

## PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID: 991408148

**Property Name:** 27 South Main Street

**Ownership:** Private

**Address:** 27 S MAIN ST

**Apartment #:**

**ZIP:** 08512

### PROPERTY LOCATION(S):

County:	Municipality:	Local Place Name:	USGS Quad:	Block:	Lot:
MIDDLESEX	Cranbury township			35	9

### Property Photo:



**Old HSI Number:**

**NRIS Number:**

**HABS/HAER Number:** 57

### Description:

PS&S recommends that the property at 27 S. Main Street, perhaps constructed ca. 1860-1875 and altered multiple times, is a non-contributing property in the Cranbury Historic District.

The 2 1/2-story, gable-roofed, rectangular-plan main block of this clapboard-clad, frame dwelling on a parged foundation is 5-bays wide and 3-bays deep and is fronted on the northwest elevation by a 1-story, hip-roofed, full-width porch and backed on the southeast elevation by a 2-story, complexly-roofed, partial-width, altered rear volume. This is in turn backed by a 2-story, gable-roofed, 5-bay deep addition. A 1-story-gable-roofed garage, accessed on the southeast elevation, projects beyond the rear addition. A 1-story, shed-roofed, partial wrap-around porch projects from the southeast elevation of the main block. A 1-story, 1-bay, pedimented gable-roofed porch projects from the central bay of the southwest elevation. The roofs are predominantly clad in asphalt shingle and the windows of the main block predominantly have 1/1 replacement sash. Two interior brick chimneys project from the gable ridge of the main block. The front porch, accessed by a straight stair in the central bay, includes historic Tuscan columns and a historic rail with turned balusters. The recessed primary entrance to the residence, located in the central bay, includes a historic door with a large single light over a recessed panel. The historic door surround includes narrow single light sidelights and transom that appear to predate the door. The remaining bays of both floors are regularly fenestrated. The southwest, side elevation is regularly fenestrated and includes an added secondary entrance in the central bay. The pedimented porch includes added columns. The northeast, side elevation is lighted by a window in each floor of the outer

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**Principal Investigator:** Emily Cooperman

☐ (Primary Contact)

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**Organization:** Paulus, Sokolowski & Sartor

bays. A 6/6 sash window lights the third floor of both side elevations. The rear porch includes a simple square-plan post. The rear volume is only partially visible from the public right-of-way and is lighted by a bank of 6/1 windows on the first floor and regularly fenestrated by 6/6 sash on the second floor. A door provides access to the northwest elevation of the garage. The northeast, side elevations of the rear volumes are not visible from the public right-of-way.

Historic maps indicate that South Main Street includes some of the earliest development in Cranbury. The settlement began in 1736 with the construction of a mill on the south banks of the Cranbury Brook and, by 1810, developed into a small village. The 1980 National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Cranbury Historic District indicates that the 2 1/2-story residence at 27 S. Main Street was constructed in the early 20th century and included a porch with columns and a wide doorway with a stained glass panel above. The 1989 Heritage Studies Inventory notes that the building may be earlier than that early 20th century but that it "has not been sympathetically treated." The property is documented in the 1916 Sanborn Map as a 2-story, frame dwelling with a 1-story, full-width front porch, a partial-width secondary volume offset to the northeast with 2- and 1-story sections, and a 1-story back porch. Two outbuildings for fowl were located to the northeast. The 1933 Sanborn documents the same massing of the dwelling except for the removal of the rearmost, 1-story section of the rear volume and the rear carriage house. The 1974 photographic inventory of Cranbury historic buildings in the collection of the Cranbury Historical and Preservation Society show the roof of the porch is full-width, but the porch floor only extended across the 3 central bays of the residence, with the roof supported by large brackets in the outer bays. Visual evidence suggests that the columns and rail of the back porch were used to extend the front porch – the back porch now being supported by simple replacement posts. Historic aerial photographs indicate that a construction campaign between 1987 and 1995 added a large 2-story, multi-roofed, partial-width rear volume backed by a 1-story, gable-roofed, 2-bay garage. A secondary side door with pedimented porch and 2 interior brick chimneys were also added to the main block. Visual evidence suggests that the majority of the surface materials of the main block were replaced in that project or since.

27 S. Main Street is a non-contributing property in the Cranbury Historic District because of multiple campaigns of alteration that have removed historic material and altered historic massing after the period of significance.

**Setting:**

South Main Street stretches from Brainerd Lake to the southern edge of Cranbury and is characterized by freestanding single-family residences of moderate scale ranging in date from the early 19th century to the early 20th 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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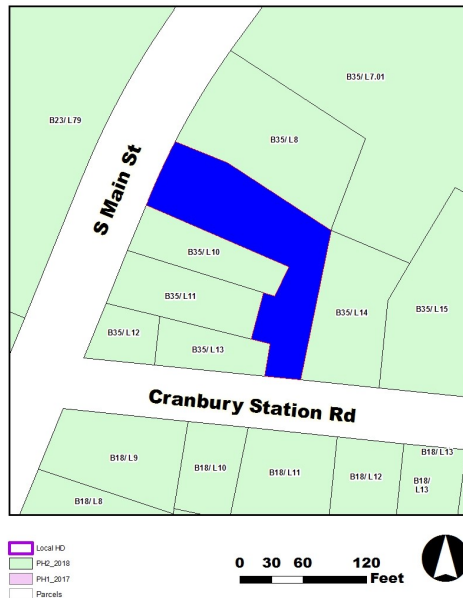
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Location Map:



Site Map:



# BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Author:	Title:	Year:	HPO Accession #: (if applicable)
Brennan, Peggy and Frank J. Jr.	Images of America: Cranbury, Volume II	1998	
(None Listed)	1876 Everts and Stewart Map	1876	
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	
(None Listed)	1933 Sanborn Map	1933	
Brennan, Peggy and Frank J. Jr.	Images of America: Cranbury	1995	
(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 <a href="http://historicaerials.com">historicaerials.com</a> and for 1995, 2002, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2016, and 2017 available through Google Earth		
(None Listed)	1850 Otley and Keily Map	1850	
(None Listed)	1916 Sanborn Map	1916	
Chambers, John Whiteclay II	Cranbury: A New Jersey Town from the Colonial Era to the Present	2012	

## Additional Information:

1202\_35\_9 / 2STY SFD / 1860

More Research Needed? ☐ (checked=Yes)

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**INTENSIVE-LEVEL USE ONLY:**

**Attachments Included:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Bridge
<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry

**Historic District ?** ☒

**District Name:** Cranbury Historic District

**Status:** Non Contributing

**Associated Archeological Site/Deposits?** ☐

(known or potential sites. If Yes, please describe briefly)

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Conversion Problem? ☐ ConversionNote:

*Date form completed:* 8/24/2018

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