

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: 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: 146 East Fourth Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [X]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Annette VanOort 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[X] 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[.] b. good[X] 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[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: 1894

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES:

The only notable alteration to this structure and its site since original construction was the addition of a garage at the southern edge of the site, adjacent to the alley, sometime between 1921 and 1930. The vinyl siding was installed in the mid-1980s.

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-and-a-half-story side-gabled structure exhibits many of the identifying characteristics of the Shingle Style as presented in the McAlesters' book *A Field Guide to American Houses*. These include a steeply-pitched roof line, the use of shingles as a wall cladding material; multi-level eaves; towers, often blended into the house by a continuous roof line; strips of three or more windows; a variety of dormers; and irregular window spacing

The east and west facades are dominated by one-and-a-half-story gables. The front (north) facade features an engaged octagonal tower on the northeast corner. The north and east sides of the tower are flush with the north and east facades of the house. The semi-octagonal roof of the tower extends back to form a cross gable with the main roof. The front porch extends across the west half of the front facade. Its curved roof parallels a flare in the large gable on the west facade. A large hipped roof dormer is found above the front porch. The roofline of the dormer is level with the roof line of the semi-octagonal tower. On the east facade, there is a two story three-sided bay centered under the gable. There is a narrow band of decorative shingles above its second story. A band of three nine-over-one windows is centered above the bay. Above the band of windows, the gable peak is clad in shingles. The west facade shares the same one-and-a-half story gable form as the east facade. The west facade includes a one-story bay window, off-set slightly south of center. In addition to the typical one-over-one second-story windows, there is a more elaborate three-part window set at a lower level, resting on a stringcourse. The three parts of this window are a pair of vertically-oriented windows under a horizontal window spanning the width of both of the below windows. This three-part window is topped by a small swan-neck pediment. Above a pair of six-over-one windows, the west gable peak is clad in shingles.

The house sits on a coursed, rough-cut sandstone foundation. There is a wood frame garage at the south of the site, adjacent to the alley. It is clad in drop siding and rests on a poured concrete foundation. The hipped-roof garage is roofed with the same asphalt shingles as the house.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

This house is constructed on Lot #7 of Block 39, as laid out in the 1855 Brewer and Canfield map of Corning. As of 1893, the land was held by Frank Osborn (b. March, 1861), but the site was still vacant. In the next year, Mr. Osborn, a grocer by trade, constructed this Shingle-Style house. His wife, Helen B. Walker Osborn, and his mother-in-law, Nellie Walker lived in the house with him. Frank Osborn sold the house to Frank T. Maxner in 1902. Mr. Maxner was an engineer for the New York Central Railroad. He and his wife occupied the house for the next 43 years.

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.

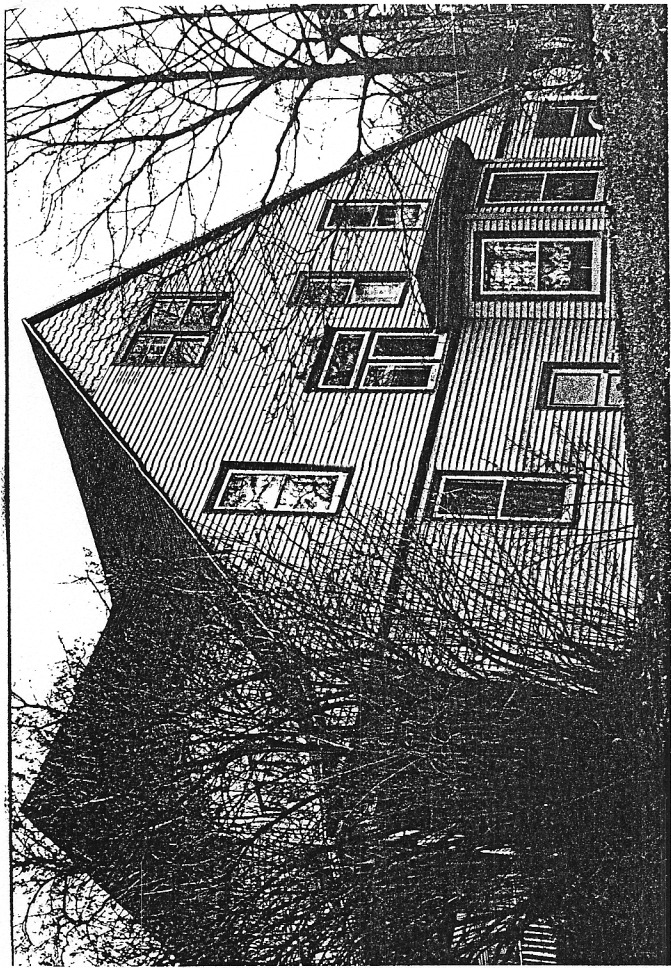
Sanborn Map Company. *Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, New York*, (1898, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, 1930, and 1948).

