

PH 0508195

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE

RECEIVED **OCT 31 1977**

DATE ENTERED **MAR 21 1978**

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Captain Alexander A. Arnold Farm

AND/OR COMMON

Eastside

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 2 N of Galesville to U.S. 53

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Galesville

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third

STATE

Wisconsin

CODE

55

COUNTY

Trempealeau

CODE

121

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Dan Smith

See continuation sheet

STREET & NUMBER

936 Larabee

CITY, TOWN

Port Washington

VICINITY OF

STATE

Wisconsin 53074

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Trempealeau County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Whitehall

STATE

Wisconsin 54773

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

CITY, TOWN

Madison

STATE

Wisconsin 53706

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Arnold Farmstead is located on a ^{6.73}small hill dotted with pine trees in gently rolling countryside. The nomination consists of ~~5~~ acres and includes the farmhouse, a large barn situated about 300 feet east of the house, a corncrib near the northwest corner of the house and an icehouse about 50 feet to the northeast. Several other small frame buildings, including a hoghouse, have been destroyed. In front of the house was a small garden encircled by a path which led to the road 400 feet south of the house; some of the original shrubs remain but the path is overgrown. The old drive from the public road passes in front of the house, connects with the farmyard and then rejoins the public road. Two acres of land to the west of the house were once a park area. Many of its pine trees, which were planted in 1874 when the house was built, remain. The farm in Arnold's time contained 400 acres. Since the property is located just outside the city limits of Galesville some of the farmland has given way to suburban development. Nomination of the five acres will sufficiently preserve the rural surroundings of the farm buildings without impeding progress.

House: The house is a two-story, red brick structure. Its main feature is a three-story square entrance tower on the south side crowned by a bell-cast mansard roof. A stone plaque on the tower bears the inscription "A.A. Arnold, 1874." Stone arches decorate the second and third story windows. The main mass is two-stories high, covered by a shallowly-sloped hip roof. To the east projects a two-story kitchen wing, which is lower in level than the main house. A one-story carriage shed was added to the west side of the kitchen wing in the last 19th century. It is in poor condition.

Originally many porches decorated the house. Verandas flanked the tower on the main facade. Physical evidence suggests that the veranda extended along the west side of the house, too. The front facade of the kitchen wing also had a porch. The old verandas have been replaced by newer porches on the southwest corner and on the kitchen wing.

The main entrance to the house is on the west side of the tower, which contains two doors leading into double parlors on the ground floor and a spiral staircase to the second floor. The unusually compact ground plan is the same on both floors with two large rooms side by side and two small rooms behind them. There never seems to have been any hallways in the house.

The kitchen wing has a small stairway leading to the second floor servant's quarters, which originally did not connect with the house. In recent years these rooms have been occupied by farm help.

The house is in fair condition. The roof and wooden trim are deteriorating. Interior changes were made when plumbing was introduced and when the house was changed from single family to two-family, including partitioning a back hall, closing a back stairway and blocking one doorway. No change was made in the structure or the size of the rooms. Therefore, restoration is easily possible.

Barn: The barn is built into a slope so that the animal stalls on the lower level are accessible from the east pasture. The upper level appears to have been originally

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✓ Mrs. Robert McGushin

124 San Carlos Way

Navato

California 94947

✓ Michael and Louise Martin

Route 2

Galesville

Wisconsin 54630

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divided into a tall center aisle with flanking aisles and galleries. The galleries have been removed. The barn is of frame construction with mortise-and-tenon joints, an unusual feature in the barns of western Wisconsin. A large cupola which once crowned the structure is now gone. The barn has a mansard roof with small dormers, board-and-batten siding and a roughly-cut stone foundation. The foundation has been replaced by concrete block in several areas and is caving away in others. A carriage house was added to the north side of the barn ca. 1900 and a garage was added on the south ca. 1940.

Corncrib: The corncrib is V-shaped on a raised platform and is covered with a gable roof having cantilevered edges. The cantilevered roof on each side of the crib is deep enough to cover a wagon. Construction date of this structure is uncertain, but probably pre-1900.

