


PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY

HISTORIC PROPERTY NAME			<p>CURRENT BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPH</p> 
COMMON PROPERTY NAME			
PROPERTY LOCATION — STREET & NO.			
511 West Elm Street			
CITY, TOWN/VICINITY OF	ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO.		
Urbana	92-21-17-127-002		
TOWNSHIP	COUNTY		
Cunningham	Champaign		
PRESENT OWNER	PHONE		
Julius & Sol Cohen	367-2019		
STREET & NO./P.O. BOX			
511 West Elm Street			
CITY, TOWN	STATE	ZIP	
Urbana	Illinois	61801	
FORM PREPARED BY			
James N. Foster			
DATE			
6/85			
PHOTO BY			
Karen L. Kummer			
DATE			
3/85			
VIEW			
southeast			
NEG. NO.			
37-6,7;53-3,4			
HISTORIC USE			
residential			
PRESENT USE/OCCUPANT		ACREAGE/SQ. FOOTAGE	
residential		3561.25	
ARCHITECT/BUILDER			
builder: Addie & Nathan Cohen			
CONSTRUCTION/MODIFICATION DATES			
c. 1890 moved 7/1989			
STYLE			
Princess Anne with Stick Style elements			

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

2½ stories, clapboard; asymmetrical plan and facade.

hipped roof (decorative shingle) with lower cross-gables on east, north, and west with overhanging eaves, decorative rake boards, decorative wood shingles and paired square windows. projecting pavilions on east and west below gables. two jerkin-head dormers on east. two brick chimneys. wide overhanging eaves. raised brick foundation. decorative corner boards, belt course and frieze.

windows: 1/1 with simple architrave extended as in stick work above and below windows. second story off-center pair of rectangular fixed windows with three decorative brackets and extended wood sill. one story, flat roof bay on west with decorative brackets along eaves, incised trim below eaves; two spindle columns flank bay, upper sash with etched glass designs. Chicago-style window with stain glass transom to west of off-center entry. slightly projecting "bay" with fixed glass window flanked by smaller windows to east of entry.

full width porch with shallow hipped roof supported by fluted pillars with flaring "capitals". wood railing.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE/HISTORY

built by Addie B. & Nathan Cohen, cigar manufacturer; c. 1890-92.

first listed in City Directory, 1908: Nat Cohen, storeowner/cigar manufacturer
Cohen Building @ Green and Race, Urbana

Cohen was actor and singer in San Francisco and Chicago minstrel shows, established cigar factory about 1878 because musical business was "precarious". He played part of the original "Little Prince" in "The Black Crook," first ballet presented in U.S. Along with his wife and two sons, Julius and Sol, he performed for local productions. Both sons were accomplished musicians (esp. violin): Julius accepted a two-year appointment @ Paris Academy of Music; Sol was a music professor at the University of Illinois until about 1973.

moved to 700 block of East Green Street, July 6, 1989. New, shorter roof rebuilt on house

SOURCES OF ABOVE INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY

U. of I. student research, 1980.

From Cohen Family File, CCHA.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA/LEGAL DESCRIPTION/VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION
SECTION, TOWNSHIP, RANGE, QUARTER-SECTION

GENERAL COMMENTS

R5 zoning, 1985

127-22-002, 127-23

511 West Elm Street

