

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: Dana Peak

DATE: November 12, 1992

YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall

TELEPHONE: 256-7101

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

IDENTIFICATION

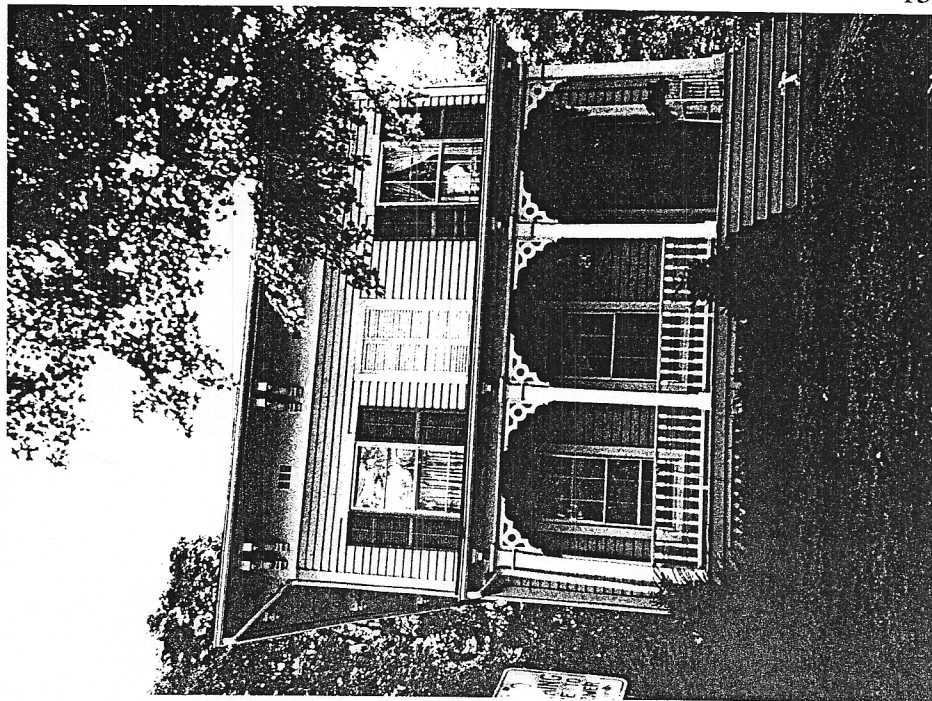
- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 4 East Third Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [X]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Frederick Jr. and Patricia Ahrens ADDRESS: 4 East Third Street
- 6. USE: Original: Residence Present: Residence
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY 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

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 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: Built between 1857-1863

ARCHITECT: Not Known

BUILDER: Not Known

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES:

According to the Sanborn maps, between 1893-98 a one-story, side porch was added in the re-entrant angle of the west facade. The wood detailing of the porch is consistent with the original front porch, including a bracketed cornice and lace-like porch supports. The porch may have served as a shelter for a new entrance to the house on the north facade of the west projecting wing. It is possible that the door could have previously been an window. By 1903 a one-story bay window was constructed under the northern portion of the side porch. The bay window addition is concurrent with a major building campaign in bay windows between 1888-1903. Not only was there a bay window added to every house on the north side of block fifty-six except one, but there was a bay window added to every house on the north side of block fifty-one (except one) as well. In addition, by 1903, a back porch (south) constructed flush with the east wall was removed. By 1908, what appears to be a new one-story back porch was constructed, centered on the back of the house. However, as the house appears today, the porch is an enclosed addition with a flat roof. There is a small fiberglass awning skylight in the roof, and a glazed door with a square transom window is constructed on the south side.

It appears a small window may have been added to the second story on the south facade of the house which contains a one-over-one window differing from the surrounding six-over-six sash.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

The residence is located on the south side of East Third Street on block fifty-six, lot one, and is situated on the corner of Pine Street. East of the house the street is dominated by, Italianate houses, and large high style, late nineteenth century residences dominate Third Street to the west. The houses to the east are situated in approximately the same place on their lots as 4 East Third Street. The front (north) facade of 12 East Third Street appears to be very similar to 4 East Third Street with a one-story porch extending the full length of the facade, and a projecting west wing.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This residence was originally constructed in the Italianate Style popular from 1840-85. According to McAlester's A Field Guide to American Houses, the Italianate Style dominated American vernacular architecture from 1850-80, and was loosely based on Italian Renaissance models which were adapted and modified to a uniquely American expression. A rectangular plan with three bays and two stories, elongated windows, a low hipped roof, broad overhanging eaves, and a recessed doorway are the dominant stylistic features.

