

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Rhode Island	
COUNTY: Providence	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70,12.44.0019	12/18/70

**1. NAME**

COMMON: Arnold (Israel) House

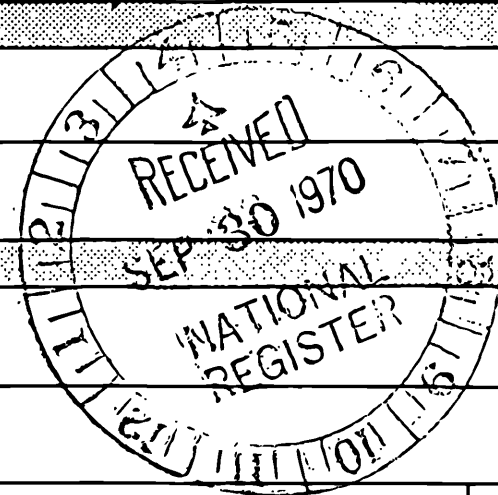
AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Great Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Lincoln

STATE: Rhode Island, 02865      CODE: 44      COUNTY: Providence      CODE: 007



**3. CLASSIFICATION**

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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNERS NAME:  
John Kiers

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Great Road

CITY OR TOWN: Lincoln      STATE: Rhode Island, 02865      CODE: 44

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Town Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:  
100, Old River Road

CITY OR TOWN: Lincoln      STATE: Rhode Island, 02865      CODE: 44

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 7.9 acres

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1961      Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1st Street and Independence Avenue, S. E.,

CITY OR TOWN: Washington      STATE: District of Columbia      CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Rhode Island  
COUNTY: Providence  
ENTRY NUMBER: 70,12.44.0019  
DATE: 12/18/70

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

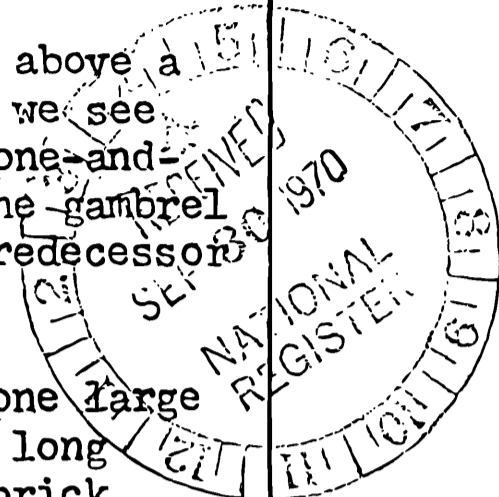
This house is of framed timber and clapboard construction above a stone basement and has brick chimneys (now plastered over). As we see it to-day, it is a two-and-one-half storey gabled house with a one-and-one-half storey gambrel-roofed ell attached at its west end. The gambrel section is in fact the original Olney-Arnold dwelling and the predecessor of to-day's main house.

This older section was built around 1720 and consists of one large keeping-room on the ground floor with a door and window on each long side and a very large brick chimney at the gable end serving a brick and stone hearth and oven. The gambrel is a rather high-pitched one, allowing for generous attic head-room and presumably for sleeping accommodations above the one-room ground floor. This area, which is reached by a constricted stairway (so constricted that a portion of one beam was neatly planed away to give an inch or two of wider passage) in the ell's north-west corner, is undivided and is lighted by two small windows on either side of the massive chimney. (A later dormer was cut in the roof on the north, is now boarded up and will be removed.)

The large, wide base of the chimney, which internally provides for a sizeable cooking hearth and beehive oven, is left exposed on the exterior wall (though it does not protrude) to attic-floor level; from there up the clapboarding runs across its stack. The chimney has no pilaster or moulding treatment at its top and is constructed of red brick stretchers alternating with black headers--a combination unusual in Rhode Island at this time. The ell's roof has a wide overhang at the eaves, beneath which is run a simple ovolo moulding. This moulding breaks out over the somewhat projecting nine-over-nine sash windows and is the structure's only external adornment except for two short sections of moulding used to cap the small gable windows.

