OMB No. 10024-0018 NPS Form 10-900 RECEIVED 2280 (Oct. 1990) United States Department of the Interior **? 19**97 National Park Service National Register of Historic Places NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE **Registration** Form This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items. 1. Name of Property Crane-Phillips House historic name_ N/A other names/site number _____ 2. Location street & number 125 North Union Avenue N/A I not for publication city or town _____ Cranford _____ _____ vicinity . state <u>New Jersey</u> code <u>NJ</u> county <u>Union</u> code <u>039</u> zip code <u>07016</u> 3. State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended. I hereby certify that this 🖾 nomination I request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property I meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant anationally \Box statewide Σ locally. (\Box See continuation sheet for additional comments.) 6/3/7Signature of certifying official/Title Date Assistant Commissioner for Natural & Historic Resources/DSHPO State of Federal agency and bureau In In yopinion, the property - meets - does not meet the National Register criteria. (- See continuation sheet for additional comments.) Signature of certifying official/Title Date State or Federal agency and bureau National Park Service Certification Signature, of the Keeper I hereby certify that the property is: Date of Action M entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register. removed from the National Register. other, (explain:)

<u>CRANE-PHILLIPS</u>	<u>HOUS</u> E
Name of Property	

UNION NEW JERSEY County and State

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number (Do not in	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)			
private	building(s)	Contribu	ting	Noncontributin	Ig	
Dipublic-local	😨 public-local		•	0	buildings	
public-State public-Federal	☐ site □ structure	0		0		
		0		0	structure	
		0		. 0	objects	
		·		0	Objects	
Name of related multiple part (Enter "N/A" if property is not part		Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register				
N/A		0				
6. Function or Use					<u></u>	
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Fu (Enter categor		structions)		
Domestic/	Recre	Recreation & Culture				
Single Dwelling		Histo	Historical Museum			
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7. Description		<u></u>			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categori	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)			
Mid-19th Century	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	foundation _	Ston	e & Brick		
Other - Downinge	sque (Rural Gothic)	walls	Wood	 	<u></u>	
			Wood	Shingle	<u></u>	
				ral - surfa	aced roll	
		other		roof		
				1001.	- ··· g	

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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<u>CRANE-PHILLIPS HOUSE</u> Name of Property

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- □ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- □ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- **C** a birthplace or grave.
- **D** a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure. •
- **F** a commemorative property.
- □ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibilography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- □ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- In recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # ____HABS_189 (1936)
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

UNION NEW JERSEY

County and State

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1870

Significant Dates

ca. 1870

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N / A

Cultural Affiliation

<u>N/A</u>

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

- □ State Historic Preservation Office
- □ Other State agency
- Example 2 Federal agency
- Local government
- University

🖾 Other

Name of repository:

<u>New Jersey Historical Structural</u> Inventory # 813.2

Name of Property	County and State	
10. Geographical Data		
Acreage of Property ca 1/4 acre	Roselle Quad	•
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)		
1 1	3 Jack Strain St	Northing
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	See continuation sheet	
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)		
11. Form Prepared By		
name/title Donald M. Widdows		
organization <u>Cranford Historical Society</u>	date Nov. 12, 19	996
street & number84 Springfield Avenue	telephone908-276-008	32
city or town Cranford	stateNJ zip code(07016
Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form:		
Continuation Sheets		
Maps		
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the	property's location.	
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties havi	ng large acreage or numerous resource	es.
Photographs		
Representative black and white photographs of the p	roperty.	
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)	·	
Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)		
Union County Borks Corrigoion (ounty of Union)	
street & numberAdministration Building	telephone	10
city or town	Ante NI sis sede (7207

Union

New Jersey

CRANE-PHILLIPS House

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Narrative Description

The Crane-Phillips House is a small two story, frame, Downingesque style rural cottage with an "L" shape floor plan. The exact date of construction is not known except that it was before 1867. The front two-story section has a gable roof with hand split cedar shake shingles and the rear one-story section has a nearly flat shed type roof of a composition material. The foundation is a mixture of field stone and brick and the exterior walls are wide clapboard. The wide front porch has large french style windows providing an unique appearence to the house. The house is maintained in execellent condition by the Cranford Historical Society with one alteration in 1963 which matches the origional structure.

It is located on the southeast side of North Union Avenue. The front section faces North Union Avenue (Photo #1). It is midway between Springfield Avenue to the southwest and the bridge over the Rahway River to the northwest. It is part of a larger three acre plot of land along the Rahway River presently owned by the County of Union. The Crane-Phillips House is on a parcel of this land, 100 feet wide along Union Avenue and 150 deep, leased to the Cranford Historical Society (Note #5). The house sits on the western corner of the 100 X 150 foot property. The front porch is approximately 30 feet from North Union Avenue.

There is a brick foundation which rests on a random fieldstone base. The front foundation, concealed under the porch is also random fieldstone. This front porch has a continuous brick foundation. The 1963 addition has a concrete block foundation. The kitchen "L" has a concrete foundation that is veneered with brick on the west side.

The floor framing materials visible in the cellar show vertically sawn joists, regularly spaced. On the west side, these joists are continuous members spanning 24 feet from the front foundation wall, across the intermediate bearing wall to the rear foundation. In the northeast corner, the members are a mixture of heavy hewn timbers and modern dimensioned lumber. This could be some of the remains of Josiah, Jr.'s cottage. (Note #6) This may explain this odd 8 X 12 framing in this location. The continuous nature of the first floor joists suggest that the main house was built at one time. This is also confirmed by the lack of any evident joints in the foundation.