Icehouse: This building is at least two, and perhaps three, buildings of very close construction dates. The icehouse proper only occupies the north-east corner of the total building. It is built of stone which was later encased in a brick veneer. The other portions of the building are not interconnected, each room having its own exterior door, although at one time at least two of them were connected by doors. These additional rooms are conjectured as having been a work room and a laundryroom. The brick is very soft and does not appear to have been kiln fired. An early engraving of the house indicates two small buildings approximately at the present location of the icehouse. The present building could have been created by making these two buildings opposite corners of a larger structure and enclosing between them.

Other Buildings: Several other frame buildings are reported to have existed. A stable-type building is shown to the northwest of the barn in the early view from the Wisconsin Historical Atlas. This is approximately the present location of the corncrib. A modern milkhouse and silo stand about 250 feet south of the barn.

11.16.

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Arnold, Captain Alexander A., Farm
Galesville vicinity, Trempealeau County, Wisconsin

Additional photo submitted to show details of farm buildings and their relationships as pictured in a lithograph of c. 1877. View is from south.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Association with Locally-Significant Historic Personage
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1874¹ BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Alexander Ahab Arnold farmstead is significant both architecturally and historically.

Architecture: The house is a good example of late Italianate architecture which displays methods of construction and materials used at the time it was built in 1874. Family tradition maintains that Arnold designed the house himself. Family tradition also states that Arnold designed the barn to resemble barns in his childhood home of Dutchess County, New York. Whether or not this is true, the mansard-roofed barn is unusual in Wisconsin and unique in Trempealeau County.² According to an 1892 biographical dictionary:

This location is one of the most beautiful in the State of Wisconsin, rendered more so by the labor and industry of many years. Captain Arnold's fine brick residence is situated upon an elevated and commanding site, surrounded by shade and ornamental trees, and the view from his residence and adjacent elevations are grand and beautiful. His farm now contains about 400 acres of excellent land, where he has for many years been largely and successfully engaged in breeding short-horned cattle and Berkshire swine.³

The Galesville Republican called the Arnold house "one of the finest farm homes in the state."⁴

History: Captain Alexander Ahab Arnold (1833-1915) was a man who contributed much to the agricultural, educational, cultural and political history of Trempealeau County and Wisconsin. According to the Galesville Republican, "a biography of Captain Arnold would be a history of Galesville...(he was) a factor in shaping its affairs from that time (1857 when he arrived; the community began in 1854) down until his death."⁵ Some of his activities and accomplishments are as follows:

1. Born and raised in Dutchess County, New York, he had academic and professional training above average, came to Trempealeau County as a lawyer, having attended Ohio Law School and having been admitted to the bar in New York State.
2. He was an accomplished stockman with knowledge of stock breeding. He brought superior bulls, boars and rams to improve his own herds and contributed to better livestock throughout the community. He was the first to introduce pure blooded livestock into Trempealeau County.
3. He introduced the use of farm machinery in the early days when there was a dearth of man power. A McCormick reaper and McCormick combine, as well as many other innovative

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 6.73 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 632890 4883280
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

That part of the SW1/4 of the NE1/4 of Section 28, Township 19 North, Range 8 West, consisting of 6.73 acres, and described more fully as follows: Commencing at the Southeast corner of said SW1/4 of the NE1/4, 28-19-8; thence North 89° 20' West 552.0 feet along the centerline of the town road to a nail in the pavement, the point of beginning of this description; thence continuing North 89° 20' West 797.3 feet along said town road centerline to a nail in the pavement: thence North 24° 45'

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mrs. William F. Lee

ORGANIZATION

DATE

12/9/76

TELEPHONE

608/582-2849

STREET & NUMBER

Route 2

CITY OR TOWN

Cassville

STATE

Wisconsin 54630

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer Signature *Richard K. Kerney*

DATE

10/24/77

TITLE Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

William H. Cole
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

3-21-78

DATE

3-10-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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machines, were purchased which were rented to his neighbors but always maintained by Mr. Arnold personally.

