

**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

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**IDENTIFICATION**

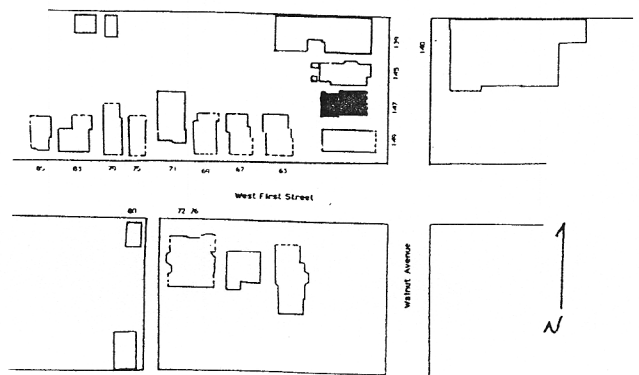
- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 147 Walnut Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [ ] b. private [ x ]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: James & Leigh Evans ADDRESS: 147 Walnut Street
- 6. USE: Original: Residence Present: Inn-Hotel
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes [ x ] No [ ]  
Interior accessible: Yes [ x ] No [ ] Explain: Hotel

**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 [ x ]  
b. wood frame with light members [ ]  
c. masonry load bearing walls [ ]  
d. metal (explain)  
e. other
- 10. CONDITION: a. excellent [ ] b. good [ ] c. fair [ x ] d. deteriorated [ ]
- 11. INTEGRITY: a. original site [ ] b. moved [ x ] if so, when? Between 1898 and 1903.  
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.

ARCHITECT: Unknown.

BUILDER: Unknown

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

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147 Walnut Street  
Corning, New York

#### 11. INTEGRITY:

Records at the Corning-Painted Post Historical Society indicate that this building may have been part of a much larger house, shown on the 1857 map of Corning, which was subsequently divided into two buildings. The Sanborn maps for the period 1898 to 1903 denote a change in the massing of the building and both 149 and 147 Walnut Streets have some similar brick and foundation features (i.e. in the type and coursing of the materials).

Two ca. 1900 porches have been added to the front and rear of the house but no other significant alterations have occurred since this house first appeared on the site between 1898 and 1903. The Federal Style elements of this house (Roof ridge parallel to the roadway, chimney positioned at the end wall of the building, and what was originally double hung sash windows) seem to indicate that this house, or at least the front half, was moved from another site to this one since that style predates 1898. The shape of the front half of the house matches that part of the rear of 149 Walnut Street that was removed between 1898 and 1903. It is entirely possible that the rear portion of 149 Walnut Street was relocated to this site between 1898 and 1903 and the rear half added on at that time, along with the porches

#### 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

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Corning, New York

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS, continued:

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-story side-gabled house has a Greek Revival Style cornice return which would indicate that the house may have been built in the early nineteenth century but the Sanborn maps do not confirm that.

The foundations are made of stone and brick, in similar patterns to those found at 149 Walnut Street to the south. The three-bay Walnut Street facade has a full-width front porch with simple detailing and features that probably date from the 1898-1903 construction period. The fenestration pattern on the Walnut Street facade is irregular and may indicate that the house was enlarged on the north side.

The house is clad with wood clapboards but there is flushboard siding on the first floor of the east facade. The roof is covered with black composition shingle roofing. The two chimneys have been recently rebuilt and repointed.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

Originally known as 502 Walnut Street the property was owned by John McGannon in 1893. The 1893 Heermans map does show a house on this site in 1893 but the footprint of the house on this map does not match the footprint of the present house. Based upon the ownership of the property and the changes made to it during McGannon's ownership, it can be assumed that it was McGannon who converted the former Erlacher home into the two residences at 147 and 149 Walnut Street. Thomas Johnson, a New York State Supreme Court justice, lived at this location, part of the former Erlacher property, prior to John McGannon.

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147 Walnut Street  
Corning, New York

## 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.

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.

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21. SOURCES, continued:

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.

✓ 147 Walnut

