

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: Siobhán K. Kelly
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY
ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

DATE: Fall 1993
TELEPHONE: (607) 255-4331

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): The Carder House
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 249 Pine Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [x]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: David P. and Henrike S. Dowler ADDRESS: Same
- 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 [] b. stone [] c. brick [] d. board & batten []
e. cobblestone [] f. shingles [] g. stucco [x] other:
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: a. wood frame with interlocking joints []
b. wood frame with light members []
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 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 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: 1873

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES:

In the 1920s the original wood clapboard on the main house was replaced by a stucco veneer. The owner at the time altered the original Italianate Structure to a more Italian Renaissance-style. At the same time the owner acquired the lot to the west, with its two-story carriage barn. He also built a one-story garage on the northern border of Lot 16. During the same period, Corning Building Company added a rectangular dining-room extension at the northern corner of the west facade. They also re-roofed the carriage house to resemble the new addition. In 1993, the current owner, David Dowler remodeled the kitchen and two bathrooms for \$20,000. He has since installed two skylights in the carriage house and converted this area to studio space.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

Lot 16 of Block 69 (Brewer and Canfield Map of Corning, 1855) lies on the northwestern corner of Pine and West Fifth streets. The house's main facade faces east on Pine Street. The one-car garage opens onto Pine Street. The original entrance to the carriage house faces north to the alley which bisects the lot. The house is situated on the southern third of Lot 16. The garage is built on the northern border of the lot. The carriage house is situated on the northern third of Lot 15, immediately to the west of Lot 16. These two lots slope gradually down to the north. The house is larger than its neighbors to the west. There is also a vacant plot on the western border of the house. It is similar in size to its northern neighbor. However, this neighboring house is situated to the north of the bisecting alley. Also high style in architecture, it is in the Second Empire Style. It is not as old as this structure. All the buildings on the block share the same setback.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This two-story detached residence has been adapted to the Italian Renaissance-style of architecture. It is generally square in plan and is four bays wide and three bays deep. There are some irregular additions (cf. # 11). The exterior is veneered with stucco. The pyramidal hipped-roof of the house is covered in diamond-shaped asphalt tile. The eaves are very deep. The foundation is composed of fieldstone. Gabled dormers extend from the roof on all facades. These contain mullion windows. All of the windows in the building are wood double-hung-sash. Generally, the upper sash has nine-lights. The windows on the first floor are surmounted by triangular pediments. The window on the second-story are unadorned. On the northern corner of the front facade (east, there is an enclosed, one-story, hipped-roof entrance vestibule. It features engaged doric pilasters that outline its two bays. The door is heavy wood and has a light in its upper half. To its north is a nine-over-one double-hung sash. Above this porch, there is a ribbon window which extends around the northern side of the building. French doors lead from the dining room on the western facade. The house has a full basement.

The current owners are very interested in maintaining the integrity of the building. They have retained Frederick Carder's original library at the northwestern corner of the house. Many of the original light fixtures have been salvaged. These include Carder's Steuben chandeliers and French crystal dining-room wall sconces. The hardwood floors have been rehabilitated.

The board-and-batten carriage house is in good condition. It is roofed with matching, diamond-shaped asphalt tiles. It has been converted into studio space. The one-car garage has stucco-veneered walls and is set on a poured concrete foundation.

A wooden pergola extends into the garden from the northwest corner of the north facade. A three-foot high wrought iron railing encloses the southern and western portions of the lots. Centered in front of the house (east) there is an antique iron horse-hitch.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