All exterior walls are sided with wide clapboard. All the angles are treated with clapboards. The west parapet wall was added to conceal the long slope of the extended shed roof over the kitchen "L". There is a remnant, of a clapboard between the two-story section and the one story rear shed (Photo #7). This feature reveals the original slope of the rear shed as it meets the larger two-story section. The coursing of the siding is continuous below the

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE Page #1 NJ, Union County Crane-Phillips House

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cornerboard. The other remnant exists between the kitchen "L" and the rear shed portion. A cornerboard marks a transition between the siding. This coursing is not continuous, indicating that the enclosure of the kitchen "L" was clearly added later. The scalloped vergeboard unites all of the components on this side.

The front porch contains an interesting set of vertical supports. These consist of paired 2 X 4 type posts joined at the tops, midpoints and bases, and are diagonally cross-braced within each panel (Photo #12). The shallow cornice of the porch roof is picked up by paired brackets over each of the vertical supports. This decorative column design is repeated on the rails of the small east balcony. The parapet over this balcony is supported by corbelled brackets on each side (Photo #17).

The two-story section of the house roof has sloped gables with hand split cedar shakes. These convey a cruder appearance than would have been typical of the mid-19th century house. The short, rear shed-roof and long rear shed over the kitchen consist of mineralsurfaced roll roofing. The flat roof of this type typically would have been metal at the time of construction. A gabled roof is not guttered while the shed roofs and the porch have wooden box gutters.

The front wall of the first floor has two French doors at each end and a wood four panel door off-set from the center of the French doors. The east side of the main room has a French door opening onto a small porch (Photo #17) while the west wall contains a typical six-over-six double-hung window.

The two-story section consists of a single room on the first floor and two rooms on the second floor. This first floor front parlor (23 X 11 1/2) contains the highest degree of original detail. The entry door, French doors and window to the west side have moulded casings from the third quarter of the nineteenth century. It has wide plank floor boards and plastered walls. The floor boards change direction in the east end of the parlor where the framing direction changes below. The ceiling is modern gypsum board with semi-recessed lighting fixtures. The front door is a four panel door from the nineteenth century (Photo #11). The two front French doors each contain twp doors, 18 inches wide with four lights (Photo #12 for detail). The side unit to the east is wider with an opening approximately 4 feet wide and have two lights each (Photo #17).

There is a dining room with a small fireplace under the single story shed section (32 X 11 1/2). The focus of the dining room is the fireplace (Photo #14), located in the middle of the

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north wall which separates this room from the front parlor. It is a non-functioning fireplace, as the present furnace flue runs up through the firebox. Originally there was a coal stove in this location. The coal stove heating system for the house is consistent with the central location and the era. The dining room door and window casings are simple, unloaded bands. There is a single six-over-six window in the rear exterior wall and one in the west exterior wall. It has wide-plank floor boards similar to the parlor, plastered walls, and a gypsum-board ceiling with lighting fixtures. In the floor toward the west end of the dining room is a hatch door. This door accesses the cistern located in the cellar. The floor hatch may be more of an interpretive device than an access door.

The rear porch has been enclosed to form an "L" shape to the rear of the building, and was converted to a kitchen. The shed roof over the rear has been extended over this kitchen area to form a flat roof. To unite the earlier shed section and the enclosed kitchen section, a parapet wall was built along the west wall to conceal the shallow pitch of the roof line (Photos #6,7,8). The kitchen, today, is a support space for the house museum. It has modern finishes. From evidence in the cellar, it appears that the original access to the cellar was through this space, in the northeast corner. It was probably in the form of a floor hatch and stairs. The exact layout of the kitchen in its historical form is unknown. The HABS (Note #4) drawings show a brick chimney rising from the southeast corner of the room, indicates the placement of a cooking stove. The present kitchen "L" has a powder room to the south end near the back door.

There is a partial cellar (with limited head space) under the one-story shed-roofed section. At one time, access to the cellar was through the floor in the kitchen area. Now the cellar is accessed via a modern exterior bulkhead door and stairs on the outside rear wall.

Access to the second floor is from a stair that is located just west of the chimney (Photo #13). This narrow stair begins in the dining room and rises toward the front of the house. There is a closet under the stair in the front parlor. The upper floor consists of two rooms separated by the stairhall. The stair is very steep with treads and risers that greatly exceed what is permitted by modern code standards (Photo #13). The door to each of the two rooms are two panel units from mid-nineteenth century. The casings here are simple beaded bands. Each room has three windows, each of which are different. On the front wall, the units are large six-over-six double-hung wood sash (Photo #1). On the east and west side walls, there are similar double-hung windows of a smaller size. The rear windows on the south side are

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three-lite awning-type sash (Photo #19). The rooms have wide plank wood floors, plastered walls and ceilings. There is a small closet at the top of the stairs, separating the two main rooms. The east main room is larger (12×12) than the west room (9×12).

Most of the double hung windows and the French doors contain louvered shutters.

As seen in the open interpretative view panel, the heavy timber wall to the west of the chimney, shows traditional materials and methods employed throughout the second quarter of the nineteenth century. Such braced timber wall construction techniques used in the combination with sawn joists were not uncommon (Photo #15).

In 1963, this basic form was enlarged to include another room (The Junior League Room) on the east side of the house (Photo #10). This addition is noted on the Site diagram. The room (15 X 18) is used for the seasonal and special displays presented by the historical society This addition was designed to be compatible with the original building.

