

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY

CRANBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT PHASE ONE Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey

Principal Investigators:

Kristen Herrick, MA, Architectural Historian
Seth Hinshaw, MSHP, Senior Historian

Prepared by:

RGA, Inc.
259 Prospect Plains Road, Building D
Cranbury, New Jersey 08512

Prepared for:

Township of Cranbury
Historic Preservation Commission
23-A North Main Street
Cranbury, New Jersey 08512

Date:

September 12, 2017

PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID: -1244690087

Property Name: 63 North Main Street
Address: 63 N Main ST

Ownership: Private
Apartment #: **ZIP:** 08512

PROPERTY LOCATION(S):

County:	Municipality:	Local Place Name:	USGS Quad:	Block:	Lot:
MIDDLESEX	Cranbury township	Cranbury	Hightstown	23	47

Property Photo:



Old HSI Number:

NRIS Number:

HABS/HAER Number:

Description:

63 North Main Street is a two-story, five-bay, six-pile, frame commercial building constructed in 1930. It consists of a front gabled rectangular section with a shed roofed addition along one side; the addition has a storefront that gives the building an unusual front profile. The front-gabled roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. An interior stucco chimney pierces the roof near the seam between the sections. The exterior of the dwelling is clad in wood clapboard siding and composite shingles. The second floor of the core features a tripartite one-over-one (replacement) window unit on the second floor. A pent roof extends along the entire main (east) elevation. The first floor features a recessed entrance into the core, where an aluminum door with a plate glass window opens between large plate glass display windows. The entrance into the addition is a glass door opening north of a plate glass display window. The building has a concrete foundation.

On the north elevation, the slope of the roof over the addition extends past the storefront. Three gabled dormers on the core have double hung sash windows (replacement) that face over the addition. The walls are stuccoed. Six one-over-one (replacement) windows are spaced asymmetrically along the wall surface; the window to the west is smaller than the rest. The south elevation is a mostly solid stuccoed wall, with two replacement one-over-one windows.

Two buildings are located in the rear of the property. A two-and-a-half story, two-bay, two-pile tenant house faces onto Park Place West. It has asphalt shingles on its roof, two gabled roof dormers with two-over-two windows (possibly original), and overhanging eaves. The walls

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are clad with horizontal (composite) siding. Fenestration is symmetrical; windows are six-over-six double hung sash (possibly original) units. The door in the north bay is a mid-twentieth century solid core door with a square light and exterior storm door; the door casing consists of an entablature supported by fluted Doric pilasters. The building has a stucco-clad foundation. The west elevation also has composite cladding. The second floor has a loading door opening between two one-over-one replacement windows. The first floor has a small paired casement window near the southwest corner. The east elevation of the building retains the composite cladding. A small attic louver is located in the peak of the gable, centered over two one-over-one replacement second floor windows. An addition occupies the first floor; it has a shed roof clad with asphalt shingles, walls of composite siding, and a French door with exterior storm door opening south of a band of one-over-one windows. The addition has a concrete foundation.

In the rear of the lot is the wagon house, a large outbuilding that has been converted into apartments. The two-story, two-bay building has asphalt shingles on its roof and composite siding. Windows are one-over-one (replacement) units on the second floor and enlarged plate glass units on the first floor. A late twentieth century replacement door is centered on the south elevation. A small addition on the west side of the building has a shed roof clad with asphalt shingles, composite siding, and a modern door flanked by one-over-one replacement windows. The west elevation of the addition has four windows.

The building has hosted a number of commercial businesses throughout the twentieth century.

History: The 1933 Sanborn map of Cranbury Township shows the building in its current form. None of the outbuildings survive.

Setting:

63 North Main Street is sited on an L-shaped parcel (Block 23, Lot 47) located on the west side of North Main Street in Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey. The building is oriented with its primary elevation facing southeast and is set back approximately 10 feet from North Main Street. A concrete sidewalk spans the east side of the parcel. Trees are planted along the curb between the building and North Main Street. The property is lightly wooded. 63 North Main Street is located in a mixed residential and commercial neighborhood surrounded by commercial and 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?**

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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	
Chambers, John Whiteclay II	Cranbury: A New Jersey Town from the Colonial Era to the Present	2012	

Additional Information:

The 1989 Heritage Studies survey identified 63 North Main Street as a contributing resource to the Cranbury Historic District. RGA concurs with the previous evaluation and recommends 63 North Main Street as a contributing resource due to its date of construction.

