**Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)**

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**
**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

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

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**

**RECEIVED**

**DATE ENTERED**

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### NAME

**HISTORIC**

"Woodneath," Arnold, Elbridge, Homestead

**AND/OR COMMON**

"Woodneath," Crouch, Edwin Y., Residence

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### LOCATION

**STREET & NUMBER**

8900 N.E. Flintlock Road

**CITY, TOWN**

Kansas City

**STATE**

Missouri 64157

**CODE**

29

**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT**

#6 - Hon. E. Thomas Coleman

**COUNTY**

Clay

**CODE**

047

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### CLASSIFICATION

**CATEGORY**

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

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

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### OWNER OF PROPERTY

**NAME**

Mrs. Edwin Y. Crouch

**STREET & NUMBER**

9900 N.E. Flintlock Road

**CITY, TOWN**

Kansas City

**STATE**

Missouri 64157

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### LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

**COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.**

Office of Recorder of Deeds, Clay County Courthouse

**STREET & NUMBER**

Courthouse Square, Kansas and Water Streets

**CITY, TOWN**

Liberty

**STATE**

Missouri 64068

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### REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

**TITLE**

1. Homes and Gardens Tour

**DATE**

1958

**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS**

sponsored by: Town and Country Garden Club

**CITY, TOWN**

Liberty

**STATE**

Missouri 64068
2. Missouri Historic Sites Catalogue
   1963
   State Historical Society of Missouri
   Corner, Hitt and Lowry Streets
   Columbia, Missouri 65201

3. Historical Drive-by Tour
   1972
   Clay County Historical Society, Inc.
   P.O. Box 373
   Liberty, Missouri 64068

4. "Get To Know Old Clay" Historical Tour
   1973
   Clay County Historical Society, Inc.
   P.O. Box 373
   Liberty, Missouri 64068

5. Preliminary Inventory of Architecture and Historic Sites of
   Kansas City, Missouri
   1974
   Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri
   City Hall - 26th Floor, E.
   414 E. 12th Street
   Kansas City, Missouri 64106

7. Missouri State Historical Survey
   1977
   Department of Natural Resources
   P.O. Box 176
   Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
"Woodneath," the Elbridge Arnold Homestead, is located at 8900 N.E. Flintlock Road, within the Kansas City city limits of rural Clay County, Missouri. Constructed in 1855-56, the residence provides an excellent example of a rural farmhouse built in the Greek Revival style. The two-story, five-bay, L-shaped building remains in its original site with turn of the century additions. Also included in this nomination are: 1) a two and one-half story (south facade), Carpenter's vernacular style, wood-frame barn built circa 1875 (west of residence), 2) a vitrified red brick silo built circa 1920, and 3) a single-story, four-bay stable structure built circa 1875 (west of the barn).

The residence measures approximately 52 feet east-west and 62.5 feet north-south. There are approximately 3,350 square feet of living space.

Construction materials and colors

Basic construction materials include uncoursed native limestone employed for the foundations with a coursed limestone water table extending along the ground story of the exterior of the structure. Eighteen-inch thick hand-made red brick walls laid in common bond form exterior walls. Pink irregular brick forms the inner walls. Window frames and muntins and door elements are of wood painted white. Louvered window shutters are of wood painted black. Entrance surrounds, window lintels and lugsills, porch elements, and the northwest, single-story frame addition are painted white.

