

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

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: Sarah L. Burks
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall
ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

DATE: FALL 1993
TELEPHONE: (607)255-4331

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 241 Walnut Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [x]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Elbert and Frances Backer ADDRESS: 241 Walnut Street
- 6. USE: Original: single-family residence Present: single-family 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 [] b. stone [] c. brick [] d. board&batten []
e. cobblestone [] f. shingles [] g. stucco []
other: asbestos siding
- 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 [] b. moved[x] if so, when? ca. 1912
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: See Continuation Sheet
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:

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. ????

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

CONTINUATION SHEET, Page 1

241 Walnut Street
Corning, New York

11c. Major Alterations and Dates (if known):

This house was moved from near the Corning Free Academy, according to current homeowners, Elbert and Frances Backer. The date this house appears on this property is ca. 1913. The exterior is clad with asbestos shingles which replaced the original material. The porch has been altered after 1948.

15i. Landscape Features

The primary landscape feature is the large tree north of the house. The tree caused the property lines to be shifted 1'-0" south and then 1'-0" north back to the original line.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

Situated on the west side of Walnut Street, this residence an example of an Italianate-style house. It is one of several Italianate-style residences on this end of the block. This house appeared on these lots after its neighbor 239 Walnut, but before 51 West Fifth Street. The scale of this house is consistent with its neighbors. The north-to-south spacing is much closer to the north than to the south. The setback of this structure is consistent with that of its neighbors. This residence is situated at nearly the same grade as the street.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This two-story residence was designed as an Italianate-style house. This style is discussed in McAlester's A Field Guide to American Houses, (p. 211). It's characteristics include three bay design, wide overhanging eaves, tall narrow windows and low-pitched hipped roof.

This house is sided with asbestos shingles. Vinyl siding is located under the eaves. The low-pitched hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The fenestration on the front (east) facade includes vinyl, one-over-one double-hung sash windows, a wide three-part window on the first-story and a main entrance door in the southernmost bay of this facade. The door is four panel wood and glass. The hood over the main-entrance is a shed roof with asphalt shingles supported by cast-iron posts. A secondary door is located on the south facade recessed under the shed-roof porch supported by the same iron posts. A third entrance is located at the southwest corner of the house. The west wing is only one-story. The north facade includes a small bay window with a decorative molded sill.

CONTINUATION SHEET, Page 2
241 Walnut Street
Corning, New York

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

The foundation of this house is a concrete and rubble mix. The brick chimney is centered on the west wall where the one and two-story portions meet.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

This residence at 241 Walnut is located on the center portion of Lot #15 and #16 of Block #74, as surveyed in the 1855 Brewer and Canfield map of Corning. Michael Callahan purchased Lot #15 from Francis A. Williams in 1891, according to a deed in book #291 p. 115 which was not recorded until 1907. Lot #16 was bought by Callahan from John J. and Dudley A. Olcott in 1891 as recorded in deed book #297 p. 322, also not recorded until 1907. Michael Callahan was listed as a laborer and later as an employee of Standard Oil Company. At Michael's death in 1919, he left the northern portion of these lots to his son, Martin J. Callahan. The southern portion was left to his other four children, Catherine M. Patterson, Marguerite Dineen, Edward J. Callahan, and Harriet Francois. Edwin Underhill, Jr. purchased the property from Harriet Francois in 1920. It was sold again in 1927 to Edwin C. Bowers, a tinner, who lived there until 1945 when Anthony Ralph Aug bought the property. The current owners bought the property in 1955.

The house first appeared in this location in 1913. James Patterson, flagman and husband to Catherine, is listed as residing there in the 1913-14 directory. It is said to have been moved from near the Corning Free Academy on West Third Street. The general shape matches 34 W. Third Street which was replaced on the 1913 Sanborn map by the larger 30 W. Third Street. The house which neighbored 34 W. Third was 40 W. Third which also does not appear in that location in 1913 and was replaced by 30 W. Third. This may have been moved to lot #15 of this same block to become 63-63½ West Fifth.

CONTINUATION SHEET, Page 3
241 Walnut Street
Corning, New York

21. SOURCES:

Corning City Directories, Boyd's 1872-73, 1874-75, Hanford 1893-1930.

Gottfried, Herbert and Jan Jennings. American Vernacular Design. (Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press, 1988.)

McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester. A Field Guide to American Houses. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1992.)

Map of Corning. Buffalo: H. Brewer and C. A. Canfield, 1855.

Map of Corning. Corning: Harry C. Heermans, City Engineer, 1893.

