

# PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID: **-1034802330**

**Property Name:** John Duncan House

**Ownership:**

**Address:** 82 N Main ST

**Apartment #:**

**ZIP:** 08512

**PROPERTY LOCATION(S):**

| <b>County:</b> | <b>Municipality:</b> | <b>Local Place Name:</b> | <b>USGS Quad:</b> | <b>Block:</b> | <b>Lot:</b> |
|----------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------|
| MIDDLESEX      | Cranbury township    | Cranbury                 | Hightstown        | 29            | 7           |

**Property Photo:**



**Old HSI Number:**

**NRIS Number:**

**HABS/HAER Number:**

**Description:**

The John Duncan House at 82 North Main Street is a two-and-a-half-story, five-bay, two-pile, frame private residence constructed circa 1825 and later remodeled with vernacular Greek Revival details. The house has a one-story full-length rear addition.

The side-gabled roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. Rectangular interior brick chimneys are located near each end of the ridge. The molded cornice also runs around the centered cross-gable on the main elevation. A cross-gable over a protruding second floor bay has a molded raking cornice and cornice returns flanking a shuttered arched headed attic window. The bay is clad with shaped wood shingles and features a paired window unit of replacement one-over-one units on the main panel and a single window on the side panels. An expressed frieze with a dentil course runs along the wall surface below the eaves and also runs around the protruding bay. The exterior of the dwelling is clad in wood clapboard siding. Second floor windows are six-over-six units with wood sashes (possibly original); stains on the clapboards indicate that the windows formerly had shutters. The first floor has a door in the center bay (below the protruding second floor bay) and two one-over-one replacement windows in the outer bays. The door is a replacement unit with a large plate glass window and an exterior storm with a similar appearance, opening below a rectangular transom and between sidelights. The front porch extends along the center three bays. It has a hipped roof with an inset gable that extends slightly towards the road. The porch has a frieze and four turned columns connected by a low railing with turned balusters. The dwelling has a stone foundation with rectangular basement windows.

**Survey Name:** Cranbury CLG Survey 2017

**Property ID:**

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**Surveyor:** Kristen Herrick

(Primary Contact)

**-1034802330**

**Organization:** RGA, Inc.

The north elevation has an early nineteenth century arrangement of windows on the clapboard walls. All windows on the elevation are replacement units with louvered shutters, with one unit on the attic level and two ranks of windows on the lower levels. The south elevation is also clad with wood clapboards. It has a rank of windows near the southwest corner and a two-story bay aligned with the southeast corner that has clapboard walls and three panels with a Victorian window (large center pane surrounded by smaller panes).

On the rear is a full-length one-story frame addition that is not visible from the public right-of-way. Character-defining elements of the dwelling include a molded dentil cornice and a central, projecting bay.

The property contains two outbuildings: a small, one-story, frame store south of the dwelling; and a two-story frame barn to the west of the dwelling.

History: The 1916 Sanborn Atlas shows the main block of the house, the bay on the south elevation, and a small rear addition. The small frame building south of the house is identified simply as "office." The barn is shown with a garage extension on its north elevation. The 1933 Sanborn Atlas shows the property the same with the exception of a small frame addition on the rear that has since been removed. Historic aerial photography since that time shows the three buildings on the property. The rear addition of the house was constructed between 1979 and 1987.

**Setting:**

The John Duncan House at 82 North Main Street is sited on a rectangular parcel (Block 29, Lot 7) located on the east side of North Main Street in Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey. The dwelling is oriented with its primary elevation facing northwest and is set back approximately ten feet from North Main Street. A concrete sidewalk spans the west side of the parcel. Trees are planted along the curb between the dwelling and North Main Street. A paved driveway leads east from North Main Street to a lightly wooded backyard. The John Duncan House at 82 North Main Street is located in a mixed residential and commercial neighborhood surrounded by residential and commercial properties dating from the mid-nineteenth to the early twentieth centuries. The property abuts the Westminster Cemetery to the east.

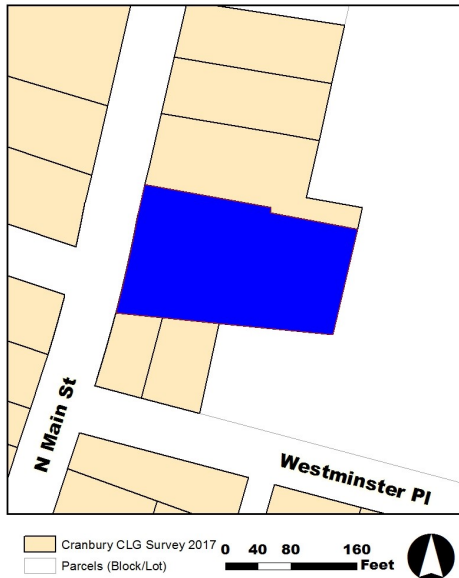
**Registration and Status Dates:**

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

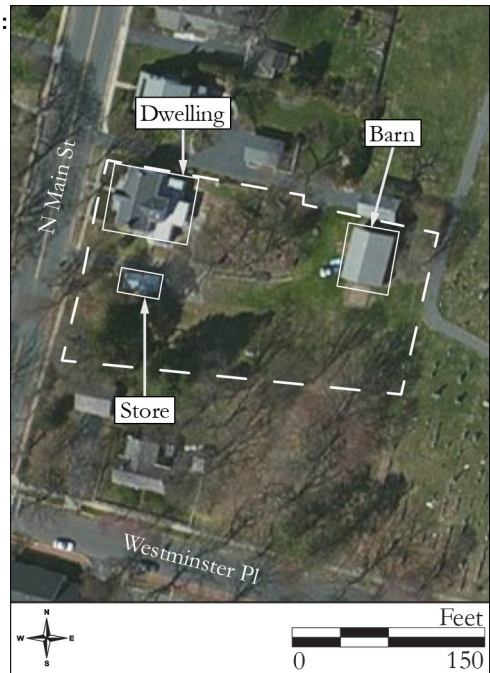
**SHPO Opinion:**  
**Local Designation:** 9/26/1988  
**Other Designation:**  
**Other Designation Date:**

Eligibility Worksheet included in present survey?  Is this Property an identifiable farm or former farm?

**Location Map:**



**Site Map:**



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(Primary Contact)

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

| Author:                                      | Title:  | Year: | HPO Accession #: | (if applicable) |
|--|---|-------|------------------|-----------------|
| 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  |                  |                 |
| Cranbury Historical and Preservation Society | Property File, 82 North Main Street   |       |                  |                 |

**Additional Information:**

The 1989 Heritage Studies survey identified the John Duncan House at 82 North Main Street as a contributing resource to the Cranbury Historic District. RGA concurs with the previous evaluation and recommends the John Duncan House at 82 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:**

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| 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: 107

Date form completed: 7/25/2017

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