New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Historic Preservation Office

PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID:

791400122

Property Name: 18 Maplewood Avenue Ownership: Private 18 MAPLEWOOD AVE **ZIP:** 08512 Address: Apartment #:

PROPERTY LOCATION(S):

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

MIDDLESEX Cranbury township 33 23

Property Photo:



Old HSI Number: NRIS Number: HABS/HAER Number: 3

Description:

PS&S recommends that the residence at 18 Maplewood Avenue, constructed between 1850 and 1876, is a contributing property in the Cranbury Historic District. The garage on the property, built between 1947 and 1953, is non-contributing.

The 2-story, gable-roofed, rectangular plan, replacement clapboard-clad, main block of this frame dwelling on a parged foundation is 2 bays wide and 3 bays deep. The main block is fronted on the northwest by a 1-story, composite-roofed porch and backed on the southeast by a 2-story, gable-roofed, 3 bay-deep addition. The roofline of the addition is higher than the roofline of the main block. The roofs are predominantly clad in asphalt shingle and the windows in the main volume retain 6/1, historic wood sash. The main volume includes a historic, interior, ridge brick chimney. The primary entrance, located in the southwest bay of the main elevation is accessed by the front porch, which includes replaced Tuscan columns. There is a window with replaced wood shutters in each of the remaining bays on each floor. A secondary, added entrance with a shed-roofed hood on a single Tuscan column is located on the northwest elevation of the addition volume. The southwest, side elevation includes a window in each of the outer bays of both the main block and rear volume. The southeast, rear elevation is not visible from the public right-of-way. The northeast, side elevation contains a window in each of the outer bays on each floor of the main block and a shed-roofed window bay and single window on the first floor and a single window on the second floor of the addition.

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Principal

Emily Cooperman

(Primary Contact)

Investigator:

Organization: Paulus, Sokolowski & Sartor

Historic maps indicate that Maplewood Avenue remained largely undeveloped until after the middle of the 19th century. Historic maps and aerial photographs indicate that the residence at 18 Maplewood Avenue was constructed between 1850 and 1876. It is identified as the property of "J. Williamson" on the 1876 Everts & Stewart map, and inventoried in the 1980 National Register Nomination for the Cranbury Historic District as having been constructed in the third quarter of the 19th century. The property is documented by the 1916 Sanborn map as a rectangular-plan, frame, 2-story, shingle-roofed dwelling with a full-width, open, 1-story front porch and a 1-story, full-width, rear secondary volume. The 1933 Sanborn shows a partial-width rear volume, although later aerial photographs do not clearly show this and suggest this Sanborn misrepresented the configuration of the building. The 1974 photographic inventory of Cranbury historic buildings in the collection of the Cranbury Historical and Preservation Society shows the building's northeast and northwestern elevations, including the shed-roofed, open front porch on replaced metal posts and what was likely a concrete deck, the rear, shed-roofed volume, and 2 bays of openings on each elevation, with a square window in the rear el. This photograph and one of the building at 16 Maplewood Avenue, along with historic aerial photographs before 2002 strongly suggest that these 2 buildings were constructed at the same time and were likely identical at the time of their completion. The front door is shown in the southwest bay of the front elevation. A ridge or slope chimney is shown near the center of the building. The 1989 Heritage Studies inventory noted siding, but not its materials, 6/6 sash, and a center chimney on the building. Historic aerial photographs indicate that the building was altered between 2002 and 2006 by the addition of a substantial rear volume that is visible from the public right-of-way. Visual evidence indicates this project included the replacement of the front porch and shutters, and recladding of the exterior.

This property is a contributing property in the historic district, because it retains integrity and such character-defining historic features as the massing of its historic main volume, historic chimney, and historic wood window sash and front door in its main volume. The scale and visibility of the rear addition, and false sense of history presented by the front porch columns, however, make this status marginal.

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.

National Historic Landmark?: Registration

and Status National Register: 9/18/1980

Dates: 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:



Site Map:



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(Primary Contact)

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BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Heritage Studies (None Listed) (None Listed)	D				Year:	HPO Accession #:	(if applicable
,	Preserving Cranbury Township			1989			
None Listed)	1850 Otley and Keily Map			1850			
	1916 Sanbor	n Map			1916		
Walsh, Ruth	National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Cranbury Historic District, Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey			1979			
(None Listed)	1933 Sanbor	n Map			1933		
Chambers, John Whiteclay II	Cranbury: A New Jersey Town from the Colonial Era to the Present			2012			
(None Listed)	1876 Everts and Stewart Map			1876			
Brennan, Peggy and Frank J. Jr.	Images of America: Cranbury, Volume II			1998			
(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 through Google Earth						
Brennan, Peggy and Frank J. Jr.	Images of America: Cranbury				1995		
Additional Information: 1202_33_23 / 2STY - SFD	/ 1885						
More Research Needed?	? (che	cked=Yes)					
INTENSIVE-LEVEL USE (Attachments Include		0 Building	0	Bridge			
		0 Structure	0	Landscape			
Historic District ?		0 Object	0	Industry			
	Cranbum / Llia	taria Diatriat					
District Name:	•	toric district					
Status:	Contributing						
		posits? , please describe briefly)				
Associated Archeolo (known or potenti							
	Conve	rsionNote:					

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