

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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
Daniel Angell House
AND/OR COMMON
Olney Angell House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
15 Dean Avenue
CITY, TOWN
Johnston
STATE
Rhode Island

--- VICINITY OF
CODE
44

--- NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
2 (Beard)
COUNTY
Providence
CODE
007

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mr. and Mrs. John Nanni
STREET & NUMBER
15 Dean Avenue
CITY, TOWN
Johnston

--- VICINITY OF

STATE
Rhode Island

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Johnston Town Hall
STREET & NUMBER
1385 Hartford Avenue
CITY, TOWN
Johnston

STATE
Rhode Island

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Not so represented
DATE

--- FEDERAL --- STATE --- COUNTY --- LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Daniel Angell House is a one-and-a-half story clapboarded house with a generous low-pitched gambrel roof and two chimneys, a large one of stone, which was original to the earliest section of the house, and one of brick at the east end in a later addition to the house. The house faces south, set back from and at an angle to what was known in Revolutionary War days as the Powder Mill Turnpike, later and presently known as Putnam Pike.

The elements of the facade of the house are not regularly placed within the plane, but rather mirror both the growth of the house through various periods and the early origin (probably around 1725) of the first section of the house, when classical concepts of architecture played little if any part in the thoughts and designs of the rural house-wright and farmer. Two windows to the left, the door, and one window to the right, all with relatively plain frames which project from the surface of the wall, open into the original western section of the house. The later section to the east displays a similar flathead door with two windows to its right. All the windows have been restored to their original size and have nine over nine double-hung sash, appropriate to the period.

The large stone central chimney forms the core of the western part of the house, with small entry hall in front of the stack, parlor to the west, keeping room to the east, and three smaller rooms across the back. Framing visible in the cellar supports the thesis that the house was originally built as five rooms: the sill beneath the south (front) wall is continuous for the length of the two rooms plus entry hall (which rules out any thought that the house may have begun as that typically Rhode Island form, the one-room stone-ender), and the sills running south to north are continuous for the full depth of the house.

The keeping room is moderately-sized, with cased, beaded cornerposts, a single window, and plain plastered walls which give no hint of chair rail or wainscoting. A large cut-stone fireplace with plain flat-board surround with molded edge occupies most of the western wall. The splayed sides of the fireplace opening are a typically early treatment as is the location of the brick beehive bake oven in the rear wall (at the left). Various structural irregularities strongly suggest that the fireplace opening has been closed in from its original size. The stonework of the sides does not join or intermesh with that of the back. In the chimney throat, approximately a foot and a half higher than the lower edge of the present surround, are a stone shelf on the right of approximately

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

1

ITEM NUMBER

7

PAGE

2

five or six inches in depth and an insert into the stonework at the left, which may well indicate an earlier larger opening altogether. Moreover, the arched opening of the brick bake oven is awkwardly situated (almost behind the left flank of the fireplace opening) and awkwardly executed (the bricks forming the right half of the arch are set neatly on angle to serve as voussoirs; those forming the left half protrude like broken teeth).

The western front room of the original house is a parlor with recessed cupboard on the north wall (which is framed very simply and has lost its doors), cased, beaded corner posts, and fireplace with bolection molded surround and fine raised-panel full-height mantel with molded cornice. In this room, also, the walls are simply plastered, unadorned by cornice, dado or chair rail moldings.

The small entry hall between the two front rooms, opens onto the stairs. Originally without a door at the bottom, these narrow stairs start with a sharp turn and then make a straight run up to the garret, where a horizontal railing composed of three spaced flat planks edges the opening in the floor. A trap door probably closed this opening.

The garret was apparently not finished or partitioned in any way to begin with. Its large open space was heated by a small stone fireplace without mantel. This fireplace probably never did have a mantel, although sections of what appears to be a wooden nailing strip are still embedded in the stone about ten inches above the opening. The west end of the garret has been closed off, probably at a fairly early date, and shows traces of whitewash. A board and batten door (minus its original strap hinges, whose marks still show), opens into the later east addition to the house. The small brick fireplace in this room has been rebuilt by the present owners, but maintains its original dimensions and much of the original brick. The flathead dormer window in the central section of the garret is a late nineteenth-century addition which will be removed in the course of restoration.

The continuous rafters from front to rear (south to north) in the garret reinforce the hypothesis that the house was originally built as five rooms. The vertical planking on the west end of the house beneath the clapboards shows no signs of having been cut or pieced and thus indicates that the original roof was a gambrel.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

