New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Historic Preservation Office

# PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID:

459761990

**Property Name:** 135 North Main Street Ownership: Private 135 N Main ST Address: Apartment #:

**ZIP:** 08512

PROPERTY LOCATION(S):

County: Municipality: **Local Place Name: USGS Quad:** Block: Lot: **MIDDLESEX** Cranbury township Cranbury Hightstown 25 21

**Property Photo:** 



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

### Description:

135 North Main Street is a two-and-one-half-story-tall, three-bay-wide, two-bay-deep, frame dwelling built circa 1925 in the Dutch Colonial Revival style. The dwelling consists of a side-gambrel-roof main block, with one-story, hipped-roof wings extending from the northeast and southwest elevations. The northeast wing is likely an original porch which was later enclosed, and the southwest wing was constructed circa 1960. A circa-1995, two-story, hipped-roof addition, with a one-story extension to the southwest, projects from the rear (northwest) elevation. Interrupting the primary (southeast) roof slope of the main block is a three-bay-wide, shed-roof dormer. An exterior brick chimney extends above the main block's southwest roof peak. The roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles. The exterior of the dwelling is clad in composite siding. Windows are generally eight-over-one and six-over-one, vinyl-sash replacement units with aluminum storm windows. Wood shutters with moon motifs flank most of the windows on the primary, northeast, and northwest elevations of the main block and wings, with wood-plank shutters on the windows in the dormer (likely replacement). A tripartite louvered window is featured in the center bay of the dormer. The central, primary entrance contains a wood door with six lights (possibly original), set within a wood surround with segmented sidelights and a wood sunburst motif (possibly original) and sheltered by a gable-roof portico with wood Doric columns (possibly original). The entrance is accessed by a concrete and brick stoop. The northeast elevation of the main block features a semicircular, fixed vinyl window at the attic level. A vinyl, fixed-pane window is located on the northeast elevation of the northeast wing. Windows on the southwest wing consist of symmetrically placed, eight-over-eight, vinyl-sash replacement units on the primary elevation and a vinyl bay window centered on the southwest elevation. A one-story porch wraps around the north corner of the dwelling, supported by simple wood posts. The remainder of the rear elevation is not visible from the public right-of-way. The foundation is not visible.

A one-story-tall, two-bay-wide, frame garage, built circa 1925 and expanded circa 1950, stands approximately 35 feet northwest of the dwelling. An asphalt-shingle, side-gabled roof tops the garage and vinyl siding clads the exterior. Two modern, metal roll-top doors are symmetrically placed on the primary (southeast) elevation and are surrounded by vinyl trim. All other elevations are not visible from the public right-of-way.

Character-defining elements of the dwelling consist of its massing, three-bay-wide dormer, gambrel roof, and primary entrance with a wood sunburst motif.

History: 135 North Main Street was constructed circa 1925 and is an example of an early twentieth-century, Dutch Colonial Revival-style

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dwelling in Cranbury. In 1924, the large tract of land on which the subject dwelling was later built was purchased by Ezekiel S. Barclay at a sheriff's sale (Middlesex County Clerk's Office [MCCO] 1924 Deed Book 771:49). One year later, Ezekiel sold a small parcel that encompassed the subject property to Isaiah Barclay (MCCO 1925 Deed Book 828:362). The subject dwelling was likely constructed shortly thereafter, and first appears in a 1930 aerial photograph, along with the northeast half of the extant garage, as one of the first dwellings built north of Plainsboro Road on North Main Street. Isaiah Barclay, born in 1902 to Ezekiel and Lizzie Barclay, went on to serve as president of the First National Bank of Cranbury and Chamberlin & Barclay, Inc., an agricultural supply company (Messenger Press, 18 January 1968:8; United States Bureau of the Census 1910). A 1940 aerial photograph shows the dwelling with a northeast porch (Nationwide Environmental Title Research [NETR] 1940). Around 1950, the garage was expanded to the southwest (NETR 1947, 1953). A one-story, hipped-roof wing was added to the southwest elevation of the main block around 1960, along with a small wing centered on the main block's rear elevation (NETR 1957, 1963). Around 1995, a two-story, hipped-roof addition was constructed on the rear elevation of the main block, subsuming the circa-1960 rear wing (NETR 1987, 1995, 2002). Sometime during the late twentieth or early twenty-first centuries, the northeast porch was enclosed and the extant vinyl siding and vinyl-sash windows were installed.

