

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

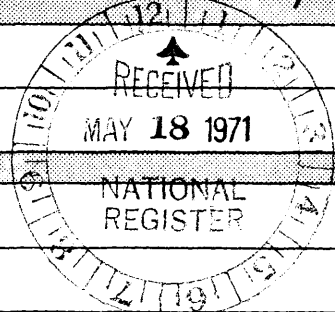
STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Middlesex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71,634,009	DATE 6/2/71

HIS E 541020
 218 N 4482260

1. NAME

COMMON:
Old Cranbury School

AND/OR HISTORIC:



2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
23 North Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Cranbury

STATE New Jersey	CODE 08512	COUNTY: Middlesex	CODE 34	023
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) See Form 10-300a.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Cranbury Township Board of Education

STREET AND NUMBER:
23 North Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Cranbury

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
08512

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Middlesex County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
John F. Kennedy Square

CITY OR TOWN:
New Brunswick

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
08902

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY:
1971

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Department of Environmental Protection
Historic Sites Section, Division of Parks & Forests,

STREET AND NUMBER:
John Fitch Way

CITY OR TOWN:
Trenton

STATE:
New Jersey

STATE: New Jersey
 COUNTY: Middlesex
 ENTRY NUMBER: 71,634,009
 DATE: 6/2/71
 FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

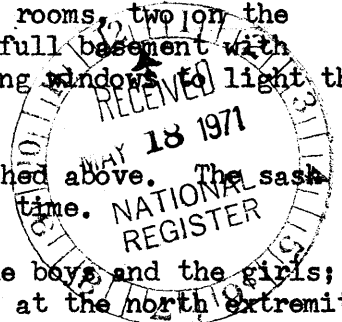
CONDITION	Outside		Inside		(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed	
	(Check One)				(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The building usually referred to as "The Old Cranbury School" was built in 1896. It was built of red brick, with a scale and ornamentation typical of the period. The corbelling above the windows and around the small circular windows is in the best style of the time.

Originally the building had four school rooms, two on the ground floor and two on the second floor, plus a full basement with about a third of its walls above ground, permitting windows to light the basement.

The windows of the school rooms are arched above. The sash and glass conform to the arch in the style of the time.



Separate entrances were provided for the boys and the girls; for boys at the south end of the front, for girls at the north extremity of the front.

Above the slate roof rose a cupola topped by a weathervane in the form of a feathered quill. This weathervane was blown off in a severe storm some years ago, but it is still in Cranbury and can easily be put back in its rightful place.

On the side of the cupola toward Main Street was the face of a clock. The works, inside the building, were operated by iron weights. The works are still there in good condition. The face of the clock was blown off by the same storm that tore away the weathervane. The appearance and action of the clock can easily be restored.

The original bell, at first tolled by a rope and pulley, is in place in the cupola. On the side of the bell, cast in raised letters, appear the names of the Board of Education for 1897. The bell was presented to the school by the graduating class of that year.

In 1909 a south wing was added to the building, and in 1922 the north wing was added.

By that time it was deemed proper for boys and girls to use the same entrance. The original separate entrances were converted into windows, and what was the ground floor center window was made an ample entrance, using recessed double doors with an admirable fan light above. A small portico shelters the entrance. The style of the cornice in the added wings follows accurately that of the original building.

Since 1934 further additions have been made to the school facilities. These lie west and south of the old building and are not included in this application for state and national registry.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 15th Century
- 16th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1896

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |

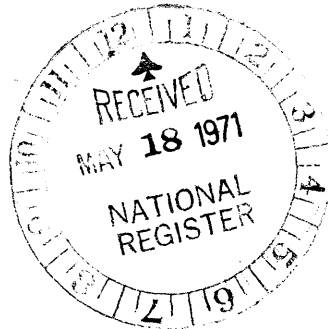
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architecture

This building is the only example of late nineteenth century architecture in a public building in this area. The proportions of the building are excellent and the details of moderate ornamentation are typical of the time.