2

ITEM NUMBER

7

PAGE

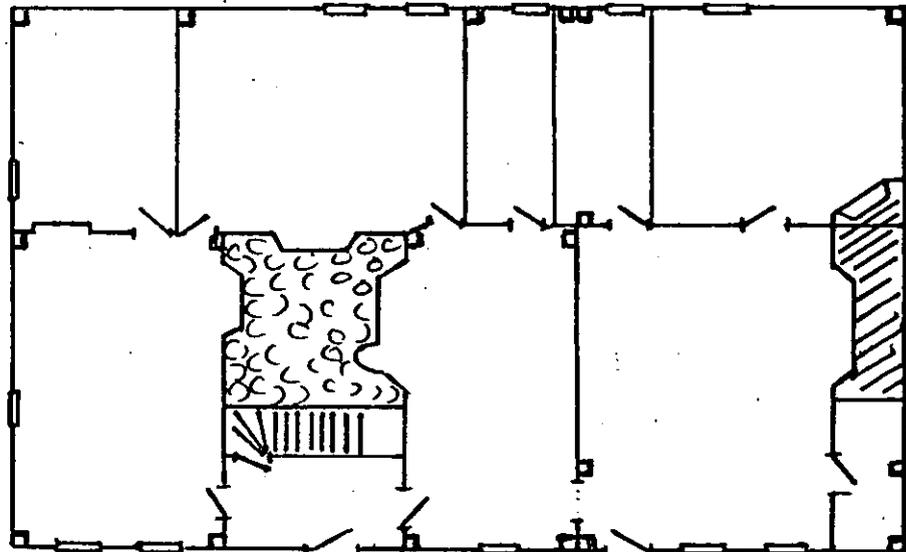
3

The ell addition to the east contains one large room with plastered walls, beaded, cased corner posts, and good sized brick fireplace (with handsome flat-board surround and heavy molded cornice), a small closet to the south of the chimney stack, a back room with corner fireplace on the north side of the stack, and a small pantry between the back fireplace room and the pantry of the earlier section of the house.

Roofline marks visible in the eastern section of the garret, as well as the placement of cornerposts below, indicate that this addition was at first a pitch-roofed ell with its front (south) wall set back from the plane of the main house by about five feet. The final addition to the house was to move this wall forward and to cap the entire ell with a gambrel roof continuous with that of the main house.

Dating of the various sections of the house, based on a combination of structural elements and historical indicators, suggests that the original house dates from (and is typical of Rhode Island country houses of) c. 1725, that the eastern pitch-roofed ell was added prior to the Revolution, and that the final movement of the south ell wall and inclusion of this new space under one long continuous gambrel roof occurred shortly before 1800.

Plan of First
Floor
(not to scale)



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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The history of the Daniel Angell House has been pieced together from an amalgam of genealogical research, educated guesses in working with old deeds, and local tradition. The Angell family were among the earliest settlers of Rhode Island. Thomas Angell, as an apprentice or servant, accompanied Roger Williams from England in 1631 and thereafter went with Williams when he was banished from the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1636 to Seekonk and Rhode Island. Thomas Angell was one of the original members of the compact drawn up on August 20th, 1637, to form the town fellowship of Providence.

Thomas is said to have owned land in what later became the Town of Johnston, taken from Providence and incorporated March 6, 1759. Thomas's grandson John (b.?, d. 1744) settled on a farm in Johnston near the "seven mile line" which separated that town from Smithfield. Both the Daniel Angell House and the later Stephen Angell House (c. 1767), about three tenths of a mile to the south on Putnam Pike (entered on the National Register as the Edwin Farnum House May 17, 1974) are within the area thus generally described.

An early twentieth century local publication¹ pictures the Daniel Angell house with the caption "Olney Angell House." A more obscure article² for an automobile tour of the area in December, 1934, describes the Angell house at some length.

"... We will stop for a moment at an ancient dwelling which was much more than a century old... (in 1861)... Under its roof discussions of Revolutionary battles undoubtedly were held... We allude to the Angell homestead in Graniteville."

"This old building also served as a tavern for a time, after Olney Angell, son of Daniel Angell, its builder, had built an addition thereto, before the year 1800. During the days of the Revolution, however, it was a private dwelling, Olney Angell not having been born until 1772."

Although this article refers to Daniel Angell (b. September 28, 1744 and d. March 9, 1810) as the builder of the house, the

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

3

ITEM NUMBER

8

PAGE

2

stylistic characteristics belie this attribution; and strongly suggest that the house was standing before Daniel Angell was born. Genealogical information indicates that Daniel probably purchased the house from its original builder. Daniel was one of the nine sons of Stephen Angell (d. 1772) and served as a joint executor, with his brother William, of his father's will. Daniel "purchased of his brother William his right in the sawmill being one half of Olney's mill, the property where the Greystone factory now stands, in North Providence; this was his place of residence and the property was afterwards owned by his son Olney."³ Deed research corroborates the fact that the house passed from Daniel to Olney in 1795. Olney kept a tavern in the house for a number of years; and is also credited with having started, along with Peleg Williams, Daniel Angell, and Matherson Latham, the Greystone factory in 1813. Greystone had about twenty looms and manufactured cotton cloth. The venture failed in 1816, but was soon purchased by a new owner and re-opened.

