

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

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NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Craycraft, Daniel, House  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 1095 East Conner Street N/A not for publication  
city, town Noblesville N/A vicinity  
state Indiana code IN county Hamilton code 057 zip code 46060

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Richard Martin for J. M. Robinson  
Signature of certifying official

11-15-88  
Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Patrick Andrews

1/4/89

[Signature]  
Signature of the Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling  
DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: business

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK  
walls WOOD - Weatherboard  
roof STONE - Slate  
other \_\_\_\_\_

### Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Craycraft House and carriage house is located in an urban residential neighborhood of Noblesville, Indiana. The massive two and one-half to three story frame building stands within the original plat of this county seat and is only two blocks east of the courthouse square. An ornate cast iron fence (c. 1892) remains in place on the Conner Street front of the property.

Built in 1892, the residence is an intricately detailed and exuberant example of the Queen Anne style. Asymmetrical massing, various textured materials and freely carved and turned wood elements are all combined on this Queen Anne landmark.

### House

The Craycraft House is of frame construction with a brick foundation. Exterior walls have narrow clapboard siding with wooden belt courses and corner boards dividing the wall surface into panels. Most of the windows of the house are one-over-one double-hung sash with flat surround boards. Vertical window surround boards extend from the sill to the belt course, subdividing wall surfaces even further.

The main elevation faces north, and is composed of a three story tower offset by a jettied cross gable (photo 1).

On the first story, in the section under the cross gable, one finds a triple window grouping. The main entry is located just off center and consists of a double leaf doorway. The oak doors have four panels on the lower half and a large single light with two panels above the glazing. An identical single leaf door was added to the first floor of the tower in 1903 just to the west of the main entry.

A single window and multi-paned door are located in the cross gable section of the second floor. A single window is centered above the main entry of this floor. The second floor of the tower has paired windows, as does the third story. A hood skirt with imbricated fish scale shingles divides the second and third stories of the tower and is continued around the two and one-half story portion of the house as "entablature."

East of the tower, a medium pitch cross gable projects forward several

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1 Craycraft, Daniel, House

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feet. The cross gable has an incised bargeboard, corner scroll brackets and metal finials. At the gable peak, a jettied triangular area with a carved sunburst motif is supported by small scroll brackets. The gable is further infilled by two small double-hung windows, false half timbering, diagonal board and imbricated shingles.

The Craycraft House has a steep, massive gable-on-hip roof over the main block of the house, with a north-south ridge. The tower has a bellcast pyramidal hip roof. The roof is covered with slate, laid with three to four courses of hexagonal slates alternating with five courses of rectangular slates. The entire tower roof has hexagonal slates. All roof ridges have metal cresting.

Porches and balconies provide the most visual interest of the north elevation and house in general. A one story porch covers the north elevation and wraps around to the east elevation. The porch has turned posts, scroll brackets, a free work balustrade of flat and turned woodwork and a freize of turned spindles (photos 2 and 3). The porch entry projects forward and is reached by concrete steps (photo 3). A cross gable which is aligned with the main entry doors marks the porch entry. The porch gable has a decorative bargeboard with curvilinear star and sunburst motifs and is infilled by panels with roundels. The porch has a brick foundation and a wooden deck.

On the second story of the main facade there are two balconies. Centered above the porch and main entry, an elaborate balcony rises from the porch roof. It has turned posts, a broad, open wood arch on the front of the porch and open wood oculus on the sides. The balustrade and portiere work of this balcony have ball turnings. The balcony to the east was added in 1903. Its craftsmanship is simpler than that of the other balcony and porch (photo 5). The turned posts, balusters and freize spindles are different from the other porch and balcony, but it does blend well with the home's architecture.

The front porch makes an easy transition from the north to the west elevation (photo 4). The west elevation can be divided into three sections: a portion with the west face of the tower and wrap-around porch, a projecting cross gable area and a three bay section with a side porch to the south of the gable.

The porch and tower repeat the details found on the main facade. A small horizontal window is located above the last bay of the wrap-around porch. It has a scroll shaped surround.

