

FINAL

United States Department of the Interior  
National 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

1. Name

historic Violett, William N., House

and/or common Jack Dueck Residence

2. Location

street & number 3004 S. Main St. N/A not for publication

city, town Goshen X vicinity of ~~congressional district~~

state Indiana code 018 county Elkhart code 039

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Jack Dueck

street & number 3004 S. Main Street

city, town Goshen X vicinity of state Indiana 46526

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Elkhart County Courthouse

street & number Corner Main and Lincoln Streets

city, town Goshen state Indiana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Indiana Historic Sites & Structures  
title Inventory for Elkhart County has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date May, 1978  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Department of Natural Resources

city, town Indianapolis state Indiana

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The William N. Violett House is a two-story, red brick structure constructed in the Italianate style. The house is built on a granite foundation which supports 16" thick, brick cavity walls. Floor joists are of 3" x 12" native oak. The structure is in excellent condition with no signs of settling or cracking.

Exterior details of the house which are typical of the Italianate style include: Paired brackets which support the wide, paneled soffit; brick arches at window and door heads; a heavy frieze molding below the cornice brackets; and an elongated circular window in the stairwell.

There are few changes that have affected the exterior appearance of the house. The original wood shingle roof has been replaced or overlaid with asphalt shingles. In an 1874 drawing of this house we find two flat-roofed, wooden porches. These porches have been removed, probably due to deterioration, and replaced with enclosed brick porches.

The house is "T" shaped in plan, with the top of the "T" running parallel to Indiana Highway 15 and forming the front wing of the house. This front portion contains the parlor, entry hall, dining room and library on the first floor. The second floor has a stair hall, bathroom and bedchambers. The rear wing has the kitchen, pantry and rear stairway which leads to servants' quarters on the second floor.

Interior finishes consist of oak hardwood floors, plaster walls and very wide moldings around doors and windows, and at the ceiling and floor. These moldings are of poplar, painted white. All doors are of paneled construction. They are made of pine, painted white, and each has a rectangular glass transom above.

The main entry has double doors, each with 12 glass panes and an arched glass transom light. They lead to the entry hall which has as its focal point an elliptical oak staircase. Natural light is provided by an elongated circular window.

This house was built and occupied by William N. Violett; however, no records exist to show when it was actually built. William N. Violett, and his wife acquired the 210-acre farm on which the house was built for \$2,000 in 1854. A reasonable estimate may be made by studying a drawing reproduced from the Illustrated Historical Atlas of 1874. This drawing shows the house and surrounding area in very accurate detail. The maturity of landscape plantings would indicate that the house may have been built 20-25 years earlier or during the 1850's, although this evidence is not totally reliable.

A small church-house is also shown to the south of the Violett property and remains in that location today. The property is in a primarily rural setting at the far southern edge of Goshen. The house is set back from the roadway on a large, shady lot. A small brick garage was built to the north of the house between 1910 and 1930. It measures approximately 22 feet square. The hipped roof imitates the style of the roof of the house.

1. Deed Record 15, page 195, Elkhart County Recorder's Office.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** Before 1874      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The William N. Violett House is significant because of its architectural style, as well as its association with the Violett family, who were among the early settlers of Elkhart County. The house, with its high eaveline, carved bracket cornice supports, stringcourse, and segmental brick arches, displays many features of the Italianate style of architecture.

William Violett came from one of the first families to settle in the area. Records show that William Violett arrived in Elkhart County at the age of two years with his parents, Major John Violett and his wife, Chloe. The family settled south of Goshen, near the Elkhart River, in 1828. The Violetts went on to become associated with the earliest development of Elkhart County.

Major Violett and his three sons, Isaac, William, and John, farmed 825 acres on the banks of the Elkhart River, surrounding what is now the town of Waterford Mills. Major Violett's farm was one of the largest in the county. On this property, the Violett Cemetery was laid out (across the highway from this house) where many members of early Elkhart County families are buried. John Violett, younger brother of William, served as sheriff of the county.

William Violett built his impressive farmhouse on a portion of his father's original holdings probably in the late 1850's. William was something of a gentleman-planter. Well educated, he gained a local reputation as a writer and a poet. He also became known as a reformer because of his advocacy of the temperance cause.

The spaciousness of the home and its distinctive architectural style reflect Violett's position in the community. Violett installed oak hardwood floors, as well as poplar paneling around the doors and windows in the interior of his home. The unique elliptical window which lights the carved, winding staircase is particularly distinctive. Because of these features, the house remains one of the most prominent houses in the area.

Because of its distinctive architectural style and links with one of the oldest families in Elkhart County, the William N. Violett House is one of the most significant houses in the area.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see continuation sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1.723 Acres

Quadrangle name Goshen

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 

1	6	5	9	7	7	6	0	4	5	9	9	6	5	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

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D 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Please see continuation sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state None code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Terry Herschberger

organization LeRoy Troyer and Associates date April 10, 1980

street & number 415 Lincolnway East telephone 217/259-9976

city or town Mishawaka state Indiana

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature   
Deputy Director, Dept. of Natural Resources, for  
title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer date 8-8-84

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Continuation sheet Violet House

Item number 9

Page 1

Historic Atlas of Elkhart County, 1874. Chicago: Belden and Higgins, 1875.

History of Elkhart County. Chicago: Chapman, 1881.

Yoder, Harriet. History of Waterford. Paper presented for course requirements  
at Goshen College, 1934.