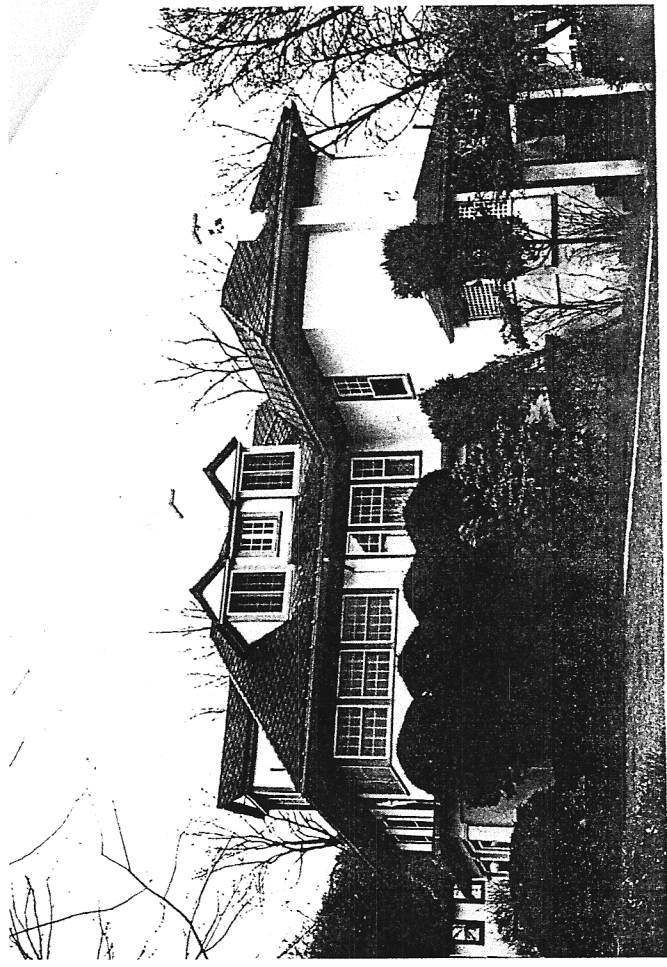
Built in 1873, the house is significant both architecturally and historically. Frederick Carder, the founder and genius of Steuben Glass, lived here from 1905 until his death in 1963. Carder, an inveterate Englishman, adapted the exterior of the house to its current Italian Renaissance-style because he disliked the "common" clapboard and Italianate features which used to distinguish the house. In the 1920s, after Carder was appointed the artistic director of Corning Glass, he carried out several remodeling campaigns. He had Corning Building Company add a dining room and verandah to the northwest corner. He had Lot 15 to the west and appropriated its carriage house so that no "undesirable Irish" could move in next door. When Carder retired in the 1950's, he converted the attic space of the house into an artist's studio. Paul Gardner, a biographer of Carder, refers in his book to the Englishman's last evening in his house: "...on December 10, 1963, Frederick Carder spent the evening at home with Robert Rockwell in pleasant conversation about their favorite subject, glass. Soon after Rockwell left, Carder told his housekeeper he had decided to 'go up to bed.' She asked if he would like assistance in ascending the steep, winding stairs. 'Not on your life,' he answered. 'I've climbed these stairs for sixty years, and I'll climb them tonight!' That night, Frederick Carder died peacefully in his sleep." (p. 58) He was one-hundred years' old.

The current owner, David and Henrike Dowler are very interested in historic preservation and would like to maintain the integrity of the property. Ironically, Dowler is a glass designer for the Corning Incorporated. They are only the sixth couple to own the house.