A cross gabled projection is roughly centered in the west elevation

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2 Craycraft, Daniel, House

---

(photo 6). The corners of the projection are beveled below the shingled "entablature". The beveled corners of the projection have one typical window on each story, and a shingled belt course with flat wood moldings divides the first and second stories. This hood skirt is continued around the rest of the main portion of the house. The wall portion of the projection which faces due west has no openings. Above the second floor windows on the beveled corners of the projection are arched corner braces with a pierced trefoils, scalloped edges and a turned drop finial. A jettied cross gable completes the projection. It is supported on a table of rounded exposed rafters and corner scroll brackets. The gable itself is identical to the north cross gable in finish and detail. A single corbeled brick chimney stack is centered in this gable.

An area with a small porch extends about three bays south of the cross gable. The side porch is the principle feature of this section of the west facade (photo 8). The shed roof porch has turned posts, a scalloped freize and a balustrade with flat balusters. A paneled door with a large single light and a narrow one-over-one double hung sash window are sheltered by the porch. The porch has a wood floor. On the first story, there are two typically detailed windows to the south of the porch. On the second story of this section of the west elevation, there is one narrow window above the porch and two windows to the south which aline with the first floor windows.

The east facade of the Craycraft House can be analyzed in four sections: an area to the north under a dormer, a projecting cross gable, a section with a lower shed roof and exterior chimney and a beverly jog staircase addition (photo 9).

The northern section displays the side elevation of the previously described front porch and balcony. There are two windows on each floor of the wall surface. This section has the same belt coursing and entablature treatment as other elevations. A gabled dormer is centered in this section. The dormer is covered in fish scale shingles and has a panel with diagonal boards with a decorative blind lunette. The dormer also has a decoratively incised arched brace in the gable area and a bargeboard with similar detailing to that of the cross gable bargeboards. A corbeled brick chimney rises through the dormer.

The cross gable projection is positioned just north of the center of the east facade. The first floor of the projection has a typical window to the north and a small window, treated with identical details, to the south. The window headers are at the same height. The belt course continues across this projection. Paired typical windows are

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3 Craycraft, Daniel, House

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centered on the second story. The north side of this projection has one narrow typically detailed window on each story. The cross gable is jettied and rests on a row of scroll brackets (photo 10). Otherwise, this cross gable is identical to the north elevation gable.

A narrow brick chimney divides the gable section from the shed roof section. The first floor of this area projects so that the wall is flush with the gabled projection. A shed roof connects to the main block at the second floor window sill level. The shed roof area has two paired window groups on the first story, and one paired window set centered over these on the second story. The shed roof and chimney of this section may have been added.

The beverly jog staircase was added in 1903 (photo 11). This steeply pitched shed roof structure extends to the east and south of the house proper. A paneled door on the east wall provides rear access to the house. There are plainly finished one-over-one double hung windows on the upper east wall and south wall of the addition.

The south elevation is the rear of the house, and it is partially obscured by a one story gabled kitchen wing (photo 12). The central portion of the kitchen, with a gable ridge running north-south and a slate roof matching the main block, is the original kitchen. In 1903, a shed roof area with a shallow pitch was added to the east and a hip roof section was placed on the west wall of the kitchen, nearly doubling its size. The south wall of the kitchen has a single double-hung window with corner tabs. The gable area has an oval jigsaw vent. The wall surface is treated with simple corner and freize boards. The east kitchen wall has a large multi-paned window and a paneled door. The hiproof addition to the west has five double-hung one-over-one windows with plain surrounds and a transomed door to the south. The kitchen has a single central chimney.

The rear of the main block of the house has a variety of window types. Several fixed windows are found on the second story next to the beverly jog, apparently they were added when the staircase was built. A flush cross gable covered in fish scale imbricated shingles is centered on the roof. It has a small one-over-one double-hung window in the center of the gable.

The interior of the Craycraft House is an asymmetrical grouping of rooms, planned around an entry stair hall, a center hall and a rear staircase (see enclosed plans).

