

**BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY \_\_\_\_\_

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: Dana Peak

DATE: November 15, 1992

YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall

TELEPHONE: 256-7101

ORGANIZATION (if any): Preservation Planning Workshop, Cornell University

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**IDENTIFICATION**

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 14 East Fourth Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [ ] b. private [X]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Mark and Lesley Robinson ADDRESS: 14 East Fourth Street
- 6. USE: Original: Residence Present: 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:
- 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  
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 [X]  
h. other:

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING 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: Built between 1883-88

ARCHITECT: Not Known

BUILDER: Not Known

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES:

In terms of massing, it does not appear there were any major alterations undertaken between 1893-48. The 1893 Heermans map of Corning suggests consistency in the massing of the house between 1893-1903; however, documentation has not yet been uncovered which illustrates how the house appeared from 1883-1893.

Between 1908-13, the front (north) porch was altered and possibly replaced by a porch which projects east beyond the house, and wraps around the east corner.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

The residence is located in the middle East Fourth Street on the east side block fifty-five, lot three. The north side of the block is generally dominated by both Italianate and Queen Anne architectural-style houses. The neighboring houses on East Fourth Street are situated in approximately the same place on their lots as 14 East Fourth Street.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This two-and-one-half-story, clapboard house is constructed in the Queen Anne Style, popular from 1880-1910. The Queen Anne Style quickly became the popular architectural fashion in the late 1870s, as the Italianate Style began to decline in popularity. The steeply pitched roofs with a dominant front-facing shingled gable, an asymmetrical facade accentuated by a front porch, and cut-away bay window are features of the Queen Anne Style.

The plan of 14 East Fourth Street is basically square, with a one-story front/side projecting porch. The steeply pitched roof is the most prominent feature indicative of the Queen Anne Style. The asphalt shingled roof is dominated by a main gable constructed with a north/south orientation, intersected by a series of cross gables. Supporting the western corner of the north wall is a one-story cut-away bay window consisting of three one-over-one, double-hung sash. The northern portion recedes under the corner and the eastern portion projects from the east wall. This is a device used to create lively facade, where the Queen Anne Style attempts to avoid smooth facades. The clapboarded and textured wood surface of gable-end is highlighted by a large window consisting of twenty-four panes. The window is crowned by a tip of the gable end which projects even further than the main gable-end and is supported by small brackets. The second story north facade fenestration consist of two large assymetrically placed windows also consisting of twenty-four panes. The front entry door is highlighted by a gabled assymetrical projecting porch which is located on the eastern portion of the north facade. The gable end are finished with clapboard, and the western portion of the porch is enclosed with three one-over-one sash. The balustrade has been replaced by a wrought iron railing, and the skirting is enclosed with clapboard. The east and west facades are constructed with sloping, projecting gable ends supported by brackets and installed with two small windows. The first story of the east facade is detailed with two sash which are surrounded by decorative wood which crowns two small sash below.

By 1930, a small hipped roof garage was constructed on the east side of the southern end of lot three.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

One of the early owners of lot three on block fifty-five was Joseph L. Scott. The ownership of the property begins approximately fifteen years before the house was built. On March 18, 1872, Scott sold the property to William M. Mallory for \$400. This relatively small sum of money indicates that there was probably no house involved in the transaction. It appears that a house was not built during the Scott's term of ownership because on April 3, 1883, Joseph Scott and his wife Bridget Agnes sold the property to Frank D. Kingsbury for only \$700. On December 19, 1888, Kingsbury sold the property to Eva Dickinson Wilbur for \$1,750. This increase in sum indicates that by 1888 there was a house involved in the transaction, which was probably built by Kingsbury. Eva and her husband Dr. William Cuttino Wilbur remained in the house until September 17, 1917 when the house was purchased by Elizabeth A. McNamara.

14 East Fourth Street maintains historical importance in the Southside neighborhood because it provides documentation resulting from the prosperity of local merchants and professionals like Joseph Scott, Frank Kingsbury, Elizabeth McNamara and Dr. W. Cuttino Wilbur.

Joseph L. Scott was a merchant tailor in Corning for 60 years, and he died at the age of 82 on January 30, 1914.

Frank Kingsbury was the founder and President of Corning Co-Operative Savings and Loan Association, organized in 1889. For many years Kingsbury was the principal owner of Corning Glass Works, of which his father Lewis C. Kingsbury, was one of the early founders and owners. He possessed extensive real estate holdings, and was actively engaged in the insurance business during his lifetime. Frank Kingsbury was an active and concerned member of the community of Corning. In the 1880s, Kingsbury supported the community through his volunteer work for the Hook and Ladder Alliance, a company of Corning's volunteer fire department. In the 1890s, he was on the Sewer Commission as well as being the Director of the Citizens Electric Railway Company. In addition, he contributed to the establishment of the Corning Hospital in the early twentieth century. Kingsbury was on the hospital association committee in 1896, and in 1902, he purchased the premises of Corning Hospital and presented it to the Corning Hospital Association to enable them to build a new hospital. In 1903, Kingsbury contributed \$4,000 to the construction of the new main building of the Corning Hospital Association. Frank Kingsbury lived a varied and full life until he died on January 15, 1916.

Dr. W. C. Wilbur was a dental surgeon originally from Charleston, South Carolina. In November of 1885, he purchased the dental business of Dr. F. D. Beales in Corning, which by 1893, became the office Wilbur and Showers. Dr. Wilbur was also heavily involved with the movement to establish a city hospital in Corning. On April 14, 1896, Dr. Wilbur signed a notice along with twenty-one other doctors and neighbors of Corning, and a public meeting was held two days later to consider the project. The financial commitment and dedicated efforts of Frank Kingsbury and Dr. Wilbur assisted in paving the way for the birth of a new city hospital in Corning.

Elizabeth A. McNamara is an example of one of the few recorded women entrepreneurs of Corning's business district. In 1899, she established a short-hand and commercial school in the Howell Block of downtown Corning.

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14 East Fourth Street  
Corning, New York

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE, Continued:

In addition to the historical importance of the residents of 14 East fourth Street, the building itself has architectural importance. The house is an excellent example of late nineteenth century Queen Anne-style architecture eloquently illustrating this unique, textural style.

21. SOURCES:

Corning City Directories; Steuben County Deeds; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, 1930 and 1948; Harry C. Heerman's City Engineer map of 1893; McAlester's A Field Guide to American Houses, and Corning and Vicinity.