

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

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

FOR OFFICE USE _____
UNIQUE SITE NO. _____
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

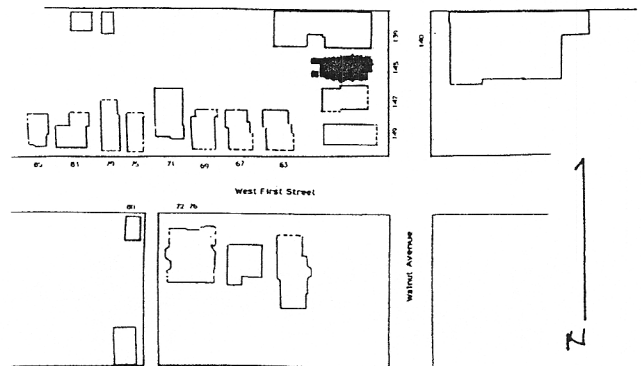
YOUR NAME: Matt O'Brien
DATE: May 11, 1992
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY
TELEPHONE: (607) 255-6851
ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 145 Walnut Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [x] b. private []
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: John P. Eaton ADDRESS: 145 Walnut Street, Corning
Present: American Legion Hall
- 6. USE: Original: Residence
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes [X] No []
Interior accessible: Yes [X] No [] Explain: American Legion Hall

DESCRIPTION

- 8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard [] b. stone [] c. brick [] d. board & batten []
e. cobblestone [] f. shingles [] g. stucco [] other: vinyl siding
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: a. wood frame with interlocking joints [x]
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 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
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 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. 1835, relocated to present site ca 1900 and extensively modified.

ARCHITECT: Unknown.

BUILDER: Unknown

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

Continuation Sheet, Page 1
145 Walnut Street
Corning, New York

11. INTEGRITY:

Originally known as 503 Walnut Street, this house was built in 1903 and the Sanborn maps indicate no additions up through 1948. The single-story vinyl-sided extension on the rear of the house was probably constructed after 1948.

Vinyl siding has recently been installed on the upper floor, the eaves, the gable faces and the turret at the southeast corner of the house.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

The section of Walnut Street between the alley to the north of West First Street and West First Street itself has a total of six buildings, none of which are used as a primary residence by the owners of the properties. There are three social organizations, an orthodontist and a funeral home, among others, in this area. There is no consistent massing or style of building in this one block area of Walnut Street and the buildings on the west side of Walnut are overshadowed by the two larger buildings on the east side of Walnut Street.

Walnut Street is a busy thoroughfare that serves as a major arterial into the Southside neighborhood. On-street parking further divides Walnut Street into two unrelated halves, adding to the lack of identity in this neighborhood. One of the buildings on this side of the street dates from 1857 or earlier, unlike the other side of West First Street. Finally, there is a church in this row of residences that further detracts from the whole.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This two-and-a-half-story house has elements of the Queen Anne and Italianate styles. Since the house substantially post-dates the Greek Revival style one can attribute this house to an eclectic property owner or architect who wanted to combine elements of many styles into this house.

There is a one-and-a-half-story projecting tower form with a tent shaped roof on the southeast corner of the house. The front gable has cornice returns, reminiscent of

Continuation Sheet, Page 2
145 Walnut Street
Corning, New York

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

the Greek Revival Style, that are supported by brackets that are Italianate style in nature. The front gable also has adopted a Gambrel shape in the flair at the bottom and it has a three part window on its facade beneath the cornice.

The entire top floor has been clad in white vinyl siding but the first floor remains brick, which appears to be its original material. There are two small outbuildings built after 1948 directly to the rear of the building as well as a flagpole on the front lawn.

The front porch is constructed of brick which does not match the other brick on the first floor. In addition, the current configuration of the porch does not match the full width of the porch shape shown on the 1948 Sanborn map. This indicates that the porch may have been removed in the interim and rebuilt. Finally, the turret form on the southeast corner of the house does not show up on any of the Sanborn maps, which could indicate an oversight on the map maker's part.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

Originally part of the parcel owned by the Nelson Lockwood Somers family up until the turn of the century, the building has been used by the American Legion as their Corning headquarters since after World War II.

21. SOURCES:

Texts and Miscellaneous:

Boyd's Corning City Directories 1872-73, 1874-75.

Clayton, W. W. History of Steuben County, New York, With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers.
Philadelphia: Lewis, Peck and Company, 1879.

Corning Building Company. 100 Years in Corning: The Corning Building Company, 1848-1948, Corning (?): Cartwright and Sons, 1948.

Corning City Hall Tax Assessment Rolls.

Corning-Painted Post Historical Society photographic files.

Continuation Sheet, Page 3
145 Walnut Street
Corning, New York

21. SOURCES, continued:

- Dimitroff, Thomas P. and Lois Janes. History of the Corning Painted Post Area: 200 Years in Painted Post Country. Corning: Corning Area Bicentennial Commission, 1977.
- Hakes, Harlo. Landmarks of Steuben County, Syracuse: D. Mason and Company, 1896.
- McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Adolph A. Knopf, 1990.
- McMaster, Guy H. History of the Settlement of Steuben County, New York, Including Notices of the Old Pioneer Settlers and their Adventures. Bath, New York: R. S. Underhill and Company, 1853. (Reprint: Geneva: Humphrey Press, 1975).
- Roberts, Millard F. Historical Gazetteer of Steuben County, New York with Memoirs and Illustrations, Syracuse: By the author, 1891. (Reprinted in two parts by the Steuben County Historical Society, 1979).

Maps and Directories:

- Atlas of Steuben County, New York. M. Levy. Philadelphia: J. E. Gillette, publisher, 1857.
- City of Corning. Corning: Harry C. Heermans, City Engineer, 1893.
- Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, New York 1888, 1893, 1898, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, 1930, 1948.
- Steuben County directory, Syracuse: Hamilton Child, 1868-69.
- View of Corning, New York, Looking Toward the South. Philadelphia: Philadelphia Publishing House, C. J. Corbin, Field Manager, 1882.

145 Walnut

