



THE LANDMARK

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Continuing the Tradition ~ Preserving Our History

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

Northgate and Bakery Open on Great Road Day



THREE CENTURIES IN THREE MILES

Saturday, September 24

Great Road Historic District

Lincoln, Rhode Island

Sites Open:

Arnold House: 11:00 am-5:00 pm 487 Great Road

Blackstone Valley Historical Society & Arnold's Lonsdale Bakery: 11:00 am-4:00 pm 1873 Old Louisquisset Pike

Hannaway Blacksmith Shop: 11:00 am-4:00 pm 671 Great Road

Hearthside House Museum: 11:00 am-4:00 pm 677 Great Road

Moffett Mill: 11:00 am-4:00 pm, accessible only from Chase Farm Park

Pullen Corner Schoolhouse: 11:00 am-4:00 pm 671 Great Road

Mount Moriah Lodge: 11:00 am-4:00 pm 1093 Great Road

Saylesville Friends Meeting-house: 11:00 am-4:00 pm 374 Great Road



An undated painting of a quarry in Lime Rock by Vincent Bernasconi (1885-1962) will be on display at BVHS as part of an exhibit of the artist's works on Great Road Day

BVHS is participating in Lincoln's Great Road Day. Northgate and Arnold's Lonsdale Bakery will be open 11:00 am to 4:00 pm on September 24.

Northgate was built around 1807 as a residence for the toll collector for the Louisquisset Turnpike, which was constructed at the same time to expedite the shipment of lime to Providence. In later years, the building served as the Lime Rock Grange, a social gathering place for local families.

The bakery was originally a one-room, one-story workshop, which was used by Mr. and Mrs. Jo-

seph Jenks Arnold as a bakery in 1874, and was the start of their Lincoln business which lasted nearly 100 years. They were so successful that a large bakery was built in Saylesville, and eventually the little bakery was purchased by one of the Arnolds and moved to Saylesville next to their new building. In the 1990's the original bakery was relocated and rebuilt in its current spot adjacent to Northgate.

The Jenks collection of antique baking equipment was placed on display at the bak-

ery, and Gail Harris from BVHS has added to the bakery collection.

On Great Road Day, BVHS will also host an exhibit of Vincent Bernasconi's paintings of the lime quarry and Lime Rock, courtesy of Joyce Bethel and the Conklin Lime Quarry. In addition, Dan Bethel will show material he has collected about Bernasconi.

Vincent Bernasconi (1885-1962) was a staff artist at the Providence Journal. He was born in Birmingham in England and graduated from art school. He began working at the Providence Evening Bulletin in 1917, drawing illustrations for the sporting page and sketching cartoons. He lived on Great Road in one of the houses just past the quarry, and in his free time he enjoyed painting his neighborhood. These illustrations of Lime Rock and the lime quarry may be on public view for the first time,

We will have chocolate chip cookies in the bakery. Please stop by!

Lost Cemetery of Olney Farm Rediscovered



Headstone of Marvel Hawkins (1787-1850) found by volunteers

Ken Postle, the BVHS cemetery coordinator, and his team of volunteers have been restoring North Providence Lot 12, the Hezekiah Olney Farm Lot, which had been considered lost.

Postle decided to look for the cemetery on September 3, and happened to stop to talk to Joyce Chadwick, who was a wealth of information on the old farmstead. She told him that local children had found a marble headstone and dragged it out to the street, and the police were called, but didn't know where the cemetery was.

Postle, encouraged by this new information, dug through the underbrush as directed by Chadwick,

and found a section of wall. He began looking for stones. Knowing that they would be orientated East/West, he first spotted a row of unrecorded fieldstones, and then found the footstones and headstones of Hezekiah Olney (1761-1820) and his wife Phoebe (1767-1832), wrapped in briars. The cemetery was last officially recorded by James Arnold in 1893, and seven stones were recorded. Postle found in addition 16 fieldstone burials, bringing the known total to 23. One of the lost headstones they uncovered belonged to the wonderfully named Marvel Hawkins.