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.

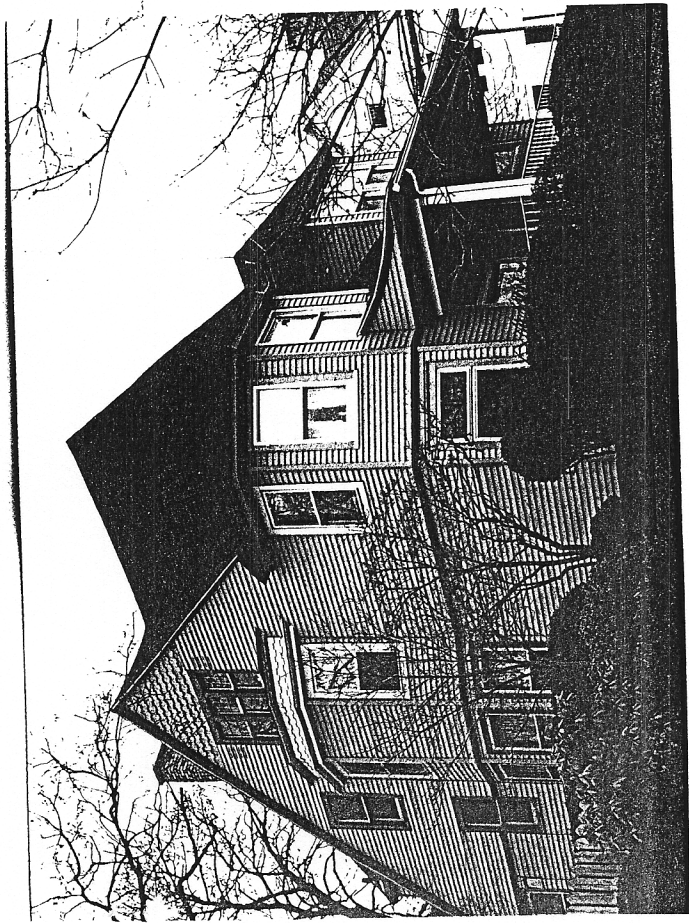
ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS: (To be attached later)



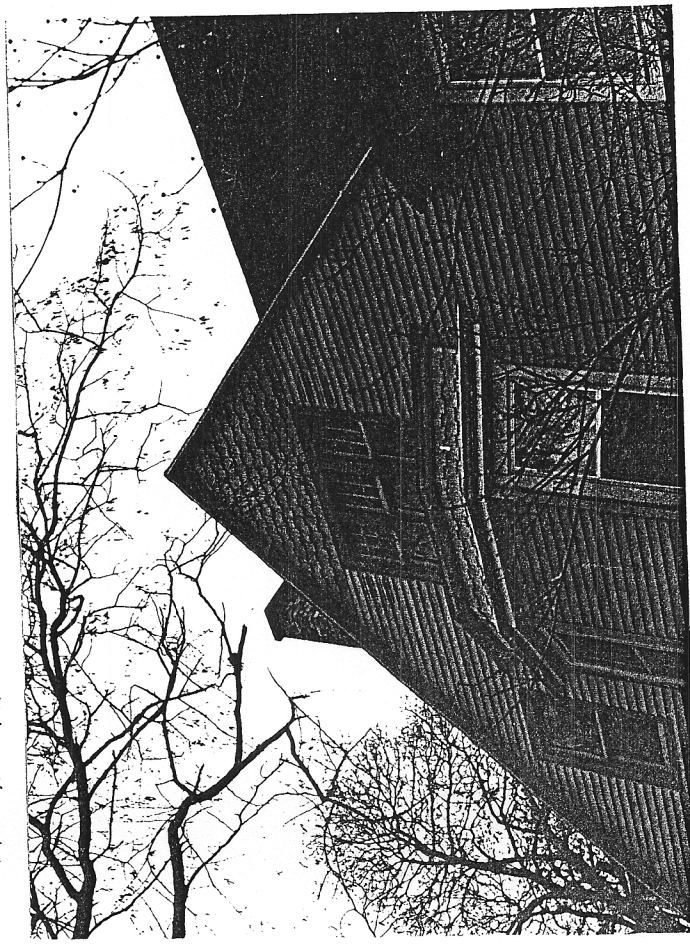
146 E. 4th



Detail - 146 E. 4th



146 E. 4th



146 E. 4th