

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received FEB 22 1985

date entered MAR 21 1985

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

**1. Name**

historic Robinson, Horney, House

and/or common Coffee, Gary, Residence

**2. Location**

street & number 7320 Lower Huntington Road N/A not for publication

city, town Fort Wayne X vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county Allen code 003

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Gary and Jane Coffee

street & number 7320 Lower Huntington Road

city, town Fort Wayne X vicinity of state Indiana 46809

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Allen County Courthouse

street & number Main Street & Calhoun Street

city, town Fort Wayne state Indiana 46802

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title N/A has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town state

## 7. Description

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

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

The Horney Robinson House sits on a rise overlooking Lower Huntington Road to the south. Lower Huntington Road is an early thoroughfare paralleling the Wabash and Erie Canal and Upper Huntington Road to the north.

Federal in style, the original part of the house is a two-story frame structure with a rectangular plan and an end gable roof. This part of the house has been altered very little since the house was constructed. There is also an early "salt Box" addition on the rear of the house and a 1977, one-story garage addition on the east side. Both additions are compatible in material, scale, and style, and do not detract from the historic character of the house.

The main part of the house has a five-bay main facade and one-bay end facades. The entry is in the center bay of the main (south) facade. The original door has been replaced. The existing door is a six panel door. The door surround consists of pilasters which support a simple entablature. Windows are double-hung with six lights in each sash. The windows have plain surrounds. The house has clapboard siding and cornerboards. Cornerboards on the main facade are replacements which match the originals. A plain frieze surrounds the building under the eaves. The roof material is asphalt shingles. The foundation is river rock. The house has a six foot cellar.

The interior has original native walnut woodwork, probably planed at Robinson's nearby mill. Some interior alterations were made in 1930. These included elimination of the central hall so that the stairway could be turned around. The original walnut and poplar treads and risers were retained, but the lower handrails and posts were changed. Two east windows were enlarged, but the original walnut woodwork was retained. The interior doors are all the original walnut, two panel doors. The second story has the original poplar plank floors.

## 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** ca. 1845      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Horney Robinson House is significant as the home of an early Allen County pioneer and as one of the oldest remaining frame houses in the county. The house was built by Horney Robinson, an Allen County pioneer who, with his father, Thomas, came to the area when Fort Wayne was just a fort and trading post. The house, a Federal Style dwelling of frame construction, represents a type of architecture which is rare in Allen County. The building retains a high degree of integrity.

Robinson purchased the property where the house is located in 1832 and built a sawmill on the right bank of Lost Creek, now Robinson Creek. The mill was equipped with a "muley" saw and powered by an undershot wheel. It was abandoned after the development of steam mills in Fort Wayne, but remains of the dam were visible until recently.

According to a great-granddaughter of Robinson, Zeta Lopshire of Fort Wayne, the house was constructed around 1845. The first white child born in this area was Robinson's son, Warren, in November, 1834. The first death in the area was that of Robinson's sister, Mary Robinson Bay, in 1841. Robinson donated land for a church (Bristol Chapel) and cemetery, where he was buried in 1887.

After Robinson's death, his second wife, Amanda Bart Robinson, and subsequently her son, Nelson Bart, owned the house. John Carsten bought the property from Bart in 1913. The present owners purchased the house from Carsten's son, Wayne, in 1966.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see continuation sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1.1 acres

Quadrangle name Fort Wayne West

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	6	6	4	8	2	5	0	4	5	4	0	6	3	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Please see continuation sheet

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jane Coffee and Phyllis G. (Hopkins) Brockmyer\*

organization N/A

date October 15, 1984

street & number 1005 Pencross Drive

telephone 219/747-2891  
219/637-6097\*

city or town Fort Wayne

state Indiana 46825

# 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

title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

date 2-6-85

### For NPS use only

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

Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the National Register

date 3-21-85

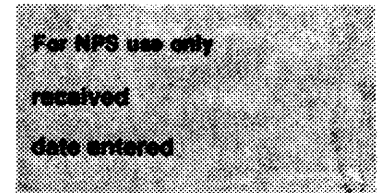
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet Horney Robinson House

Item number 9 and 10

Page 1

Griswold's Pictorial History of Fort Wayne, Indiana, Vol. I, p. 695-98; Vol. II, p. 477, 1917.

Helms History of Pleasant Township, Sec. 36, Twp. 30, Range 11.

Fort Wayne Journal, July 23, 1887.

Robertson, Valley of the Upper Maumee River, Vol. I, p. 447.

Census Records, Fort Wayne Public Library. 1840, Aboite Township, p. 37, Roll 23; 1850, Pleasant Township, p. 439, Roll 96.

---

Item number 10

---

A parcel of land in the South half of Section 36, Township 30 North, Range 11 East, Allen County, Indiana, and more particularly described as follows, to-wit: Commencing at the intersection of the East line of the Branstetter Reserve and the centerline of the Lower Huntington Road; thence in an Easterly direction along the centerline of the Lower Huntington Road a distance of 1031.2 feet to the place of beginning; thence continuing along the centerline of the Lower Huntington Road a distance of 205.5 feet; thence in a Northerly direction and making an interior angle 99° and 7 minutes with the last described line, a distance of 253.0 feet; thence in a Northwesterly direction, and making an interior angle of 96° and 30 minutes with the last described line, a distance of 149.0 feet; thence in a Southwesterly direction and making an interior angle of 89° and 20 minutes with the last described line a distance of 300 feet to the place of beginning, containing 1.1 acres of land, more or less, subject to all legal roads and highways.