New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Historic Preservation Office

PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID:

1862905438

Ownership: Private Property Name: 34 Maplewood Avenue 34 MAPLEWOOD AVE **ZIP:** 08512 Address: Apartment #:

PROPERTY LOCATION(S):

County: Municipality: **Local Place Name: USGS Quad:** Block: Lot:

MIDDLESEX Cranbury township 33 17

Property Photo:



Old HSI Number: NRIS Number: HABS/HAER Number: 47

Description:

PS&S recommends that 34 Maplewood Avenue, constructed after 1876, is a non-contributing property in the Cranbury Historic District.

The 2-story, gable-roofed, rectangular plan, replacement clapboard-clad, main block of the frame residence on a parged foundation is 3 bays wide and 4 bays deep and is fronted by a 1-story, hip-roofed, partial wrap-around front porch and backed by a 1-story, shed- and hiproofed el that extends beyond the southwest, side elevation and connects to the wrap-around porch on the southwest, side elevation. The roofs are clad in asphalt shingle and include added eave returns and added decorative brackets. The windows throughout have 1/1 replacement sash. The replaced porch on the northwest, main elevation includes replacement columns and a vinyl rail with vinyl balusters. The primary entrance, located in the west bay, includes a replacement door. A window with replacement wood shutters lights each of the remaining bays on both floors. The southwest, side elevation is lighted by a window in the west bay of the first floor and the south bay of the second floor. A window lights each bay of the rear el. The southeast, rear elevation is not visible from the public right-of-way. The northeast, side elevation is lighted by a window on each floor of the north bay, with a single window on the second floor and double window on the first floor of the east bay. The rear el is lighted by a single window.

Historic maps indicate that Maplewood Avenue remained largely undeveloped until after the middle of the 19th century. Historic maps and aerial photographs indicate that this residence was constructed after 1876. The building is first detailed in the 1933 Sanborn map, which

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Principal

Emily Cooperman

(Primary Contact)

Investigator:

Organization: Paulus, Sokolowski & Sartor

shows it as a 2-story, L-plan, frame dwelling with a 1-story, full-width porch that wrapped around the southwest elevation to meet a 1-story side volume. The main volume was backed by a 1-story, full-width rear el. It was inventoried in the 1980 National Register Nomination for the Cranbury Historic District as having possibly been built in the mid-19th century, but that its "character [had been] destroyed." The 1974 photographic inventory of Cranbury historic buildings in the collection of the Cranbury Historical and Preservation Society shows the building's northwest and northeast elevations. In this image, there is no front porch, no cornice brackets, window architraves, and other trim that is on the building as of the date of this survey. The clapboard siding does not appear to be historic. Historic aerial photographs indicate that the current porch was constructed between 2002 and 2006. Visual evidence suggests that the cornice brackets and other trim were added to the building in this project.

This property is a non-contributing property in the historic district because of the overall loss of historic exterior fabric before 1974, which led to the loss of integrity of materials and workmanship. Although the porch has been reconstructed, its accuracy relative to the historic porch is not known. Thus, the building has also lost integrity of design.

Setting:

Maplewood Avenue is an approximately half-mile long primarily residential street that connects N. Main Street, to the northwest, to Route 130, to the northeast. Maplewood runs parallel to N. Main Street between Scott Ave. and Park Place, after which it turns to the northeast to form a southwest extension of Cranbury-South River Road.

Registration and Status Dates:

National Historic Landmark?:

National Register: 9/18/1980

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?

SHPO Opinion:

Location Map:

B3VL19 B3VL19

Site Map:

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Author: Title: Year: HPO Accession #: (if applicable)

(None Listed)

Aerial and street view photography for 1931, 1940, 1947, 1953, 1957, 1963, 1969, 1970, 1972, 1979, 1987, 1995, 2002, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2013, and 2015 available at historicaerials.com and for 1995, 2002, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2016, and 2017 available

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Principal Emily Cooperman Investigator:

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(Primary Contact)

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	through Google Earth		
Walsh, Ruth	National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Cranbury Historic District, Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey		1979
Heritage Studies	Preserving Cranbury Township		1989
Chambers, John Whiteclay II	Cranbury: A New Jersey Town from the Colonial Era to the Present		2012
(None Listed)	1933 Sanborn Map		1933
Brennan, Peggy and Frank J. Jr.	Images of America: Cranbury, Volume II		1998
Brennan, Peggy and Frank J. Jr.	Images of America: Cranbury		1995
(None Listed)	1850 Otley and Keily Map		1850
(None Listed)	1876 Everts and Stewart Map		1876
(None Listed)	1916 Sanborn Map		1916
Additional Information: 1202_33_17 / 2STY - SFD / 1940 More Research Needed?			
INTENSIVE-LEVEL USE (ONLY:		
Attachments Include	0 Structure	Bridge Landscape Industry	•
Historic District ?	0 Object ✓	0 Industry	
District Name:	Cranbury Historic District		
Status:	Non Contributing		
Associated Archeological Site/Deposits? (known or potential sites. If Yes, please describe briefly)			
Conversion Problem?	ConversionNote:		

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