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Statement of Significance

The Crane-Phillips House, a small rural cottage built c. 1870, is significant under Criterion C as a good local example of the architectural design characteristics of Andrew Jackson Downing.

This house has been the home of the Cranford Historical Society for over 65 years. For most of the past 30 years the entire first floor has been used to display many of the historical items in the society's vast collection. It is open to the public every Sunday afternoon during September through June and upon special occasions and requests. It is the focal point of local history studies for all third grade school students. Some of the permanent displays in the dinning room are related to Cranford's police and fire departments. The front parlor depicts a modest Victorian room. The Junior League Room (opened in 1963) is used for special displays as they might relate to Cranford's history or some other event in American history. This museum is supported entirely by membership and donations.

Mr. Henry Phillips purchased the property in 1867 (Note #1) from the Crane family (the founding family of Cranford) who had owned the land for over 100 years (Note #2).

Although the exact date for the construction of this house is not known, the architectural mode adopted for this dwelling was that of the Downingsque cottage. Andrew Jackson Downing's influential <u>Victorian Cottage Residences</u> (New York in 1842), prescribed an appropriate American landscape and architecture based upon picturesque and romantic principals. The Crane- Phillips House embraces these concepts. There is a prominent front veranda (Photo #1), French doors in the front parlor in lieu of windows to visually connect the interior to the exterior (Photos #1, #18). This makes a lighter room and provides for better interior cooling in the hot weather. The addition of a kitchen in the rear and the scalloped vergeboards along the edge of the gables (Photos #6, #7, #8) are also associated with this mode.

In A.J. Downing's book, Victorian Cottage Residences, there are several house designs and descriptions.

"Design 1 - (Note #3 - Page 26) A Suburban Cottage for a Small Family: We suppose this cottage to be situated in illustration the treatment of a small portion of

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ground, we shall also imagine it to be placed on a lot of ground 75 feet front by 150 feet deep. This simple cottage will be a suitable one for a small family, when the mistress wishes to have the management of the domestic affairs directly under her own personal care and supervision. Although this cottage is of very modest size, yet, to a family of small means, leading a comparative retired life, it will afford a great deal of comfort, and even a considerable degree of taste on neatness."

This describes the Crane-Phillips House.

Downing also states (page 29),

"The veranda ornamented by supports which shelters the entrance door (Photo #12), and affords an agreeable place both for walking in damp or inclement weather, and to enjoy a cool shady seat in the hotter portion of the season. The scalloped vergeboards along the edge of the gables are projected which serve to protect the exterior more completely than any other form against the effects of storms, and gives character by its boldness and deep shadows it casts upon the building"

Another Downing feature is the placement of the chimney in the center of the house (Photo #13). He believed when a chimney is built in the outer walls, it seldom continues to stay warm during the entire twenty-four hours. It's heat is displaced rapidly into the cold external air. A good draft depends somewhat on the warmth of the air in the room and the heat of the chimney itself. It is evident that chimneys in the interior of a house must draw better than in the exterior wall. This allows a great deal of heat to be retained in the body of the house.

The Crane-Phillips House is an excellent example of this type of architecture. Even though it is small, it follows the ideals and features of several of Downing's plans for small

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country or suburban cottages. This is why the Historic American Building Survey chose to recognize this house by recording it in the 1930's. (Note #4)

It is important to say that the name for this house came from the first owners, the Crane family, founders of Cranford and the Phillips family who were also well known in the community.

Henry J. Phillips purchased the house and property from Josiah Crane, Jr. in 1867 (Note#1) and lived in the house until his death in 1911 (Note#7). He was an engraver and an inventor. In 1895 he obtained a patent on a "range shield" (Patent No. 572,715 (Note#8). This device was "designed to prevent the escape of smoke and empyreumatic odors from the cooking into the room". This was a forerunner of our modern rangehood.

In 1884 Henry Phillips deeded the property to his brother Charles H. Phillips (Note#9). Charles is more well known for his patents (Note#10) on Phillips Milk of Magnesia which he marketed in 1872.

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FOOTNOTES

- #1 Union County New Jersey Deeds, Book 22 pg. 641 Josiah Crane, Jr. to Henry J. Phillips 1867
- #2 Will of John Crane 1722. Trenton, New Jersey Book A pg.283

Essex County New Jersey Deeds, Book M pg. 195 John Crane Sr. to John Crane Jr. etal 1820

Union County New Jersey Deeds, Book 3 pg. 700 Josiah Crane to Josiah Crane, Jr. 1864

Union County New Jersey Deeds, Book 3 pg. 700 Josiah Crane to Josiah Crane, Jr. 1864

- #3 Victorian Cottage Residences by Andrew Jackson Downing (1815-1852) Published 1852
- #4 Historical American Buildings Survey of New Jersey -Josiah Crane, Jr. House NJ189
- #5 Lease Union County Park Commission to the Cranford Historical Society to the year 2022
- #6 Crane family tradition states that Josiah Crane, Jr. moved his earlier "honeymoon cottage" from across the north side of the street, thus becomming the first component of the Crane-Phillips House.
- **#7** Death Certificate of Henry J. Phillips
- #8 United states Patent No. 527,715 1896
- #9 Union County New Jersey Deeds, Book 1760 pg. 304 Henry J. Phillips to Charles H. Phillips.
- #10 United States Patent Nos. 138,282 141,167 159,446 Issued in 1873 and 1874.

