

PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID: 1232872176

Property Name: 54 North Main Street **Ownership:** Private
Address: 54 N Main ST **Apartment #:** **ZIP:** 08512

PROPERTY LOCATION(S):

County:	Municipality:	Local Place Name:	USGS Quad:	Block:	Lot:
MIDDLESEX	Cranbury township	Cranbury	Hightstown	32	1

Property Photo:



Old HSI Number:

NRIS Number:

HABS/HAER Number:

Description:

54 North Main Street is a two-story tall, five-bay wide, three-bay deep, frame private residence constructed circa 1850 in a vernacular Italianate style. The dwelling consists of a square, hipped roof main block and a one-story, partially enclosed wraparound porch. The roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. A frieze band of replacement windows runs beneath the overhanging eaves on all elevations. The exterior of the dwelling is clad in wood clapboard siding on the first floor and aluminum siding on the second floor of all elevations. Regular, symmetrical fenestration on the front elevation consists of six-over-one, vinyl-sash replacement windows with molded lintels. The enclosed portion of the porch has a large replacement picture window. The central historic entrance is a six-light, four-panel wood door topped by a rectangular transom in a molded surround. A one-story wraparound porch spans the width of the front elevation and is partially enclosed on the northeast elevation of the dwelling. The porch has a hipped roof, full classical frieze with dentils and triglyph/guttae pairs, paired fluted Doric column, and a railing with thick turned balusters. The northeast elevation has six-over-one, vinyl-sash replacement windows with molded wood lintels on the first and second floors. A six-light, fixed replacement window sits in the west bay on the first floor of the enclosed porch. A secondary entrance, a single door with a single pane above two vertical panels with a concrete stoop, is located in the east bay on the first floor of the enclosed porch. The southwest elevation has six-over-one, vinyl-sash replacement windows with molded wood lintels and a four-light hopper replacement window on the second floor. A semi-hexagonal projecting bay with six-over-one, vinyl-sash replacement windows is located in the west bay on the first floor. A secondary entrance, paired sliding doors with fifteen inset lights, is located in the east bay on the first floor. Character-defining elements of the dwelling include the one-story wraparound porch and

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frieze band of windows. A one-story, front-gabled frame shed, constructed circa 1975, is located east of the dwelling.

History: Throughout the twentieth century, 54 North Main Street has served a variety of purposes in Cranbury, including a pet shop, a township permit office, and a secondhand bookstore (Chambers 2012:171-172). The subject dwelling first appears cartographically on the 1861 Walling map of Cranbury Township, sited on a lot at the corner of North Main Street and Park Place East. According to the 1872 Beers atlas and the 1876 Everts and Stewart map, the subject dwelling was owned by Aaron Lane in the late-nineteenth century. The 1916 Sanborn map and the 1933 Sanborn map show the subject dwelling's wraparound porch on the front elevation in addition to a one-story, full-length porch on the rear elevation. A two-story frame garage, demolished circa 1970, stood east of the subject dwelling. According to historic aerial photographs, the current one-story, front-gabled frame garage located east of the subject dwelling was built circa 1975.

Setting:

54 North Main Street is sited on a rectangular parcel (Block 32, Lot 1) located on the east side of North Main Street at its intersection with Park Place East in Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey. The parcel is bounded to the west by North Main Street and to the north by Park Place East. The dwelling is oriented with its primary elevation facing northwest and is set back approximately 10 feet from North Main Street. A concrete sidewalk spans the east and north sides of the parcel. A gravel parking lot and a one-story frame shed are located to the rear (southeast) of the dwelling. The property is lightly wooded. 54 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 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:

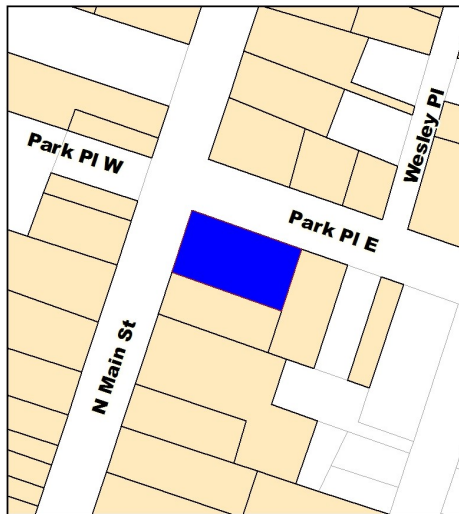
Other Designation Date:

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)
Chambers, John Whiteclay II	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	1979	

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County, New Jersey

Heritage Studies

Preserving Historic Cranbury Village

1989

Additional Information:

The 1989 Heritage Studies survey identified 54 North Main Street as a contributing resource to the Cranbury Historic District. RGA concurs with the previous evaluation and recommends 54 North Main Street as a contributing resource due to its date of construction, design, and use of materials compatible with the 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: 81

Date form completed: 6/26/2017

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