

THE LANDMARK

PUBLICATION OF THE BLACKSTONE VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vol. 62

November 2020

No. 3

Continuing the Tradition ~ Preserving Our History

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

Visit historic World War II memorabilia at North Gate Collection of Kevin Heskin

On November 21, Kevin Heskin will take us back to the days of World War II, bringing examples of his extensive col-Having spent lection. over a decade in search of World War II memorabilia from all over the world, he has uniforms belonging to armies from all major countries, including Spanish, German, Japanese, Italian, American soldiers. He also has a large collection of weapons: swords, rifles and bayonets, plus gas masks, helmets, map



German helmets are part of a collection of World War II artifacts by Lincoln resident Kevin Heskin on exhibit at the BVHS Nov. 21.

cases, firstaid kits, medals, and many other artifacts from this period.

Heskin is fascinated with both World Wars. In 2017, he showed many pieces from his WWI collection at North Gate. In February 2019, he brought his first exhibit of WWII memorabilia to BVHS.

Id Wars. In North Gate will be gowed many ing back to this historic s WWI coltime from 2:00—4:00 ch Gate. In pm, Saturday, November This exhibit was postponed.

WWII Collection
of Kevin Heskin
2–4 PM
Saturday, Nov 21,
BVHS
1873 Old Louisquisset Pike
Lincoln, RI

FREE EVENT

21. Join us, and relive the second "war to end all wars" as seen through artifacts from many countries.

All guests are asked to wear masks and social distancing while enjoying this exhibit.

Flagging Veterans' Graves at Mineral Spring Avenue Cemetery



Volunteers assemble Nov. 7 to place flags on veterans' graves at the Mineral Spring Avenue cemetery.

A group of volunteers led by Ken Postle assembled on Nov. 7 to place flags on veterans' graves at the Mineral Spring Avenue Cemetery in Pawtucket, ahead of Veterans Day. (Continued on p. 2)

Volunteers Needed Nov 14 for Cleanup at Historic Cemetery

Lincoln 15, a Mowry-Whipple lot located across from the Limerock Baptist Church and Lincoln Central Elementary School, near Great Road, needs our attention. This cemetery contains some

of the oldest inscriptions in the area, and some especially beautiful stones, as well as early fieldstone markers. The cemetery has suffered damage in the past in part because it is hidden from the road. (Continued on p. 2)

Discoveries near Historic Cemeteries in Woonsocket and Cumberland



Greg Duhamel and Zachary Cote cleaned this cellar hole near the Zebina Cook Cemetery.

Greg Duhamel and Zachary Cote have been clearing trash and brush out of the cellar holes and around other remains of colonial/early American farm buildings on the Cook property adjacent to the Zebina Cook cemetery. The Cooks were some of the earliest settlers in the Woonsocket area.

Cow pens, fence posts, and the foundation of the main house are now visible.

Early in October, Duhamel, Johnelle Bergeron, Zachary Cote, and Barbara and Jeff Martini were hiking in Diamond Hill West Park out to the Scott Cemetery, which is Cumberland Historical Cemetery 31, were able to reset several fieldstone markers outside the walls of the cemetery, which may belong to servants or slaves. They may be early burials that pre-date the fence.



Greg Duhamel, Johnelle Bergeron, Zachary Cote,, Barbara & Jeff Martini reset row of fieldstones outside fence.

New Online Property Map of Lincoln Omits Locations of Historic Cemeteries



Angel headstone at Lincoln 15. Photo by Greg Duhamel

(continued from p. 1) A cleanup is planned for November 14, starting at 8:30 am. The Lincoln Conservation Commission may be helping out with leaf bags and gloves, but

bring your gloves; weed whackers, chain saws, rakes, and trucks to haul away brush are welcome.

Watch the Facebook site "River Road and Blackstone River Cemeteries" for updates.

A developer has just bought one of the properties that abut the cemetery. The Town of Lincoln's new online property tool does not indicate the locations of historic cemeteries.



Greg Duhamel and Johnelle Bergeron visit Lincoln 15
Photograph by Ken Postle

Mineral Spring Avenue cemetery, continued.

(Continued from p. 1)The group included volunteers Jerry O'Connor, Mike Crawley, David Savard, Steve Parent, Ted Randall, and Stephen Small.

To learn more about the history of this cemetery, see the Pawtucket Preservation Society walking tour at www.pawtuck-etpreservation.org/programs/.



Volunteers placed new flags on these graves on November 7

Don't forget to renew your membership! Donations are always welcome to help keep up North Gate, the Fire Station and the Bakery! www.bvhsri.org/join

Donation of Vintage Veterans' Grave Markers

Ken Postle received a donation of vintage grave markers from Tammy Robert of Cumberland. She wrote on Facebook, "I've just been introduced to Ken and am now a part of this very interesting group. I'm currently clearing out property to put on the market over in Cumberland, and came across a few grave markers which include Colonial War and Civil War

markers, which I'm donating to Ken, so they may be placed at the site of those deserving to be honored."

The markers had been found earlier in a mound near Diamond Hill. Greg Duhamel said that he and Johnelle Bergeron have learned techniques to restore and stabilize the markers.





Two of the veteran markers donated by Tammy Robert

"Dairy Days" at BVHS

In case you missed it! Two pictures from the exhibit.





In Memoriam: Doris Greenwood



Bill and Doris Greenwood

Doris Irene (Alarie)
Greenwood passed away
on October 28. She and
her husband, Bill Greenwood, became advocates
and supporters of cemetery restoration with Ken
Postle long before BVHS
became involved, and

were instrumental in the restoration of many cemeteries. They were volunteer caretakers at the Mineral Spring Avenue cemetery and the Oak Grove Cemetery in Pawtucket.

Out thoughts and prayers are with her family.

A special thank you to all our members who have sent generous donations this difficult year to support BVHS.



Help bring joy this season

Buy your gifts at AmazonSmile and Amazon donates amazonsmile

Upcoming Events at North Gate

2:00-4:00 pm, Saturday, November 21: The World War II Collection of Kevin Heskin. Heskin will exhibit more highlights from his collection of World War II memorabilia. Looking forward to this exhibit!

We are working on new exhibits for 2021. We wish all a happy and safe Thanksgiving and holiday season.



Pieces from Heskin's Collection

Introducing Commercial Artist and Greeting Card Designer Ellen Clapsaddle, 1865-1934

In October, we saw Dan Bethel's collection of milk bottles from local dairies. He also has an unusual, non -local (!) collection of cards by Ellen Clapsaddle, who was an illustrator and commercial artist from New York. She was one of the most prolific postcard and greeting card designers of her day, and had an immediately recognizable style. Here are three cards from his collection.









The Landmark apologizes for the incomplete list of the people who helped hang our sign. Kevin Bedford, Bob Ferri, and Matt Houghton hung the BVHS sign with Susan Clarke, Don Coelho, Jason Dionne and John Houghton.

BVHS Executive Board

President: Jason Dionne

401-862-4202

Email: jjhdio70@gmail.com

Vice President: Lori Melucci

Secretary: Francine Jackson

Treasurer/Property Manager: John Houghton

Members-at-Large

Gail Harris, Bob Ferri, Don Coelho

