

## PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID: **-1287772251**

**Property Name:** Gristmiller's House      **Ownership:** Public  
**Address:** 6 S MAIN ST      **Apartment #:**      **ZIP:** 08512

### PROPERTY LOCATION(S):

County:	Municipality:	Local Place Name:	USGS Quad:	Block:	Lot:
MIDDLESEX	Cranbury township			23	73

### Property Photo:



**Old HSI Number:**      **NRIS Number:**      **HABS/HAER Number:** 26

### Description:

PS&S recommends that 6 S. Main Street, built circa 1860, is a contributing property in the Cranbury Historic District.

The 2 ½ -story, gable-roofed, rectangular-plan main block of this painted clapboard-clad, frame building on a stone foundation is 3 bays wide and 4 bays deep and is fronted on the southeast elevation by a 1-story, hip-roofed, nearly full-width porch and backed on the northwest by a 2-story, composite-roofed volume which is in turn backed by a shed-roofed, centered door hood. A 1-story, hip-roofed porch projects from the northeast, side elevation. The roofs are predominantly clad in wood shingle and the windows predominantly have 6/6, double-hung, historic wood sash. Decorative king posts with turned ends articulate the gable peaks and corners. An interior, stuccoed chimney projects from the northwest bay of the gable ridge. The front porch includes replaced columns. The primary entrance is located in the central bay and includes a historic door and historic 2-light transom. The remaining bays on both floors are regularly fenestrated. The side porch is located in the northwest bay of the northeast elevation and includes replaced, turned posts. The porch provides access to a secondary entrance which is flanked on the northwest by a window. The remaining bays of both floors are regularly fenestrated except for the inner southeast bay. The rear volume is lighted by a window on each floor. The northwest, rear elevation is regularly fenestrated and includes 2 secondary entrances in the central bay of the first floor. The southwest, side elevation is lighted by a window on each floor of the outer bays with a small fixed window in the inner northwest bay. The rear volume is lighted by a single window on the first floor.

**Survey Name:** Cranbury Local Historic District Survey 2018

**Principal Investigator:** Emily Cooperman

**Organization:** Paulus, Sokolowski & Sartor

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(Primary Contact)

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 building at 6 S. Main Street, known as the Gristmill's House, was built circa 1860 and served as the Cranbury Police Station from 1968 – 1985. The land was previously occupied by a gristmill built circa 1736. The residence is documented in 1876 as belonging to "J. Tinbrook." The 1916 Sanborn map documents the residence as a 2-story, rectangular-plan dwelling with a partial-width, 2-story rear volume. The 1933 Sanborn map documents the same main block of the residence, but also documents a 1-story, full-width front porch and a 2-story, full-width rear volume. The 1974 photographic inventory of Cranbury historic buildings in the collection of the Cranbury Historical and Preservation Society shows a hip-roofed side porch. The 1989 Heritage Studies Inventory suggests that the building was used for commercial purposes rather than residential. Visual evidence suggests that the porch columns and windows have been replaced within the last ten years. The building is now used as the Cranbury History Center.

6 S. Main Street is a contributing property in the Cranbury Historic District because it retains integrity and historic, character-defining features such as its historic massing, historic door and transom, historic siding materials, and historic decorative king posts.

**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.

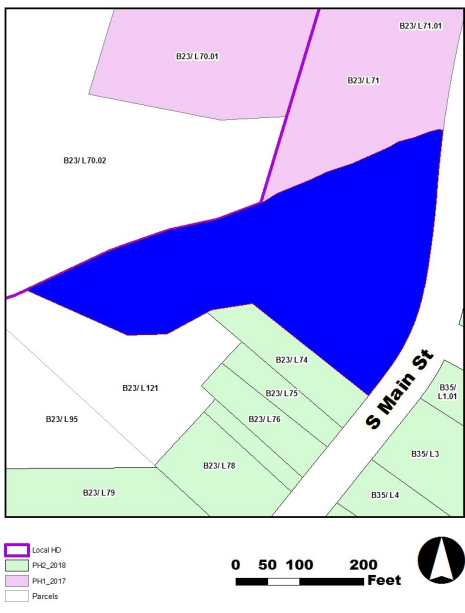
**Registration and Status Dates:**

**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?

**Location Map:**

**Site Map:**



**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Author:	Title:	Year:	HPO Accession #: (if applicable)
(None Listed)	1850 Otley and Keily Map	1850	
Brennan, Peggy and Frank J. Jr.	Images of America: Cranbury, Volume II	1998	

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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)	1876 Everts and Stewart Map	1876
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)	1933 Sanborn Map	1933
(None Listed)	1916 Sanborn Map	1916
Walsh, Ruth	National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Cranbury Historic District, Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey	1979

**Additional Information:**

1202\_23\_72 / 2SF FIREHOUSES / 0000  
 1202\_23\_73 (HISTORICAL SOCIETY) / F-2S GRIST MILL / 1950

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:

Date form completed: 8/24/2018

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