



Isaac Arnold's tavern on the northwest corner of Ayrault & Turk Hill Roads

Perinton Center, surrounding the intersection of Turk Hill and Ayrault Roads and extending westward to the site of Martha Brown School and southward toward Pittsford-Palmyra Road, was one of the earliest areas of settlement in what would become the Town of Perinton.

In 1811, Isaac Arnold, an early settler, purchased 60 acres of land in Perinton Center for \$240 and built a public house or inn. Originally the inn was run by Lyman Tripp, another settler, but as business began to grow, Isaac himself took over. Records show that he held a license for keeping an inn from 1822 to 1829. As was common practice in early settlements, the local inn was also the center of public discourse and action, and, not surprisingly, was the site of town meetings from 1827 to 1829.

Isaac Arnold and his family were Quakers from Rhode Island. Isaac served in the War of 1812 and was subsequently very active in town affairs, holding a variety of positions between 1813 and 1826, including clerk and fenceviewer. In addition to being an innkeeper, he made wooden churns and apple grinders for cider making. Isaac and his wife Abigail Wilbur had seven children, one of whom, Thomas Henry, lived for a number of years on his South Main Street farm in the house currently known as the Arnold-McDonough house (# 224). Darius Arnold, Isaac's brother, also lived in Perinton, and was active in town affairs.

Arnold's tavern still stands at the northwest corner of the Ayrault-Turk Hill Road intersection. Owned at least since the 1920's by the Ellsworth family, the former inn has been used as a private home and for storage.