

**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: Jeffrey A. Harris  
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall

DATE: December 18, 1992

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**IDENTIFICATION**

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Coming VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 213 Wall Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [ ] b. private [ x ]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Richard P. Orlando ADDRESS: 213 Wall St.
- 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 [ 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 [ 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: ca. 1893

ARCHITECT: Unknown

BUILDER: Unknown

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

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Corning, New York

11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES:

Front porch extended to present wraparound form - Since 1948  
Rear porch removed and wing added - Since 1948

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

Located on the west side of Wall Street, this residence is surrounded by single family homes dating from the late nineteenth- and early twentieth-centuries. It sits upon one of three parcels of land evenly subdivided from two of the rectangular lots at the southeast corner of Block No. 51. This arrangement is less common in the Southside Neighborhood than the subdivision of single lots along the streets running from north to south. It produces an even spacing of buildings and consistent setbacks, and also provides ample room for yards and garages in the lots behind the houses. The residence has only a narrow side yard between it and the house to the south, but features a relatively large buffer zone between it and the next house down the hill, due to the alley on the lot's northern edge. On this part of Wall Street, the land slopes down fairly steeply to the north.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

213 Wall Street is a well-maintained example of the restrained Queen Anne Style of architecture that is quite prevalent in the surrounding Southside Neighborhood. Built primarily during the late nineteenth- and early twentieth-centuries in this part of Corning, these styled homes often used decoration sparingly on their exteriors, avoiding "gingerbread" ornament in favor of more conservative, yet distinctive designs. Some high-style examples do exist on this block and those nearby, including a fine residence located two houses away to the south. In this case, however, the residence reflects the former tradition, with its simple forms, restrained asymmetry, and localized ornamentation. Significant features of the house include its gridded facade, columned porch, and repeating gable-end elements.

The central mass of the two-and-a-half-story residence is a near-square block with a hipped roof, with two-and-a-half-story gabled wings protruding from this core on all four facades. The house sits upon a fieldstone foundation, and features clapboard sheathing on the first two floors while the upper gable ends contain fish-scale wood shingles. Horizontal and vertical boards applied to the first- and second-floor exterior walls define the fenestration patterns on the gable ends of the wings, and extend horizontally along their sides to link the projecting forms into a complete whole. The two-bay-wide front (east) facade features a gabled wing extending from its south bay, with a wood-framed picture window on the first floor level, a pair of one-over-one sash windows, and a segmental fen window in the upper gable end, all centered on the wing. The segmental window is repeated on the three other gabled wings, and the picture window may have originally contained Queen Anne decoration. A one-story wraparound porch partially overlaps this wing and extends around the northeast corner of the house. It features Tuscan columns, a shingled, bungalow-style enclosed balustrade, and an eight-light glass enclosure on the west end. These details clearly originated from later architectural styles, and support documentation that indicates the porch to be a much later replacement of a smaller porch on the front (east) facade. The paneled door of the main entrance, located on the central block of the house directly adjacent to the protruding wing, is also a probable update of the original. It is flanked by a square, six-light casement window to the north.

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The north facade features a gabled wing near its center, similar to that on the front (east) facade except for paired sash windows on the first floor level with Queen Anne-style top lights. A side entrance on the east side of this wing has a fourteen-light, wood storm door at the top of four wood steps, protected by a shed-roofed hood with decoratively sawn brackets. A gabled wing is also centered on the south facade, featuring a three-sided bay with clipped corners on the first floor level. The overhang above the corners is decorated with a spindle frieze and pendants. To the rear of the house, a one-story wing extends from the gable end of the wing behind it, with a side entrance on its north side and a square picture window with flanking casement windows on its west gable end. Near the northwest corner of the lot, adjacent to the alley, stands a one-story garage with a gabled roof. Probably dating from the construction of the house, the 12'-0" x 18'-0" garage features exposed rafters, a wood batten door on its east facade, and a sliding garage door on its north gable end.

## 20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

213 Wall Street was one of several Queen Anne Style homes to be built in the Southside Neighborhood during the latter decade of the nineteenth century. The residence is one of three homes built on this two-lot subdivision during this time period, and they exhibit a wide range of Queen Anne Style translations. This house in particular exhibits some aspects of Palliser's Pattern Book designs, the gridded facades being an identifiable feature. No direct attribution can be made, however, to these designs. The two-lot property from which this was subdivided was purchased by William H. Doolittle, a conductor for the Fall Brook Railway, in 1889. He subsequently divided the lots into three properties, and sold the northernmost to Frank E. Hammer in 1891, who built upon the property soon thereafter. Mr. Hammer was also an employee of the Fall Brook Railway, working as an engineer. The railroad company grew out of the demand for transporting coal from mines in Pennsylvania, and by the 1860s it had established its headquarters in Corning. Its lines continued to expand into the 1880s, and its success had much importance to the city, generating commercial activity and employing local residents. It is likely that this house was built as a response to the demand for housing the employees of this company. By 1899, the date of the company's absorption into the New York Central Railroad, Mr. Hammer had sold the house. Since 1958, the residence has served as home to several employees of the Corning Glass Works.

## 21. SOURCES:

Corning City Directories; Steuben County Deeds; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1918, 1923, 1930, 1948; Assessment Records; Bird's-Eye View of Corning, 1882; City of Corning. Corning: Harry C. Heermans, City Engineer, 1893; Building Permit Records; Dimitroff, Thomas P., and Lois S. Janes. History of the Corning-Painted Post Area: 200 Years in Painted Post Country. Corning: Corning Area Bicentennial Commission, 1977.

## MAP INFORMATION:

1882 - House does not exist on site, according to Bird's-Eye View

1893 - House exists on site, with name, "F. Hammer"

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1903 - Wood-framed house exists at 213 Wall Street

CITY DIRECTORY INFORMATION:

1893 - William Doolittle, conductor, Fall Brook Railway, home at 274 [217] Wall

1895 - Frank E. Hammer, engineer, Fall Brook Railway, home at 272 [213] Wall

1899 - Albert C. Frost (Frost & Williams, 27 E. Market, Agricultural Implements, hardware, etc.), home at 213 Wall

DEED INFORMATION:

August 9, 1889 - Helen Purdy to William H. and Eliza Doolittle, Lot 15 and 16 total, Block 51, for \$4000. Book 215, page 391.

April 27, 1891 - William H. and Eliza Doolittle to Frank E. and Jennie C. Hammer, northernmost 55 feet of Lots 15 and 16, Block 51, for \$950. Book 225, page 4.



↑ 213 Wall St.