New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Historic Preservation Office

# PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID:

844803303

**Property Name:** 39 North Main Street Ownership: Private Address: 39 N Main ST **ZIP:** 08512 Apartment #:

PROPERTY LOCATION(S):

County: Municipality: **Local Place Name: USGS Quad:** Block: Lot: **MIDDLESEX** Cranbury township Cranbury Hightstown 23 54

## **Property Photo:**



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

# **Description:**

39 North Main Street is a two-and-a-half-story tall, five-bay wide, two-bay deep, frame commercial building constructed circa 1850. The building, a converted private residence that sits on a brick foundation, consists of a rectangular, side-gabled main block; a two-story, twobay rear addition; a central three-bay hipped roof porch on the front elevation; and a one-story, two-bay shed roof porch on the rear addition. The roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. An exterior brick chimney is located on the southwest elevation of the two-story rear addition. The exterior of the building is clad in vinyl siding on all elevations. Regular, symmetrical fenestration on the front elevation consists of one-over-one, double-hung, replacement wood-sash windows with aluminum storm windows and inoperable louvered shutters. The enclosed porch has triplet wood windows with segmented fanlights and molded rectangular panels below. The porch also features unfluted Doric pilasters at the corners. The central porch entrance is a single leaf glass door with segmented and plain sidelights and a segmented fanlight; the central entrance to the building is a single leaf, one-light, two-panel wood door with a transom and sidelights. A fabric awning extends from the front of the porch over the sidewalk. The northeast elevation has two four-over-four, fixed wood windows in the gable end of the main block. The rest of the elevation is void of openings except for two one-over-one, double-hung, replacement wood-sash windows on the second floor. The southwest elevation has two four-over-four, fixed wood windows in the gable end of the main block and a one-over-one, double-hung, replacement wood-sash window on the first floor. Character-defining elements of the building include the central enclosed porch and louvered shutters.

Survey Name: Cranbury CLG Survey 2017

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Surveyor: Kristen Herrick

✓ (Primary Contact)

Property ID: 844803303

Organization: RGA, Inc.

History: In the 1930s, 39 North Main Street housed Cranbury's first telephone office, the Farmers and Traders Exchange (Chambers 2012:123). 39 North Main Street first appears cartographically on the 1861 Walling map of Cranbury Township, owned by "J. Vanderveer." Vanderveer also owned the subject building on the 1872 Beers atlas and the 1876 Everts and Stewart map. The 1916 Sanborn map shows the subject building as a two-story frame dwelling with a full-length, one-story front porch and a one-story porch on the rear elevation. Two frame outbuildings stood at the rear of the property; neither survive. No changes are shown on the 1933 Sanborn map. The full-length porch was removed and replaced with the current enclosed porch by 1979.

39 North Main Street is sited on a rectangular parcel (Block 23, Lot 54) located on the west side of North Main Street in Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey. The building is oriented with its primary elevation facing southeast and is set back approximately 10 feet from North Main Street. The sidewalk in front of the building is paved in brick. A concrete driveway leads west past the northwest elevation of the building to a gravel parking lot. Shrubs line the north and south sides of the parcel. 39 North Main Street is located in a mixed residential and commercial neighborhood surrounded by properties dating from the mid-nineteenth to the early twentieth century.

Registration National Historic Landmark?:

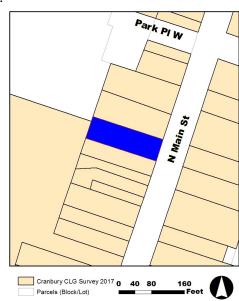
and Status National Register: 9/18/1980 **SHPO Opinion:** Dates:

New Jersey Register: 8/9/1979 Local Designation: 9/26/1988

> **Determination of Eligibility:** 3/25/1977 Other Designation: Certification of Eligibility: 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) |
|-----------------------------|---|-------|------------------|-----------------|
| Chambers, John<br>Whiteclay | 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  |                  |                 |
| Heritage Studies            | Preserving Historic Cranbury Village  | 1989  |                  |                 |

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## **Additional Information:**

The 1989 Heritage Studies survey identified 39 North Main Street as a contributing resource to the Cranbury Historic District. RGA concurs with the previous evaluation and recommends 39 North Main Street as a contributing resource due to its date of construction and design.

| More Research Needed?                    | ? (checked                 | =Yes)                        |   |           |  |  |  |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------------|---|-----------|--|--|--|
| INTENSIVE-LEVEL USE                      | ONLY:                      |                              |   |           |  |  |  |
| Attachments Included:                    |                            | Building                     | 0 | Bridge    |  |  |  |
|  | 0                          | Structure                    | 0 | Landscape |  |  |  |
|  | 0                          | Object                       | 0 | Industry  |  |  |  |
| Historic District ?                      | <b>✓</b>                   |                              |   |           |  |  |  |
| District Name:                           | Cranbury Historic District |                              |   |           |  |  |  |
| Status:                                  | Contributing               |                              |   |           |  |  |  |
| Associated Archeolo<br>(known or potenti | •                          | ts?<br>ase describe briefly) |   |           |  |  |  |
| Conversion Problem?                      | Conversion                 | nNote: 52                    |   |           |  |  |  |
| Date form completed:                     | 6/26/2017                  |                              |   |           |  |  |  |

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