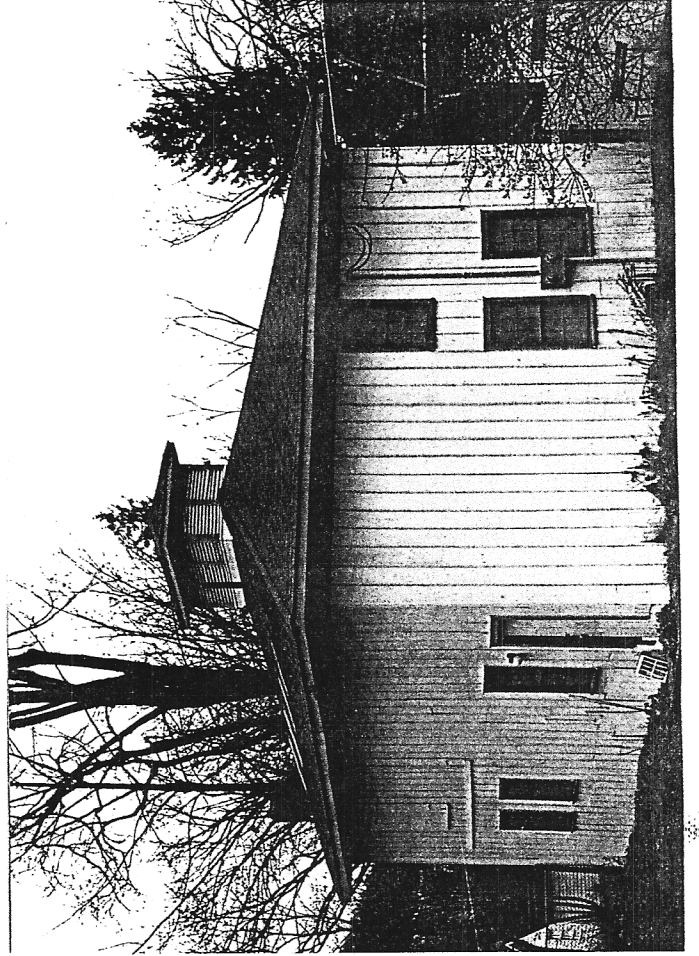
21. SOURCES:

- McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1991.
- Corning City Directories. Boyd's 1872-73, 1874-75; Hanford 19-893-1920.
- Gardner, Paul V. *The Glass of Frederick Carder*. New York: Crown Publishers, 1971.
- Map of Corning. Buffalo: H. Brewer and C.A. Canfield, 1855.
- Map of Corning. Corning: Bird's Eye View, 1882.
- 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 Rolls 1850-1909, County Records Office at Steuben County Infirmary, Bath, NY.
- Steuben County Tax Rolls 1910-present, County Treasurer's Office, Bath, NY.

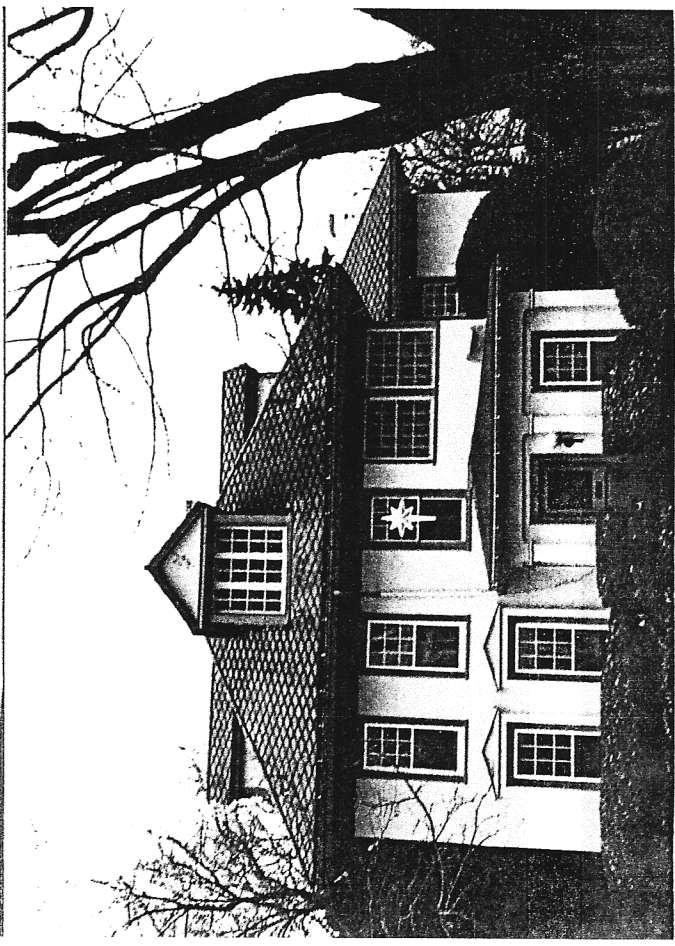
ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS:



