

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: Richard Carlson
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall
ORGANIZATION (if any): Preservation Planning Workshop, Cornell University
DATE: Dec. 17, 1992
TELEPHONE: _____

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Coming VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 22 West Fourth St.
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [x]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Paul and Patricia Bennett ADDRESS: 22 West Fourth St.
- 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

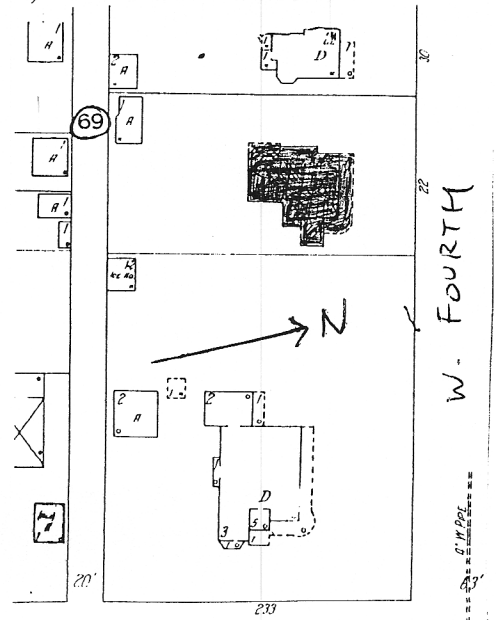
DESCRIPTION

- 8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard [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:



W. FOURTH

11/17/92

14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known b. zoning c. roads
 d. developers e. deterioration
 f. other:

15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS 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 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: 1889

ARCHITECT: Otis Dockstader

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

Continuation Sheet
22 West Fourth Street
Corning, New York

11c. According to Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps, between 1903 and 1908, a small front porch was added on the west side of the front, extending about halfway across the facade. Between 1908 and 1913, the porch was extended across the entire facade and around the northeast corner. Just around the corner, where the newly-extended front porch ended, another small porch was raised from one to two stories during the same years, and a small shed in back was removed at the same time. The porches have now reverted to their pre-1908 configuration, however.

17. This house is located on the south side of Fourth Street in a residential neighborhood. This section of Fourth Street contains primarily Italianate, Queen Anne, and Colonial Revival-style residences. This house is larger than the others on the block except for a large Second Empire-style house immediately to the east. The lot size is also slightly larger than the others, again with the exception of the lot to the east, although the setback is similar.

18. This two-and-a-half-story wood-frame residence is an excellent example of the Queen Anne Style, which flourished between about 1880 and 1910. This house exhibits many features characteristic of that style, such as irregular massing, gables, turrets, polygonal bays, a variety of window sizes and shapes,

Continuation Sheet
22 West Fourth Street
Corning, New York

18. (cont.)

and non-flat wall faces. The wall flares between each story.

The front facade, which faces north, features a large gable with a recessed window and projecting gable peak, a grooved exterior chimney, and a three-story turret. The ribbon window in the main gable alternates between three-light and two-light sections. The gable of the one-story entry porch features shingles in a wavy pattern.

The east facade features an open first-story porch under a second story enclosed sleeping porch, and a three-story polygonal bay window immediately south of the porches. The window in the gable on the rear of the house is an incomplete Palladian-style window, which includes only the middle and left-hand sections of the normally tripartite division.

20. This house was constructed in 1888-89 for Robert H. Canfield, then assistant superintendent of the Fall Brook Railroad. Curiously, although the Corning Daily Democrat noted on Nov. 14, 1888, that Mr. Canfield "will build a residence" on his newly purchased Fourth Street lot, just two months later the same newspaper reported that the house was "fast approaching completion." The chronology of construction is therefore uncertain, since such an elaborate house would surely have taken much longer to construct than two months in the middle of winter.

Continuation Sheet
22 West Fourth Street
Corning, New York

20. (cont.)

The chronology is further complicated by the fact that, according to a partial list of the designs of the Elmira architectural firm of Pierce and Dockstader, 1883-90, listed in Roger Gates Reed's thesis, Architects of Standing, the design for R.H. Canfield's house in Corning was dated 1889.

The house was designed by Otis Dockstader, who also designed nearby 201 Pine Street in 1890. The house at 22 West Fourth Street exhibits features common to other houses designed by the architectural firm of Pierce & Dockstader (and later Pierce & Bickford) which still exist in Corning and Elmira. These features include shingle cladding on most of the wall surfaces, turrets, massive chimneys, and a large front-facing gable with a recessed band of windows.

Robert H. Canfield was a civil engineer. During the 1890s he worked as assistant superintendent of the Fall Brook Railway Co. In the 1900s he was chosen as the first superintendent of public works in Corning, and was simultaneously secretary and manager of the Canfield Brake Co. (bicycle brakes and glass cutters' supplies). From 1917 to 1944, he was a civil engineer with the Corning Glass Works. The park adjacent to the court house was renamed Canfield Park in 1944, a year before his death, in honor of his achievements as superintendent of public works.

Continuation Sheet
22 West Fourth Street
Corning, New York

20. (cont.)

In 1905, Canfield expanded the property by purchasing an 18-foot-wide strip of land to the west of the house from Richard and Helen O'Brien. At the time of Canfield's death, the property was valued at \$8,800; it was sold in June 1945, for that amount. The house was subsequently divided into three single-family units, one of which was occupied by the owner. This arrangement continued for several years, but today the house appears to have reverted to its original use as a single-family residence.

21. Sources:

Bird's-Eye View map of Corning, 1882.

Corning building inspectors files, Corning.

Corning city directories (1872, 1874, 1893-1991).

Corning Daily Democrat, Nov. 14, 1888; Jan. 12, 1889.

Reed, Roger Gates. Architects of Standing: Pierce & Bickford, Elmira, New York, 1890-1930. Cornell University Master's thesis, 1981.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps (1893, 1898, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, 1930, 1948)

Steuben County cemetery records, Corning Public Library.

Steuben County deeds, Steuben County court house, Bath.

Steuben County surrogate's court records, Steuben County court house, Bath.

United States census (1880, 1900, 1910).