

PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID: -880121434

Property Name: 126 North Main Street **Ownership:** Private
Address: 126 N Main ST **Apartment #:** **ZIP:** 08512

PROPERTY LOCATION(S):

| County: | Municipality: | Local Place Name: | USGS Quad: | Block: | Lot: |
|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|--------|------|
| MIDDLESEX | Cranbury township | Cranbury | Hightstown | 26.01 | 25 |

Property Photo:



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

Description:

126 North Main Street is a two-story-tall, three-bay-wide, two-bay-deep, frame dwelling constructed circa 1928 in the Dutch Colonial Revival style. The dwelling consists of a gambrel-roof main block with a one-story, hipped-roof, southwest wing; a one-story, hipped-roof, northeast porch; and a one-story, shed-roof addition on the rear (southeast) elevation (added circa 1965). Full-length, shed-roof dormers interrupt both roof slopes of the main block. Asphalt shingles cover the roof throughout. The roof of the main block is accented by overhanging eaves. An exterior brick chimney is centered on the southwest elevation. The exterior of the dwelling is clad in wood clapboard siding. The primary (northwest) elevation has symmetrical fenestration with paired, three-over-one, wood-sash windows (historic, likely original) on the first floor and second floor, flanked by wood batten shutters that feature crescent moon cutouts and metal shutter dogs (historic, likely original). Windows on this elevation are all set within wood surrounds with slightly molded lintels (historic, likely original) with metal storm windows. The central, primary entrance contains a 12-light, wood door (historic, likely original), set within a wood surround with a dentillated lintel, wood transom with a sunburst motif, segmented sidelights and fluted wood pilasters (historic, likely original). The entrance is sheltered by a front-gable portico with wood Doric columns (possibly historic). Both the northeast and southwest elevations of the dwelling have asymmetrical fenestration and are mostly obscured by heavy vegetation. A central, secondary entrance is visible on the northeast porch, but materials are unclear. The rear addition and rear elevation was not visible from the public right-of-way.

A one-story-tall, two-bay-wide, two-bay-deep, frame garage, built circa 1928, sits approximately 22 feet east the dwelling. The front-gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles and accented by overhanging eaves. Wood clapboard siding covers the exterior. The primary (northwest) elevation contains a two-bay-wide, vertical-wood-board, sliding door (historic, likely original). Both the southwest and northeast elevations have symmetrical fenestration with six-over-six, wood-sash windows (historic, likely original). The rear (southeast) elevation was not visible from the public right-of-way.

Character-defining elements of the dwelling consist of its massing, gambrel roof with shed-roof dormers, wood-sash windows with wood surrounds, and 12-light wood door with a wood surround.

History: 126 North Main Street was constructed circa 1928 and is an example of an early twentieth-century, Dutch Colonial Revival-style dwelling in Cranbury. In 1924, the large tract of land on which the subject dwelling was later constructed was purchased by Ezekiel S. Barclay at a sheriff's sale (Middlesex County Clerk's Office [MCCO] 1924 Deed Book 771:49). Later that year, Barclay sold an 18-acre

Survey Name: Cranbury Historic Sites Survey Phase III

Surveyor: Spencer Rubino

Organization: Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc.

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Property ID:

-880121434

Page 1

parcel on the east side of North Main Street to Raymond S. Griggs, who owned a farm on Cranbury Station Road (MCCO 1924 Deed Book 771:187; United States Bureau of the Census [US Census] 1920, 1930). Griggs then sold a small lot of land, encompassing the subject property, to William M. Cox in 1931 (MCCO 1931 Deed Book 1019:295). William Cox was a well-respected former Mayor of Cranbury and part of the town committee. In 1928, Cox sold his 25-acre farm and, with his second wife, Lillie, started construction on the subject dwelling. The house, built by William and Frank Breese of Plainsboro, cost \$12,000 to construct and included a two-car garage and driveway (Cranbury Historical and Preservation Society n.d.). The subject dwelling appears on a 1930 aerial photograph, indicating it was extant at the time of Cox's 1931 land purchase (New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection 1930). A 1940 aerial photograph provides a clear view of the subject dwelling in nearly its current form (NETR 1940). Around 1965, a one-story addition was constructed on the rear elevation of the subject dwelling (NETR 1963, 1969). The subject dwelling underwent little to no alterations during the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, with the exception of the replacement of several windows.