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Biblography

Books and Reports:

Adams, Emmor K. Early Cranford - Hand written notes by E.K. Adams in the files of the Cranford Historical Society.

Bassett, William B. Historical American Buildings Survey of New Jersey. Published by The New Jersey Historical Society 1977. Compiled and edited for HABS National Park Service Department of Interior.

- Brideman, Harriet. The Encyclopedia of Victoriana Macmillian Publishing Co. New York 1975
- Crane, Ellery Bicknell. Genealogy of the Crane Family Press of Charles Hamilton 1900
- Downing, Andrew Jackson. Victorian Cottage Residences First Published in 1842 Reprint by Dover Publishing 1980
- Downing, Andrew Jackson. The Architecture of Country Houses D. Appelton & Company 1850 Reprint by Dover Publishing 1980
- Githens, Herbert J. Historical Preservation Plan for the Crane-Phillips House. Prepared for the Cranford Historical Society.
- Hatfield, Edwin. History of Elizabeth, New Jersey Including The Early History of Union County. Published by Carlton & Lanahan New York 1868

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Section number _____ Page _____

Honeyman, A. Van Doren. History of Union County, New Jersey . 1664-1932 Lewis Listorical Publishing Company New York 1923

2

McKanney, William. Commemorative History of the Presbyterian Church in Westfield, New Jersey 1728-1928 Copyright 1929 by the Presbyterian Church of Westfield, New Jersey

Public Records:

Cranford Property Tax Records - Cranford Historical Society

Essex County, New Jersey Deeds - Newark, New Jersey

Historical American Buildings Survey of New Jersey - Cranford Historical Society.

New Jersey Census Records - Union County 1885, 1905 Westfield Public Library Westfield, New Jersey.

Union County, New Jersey Deeds - Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Union County, New Jersey Mortgages - Elizabeth, New Jersey.

United States Census Records - Union County, New Jersey -1870, 1880, 1900, 1910 - Westfield Public Library

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NJ, Union County Crane-Phillips House

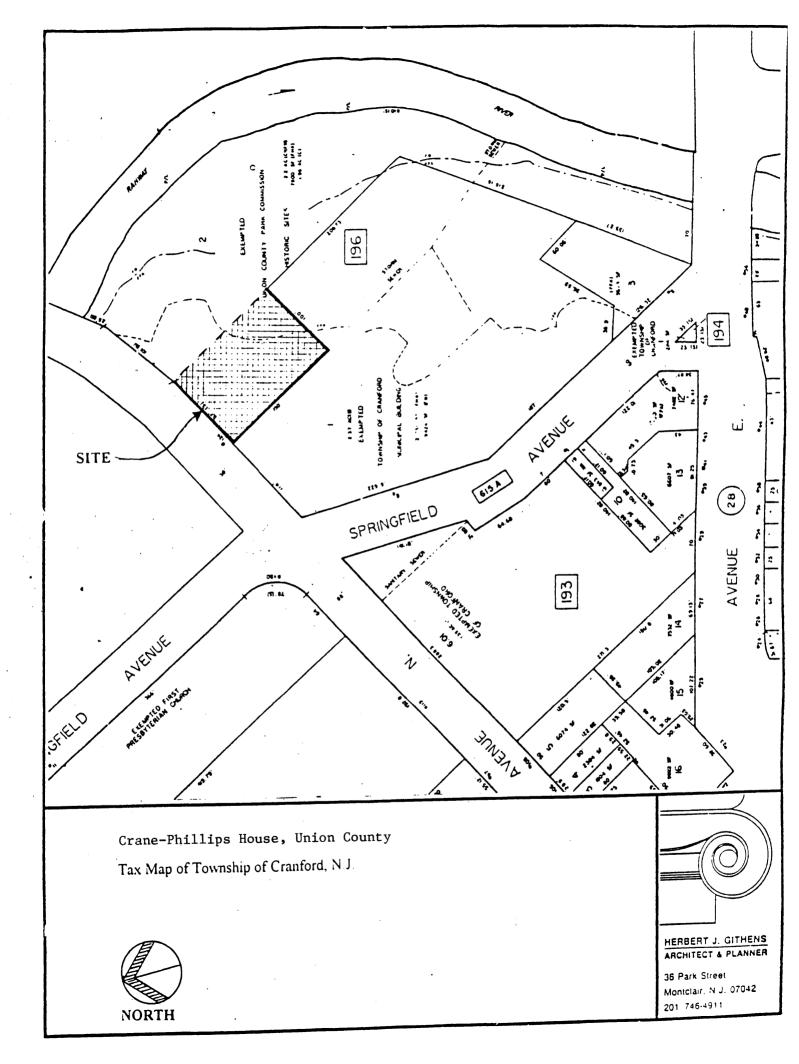
Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

