

DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION  
ALBANY, NEW YORK (518) 474-0479

UNIQUE SITE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
QUAD \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIES \_\_\_\_\_  
NEG. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR NAME: Town of Islip/SPLIA DATE: February 1990

Town Hall, 655 Main St.

YOUR ADDRESS: Islip, L.I., N.Y. 11751 TELEPHONE: 516.224.5450

ORGANIZATION (if any): Dept. of Planning, Housing, and Development

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**IDENTIFICATION**

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): Arnold House
- 2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: West Islip
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 1001 Montauk Highway (NYS Rte. 27A) (S. Country Rd.)
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public  b. private
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. USE: Original: residence (single) Present: residence (multiple)
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes  No   
Interior accessible: Explain private residences

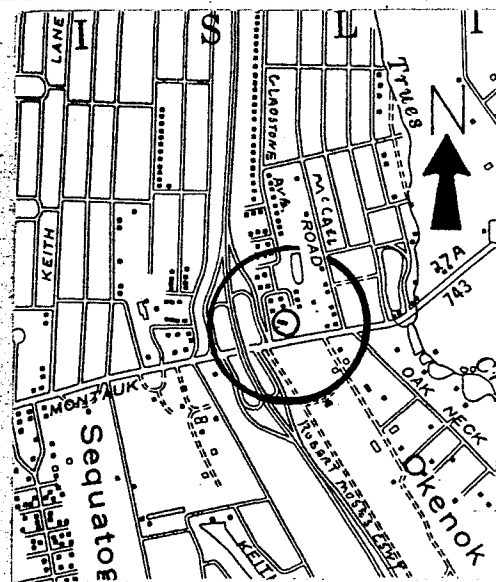
**DESCRIPTION**

- 8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard  b. stone  c. brick  d. board and batten   
e. cobblestone  f. shingles  g. stucco  other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: (if known) a. wood frame with interlocking joints   
b. wood frame with light members   
c. masonry load bearing walls   
d. metal (explain) \_\_\_\_\_  
e. other \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. CONDITION: a. excellent  b. good  c. fair  d. deteriorated
- 11. INTEGRITY: a. original site  b. moved  if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
c. list major alterations and dates (if known):  
House divided into apartments.

12. PHOTO: Neg. KK VIII-23, fm. S  
Front facade

13. MAP: NYS DOT Bay Shore West Quad

SCTM # 0500-474.00-03.00-01.000



14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known  b. zoning  c. roads   
d. developers  e. deterioration   
f. other: \_\_\_\_\_

15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:  
a. barn  b. carriage house  c. garage  (2)  
d. privy  e. shed  f. greenhouse   
g. shop  h. gardens   
i. landscape features: large lawn, mature trees.  
j. other: high masonry porch on south facade

16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary):  
a. open land  b. woodland   
c. scattered buildings   
d. densely built-up  e. commercial   
f. industrial  g. residential   
h. other: parkway to west

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:  
(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

The Arnold House is located on the north side of South Country Rd. on a sizeable remnant of its original acreage, most of which fronts South Country Road. A parkway with flanking greenbelts borders the property to the west. Surrounding residences to the north are mid 20th C.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):  
The Arnold House is a large, U-shaped, Colonial Revival mansion with a 2½ story, five bay, hip roof main block that features a giant portico with four Corinthian columns on the main (south) facade. The pedimented portico covers a tall round arch entrance with flanking pilasters. Diagonally placed 2½ story gable roof wings flank the main block. Other period details include arched brick chimneys, pedimented dormers, secondary port-

**SIGNIFICANCE** icos, and Palladian window groups.

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: 1906

ARCHITECT: \_\_\_\_\_

BUILDER: \_\_\_\_\_

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:  
This handsome mansion in the Colonial style has not only the giant pedimented portico on the front (south) facade but also a matching giant portico with second floor balcony on the west facade, and a porte cochere and Palladian window on the north (entrance) facade. The four massive main chimneys are connected in pairs by brick arches.

This mansion, built in 1906, replaced a large frame house that had been purchased from Harry Suydam before 1873 by Richard Arnold of Arnold Constable & Co., Fifth Avenue's famed specialty store. The property extended from north of Howells and Bay Shore Roads to the bayfront.

-Refer to continuation sheet-

21. SOURCES:  
-Refer to continuation sheet--

22. THEME:  
Research by the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities - KEK

20 - (continued):

According to local accounts, in its heyday seven men and six maids were employed to care for the estate. The maids were all Irish and except for the English butler, the men were all Ukrainians who lived nearby in West Islip.

21 -

Wilcox, Gerald & Judith. First History of West Islip, 1976.

Brooklyn Daily Eagle, 8/3/1907.

Beacon, "Pen Pictures of Babylon and Vicinity, 1853".

Old Oakdale History, Vol. 1, 1983.

Newsday, "Problem Line", n.d.