

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

UNIQUE SITE NO.
QUAD
SERIES
NEG. NO.

YOUR NAME: Adrienne Beaudet Cowden
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY
ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

DATE: May 15, 1992
TELEPHONE: (607)256-0851

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME(S):
2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
3. STREET LOCATION: 24 West Second Street
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public[] b. private [X]
5. PRESENT OWNER: Barry & Sue Garrison ADDRESS: 24 West Second Street
6. USE: Original: Private Residence Present: Rental Units
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[X] c. fair[] d. deteriorated[]
11. INTEGRITY: a. original site[X] b. moved[] if so, when?
c. list major alterations and dates (if known):
12. PHOTO: 13. MAP:

14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known[X] b. zoning[] c. roads[]
d. developers[] e. deterioration[]
f. other:
15. RELATED OUT BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:
a. barn[] b. carriage house[] c. garage[X]
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[X] b. woodland[]
c. scattered buildings[]
d. densely built-up[] e. commercial[]
f. industrial[] g. residential[X]
h. other: Corning Free Academy and
People's Park
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 1886-87

ARCHITECT: Henry G. Tuthill

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

11. INTEGRITY:

The Hawkes house is essentially unaltered having retained most of its exterior physical fabric and character. Between 1903 and 1908 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps indicate the addition of a partial width porch on the southwest, south, and northeast portions of the house, and early 20th-century photos indicate that the main entrance was located on the Second Street facade. It has since been moved to the eastern facade. Smaller details such as the balustrade over the Second Street facade porch have been removed.

15c.

A generous two-car garage, which is currently being used for storage, is located at the southwest corner of the lot. This simple rectangular structure is clad in vertical wooden clapboards on the east, south, and the eastern half of the north facade while horizontal wooden clapboards cover the remaining wall planes. A single door is located on both the west and north facade, and sliding panel doors, hung on metal runners, span almost the entire width of the south facade. There are three boarded up windows on the north facade and two four light windows on the east facade. Asphalt sheets cover the overhanging roof, and the entire structure rests upon a parged, rag work foundation.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

Situated on the south side of West Second Street and facing north, this residence is located in a stylistically diverse area of Corning. Architectural designs range from the Italianate to the Greek Revival and the more unusual Beaux Arts style. West Second Street is primarily residential in nature, and the majority of domiciles are either single or multi-family dwellings.

The Corning Free Academy is situated behind the Hawkes house, and a grass field, owned by the school, is located directly to the west. The dwelling also overlooks the People's Park which is bounded by East First, West Second, Walnut and Pine Streets. The lot size and east to west spacing of the residences on West Second Street is highly inconsistent. The Hawkes house is currently the largest domicile on West Second between Pine and Walnut Street, but the setback is, however, consistent with that of the neighboring dwellings.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

The Hawkes house is an eclectic combination of Stick, Italianate, and Free Classic Queen Anne style features. This three-story residence has a simple, rectangular plan, and each of the facades is, more or less, symmetrical in its design. The Second Street facade is dominated by a two-story projecting central pavilion over a partial-width porch. The pavilion ends in an small, open porch with a cut-work balustrade, a gable roof, and a gable-end design

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (continued):

reminiscent of the Stick style. The porch is situated between a pair of one-story bays, and simplified balustrades are visible on top of the porch roof. It has a cut-work balustrade and skirt, and four decorated posts support the roof. A concrete step staircase leads up to the main entryway which is located on the eastern facade. The porch has simple, square, wooden supports and a metal pipe railing. A partial-width enclosed porch with a pent roof is located on the south facade.

The majority of fenestration is Italiante in its origin - tall and slender with two-over-two lights. Each window is decorated with an elaborate surround, and those on the first story have inset panels beneath them. The west facade, however, has a large picture window, while a multi-pane Queen Anne-style window and a stained glass window decorate the east facade.

Grey slate and decorative terra cotta ridge tiles cover the hipped roof and its lower cross gables. Brackets and cut-work trim decorate the overhanging eaves line, and four large, patterned masonry chimneys rise from each of the dwelling's four corners. The entire dwelling is clad in thin, wood clapboards, and the foundation is constructed of a regular pattern, rock-faced masonry.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

Both the owner, Thomas G. Hawkes, and the architect, Henry Guernsey Tuthill, of this dwelling are notable figures in the history and development of Corning's Southside Neighborhood.

Biographical information concerning Thomas G. Hawkes' personal and professional life is rife with gaps and contradictions. Hawkes, however, was a prominent Corning businessman in the twentieth century, and, like John Hoare, was a respected manufacturer of cut glass. His business, T. G. Hawkes & Co. was located on 75 West Market Street, and at one point he was also the president of Canfield Brake Company.

Henry G. Tuthill is perhaps the more important of the two men in terms of Corning's built environment. A self-made builder-architect, Tuthill was Corning's leading architect in the last two decades of the nineteenth century, and he made a significant contribution to the built landscape of the town. Tuthill was born in the town of East Otto, Cattaraugus County, New York, in 1833.¹ When he was nineteen years of age he served an apprenticeship with a cabinetmaker in Nunda, NY, and in the fall of 1856, he moved to Corning where he became the foreman at W. F. Townley & Co., a prominent local furniture

¹ An article by Lorraine Welling Lanmon in the May 1985 edition of the Andaste Inquirer places Tuthill's birth in 1834.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE (continued):

establishment. In 1857 he purchased a half interest in the business, and that same year he married Catherine A. Townley, the proprietor's sister.²

With the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, Tuthill left Corning to join the Union Army. He fought in many of the war's most famous battles such as Antientam, Gettysburg, and Bull Run. At the close of the war Tuthill was promoted to the rank of colonel for his exemplary service, and he was honorably discharged due to wounds he had received in battle.

It was not until after the Civil War in the early 1870s that Tuthill began his work as a carpenter and architect. He designed his first residence at the corner of Chemung and East First Street in 1877 for Truman S. Pritchard, and early twentieth-century photographs of the residence indicate that the Hawkes house was quite similar to the Pritchard house. Though the Pritchard house no longer exists, the Methodist Episcopal church, the J. W. Darrin house at 29 West First, the Hawkes House at 24 West Second stand as some of the most notable examples of Tuthill's work.

21. SOURCES:

Auwaerter, John. Reconnaissance Level Survey: Southside Neighborhood Proposed Historic District. Cornell University, NY: Graduate Program in Historic Preservation Planning. September 1991.

Building Permit Records. Building Permit Office, Corning City Hall.

City of Corning. Corning: Harry C. Heermans, City Engineer, 1893. Corning-Painted Post Historical Society. Elsie Clute Library and Research Center. Patterson Inn.

Clayton, Professor W. W. History of Steuben County, NY. Philadelphia, PA: Lewis, Peck & Co., 1879.

Corning City and Painted Post Directories: 1891-1941. Corning Public Library. Civic Center Plaza; Corning, NY.

Corning Fire Department Map. Corning Southside Only, 1852. Corning-Painted Post Historical Society. Elsie Clute Library and Research Center. Patterson Inn.

Lanmon, Lorraine Welling. Andaste Inquirer. Volume 10, Number 1 (May 1985).

² An article by Lorraine Welling Lanmon in the May 1985 edition of the Andaste Inquirer indicates that Catherine A. Townley was the proprietor's niece rather than his sister.

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24 West Second Street
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21. SOURCES (continued):

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. Maps of Corning, NY. Cornell University, Olin
Map and Microfilms Room, Film 5835, Reel 29: 1893, 1898, 1903, 1908,
1913, 1921, 1930, 1930 with updates to 1948.

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