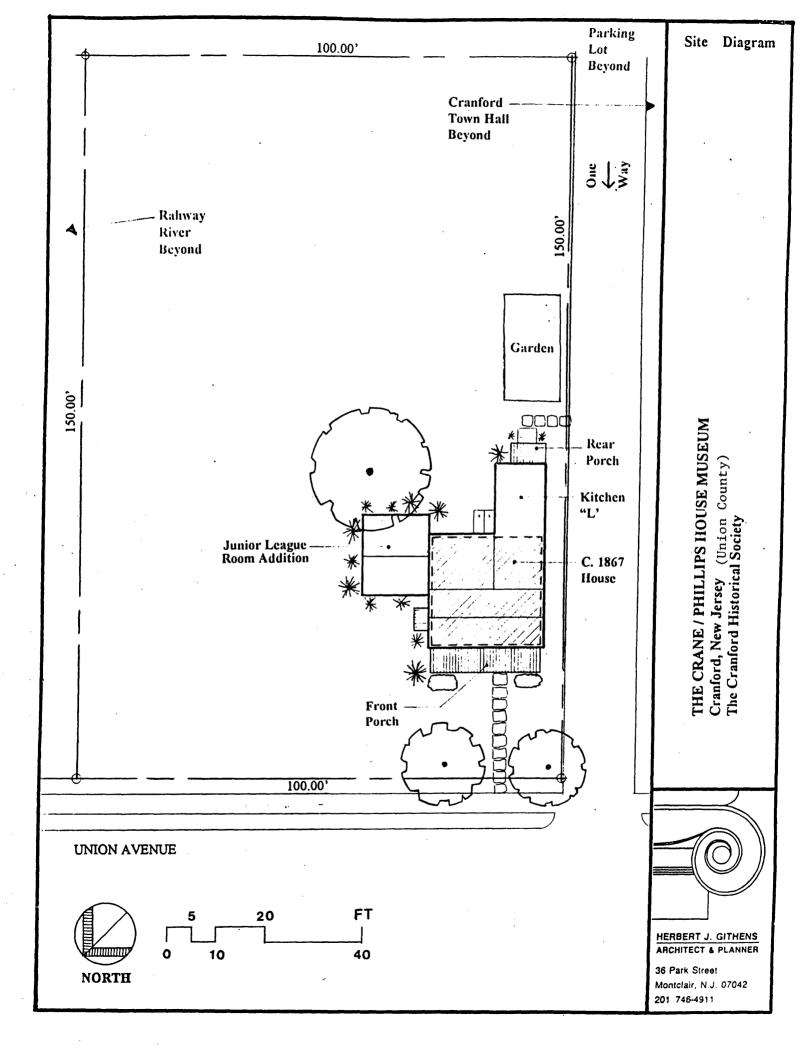
The boundry of this property is described in the Union County lease with the Cranford Historical Society as follows:

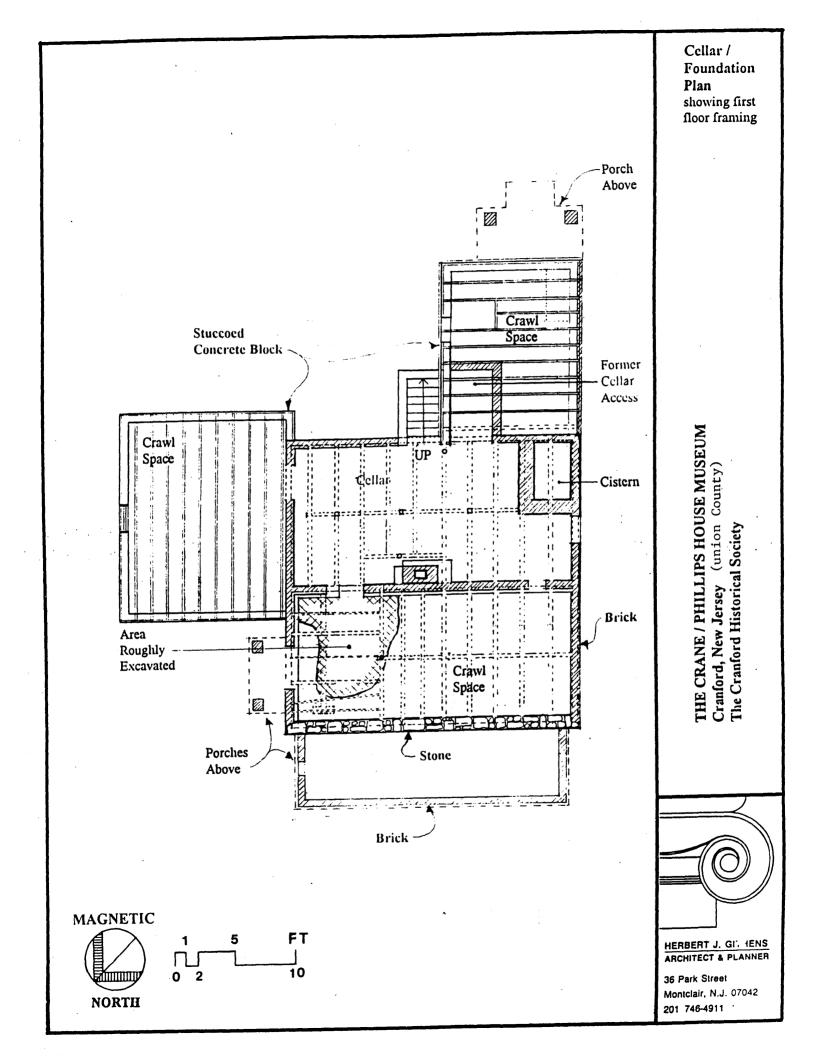
"BEGINNING at a point in the southerly side line of North Union Avenue, said point being distance 114 ft. Easterly from the intersection of said line of North Union Avenue with the easterly side line of Springfield Avenue; thence South 48 degrees 34 minutes East 150 ft. to a point; thence North 41 degrees 26 minutes East 100 ft. to a point; thence North 48 degrees 34 minutes West 150 ft. to said side line of North Union Avenue; thence South 41 degrees 26 minutes West along said side line of North Union Avenue 100 ft. to the point or place of BEGINNING."

