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

The houses on the south side of East Fourth Street are elevated on a 10 foot bluff overlooking the street. This structure is situated on that bluff. The structure is consistent with its neighbors in size, east-to-west separation, and setback.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This two-story structure is essentially a rectangular block with a side-gable roof, designed in the Colonial Revival Style of architecture. Interestingly, the ridge of the roof lies perpendicular to the street so that the gable ends are positioned parallel to the street. This house exhibits many of the identifying characteristics of the Colonial Revival Style as presented in the McAlesters' book *A Field Guide to American Houses*. These include an accentuated front door, normally with decorative crown supported by pilasters; windows with double-hung sash, usually with multi-pane glazing in one or both sash; and the windows frequently in adjacent pairs.

The main entrance to the structure is off-center in the north gable end-wall. The entablature over the door is decorated with dentils echoing the rafter-end motif used under the eaves. The gable end of the north facade features a round-headed double-hung window with slightly decorated surround. The west facade is highlighted by a single-story five-sided projecting bay and an irregular placement of six-over-one double-hung windows of various sizes. Also of note is the triple set of square casement windows found at the north end of the west facade. There is a hipped dormer found on the roof directly above the projecting bay. The east facade features a two-story, three-sided projecting bay, above which another hipped dormer is located. The south end of the house continues the same form and decoration as the north, but is at a slightly smaller scale. The southeastern corner of the house incorporates a one-story square porch, the roof of which is supported by three Doric columns at the porch's southeast corner. There is a latticework rail around the upper edge of the porch roof.

The house sits on an irregularly-coursed, rough-cut sandstone foundation. The foundation of the garage is poured concrete. There is an in-ground pool immediately to the south of the house. The renovated garage is sided with the same type of vinyl as the house, and has panelled shutters flanking the windows.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

This house is constructed on Lot #5 of Block 39, as laid out in the 1855 Brewer and Canfield map of Corning. As of 1893, the land was held by M.D. Walker, the founder of the Corning Construction Company. However, the land was transferred and the house constructed by the William B. Walker Family in 1906.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE (continued):

William B. Walker and his father were partners in William Walker & Son, specializing in insurance and real estate, but they were also dealers in hats and gloves from their office on Market Street. William B. Walker occupied the house only a short time, from approximately the time of its construction until his death in 1907. He was survived by his widow, Helen C. Walker, and his daughter Anne Walker. These two women, and a servant, Alice Danus, lived in the house until Helen's death in 1918. The house was owned and occupied by Anne Walker until 1935.

21. SOURCES:

McAlester, V. and L. 1991. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

City of Corning Building Permits, City Engineer's Office, Corning, New York.

Corning City Directories, Boyd's 1874-75; Hanford 1893-1950.

Map of Corning. 1855. Buffalo: H. Brewer and C.A. Canfield.

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

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

Sanborn Map Company. *Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, New York*, (1898, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, 1930, and 1948).

Steuben County Deed Records, Steuben County Clerk's Office, Bath, New York.

Steuben County Tax Records, Steuben County Records Center, Bath, New York. (1860-1909)

United States Bureau of the Census. 1910 Census Data for Corning City, New York.

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS: (To be attached later)