Internally, the keeping-room is also extremely simple. The corner-posts and ceiling beams were not exposed or protruding but were concealed by plastering (now removed but expected to be replaced). On three sides of the room the walls are plastered down to chair-rail height, below which is vertical boarding. On two sides of the fireplace there is vertical boarding (hinged and concealing storage places) to about mantel-shelf height, and plastering is brought down to this point across that end of the room--except where interrupted at the north-west corner by a door to the attic stair. The mantel itself is very plain, having only a simple cyma recta-cyma reversa moulding across its top to form a shallow shelf. The beehive oven is not, as in earlier examples, at the rear of the hearth but in a splayed left-hand jamb. The trim and sheathing in this room were originally painted a dark red obtained by mixing earth colours with soot.

(See Continuation Sheet)



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Rhode Island	
COUNTY Providence	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 170.12.44.0019	DATE 12/18/70

(Number all entries)

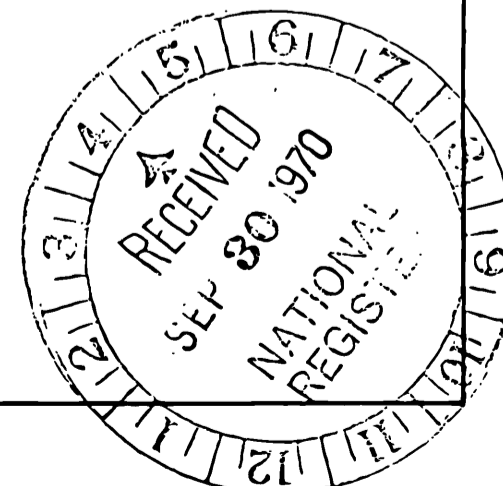
7. Description

In 1760, the larger part of the house was added, demoting the old keeping-room structure to an ell used as a summer kitchen. This newer building is a conventional clapboarded and gabled farmhouse of central-chimney plan, five bays across its (south) front, three at the east end, four across the back; there is an attic window in each gable. Its only outside adornments are the eaves cornice (brought forward over the second-floor windows), the short sections of moulding capping other windows and the projecting cornice capping the transomed door.

Its floor plan is the usual one dictated by a centre chimney: a front stair-hall, two flanking rooms and one rear one served by the chimney, two small rooms and a secondary stair in the rear corners. The main ground-floor rooms were used as follows: that to the right (east) of the entrance and stair-hall was a living-room, and the large rear room (in most other such houses the kitchen) was a dining-room; because of abutting the ell, the room to the left (west) of the hall here was the kitchen. There is only the very simplest of wood trim in this kitchen, where the large, wide hearth is still evident although partially filled in. However, the living- and dining-rooms have projecting cornices over the windows and panelling above the fireplaces. The dining-room has an open cupboard inset between narrow vertical panels over the fireplace. Upstairs, the principal (or east) bedroom also has a panelled fireplace surround and overmantel. Two doors opening from the west bedroom on this floor show perfectly preserved examples of painted graining which presumably existed on other trim, too, though now painted over.

The main staircase rises from first to second floor in three right-angled runs with small platform landings intervening. It has a turned, mushroom-capped newel, slender turned balusters in the railing and turned acorn pendants on the angle-posts. The front door, panelled on the outside, is of flat batten construction inside. It has its original hardware, which in fact still exists all through the house, including large strap hinges on the ell's outside doors.

The house has been vacant for some years, has suffered to a considerable degree from the weather and to a moderate degree from vandals. This damage needs prompt repair--lest another winter make it irreparable, and the house is in need of re-clapboarding. It is hoped that in 1970-1971 steps can be taken to assure preservation of this house, otherwise so remarkably intact in all essentials of structure, form, fabric and trim.



