



THE LANDMARK

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Continuing the Tradition ~ Preserving Our History

bvhsri.org ♦ 1873 Old Louisissett Pike (Rte 246) ♦ PO Box 125, Lincoln RI, 02865

Please
Join
Us ...

Sunday, November 20 — 2:00 P.M. — North Gate

C. Morgan Grefe Triple-Deckers



Image from Worcester History Museum

If you look around your neighborhood, there are probably some of these large, three-story houses; however, elsewhere in the U.S. they are not there. Why is that? When were the first of these large homes built, and why? Are they an offshoot of our manufacturing roots, as necessary housing for workers? And, are they really a “menace” within a neighborhood?

Dr. Morgan Grefe, the Head of the Rhode Island Historical Society, became interested in this form of housing during her Ph.D. studies at Brown University. Her insight as to their history and construction will fascinate all who have lived in, or even just seen rows of, three-deckers in their neighborhoods.

Looking for some historic triple-deckers? Venture out of the Blackstone Valley and into the Historic Smith Hill District. Not only are there classic examples of the triple-decker, this also illustrates the “menace” concept that can be seen in the construct. The neighborhood is dingy, but the dusty beauty can still be seen in the architecture. Unfortunately, Smith Hill District suffers from the ‘college housing syndrome’, with many of the triple-deckers being utilized by PC and RIC students. While the bones are preserved, what is the cost to the interior?



Image from wikipedia

Please
Join
Us ...

Saturday, November 19 — 2:00 P.M. — North Gate

Holiday Craft Fair
benefit for Valentine Whitman House



Found in the Archives ...

Starting in the summer of 2015, Pat Armitage, Lori Melucci and Jocelyn Dube starting the arduous process of cataloging the collection that BVHS has been building since 1971.... Join us as we check in to see what they've found this past month.

Meeting Minutes from the Central Falls Fourth of July Celebration Committee in the 1881 — transcribed below.

Voted that on account of Gen. Garfield's misfortune and if he should that we do not celebrate 4th providing Newport, Bristol and other towns about the state decide not to but if above towns and cities should celebrate we carry out our present arrangement

Central Falls N. H. July 1st 1881
Regular meeting celebration committee
Second last meeting and the
Vote that on account of Gen. Garfield's misfortune and if he should that we do not celebrate the 4th providing Newport, Bristol and other towns about the state decide not to but if above towns and cities should celebrate we carry out our present arrangement
Voted to adjourn
Wm Kennedy Clerk

THE RIVER ROAD AND BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY CEMETERIES PROJECT SECTION

a.k.a *Last month with Ken*

(From Ken) - Besides working on the McIntire Lot on Sherman Avenue and finding a new (possible) cemetery behind Jason's house, the three biggest things that have happened in October were

The Boy Scout Recovery/Restoration Project of the Wilbur Family burial ground in Lincoln by the Scouts of Troop 711 Albion for Drew Abrams Eagle Project.

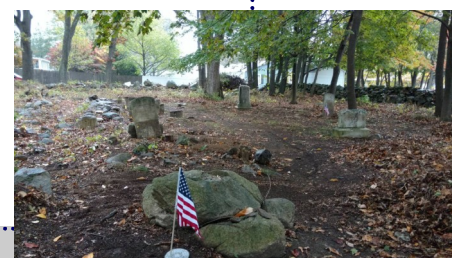
The Scouts (after cutting down trees and blazing a trail from the ballfield to the now recovered lot) built a wonderful viewing post. At the post is a map with accompanying names and details. Folks can go, reference the map, and see who is buried in the cemetery and under which marker. There is room there for more detailed info on the family and about how to do further work with BVHS. It was nice to see Joe Almond come out to congratulate Drew and the Scouts and to hear him pledge that the town would do it's part to upkeep the yard and newly blazed trail maintained.



Bill from the Valley Breeze, Joe Almond, Drew, Brian McMahon and Jason Dionne behind the Christopher Wilbur stone. BVHS honored troop 711 with certificates for their work.

The incredible finds and recovery work done throughout the month at CU33 by the CHS (Cumberland High School) Archaeology group, leading to it being designated as a Veteran Cemetery because of Henry Bennet (Civil War —served as a volunteer for RI) and as A Revolutionary War Patriot burial area. Also, The Quakers (Bartletts) interred their forged cannon and ammo for the war effort out of the Cumberland Iron mines...

