

# PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID: **-27584383**

**Property Name:** 59 South Main Street **Ownership:** Private  
**Address:** 59 S Main ST **Apartment #:** **ZIP:** 08512

## PROPERTY LOCATION(S):

County:	Municipality:	Local Place Name:	USGS Quad:	Block:	Lot:
MIDDLESEX	Cranbury township	Cranbury	Hightstown	18	36.02

## Property Photo:



**Old HSI Number:**

**NRIS Number:**

**HABS/HAER Number:**

## Description:

59 South Main Street is a two-and-one-half-story-tall, five-bay-wide, two-bay-deep, frame dwelling built in 1826 in the Greek Revival style. It consists of a side-gabled main block with a one-story, shed-roof addition to the north (added circa 1960) and a gable-roof, two-story-tall, four-bay-wide, two-bay-deep, rear (east) addition (added circa 1998). The rear addition features a two-story-tall, shed-roof projection on the north elevation and a one-story, glass-enclosed, solarium on the south elevation (added circa 1998). Replacement exterior brick chimneys extend above the south gable end of the main block and the rear gable end of the rear addition. The roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles. The exterior of the dwelling is clad in vinyl siding. The north and south elevations of the main block feature a molded wood cornice with paired brackets (historic, likely original). A wood frieze board extends across the primary (west) elevation of the main block (historic, likely original). Windows on the main block are primarily four-over-over, double-hung, wood-sash units, set within wood surrounds with wood storm windows (likely historic). The primary elevation of the main block has symmetrical fenestration with a central, primary entrance containing a glazed wood storm door (likely historic) beneath a pediment-font portico, supported by square wood posts. The entrance is accessed by a brick stoop. The north addition features single and grouped, six-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash units, set within wood surrounds with wood storm windows. A wood deck with simple wood balustrades lines the north elevation of the north addition. The rear addition has symmetrical fenestration, with one-over-one, vinyl-sash windows that feature arched transoms on the first floor and in the gable end. The dwelling stands on a concrete foundation featuring vinyl fixed-pane basement-level windows on the main block.

Two circa-1998 outbuildings are located on the property: a one-story-tall, four-car garage, situated approximately 45 feet northeast of the dwelling, and a one-story-tall, frame shed located approximately 90 feet east of the dwelling.

Character-defining elements of the dwelling include its massing, bracketed cornice, wood frieze, and wood-sash windows.

History: 59 South Main Street was constructed in 1826 and is an example of an early nineteenth-century, Greek Revival-style dwelling in Cranbury. The house was built for Charles and Hannah Lanning and was originally located at 71 South Main Street, near the present-day intersection of South Main Street and Old Trenton Road, approximately 600 feet southwest of its current location (Cranbury Historical & Preservation Society n.d.). Charles B. Pullen, a farmer who owned the subject dwelling between 1833 and 1892, is identified as the owner of the subject property on an 1876 map of Cranbury (Everts & Stewart 1876; United States Bureau of the Census 1880; Cranbury

**Survey Name:** Cranbury Historic Sites Survey Phase III

**Surveyor:** Matthew Goldberg

**Organization:** Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc.

(Primary Contact)

**Property ID:**

**-27584383**

Page 1

Historical & Preservation Society n.d.). A 1918 photograph reveals that the dwelling historically featured a bracketed wood cornice, an ornate wraparound porch, a secondary entrance on the present-day south elevation, shutters flanking most of the windows, and interior brick chimneys at the gable ends (Cranbury Historical & Preservation Society n.d.). A 1933 Sanborn map of Cranbury depicts the subject dwelling with a wraparound porch and several outbuildings present on the property (Sanborn Map Company 1933). The dwelling was damaged by a fire in the 1950s; however, the extent of the damage is unknown (Cranbury Historical & Preservation Society n.d.). Around 1960, a one-story, shed-roof addition was constructed on the dwelling's present-day north elevation, and the wraparound porch was removed (Nationwide Environmental Title Research [NETR] 1957, 1963). A 1980s photograph shows that the dwelling was clad in machined shingle siding and that the bracketed wood cornice had been removed from the primary elevation. The photograph also shows that the dwelling had one-over-one and four-over-four, double-hung, wood-sash windows with molded wood lintels and wood storm windows, along with a pediment-front portico with wood scroll brackets sheltering a glazed wood door (Cranbury Historical & Preservation Society n.d.).

The subject dwelling was slated for relocation to accommodate new development and the realignment of Old Trenton Road as early as the 1980s. In August 1989, the Cranbury Historic Preservation Advisory Commission (predecessor to the Cranbury Historic Preservation Commission) discussed the possibility of designating the subject dwelling as a contributing resource to the Cranbury Historic District should it be relocated within the district's boundary (Cranbury Historic Preservation Commission 2023). In 1995, while under the ownership of the Girardet family, the subject dwelling was moved to its current location (Cranbury Historical & Preservation Society n.d.). Around 1998, a two-story addition was constructed on the dwelling's rear elevation, and a solarium was added to the south elevation of the rear addition. It was also during this period that the extant detached garage and shed were built (NETR 1995, 2002). It is also likely that the historic interior brick chimneys were removed during this period and replaced with the extant exterior brick chimney. By 2008, wood posts were installed to support the portico on the primary elevation and one-over-one windows on the first floor of the main block were replaced with four-over-four windows (Google 2008).

