

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION
& HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
(518) 474-0479

UNIQUE SITE NO. _____
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

YOUR NAME: Jemiter L. Baskerville DATE: December 11, 1992
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall TELEPHONE: (607) 255-6851
ORGANIZATION (if any): Preservation Planning Workshop, Cornell University

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME(S):
2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Coming VILLAGE:
3. STREET LOCATION: 15 West Fourth Street
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [X]
5. PRESENT OWNER: Michael J. & Kristi A. Astolffi ADDRESS:
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 and batten []
 e. cobblestone [] f. shingles [] g. stucco [] other:

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: a. wood frame with interlocking joints []
(if known) 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 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:

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES

While Sanborn map research indicates that this residence has retained its footprint over time since 1903, the maps also show the existence of a one-story porch on the main (south) facade of the house which is not present today. In addition, according to building permit records, a redwood sun deck was added to the rear (north) facade in 1971. A possible discrepancy in maps show that a saltbox addition to the rear (north) facade may have been added between 1893 and 1903.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

This residence is of similar size and setback to the houses on either side of it. It is located in the center of the lot (east to west). A garage is located in the northwest corner of the lot. Sanborn maps indicate a two-story garage as early as 1903.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE

This house is an example of a mostly Greek Revival style design with Italianate-style influences. While the Greek Revival style of architecture predates the Italianate style, there is a period of time, 1840 - 1860, in which their popularity peaks are concurrent. Given the predominance of Italianate-style houses in the Southside neighborhood, it is not unusual for a mixture of the two styles to combine in the design of a single residence. The Italianate features of this house are its long (vertically) windows on the front (south) facade, and the use of a bay window on the east facade. However, its high-pitched gable roof, symmetrical facade, classical detailing at the entrance and gable-end detail on the south facade, all recall the Greek Revival style.

The house is clad in wood shingles with louvered shutters on all windows facing south. The house sits on a rubble-stone foundation with basement windows. The south facade is three bays wide with the entrance in the third bay--the east end of the south facade. The first level has a four-part window in the first and second bays made up of two-over-eight-light windows in each section. The entrance door is surrounded by classical Greek Revival-style detailing including Ionic-order fluted pilasters at either side of the door. The door is capped with an abbreviated entablature--all executed in wood. Wrought-iron railing is used on both sides of the entry stoop.

The second level has three two-over-two-light double-hung sash, one in each bay. The gable end has a fanlight near its apex. The south side of the cross-gable projection (on the east side) contains one window on each of the two levels--eight-over-eight-light double-hung sash. The east facade features a bay window on the first level, with two-over-two light double-hung sash in all three sections. The rear (north) side of the cross-gable projection is actually a salt-box-shaped mass (sloping northward). This section of the house also includes the chimney stack (a pre-fab fireplace and chimney were installed in 1980 according to building permit records). A two-story garage is located on the property. It has a gable roof and is covered in wood clapboarding. An entrance door is located on the south facade.

CONTINUATION SHEET, Page 2
15 West Fourth Street
Corning, New York

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

The Southside neighborhood of Corning is historically and architecturally significant as an intact manifestation of Corning's growth from an early nineteenth-century settlement through its very prosperous early twentieth-century period. The first settlers to the area which is now the City of Corning arrived late in 1789. The Chemung River which runs through Corning provided an early transportation link to points south including Pennsylvania and southern New York. Lumber was the primary industry during this early period. With the relocation of the Brooklyn Flint Glass Works to Corning, the town witnessed its first manufacturing advance. This company, later to be renamed the Corning Glass Works and then Corning, Inc., would dictate much of the future growth and prosperity of Corning. The Southside neighborhood above Third Street would begin to be settled in the late 1870s. In the area of Southside in which Blocks 56 and 68 are located, the Italianate and Second Empire styles of architecture would continue to be popular during the 1860s and 1870s. By the 1880s, the Queen Anne Style would become quite prominent. Other styles such as the Colonial Revival Style would also become popular after the turn of the century.

Deed research indicates that this property was owned by Peter M. Griffin after he purchased it from William Jessup in 1883. The Griffin family owned the property until the late 1940s. Since that time, a number of people have held the deed. Including William T. Gray, Oscar W. Hess, Earle Miller, Donald Nevins, the Doelles, Stouts, and Knights. The Burgess family would purchase the house in 1986 and then sell it a few years later to its present owners.

21. SOURCES

Atlas of Steuben County, New York. M. Levy. Philadelphia: J.E. Gillette, publisher, 1857.

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, & Company, 1879.

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

Corning City Directories, Boyd's 1872-73, 1874-75. Hanford 1893-1920.

City of Corning Tax Assessment Rolls, Corning City Hall Tax Assessor, Corning, NY.

Hakes, Harlo. Landmarks of Steuben County. Syracuse: D. Mason & Company, 1896.

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

Steuben County Directory, 1868-69. Syracuse: Hamilton Child.

Steuben County Deed Records, Steuben County Clerk's Office, Bath, NY.



↑ 16 West 4th