

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. 03347.000030
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

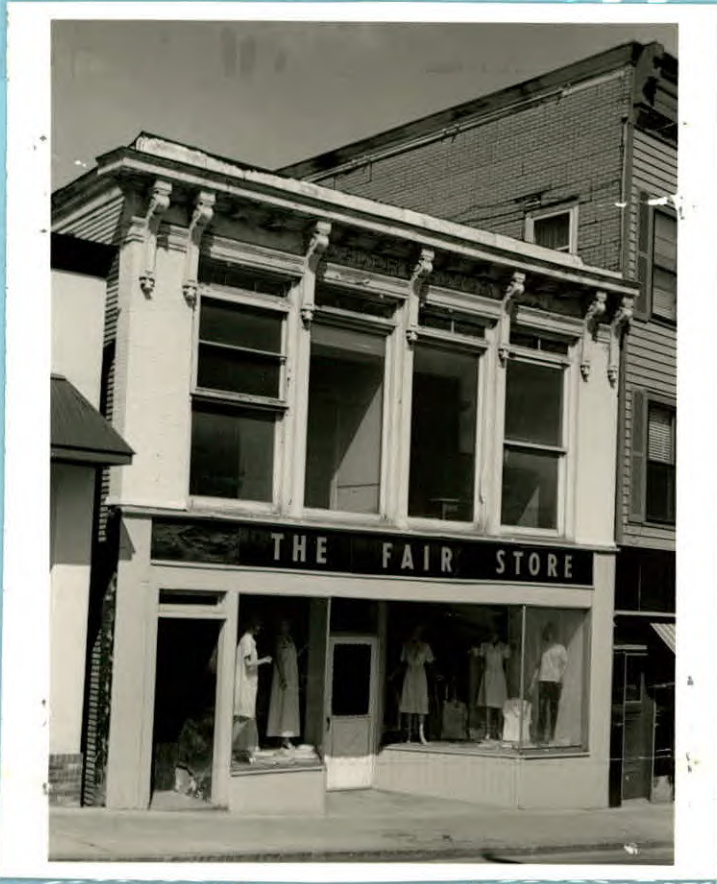
YOUR NAME: LEORA FEINBERG DATE: 7/20/83
YOUR ADDRESS: 18 BROADWAY TELEPHONE: 891-4670
ORGANIZATION (if any): Historic Saranac Lake

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): The Fair Store; the Egler Block
- 2. COUNTY: Franklin TOWN/CITY: Saranac VILLAGE: Saranac Lake
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 18 Broadway Now 11 Broadway
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: LEORA FEINBERG ADDRESS: 18 BROADWAY
- 6. USE: Original: merchandise Present: merchandise
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes No
Interior accessible: Explain _____

DESCRIPTION

- 8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard b. stone c. brick d. board and batten
e. cobblestone f. shingles g. stucco other: _____
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: a. wood frame with interlocking joints
(if known) b. wood frame with light members
c. masonry load bearing walls
d. metal (explain) _____
e. other _____
- 10. CONDITION: a. excellent b. good c. fair d. deteriorated
- 11. INTEGRITY: a. original site b. moved if so, when? _____
c. list major alterations and dates (if known): _____



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: _____
 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 BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:
 (Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

Relates To Area

In the Berkeley Square Historic District.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):
 The two-story, wood frame Egler Block has a brick facade that is opened by four second-story floor-to-ceiling display windows that occupy nearly the building's full width. Above these is a simple cornice supported by five extremely tall, scrolled consoles and four pairs of modillions. The storefront exterior was once clad with black carrara glass, but most of this has broken and been replaced with vertical tongue & groove. P.G.

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: _____
 ARCHITECT: _____ Probably built in 1912.

BUILDER: Frederick Egler, Jr.

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

SEE ATTACHED.

21. SOURCES: Franklin County Clerk's records, Malone, N.Y.

22. THEME: Pioneer Health Resort

THE EGLER BLOCK

Frederick Egler, Jr. built the building at 18 Broadway probably in 1912 (he bought the lot from Cunningham Young in Dec., 1911). Except for Altman's it is the only building left in the District to still prominently display the original owner's name. Just above the second-story front windows are the words "EGLER BLOCK".

In Nov., 1921, Elizabeth Egler sold the building to Isadore Feinberg who had come from Syracuse to Saranac Lake, c.1917, to cure. His wife, Fannie, operated a shop in the Torrence Building (41 Broadway) called The Fair of Saranac Lake, now and for many years known as The Fair Store. The Feinbergs moved the business to the Egler Block in 1935.

Prior to that, the storefront occupants were Sammy Kuntz's kosher delicatessen and restaurant (c. 1918) and, in the early 1920's, Robbins' Restaurant. This was operated by Frances and Max Robbins who later took over the Northwoods Sanatorium at 9 Church Street (destroyed by fire c.1974) which was the largest private sanatorium in the downtown area.

On the second floor of the Egler Block there were living quarters in the rear and Sam Matthews' law office up front. Also on the second floor, from prior to 1915 until at least 1922, was Joseph Bagdade and family. Mr. Bagdade, whom the 1915 census describes as a Turkish citizen, advertised himself as a "Parisian Taylor" who also provided a "Special Dry Cleaning" service.

For a number of years before 13 Church Street was purchased for the Jewish Community Center, Jewish High Holy Days services were held upstairs at the Egler Block.

18 Broadway is still owned by the Feinberg family, Lenora Feinberg being the present owner of both the building and The Fair Store, which carries ladies' clothing and specializes in ladies' uniforms and foundation garments.

The second story has been vacant for many years.

by Phil Gallos

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