Setting:

126 North Main Street is sited on a roughly rectangular-shaped parcel (Block 26.01, Lot 25) located on the southeast side of North Main Street in Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey. The dwelling is oriented with its primary elevation facing northwest and is set back approximately 75 feet from the road. An asphalt-paved driveway extends east from North Main Street and continues to the rear of the dwelling. Mature trees and shrubs are planted within close proximity to the dwelling. The subject dwelling is located in a residential neighborhood surrounded by properties generally dating from the mid-nineteenth to the late twentieth centuries.

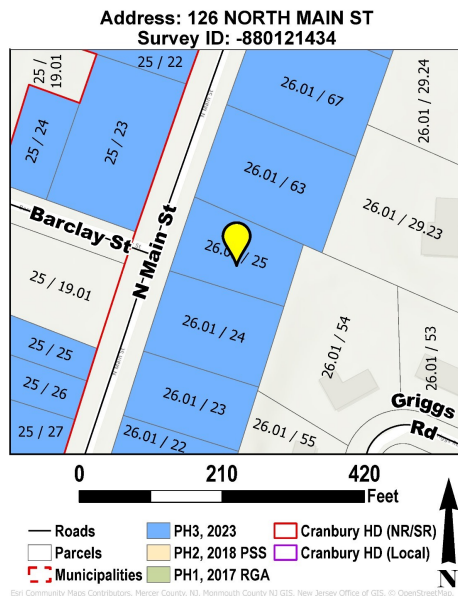
Registration and Status Dates:

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) |
|---|---|-------|------------------|-----------------|
| Cranbury Historical & Preservation Society | On file, Cranbury Historical & Preservation Society, Cranbury, New Jersey. | | | |
| Heritage Studies | Preserving Historic Cranbury Village. Prepared for the Cranbury Township Historic Preservation Advisory Committee. On file, New Jersey Historic Preservation Office, Trenton, New Jersey. | 1989 | | |
| Middlesex County Clerk's Office [MCCO] | On file, Middlesex County Clerk's Office, New Brunswick, New Jersey. | | | |
| Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR) | Historic Aerial Photograph. Electronic document, https://www.historicaerials.com , accessed March 2023. | 1947 | | |
| New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection | NJ-GeoWeb. Electronic document, https://www.nj.gov/dep/gis/geoweb splash.htm , accessed March 2023. | 1930 | | |

Survey Name: Cranbury Historic Sites Survey Phase III

Surveyor: Spencer Rubino

Organization: Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc.

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-880121434

Walsh, Ruth National Register of Historic Places Nomination, Cranbury Historic District, Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey. On file, New Jersey Historic Preservation Office, Cranbury, New Jersey. 1980

United States Bureau of the Census (US Census) Population Schedule, Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey. 1920

United States Bureau of the Census (US Census) Population Schedule, Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey. 1930

Additional Information:

Although the dwelling at 126 North Main Street was not identified in the 1980 Cranbury Historic District National Register of Historic Places nomination, it was evaluated in the 1989 Heritage Studies inventory of the district as a non-contributing (harmonious) resource (Walsh 1980; Heritage Studies 1989). Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc. recommends 126 North Main Street as a contributing resource to the Cranbury Historic District due to its date of construction and design. The dwelling retains sufficient integrity of materials, design, workmanship, setting, location, feeling, and association to convey the significance of the historic district.

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: 1202_26.01_25

Date form completed: 6/21/2023

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Page 3

PROPERTY REPORT: PHOTO CONTINUATION SHEET

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Photo 2



Photo 3