

PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID: **159773909**

Property Name: The Drill Room **Ownership:** Private
Address: 27 Maplewood AVE **Apartment #:** **ZIP:** 08512

PROPERTY LOCATION(S):

County:	Municipality:	Local Place Name:	USGS Quad:	Block:	Lot:
MIDDLESEX	Cranbury township	Cranbury	Hightstown	31	4

Property Photo:



Old HSI Number:

NRIS Number:

HABS/HAER Number:

Description:

The Drill Room at 27 Maplewood Avenue is a one-story tall, two-bay wide, six-bay deep, frame former residence constructed circa 1860 in a vernacular style. The building now serves commercial purposes. The front-gabled roof of the frame building is sheathed with asphalt shingles. An exterior brick chimney pierces the roof on the rear (northwest) elevation near the north corner. The exterior of the rectangular building is clad in wood clapboard siding on all elevations. The dominant feature of the main (southeast) elevation is a parapet roof with a wood frieze and deeply recessed entrance. The parapet has a centered merlon. The recessed entrance features a plain wood architrave with a single light window on the south side. Two paneled doors are located in the entrance, both featuring a large plate glass window over the lock rail and two vertical panels below. The building has a stone foundation. The side elevations have a similar appearance, with a row of two-sash vinyl replacement casement windows running along the wall with varying spacing. The southwest elevation has four of these windows and the northeast elevation has six. Character-defining elements of the rectangular building include the parapet roof and wood frieze.

History: The Drill Room, constructed circa 1860, served as a practice building for Civil War soldiers based in Cranbury (Chambers 2012:69-70; Cranbury Historical and Preservation Society n.d.) The building first appears cartographically on the 1861 Walling map of Cranbury Township as the residence of "Miss Britton," one of four buildings on a trapezoid-shaped lot. The 1872 Beers atlas labels the subject

Survey Name: Cranbury CLG Survey 2017

Surveyor: Kristen Herrick

Organization: RGA, Inc.

Property ID:

159773909

Page 1

(Primary Contact)

building as the Drill Room on Washington Avenue, later called Maplewood Avenue. On the 1876 Everts and Stewart map, the subject building is owned by "W.H. Davison and Silvers," referring to the proprietors of the American Spice Mills company in Cranbury (Chambers 2012:83-84). The 1912 Sanborn map indicates that the subject building served as a warehouse and automobile shop. The subject building remained an automobile shop through at least 1933.

Setting:

The Drill Room at 27 Maplewood Avenue is sited on a rectangular parcel (Block 31, Lot 4) located on the northwest side of Maplewood Avenue in Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey. The building is oriented with its primary elevation facing southeast and is set back approximately 5 feet from Maplewood Avenue. A brick sidewalk spans the east side of the parcel. The property is lined with trees to the southwest. Shrubs about the building's front (southeast) and northeast elevations. The Drill Room at 27 Maplewood Avenue is located in a primarily residential neighborhood surrounded by residential properties dating from the mid-nineteenth to the early twentieth centuries.

Registration and Status Dates:

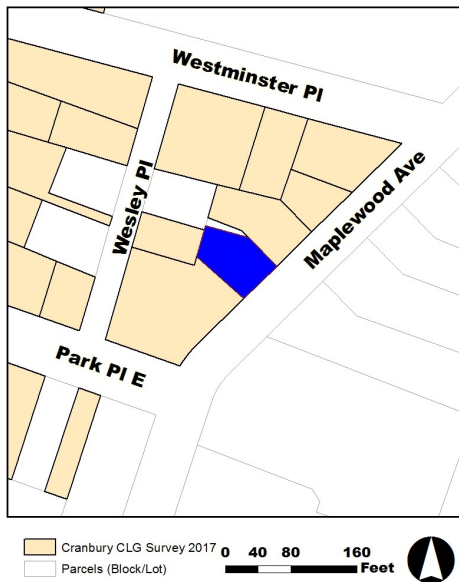
National Historic Landmark?:
National Register: 9/18/1980
New Jersey Register: 8/9/1979
Determination of Eligibility: 3/25/1977
Certification of Eligibility:

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)
Walsh, Ruth	National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Cranbury Historic District, Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey	1979	
Heritage Studies	Preserving Historic Cranbury Village	1989	
Cranbury Historical and Preservation Society	Property File, 27 Maplewood Avenue		
Chambers, John Whiteclay II	Cranbury: A New Jersey Town from the Colonial Era to the Present	2012	

Survey Name: Cranbury CLG Survey 2017

Surveyor: Kristen Herrick

Organization: RGA, Inc.

Property ID:

Page 2

(Primary Contact)

159773909

Additional Information:

The 1989 Heritage Studies survey found that the Drill Room at 27 Maplewood Avenue is a contributing resource to the Cranbury Historic District. RGA concurs with the previous evaluation and recommends the Drill Room at 27 Maplewood Avenue as a contributing resource due its date of construction, use of materials, and association with activities relating to the Civil War in Cranbury.

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:** 78

Date form completed: 7/10/2017

Survey Name: Cranbury CLG Survey 2017

Surveyor: Kristen Herrick

Organization: RGA, Inc.

Property ID:

(Primary Contact)

159773909

Page 3