

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

UNIQUE SITE NO.
QUAD
SERIES
NEG. NO.

YOUR NAME: Azhar S. Tyabji
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY
ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

DATE: Spring, 1994
TELEPHONE: (607)255-4331

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME(S):
2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
3. STREET LOCATION: 297 Walnut Street
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [X]
5. PRESENT OWNER: Pelham L. McClellan ADDRESS: Same as above
6. USE: Original: Private Residence Present: Private 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 [] g. stucco [] other: vinyl siding
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[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[X] 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[X] 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[X]
d. densely built-up[] e. commercial[]
f. industrial[] g. residential[X]
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: 1895

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

11c. MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES:

On the east (main) facade, skirting of latticework was added in 1992, when the steps to the porch were moved from the southeast corner of the east facade to the southeast corner of the south facade. At the southwest corner of the house, a treated lumber deck with lattice skirting was added in 1992. All one-over-one double-hung sash on the projecting bay of the south facade were replaced in 1988. On the west facade, a one story family room with a shed roof was added around 1962. On the same facade, all sash on the second story of the west wing were replaced in approximately the same year. Judging from a photograph dated 1954 and a pencil sketch dated 1965 in the possession of the current owner, the brick chimney dates probably to the late 1950s, although no specific date of construction is available. The roof, originally of slate, was stripped and redone with asbestos in 1988. A small plywood shed, with plywood roofing and a concrete slab foundation, was constructed at the southwest corner of the lot in 1992.

15i. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:

There is a small shed located at the southwest corner of the lot. The property is open on all four borders.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS

The house is consistent with its neighbors in age, size, north-to-south separation, and setback.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

This house is a good illustration of the modified Open-Gable Cottage, as described in Gottfried and Jennings' American Vernacular Design, 1870-1940. Elements illustrative of this design are the use of simple massing, paired cottage-style windows, and a front porch accentuated with decorative turned posts carrying a shed or hipped roof. Although this house has been modified, it is still faithful to the overall Open-Gable form.

The main (east) facade is dominated by a projecting gable wall. All the features on the gable wall are organized around a central axis. There is a one-story porch with a shed roof supported by turned post with decorative curved brackets, and is enclosed by a turned baluster. The porch is skirted with latticework. The entrance is near the southeast corner, and is led up to by a series of porch steps on the southeast corner of the south facade. There are two one-over-one double-hung windows between the entrance and the northeast corner. The second story has three similar sash, arranged along the axis. The gable end has imbricated or "fish scale" siding. There is a one-over-one double-hung window centered in the gable end.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

The house is situated on a lot identified as "SOC 47," noted on current tax maps and the 1994 Tax Roll of Corning.

The property on which the house is located was originally part of the 'Robinson Farm,' a large tract of land south of the city, bordering the southernmost lines on Harry C. Heerman's 1893 survey map of Corning. The land was purchased from John and Mary Cogan by Frederick Bach in 1893 for \$700. Frederick and his wife Agnes deeded the property to their son Nicholas in 1895, who mortgaged the property to the Corning Cooperative Savings and Loan Association the same year for \$1,400. The house was built in 1895, and is mentioned in the will of Nicholas Bach in 1927, when the property was left to his wife, Christine. The house remained for the most part with the Bach family until 1951, soon after which Christine Bach sold the parcel to Edward F. and Barbara G. Dalton, residents of the city, in 1956. The house was then mortgaged five times by the Daltons, until it was purchased by David A. and Pamela Eddy Pape in 1988. The current owner bought the property from the Papes in 1990.

21. SOURCES:

Gottfried, H. & J. Jennings: American Vernacular Design. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1985.

City of Corning Building Permits, City Engineer's Office, Corning, New York.

Corning City Directories, Boyd's 1874-75; Hanford 1893-1950.

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

View of Corning, New York, Looking Toward the South. 1882. Philadelphia: Philadelphia Publishing House, C.J. Corbin, Field Manager.

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

Sanborn Map Company. *Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, New York*, (1898, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, 1930, and 1948).

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

Steuben County Tax Records, Steuben County Records Center, Bath, New York. (1860-1909)

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS: (To be attached later)

The north facade has a projecting bay window with a hipped roof located near the northwest corner of the facade. There is a one-over-one double-hung window near the northeast corner of the facade. On the second story, there are three one-over-one double-hung windows. The south facade has a projecting gable wall with one-over-one double-hung windows on the first and second stories, and one-over-one double-hung windows in the reentrant angles. There are two small fixed sash near the southeast corner.

The west (rear) facade has a one-and-a-half story gable wall projecting from the main gable wall. In the reentrant angle formed by the smaller gable wall, there is a stoop with a shed roof. The half story above the first story of the smaller gable wall has paired fixed sash centered in the gable end. A one story family room with a shed roof extends from the gable wall, with two double-hung sash and an entrance door. A wooden deck extends from the southwest reentrant angle.

The house is clad with clapboard siding, has a coursed stone foundation, and has an asphalt roof with a ridge chimney made of brick.