

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION
(518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

UNIQUE SITE NO.:

QUAD:

SERIES:

NEG. NO.:

DATE: May 1, 1992

TELEPHONE: (607) 255-6851

YOUR NAME: Allison Rachleff

YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY

ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Coming VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 15 E. Second Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [X]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Thomas Castellana ADDRESS: Same
- 6. USE: Original: Single Family Residence Present: Same
- 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 [] b. good [] c. fair [X] 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 [X]
- 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 [X] e. commercial [X]
- f. industrial [] g. residential [X]
- h. other: Industrial plant located northeast of the property.

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. 1860-1880

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

- 11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES
The exterior of 15 East Second Street has been covered in vinyl siding. Moreover, a shed porch has been added to the rear of the structure and the front porch appears to have been reconstructed in the Craftsman style.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:
See Continuation sheet.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE
See Continuation sheet.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE
See Continuation Sheet.

21. SOURCES

Continuation Sheet, Page 1
15 East Second Street
Corning, New York

11c. INTEGRITY:

The exterior of 15 East Second Street has been covered in vinyl siding. A shed porch has been added to the rear of the structure and the front porch has been reconstructed in the Craftsman style.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

15 East Second Street is situated in a row of houses set below street level. The principle or south facade is banked into the hillside, resulting in a raised basement on the north facade. The structure is surrounded by other residences to the south, east and west. The north facade faces the backyard which is bisected by a cement walkway, cutting through the lot and terminating at the garage which serves as an outbuilding to 164 Pine Street. 15 East Second Street contributes to the eclectic mix of architectural styles found on the street ranging from classical designs to more elaborate Italianate Style structures.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

15 East Second Street is a two-story single family residence which contains elements from the Greek Revival Style. The principal mass of the house is capped by a gable roof. A later half-story addition results in a T-shaped plan, with its ridge parallel to the road. The main or south facade is three bays long, punctuated at regular intervals by two-over-two sash windows whose length resembles windows found on Italianate structures. The main entry occurs at the first story of the third bay and is sheltered by a porch which extends the length of the facade. The porch, a later addition, is supported by pylons attributed to Craftsman designs of the early 20th century.

The principal mass on the north facade is two bays long and contains the same two-over-two sash windows found on the main facade. A shed porch has been appended to the rear of the addition as well. The house itself is raised on a random-coursed masonry foundation. An interior chimney is also evident in the center of the original portion of the house. While the house is clad in vinyl siding, the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Sanborn map documentation between 1888-1948 includes an outbuilding standing at the rear of the lot which no longer exists today.

20. ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

15 East Second Street exemplifies the type of home occupied by the laboring class in Corning at the turn of the century. The home itself is located on lot 11 in Block 58, as determined by the Corning Company in their 1835 plan for the village. The 1857 Atlas of Steuben County depicts lot 11 as a vacant lot. However, by 1888, the Sanborn Maps indicate that 15 East Second Street is present in the configuration which exists today.

In 1893, Harry Heermans' Map of the City of Corning indicate that the property was owned by James Higgins. An 1874-75 city directory indicates that Higgins was an express driver who boarded at a home on Erie Avenue near Washington. However, by 1893, the directory lists Higgins as a yardman at the St. James Hotel. Between 1875-93, Higgins had raised enough capital to purchase the property at 15 East Second Street where he finally resided. By 1903, Higgins is listed as a teamster who shared his home with Edward Raynsford, a machinist. In a sense, Higgins maintained an enclave for fellow workers whose goals and aspirations he shared.

Corning, New York

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE (con't.):

15 East Second Street should be recognized as a locally significant structure in the history of the Southside neighborhood. James Higgins and Edward Raynsford are representative of the working class population who made their home in Corning at the turn of the century, contributing to the rich diversity which characterized the city at that time.

21. SOURCES:

Atlas of Steuben County, New York. M. Levy. Philadelphia: J.E. Gillette, publisher, 1857.

Auwaeter, John. Reconnaissance Level Survey of Southside Neighborhood Proposed Historic District: Phase II: Historic Overview. Corning: Southside Neighborhood Association: 1991.

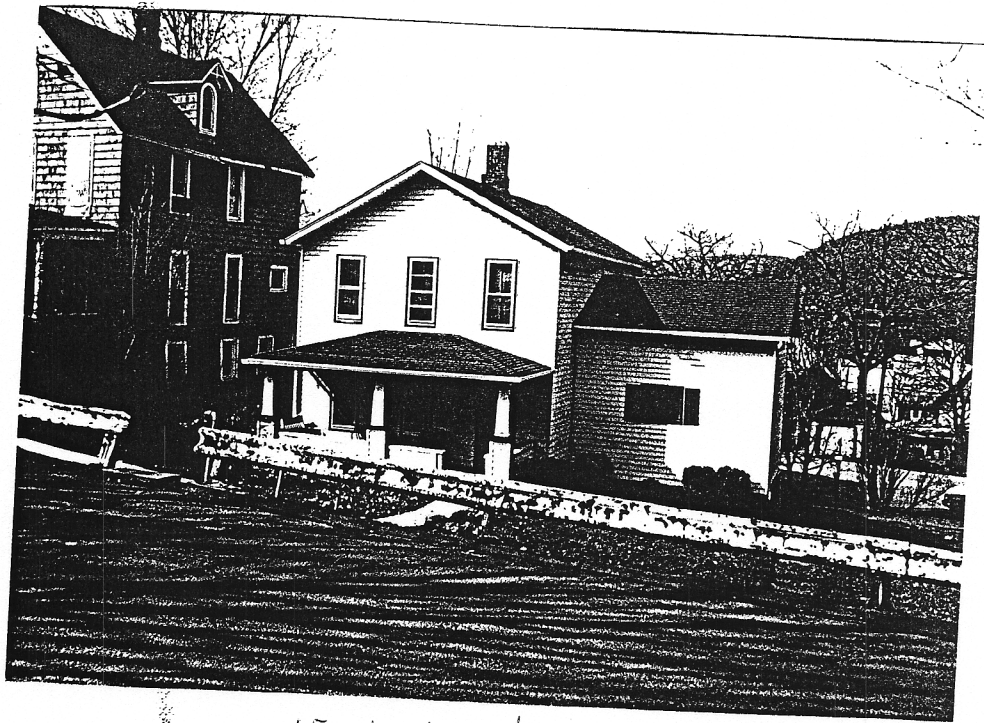
Corning City and Painted Post Directories:
Boyd's: 1874-75
Hanford's: 1893; 1903

Gottfried, Herbert & Jan Jennings. American Vernacular Design, 1870-1940. Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1988.

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

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

Sanborn Map Company. Maps of Corning



15 East 2nd