The entrance stair hall is the most significant space of the interior

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 4 Craycraft, Daniel, House

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(photo 14). The two flight, L-shaped staircase is an ornate example of Queen Anne craftsmanship in solid oak. The stairs have closed string paneling and paneled walls with bead moldings and chamfered rails (photo 17). The stair rail consists of a molded handrail supported by flat balusters framing sets of three turned spindles. The stairs curve outward at the first floor. The starting newel is square with a simple base, chamfering and a cap with cornice, chevron and incised moldings. The cap has a triangular trilobed top and an original ornate metal globe lamp (photo 16). Other newels have caps of four intersecting antefix-like shapes. The floor of the stairhall has been carpeted. The baseboards are simple, flat moldings. All openings in the stairhall have flat surrounds with a dentiled entablature at the header. A large opening on the east wall has a pair of original pocket doors (photo 18). The Eastlake style screen doors over the pocket doors are the original front door screens, they have been installed here to block the main parlor off as part of a 1986 certified rehabilitation. The surrounds and doors are of oak, as is most of first floor woodwork. Another opening leads to the center hall. The entry hall has a molded wood cornice.

The east main parlor is entered through the hall pocket doors. This room is symmetrically arranged around a fireplace. The baseboard, window and door surrounds and cornice match those of the entry stair hall. On the east wall, a projecting chimney breast features an oak mantelpiece (photo 22). The fireplace has a cast iron firebox and a pink glazed tile hearth and surround. The mantle is flanked by fluted Doric colonnettes with acanthus capitals. The mantle frieze is decorated with coruilinear floral motifs. The overmantle has fluted colonnettes, a beveled mirror and a frieze similar to the mantle.

The library and west parlor have the same baseboard and surround treatment as the entry stair hall, but the cornice is reduced to a narrow molding. The west parlor has been partially divided to allow access to the house from the porch without entering the remaining portion of the west parlor. The west parlor retains its original oak mantelpiece (photo 23). The chimney breast projects into the room. The firebox is of cast iron, the surround and hearth have reddish-pink glazed tile, with cast bird and oak tree motifs on the square surround tiles. Colonnettes with bell shaped capitals and four bell shaped corbels support the mantle shelf. The overmantle has a large rectangular beveled mirror and an entablature resting on tall engaged colonnettes.

A central hall between the library and west parlor leads to the rear of the house. In 1976, a bathroom was installed to the rear of the hall,

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 5 Craycraft, Daniel, House

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so that the hall has been diverted through another room. Opening surrounds in the hall match those of the entrance hall.

The dining room also has the same oak woodwork as the entrance hall. The south wall has a pass-through with a small paneled pocket door. Yet another ornate mantelpiece is located on the west wall of the dining room (photo 24). Its firebox is of cast iron, and the surround is covered in blue-green glazed tile. The tiles are cast to depict fruit vines (or perhaps cherry tree branches), while the corner tiles show a boy with an umbrella (left) and a girl collecting a bundle of kindling (right). The oak mantle has paired fluted colonettes with ball shaped capitals resting on plinths and upholding blocks with carved floral motifs. The mantle frieze has a scroll ornament in the center. The overmantle has an oval beveled mirror flanked by fluted miniature Doric pilasters. The bowed pediment has applied floral wreath and garland decorations.

A rear stairhall and breakfast room are located opposite the dining room. The stairhall can be reached from the west side porch, the west parlor and the breakfast room. The staircase has a closed string, single run plan, flat balusters, a molded handrail and a newel similar to those on the main staircase (photo 25). The case and stairhall walls have car sided wainscoting with a molded chair rail.

The breakfast room has a different style of surround from the parlors or entrance hall. The baseboard is similar, but the door and window moldings are fluted with plain corner blocks. The door to the rear stair hall has a single light transom. The doors are paneled in a pattern similar to the parlor and entrance hall doors.

A butler's pantry with built-in cupboards connects the breakfast room and dining room. A door on the breakfast room south wall leads to the kitchen wing. The kitchen wing has been altered by the addition of walls and industrial appliances, which was done in 1976 when the house was partially used as a restaurant. The kitchen still retains several original door and window openings. The surrounds match those of the breakfast room.

The second floor of the Craycraft House has six bedrooms, a sitting room and two half baths planned around a central and side hall. The landing and halls are carpeted. The doors have the fluted molding and corner block style surrounds used in the first floor breakfast room, as do all the door and window openings on the second story. Hall doors to bedrooms have single light transoms. Second floor doors match those of the first floor, but are built of pine rather than oak.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6 Craycraft, Daniel, House

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The front (north) bedroom suite features a sitting room (over the entrance hall) and large chamber connected by a wide transomed doorway. The east wall has an ornate fireplace with an oak mantle and overmantle.