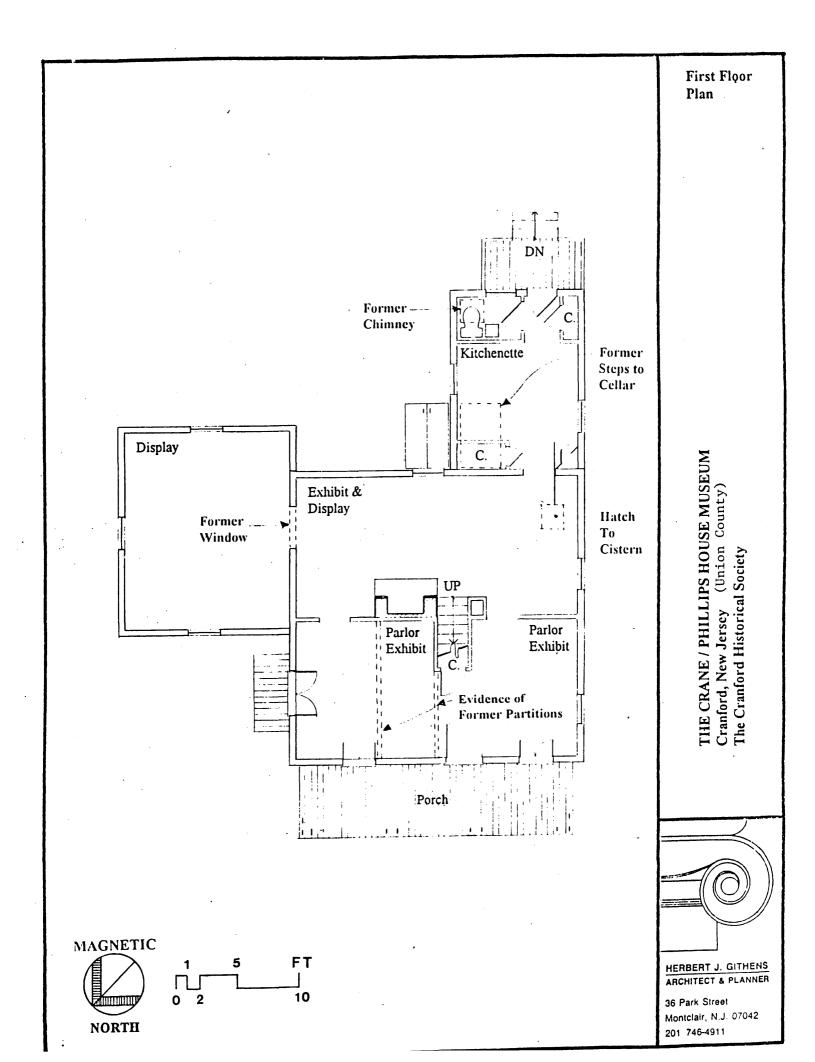
This property is listed on the Cranford Township tax records as Lot #196, parcel #2.01.

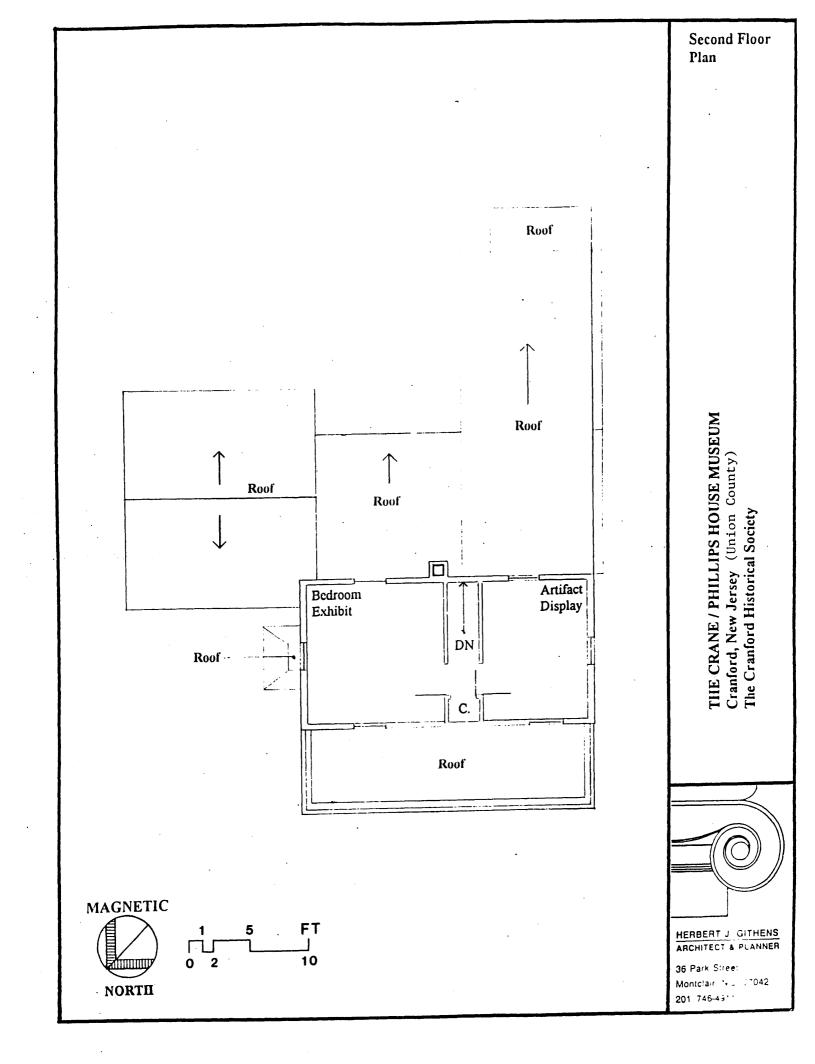
See attached Tax Map of Township of Cranford





