

History: 131 North Main Street was constructed circa 1926 and is an example of an early twentieth-century, Colonial Revival-style 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). Two years later, Ezekiel sold a small parcel that encompassed the subject property to William F. Perrine, a carpenter (MCCO 1926 Deed Book 2503:641; United States Bureau of the Census 1930). The subject dwelling and garage were likely constructed for Perrine shortly thereafter, and first appear in a 1930 aerial photograph as one of the first residential properties built north of Plainsboro Road on North Main Street (New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection 1930). A 1940 aerial photograph clearly shows the dwelling in nearly its current form (Nationwide Environmental Title [NETR] 1940). Around 1960, a one-story addition was constructed on the rear elevation of the dwelling (NETR 1957, 1963). In the 1980s, the dwelling was partially destroyed in a fire and subsequently reconstructed (Cranbury Historic Preservation Commission 2023). The nature of the fire and what materials were replaced as a result are unclear. The 1989 Heritage Studies inventory of the Cranbury Historic District indicates that the dwelling was clad in wood clapboard siding at that time (Heritage Studies 1989). The rear addition was expanded to its current height and width around 1995 (NETR 1987, 1995, 2002). Sometime between 1989 and the present day, the extant vinyl siding was installed on the exterior of the dwelling.

Setting:

131 North Main Street is sited on a rectangular parcel (Block 25, Lot 22) 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 southeast and is set back approximately 55 feet from the road. A gravel driveway extends along the northeast border of the property and a brick path leads 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.

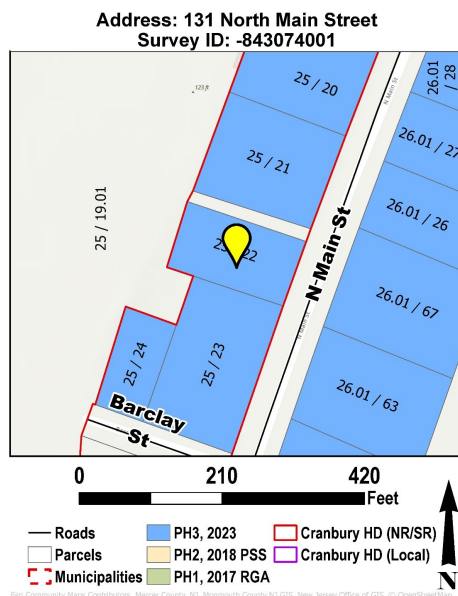
Registration and Status Dates:

National Historic Landmark?:
National Register: 9/18/1980
New Jersey Register: 8/9/1979
Determination of Eligibility: 3/25/1977
Certification of Eligibility:

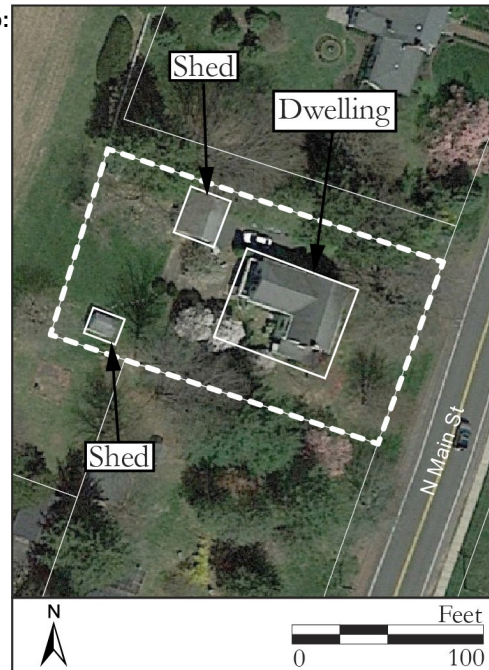
SHPO Opinion:
Local Designation: 9/26/1988
Other Designation:
Other Designation Date:

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)
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		

Survey Name: Cranbury Historic Sites Survey Phase III

Surveyor: Matthew Goldberg

Organization: Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc.

(Primary Contact)

Property ID:

-843074001

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Research (NETR)		
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	NJ-GeoWeb. Electronic Document, https://www.nj.gov/dep/gis/geoweb splash.htm , accessed March 2023.	1930
United States Bureau of the Census	Population Schedule, Township of Cranbury, Middlesex County, New Jersey.	1930
Walsh, Ruth	National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form for the Cranbury Historic District, Township of Cranbury, Middlesex County, New Jersey. On file, New Jersey Historic Preservation Office, Trenton, New Jersey.	1980
Cranbury Historic Preservation Commission	Meeting with the Cranbury Historic Preservation Commission, May 2, 2023.	2023
Heritage Studies	Preserving Historic Cranbury Village. Prepared for the Cranbury Township Historic Preservation Advisory Committee.	1989
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
Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR)	Historic Aerial Photograph. Electronic Document, http://www.historicaerials.com , accessed May 2023.	1957

Additional Information:

The dwelling at 131 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 131 North Main Street as a contributing resource to the Cranbury Historic District due to its date of construction and design. Despite replacement of materials as a result of a fire in the 1980s, the dwelling retains sufficient integrity of design, workmanship, setting, location, feeling, and association to convey the significance of the historic 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_25_22

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:

-843074001

PROPERTY REPORT: PHOTO CONTINUATION SHEET

Property ID: **-843074001**

Property Name: 131 North Main Street

Address: 131 N Main ST



Photo 2



Photo 3

Property Name: 131 North Main Street

Address: 131 N Main ST



Photo 4