Form 10-300 (Dec. 1968)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Rhode	Island
STAIL:	

COUNTY:

Providence

FOR NPS USE ONLY

	(Type all entrie	s – complete applic	cable section	ns)	71.2.44.	005 2/01	7/	
	NAME				1///			
	COMMON: The Joy Home	estead						
	AND/OR HISTORIC:		<b></b>				_	
	Joy (Job) Ho	ouse						
2.	LOCATION							
	156, Scituat	te Avenue	•					
	CITY OR TOWN:							
	Cranston		<b></b>					
	Rhode Island	3. 02910	CODE	COUNTY: Provid	ence	00		
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	District Building	, <sub></sub> , <sub></sub>	ublic Acquisit		Occupied	Yes:		
	Site Structure	Private 🛣	In Process Being Consi	dered $\Box$	Unoccupied D Preservation work	Restricted Unrestricted		
	Object 📋	Both	Deling Colls		·	No:		
	PRESENT USE (Check One or I	More as Appropriate)		(2) (4)		<u> </u>		
	Agricultural Govern				nsportation	Comments		
	Commercial Industri		te Residence	Y - 1	<b>ドノ</b> \			
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	Entertainment Museum	Scient	tific	TANO.	41 -			
	OWNER OF PROPERTY			0101011 51001744	38-7-			
		storical Societ	TA C	) Oraclinia	(25)			
	STREET AND NUMBER:			The state of the s	6			
	1351, Cranst	on Street		1011		_		
	CITY OR TOWN:		_	STATE:	T 1	CODE		2   5
8*****	Cranston LOCATION OF LEGAL DESC	-DIRWAN	<u> </u>	Rnod	e Island, 029	<u> </u>	8	A - IT
	COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF							
	City Hall		• 			<u> </u>		
	STREET AND NUMBER:							
	869, Park AT	renue		STATE		CODE	<del>                                      </del>	_
	Cranston				e Island, 029	<del></del>	1	COUNT
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6.	REPRESENTATION IN EXIS							•
	TITLE OF SURVEY:							
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	DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RI	ECORDS:			- Coomy		1/2	: !
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DESCRIPTION										
CONDITION		_		(Chec	ck One)					
	Excellent 🗌	Good	Fair .	Deterior	ated 🗌	Ruins 🗌	Unexposed			
INTEGRITY		(Che	ck One)			(Che	ock One)			
INTEGRITY	Altered		Unaltered 5	ē	Μc	oved 🗆	Original Site 🙀			

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The original part of this house, a gambrel-roofed, storey-and-a-half structure built on a typical centre-chimney and five-room plan, was standing by 1778; perhaps as early as 1764. A more precise date has not so far been ascertained. It is timber-framed and clapboarded and has an especially deep stone-walled basement; of particular interest there is the plainly visible wooden cradle on which the great brick chimney rests. A later one-storey ell with a gable roof is attached to the southern part of the main house.

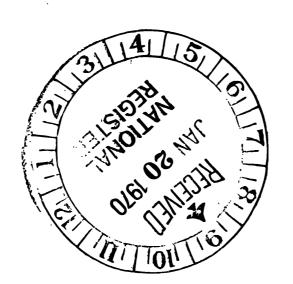
That in the keeping-room has a brick oven with ash-pit below; the hearth is of stone and its mantel very plain. In the parlour there is a more pretentious dentil-trimmed mantel (each dentil attached with a tiny wooden peg). The parlour has also a cupboard for china and ornaments. Corner posts jut out in the lateral rooms. All walls are plastered (over laths, where repairs have exposed them, of early, split type).

The ell at the south end of the house was not coincident with the original, gambrel-roofed portion. There is no "toother" in the main foundation—that is, no stone jutting out to help support the ell portion—indicating that that portion had not been planned in the beginning.

Upstairs, there is a master chamber at each end of the house. That at the north has a fireplace and a closet, or clothes-cupboard-the latter a most unusual feature in an early house. Two narrow chambers at the back (west) of the house open from the master chambers, and from the south chamber there is access to the attic of the ell.

The exterior of the house is now painted an XVIII Century shade of red, a colour choice dictated by evidence of a similar colour found on an outside board when removing some moulding under the eaves during repair work.

The last member of the Joy family died in 1884; there were three subsequent owners until the house was acquired by the Cranston Historical Society in 1959. Since then its has had use, maintenance and repair, for--luckily--it was never so changed as to require extensive restoration and replacement of its simple fabric.



Adapted from a description by Gladys W. Brayton, Curator, Cranston, Historical Society.

Pre-Columbian	$\Box$	16th Centur	у 🗀	18th Centur	у 🗀 🕻 🦂	20th Century 🔲
		17th Centur		19th Centur	y 🗆	o
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Ap	plicable	and Known) C.	1764-	1778		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE	(Chec	k One or More as	Appropria	tė)		
Abor iginal		Education		Political .		Urban Planning 🔲
Prehistoric		Engineering		Religion/Phi-		Other (Specify)
Historic		Industry		losophy		House-museum:
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Commerce		Architecture		Social/Human-	•	
Communications		Literature		itarian		
Conservation		Military		Theater		
		Music		Transportation		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

The importance of this house lies largely in the fact that it has been and is being painstakingly interpreted, properly, by its custodians, who have honestly and carefully restored it, treating it as one of the typical modest houses that made up the bulk of our country (and town) domestic architecture in the XVIII Century.

Since its acquisition by the Cranston Historical Society in 1959, The Joy Homestead has been constantly used and made interesting to many people (including also the young) in that city. The Historical Society has brought a variety of activities and educational programs on local life and history into the house--using it as a demonstration example. These programs have aided in the continuing work of preservation, restoration and furnishing. The house is not being kept "under glass;" it has been preserved as a little-changed survivor -- of which there are not many others locally -- of Cranston's importantly formative years. As such, it is illustrative of the ambience and activities of a moderately prosperous artisan and farming household, there, in the XVIII Century.

The house has also played a rôle in local history, due to its long occupancy by the Joy family and its central location in an area of Cranston developed by that family. Job Joy, the builder, was a shoemaker (a more highly esteemed trade, by rarity of practicioners, in the XVIII Century than now); so were his two sons who inherited the property. Later members of the family dammed the river and built a mill. Rentals and income from water-rights substantially increased the value of the property, and the area eventually became important enough to be called Joytown, a small-industry section of Cranston. This area is now closely built up; but its simple, locally important and historic nucleus remains--fortunately in good hands.

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