4. He disseminated agricultural knowledge, by speaking at meetings of Grange chapters and Agricultural Institutes. He wrote agricultural essays for the county newspapers on such subjects as "How I Raise Hogs," "How I Raise Cattle," "How I Raise Corn," etc.
5. He exerted leadership because of his personality, character and ability to communicate. He had the ability to get along in two worlds, one the county elite and the other less fortunate, less influential and poorer.
6. He organized a company of volunteers in 1862 for participation in the Civil War. He recruited and drilled these men and served as Captain for three years.
7. He was a leader in establishing the Trempealeau County Agricultural Society, was Vice President in 1859. He contributed the land for the County Fair which was sponsored by the Society. He also supervised the construction of the Fair buildings, served as superintendent and even contributed oratory to its programs. He also supervised the State Agricultural Fair in Madison, Wis. before he was 40. In the mid-1880's he was president of the Wisconsin Agricultural Society. His portrait hangs in Agriculture Hall at the University of Wisconsin among the pioneers of Wisconsin agriculture.
8. A few of many public offices held by Captain Arnold are as follows: He served as county surveyor and built many early roads and bridges; he acted as district attorney in 1858; he was Superintendent of Trempealeau County schools and a member of the County Board (1867-8); he was Justice of the Peace and assessor in the early 1870's; he was a member of the State Assembly (1871) and State Senate (1878-79). He was Speaker of the Assembly in 1880; he helped in the affairs of Galesville University by serving as the president and a member of the Board of Trustees and Vice President of the faculty, and he was a member and elder of the First Presbyterian Church.
9. While a member of the legislature, he obtained the charter for the Galesville and Mississippi River Railroad and was president of the company during construction.

¹Date inscribed in plaque on tower.

²Results of windshield survey in Trempealeau County conducted in the summer of 1977.

³Biographical Dictionary of La Crosse, Trempealeau, and Buffalo Counties, Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1892.

⁴"Captain Alexander A. Arnold Called by Death," Galesville Republican, March 4, 1915.

⁵Ibid.

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Bibliography

1. Arnold, Alexander A., diary and papers in the collections of La Crosse Area Research Center, State Historical Society of Wisconsin.
2. Biographical Dictionary of La Crosse, Trempealeau, and Buffalo Counties, Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1892, pp. 641-643.
3. "Captain Alexander A. Arnold called by Death," Galesville Republican, March 4, 1915.
4. Curti, Merle, The Making of an American Community.
5. Curtis-Wedge, Franklin, Comp., and Pierce, Eben Douglas, ed., History of Trempealeau County, Wisconsin, H.C. Cooper, Jr. and Co., 1917, pp. 290-292.
6. Gregory, John, A New and Vastly Improved Edition of the Industrial Resources of Wisconsin, Milwaukee: See-Bote Job Print, 1870, pp. 294-295.
7. Prescott, Gerald, "Gentlemen Farmers of the Gilded Age," Wisconsin Magazine of History, LV (Spring, 1972), pp. 197-212.

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East 35.0 feet to a highway right-of-way post; thence North 10° 00' East 254.6 feet along the east right-of-way line of U.S.H. 53 to a highway right-of-way post; thence North 04° 31' West 104.7 feet to an iron pipe; thence South 89° 31' East 718.0 feet along the fence to a steel post; thence South 44° 31' 31.4 feet to a steel post; thence South 01° 02' East 367.8 feet to the point of beginning.

All bearings are referenced to the true bearing of North 05° 48' East of the centerline of pavement of U.S.H. 53 as determined by the Wisconsin Division of Highways.

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Dr. Les Crocker, Professor

Arts Department, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

12/9/76

La Crosse,

Wisconsin 54601

Katherine E. Hundt, Architectural Historian

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

3/22/77

816 State Street

608/262-2970

Madison,

Wisconsin 53706