

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

1. NAME

COMMON:
Peleg Arnold Tavern

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Woonsocket Hill Road, corner of Great Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Union Village, North Smithfield,

STATE: Rhode Island, 02895 CODE: RI COUNTY: Providence CODE: 007

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Robert and Jeanette Rivet

STREET AND NUMBER:
276 Providence Street

CITY OR TOWN: Woonsocket STATE: Rhode Island, 02895 CODE: RI

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
North Smithfield Town Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: North Smithfield STATE: Rhode Island, 02876 CODE: RI

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Statewide Survey of Historic Buildings

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970-1973 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
John Brown House, 52 Power Street

CITY OR TOWN: Providence STATE: Rhode Island, 02906 CODE: RI

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The original core of the Peleg Arnold Tavern was constructed in 1690 and was a small, timber-framed, gabled dwelling twenty feet square. Around 1790 the building was enlarged by an addition to the north end.

A late 19th-century print and several photographs of that time show the building as a substantial clapboarded structure of two-and-a-half storeys, its six-bay front facing Woonsocket Hill Road and its gable-end towards the Great Road. Two large brick chimneys pierced the roof-ridge near both ends; a small ell to the rear had a tall, slim brick chimney. A large, one-and-a-half-storey, gable-roofed barn, entered by means of a ramp of dirt and stone and having a central cupola on the roof and a palladian window in the gable, was shown located behind and to one side of the house; but this was subsequently removed from the property. Later changes to the main building included an enlargement of the one-storey entrance portico to form a covered verandah round the front and sides. However, a decline in the fortunes of the owners in the 20th century resulted in the removal of the exterior additions--portico, verandah, and rear ell.

The numerous alterations to the exterior of the original house and tavern (as it became) have so affected the structure that architecturally it no longer exemplifies a typical early Rhode Island building. Also radically changed has been the interior, which was remodelled into apartments several decades ago. The formerly-thriving tavern is today a large apartment house at the corner of Woonsocket Hill Road and Great Road. Its chief value now is in its historical associations rather than its architectural merits.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1690, 1790 ff.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1690, the small dwelling-house that later evolved into the Peleg Arnold Tavern was built in what is now Union Village by Richard Arnold, a member of the family that originally settled Woonsocket. Arnold's house was the first one constructed in Union Village, and one of the earliest in the township of North Smithfield.

In 1739, during the ownership of Thomas Arnold, the building was licensed as a tavern to serve the needs of travelers along the route from Providence to Worcester, Massachusetts, when the original rough trail was enlarged into a roadway and began to carry more traffic. Upon the death of Thomas in 1765, his son, Peleg, became owner.

Peleg Arnold, educated at Rhode Island College (later Brown University), was an energetic man who became deeply involved in the affairs of his times. Upon hearing of the conflicts at Lexington and Concord in the spring of 1775, he became aroused and began recruiting soldiers for the coming struggle with England. At a town meeting held in his tavern in June, 1775, that place was designated as one of the three depositories for arms to be used by the townsmen in the event of invasion by the British. During the War for Independence, Peleg Arnold attained the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the Continental Army.

Following the war, Peleg Arnold served as a justice of the peace from 1782 to 1788 and also, from 1786 to 1789, as a delegate to the Continental Congress. In 1795 he was made Chief Justice of the Rhode Island Superior Court. His final service to this state was as Chief Justice of its Supreme Court from 1799 to 1809 and 1810 to 1812.

After the Revolutionary War the Arnold house gained great renown as a thriving tavern and continued as such after the death of Peleg Arnold in 1820. Later in the 19th century a daughter of James Arnold married Albert Mowry. During Mowry tenure the establishment was transformed "...from an ordinary inn into one of the most luxurious taverns in New England" (Woonsocket Call, September 9, 1948), and it so served until the early 20th century. After several changes of ownership and a period during which it was vacant and neglected, it was converted into apartments in the late 1940's.

(See Continuation Sheet.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Rhode Island	
COUNTY Providence	
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(Number all entries)

8. Significance.

The Peleg Arnold Tavren, a landmark in the Union Village area for more than 280 years, is noteworthy for several reasons. It is one of the oldest buildings there; it served as a tavern and gathering-place along the old Great Road between Providence and Worcester for more than one-and-a-half centuries; it played a role in the Revolutionary War as a depository for arms and as a recruiting center; and it was the home of Peleg Arnold, a man of local and state prominence, who served the state and nation with distinction in several important positions during a formative period in our nation's development.

9. Major Bibliographical References.

- Richardson, Erastus: History of Woonsocket (Woonsocket, Rhode Island, 1876).
Steere, Thomas: History of the Town of Smithfield, 1730-1871 (Providence, Rhode Island, 1881).
U. S. Works Progress Administration. Federal Writers' Project: Rhode Island. A Guide ... (Boston, Massachusetts, 1937).
Woonsocket Patriot, February 11, 1870: account of Union Village.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bayles, Richard M: History of Providence County, Rhode Island, Volume 2 (New York, 1891).
 Franklin, M. S.: "The Monograph Series. The Houses and Villages of North Smithfield, Rhode Island," in Pencil Points magazine, August, 1935 (New York, 1935).
 Harvey, George: North Smithfield Centennial (n. p.? 1971).
 Leach, Charles M., and Nobrega, Edith W.: "The Great Road," in The 1970 Rhode Island Yearbook, pp. 47-56 (Providence, Rhode Island, 1970).

(See Continuation Sheet.)