The plan of 4 East Third Street is basically rectangular, with a western two story projection, a western one-story bay window and porch, and a rear addition to the south facade. The stone foundation of the house is concealed by a decorative skirting around the front porch and replacement wood clapboarding around all facades of the house. The front (north) facade of the house consists of three (on the second story level) elongated, six-over-six, double hung windows, with the center sash currently sealed with shutters. There are two additional six-over-six windows on the first story as well as a paired door on the west side of the front facade. The door is recessed with two full-arch, glazed lights set over decorative wood panels.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE, Continued:

A one-story porch stretches the full length of the front facade and is ornamented with wood brackets, lace-like porch supports and a spindlework balustrade. The roof is a low hipped roof, and beneath the roof are widely overhanging eaves with paired brackets, resting on a plain cornice.

There is a small wood, flush clapboard shed on the east corner of the south side of the lot. The shed has a shingled, gabled roof, a nine-light shuttered window on the west facade, and a small entry door facing the house on the north facade. There is an outbuilding present on the 1893 Sanborn map in approximately the same location as the current shed. However, the orientation of the shed on the 1893 map is east/west instead of north/south. By 1903, the owners of lot two to the east have purchased a portion of lot one and the shed either had to be moved or rebuilt. The plan of the shed became square instead of rectangular with the shed oriented in a north/south fashion, and the shed moves several feet west of the new corner of the lot. Thus, it is possible that the current shed dates circa 1903.

This bldg built ca. 1992 *NO*
carrriage house
was there - gone
within recent memory

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

Lot one on block fifty-six was originally owned by Thomas W. Olcott who was an early and major landowner in Corning. On October 1, 1857, Olcott sold the property to Caroline Corey. No sum is recorded for this deed transaction and it is unclear whether only the lot, or the lot and a house is being sold. On August 31, 1863, Neville E. Waite purchased the property for \$1,400; the large sum indicates that a house was definitely involved in the transaction. The house remained in the Waite family for 75 years and only changed hands between descendants when on March 4, 1938, Grace C. Waite purchased the house from the executors of Frank E. Waite's estate. On August 5, 1942, after 79 years of Waite family ownership, Grace Waite sold the house to Donald and Sylvia Brown. The Browns had owned the house for an additional fifty years when they sold it to the current owners Frederick and Patricia Ahrens in 1992.

4 East Third Street maintains historical importance in the Southside neighborhood because it provides documentation resulting from the prosperity of local nineteenth merchants like Neville E. Waite. Waite was a prominent business owner in Corning who owned a dry goods business called Smith and Waite. Neville Waite was in partnership with Justin M. Smith and the shop, specializing in hosiery and underwear, was located at 5 West Market Street. On August 6, 1895, Justin Smith sold his interest in the dry goods business to Frederick W. Kriger, and the business was renamed Waite and Kriger. Waite and Kriger was located at 30 East Market Street, and specialized in carpets, curtains and notions. Waite was an active Corning community member in the 1860s serving as a charter member of the volunteer fire department Alliance Hook and Ladder, as well as being a lodge member of the Sons of Temperance.

In addition to the historical importance of the residents of 4 East Third Street, the building itself has architectural importance. The house is an excellent example of mid-nineteenth century Italianate Style architecture. The structure remains relatively unchanged with no major building campaigns initiated since it was built. The many architectural details of this residence (as illustrated above in Other Notable Features of Building Style) eloquently illustrate this unique revival style.

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4 East Third Street
Corning, New York

21. SOURCES:

Corning City Directories; Steuben County Deeds; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, 1893, 1898, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, 1930 and 1948; McAlester's A Field Guide to American Houses.