**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. **NAME**
   - **COMMON:** Arnold (Israel) House
   - AND/OR **HISTORIC:**

2. **LOCATION**
   - **STREET AND NUMBER:** Great Road
   - **CITY OR TOWN:** Lincoln
   - **STATE & CODE:** Rhode Island, 02865

3. **CLASSIFICATION**
   - **CATEGORY (Check One):**
     - District [ ] Building [X] Site [ ] Structure [ ]
     - Object [ ]
   - **OWNERSHIP:**
     - Public [ ] Private [X] Both [ ]
   - **STATUS:**
     - Public Acquisition: In Process [ ]
     - Private Acquisition: Being Considered [ ]
   - **ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC:**
     - Occupied Restricted [ ]
     - Unoccupied Unrestricted [X]
     - Preservation work in progress [ ]

4. **OWNER OF PROPERTY**
   - **OWNERS NAME:** John Riers
   - **STREET AND NUMBER:** Great Road
   - **STATE & CODE:** Rhode Island, 02865

5. **LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**
   - **COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:** Town Hall
   - **STREET AND NUMBER:** 100, Old River Road
   - **STATE & CODE:** Rhode Island, 02865

6. **REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**
   - **TITLE OF SURVEY:** Historic American Buildings Survey
   - **DATE OF SURVEY:** 1961
   - **DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:** Library of Congress
   - **STREET AND NUMBER:** 1st Street and Independence Avenue, S. E.,
   - **STATE & CODE:** District of Columbia
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 cornerposts 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)
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.
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>41° 56' N</td>
<td>71° 25' 35&quot; W</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW</td>
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</tbody>
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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: RI

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 [X]

Name: ____________________________
Title: ____________________________
Date: ____________________________

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Date: ____________________________
ATTEST: ____________________________

Keeper of The National Register
Date: ____________________________
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.
Israel Arnold House

Rhode Island
County: Providence
Town: Lincoln
Street and Number: Great Road

Photo Reference
Photo Credit: Don Hyske
Date: July 1973
Negative Filed At: R.I. Hist. Preservation Comm.
52 Power St., Providence, R.I.

View of exterior from southwest after project completion.
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<th>DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.</th>
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<tr>
<td>House and grounds seen from the south-west</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. NAME</td>
<td>COMMON</td>
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<td><strong>View of exterior from southwest before project work was begun.</strong></td>
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1. **NAME**

   **COMMON**
   Arnold (Israel) House

2. **LOCATION**

   **STATE**
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   **COUNTY**
   Providence

   **TOWN**
   Lincoln

   **STREET AND NUMBER**
   Great Road

3. **PHOTO REFERENCE**

   **PHOTO CREDIT**
   Irving B. Haynes

   **DATE**
   April 1969

   **NEGATIVE FILED AT**
   Irving B. Haynes

4. **IDENTIFICATION**

   **DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.**
   House and grounds seen from the south-west
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<td>CITY OR TOWN: Lincoln</td>
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<td>STATE: Rhode Island</td>
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<td>CODE: 14</td>
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<td>COUNTY: Providence</td>
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<td>DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fireplace (west) wall of early ell, c. 1937. The only changes since this view are the absence of furniture, utensils and ornaments and the removal of deteriorated plaster, which is to be replaced.</td>
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ISRAEL ARNOLD HOUSE
GREAT ROAD - LINCOLN - PROVIDENCE CO. - RHODE ISLAND

NAME OF STRUCTURE

MANTEL "A"
SCALE 1/8" = 1' 0"

MANTEL "B"
SCALE 1/8" = 1' 0"

SECTION THRU ELL
SCALE 1/8" = 1' 0"

CHARLES LEIGH M. MURRAY DEL. 1966

SCHOOL OF DESIGN
NORTH CAROLINA STATE COLLEGE
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

SURVEY NO. R.I. 87
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 7 OF 10 SHEETS
1. NAME

COMMON: Arnold (Israel) House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Great Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Lincoln

STATE: Rhode Island

CODE: 007

COUNTY: Providence

CODE: 44

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF PHOTO: 1961

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, State House, 90, Smith Street, Providence, Rhode Island, 02903

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Measured drawings of sections through ell and of mantels in main house.
WEST ELEVATION

EAST ELEVATION

NAME OF STRUCTURE
ISRAEL ARNOLD HOUSE
GREAT ROAD - LINCOLN - PROVIDENCE CO - RHODE ISLAND

SURVEY NO. RI 87
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 6 OF 10 SHEETS
**STATE**
Rhode Island

**COUNTY**
Providence

**PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)*

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Great Road

**CITY OR TOWN:**
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**STATE:**
Rhode Island

3. **PHOTO REFERENCE**

**PHOTO CREDIT:** Historic American Buildings Survey

**DATE OF PHOTO:** 1961

**NEGATIVE FILED AT:** Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, State House, 90, Smith Street, Providence, Rhode Island, 02903

4. **IDENTIFICATION**

**DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.**

Measured drawings of east and west elevations.
**Name:** Arnold (Israel) House

**Location:**
- **Street and Number:** Great Road
- **City or Town:** Lincoln

**State:** Rhode Island

**Photo Reference:**
- **Photo Credit:** Historic American Buildings Survey
- **Date of Photo:** 1961
- **Negative Filed At:** Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, State House, 90, Smith Street, Providence, Rhode Island, 02903

**Description:**
Measured drawing of first-floor plan.
1. NAME

COMMON: Arnold (Israel) House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Great Road

CITY OR TOWN: Lincoln

STATE: Rhode Island CODE COUNTY: 007 Providence

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF PHOTO: 1961

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, State House, 90, Smith Street, Providence, Rhode Island, 02903

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Measured drawing of south, or front, elevation.
**United States Department of the Interior**

**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**

**Property Photograph Form**

*Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph*

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**COMMON:** Arnold (Israel) House  
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**STREET AND NUMBER:** Great Road  
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**STATE:** Rhode Island  
**CODE** | **COUNTY:** Providence  
**CODE** | 007

### 3. PHOTO REFERENCE

**PHOTO CREDIT:** Historic American Buildings Survey  
**DATE OF PHOTO:** 1961  
**NEGATIVE FILED AT:** Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, State House, 90, Smith Street, Providence, Rhode Island, 02903

### 4. IDENTIFICATION

**DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.**

Measured drawings of east and west elevations.
COMMON: Arnold (Israel) House

Great Road

Lincoln

Rhode Island

DATE OF PHOTO: 1961

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission,
State House, 90, Smith Street, Providence, Rhode Island, 02903

Measured drawing of south, or front, elevation.
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM  
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME
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   AND OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
   STREET AND NUMBER: Great Road
   CITY OR TOWN: Lincoln
   STATE: Rhode Island

3. PHOTO REFERENCE
   PHOTO CREDIT: Arthur W. LeBoeuf
   DATE OF PHOTO: c. 1937
   NEGATIVE FILED AT: Copy negative: Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, State House, 90 Smith Street, Providence, Rhode Island, 02903.

4. IDENTIFICATION
   DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
   House and ell seen from the south-west, c. 1937; there has not been a change in appearance since that time.
GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES:

<table>
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<th>Longitude</th>
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COMMON: Arnold (Israel) House

STREET AND NUMBER: Great Road

CITY OR TOWN: Lincoln

STATE: Rhode Island, 02865

SOURCE: U.S. Geological Survey

SCALE: 1:24,000

DATE: 1919

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.