**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/>	16th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	18th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20th Century <input type="checkbox"/>
15th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	17th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	19th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) C. 1720, 1760

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Local History</u>
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Art <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>		_____
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		_____

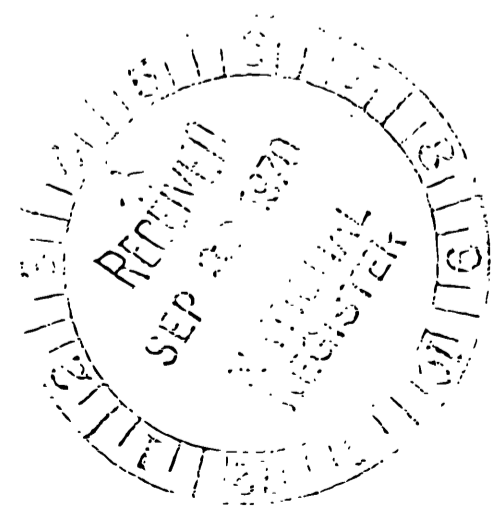
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Built by an Olney, the house passed by marriage into the Arnold family, and four successive Israel Arnolds occupied it until recent years. It is one of a cluster of Arnold houses surviving in the town of Lincoln, including the much-published Eleazer Arnold house of 1687 nearby. The Israel Arnold house itself was measured, drawn and photographed for the Historic American Buildings Survey in 1961.

It is of interest as an intact example of the XVIII Century farmhouse--the home of a prospering rural family--and has particular additional interest because of the early self-contained ell portion with its great exposed chimney, a "single room house." It has all its old trim, woodwork and hardware, rare examples of graining and evidences of original paint colours. It does not need "restoration" so much as simple--but urgent--repair, and this is promised it by a prospective purchaser, already on hand.

It is on a hillside site above the Great Road, still surrounded by the grassy lands and the woods of its earliest days. The house and its acreage form both a long-standing landmark and an environmental anchor in the old and small community of Lincoln. Any form of modern development replacing the Arnold house and its land would be the beginning of disintegration of the admirably preserved character of the area. This house can come back to life under family occupancy and present a fine picture of a well-ordered dwelling and comfortable rural life in early Rhode Island. Its new owner would probably open it to the public on occasion.



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

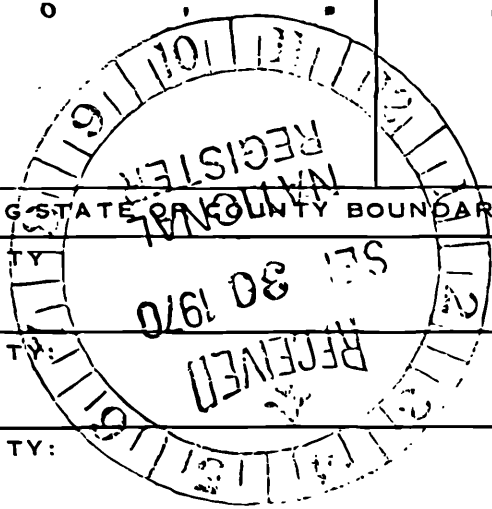
Downing, Antoinette F.: Early Homes of Rhode Island, (Richmond, Va., 1937), pp. 85-88, 138, 169.  
 Gardner, George W.: Some Early "Single Room Houses" of Lincoln, Rhode Island (in Pencil Points, Vol. , No. , pp. 93-108. February, 1935).

**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 ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	41° 54' 17" N	71° 25' 40" W		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	41° 54' 17" N	71° 25' 35" W		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	41° 54' 13" N	71° 25' 35" W		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	41° 54' 13" N	71° 25' 40" W		° ' "	° ' "	

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



19/0992730/46418-10  
 OTM REF  
 12-11-75 Wm  
 SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Richard B. Harrington, Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission      DATE: September 3, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 State House, 90, Smith Street

CITY OR TOWN: Providence      STATE: Rhode Island, 02903      CODE: 44

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

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: Frederick A. Williams

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

Ernest A. Connally  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

DEC 18 1970

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

William J. Schwartz  
 Keeper of The National Register

NOV 27 1970  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE RHODE ISLAND

Date Entered            **DEC 28 1978**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Potter-Remington House	Cranston vicinity Providence County
Arnold Mills Historic District	Cumberland Hill vicinity Providence County

Also Notified

Honorable John H. Chafee  
Honorable Claiborne Pell  
Honorable Edward P. Beard  
Honorable Fernand J. St. Germain

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Mr. Frederick C. Williamson  
Director, Rhode Island Department  
of Community Affairs  
150 Washington Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

NR      Byers/bjr      1/22/79

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.