

## PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID: **1733865982**

**Property Name:** 38 South Main Street **Ownership:** Private  
**Address:** 38 S MAIN ST **Apartment #:** **ZIP:** 08512

### PROPERTY LOCATION(S):

County:	Municipality:	Local Place Name:	USGS Quad:	Block:	Lot:
MIDDLESEX	Cranbury township			23	80

### Property Photo:



**Old HSI Number:** **NRIS Number:** **HABS/HAER Number:** 15

### Description:

PS&S recommends that 38 S. Main Street, which includes a residence constructed circa 1895 and a garage constructed circa 1935, is a contributing property in the Cranbury Historic District.

The 2 ½-story, gable-roofed, L-plan main block of this aluminum siding-clad, frame dwelling on a parged foundation is 2 bays wide and 3 bays deep and is fronted on the southeast elevation by a 1-story, 1-bay pedimented entry porch and backed on the northwest elevation by a 2-story, gable-roofed volume. The portion of the main volume that projects to the northeast of the porch is a ca. 1935 addition. A 2-story, hip-roofed, 3-sided projecting bay is located in the southwest bay of the southeast elevation of the main block. Historic, 2-story, 2-bay gabled pavilions flank the northwest-southeast oriented portion of the main volume on the northwest. A lower, 2-story secondary volume backs the main volume on the northwest, and is flanked on the southwest by a 1-story, shed-roofed porch. A 1-story, shed-roofed rear porch flanks the southeast bay of the southwest elevation of the rear volume. Recent aerial photographs indicate that a 1-story addition not visible from the public right-of-way is located at the northwest corner of the building. The roofs are predominantly clad in asphalt shingle and the windows predominantly have 1/1, double-hung, wood sash. An interior brick chimney projects from the northwest bay of the main block and an exterior brick chimney projects from the northeast elevation of the side volume. The pedimented front porch includes historic turned posts, a historic rail with historic balusters, historic shaped brackets, and a historic spindle frieze. The primary entrance, accessed by the porch, includes a historic door with large single light over recessed panels. The bays of the projecting bay and

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**Organization:** Paulus, Sokolowski & Sartor

**Property ID:**

Page 1

(Primary Contact)

**1733865982**

second floor are regularly fenestrated. The projecting bay retains a historic pent eave and historic shaped shingle cladding on the pent eave and first floor. The southeast elevation of the main volume is lighted by a double window on the first floor and 2 single windows on the second floor. The northeast, side elevation of the main volume is regularly fenestrated with 2 fixed 4-light windows on the third floor. The southwest, side elevation is regularly fenestrated. A secondary entrance, accessed by the rear porch, is located on the southwest elevation of the rear volume. The third floor of the pavilions are lit by historic, 2/2, double-hung wood sash. The northwest, rear elevation is not visible from the public right-of-way. A 1 1/2-story, gable-roofed, concrete block and frame garage is located to the southwest of the residence.

Historic maps indicate that the west side of S. Main Street south of the First Presbyterian Church was developed after the church subdivided this land for development after 1894. The inventory for the 1980 National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Cranbury Historic District does not include the residence at 38 S. Main Street. The 1989 Heritage Studies Inventory reports the dwelling to have been built circa 1895 and to have belonged to John M. Chamberlain. The residence is documented on the 1916 Sanborn Map as an irregular-plan, cross-gabled, frame dwelling with a 1-story front porch that fronts the southeast elevation north of a 3-sided bay and wraps around the northeast elevation to meet a cross-gabled volume, and a 1-story rear porch on the northwest portion of the southwest elevation. The same massing is recorded in the 1933 Sanborn Map. Historic aerial photographs indicate that a 2-story addition was constructed at the northeast corner of the building, resulting in its current massing, by 1940. At this time the porch was reduced to the current, pedimented single bay. Aerial photographs and visual evidence suggest that the garage was constructed during this same renovation campaign.

38 S. Main Street is a contributing property in the Cranbury Historic District because it retains integrity and historic, character-defining features such as the historic porch posts, historic porch rail and balusters, historic spindle frieze, historic 3rd floor windows in some locations, and historic shingle cladding on the projecting front bay. The garage contributes to the property because it retains its historic massing and historic door and window openings.

**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

**SHPO Opinion:**

**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?**

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

**Property ID:**

Page 2

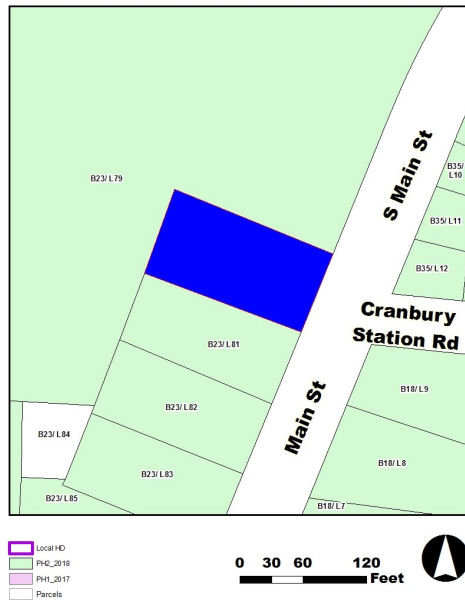
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**1733865982**

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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)	1850 Otley and Keily Map	1850		
(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			
Brennan, Peggy and Frank J. Jr.	Images of America: Cranbury	1995		
Walsh, Ruth	National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Cranbury Historic District, Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey	1979		
(None Listed)	1876 Everts and Stewart Map	1876		
(None Listed)	1933 Sanborn Map	1933		
Chambers, John Whiteclay II	Cranbury: A New Jersey Town from the Colonial Era to the Present	2012		
Heritage Studies	Preserving Cranbury Township	1989		
(None Listed)	1916 Sanborn Map	1916		

**Additional Information:**

1202\_23\_80 / 2STY - SFD / 1895

**More Research Needed?**  (checked=Yes)

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**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)

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Conversion Problem?                ConversionNote:

*Date form completed:*            8/24/2018

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Page 4

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**1733865982**