The Cumberland High kids have unearthed what is now numbering about a 100 markers (most uninscribed) dating from at least the early 1700's, but most likely before as this is an old burial ground for the areas' Quaker population...There are definitely more finds to be made there and at the other cemeteries these students have labored in. The CHS kids have been instrumental in a lot of new finds that would probably have been lost to neglect if not to development without their efforts.



CU33—Boulders were pushed there during street construction when plowing over the outer edges of the cemetery... Path running through cemetery result of persistent pedestrian traffic (as well as bikes and motor bikes)

And (of course!) the acquiring of the James Arnold notes for the Friends and Sprague Avenue cemeteries which validated as of the 1890's all the Quaker markers I had recovered in those two lots and it talks of more that I haven't yet found-very cool!

In November 2015 BVHS voted to aid Ken Postle in his efforts to uncover lost cemeteries. Donations to help him in his mission can be submitted to BVHS.

Blackstone Valley's Space of the Month

Official
founding:
2.12.1909



627 acres
on
Olney Pond

Lincoln Woods State Park



Named for Abraham Lincoln, the park was a favorite spot for H.P. Lovecraft. Known as Quinsnicket until the 1940's, Lincoln Woods is currently undergoing a constructional facelift—The pavilion is being replaced.



...Think About It...


McDonald's is suing Florence for 19.7 million dollars. The fast food machine planned to open up shop on the Piazza del Duomo. Florence's mayor shut down the plan in June. It was upheld in July by a technical panel. McDonalds argues prejudice, complaining that they intended to operate respectfully towards local policies, carry local products and uphold standards.

"We completely agree that the cultural and artistic heritage and the Italian historical town centres have to be protected and guaranteed, as well as the traditions and the historical small shops, but we cannot accept discriminatory regulations that damage the freedom of private initiative without being advantageous to anyone," McDonald's told the BBC in an 11.8 article.

Florence's mayor, Dario Nardella begs to differ. "McDonald's has the right to submit an application, because this is permitted under the law, but we also have the right to say no", he states in the same article.

Take away the compulsive American act of indignant suing, what does this say of historical preservation? If McDonald's carries through with the lawsuit, are they saying they have a legal right to corrupt historical atmospheres with minute made menus?





Rent
North Gate!

**Questions?
Call John!
(401) 651-6463**

**A perfect way to
make your party
pop is to have it
in a hip historic
setting ...
Great for all
occasions!**

2016-2017 Capital Campaign



As you know, the society has applied for and received a grant to repair and paint North Gate. In the process other issues arose including foundation stabilization, new walkway and parking lot barriers. The Capital Campaign will fund this needed work and allow for continued upkeep of The Lonsdale Arnold Bakery, The Fire Station and the exterior and interior spaces at North Gate.

Help us meet our goal!

Consider donating your time!

Attend a meeting, think about participating on a committee, or help out with hospitality (i.e. donate yummy food) during our events.

Every bit helps!

e-mail bvhs58@gmail.com

BVHS EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Jason Dionne
401-862-4202

Email: jhdio70@gmail.com

Vice President: John Houghton
Secretary: Francine Jackson
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Gail Harris, Bob Ferri



Like us on Facebook

Visit us at www.bvhsri.com

Francine is on the radio!

*Tune in to WRNI at 9:35 A.M on the
4th Thursday of the Month*

Submit your stuff!

Have a story to include in this awesome Landmark newsletter?

Send it along!

dubejocelyn@gmail.com

Currently looking for warm Christmas memories, beautiful snowy stories or classic parlor photographs to warm the heart.

(If you don't have the prose, a picture is worth a thousand words.)

Also, you could be a poet and not even know it ..

Jot down some Blackstone Valley verses!

Upcoming events

December 11
2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.
@ north gate

Christmas Open House.

DJ Bob Ferri will be spinning some sweet tunes

More details to follow.

January 22
2:00 P.M.
@ north gate

Selections from the movie, *Senetchonet to Manville: a Journey through Time*

Documentary on the history of Manville, which contains hundreds of historical photographs of Manville from the collection of Roger Gladu.

This showing is made possible by the generous gift of Roger and Lorraine Gladu.