#### Settina:

135 North Main Street is sited on rectangular parcel (Block 25, Lot 21) located on the northwest side of North Main Street in Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey. The dwelling is oriented with its primary elevation facing southwest and is set back approximately 60 feet from the road. An asphalt-paved driveway extends along the northwest border of the property and leads to a parking area in front of the garage. A paved stone pathway leads from the roadway to the primary entrance. 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.

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

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:**

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25 / 19.02

25 / 20

26.01 / 26

25 / 22

26.01 / 26

Peet

Roads

PH3, 2023

Cranbury HD (NR/SR)

PH1, 2017 RGA

PH2, 2018 PSS Cranbury HD (Local)





## **BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Author:	Title:	Year:	HPO Accession #:	(if applicable)
Heritage Studies	Preserving Historic Cranbury Village. Prepared for the Cranbury Township Historic Preservation Advisory Committee. On file, New Jersey Historic Preservation Office, Trenton, New Jersey.	1989		
Messenger Press [Allentown, New Jersey]	Obituaries: Barclay. 18 January:8. Allentown, New Jersey.	1968		
Middlesex County Clerk's Office	On file, Middlesex County Clerk's Office, New Brunswick, New Jersey.			
Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR)	Historic Aerial Photograph. Electronic Document, http://www.historicaerials.com, accessed May 2023.	1940		

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Municipalities

Organization: Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc.

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Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR)	Historic Aerial Photograph. Electronic Document, http://www.historicaerials.com, accessed May 2023.	1947		
Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR)	Historic Aerial Photograph. Electronic Document, http://www.historicaerials.com, accessed May 2023.	1953		
Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR)	Historic Aerial Photograph. Electronic Document, http://www.historicaerials.com, accessed May 2023.	1957		
Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR)	Historic Aerial Photograph. Electronic Document, http://www.historicaerials.com, accessed May 2023.	1963		
Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR)	Historic Aerial Photograph. Electronic Document, http://www.historicaerials.com, accessed May 2023.	1987		
Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR)	Historic Aerial Photograph. Electronic Document, http://www.historicaerials.com, accessed May 2023.	1995		
Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR)	Historic Aerial Photograph. Electronic Document, http://www.historicaerials.com, accessed May 2023.	2002		
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	NJ-GeoWeb. Electronic Document, https://www.nj.gov/dep/gis/geowebsplash.htm, accessed May 2023.	1930		
United States Bureau of the Census	Population Schedule, Township of Cranbury, Middlesex County, New Jersey.	1910		
Walsh, Ruth	National Register of Historic Places Nomination, Cranbury Historic District, Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey. On file, New Jersey Historic Preservation Office, Cranbury, New Jersey.	1980		
Additional Information:  The dwelling at 135 North Main Street was identified in the 1980 Cranbury Historic District National Register of Historic Places nomination and evaluated as a non-contributing (harmonious) resource in the 1989 Heritage Studies inventory of the district (Walsh 1980; Heritage Studies 1989). Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc. recommends 135 North Main Street as a contributing resource to the Cranbury Historic District due to its date of construction and design. The dwelling retains sufficient integrity of materials, design, workmanship, setting, location, feeling, and association to convey the significance of the historic district.				
More Research Needed?				
INTENSIVE-LEVEL USE ( Attachments Include	d: 0 Building 0 Bridge 0 Structure 0 Landscape			
Historic District ?	0 Object 0 Industry ✓			
District Name:				
Status:				
Associated Archeological Site/Deposits?  (known or potential sites. If Yes, please describe briefly)				

Conversion Problem? ConversionNote: 1202\_25\_21

Date form completed: 6/21/2023

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PROPERTY REPORT: PHOTO CONTINUATION SHEET

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Photo 2



Photo 3

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