

A Tour of Main Street: #3701 – Another Ginegaw Home

By Carol Ginegaw Consol and Others

Editor's Note: This is the 4th in a series of stories spotlighting the businesses and homes on Main Street. The tour begins on the west side of the four corners and travels south. Our May issue featured the home at 3707 Main Street owned by Carol's parents, Harold and Virginia Ginegaw. The house at 3701 is owned by Carol Ginegaw Consol.

I found this information on my abstract:

- July 1812: Henry Burr to Samuel Ingraham, MD
- July 1872: Samuel Ingraham and wife Martha to Henry N. Burr
- March 1890: Mrs. Sarah Chase and Gilmer Chase to John Craggs, Charles Elliott, J.A. Dumun, Lodge Trustees
- April 1900: Burton L. Rowe to Fred A. Boynton
- Feb. 1913: Conveyance. Fred A. Boynton to Edson J. Blythe, George Wignall and Fred Roby, Trustees of Lodge 254
- Feb. 1926: Fred A. Boynton to Peter & Francena VanHee. (Note: Francena died July 1929 leaving her husband Peter and daughter Edna S. Clark as his executrixes. Peter married Rhoda E. Thirkell of Marion September 1930. Peter died May 1936)
- July 1936: Rhoda VanHee to Burton R. Clark and wife, Edna S. Clark
- Nov. 1961: Burton and Edna Clark to Manley W. and Florence J. Cornell
- Aug. 1977: Manley W. and Florence J. Cornell to Carol Ginegaw Consol

**WHS file photos below
were undated.**



My Dad came to my apartment and asked me to consider the purchase of Manley and Florence Cornell's home. I told him I had no money saved, but he encouraged me to go to the bank. Of course, I soon discovered no one was going to give a twenty-six year-old female a mortgage until I approached Central Trust in Marion. Things fell into place and on my Mom's birthday, August 22, 1977; I was the owner of the house at 11 Main Street (now 3701 Main Street).

With what little money was left from bills, I slowly began to have extra doors closed off (began with 7 now have 5), windows replaced (out of 29, I still have to replace 5), heat installed upstairs, and porches redone for support. Each step was a challenge as due to the house settling nothing was or is actually straight. There were lots of tears shed along the way. I still can recall raking of rocks, glass, etc. in suffocating heat in order to have a backyard as I wondered what have I gotten myself into. Thankfully, my husband, Peter, has worked feverishly to beautify the grounds by planting arborvitae, Rose of Sharon, and other flowers for which I am very grateful.

After many years, the house was sided. Aware of environmental issues, I stood inside the dumpster and placed the yellow asbestos shingles in boxes that were removed from the house. Perhaps that was why I ended up having cancer issues. Finally, I had the outside cellar doors removed, driveway paved and eventually the well filled in for safety reasons. In 1995, the old barn was torn down and a garage was built in its place. It's been an arduous undertaking to keep this old house standing, which left little room for internal upgrades. As far as surprises, I did find two hat molds that must have been when the millinery was operational in 1912; I donated them to the Walworth Historical Society.

Growing up next door, there were lots of fun times with the Cornell family of five girls - Ruth, Catherine, twins Jan and Lee, and Florence. We had a chant of "ee aw kee" to signal time to play outdoors. I recently had a chat with their only son, John, who told me that they had rented this house to Minnie and Pat Curran before permanently moving from Manchester, then Macedon when he was eight years old. His Dad traveled a lot doing photography all over New York State. I do remember Mr. Cornell took a baby portrait of my youngest sister, Amy, in his studio located in the front room. He later did television repair full time; a doorbell rang each time their front door opened to alert them to customers. I was anxious to ask Johnny about the faint memory I have of his hot dog stand. He had built it himself and it was in the side yard close to the sidewalk with lights. His catch phrase was "free pop with a hot." He then cleaned up a popcorn

machine that Ray Kaufmann offered him and continually filled small paper bags full of popcorn. It was like having the Walworth Annual Street Dance every evening. Before he went into the Navy, the stand was towed to the Little League baseball diamond on Walworth-Penfield Road for their usage. We reminisced over the fact he had a motorcycle that he rode around and around in the backyard and how it seemed so large because I was so small. Amongst other stories, he concluded with saying how the house windows would rattle vigorously when he started his '47 Ford. There were lots of 'good old day giggles' for sure.

Additional Information about #3701/#11 Main Street from Various Sources

- In 1892 Mrs. Gilmore Chase had a millinery shop at 11 Main Street (now 3701 Main Street). *Source: "Wayne County Business Listings of 1863-1864."*
- In 1912 Miss Josephine Tears operated a millinery and dress-making shop there. The front windows displayed ladies' custom-made hats. Miss Tears rode a coach or buggy to Walworth Station south of town, where a train took her to Rochester to purchase whatever was needed to decorate ladies' hats. *Source: Walworth Memories.*
- Ella Ebert worked for Miss Tears as a seamstress. *Source: Ella's great niece, Mrs. Richard (Cathy) Roland.*
- Nettie Johnson Almekinder served her apprenticeship at Miss Tears' shop. *Source: Mrs. Roger (Jessie) Keymel.*
- Unknown date: Ida DeLue operated a bakery at this location. *Source: Walworth Memories.*
- In 1875, Doctor Samuel Ingraham rented space over the horse sheds next to his home and office to the Masons, giving them permission to build stairs to their second-floor meeting room to the south of his property. By 1890 Mrs. Gilmore Chase leased the Masons a strip along the driveway 18 inches wide for building the stairs to the Lodge room. *Source: Reybrouck Scrapbook.*
- Many years ago Florry said she found a bustle, button-up shoes, and an 1800's newspaper upstairs in a secret compartment. The space could have been used for the Underground Railroad or to hide booze during prohibition time. *Source: Florry (Florence) Cornell Munger.*
- Avery and Florry Munger found a small headstone in the back yard that had the word "Peggy" written on it; she only lived two years. *Source: Florryl Munger.*
- There were two separate residences in the house; some of the occupants are listed below. *Sources: Gordon and Betty Youngman and Florry Munger.*
 - Front part: Minnie and Pat Curran
 - Back part: Steven Coomber
 - Back part: Manley Cornell's parents when Manley and Florence owned the house
 - Back part: Avery and Florry Munger for two years
- Manley Cornell died August 4, 1995; Florence died July 1, 2001. *Source: Joyce Munger.*



3701 Main Street in Walworth as it looks today.

**[Next building to be featured:
3695 Main Street \(Masonic Lodge, Triou
Store, etc. Currently Baptist Community
Center\).](#)**

If you have information about this site, contact Dorothy French at 315-986-1098. We are always looking to update our museum files about people and places in the Walworth area.