

NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY #  
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC NAME:	The Crawford House	COMMON NAME:	
LOCATION:	46 East Water Street	BLOCK/LOT:	664/10
			.19 acres
MUNICIPALITY:	Dover Township	COUNTY:	Ocean
OWNER/ADDRESS:	McKay, Ralph	UTM Reference:	18/568660/4422405
	14 Harpoon St., Beachwood, N.J.		08722
ORIGINAL USE:	Residence	PRESENT USE:	Law office
USCS QUAD:			

## DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: c. 1827 - 1830      Source of Date: Deed records, bk 2, p. 303  
Based on construction

Architect:

Builder:

Style: Vernacular Georgian/Federal

Number of Stories: 2

Foundation: Brick

Form/Plan Type: Rectangular

Structural System: Wood frame

Exterior Wall Fabric: Clapboard

Penetration: 5 bays wide, 9/6 DHS, plain frames, gable dormer

Entrance Location: South, centrally located, single door bordered by side-lights, recessed gable portico with arch entry supported by 4 pilasters.

Roof/Chimneys:

Pitched gable/1 exterior east facade, 1 interior

Additional Architectural Description: While the main west section of the house was built between 1827 and 1830, there have been several alterations since that time. The north section was extended in the late 1800's, making the structure a two family house. A porch extended across a seven bay wide front facade.

In 1929, the east section was remodeled cutting the roofline. A gable dormer and brick chimney were added. The front porch was replaced by a portico entryway.

A fire in 1975 gutted the interior of the building. In 1976, two builders from Beachwood were hired to restore the house.

PHOTO

MAP (Indicate North) See map 2



(2) The Crawford House  
Old Village of Toms River  
Multiple Resource Nomination  
Photographer: Charles Gaertner  
Date of photo: Summer 1978  
Negative: Ocean County Museum  
View: North

**SITING AND RELATED STRUCTURES:**

The Crawford House is 34 feet long by 31 feet wide, located on a one quarter acre lot fronting East Water Street. Related structures include a one story stucco garage built around 1929. A small walk-in doll house, circa 1906, is located at the northwest section of the main house.

**SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:** Open Space [ ] Woodland [ ] Scattered Buildings [ ]  
Suburban [ ] Urban [ ] Residential [X] Agricultural [ ] Industrial [ ]  
Downtown Commercial [ ] Highway Commercial [ ] Other [X] Professional offices

The Horner, Crawford, and Giberson houses are closely linked to one another on their small acreage fronting East Water Street. This density was characteristic of homes along the north side of East Water Street from Horner to Hooper Avenue. This area, known as Captains Row, had seven sea captains' houses. Today only the three mentioned above remain as an urban renewal project in the late 1960's destroyed the others.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

The Crawford House gains its significance from its historical association as the residence of two local mariners, Richard Crawford and Barzillar Grover. Both men chose to reside close to the source of their livelihoods along the Toms River. By the 1830's, the village of Toms River was a flourishing seafaring community. The village economy centered around the shipping industry where many sloops and schooners were built to export the regions pinewood and charcoal to the New York market.

The Crawford House, similar in design and scale to the Horner House, reflects the simple wood frame architecture common along Captains Row in the 1830's. While the eastern section of the house was remodeled in 1929, the present owner has carefully restored the building's interior using original or similar materials such as South Jersey pine for floor planks and beams. All new material, including the cedar clapboard, was purchased and cut from the Double Trouble Sawmill, (National Register site), where the original materials were made. The house has been successfully adapted into a law office.

**PHYSICAL CONDITION:** Excellent [X] Good [ ] Fair [ ] Poor [ ]  
**REGISTER ELIGIBILITY:** Yes [X] Possible [ ] No [ ] As part of district [ ]  
**THREATS TO STRUCTURE:** Roads [X] Development [ ] Zoning [ ] Deterioration [ ]  
No Threat [ ] Other [ ]  
**COMMENTS:**

Same as Horner House # 1

**REFERENCES:**

Elverson, Lewis H. (Former owner) to K. McGorty, May 19, 1978.  
Gordon, Thomas F. Gazetteer of the State of New Jersey. Louisiana: Polyanthos, Inc. 1973  
McKay, Ralph and Amelia (Current owners) interviewed by K. McGorty, 5/19/78.  
Monmouth County Courthouse. Deed books. Freehold, N.J.  
New Jersey Courier. (Toms River), August 9, 1877.  
U.S. Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. Fifth and Seventh Census of the United States, 1830, 1850 population

**RECORDED BY:** Kevin McGorty  
**ORGANIZATION:** Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission  
**DATE:** Spring 1978