Openings

Windows. Rectangular windows on the south facade are positioned one per bay per story. Each is filled by a six-over-six light, double-hung sash. Cut limestone lugsills trim the lower edge of each opening. Positioned one per bay per story, with the exception of the central bay, each east facade window has a six-over-six light, double-hung, rectangular sash. Louvered wood shutters, wood lugsills, and cut limestone lintels complete each opening. On the second story of the north facade of the ell are two, six-over-six light, double-hung, rectangular sash windows. The west facade of the ell contains four, double-hung, rectangular sash windows, two on the first story and two directly above on the second story. Two, single-sash windows are located near the apex of the gable of the west facade of the ell. Various types of sash and casement windows are employed on the first-story addition. The north side of the first-story addition contains two, rectangular, double-hung sash windows, one small, single-light, double-hung sash window, and a tripartite group of three double-light sliding windows. The south side of the first-story addition contains one, rectangular, two-over-two light, double-hung sash window.
Doorways. Three entrances provide access to the house: the main (or east) entrance, the south (library) entrance, and the west (or rear) entrance. The primary entrance is centered on the east facade on the first story. It is filled by a single-leaf, glass and wood door framed by a transom and sidelights. The reveal of the entranceway has recessed panels. Directly above is a second entrance of a similar type which opens onto the balcony.

Secondary entrances provide access to the library (formerly the dining room) and first-story (kitchen) addition. The rear (or kitchen) entrance has a single-leaf glazed door; the library entrance is filled by a single-leaf door capped by a triple-light transom and is reached by a side porch.

Porches

Porches include:
1. A two-story portico along the east facade is composed of paired four white oak, square Doric columns and two pilasters supporting a hip roof.
2. Centrally placed along the second story of the east facade is a balcony, guarded by lattice balusters supporting a shaped banister.
3. Located along the south facade of the ell is a single-story portico, consisting of concrete flooring with four red brick piers supporting a hip roof.
4. A redwood porte-cochere with a corrugated metal shed roof is located along the west wall of the ell.

Roofs

The structure has five roofs: 1) a low-pitched gable roof of asphalt composition shingles covers the main structure, 2) a low-pitched hip roof surfaced with asphalt composition sheeting covers the portico, 3) a tar-papered, flat roof covers the first-story addition, 4) a corrugated fiberglass roof covers the porch west of the kitchen addition, and 5) a shed roof covers the porte cochere.

Chimneys

There are three, single-stack, red brick chimneys. Two are flush with the wall surface of the end (north and south) facades of the east portion of the main residence; the third (or rear) chimney is flush with the west facade of the ell.

Decorative details

Decorative features include: 1) stone lintels of doorways and windows, 2) stone lugsills of windows, 3) star motif on the frieze of the main entrance portico, 4) primary entrance surround, 5) portico and balcony, and 6) cornices.
Basement

Access to the basement is from the library by a walnut stairway. The walls are constructed of stone. Comprising the space in the basement are rooms beneath the dining room and library which house an oil furnace (installed in 1976), a dehumidifier, and a hot water heater.

First floor

Interior wall construction consists of wood joists with lath and plaster walls. Four original rooms (parlor, library, dining room, and living room) and the additions (kitchen, bedroom, and bathroom) occupy the first floor. Upon entry, the center hallway separates the parlor to the north from the living room, dining room, and library to the south. A functional fireplace is located in the living room. Sealed fireplaces are located in the parlor and dining room. Accenting the ceiling of the parlor is a four foot in diameter, plastered, floriate medallion in medium relief.

An open, single-run, U-shape staircase, located at the west end of the center hall, is constructed of hard white pine. The staircase consists of a turned and shaped newel post with tapered balusters surmounted by a shaped wood banister. A secondary, single-run, U-shape staircase is enclosed in a stairhall along the north wall of the library.

Second floor

Rooms on the second floor include a large storage room on the north side and a newly converted four-room apartment, including a living room, kitchen, bedroom, and bathroom, on the south side. There remains a functional fireplace in the apartment's west bedroom and a closed fireplace in its living room. Originally, there were four bedrooms on this floor.

Attic

The attic, an unplastered open room with exposed rafters, completely covers the ell of the residence.