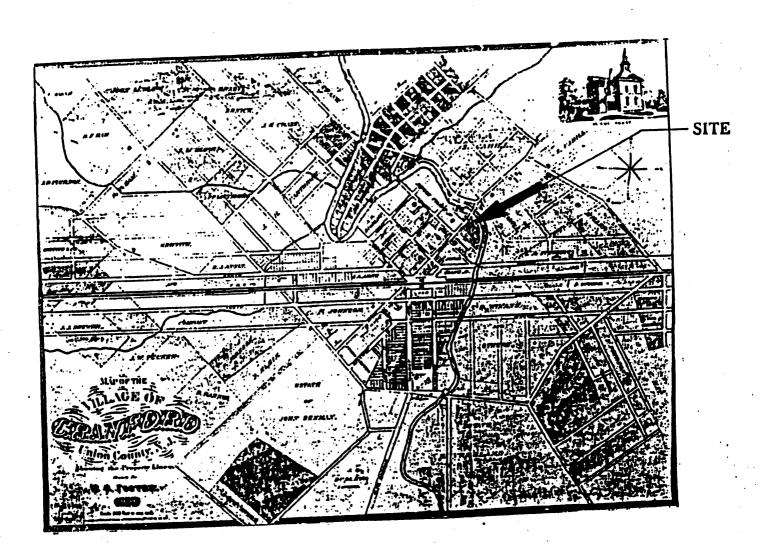






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Crane-Phillips House Map of the Village of Cranford Union County, NJ. 1870

From: 300 Days at Crane's Ford A pamphlet written for the Cranford Historical Society, 1964