Postle and a group of 19 volunteers, including Zachary Cote, Giammarco Carlson, Carl L. Johnson, Greg Duhamel, Johnelle Bergeron, Nicole Loranger, Raymond Mello, Marianne Hawkins Rivet, Stacy, Steve and Maddox Coletti, Paul Tognetti, and Joyce Chadwick worked on the cemetery at 16 Elena Street on Saturday, September 10. Ellen Finerty and Greg Duhamel researched the cemetery, and Kayla Panu from the Valley Breeze covered the story. More pictures and the full story is on the River Road and Blackstone River Valley Cemetery Facebook page.



Is there a cemetery in there?



Volunteers pause during cleanup of the Hezekiah Olney Lot



Underbrush trimmed from around stones

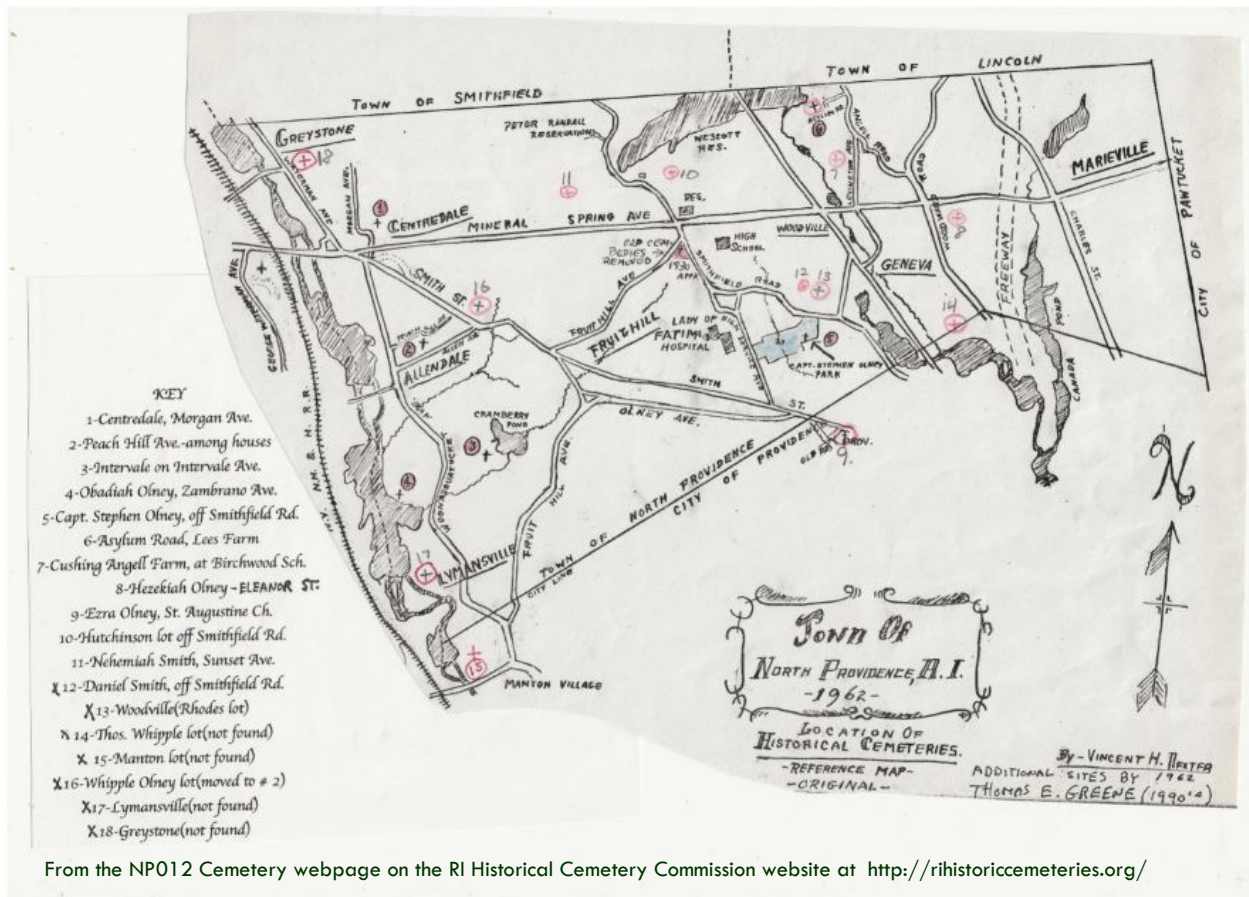
Pictures courtesy of the River Road and Blackstone River Valley Cemetery Facebook Page