The west bedroom was probably originally entered from the landing area, but an enclosed staircase to the attic was added in this area in 1903. One must now enter the west bedroom from the side hall. This bedroom also has a fireplace with a cast iron insert, tile surround and an oak mantelpiece.

The three rear bedrooms do not have fireplaces. The center rear bedroom does have a built-in cupboard. The side hall leads to single flight enclosed staircases to the first floor and attic.

The attic has four large rooms. The north room is believed to have been the maid's quarters.

### Carriage House

A large frame carriage house, one and one-half stories in height, stands about twenty feet south of the kitchen wing of the Craycraft House (photo 7). The carriage house was built in 1892 (the same date as the house).

The carriage house has a gable roof with the ridge running east-west. The roof has a square cupola with a steep pyramidal hip roof in the center of the building. The slate roofing; metal cresting and finials are similar to the details of the house roof. The walls of the carriage house have wood clapboard siding and wide corner boards.

The north elevation of the carriage house has a centered cross gable with a small one-over-one double-hung window (photo 13). The main entry (for people) is centered below a gabled door hood supported on knee braces. The hood is believed to have been added during the early 1900s. The hood shelters a multi-paned door. A square six-paned casement or fixed window is found just to the right of the main entry.

The west elevation of the carriage house has three windows (photo 26). A small six-paned window is found to the north on the first story. To the south on the first story, there is a four-over-four double hung window with an entablature molding on the window header. An identical window is centered in the half story gable end.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7 Craycraft, Daniel, House

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The east elevation also has three apertures (photo 27). A side entry (for people) is provided to the south, it consists of a multi-paned door with a simple gabled hood resting on knee braces. This hood is also believed to be a 1900s addition. A small single light window is located north of the door on the first story. A four-over-four window, identical to its counterpart on the west elevation, is centered in the half story gable end.

The south elevation features the main entry for horses and vehicles (photo 28). This entry consists of double leaf barn doors with diagonal rails and diagonal siding. All the stiles and rails have chamfered edges. There are no other openings on this elevation.

The carriage house interior had been adapted to residential use prior to 1976, and the current owner has rehabilitated the interior for office use.

The Craycraft House has been altered at various times. In 1903, Daniel Craycraft died, and Mary Craycraft, his widow, had the house divided into three apartments. At this time, the kitchen was enlarged, a balcony was added to the front and stairs were added to the exterior and interior. In 1976, the home was converted to a restaurant. By this time, the house had been covered in wide gauge aluminum siding. The restaurant project included the remodeling of the kitchen, the addition of several bathrooms, installation of drop ceilings, and several walls were added. In 1985, the current owner undertook a certified rehabilitation of the Craycraft House. This project returned the mansion to a more appropriate appearance. The aluminum siding was removed and the interior plan was largely returned to its 1903 configuration. The carriage house and house are now used as office space.

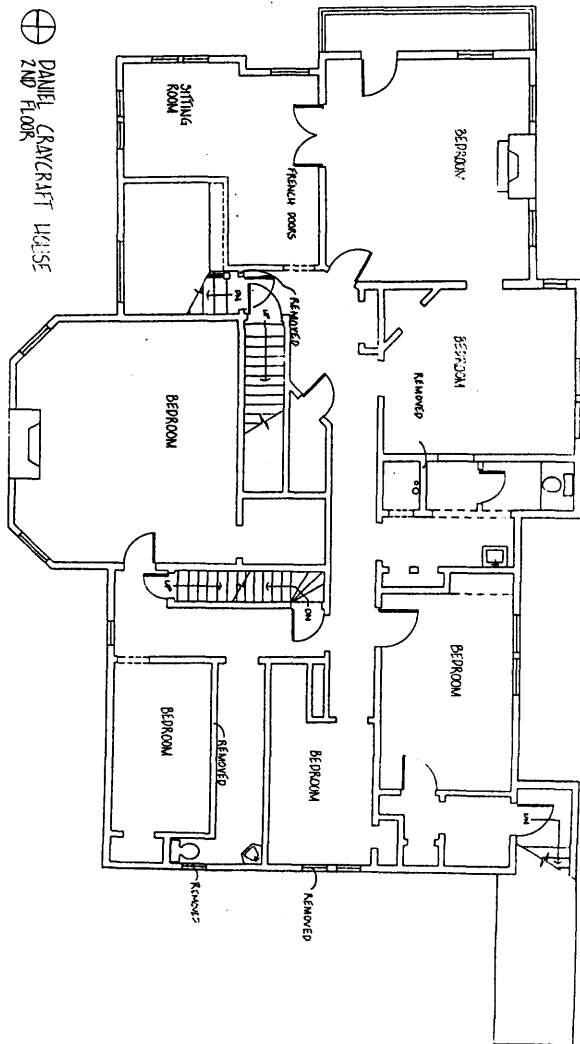
The nominated property includes two contributing buildings (house and carriage house) and one contributing structure (iron fence).

