United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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1. Nam	е							Degracoustribustoniaenics	
historic	Purviance,	Samuel,	House						
and/or common	Nazarene A	nnex							
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city, town	Huntington		N/A vic	inity of			*		
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6. Repr	esentat	ion ir	Exis	iting §	urveys				
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7. Description

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Samuel Purviance house is a brick, Italianate with a flat roof and a gabled rear ell. The main house has five bays on its main (east/northeast) facade and two bays on the side elevations. The foundation is cut stone with a stone water table. The one-over-one windows are thought to be replacements for earlier multi-paned windows. Those on the east facade and the north and south side elevations have heavy stone lintels and drop pendants, and blocks beneath the stone sills. The only variations in window treatment in the front portion of the house include a center second floor double window with double lintel and sill on the facade, and plain stone lintels and sills on the rear or west elevation (photo #4). The rear elevation also includes a four panel door with single light transom.

The elaborate main entrance includes a portico with paired Gothic style columns and single pilasters, which support an entablature with a shallow dentiled cornice, ornate modillions, and a decorative iron balustrade (photo #2). The portico entablature is a smaller version of the cornice on the main house. The porch floor is composed of large limestone slabs. A shouldered architrave frames the entrance, which is composed of an ornate, leaded glass transom and sidelights framing a single pane, four panel door with unusually large strap hinges (photo #3).

Brick corner quoins extend the entire height of all four corners of the front part of the house and connect with a shallow brick frieze which runs just below the cornice. The water table, quoins and frieze give all four elevations a recessed appearance. The cornice is composed of shallow dentils and ornate modillions supporting the wide eaves. There are two pairs of corbelled, interior chimneys at the north and south ends.

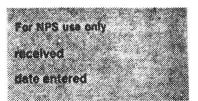
The gabled, one and one-half story rear ell appears to have been built at the same time as the rest of the house. However, it is constructed in a plainer style. The south/southeast elevation has one-over-one windows with plain moldings and stone sills, and two four-panel doors with single light transoms. Second floor windows are smaller, paired, one-over-one sash with plain moldings and thin wooden sills. A hipped roof porch extends the entire length of the south elevation and is supported by square classical columns with a jigsawn balustrade. The wooden porch floor sits on a rubble stone foundation, with steps at the central door and at each end. The gabled roof of the rear ell has a plain frieze with a paneled soffit. The rear elevation of the ell has a single, one-over-one window with plain stone lintel and sill on the first floor, and a smaller, one-over-one window with plain surrounds on the second floor. The same window treatment is found on the north elevation with three openings on the first floor and two on the second floor.

The house is painted light gray with white trim.

The interior retains its original elegance which featured an eight foot wide central hall with large parlors on either side. One outstanding feature is the cherry staircase which turns at a 180° angle. The stairway has an Italianate style newel post and turned balusters. The parlors have ten foot ceilings with original plaster details in an Adamesque motif. The south parlor has sliding door partitions and both parlors have built-in mirrors supported by marble shelves between the front windows. There are heavy Italianate moldings throughout these main front rooms. The house has four fireplaces—one in each parlor and in each of the front bedrooms upstairs. Each fireplace features a different color tile or brick and mantels with classical detail. These mantels may have been later replacements. A rear room on the lower floor contains a type of lin crusta covering on the walls. Some rooms still have their original interior shutters with an additional number of these shutters still stored in the house.

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Continuation sheet

Samuel Purviance House

Item number 7

Page 1

A back stairway leads from the kitchen to the rear section of the house which contains three small bedrooms that were probably used by servants. An early bathroom still has original fixtures, including a marble sink. All light fixtures have been replaced.

