

GRIFFIN LUMBER BUILDING PLAN 1938

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Repository:** Crandall Public Library.
Center for Folklife, History, and Cultural Programs,
Glens Falls, NY.
- Creator:** unknown
- Title:** Griffin Lumber Building Plan 1938
- Date:** March 24, 1938
- Abstract:** One sheet 14.5 inches x 30.5 inches containing 3 floor plans for a house. "Prepared for the Griffin Lumber Company" and dated March 24, 1938. Written in ink in the lower margin: Goering, 11 Haviland Avenue South Glens Falls. The house was built for Craig C. and Adele A. Goering.
- Quantity:** 2 folders
- Identification:** Archives & Manuscripts: Businesses

HISTORICAL /BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Griffin Lumber Company was founded in the 1842. In 1938 its advertisement read: "Once upon a time . . . Griffin's was a lumber yard

Now—a heating division

Now—an appliance department

Now—construction supervision

Now—paint and wallpaper

Now—financing arranged."

The electrical (appliance) store and the paint and wallpaper department were located at 3 Ridge Street in Glens Falls. The Main offices and the lumber yard were located at 69 Pearl Street in Hudson Falls. There was also a store in Saratoga Springs.

At this time the officers of Griffin Lumber Co., Inc. (lumber and builders supplies) were: President: Daniel S. Griffin (also vice-president of The People's National Bank); Vice-presidents: Lawrence B. Griffin, Morris DeGolyer, O. Thompson Griffin (also president of House Makers, Inc.), Secretary Harvey G. Niemer, and Treasurer Charles Kellogg (also office manager and manager of appliance department).

Griffin Lumber company started in 1842 as a small yard and a one-room office at Lock 13 on the Glens Falls Feeder Canal and rapidly expanded. Ten years later Kenyon Lumber Company located at Lock 12. Both companies continued to grow, and they shared a private canal which ran parallel to the Feeder Canal. In 1926 Griffin bought out Kenyon, dismantled parts of the Kenyon plant and moved the machinery across Pearl Street to their own yard. Subsequently the Kenyon yards were used for storage. The Kenyon planing mill was destroyed by fire in 1932 and later the saw mill at Lock 12 was dismantled. The Griffin saw mill burned in 1950, and Griffin stopped sawing in 1953. Starting in the 1950s the firm focused on subdivision development: surveying, selling lots and providing the lumber to build homes. In 2011 the firm, now known as Griffin Engineering and Supply Co. is still operating, selling building materials at 69 Pearl Street and paint at 67 Pearl.

It is possible that, even as early as 1938, Griffin Lumber was building houses that were variations on the same plan, as it seems that several of the houses on Haviland Ave. in South Glens Falls, were built from the same plan as # 11, the house in this plan.

The firm of **Coulter & Ashley** consisted, in 1938, of partners Leslie W. Coulter and Dominic C. Ashley. They were located at 200 Glen Street in Glens Falls. Their ad (p. 330 in the Directory) says "ENGINEERS LAND SURVEYORS Blue Printing". Coulter and Ashley had formerly been officers in the engineering firm of Meyer Bowers & Ashley, president Ernest L.H. Meyer. Coulter was vice-president and Ashley was treasurer. They formed their own company in 1935. By 1946 Dominic Ashley was deceased, and Leslie Coulter is listed solo as "engineer and land surveyor" at 200 Glen Street.

The house was built for **Craig C. and Adele A. Goering**. In 1938 Craig was a salesman at Gleeson Motor Sales at 74 Glen Street in Glens Falls, which was the Chrysler/Plymouth dealership. Prior to moving in to the house at 11 Haviland Avenue, they lived down the street at 19 Haviland Avenue.
(Information from City Directories and History of the Glens Falls Feeder Canal.)

The house is currently (May 2011) for sale by its second owner, who bought it from the Goerings in 1963.

SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE RECORDS

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INDEX TERMS

Topics: Architecture

Places: Hudson Falls, NY
Glens Falls, NY
South Glens Falls, NY

Important People: Griffin Lumber
Coulter & Ashley
Goering, Craig and Adele

Form/Genre: Architectural drawing

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE RECORDS

Folder # 1:

One sheet, diazo or blue-line drawing, 14.5 inches x 30.5 inches, containing plans for the basement, first floor, and second floor of a house. The drawings are scaled at $\frac{1}{4}$ " = 1'- 0". They were prepared for the Griffin Lumber Company, Hudson Falls, NY. On verso: stamp: "Printed by Coulter & Ashley Glens Falls NY."

11 Haviland Avenue is a two story house with a full basement, a roofed back porch and front entry. The front door leads directly into the living room, with stairs going up on the right to the upper floor. The first floor is living room, dinette and kitchen. The second floor contains two bedrooms, a sewing room, bath and five closets.

Folder # 2:

4 photographs, taken April 29, 2011 or May 6, 2011 by Erica Wolfe Burke: 2 of 11 Haviland Ave, 1 of 9 Haviland (next door) and one of 19 Haviland.

It appears that # 9, and probably several other houses on the block, were built from the same floor plans as # 11. #9 has a roof that peaks in front rather than at the sides, but the window pattern indicates that the floor plan is the same as # 11. The front entry has been enlarged to create a front porch, the back porch is now a deck. But the basic internal plan looks the same. According to the current owner of # 11, # 9 is similar but does not have a full attic, or full finished basement.

#19 Haviland Avenue, where the Goerings lived prior to building and moving to # 11, is one of 6 cottages on Haviland Avenue all of which were originally built on an identical plan. Over the years additions have enlarged each of the houses and made them more individual.