New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Historic Preservation Office

1655490064 PROPERTY REPORT Property ID: Ownership: Private Property Name: 42 South Main Street Address: 42 S MAIN ST **ZIP:** 08512 Apartment #: PROPERTY LOCATION(S): County: **Municipality:** Local Place Name: **USGS Quad:** Block: Lot:

MIDDLESEX Cranbury township

23

82

Property Photo:



Old HSI Number:

NRIS Number:

HABS/HAER Number: 77

Description:

PS&S recommends that 42 S. Main Street, which includes a residence and garage constructed circa 1910, is a contributing property in the Cranbury Historic District.

The 2 ½-story, gable-roofed, rectangular-plan main block of this painted aluminum siding-clad, L-plan frame dwelling on a covered foundation is 3 bays wide and 2 bays deep and is fronted on the southeast, main and southwest, side elevations by a 1-story, hip-roofed, wrap-around porch that meets the gabled side volume, which includes a 3-story window bay on its southwest elevation. The main block is backed on the northwest by a partial-width, hip-roofed, 1-story rear el that is flanked on the southwest by a 2-story entry porch. The roofs are predominantly clad in shaped asphalt shingle and the windows predominantly have 1/1 historic wood sash. An interior brick chimney projects from the southwest slope of the rear of the main volume. The front porch, which has an extended, rounded bay at the southeast corner, is accessed by a straight wood stair in the northeast bay of the southeast elevation and a brick stair in the northwest bay of the southwest elevation, and includes historic Tuscan columns and a historic rail with square-plan balusters. The primary entrance, located in the northeast bay of the main elevation, includes a historic 8-light door. A large 1/1 window lights the central bay of the first floor. The southwest bay, which is chamfered, is lighted by a single window. The second floor is regularly fenestrated and the third floor is lighted by a single window. The northeast, side elevation is regularly fenestrated and includes an offset window in the central bay that suggests an interior stairwell. The southwest, side elevation is regularly fenestrated in both the main and rear volumes. An entrance to the rear volume

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Principal Investigator:	Emily Cooperman	(Primary Contact)	1655490064	
Organization:	Paulus, Sokolowski & Sartor			

is located on its southeast elevation. A stair provides access to a door to the rear enclosed porch. The northwest, rear elevation is not visible from the public right-of-way.

A 1 ½-story, 2-bay, gabled, historic, stuccoed terra cotta tile garage is located west of the house at the rear of the lot. The roof is clad in asbestos shingles and the historic, sliding barn door with 9-light upper lights survives on the main, southeast elevation.

Historic maps indicate that the west side of S. Main Street south of the First Presbyterian Church was developed after the church subdivided this land for development after 1894. Visual evidence, such as the front doors, chamfered corners, and terra-cotta tile garages, strongly suggests that the residences at 40 – 44 S. Main Street were constructed by the same builder after the church's property was subdivided. Historic Maps indicate that before the subdivision this lot was occupied by the Cranbury Academy. The 1980 National Register Nomination for the Cranbury Historic District reports that the 2 ½-story, gable-roofed, aluminum siding-clad dwelling on this lot was built circa 1915. The property is outside the boundary of the 1916 Sanborn map, but is documented on the 1933 Sanborn as a 2-story, L-plan, frame dwelling with a 1-story wrap-around porch, 3-sided projecting bays on the side elevations, a 2-story rear volume flanked by a 1-story porch, and a 1 ½-story, terra-cotta tile garage. The 1989 Heritage Studies Inventory reports that the original had been replaced with aluminum siding, however, visual evidence suggests that the siding has been changed to replacement clapboard (or the historic clapboard survived under the aluminum siding) within the last ten years.

The residence at 42 S. Main Street contributes in the Cranbury Historic District because it retains integrity and such historic characterdefining features as its historic wood windows, wood shutters, front door, porch columns, historic porch rail and balusters, and historic massing and fenestration patterns, and its historic garage, with its historic surface materials and garage doors.

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	National Historic Landmark?:	
and Status	National Register:	9/18/1980
Dates:	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?





BIBLIOGRAPHY:

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 Principal Investigator:
 Emily Cooperman
 [(Primary Contact)]
 1655490064

 Organization:
 Paulus, Sokolowski & Sartor
 Emily Cooperman
 Investigator:

Preserving Cranb		or: Title:		HPO Accession #:	(if applicable)
	Preserving Cranbury Township		1989		
1876 Everts and Stewart Map			1876		
Images of America: Cranbury, Volume II		1998			
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					
Images of America: Cranbury		1995			
1850 Otley and Keily Map		1850			
National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Cranbury Historic District, Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey		1979			
1933 Sanborn Map			1933		
1916 Sanborn Map		1916			
Cranbury: A New Jersey Town from the Colonial Era to the Present		ie 2012			
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