**Setting:**

59 South Main Street is sited on a rectangular parcel (Block 18, Lot 36.02) located on the east side of South Main Street in Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey. The dwelling is oriented with its primary elevation facing west and is set back approximately 80 feet from the road. A concrete sidewalk extends across the west boundary of the property and a concrete path leads to the main entry. A wood picket fence lines the front yard and a split rail fence lines the property's south and east borders. An asphalt-paved driveway extends along the north border of the property. Mature trees and shrubs are planted within close proximity to the dwelling. The subject property is located in a residential neighborhood surrounded by properties dating from the mid-nineteenth to the late twentieth centuries and adjacent to the northwest of Heritage Park.

**Registration and Status Dates:**

**National Historic Landmark?:**

**National Register:** 9/18/1980

**New Jersey Register:** 8/9/1979

**Determination of Eligibility:** 3/25/1977

**Certification of Eligibility:**

**SHPO Opinion:**

**Local Designation:** 9/26/1988

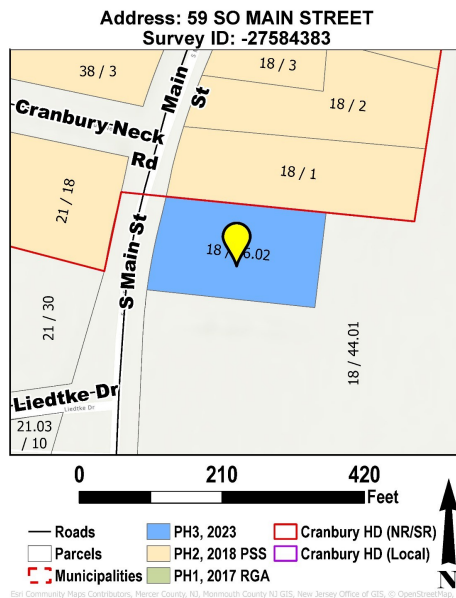
**Other Designation:**

**Other Designation Date:**

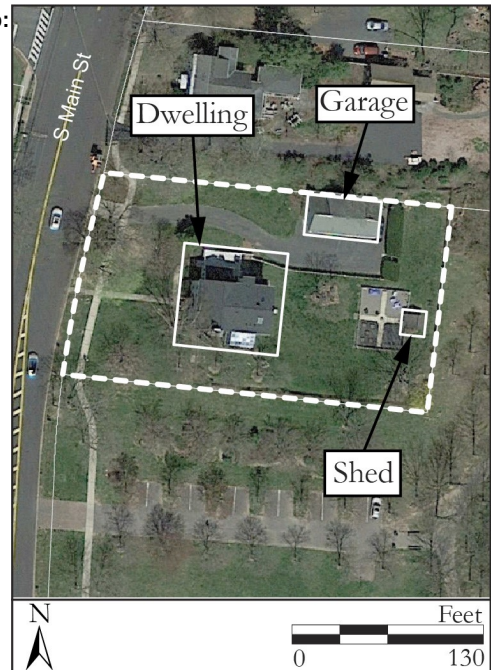
**Eligibility Worksheet included in present survey?**

**Is this Property an identifiable farm or former farm?**

**Location Map:**



**Site Map:**



**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Author:	Title:	Year:	HPO Accession #:	(if applicable)
Cranbury Historic Preservation	Meeting with the Cranbury Historic Preservation Commission, August 1, 2023.	2023		

**Survey Name:** Cranbury Historic Sites Survey Phase III

**Surveyor:** Matthew Goldberg

**Organization:** Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc.

**Property ID:**

Page 2

(Primary Contact)

**-27584383**

Commission		
Cranbury Historical & Preservation Society	On file, Cranbury Historical & Preservation Society, Cranbury, New Jersey.	
Everts & Stewart	Combination Atlas Map of Middlesex County, New Jersey. Everts & Stewart, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.	1876
Google	Google Street View. Electronic document, www.maps.google.com, accessed June 2023.	2008
Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR)	Historic Aerial Photograph. Electronic Document, http://www.historicaerials.com, accessed April 2023.	1957
Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR)	Historic Aerial Photograph. Electronic Document, http://www.historicaerials.com, accessed April 2023.	1963
Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR)	Historic Aerial Photograph. Electronic Document, http://www.historicaerials.com, accessed April 2023.	1995
Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR)	Historic Aerial Photograph. Electronic Document, http://www.historicaerials.com, accessed April 2023.	2002
Sanborn Map Company	Insurance Maps of Cranbury, Middlesex County, New Jersey. Sanborn Map Company, New York, New York.	1933
United States Bureau of the Census	Population Schedule, Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey.	1880

**Additional Information:**

Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc. recommends 59 South Main Street as a contributing resource to the Cranbury Historic District due to its date of construction and design. Despite the dwelling's relocation in 1995 and subsequent alterations, it retains sufficient integrity of materials, design, workmanship, setting, feeling, and association to convey the significance of the district.

**More Research Needed?**     (checked=Yes)

**INTENSIVE-LEVEL USE ONLY:**

**Attachments Included:**

0 Building	0 Bridge
0 Structure	0 Landscape
0 Object	0 Industry

**Historic District ?**   

**District Name:** Cranbury Historic District

**Status:** Contributing

**Associated Archeological Site/Deposits?**   

(known or potential sites. If Yes, please describe briefly)

Conversion Problem?        ConversionNote:    1202\_18\_36.02

*Date form completed:*    6/21/2023

**Survey Name:** Cranbury Historic Sites Survey Phase III

**Surveyor:** Matthew Goldberg

**Organization:** Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc.

(Primary Contact)

**Property ID:**

**-27584383**

Page 3

**PROPERTY REPORT: PHOTO CONTINUATION SHEET**

Property ID: **-27584383**

**Property Name:** 59 South Main Street

**Address:** 59 S Main ST



*Photo 2*



*Photo 3*

Property Name: 59 South Main Street

Address: 59 S Main ST



Photo 4