The Daniel Angell House is of great value in the study and understanding of early Rhode Island homes. Little altered after Olney Angell's changes to it before 1800, the house is being carefully restored by its present owners, Mr. and Mrs. John Nanni. Such changes as they have had to make -- i.e. replacing sills and windows and excavating the central section of the basement (under the keeping room) -- have been thoughtfully and precisely executed. Their work has helped to make it possible to date the various periods of structural growth based on framing evidences.

One of the unusual aspects of the house is the framing in the original section; it does not follow the summer beam scheme but rather uses heavy joists running into the chimney girt. The keeping room was built, not on a cellar (as was the west parlor) or even on a stone foundation, but on what the present owner describes as spaced facing stones with earth behind them, a highly unusual construction. In excavating this section of the cellar, the Nanni's discovered a number of bones and pipe shards, which should yield further information after archeological analysis.

That the garret and staircase remain in almost untouched condition is particularly unusual and valuable aspect of the house. The slant-backed shelves (originally a cupboard now missing its doors) above the corner fireplace in the back room of the eastern addition are

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

4

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE

3

another feature of the house worth noting.

The Daniel Angell House, despite its present-day setting, amidst ranch houses and faced by a small two-story apartment, remains uncompromised by either the passage of time or the restoration work currently being undertaken, which is excellent. It is a fine example of an early eighteenth-century rural Rhode Island house, unusual in a number of ways, and in remarkably unaltered condition.

¹ Old Times In Graniteville,

² Source unknown, December, 1934.

³ Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas Angell, Who Settled in Providence, 1636, 1872.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

CONTINUATION SHEET 5

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 2

Bayles, Richard M.: History of Providence County, Rhode Island
(W. W. Preston and Company, New York, 1891).

Hoag and Wade, and Company: History of the State of Rhode Island with
Illustrations (Boston, 1878)

"Sunday Tour to Rhode Island" (Auto tour, source unknown, December,
1934).

Sweet, Ralph N.: Old Times in Graniteville, A Boy's Story of Life
in the '90's (The Community Press, Centredale, R.I., c. 1930).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Angell, Avery F.: Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas Angell, Who Settled in Providence, 1636 (A. Crawford Greene, Providence, 1872).

Angell, Frank C.: Annals of Centredale...1636 to 1909 (Centredale, R.I., 1910).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,0	29,2	5770	46	3,9	7630	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING				
C							D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Ancelin V. Lynch

ORGANIZATION

Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission

STREET & NUMBER

150 Benefit Street

CITY OR TOWN

Providence

DATE

March 25, 1975

TELEPHONE

401-277-2678

STATE

Rhode Island

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC Daniel Angell House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Johnston

___ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Providence

STATE R.I.

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Keith Morgan

DATE OF PHOTO March, 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, 150 Benefit Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 1

View of south front facade from the south-west



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC Daniel Angell House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Johnston

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Providence STATE R.I.

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Keith Morgan

DATE OF PHOTO March, 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, 150 Benefit Street,
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 2

View of stone fireplace in the keeping room



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC Daniel Angell House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Johnston _____ VICINITY OF _____ COUNTY Providence STATE R.I.

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Keith Morgan

DATE OF PHOTO March, 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, 150 Benefit Street,
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 3

Full-height mantel in the west parlor



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC Daniel Angell House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Johnston VICINITY OF COUNTY Providence STATE R.I.

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Keith Morgan

DATE OF PHOTO March, 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, 150 Benefit Street,
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 4

Corner fireplace with cupboard above, in the eastern addition to the house

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

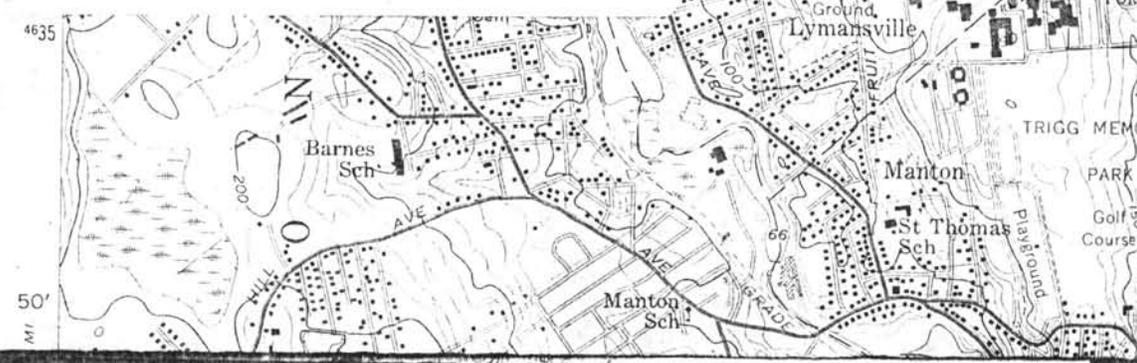
19 292770 4637630

6667 1 NE
(GEORGIAVILLE)



Daniel Angell House
15 Dean Avenue, Johnston

19 292770 4637630



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC Daniel Angell House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Johnston

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Providence STATE R. I.

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE U. S. Geological Survey

SCALE 1 : 24,000

DATE 1954; photorevised 1970

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES