

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY _____

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
(516) 237-8643

UNIQUE SITE NO. _____

SERIES _____

NEG. NO. _____

YOUR NAME: Lisa Adkins

DATE: December 1992

YOUR ADDRESS: 106 West Sibley Hall

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

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 46 East 3rd St.
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [x]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: John & Kristin Edward ADDRESS: 46 East 3rd St.
- 6. USE: Original Residential Present Residential
- 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 [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:

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: ca. 1880

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

Continuation Sheet
36 East Third Street
Corning, New York

11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES

It is likely that this house was initially constructed in 1880 as a much simpler building. The house underwent a major rebuilding campaign ca. 1895, increasing the size of the main block while removing an elongated L-shaped single-story rear addition. The east side entry-porch was changed to a full-width wraparound porch at the same time.

Another set of alterations were carried out ca. 1900. The house was widened a full bay to the west and was heightened to two-and-a-half stories by the addition of a new wider gables at the front and rear of the house. The cross-gable with two-sided bay, the sleeping porch, and the tower on the east side of the house were also constructed at the same time. In order to accommodate the new tower, the main entrance of the house was moved from its earlier location at the northeast side of the house to the current position at the northwest side of the structure. The rear porch was enclosed and a metal fire escape was installed sometime after the 1940's.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS

... The prime corner-lot of the house probably inspired its turn-of-the-century reconstruction. The original structure was restyled to better outline improvement in economic status experienced by new residents in the part of the Southside Neighborhood. The great changes in the house reflect the growing affluence of the residents and the those in neighboring homes. The 46 East Third Street house is next to another Queen Anne Style home on a neighboring lot on East Third Street forming a match pair of homes compatible in both size and stature. Both houses have a moderate setback on a leveled site which drops off to the sidewalk. There are concrete steps leading from the yard to the sidewalk and from the sidewalk to the street. The corner lot on which the 46 East Third Street house is constructed has been divided, with a modern house facing Cedar Street constructed on what was the rear of the original lot.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE

This Shingle Style house was probably originally a much smaller house constructed in 1880. A succession of renovation campaigns in the late nineteenth century gave the structure an entirely new aspect. The second and attic stories are clad in wood shingles, while the first story is clad in clapboard siding. The areas of wood shingles which meet the clapboard are finished with a lower fringe. The house is unusual for the neighborhood in that the decorative turned wood trim is designed entirely with tapering rather than incised banding. There are several different sizes of the same tapered balusters used on the house, including a large size in the front balustrade, a medium size on the decorative porch skirts, and a small size in the balustrade of the small second-story sleeping porch on the east side of the porch between the lower and central bay. There is a variant of the tapered balusters in the front gable of the house. A pair of one-over-one double-hung sash is set back slightly from the plane of the gable with tapered balusters with brackets on either side of the opening. The effect is reminiscent of curtains drawn back from the windows.

The front façade of the house has creative fenestration with an ox-eye window on the second-story level set between single and paired double-hung one-over-one sash and a wide four-light bay window set on the first-story level in the center of the porch. The wide front door is set back from the front façade. The door has beveled lights over a decoratively stepped panel. At the opposite end of the porch the lower section is integrated into the plane of the front façade at the first and second-story levels. The windows of the tower at the first story [?] sash with art glass headers while the second-story level has more conventional double-hung sash. The roof of the tower is conical with a stepped finial and is constructed so as to blend in with the roofline much like another cross gable.

The cross gable on the east side of the house acts as a secondary façade and has some unusual features. The gable is cantilevered out from the wall of the house with shingled brackets helping support the gable at either end. The center of the cross gable is supported by a two-sided continued window bay in the center of the gable end, a double-hung diamond-centered novelty sash provides some visual interest with the two-sided bay being reinforced decoratively by the corbelled pedestal sill beneath the window.

The rear gable of the house is asymmetrical with the second story overhanging the first with decorative brackets at the southeast corner of the house, and the simple gable end of the attic story overhanging the whole the rear façade. The partially enclosed rear porch has a slightly flared hip roof. The western side of the house has a small gable dormer with a pair of one-over-one sash with shingled area below the windows flared out slightly. A pair of double-hung novelty sash with a diamond motif in the upper sash is set just below the dormer. On the whole, the house owes much of its stream-lined appearance to the smooth flow of the tower section into the body of the house and the simplicity of the turned ornamentation.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

The property on which this house is constructed experienced several changes in ownership in the two decades prior to the first construction on the site accompanied by a steep appreciation in the value of the well-placed parcel. The post-1890 redesign of the house may have been carried out by the Corning Building Company of H.O. Dorman & Company, two local contractors who were active in Corning during this period, either of which would have been capable of following the type of stylistic direction found in contemporary pattern books. The seemingly awkward proportions of the secondary facades in addition to the length of time during which the renovations were carried out suggest that an architect may not have been involved in the house's transformation. The owner of the property during this long renovation process was John L. Lewis, identified in the city directories as being employed by the Fall Brook Railway in 1895 as a bookkeeper. The Lewis family owned the house from 1884-1923 after which it was purchased by the Ecker Family. The Eckers were known mainly as the owners of a successful local drug store. Subsequent owners of the property divided the house into a main living section with two secondary rental apartments. The house is unusual in that despite its long-term use as a property with income apartments it still retains a great deal of its architectural integrity and compliments three larger homes in the neighborhood which have remained in single residency use.

