

PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID: **-725395564**

Property Name: John H. Covenhoven House
Address: 26 N Main ST

Ownership: Private
Apartment #: **ZIP:** 08512

PROPERTY LOCATION(S):

County:	Municipality:	Local Place Name:	USGS Quad:	Block:	Lot:
MIDDLESEX	Cranbury township	Cranbury	Hightstown	32	11

Property Photo:



Old HSI Number:

NRIS Number:

HABS/HAER Number:

Description:

The John H. Covenhoven House at 26 North Main Street is a two-story, three-bay, two-pile vernacular private residence constructed circa 1815. On the rear of the main block is a two-story rear addition with a slight T-shape and a one-story addition on the east elevation of the two-story addition.

The main block has a side-gabled roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. The molded cornice doubles as an interior gutter system (creating slightly flared eaves), and its soffits are clad with vinyl over an expressed frieze. A brick interior chimney pierces the roof near the north end of the ridge. The exterior of the dwelling is clad in vinyl siding. Fenestration on the main elevation is symmetrical. Windows are six-over-six double hung sash (possibly original), flanked by louvered shutters. The entrance consists of an eight-light, one-panel wood exterior door with a floral transom and an interior wood door that features two vertical plate glass panes and a filigree design. The entrance casing features a slight crossette shape. The front porch extends along the west and south elevations. It has a hipped roof clad with asphalt shingles and supported by thin Doric columns. The porch has a wood floor and steps leading between simple railings to the grade of the sidewalk. The house has a stone foundation.

On the south end wall, the molded cornice features returns. The wall surface is clad with vinyl siding. The elevation has a double hung sash attic window (appears to be replacement) and a first floor window facing onto the wrap-around porch.

Survey Name: Cranbury CLG Survey 2017

Surveyor: Kristen Herrick

Organization: RGA, Inc.

☒ (Primary Contact)

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On the north elevation, the brick chimney is visible above the molded cornice with its returns. The frame wall surface is clad with vinyl siding. The wall surface is mostly solid, with the only openings being double hung sash units that appear to be replacement (with louvered shutters).

The rear addition is a two-story section extending along the entire rear of the main block and extending slightly past its southern end wall. The section has a T-shape. Its low-pitched, shed roof clad is with asphalt shingles and feature a small rectangular brick chimney on its eastern wall. The walls of the section are clad with vinyl siding. Fenestration is asymmetrically arranged; windows are late twentieth century double hung sash units with louvered shutters. A door on the west elevation opens onto the house's front wrap-around porch. The one-story addition east of the two-story addition is not visible from the public right-of-way.

In the rear of the lot is a two-story frame outbuilding. It has a gabled roof clad with asphalt shingles, frame walls, and two rows of windows. The south elevation has a human-scaled door near the southwest corner and a garage bay near the southeast corner.

Character-defining elements of the dwelling include a one-story wraparound porch with Doric columns and six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash windows (potentially original) with molded lintels below a wood frieze on the front (northwest) elevation.

History:

The 1916 Sanborn Atlas shows the main block of the house with its wrap-around porch and two-story rear addition. A frame shed stood in the rear of the lot. The 1933 Sanborn Atlas shows the house more precisely, particularly the correct shape of the two-story addition. The one-story section is still not shown. The house appears on historic aerial photographs beginning with 1940. The first aerial that clearly shows the rear one-story section is that of 1979.

Setting:

The John H. Covenhoven House at 26 North Main Street is sited on a rectangular parcel (Block 32, Lot 11) located on the west 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 10 feet from North Main Street. A concrete sidewalk, which runs along North Main Street, spans the west side of the parcel. Perennial plantings about the dwelling's front (northwest) elevation. Shrubs line the north side of the parcel. The property is lightly wooded. 26 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?**

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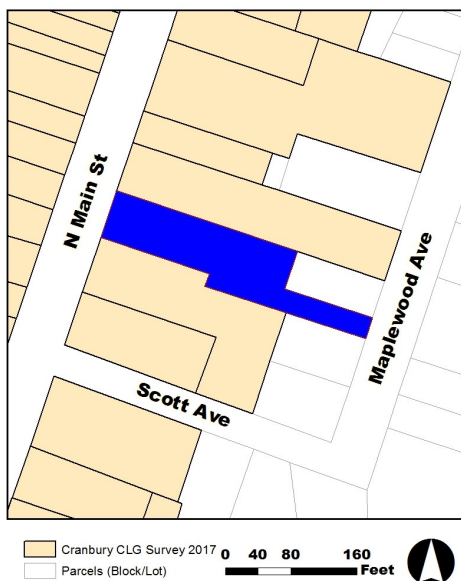
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Location Map:



Site Map:

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	

Additional Information:

The 1989 Heritage Studies survey identified the John H. Covenhoven House at 26 North Main Street as a contributing resource to the Cranbury Historic District. RGA concurs with the previous evaluation and recommends the John H. Covenhoven House at 26 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: 29

Date form completed: 6/26/2017

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