

**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: Jeffrey A. Harris

DATE: December 18, 1992

YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**IDENTIFICATION**

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben                      TOWN/CITY: Coming                      VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 83 East Fourth Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [ ]    b. private [ x ]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Francis P. Fehlner                      ADDRESS: 83 East Fourth St.
- 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 [ ] 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



↑ 83 East 4th



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: ca. 1885

ARCHITECT: Unknown

BUILDER: Unknown

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

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Corning, New York

#### 11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES:

North wing addition: 1903-08  
Front porch extended to wraparound: 1908-13  
West one-story addition: 1921-1930  
Front porch removed, Second story added to west addition, two-story addition in southeast corner, one-story addition in rear: Since 1948

#### 17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

This residence, located on the north side of East Fourth Street, is situated amongst an eclectic mix of houses of a variety of architectural styles, including the Queen Anne, Italianate, and Colonial Revival Styles. There is a wide variety of sizes to these homes, which are situated along both sides of the street with irregular spacing and setback widths. The houses on this block are all located at the southern end of their narrow lots, and have expansive rear yards sloping down to the north towards the alley which bisects the block. Like many of the others, this house has a garage at the northern end of the property, accessed from this alley.

#### 18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

83 East Fourth Street is a typical example of the "box-like" Italianate-style homes found throughout the surrounding Southside Neighborhood. In Corning, most of these were built during the post-Civil War era up until the early 1880s, and this particular structure dates from the later period. Its two-story height, three-bay width, and box-like shape are common characteristics of this subtype of the Italianate Style. Other identifying features are the hipped roof with a wide overhang and the vertical emphasis to the window openings.

The shape of the primary block of the house is nearly square, rising to a height of two stories. This, in addition to the small extension to the east with the chimney, is probably the original house, with the extending wings being later additions. These two-story projections on the east, west, and north sides of the house imitate the hipped roof and window dimensions of the original part. On the front (south) facade of the central block, a tripartite window with three six-over-six sash windows to the west of the side-hall entrance of the house breaks up the regular three-bay pattern established by the second floor windows. Nearly all windows on the house are six-over-six, double-hung sash, with aluminum storm windows and louvered shutters. The entrance, originally sheltered by a one-story porch, features a casing with fluted pilasters and a modillioned cornice, framing a paneled wood door. It is fronted by a concrete-and-brick stoop, only one step above grade. The entrance, windows, and shutters are not original to the house, nor may be the window casings. East of the central block, a one-bay wide extension features a tripartite window on the first-floor level, with a single window on the second-floor level. This upper level is slightly set back from that below it, fronted by a wood balustrade on the edge of the first-floor roof.

The east facade features an irregular arrangement of narrow sash windows on both levels, plus another tripartite window on the first floor of the southeast wing. On the west facade, a side entrance is located on the south side of the extending one-bay deep wing. The rear (north) facade has a variety of projecting bays and porches, plus an entrance to a walk-in basement, which adds to the house's two-story height.

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The rear yard features a small gable-roofed shed and a 22'-0" x 12'-0", gable-roofed two-car garage on a concrete foundation next to the alley.

#### 20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

Though 83 East Fourth Street is a classic example of the small-scale Italianate-style homes that were so popular in the area during this time period, numerous alterations and additions have destroyed much of its original integrity. The house was originally owned by several members of the Doyle family, including Patrick Doyle Sr., from 1883 to 1890, and his sons, Patrick Jr. and Bernard. Bernard, a merchant tailor, owned the house between until 1893, when he sold it to his brother. Patrick Doyle and his wife lived there from 1893 to 1914, the year of Patrick's death. He worked for Corning Glass Works as a stationary engineer, watchman, and glassblower, and every subsequent owner of the property, except for one, has been an employee of the glass company.

#### 21. SOURCES:

Corning City Directories; Steuben County Deeds; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1918, 1923, 1930, 1948; Assessment Records; Bird's-Eye View of Corning, 1882; Map of Corning, Harry C. Heermans, City Engineer, 1893; Building Permit Records.

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**MAP INFORMATION:**

1882 - House does not exist on site, according to Bird's-Eye View.

1893 - House exists on site, with name, "P. Doyle."

1903 - Wood-framed house exists at 83 East Fourth Street.

**CITY DIRECTORY INFORMATION:**

1893 - Patrick Doyle, fireman, home at 83 East Fourth.

1895 - Patrick Doyle, stationary engineer, home at 83 East Fourth Street.

**DEED INFORMATION:**

May 1, 1867 - Joseph Fellows to John and Mary Driscoll, Lot 14, Block 51. Book 114, page 329.

January 2, 1883 - John and Mary Driscoll to Patrick and Catharine I. Doyle, for \$50, Lot 14, Block 51. Book 175, page 369.

February 15, 1890 - Catharine Doyle, widow, to Bernard J. and Catherine Doyle, Book 219, page 499.