Several inscriptions have been found in the Craycraft House. A board in the attic has "Lon Smith 1892" painted on the inside surface and "R. L. Smith May 4th, 1903" had been written on the plaster of the second floor side hall. After conducting research, it is still not known if these marks were left by the builder or a worker.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

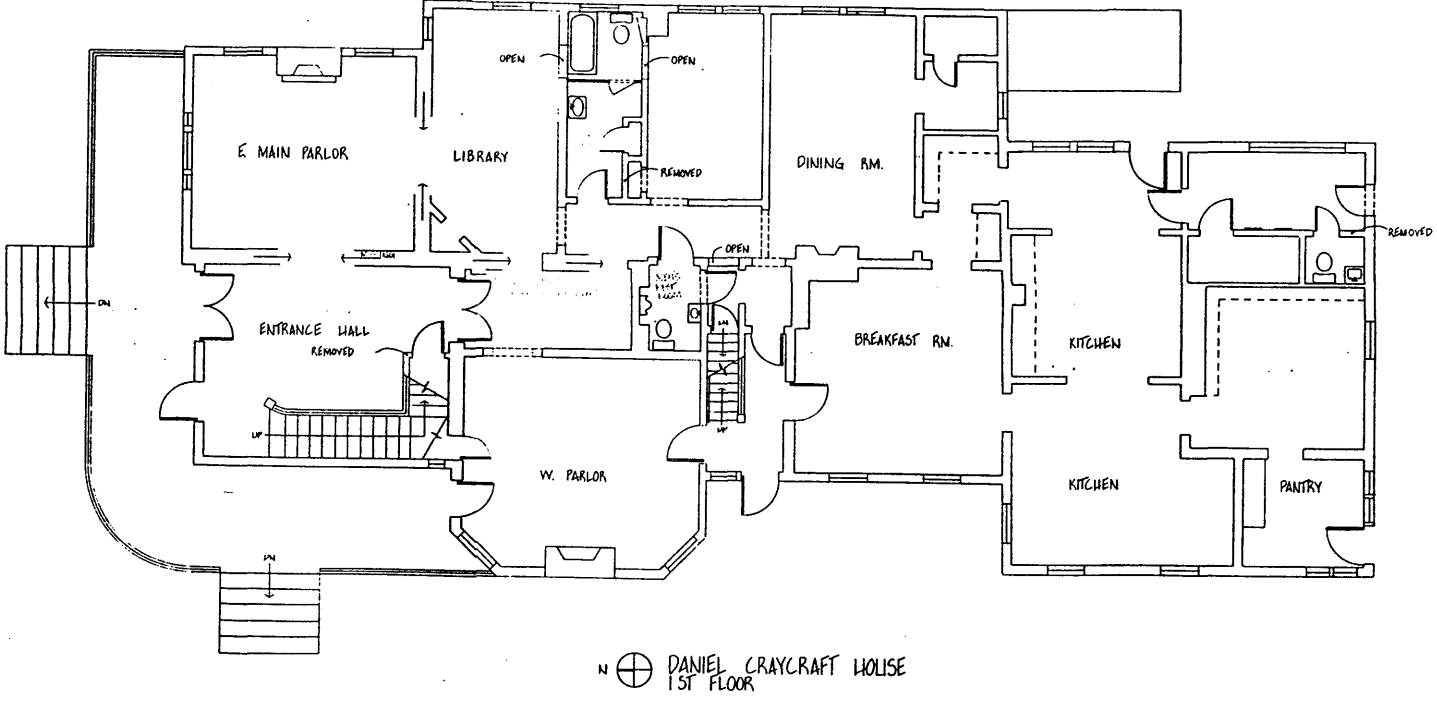
Section number 7 Page 8 Craycraft, Daniel, House



