



THE LANDMARK

PUBLICATION OF THE BLACKSTONE VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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PO Box 125, Lincoln RI, 02865

E-mail: bvhs58@gmail.com

Affiliate Associations

Preservation Society of Pawtucket ♦ Great Road Historical District

Save The Dates

BVHS EVENTS

September 29, 2012

*What So Proudly We Hailed:
1812 on Great Road Tour*
10 AM-4 PM

October 20, 2012

Ken Lyon Blues Concert
7:00PM

Members \$12

Non-Members \$15

Tickets: 401-862-4202

November 20, 2012

Jim Clark

Civil War Monuments

7:00 PM

EVENTS AROUND BLACKSTONE VALLEY

September 15, 2012

*Walking Tour of Alfred Drown His-
toric District ~ Barrington*
Tickets: 401-245-4364

September 22, 2012

Maintaining Your Old House
Arnold House 9-11 AM
Reservations: 401-324-6090

*Historic New England
History Hikes*

September 15 ~ 10 AM - 12 PM

October 3 ~ 1 PM - 3 PM

HNE Members - Free

Lincoln Residents - \$5

Non-Members - \$10

Begins September 20, 2012

Firefly Grove Art Installation
John Brown House ~ 7:15 & 7:30 PM
52 Power St. Providence, RI

North Gate Toll House and Lonsdale Arnold Bakery will be Sites on the What So Proudly We Hailed: 1812 on Great Road Tour Sat., Sept. 29, 10 am-4 pm

On Saturday, September 29 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., seven sites along Lincoln's historic Great Road will host special tours, exhibits, and presentations with a War of 1812 focus; all sites are open free to the public. Take tours, explore the area, and discover the impact that the War of 1812 had on Great Road and how our local sites and citizens contributed to the war.

At *North Gate Toll House (1807)*, home of the Blackstone Valley Historical Society, visitors can expect to "enjoy food and music from the War of 1812 era" . . . and they can also take a tour of North Gate and the Arnold's Lonsdale Bakery.

Come explore the area, and discover the impact that the War of 1812 had on Great Road and

1812 Tour (Continued on Page 2)



North Gate Toll House



Arnold's Lonsdale Bakery

Will You Help?

Help us make this year's Great Road Tour a great success by volunteering for a two hour shift during our open house 10 AM - 4 PM.

Here is what you can do:

- Greet visitors at Toll House or the Arnold,s Lonsdale Bakery & hand out self-guided tour papers
- Serve refreshments

**To Volunteer
Call Jason Dionne
401-862-4202
or Email
bvhsri@gmail.com**



Meet Your BVHS 2012-13 Officers

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Glenn Laxton | Member-at-Large |
| Jason Dionne | President |
| Lori Melucci | Treasurer |
| Gail Harris | Member-at-Large |
| Francine Jackson | Secretary |
| John Houghton | Vice President |

Immediate Past President Pat Armitage
 Publicity Francine Jackson
 Newsletter Sue Nicewander
 Resident Agent Al Klyberg
 Property John Houghton
 Hospitality Sue Clark & Nancy Manion

1812 Tour (Continued from Page 1)

how our local sites and citizens contributed to the war. Organizations participating in the event include: Blackstone Valley Historical Society; Historic New England's 1693 Arnold House; c. 1835 Captain Wilbur Kelly House; 1870 Hannaway Blacksmith Shop; 1810 Hearthside; 1703 Saylesville Meeting House; and 1694 Valentine Whitman Jr. House. **Free shuttles will depart from Chase Farm Park parking lot, located at 669 Great Road, Lincoln, RI, on the half hour, starting at 10:00 a.m., and stopping at each of the seven sites. Patrons may disembark at each site or continue on the shuttle to the next site. The last shuttle will depart from Chase Farm Park parking lot at 3:00 p.m.** Visitors may also choose to park at each site. Some of the sites offer limited parking. Some of the sites are also participants in the Smithsonian's Museum Day.

Special Tours, Exhibits and Presentations

Historic New England's **Arnold House** presents the exhibit, *War of 1812: A Nation Forged by War*. This exhibit, created by The National Museum of the United States Navy, tells the stories of heroic U.S. Navy crews in battles on oceans and Great Lakes, as well as the contributions of sailors in celebrated battles from Canada to Louisiana. Early nineteenth century additions and changes to Arnold House will be highlighted in guided tours.

Built by Stephen Hopkins Smith between 1810-1814, the stately **Hearthside House**, now a museum, hosts an exhibit of the first major battle of the War of 1812 involving the U.S.S. Constitution and the British ship, the Guerriere. On exhibit is the Guerriere's bell, taken as a war trophy, and later purchased by Smith to hang in his factory, The Butterfly Mill, across from Hearthside where it hung in the belfry for well over 100 years. A rope

making demonstration will also take place on the grounds of Hearthside.

Originally located at the 1812 Moffett Mill, the **Hannaway Blacksmith Shop** is now located at Chase Farm Park where modern day blacksmiths bring history to life with the traditional craft of hand forging hot iron into various implements. During 1812, the Shop would be called upon to support the war effort with the production of muskets and other necessary equipment.

Learn about how the War of 1812 led to the formation of start-up mills, such as the Smithfield Cotton and Woolen Manufactory, at the **Captain Wilbur Kelly House**.

At **Saylesville Meeting House**, learn about the position of Quakers on the War and local and national Quaker life in the early 19th century. The meeting house will also host a book swap.

The history of the Moshassuck River mills will be highlighted in tours of **Valentine Whitman Jr. House**.

Refreshments are available at the **Blackstone Valley Historic Society (North Gate)** and **Arnold House**.

Thank you to our sponsors: Blackstone Valley Tourism Council, the merchants of the Lincoln Shopping Center, and the Town of Lincoln, RI.

All events are free to the public. For more information, please call 401-728-9696.

More About the Great Road Historic District

Called "Great" because it was so much more substantial than other routes through the valley, Great Road was built in 1683 as the major thoroughfare on the west side of the Blackstone River. With historic houses, farms and mills, the Great Road Historic District in Lincoln, Rhode Island, retains



The Slater Mill

Sitting on the Blackstone river,
now quiet and still,
if you ever get the chance,
visit this historic mill.

The story should fill many pages,
but never quite get it's due,
well worn and complicated machinery,
certainly serves as a clue.

That every day workers toiled,
often next to a family kin,
their many hours of sweat,
dried on the walls within.

No labor laws or regulations,
these were difficult time,
few breaks and short lunches,
wages amounted to dimes.

Samuel Slater worked tirelessly,
to improve spinning and roving frames,
partnering with Almy and Brown,
two other famous names.

American has always worked hard,
displaying unity and strong will,
let's never forget our history,
and places like the Slater Mill

Bob Ferri
Central Falls

much of the Blackstone River Valley's early nineteenth century rural character.