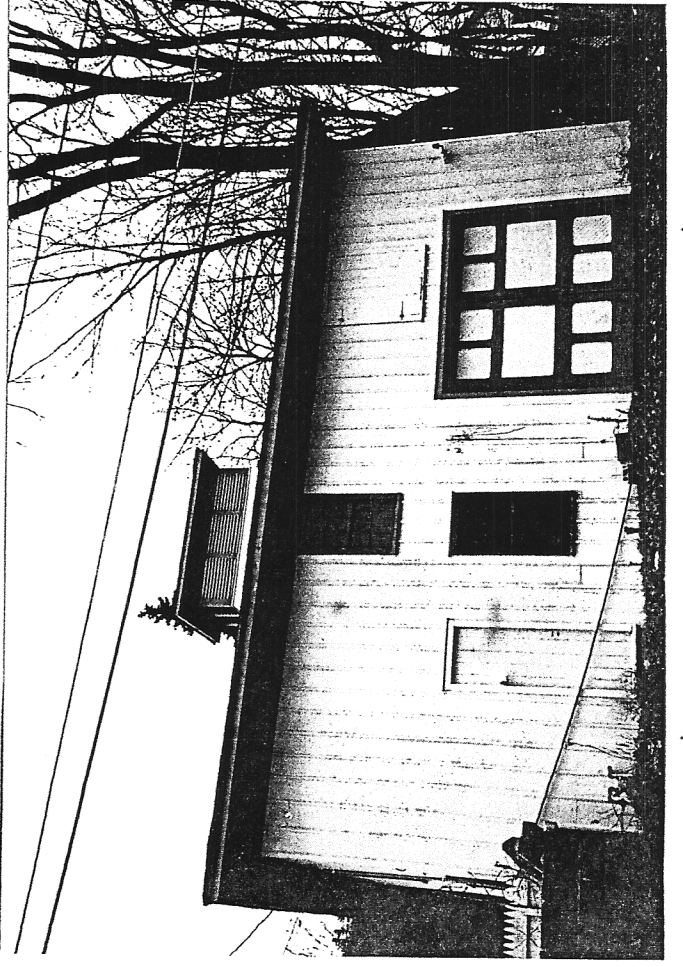
↖ 249 Pine



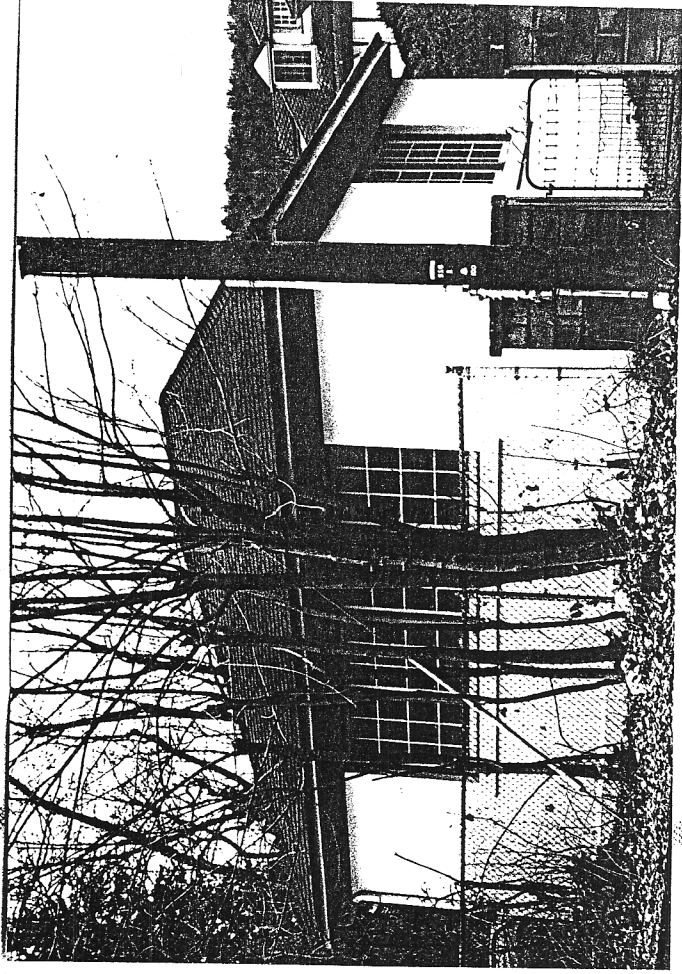
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