More Research Needed? ☐ (checked=Yes)

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: Contributing

Associated Archeological Site/Deposits? ☐

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

Conversion Problem? ☐ **ConversionNote:** 42

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Date form completed: 7/25/2017

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PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID: -1004463450

Property Name: 21 A-B - 23 A-B Park Place West

Ownership: Private

Address: 21-23 Park PL W

Apartment #: A-B

ZIP: 08512

PROPERTY LOCATION(S):

County:	Municipality:	Local Place Name:	USGS Quad:	Block:	Lot:
MIDDLESEX	Cranbury township	Cranbury	Cranbury	23	48

Property Photo:



Old HSI Number:

NRIS Number:

HABS/HAER Number:

Description:

21 A-B Park Place West is a two-and-a-half-story tall, two-bay wide, two-bay deep, frame private dwelling constructed circa 1950. The dwelling consists of a rectangular main block with a one-story shed roof addition extending to the east. The side-gabled roof is sheathed with wood shingles. The exterior of the dwelling is clad in wood clapboard siding. An exterior chimney covered with stucco pierces the roof on the west elevation. Windows on the front (south) elevation and at the second floor of the east elevation are six-over-six, double-hung wood windows with aluminum storm windows. Windows on other elevations are one-over-one, double hung vinyl replacement windows. A louvered window sits in the east gable end. On the west elevation, a faux barn door is located between two one-over-one, double hung vinyl replacement windows. The main entrance, located in the southwest corner of the building, is a six-panel wood door with an aluminum exterior storm door. A secondary entrance is located in the southeast corner of the east shed roof addition. A one-story frame shed is located north of the dwelling.

23 A-B Park Place West is a two-unit vernacular building constructed circa 1950, consisting of a two-story, three-bay main block and a one-story, four-bay addition with a shed roof. The front-gabled roof of the main block is clad with asphalt shingles. The exterior of the dwelling is clad in vinyl siding. An interior, capped brick chimney pierces the roof at the north gable end of the main block. Windows are one-over-one, double hung vinyl replacement windows with two large vinyl picture windows on the front (south) elevation of the main block. A louvered window punctures the south gable end at the attic story. Doors providing access to both residences are six-panel modern

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replacement doors. Access is gained to the shed roof addition via a three-step concrete stoop with a metal railing

Setting:

21 A-B and 23 A-B Park Place West are sited on a rectangular parcel (Block 23, Lot 48) located on the north side of Park Place West in Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey. Both dwellings are oriented with primary elevations facing south. 21 Park Place West is set back approximately 10 feet from the road, while 23 Park Place West is set back approximately 40 feet from the road. 23 Park Place West is situated northwest of 21 Park Place West. A concrete sidewalk spans the south side of the parcel. The southwest corner of the parcel is occupied by a paved parking lot. The property is lightly wooded. A one-story, frame shed is located east of 23 Park Place West. 21 and 23 Park Place West are located in a mixed residential and commercial neighborhood alongside other residential and commercial properties dating from the mid-nineteenth to the early twentieth 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

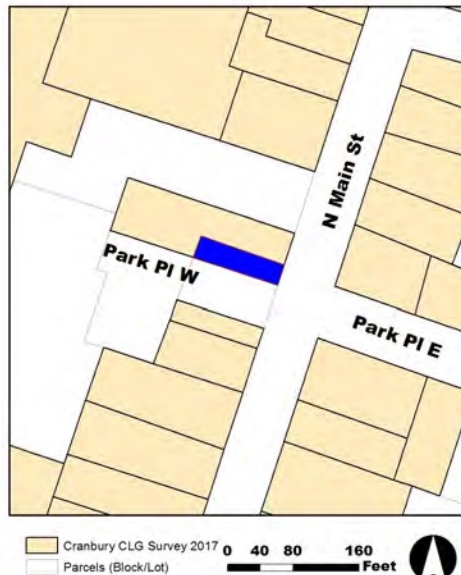
Other Designation:

Other Designation Date:

☐ **Eligibility Worksheet included in present survey?**

☐ **Is this Property an identifiable farm or former farm?**

Location Map:



Site Map:

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Heritage Studies	Preserving Historic Cranbury Village	1989	

Additional Information:

The 1989 Heritage Studies survey identified 21 A-B and 23 A-B Park Place West but did not assign resource classifications to either building. A review of historic aerial photographs shows that the subject buildings were constructed circa 1950. Therefore, RGA recommends 21 A-B and 23 A-B Park Place West as non-contributing buildings to the Cranbury Historic District due to their dates of construction.

More Research Needed? ☐ (checked=Yes)

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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)

Conversion Problem? ☐ ConversionNote: 43

Date form completed: 6/26/2017

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