

PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID: 954133711

Property Name: George Nafee House
Address: 49 S MAIN ST

Ownership: Private
Apartment #:
ZIP: 08512

PROPERTY LOCATION(S):

County:	Municipality:	Local Place Name:	USGS Quad:	Block:	Lot:
MIDDLESEX	Cranbury township			18	4

Property Photo:



Old HSI Number: **NRIS Number:** **HABS/HAER Number:** 40

Description:

PS&S recommends that 49 S. Main Street, which includes a residence constructed circa 1799 and a shed constructed prior to 1933, is a contributing property in the Cranbury Historic District.

The 2-story, side gable-roofed, rectangular-plan main block of this aluminum siding-clad, frame dwelling on a parged foundation is 5 bays wide and 2 bays deep and is fronted on the northwest by a 1-story, 1-bay, flat-roofed, centered porch and backed on the southeast by a 2-story, composite-roofed, full-width secondary volume. The rear volume is in turn backed by a 1-story, shed-roofed, full-width rear el. Interior, stuccoed, brick, ridge chimneys are located near the southwest and northeast ends of the main volume. The windows predominantly have 6/6, double-hung, historic wood sash in the main volume and 2/2, historic wood sash in the rear volume. The front porch is accessed by a straight brick stair with wrought iron rail and includes replacement square-plan posts with a simple cornice. The primary entrance, accessed by the porch, includes a historic door with recessed panels and a historic replacement 8-light storm door. The remaining bays of both floors are regularly fenestrated with applied shutters on all but the central window of the second floor. The southwest, side elevation is regularly fenestrated and includes an enclosed recessed porch in the first floor of the rear volume, accessed by a door to the northwest and lighted by a bank of 8-light, casement windows to the southeast. The northeast, side elevation is regularly fenestrated and includes a fixed 9-light window in the rear el. The southeast, rear elevation is not visible from the public right-of-way. The historic 1-story, gable-roofed, vertical board-clad shed, located to the southeast

Survey Name: Cranbury Local Historic District Survey 2018

Principal Investigator: Emily Cooperman

Organization: Paulus, Sokolowski & Sartor

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of the residence, includes exposed rafter tails and historic shed doors and shuttered openings.

Historic maps indicate that South Main Street includes some of the earliest development in Cranbury. The settlement began in 1736 with the construction of a mill on the south banks of the Cranbury Brook and, by 1810, developed into a small village. The 1980 National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Cranbury Historic District indicates that the 2-story, gable-roofed residence with a small central porch, 6/6 windows, and 2 interior chimneys was constructed circa 1799 for George Nafee. The earliest visual documentation of a residence on the lot may be the 1850 Otley and Keily Map, which shows 3 residences on the east side of Main Street between Station Road and Cranbury Neck Road. Historic maps indicate that in 1876 the residence was owned by "Mrs. Baldwin." This residence is recorded in the 1933 Sanborn map as a 2-story, rectangular-plan dwelling with a full-width front porch, a partial-width rear el, and a 1-story outbuilding labeled "shed." Images from the 1974 photographic inventory of Cranbury historic buildings in the collection of the Cranbury Historical and Preservation Society show the residence with the current, 1-story, 1-bay porch with square-plan posts. Historic aerial photographs do not clearly indicate the date that the rear el was expanded and the front porch reduced to its current extent other than this probably occurred after 1953 and before 1963. Visual evidence suggests that the current siding and shutters may have been applied in this project.

The residence at 49 S. Main Street contributes to the Cranbury Historic District because it retains integrity and historic character-defining features such as its historic massing of the main and secondary volumes, historic fenestration patterns and wood windows, and historic door and storm door. The shed contributes to the historic district retains its historic massing, historic surface materials, and historic doors and openings.

Setting:

South Main Street stretches from Brainerd Lake to the southern edge of Cranbury and is characterized by freestanding single-family residences of moderate scale ranging in date from the early 19th century to the early 20th century.

**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

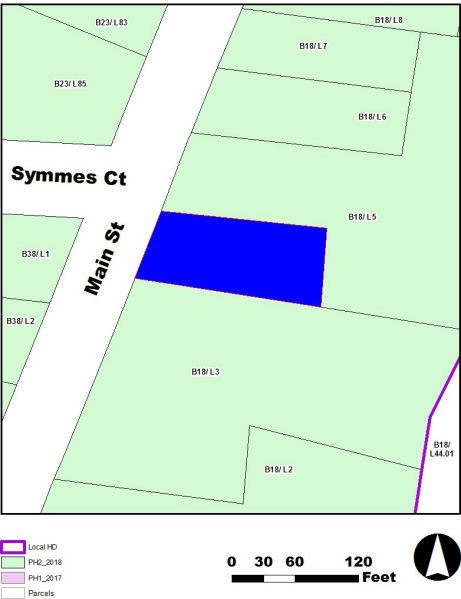
Other Designation:

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)

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Heritage Studies	Preserving Cranbury Township	1989
(None Listed)	1876 Everts and Stewart Map	1876
Brennan, Peggy and Frank J. Jr.	Images of America: Cranbury, Volume II	1998
(None Listed)	1933 Sanborn Map	1933
(None Listed)	Aerial and street view photography for 1931, 1940, 1947, 1953, 1957, 1963, 1969, 1970, 1972, 1979, 1987, 1995, 2002, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2013, and 2015 available at historicaerials.com and for 1995, 2002, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2016, and 2017 available through Google Earth	
(None Listed)	1916 Sanborn Map	1916
Chambers, John Whiteclay II	Cranbury: A New Jersey Town from the Colonial Era to the Present	2012
Walsh, Ruth	National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Cranbury Historic District, Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey	1979
Brennan, Peggy and Frank J. Jr.	Images of America: Cranbury	1995
(None Listed)	1850 Otley and Keily Map	1850

Additional Information:

1202_18_4 / 2-STY - SFD / 1799

More Research Needed? ☐ (checked=Yes)

INTENSIVE-LEVEL USE ONLY:

Attachments Included:

<input type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Bridge
<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> 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:

Date form completed: 8/24/2018

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