

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTOR FORM

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION
& HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
(516) 474-0479

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

YOUR NAME: Jemifer L. Baskerville
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall

DATE: December 11, 1992
TELEPHONE: (607) 255-6851

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

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 7 West Fourth Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [X]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Martha F. and Sarai H. Smith 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: Ca. 1938

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

This residence is of similar size and setback from the street compared to the houses to either side of it. An outbuilding is located on the lot as well.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE

This is a two-story English Cottage-style house as defined in American Vernacular Design 1870-1940 by Gottfried and Jennings. This house is typical of the style with asymmetrical massing of steeply pitched roofs and unusual fenestration patterns. This house was built ca. 1938, near the end of the popularity of the English Cottage style in America (popular in the first few decades of the twentieth century).

The house is clad in wood clapboarding. The front (south) facade features the contrasting rooflines of the steeply pitched gables. The main mass, or front gable is three bays wide on the first floor with the entrance occupying the first bay, and two six-over-one-light double-hung sash in the second and third bays. The entrance is framed by neo-classical detailing executed in wood. A segmental pediment with fluted accents is located just above the door, and fluted pilasters (of no particular order) frame the door. There is a screen door and wrought-iron railing at the sides of the stoop. The second level contains a six-over-one-light double-hung sash centered in the gable end.

The east facade contains an irregular fenestration pattern comprised of five windows of differing composition--including a double four-over-four-light double-hung sash in the gable end. There is a one-story rear porch on the north facade with a second-level deck above it lined with a wood banister rail. The west facade contains a brick end wall chimney.

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 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

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20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE (Continued)

prominent. Other styles such as the Colonial Revival Style would also become popular after the turn of the century.

Map and deed research indicate that this property was owned by the Ahle family from as early as 1893 to 1926. In 1919 a portion of the lot was conveyed to Harry S. Hunt. By 1926, Hunt had title to all of lot fifteen. Map and city directory information show that a house did not appear on the property until 1938. However, the Hunts also owned the adjacent lot and lived in a house on that property. Harry S. Hunt was the owner and manager of Hunt and Sullivan Cut Glass Company in 1905 and would later become the proprietor of the Hunt Glass Works in the 1920s. Walter Oakley is listed as living in 7 West Fourth Street in 1938-39 directories, although he would not acquire the deed until 1941. Oakley was a supervisor at Corning Glass Works. However, Oakley moved out four years later to reside further down Fourth Street at 31 East Fourth Street. He rented the house to Edwin Guyer, who is listed as a co-owner, until 1953. In that year, the house was sold to Martha F. Smith who owns the property today.

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 1898-1920.

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

Gottfried, Herbert, and Jennings, Jan. American Vernacular Design 1670 - 1940. Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1968.

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.

↙ 7 West 4th