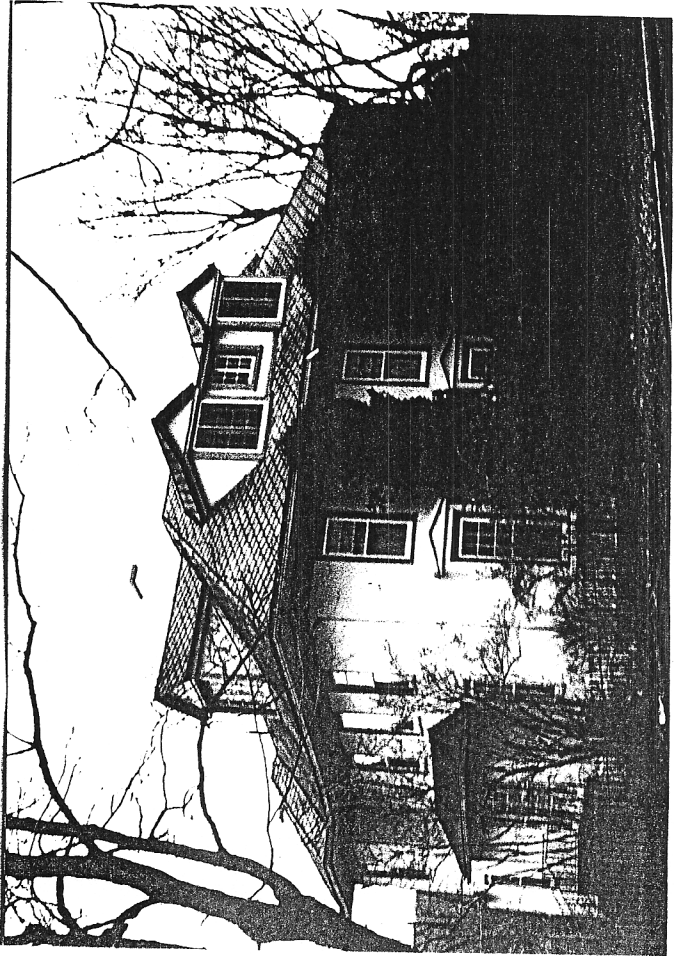
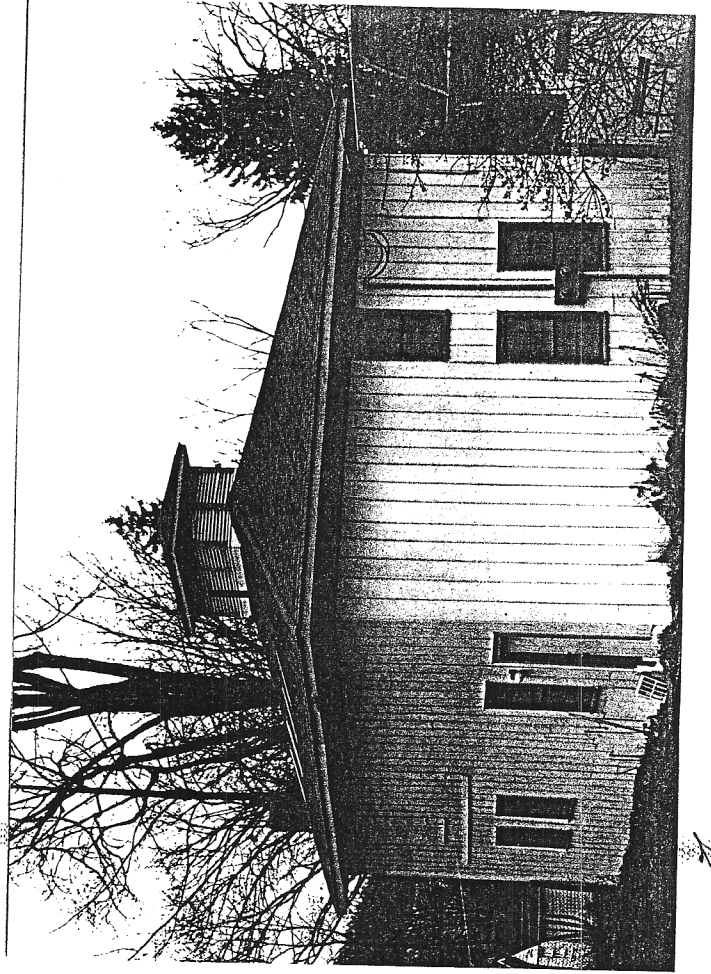
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