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 TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		41 ° 59 ' 21.76 " N	71 ° 32 ' 2.21 " W	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Walter A. Nebiker, Surveyor-Researcher

ORGANIZATION: Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission. DATE: Sept. 18, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:
 John Brown House, 52 Power Street.

CITY OR TOWN: Providence STATE: Rhode Island, 02906 CODE: 44

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 _____

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 _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

6668 II SE
(BLACKSTONE) 288

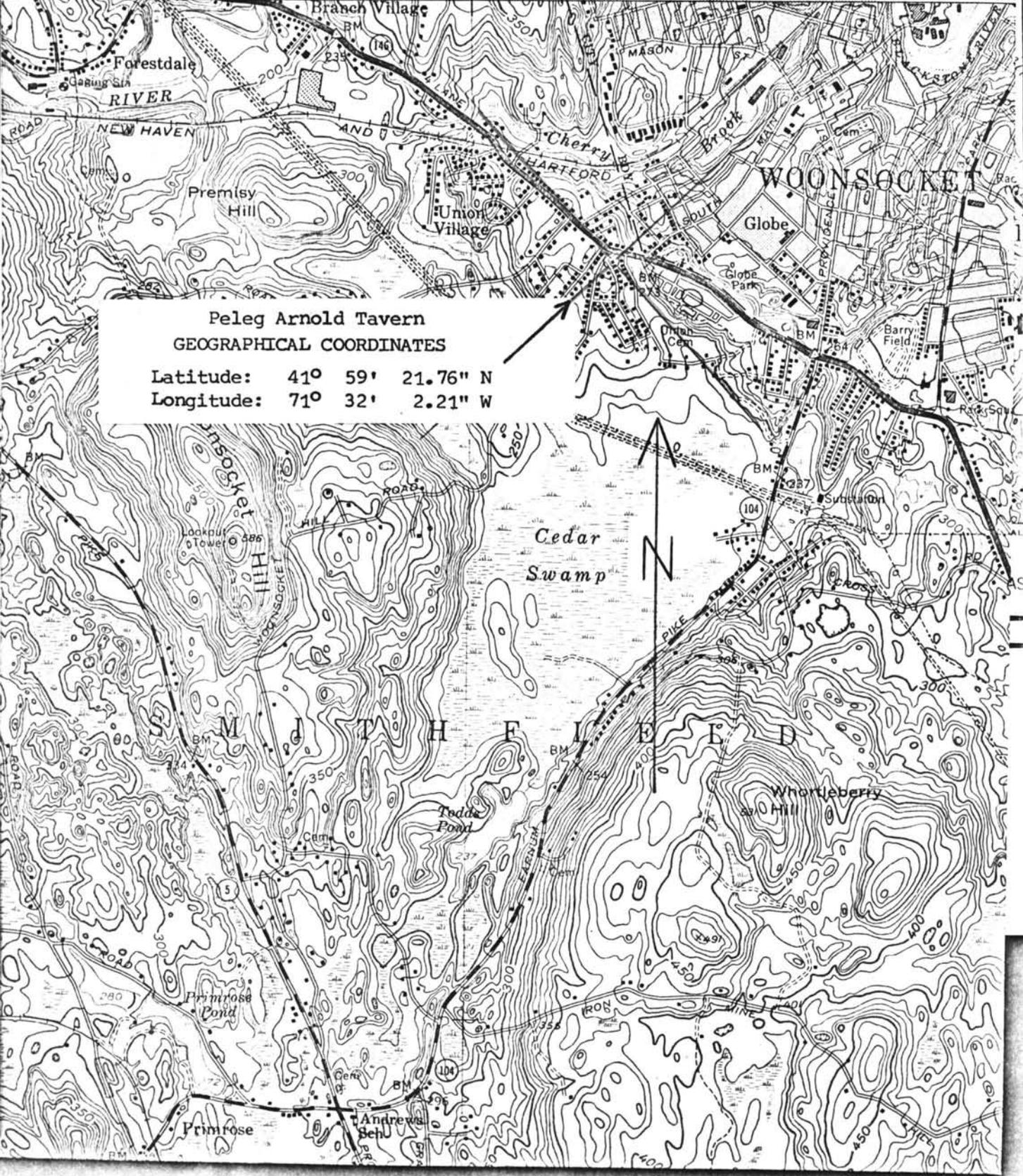
WORCESTER, MASS. 24 MI.
7.7 MI. TO MASS. 16

32/30'

490 000 FEET

291

WRENTHAM, MASS.
5.9 MI. TO R



Peleg Arnold Tavern
GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES

Latitude: 41° 59' 21.76" N
Longitude: 71° 32' 2.21" W

Form 10-301
(Dec. 1968)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)*

STATE Rhode Island	
COUNTY Providence	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Peleg Arnold Tavern

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Woonsocket Hill Road, corner of Great Road

CITY OR TOWN:

Union Village, North Smithfield

STATE:

Rhode Island, 02895

CODE

44

COUNTY:

Providence

CODE

007

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

U. S. Geological Survey

SCALE: 1: 24,000

DATE: 1954

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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



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

COMMON

Peleg Arnold Tavern

AND/OR HISTORIC

NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)

2. LOCATION

STATE

Rhode Island

COUNTY

Providence

TOWN

Union Village, North Smith-
field

STREET AND NUMBER

Woonsocket Hill Road, corner of Great Road

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Walter A. Nebiker

DATE

1973

NEGATIVE FILED AT Rhode Island
Historical Preservation Com-
mission, John Brown House,

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

52 Power Street, Providence,
Rhode Island, 02906

Exterior from the west.