

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received MAY 30 1986

date entered JUN 26 1986

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

1. Name

historic William Street School (1895-1926)

and/or common Horace Mann School (1926 to present)

2. Location

street & number 521 William Street N/A not for publication

city, town Huntington N/A vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county Huntington code 069

3. Classification

|   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <b>Category</b>                                 | <b>Ownership</b>                           | <b>Status</b>                                       | <b>Present Use</b>                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied        | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input 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 checked="" 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 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 Huntington County Community School Corporation

street & number 959 Guilford Street

city, town Huntington N/A vicinity of state Indiana 46750

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder's Office, Huntington County Courthouse

street & number East Franklin Street

city, town Huntington state Indiana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Indiana Historic Sites  
title and Structures Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1982  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology

city, town Indianapolis state Indiana

## 7. Description

### Condition

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

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

The older section of the Horace Mann School is a two and one-half story structure with a raised basement. The brick building follows a basic rectangular plan with a rounded corner on the northeast which meets a projecting wide bay, then recedes to the tower and main entrance. The many-gabled slate roof has an alternating pattern of straight line and fish scale shingles. This school is an outstanding blend of the Romanesque and Queen Anne modes. The 1926 addition was constructed in a Neo-Classical style.

The raised basement of the entire building is composed of rock-faced limestone with double-hung, two-over-two windows. First and second story windows are variously arranged singly or in groups of two or three in the old section, while the 1926 addition windows are arranged in groups of four. The upper windows are double-hung with one light in each sash. A projecting band of rock-faced limestone follows the sill line of the windows on the north, east and south sides. The windows in the 1895 section have heads of radiating rough-cut limestone blocks that are segmentally arched above the windows and topped with a thin straight drip mold of smooth limestone with a small pendant at either end. Windows on the addition have dressed stone heads with a similar drip mold.

The main entrance is on the south side of the building and is marked by a massive arch of rock-faced limestone. Double doors are set in the recessed entry and on either side of the arch is a panel inscribed with the names of the school's architect, builders, and school officials. Above the arch is a limestone panel with the inscription, "Horace Mann School". Above this entrance the wall plane is recessed, creating an offset with four windows opening onto it. Directly above the offset a shed-type dormer projects from the roof.

A focal point of the building is the bell tower immediately east of the entry, which is round at the base and octagonal at the top. On the second story tower window a pedimented frontispiece bears the date 1895. The bell tower has eight round-arched openings, again trimmed with the rock-faced limestone. Three bands of this stone surround the tower below the arches and a band of corbelled brick is found beneath the cornice at the top. The tent roof has an octagonal base with steeply pitched slopes rising to a peak.

Directly west of the main entrance is a polygonal two and one-half story bay. The architectural features of the bay match those found on the rest of the 1895 building, with the exception of a gabled dormer that has a double-hung window in the center, flanked by single lights. The wall surface above the dormer window is covered with slate shingles.

The rear elevation of the building is dominated by two large, matching rectangular wings, each with a gabled dormer projecting from a hipped roof. Basement windows in the two wings are boarded up while first and second floor windows are arranged in groups of three. Each dormer has a single light. Other rear facade features are the same as those found on other parts of the 1895 building. The other dominant features at the rear of the building are two massive, rectangular, Queen Anne style chimneys with decorative recessed vertical panels.

The other major portions of the rear elevation of the building are the flat roofed one and two-story sections of the addition. This part of the addition extends from the hipped roof front section and includes both one-over-one, double-hung windows above, and several banks of steel, industrial-type windows, separated by brick pilasters. There are two door openings on this part of the rear facade. The only other architectural feature of the rear elevation of the building is a small concrete block building located at the intersection of the original building and the 1926 addition.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> education   | <input type="checkbox"/> military               | <input type="checkbox"/> social/         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy             | <input type="checkbox"/> theater         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government    | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation  |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |   | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

**Specific dates** 1895 and 1926      **Builder/Architect** 1895: Hoover & Brumbaugh/ A. D. Mohler  
 1926: N.R. Dunkin & Son/H. Phillip Bartlett

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Horace Mann School is outstanding not only for its exceptional architecture, but also as the oldest educational presence in Huntington. The original building is a fine local example of Victorian architecture, combining elements of the Queen Anne and Richardsonian Romanesque styles, and is particularly notable because of its nearly intact condition. The school is the oldest still in operation in Huntington and the building, itself, is the oldest school building still standing in the city.

The 1895 building is the third school building to be built on this site. In 1860 Henry Drover gave the township a piece of huckleberry marsh land to be used for a school site. In the center of the woods in this marsh land a one-story schoolhouse was built. Children started attending in 1863, coming from all over the city and township south of the Little River. Attendance grew quickly, and by 1887 it was necessary to build another school, which became known as the Third Ward School. Growth continued at a rapid pace, and just eight years later plans were made to remodel this building. Before work was started, a mysterious fire destroyed the building and all its contents.

In 1895 the present building was constructed. It was originally known as the William Street School, and continued under that name until 1926 when a major addition was constructed, and the name was changed to Horace Mann School. The new addition provided eight additional classrooms and a gymnasium, an unusual facility for grade schools at that time.

A unique aspect of the educational program at the school in 1917 and 1918 was a mandatory Student Army Training Corps, organized by Principal David Paul. The government had authorized Student Army Training Corps to provide military training in high schools during World War I. There may also have been some provision for units in upper elementary grades, but if so, participants in the William Street School program are convinced that nowhere else in the country was the provision made effective.<sup>1</sup> Male students in grades five through eight were drafted into the corps, and spent at least one hour daily marching through their drills with wooden guns made in the school's manual training shop. The guns still hang on special racks in one of the cloakrooms.

The school's imposing tower rises above the trees as a familiar and favorite landmark in the city, and its bell still rings each school day. After nearly 100 years of continuous use, the Horace Mann School embodies the pride, character and dignity which was an integral part of traditional education.

<sup>1</sup> Huntington Herald-Press, September 7, 1975.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bash, F. S. History of Huntington County. Chicago, 1914, page 259.

The Huntington News. Files on Horace Mann School

Herald-Press. Files on Horace Mann School

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1.66 acres

Quadrangle name Huntington

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

|      |   |   |         |   |   |   |          |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|------|---|---|---------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1    | 6 | 6 | 2       | 6 | 9 | 6 | 0        | 4 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 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 | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| N/A   |      |        |      |

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Phil Ross/Jean Gernand

organization Huntington ALERT, Inc. date January 29, 1986

street & number 1936 Salamonie Avenue Extended telephone 219/356-4881

city or town Huntington state Indiana 46750

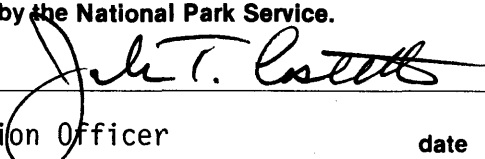
## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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 4-30-86

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the  
National Register

date 6-26-86

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet William Street School

Item number 7 and 10

Page 1

Inside, both the first and second story hallways are dominated by the impressive open stairway which still retains its original cork covering on the steps. Another striking feature on both floors are the huge display cases for natural science exhibits. The remarkable integrity of this building is further enhanced by all of the woodwork which retains its original natural finish. The classroom doors are very tall with large square transoms. Hall floors in the old section are covered with linoleum tiles while the 1926 addition has terrazzo floors. All 27 classrooms have hardwood floors. The bell in the tower is composed of a metal alloy from an Ohio foundry. It is kept in fine condition and is used daily during the school year.

Item number 10

Commencing at the Southwest corner of Hannah and William Streets, proceed in a westerly direction down the south side of William Street for approximately 236 feet to the Northwest corner of Lot #1. Turn south and proceed 132 feet along the westerly side of Lot #1, to the Southwest corner of Lot #1. Turn in a westerly direction along the south side of Lot #2 for 66 feet to an alley. Turn south on the alley at the Northwest corner of Lot #3 and proceed in a southerly direction along the west side of Lots #3, 4, and 5 (each 60 feet) for about 180 feet to the corner of Lehmyer Street. Turn east along the northern side of Lehmyer Street for 132 feet along the southern side of Lot #5 to the corner of Hannah and Lehmyer Streets. Then proceed in the northeasterly direction (along the northwest side of Hannah Street) to the curve on Hannah Street, then proceed in a northern direction on Hannah Street for approximately 150 feet to the place of beginning.