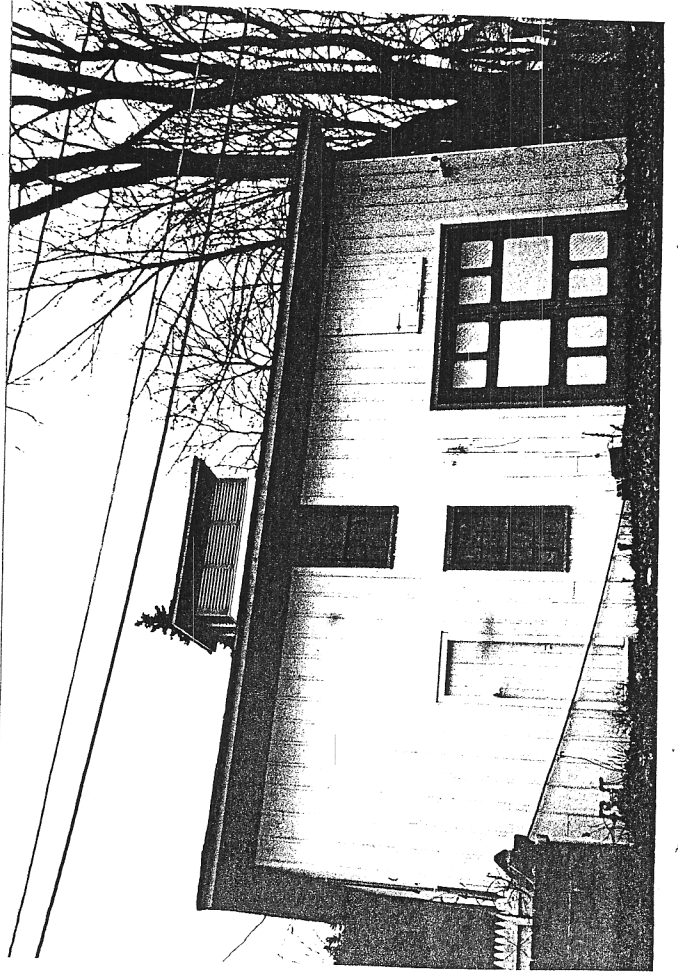
↖ Cabbage House @ 249 Pine



Garage @ 249 Pine



249 Pine Street



Carrage House @ 249 Pine