

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

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: Lex Campbell  
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY  
ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

DATE: Fall 1993  
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IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 96 East Fourth Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [ ] b. private [x] ADDRESS: 96 East Fourth Street
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: John and Dinise Sicotte Present: single-family residence
- 6. USE: Original: 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:
- 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:

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96 East Fourth Street  
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11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES:

Some alterations have been made to the exterior of this house. A bay window with copper roof has been added to the west side, north bay, of the house. A facade wide porch and bay window in the left bay that existed on the north facade of the house appeared on the Sanborn map up through 1930. They no longer exist. A small porch that existed on the south side, west bay, and appeared on the Sanborn map in 1930 no longer exists. It is possible that the windows were replaced to give the house a Colonial Revival look. What may have been a carriage barn on the rear of the lot no longer exists.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

This house is located on a double lot on the corner of East Fourth and Wall Street. The house building sits in the northeast corner closer to Wall Street. This allows for the garage which is located in the southwest corner of the lot. Though the homes on this street do vary slightly in setback from the street they all remain consistently configured, including 96 E Fourth. The homes on this street represent structures from the late nineteenth-century. Because of the double-lot this house is a considerable more than average distance from the neighbor at 86 E Fourth.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE

96 East Fourth Street can be described an early example of a two-story, side-gabled, Colonial Revival home. Its configuration is asymmetrical, the front door being located on the north facade in the west bay of the house. The house has many features of Colonial Revival style including double-hung glazed windows with six-over-nine and four-over-four panes, and a paneled door surrounded by pilasters and entablature.

The house is covered by square wood shingle siding in a coursed configuration. The roof is also wood shingles. Notable differences can be seen in the first and second story of the north facade in the size of the windows. The first story windows are larger and were replaced in the removal of a porch and window as described in 11c. The main entrance is on the north facade in the west bay. This makes the configuration of the facade asymmetrical and rather rare. There is a four-paneled wood door with two lights. The bay window on the west facade has 4/4 paned double hung sashes and a copper roof. A fine example of a palladium window can also be seen on the west facade.

Observing the house from the east or west facade it can noted that a smaller side-gable is fitted into the larger side-gable that forms the north facade. From the rear side-gable gable protrudes a cross gable that forms the south facade of the house. A back door is located in the west bay of the south facade.

The house is set on an irregularly-coursed limestone foundation. Other masonry work includes a chimney on the east facade.

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: See Continuation Sheet  
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:

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: 1891

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

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## 20.HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

This house is constructed on Lot #7 (and 8) of block 52, as laid out in the 1855 Brewer and Canfield map of Corning. The empty lots were given to James A. Drake by Erastus Corning on June 2, 1879. James A. Drake proceeded to have some structure built. A tax record for the year 1879 shows that the lot was occupied by a house where in 1878 this lot was vacant. However, the house that appears here now was built in 1891. The Daily Democrat comments that a house was erected for James A. Drake on April 17, 1891.

James A. Drake was the son of William Drake and continued his family's prominent role in Corning's history. He became the president of The Corning First National Bank. James also took over M.D. Walker and Company and continued it as Drake and Company, often referred to as Corning Building Company. The house was also the home of David Drake as of December 21, 1893. David Drake was associated with Drake, Landrus, and Drake, a lumber company and Drake, Cummings, and Co., a building company.

## 21.SOURCES:

Auwaerter, John, Reconnaissance Level Survey of Corning, Ithaca, Cornell Univ., 1991

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1991

Corning City Directories, Boyd's 1872-1873, 1874-1875; Hanford 1893-1920

Map of Corning. Buffalo: Brewer and Canfield, 1855.

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

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

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

Steuben County Tax Records, Steuben County Records Center, Bath, NY.

## ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS:

West Facade

East Facade



↑ 96 East 44th