Education

This building replaced two wooden two-room schools at either end of the village. It was an early example of the trend toward "centralized" schools. Education was carried on through the tenth grade.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"The Cranbury Press"

Vol. XII No. 10
 " XIII " 11
 XXIV " 31
 XXIV " 33
 XXIV " 48
 XXV " 19
 XXXVI " 38

Vol. XXXVII No. 32
 " XXXVII " 36
 " XXXVII " 41
 " XXXVIII " 8
 XXXVIII " 14

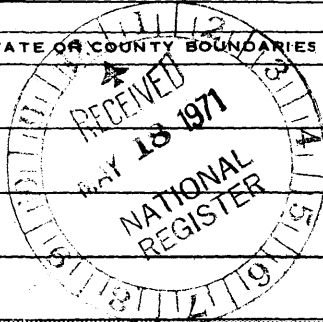
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		40° 18' 42"	74° 31' 02"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1 acre**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Norman H. Wright, Chairman **AND** J. Carl Cook, Chairman
Historical Sites Committee **Comm. to Save the Old School**

ORGANIZATION: Cranbury Historical & Preservation Society DATE: Mar. 26, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: 15 Bunker Hill 2 Maplewood Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Cranbury STATE: New Jersey CODE: 08512 34

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *Richard J. Sullivan*
RICHARD J. SULLIVAN

Title: COMMISSIONER, Department of Environmental Protection

Date: April 7, 1971

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ewert A. Connelly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

JUN 21 1971

Date: _____

ATTEST:

William J. Mumtagh
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Middlesex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.6.34.0009	DATE 6/3/71

(Number all entries)

3. Classification

Status: the building is not now regularly occupied throughout the day.

Present use:

- The Boy Scouts meet in the building two evenings a week.
- The Cranbury Women's Club holds a furniture refinishing class one evening week for five weeks.
- The Women's Club of Cranbury conducts its annual rummage sale for the benefit of their scholarship fund at a selected date in the summer.
- A Bargain Basement Store is run in cooperation with the Area Committee on Programs for Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers, open one evening a week, June 15th to Nov. 30th.
- A Nutrition Information program is run for the benefit of migrant and seasonal farm workers one evening a week, June 15th to Sept. 15th. This program is open to the general public as well as migrants.
- Cranbury Township Recreation Commission conducts an arts and crafts program for pre-school children for six weeks during the summer, three days per week.

Congressional Correspondence:

Rep. Edward J. Patten (15th Dist.)
Sen. Clifford E. Case
Sen. Harrison A. Williams



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Middlesex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.6.34.0009	DATE 6/31/71

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Old Cranbury School
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
23 North Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Cranbury

STATE: New Jersey	CODE 08512	COUNTY: Middlesex	CODE 023
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3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:
Cranbury Township Engineer

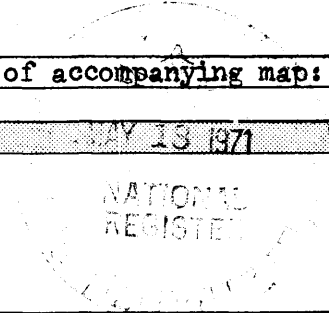
SCALE: Photo reduced from original. Scale of accompanying map: 1" = 120'