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 9 Craycraft, Daniel House



⊕ DANIEL CRAYCRAFT HOUSE  
1ST FLOOR

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1892  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1892  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Daniel Craycraft House is significant as one of the finest examples of Queen Anne architecture in Hamilton County, Indiana. Its massive scale, profuse detail and outstanding integrity make the residence an architectural landmark in downtown Noblesville. Also, the Craycraft House is one of the few remaining houses of such size and stature built for one of the city's prominent businessmen.

The two and one-half to three story residence, with its asymmetrical massing, picturesque silhouette and combination of various textured patterns, has all of the characteristics of the Queen Anne style. Because of the quality and integrity of the home's elaborate woodwork, it is a locally outstanding example of Queen Anne architecture. The house was remodeled in 1903, but the new additions were in keeping with the style of the house. The Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory for Hamilton County has located only a few Queen Anne homes of the scale and detail of the Craycraft House. The Noblesville residence is among the very best examples of the style in the county.

The house was built for Daniel Craycraft (1839-1902) who came to Noblesville in 1868. Daniel Craycraft was raised on a farm near Anderson, Indiana, and while a young man moved to Tipton, taking up the profession of photographer. After moving to Noblesville, he entered into several business ventures finally settling with the dry goods business, in which he made most of his money. Daniel Craycraft never served in a political office but he was influential in the development of new enterprises during a period of significant commercial growth in Noblesville. For example, Craycraft was the president of the Noblesville Gas Company for many years. He was also a powerful stockholder in the First National Bank, the Wainright Trust Company, the Water and Light Company and the Light and Ice Company.

After Daniel Craycraft's death, the house was left to his wife Mary. Mrs. Craycraft had the house converted into three apartments in 1903. The

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Haines, John F. History of Hamilton County, Indiana.  
Indianapolis - B. F. Bowen and Company, 1915. pp. 645-7

Hamilton County Historical Society, files

Hamilton County Interim Report. Indiana Historic Sites and Structures  
Inventory. Indianapolis: Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana  
1978.

Lyons, Mary Craycraft. (Son of Daniel Craycraft, born in house). Personal  
Interviews with Richard Vincent

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)  
has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings  
Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering  
Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Indiana Historic Sites and  
Structures Inventory

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property less than one acre

UTM References

A 

1	6	5	8	4	3	8	0
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4	4	3	3	0	4	0
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Zone      Easting      Northing

B 

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Zone      Easting      Northing

C 

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D 

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description A part of Out Lots Three (3) and Four (4) in the Original  
Town (now City) of Noblesville, Indiana, described as follows: Begin  
at the Northeast corner of Lot One (1) in Block Thirteen (13) of the  
Original Plat of the City of Noblesville, and run thence East 74 feet,  
thence South 132 feet, thence West 2 feet, thence South 26½ feet, thence  
West 72 feet, thence North 158½ feet to the Place of Beginning.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This is the historic boundary of the property, including the house, a  
contributing carriage house and a contributing cast iron fence along  
the north property line.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Richard Vincent  
organization -- date 12/29/87  
street & number 1095 East Conner Street telephone 317/232-1646  
city or town Noblesville state IN zip code 46060

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number   8   Page   1   Craycraft, Daniel, House

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house passed out of the family in 1941 when it was sold to Thomas Carter. It remained divided into the three apartments until it was bought in 1976 and turned into a restaurant. The current owner recently completed a certified rehabilitation of the residence. The home is now used as office space.

The other large houses in the vicinity of the Craycraft house have been torn down and replaced with modern commercial buildings. The Daniel Craycraft house, along with two other Queen Anne style houses on Conner Street, survive to give us an idea of the original Victorian neighborhood.