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

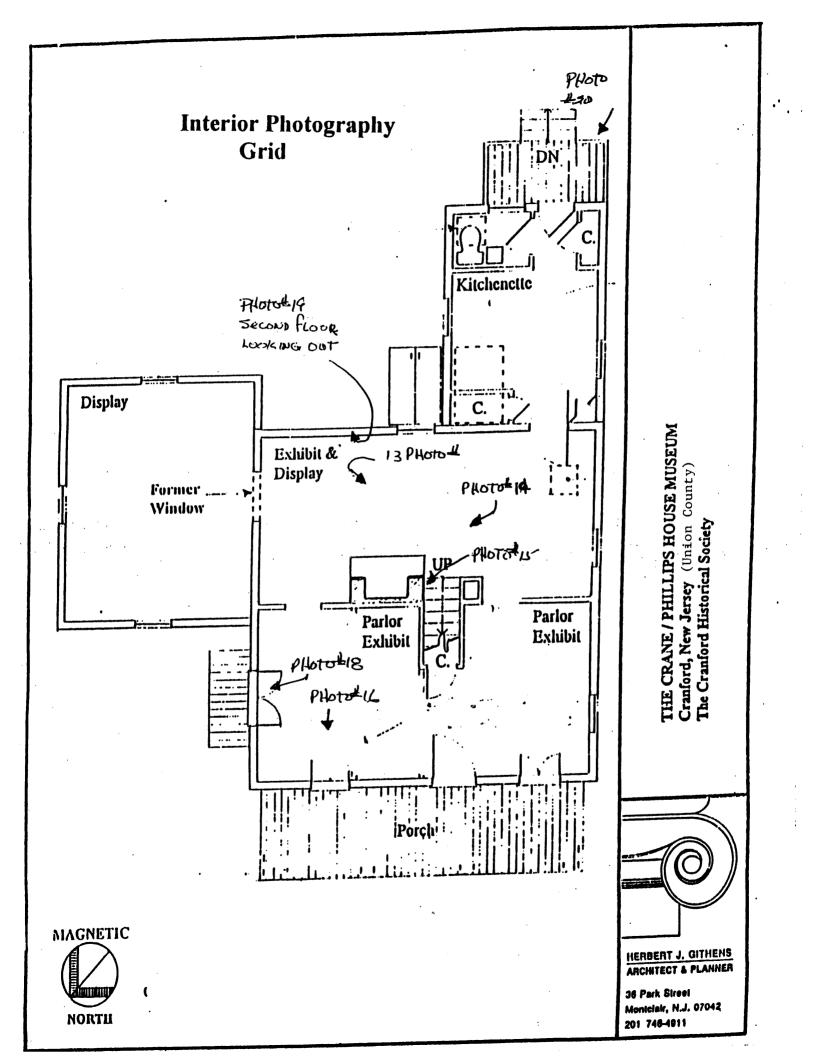
Section number _____ Page ____

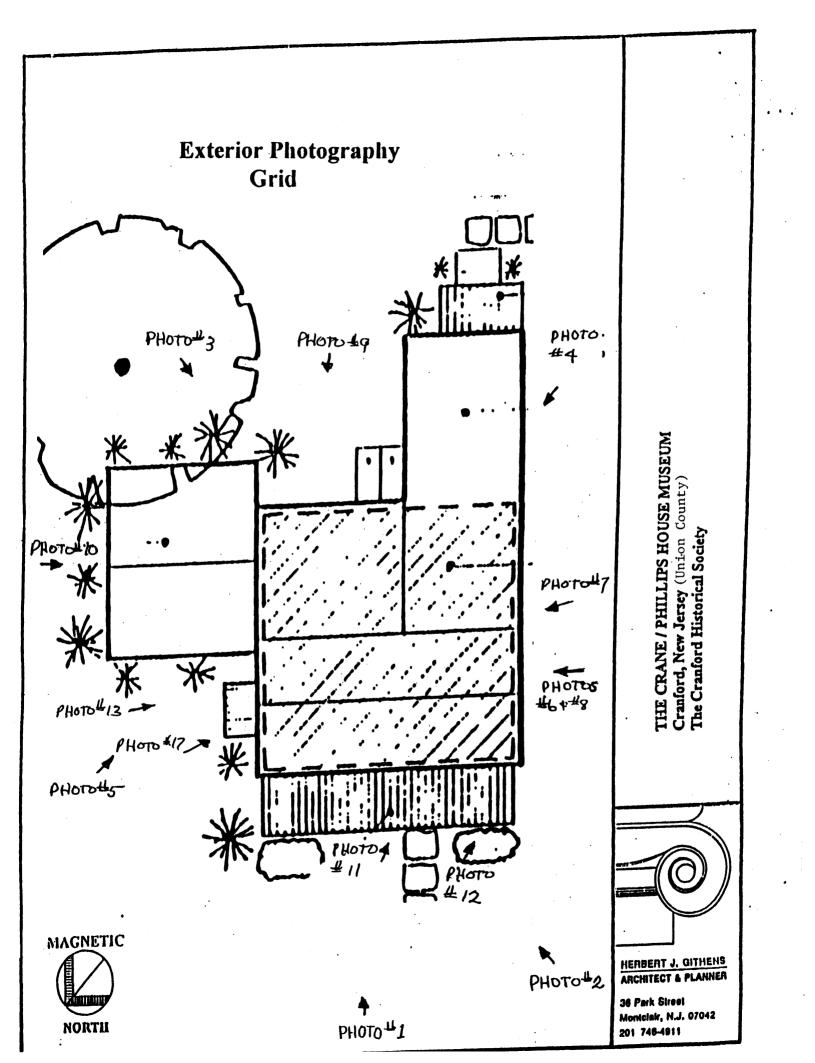
Photograph Identification

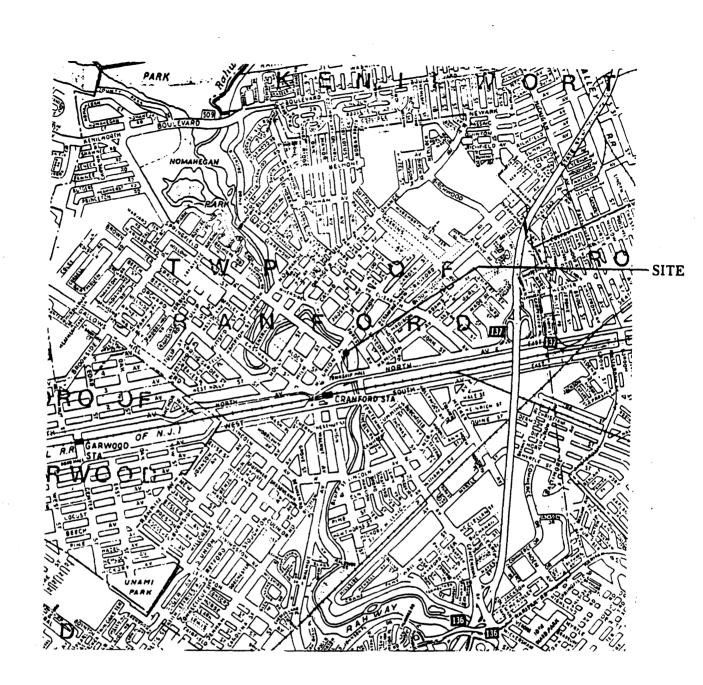
Name : Crane-Phillips House Location : 124 North Union Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey (Union County) Photographer : Donald M. Widdows Date of Photographs : November 1996 Negative Repository : Cranford Historical Society 38 Springfield Ave. Cranford, NJ 07016

Photograph :

1 House, View from North Union Avenue ... # 2 East View ... # 3 West View .. # 4 North View ... # 5 South View # 6 Front of West Wall, Second Floor Showing scalloped vergeboard and clapboards. # 7 Rear of West Wall Showing scalloped vergeboard and clapboards, # 8 Detail of upper West Wall # 9 South Side (Rear of house) Showing several sections: Window second floor Window dining room Chimney Cellar entrance # 10 East End of 1963 addition - Note Scalloped vergeboard. # 11 Main Entrance Facing North Union Avenue, # 12 Right Side Front Porch -Note French Door Porch Supports Sutters # 13 Inside Dining Room - Looking East Narrow Stairs Center-wall fireplace # 14 Inside Dining Room - Looking West Center-wall fireplace # 15 Interpretative Panel - Inner wall structure (in stairway) # 16 Inside Front Parlor - French door to front porch. # 17 East Side - French door east end of parlor Small balcony Scalloped vergeboard second floor. # 18 Inside View Photo #17 # 19 Inside View - Window in rear wall second floor. # 20 Rear entrance porch - looking North.

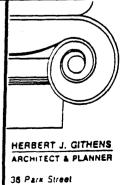






Location Map The Hagstrom Map Co

Crane-Phillips House Cranford Township Union County, NJ



36 Park Street Montciair: N.J. 07042 201 *45-4911