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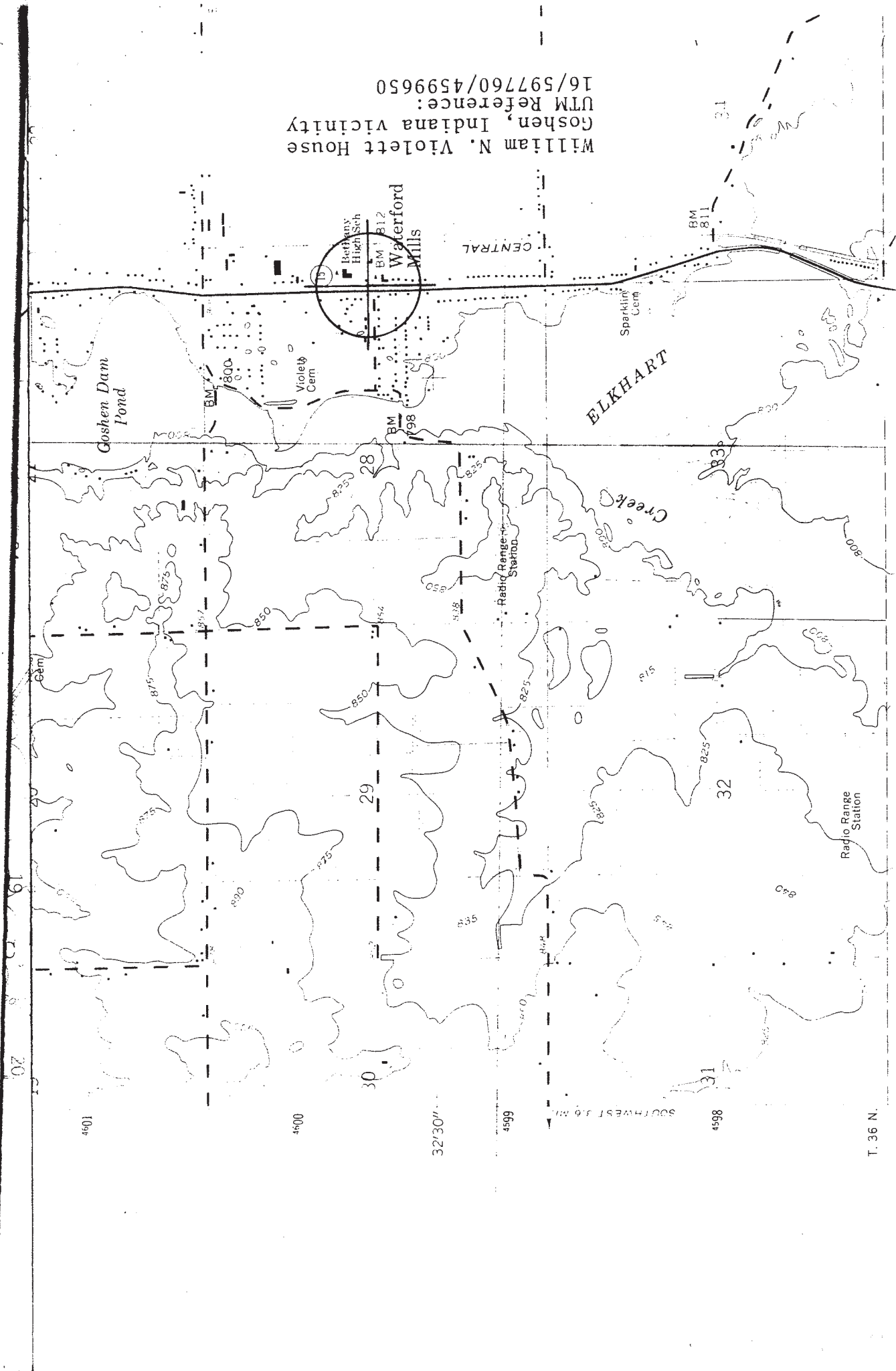
Continuation sheet Violett House

Item number 10, Verbal Bndry. Page 2

"Beginning at a spike set in the centerline of the pavement of Indiana State Highway No. 15, and marking the southwest corner of the Northwest One Quarter of Section 27, Township 36 North, Range 6 East; thence north zero degrees and 54 minutes west along the centerline of said highway, 183.5 feet; thence north 89 degrees and 39 minutes east 272.1 feet to an iron stake; thence south zero degrees and 56 minutes west 185.2 feet to an iron stake on the south line of said Northwest One Quarter of Section 27; thence west along said south line of Northwest One Quarter of Section 27, 266.2 feet to the place of beginning. Said above described tract containing 1.14 acres.

Also, commencing at a spike set in the centerline of the pavement of Indiana State Highway No. 15 and marking the southwest corner of the Northwest One Quarter of Section 27, Township 36 North, Range 6 East; thence north zero degrees and 54 minutes west, along the centerline of said Highway, 183.5 feet to the place of beginning of this description thence north 89 degrees and 39 minutes east, 272.1 feet to an iron stake; thence south zero degrees and 56 minutes west, 185.2 feet to an iron stake on the south line of said Northwest One Quarter of Section 27; thence east, along said south line of the Northwest One Quarter, 50.0 feet to an iron stake; thence north zero degrees and 56 minutes east, 235.5 feet to an iron stake; thence south 89 degrees and 39 minutes west, 323.55 feet to the west line of said Northwest One Quarter of Section 27; thence south zero degrees and 54 minutes east, along said west line of Northwest One Quarter and the centerline of the State Highway thereon, 50.0 feet to the place of beginning. Said above described tract containing 0.583 acres." (Mtge. Rec. 323, page 677).

William N. Violett House  
Goshen, Indiana vicinity  
UTM Reference:  
16/597760/4599650



T. 36 N.