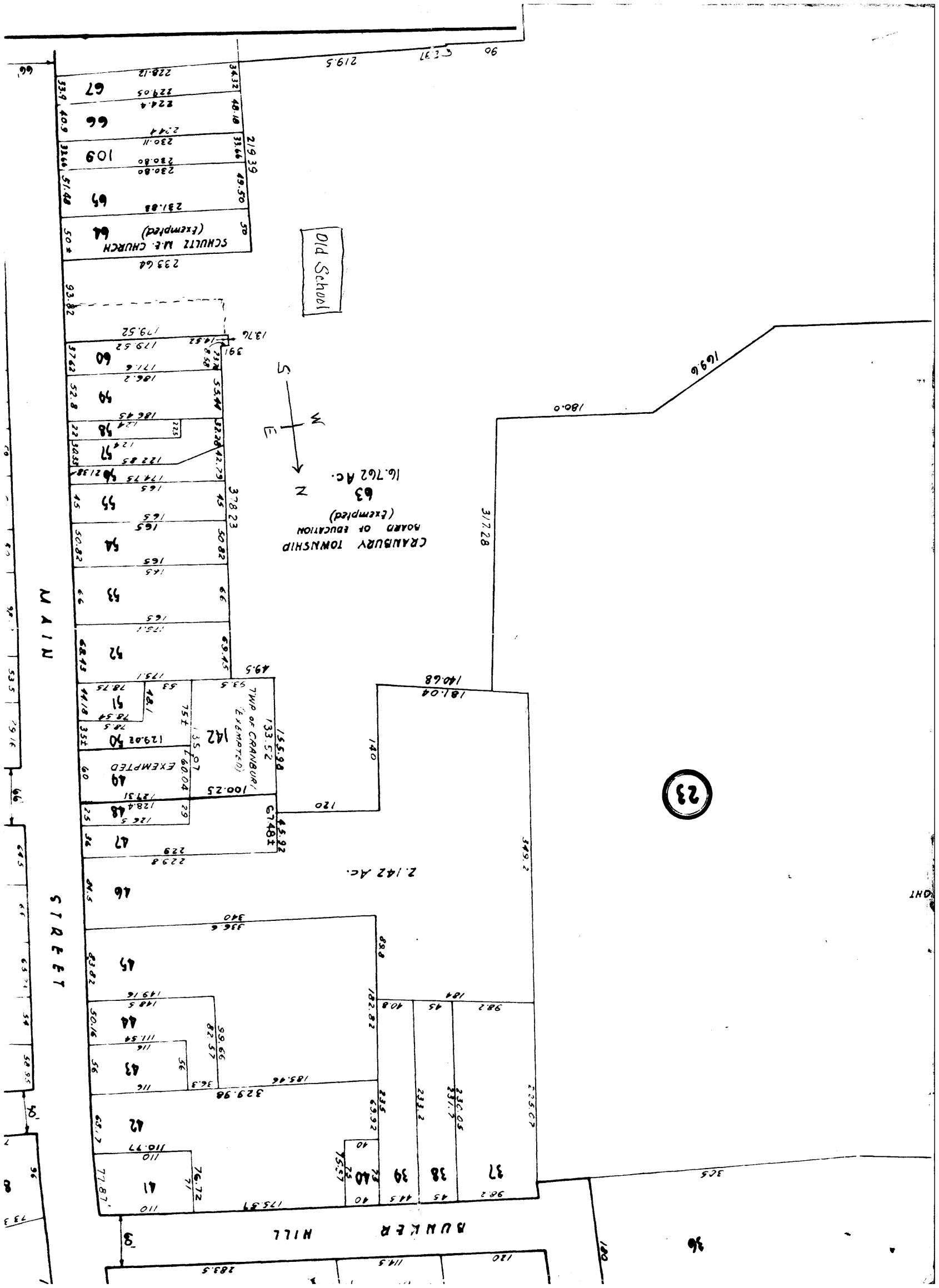
DATE: 1969

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.





Old School

CRAIBURY TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Exempted)
63
16.762 Ac.

2.142 Ac.

BUNKER HILL

MAIN

STREET

23

Lot #	Area / Notes	Dimensions
37	50.2	184, 40.8, 58.2
38	45	230.05, 231.7, 231.2
39	40.5	235, 65.92, 231.2
40	128.4	128.4, 29, 128.4
41	110	76.72, 71, 77.87
42	110	110.77, 68.7
43	116	116, 56, 116.54, 50.16
44	148.5	148.5, 50.16
45	184	184, 40.8, 58.2
46	229.8	229.8, 49.5
47	229	229, 47.8
48	128.4	128.4, 29, 128.4
49	100.25	100.25, 60, 129.02
50	133.52	133.52, 75.1, 133.52
51	78.5	78.5, 78.5, 78.5
52	175.1	175.1, 68.45, 175.1
53	165	165, 50.82, 165
54	165	165, 50.82, 165
55	165	165, 45, 165
56	186.45	186.45, 225, 124
57	122.85	122.85, 124
58	186.45	186.45, 225, 124
59	186.2	186.2, 52.8, 186.2
60	179.52	179.52, 37.82, 179.52
61	233.64	233.64, 93.82, 233.64
62	231.88	231.88, 49.50, 231.88
63	230.80	230.80, 219.39, 230.80
64	230.11	230.11, 35.66, 230.11
65	224.4	224.4, 219.39, 224.4
66	229.05	229.05, 48.10, 229.05
67	228.12	228.12, 34.32, 228.12