ALTERATIONS

Alterations to the residence include:

1. 1880
   a) installation of door connecting front and rear upstairs
2. 1901  
a) installation of wood-burning furnace  
b) installation of brick cistern in northwest corner of the ell (approximately 10' by 20' deep)  
c) addition of south-facade porch (formerly a greenhouse)

3. 1910  
a) addition of kitchen (first-story addition)  
b) installation of acetylene light system

4. 1917-1922  
a) installation of kitchen cabinets (former kitchen, present dining room)

5. circa 1922  
a) removal of widow's walk (observatory or belvedere)

6. 1920's  
a) removal of gas system

7. 1931  
a) installation of electricity

8. circa 1938  
a) kitchen changed to present location

9. 1940  
a) residence painted and reshingled  
b) kitchen linoleum laid

10. 1940's  
a) basement floor converted from dirt to concrete

11. 1945  
a) installation of two full bathrooms  
b) installation of water system

12. 1958  
a) dining room replastered  
b) dining room window installed along the south wall

13. 1963-64  
a) two rooms west of kitchen added

14. 1965  
a) two rooms west of kitchen removed and replaced by a porch and porte cochere

15. date unknown  
a) removal of pilasters flanking the secondary, south (library) entrance

Alterations to the homestead include:

1. 1970  
a) center entry post removed to accommodate larger farming implements

2. date unknown  
a) removal of cupola during reshingling of present barn
"Woodneath," the Elbridge Arnold Homestead, is located in rural Clay County, Missouri. Facing east toward N.E. Flintlock Road, the front pastures consist of oak, pine, and sugar maple trees. Situated approximately 10 feet apart along Flintlock Road are two, six foot in height, square gate posts which mark the east property line. A continuous gravel road leads from Flintlock Road and encircles the residence. Other gravel driveways allow access to the west outbuildings. Located approximately 500 feet from the main entrance, other outbuildings include: 1) a three-story (on the east facade), wood-frame, hip roof barn, built circa 1875, 2) a single-story, gable roof, four bay wide, wood-frame stable, built circa 1875, 3) a cylindrical, glazed concrete block silo, built ca. 1920, 4) a single-story, gable roof, wood-frame chicken house, built ca. 1930, located directly northwest of the main residence, and 5) and 6) two modern, single-story, frame and dry board constructed cottages, built 1940-1942, located southwest of the main entrance.

Present Status

The continued existence of "Woodneath," the Elbridge Arnold Homestead, and its property is assured as it will most probably be held within the Crouch family name. There is no threat of demolition or redevelopment of the area.

Footnotes


2. Ibid.
The Elbridge Arnold Homestead in Kansas City, Clay County, Missouri, is an important surviving example of a brick, Greek Revival-style farmhouse retained within its rural, Western Missouri setting. The Arnold Homestead, built in 1855-1856 for farmer and landowner Elbridge Arnold, survives as one of the oldest ante-bellum structures in Kansas City. Significant in their association to the main house are structural remnants of original, as well as nearly intact period agricultural outbuildings, that survive near the main residence. The Elbridge Arnold Homestead significantly exhibits the type of agrarian lifestyle which was prevalent in Western Missouri from the middle to the third quarter of the Nineteenth century.

HISTORICAL DATA

The first permanent settlers arrived in the area in 1819 with a heavy tide of immigration arriving the following year. Early settlers came from Virginia, Tennessee, North and South Carolina, with a majority of emigrants coming from Kentucky. There was reportedly a population of 1,200 in the present boundaries of Clay County, then a part of Ray County, by late 1821. By January, 1922, Clay County was formed and named for orator and statesman Henry Clay. Liberty, selected as the county seat, was established that same year. One such early group of settlers were the Elbridge Arnold family of Shelby County, Kentucky, who arrived in Clay County around 1838 and acquired a large acreage of land totalling approximately 160 acres, located directly west of Liberty, Missouri.

The period of the forties and fifties was of great prosperity in Clay County. About 1844, a new cash crop, hemp, was introduced and the rope making industry soon became a major enterprise in Clay County. The Arnolds took advantage of producing hemp, as well as raising livestock and corn. It is presumed that the close proximity of available markets in nearby Liberty, Missouri made the Arnold family wealthy.

By 1854-1855, Elbridge Arnold began planning for the construction of a large brick farmhouse. However, his sudden death in October, 1855 left the residence to be completed approximately a year later by his widow, Finetta Ann Arnold. Various individuals from the surrounding community were suppliers and builders for the construction of the house. Two of the principle builders were Frederick Myers and Thomas Morrison, both area carpenters. Labor was supplied by slaves.
By the late 1850's, prior to the onslaught of the Civil War, divisive forces were split over the issue of slavery and related events centered around it. Guerilla warfare broke out along the Kansas-Missouri border. With the start of the Civil War, sympathy of the Clay County citizens were generally divided. The men were, for the most part, recruited in the Confederate Army. To curb the increased guerilla activities, Brig. General Thomas Ewing issued Order No. 11 on August 25, 1863, which specifically affected Jackson, Cass, Bates and portions of Vernon counties. Clay county was not included in the order, thus the Arnold Homestead was unaffected.

The Arnold farmhouse was used exclusively for residential purposes during the war, except for the west second story bedroom which was utilized as a school room by Arnold's eldest daughter, Sara M. Arnold. Classes were normally conducted at Brick-Monroe School, which was forced to close due to continued guerilla activities in the area. Finetta Ann Arnold and her family remained on the Arnold Homestead until it was sold in 1865 as the Civil War was at an end.

"Woodneath" is believed to have received its name during the ownership and occupancy of Prssley L. Moore from 1870-1900. It refers to the wooded area and setting of the residence and outbuildings. During the years 1937 through 1953, under the ownership of Edwin Y. Crouch, the property was recognized as the Crouch Dairy Farm. In 1953, the property was used as a hay farm. The land is presently farmed on shares.

The survey of Missouri's historic sites is based on the selection of sites as they relate to theme studies in Missouri history as outlined in "Missouri's State Historic Preservation Plan." The Elbridge Arnold Homestead is, therefore, being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as an example of the themes of "Agriculture," "Architecture," "Exploration and Settlement," and "Society."

FOOTNOTES

1. Purchase Receipts and Carpenters' Bills, 1 January 1855, 2 April 1857, 22 July 1857, Elbridge Arnold Papers, Clay County Historical Museum, Liberty, Missouri; Abstract of Title (in the possession of Mrs. Edwin Y. Crouch, 8900 N.E. Flintlock Road, Kansas City, Missouri, 64157).


3. Abstract of Title (in the possession of Mrs. Edwin Y. Crouch, 8900 N.E. Flintlock Road, Kansas City, Missouri, 64157).


6. Ibid.

7. Interview with Mrs. Edwin Y. Crouch, owner, Kansas City, Missouri, October 1976.


10. Interview with Mrs. Edwin Y. Crouch, October 1976.

11. Abstract of Title.


MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Abstract of Title (in the possession of Mrs. Edwin Y. Crouch, 8900 N.E. Flintlock Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64157).


10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 26.515 acres (10.734 hectares)

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE EASTING NORTHING ZONE EASTING NORTHING

A [1 5] 3 1 7 3 6 0 0 [4 3 1 4 5 1 8 4 0] B [1 5] 3 1 7 3 5 9 0 [4 3 1 4 5 5 7 0]

C [1 5] 3 1 7 3 1 5 0 [4 3 1 4 5 5 8 0] D [3 5] 3 1 7 3 1 6 0 [4 3 1 5 8 1 0]

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property under nomination occupies the extreme southeast parcel of the Crouch Estate in the southwest 1/4 of sec. 2 twp. 51, range 33. The boundary begins at point A along the westside of N.E. Flintlock Road. The east boundary extends south approximately 825' to point B aligned to the south property line of the Edwin Y. Crouch Estate. From point B, the south boundary thence extends west approximately 1400' to point C. From point C, the west boundary thence extends north approximately 825' to point D. From point D, the boundary extends east approximately 1400' returning to point A.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>CODE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Victoria C. Karel and Edward J. Miszczuk, Researchers

ORGANIZATION

Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri

STREET & NUMBER

City Hall - 26th Floor, E. 414 E. 12th Street

CITY OR TOWN

Kansas City

STATE

Missouri

CODE

64106

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

TITLE

Director, Department of Natural Resources, and State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1


"WOODNEATH"
Arnold, Elbridge, Homestead
Kansas City, Mo.

SITE PLAN MAP

Indicates boundaries of area being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places

Not to Scale
The Elbridge Arnold Homestead in Kansas City, Clay County, Missouri, is an important surviving example of a brick, Greek Revival style farmhouse retained in its rural, Western Missouri setting. The Arnold Homestead, built in 1855-1856 for farmer and landowner Elbridge Arnold, survives as one of the oldest antebellum structures in Kansas City. Significant in their association to the main house are structural remnants of original, as well as nearly intact period agricultural outbuildings, that survive near the main residence. The Elbridge Arnold Homestead significantly exhibits the type of agrarian lifestyle which was prevalent in Western Missouri from the middle to the third quarter of the Nineteenth century.
"Woodneath," Arnold Elbridge, Homestead #1, Kansas City, Missouri, November, 1976.

Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri, City Hall - 26th Floor, E., 414 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106.

East facade of main residence; view looking west-northwest.
"Woodneath," Arnold, Elbridge, Homestead #2
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: Victoria C. Karel
November, 1976
Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri,
City Hall - 26th Floor, E., 414 E. 12th
Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106
North facade of main residence; view looking south.
"Woodneath," Arnold, Elbridge, Homestead  #3
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: Victoria C. Karel
November, 1976
Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri,
City Hall - 26th Floor, E., 414 E. 12th
Street, Kansas City, Missouri  64106
South facade of main residence; view looking west-northwest.
"Woodneath," Arnold, Elbridge, Homestead #4
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: Victoria C. Karel
November, 1976
Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri,
City Hall - 26th Floor, E., 414 E. 12th
Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106
West facade of ell; view looking northeast.
"Woodneath," Arnold, Elbridge, Homestead  #5
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer:  Victoria C. Karel
November, 1976
Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri,
City Hall - 26th Floor, E., 414 E. 12th
Street, Kansas City, Missouri  64106
West and north facades of main residence; view
looking east-southeast with the west facade on
the left and the north facade of the main
residence and addition on the right.
"Woodneath," Arnold, Elbridge, Homestead  #6
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: Victoria C. Karel
November, 1976
Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri,
City Hall - 26th Floor, E., 414 E. 12th
Street, Kansas City, Missouri  64106
North facade; view looking southeast with the
main residence in the background and the
addition in the foreground.
"Woodneath," Arnold, Elbridge, Homestead #7
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: Victoria C. Karel
November, 1976

Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri,
City Hall - 26th Floor, E., 414 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Southeast corner; view looking north with the southeast corner of the addition in the center and the west facade of the ell on the right.
"Woodneath," Arnold, Elbridge, Homestead
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: Victoria C. Karel
November, 1976
Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri,
City Hall - 26th Floor, E., 414 E. 12th
Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106
West facade of main residence; view looking
east.
"Woodneath," Arnold, Elbridge, Homestead  #9
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: Victoria C. Karel
November, 1976
Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri,
City Hall - 26th Floor, E., 414 E. 12th
Street, Kansas City, Missouri  64106
Interior view looking west-northwest showing
the main center staircase.
"Woodneath," Arnold, Elbridge, Homestead #10
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: Victoria C. Karel
November, 1976
Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri,
City Hall - 26th Floor, E., 414 E. 12th
Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106
West outbuildings; view looking east-northeast
showing the silo on the left, the stables in
the center, and the barn on the right.
"Woodneath," Arnold, Elbridge, Homestead  
Kansas City, Missouri  
photographer: Victoria C. Karel  
November, 1976  
Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri,  
City Hall - 26th Floor, E., 414 E. 12th  
Street, Kansas City, Missouri  64106  
"Missouri Type" Chicken House; view looking northwest showing the south facade on the left and the east facade on the right.