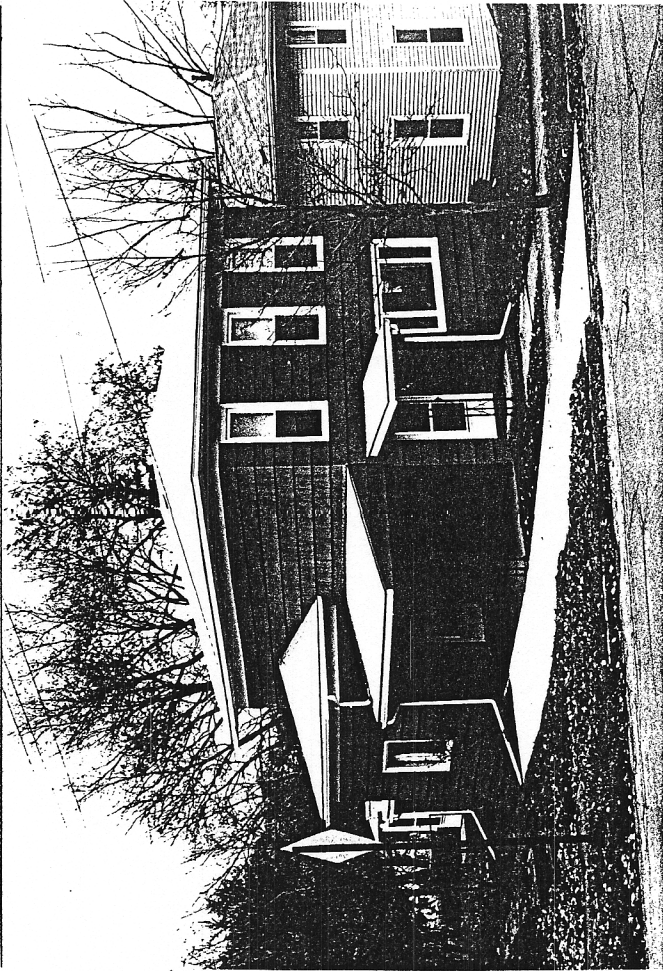
Map of Corning. Philadelphia: Philadelphia Publishing House, C.J. Corbin, 1882.

Sanborn Map Company. Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, New York, (1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, 1930, and 1930 revised 1948).

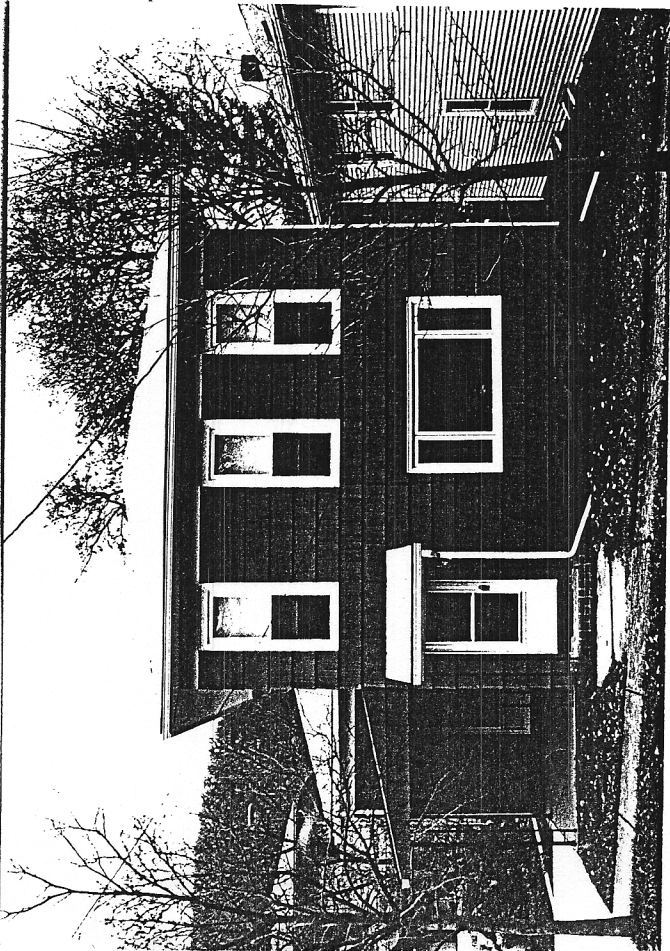
Steuben County Deed Records, Steuben County Clerk's Office, Bath, New York.

Steuben County Tax Records, Steuben County Records Center, Bath, New York (18??-1909), Steuben County ??? Office, Bath, New York, (1910-present).

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS:



241 Walnut



241 Walnut