8. Significance

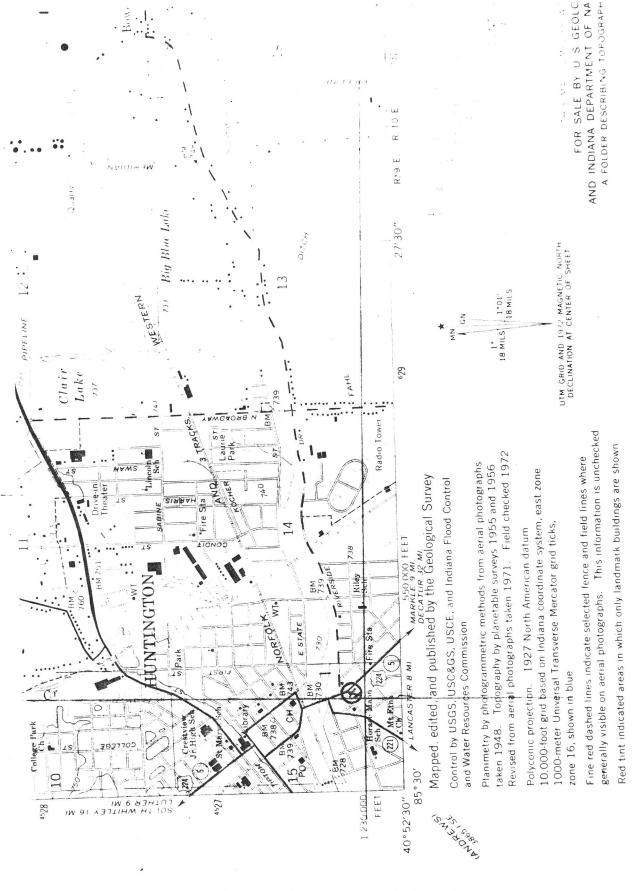
prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799	agriculture X architecture	community planning landscape architecture religion science conservation law science economics literature social/ education military humanitarian engineering philosophy exploration/settlement politics/government industry invention religion science
Specific dates	1859	Builder/Architect Samuel Fisher/Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

This magnificent house is remarkable not only for its many fine architectural features but also because it has retained so much of its integrity since its construction in 1859. Tradition says it was the second house to be built south of the Little River in Huntington. (The first house was razed many years ago.) It was built by Samuel Hillary Purviance, a man who played an important part in shaping the destiny of the young town. Purviance was born in New Paris, Ohio, in 1816, and came to Huntington in 1841, just seven years after the organization of the county. After his first business venture with a small general stor in downtown Huntington, Purviance organized a private banking house, S. H. Purviance & Co., in 1863. Three months later it was reorganized as the First National Bank, an enterprise which continues today as one of the main banks of Huntington. Samuel Purviance served the bank as president until his death in 1873. In 1842 he was elected county commissioner and in 1854 he was elected to serve four years as county clerk. An early newspaper account states that Sam Purviance was so highly respected as a businessman and philanthropist that when he died, people from every township attended his funeral, making it the largest funeral ever held in Huntington County at that time. He died in 1873, and his family retained ownership of the house until it was purchased by the Nazarene Church in 1960. The house w used as the Purviance Funeral Home in the 1920s.

This house is elevated from the street and occupies a pivotal position as one enters the commercial district of downtown Huntington from the south. The large lot was once beautifully landscaped with an outstanding variety of trees, shrubs and flowers. Mr. Purviance was not only an important civic leader but has left Huntington a legacy of one of its finest houses. The Purviance house has served as the educational building for the First Church of the Nazarene for more than two decades.

9. Major	Bibliographical Reference	S
ombination At	las Map of Huntington County. Chicago, 1879	, p. 20, 22, 33, 52
istory of Hun	tington County. Chicago, 1887, page 431	
untington Her	ald-Press. Files on Samuel Purviance and Sam	nuel Purviance House
10. Geo	graphical Data	
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11. FOR	m Prepared By	
name/title	Jean Gernand	
		January 23, 1986
organization	Huntington County Historical Society date	24
street & number	4720 North Rangeline Road telepho	one 219/356-6104, Ext. 34
city or town	Huntington state	Indiana 46750
12 Sta	te Historic Preservation Of	ficer Certification
The evaluated sig	gnificance of this property within the state is:	
	næional state^ local d State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic F	Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-
CCEL I horoby nor	minate this property for inclusion in the National Register and	Certify that it has been drained
according to the	criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service	2
State Historic Pre	eservation Officer signature	alto
Indiana	a State Historic Preservation Officer	date 4-25-86
For NPS use	only ertify that this property is included in the National Register	
I nereby ce	ratify that this property is included.	date
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Samuel Purviance House UTM Reference: 16/627040/4526080