BVHS has a new Facebook Page

Please follow:

<https://www.facebook.com/bvhs1873>

Historical Cemetery Map Showing Sites in North Providence



From the NP012 Cemetery webpage on the RI Historical Cemetery Commission website at <http://rihistoriccemeteries.org/>

Valentine Whitman House Renovation Completed by Preserve RI



Valentine Whitman House

Renovations at the Valentine Whitman House at 1147 Great Road have been completed by Preserve RI, and a ceremony was held on August 10 to mark the occasion. Va-

lerie Talmage, director of Preserve RI, Lincoln Town Administrator Phil Gould, and Rob Cagnetta from Heritage Restoration Inc. cut the ribbon, and opened the house for view.

The house, which

was built around 1696, is one of Rhode Island's rare "stone-enders," a house where the chimney takes up an entire side of the house. The first town meeting of Smithfield (which included Lincoln at the time) was held there in 1730. Around 1820, the house was temporarily converted into three apartments, possibly to house workers from the nearby lime quarries and mills. Through the years, the Valentine Whitman House remained relatively unchanged, except for minor upgrades in the 1950s. The house was owned by the town of Lincoln from 1991 to 2021, and it was cared for by a group of volunteers headed by Pat Choinere, who operated it

as a house museum. In 2021, the town turned the house over to Preserve RI.

Renovations on the house included a new wood shake roof, new storm windows, new electrical, plumbing and HVAC systems, a new kitchen, renovated bathrooms and laundry space. The original wood floors, plaster walls, and fireplaces were restored or repaired.

The house is for sale as a private residence under a comprehensive easement that safeguards the property from demolition and major changes. There will be limited public access to the house as a term of the easement.

**Most events are free.
Everyone is welcome.
Donations are gratefully accepted.**

11:00 am – 4:00 pm, Saturday, September 24: Great Road Day. Open House at Northgate and the Arnold's Lonsdale Bakery. Exhibit of Lime Rock paintings by Vincent Bernasconi.

2:00 pm, Sunday, October 16: **Bob Kynch** will give a presentation on the Narragansett Race Track.

2:00 pm Sunday, November 20: There will be a showing of "Kittycunk Speaks," a film about the history of the Blackstone. **John Marsland**, president of the Blackstone Valley Watershed Council Friends of the Blackstone will introduce the movie.

2:00 pm Sunday, January 22: **Andrew Noone**, author of "Bathsheba Spooner, A Revolutionary Murder Conspiracy" will give a presentation.

2:00 pm Sunday, April 16: **Jim Bailey** will speak about his research and his upcoming new book about Captain Henry Every, the pirate.

1:30 pm Sunday, May 21. Annual Meeting and talk by **Kevin Klyberg**, Blackstone River Valley National Historic Park Ranger.

Slatersville, American's First Mill Village to be shown on PBS

Slatersville will have its world premiere on Rhode Island PBS on Friday, September 16, 2022 at 8:00 p.m., and a new episode will air every Friday at the same time until the end of Season 1 on October 14.

Slatersville: America's First Mill Village is an 11-episode historical documentary series that retraces the two-hundred-year history of the first industrialized mill village in the United States. It has been filmed in seven states and the U.K. *Slatersville* is directed, produced and edited by filmmaker Christian de Rezendes.

Streaming will be accessible at <https://watch.ripbs.org>, Livestream immediately following the full broadcast of each episode.

Schedule of Episodes

9/16, 8:00 pm- Episode 1:
The Mental Smugglers
(57 minutes)

9/23: 8:00 pm - Episode
2: Controlling No Man's
Land (57 minutes)

09/30, 8:00 pm - Episode
3: The Great Change (57
minutes)

10/07, 8:00 pm - Episode
4: Conscience Money (55
minutes)

10/14, 8:00 pm - Episode
5: The World According
to Uncle Johnny (75
minutes)



Chase Farm by Dan Bethel

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