The Great Road was laid out as a colonial highway in 1683, connecting Providence, Rhode Island with Mendon, Massachusetts. For generations, it was the major link for Blackstone Valley towns with the port of Providence. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Great Road Historic District in Lincoln, gives visitors a good idea of what the road once looked like and contains several historical gems that are open to the public. Many of the attractions are free of charge.

The Saylesville Friends Meeting House (1763) is one of the oldest Quaker meeting houses in New England and has been in continuous use as a place of worship since 1744 longer than any other Friends Meeting House in Rhode Island. Open on the third Saturday morning of the month from 10:00 a.m. – noon and for worship on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. • 374 Great Road • 401-724-7249 • www.providencefriends.org

The first town meeting in Smithfield was held at the Valentine Whitman, Jr. House (1694). A stone-ender of unique architecture, this 300-year old house served as home to the Whitman family, among the first settlers in northern Rhode Island and is furnished to represent many eras. Visit by appointment or for special events. 1147 Great Road • Call 401-334-2182 for schedule.

Heartside (1810) is one of the finest examples of early 19th century Federal-style houses in the state. The magnificent stone mansion, with its impressive curved roofline, has 10 fireplaces. History comes alive from docents dressed in period costumes. Learn why it has become known as “The House That Love Built” and see the original Talbot looms from their renowned hand weaving business.

Open March through Dec. for tours and historic events. Check for schedule and fees. 677 Great Road • 401-726-0597 • www.hearthsidehouse.org

The newly-restored Moffett Mill (1812) is a rare example of a wooden mill built during the first wave of industrialization in the Blackstone Valley. The Mill made parts for wagons, carriages, shoe and corset laces. Open during special events in conjunction with Hearthside. Chase Farm Park • 669 Great Road • 401-726-0597 • www.hearthsidehouse.org

Chase Farm Park depicts the rural and open character of the Great Road Historic District and is now enjoyed by the public for recreation, including summer concerts, fishing, kite flying, sledding, and walking. The Butterfly Garden overlooks the original farm. Open year round, closes at sun down. 669 Great Road • 401-726-0597 • www.hearthsidehouse.org

The Hannaway Blacksmith Shop (1880) is the gateway to over 85 acres of picturesque hills and meadows of Lincoln’s last dairy farm, operating from 1867-1963. Chase Farm Park depicts the rural and open character of the Great Road Historic District and is now enjoyed by the public for recreation, including summer concerts, fishing, kite flying, sledding, and walking. The Butterfly Garden overlooks the original farm. Open year round, closes at sun down. 669 Great Road • 401-726-0597 • www.hearthsidehouse.org

Lincoln Woods State Park (1908) Named after President Abraham Lincoln, this 458 acre park is a great place to enjoy swimming, hiking, paddling, biking and horseback riding. 3 Manchester Print Works Road • 401-723-7892 • www.riparks.com

The Arnold House (1693) was built by Eleazar Arnold along Great Road. Two stories high, with a pilastered chimney, the home earned the title “Eleazar’s Splendid Mansion.” With its massive chimney end wall, the house is a rare survivor of a once common Rhode Island building type known as a stone-ender. The structure has sustained many alterations over the centuries.

Everyday is Great Road Day at the Captain Willbur Kelly House (1835) where the beginnings of the Blackstone Canal are explored and all transportation stories come together. Open daily from mid-April through October 30, 9:00-4:00 p.m. • Blackstone River State Park • 401-333-0295 www.riparks.com

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Arnold opened the original Arnold Bakery in 1874. The one-story, one-room bakery now rests at North Gate (1807). Originally built as a tollgate residence, this building is currently home to the Blackstone Valley Historical Society. 1873 Old Louisquissett Pike • Open for special events.

Check for schedule. 401-862-4202 • www.bvhori.org

For turn-of-the-century blacksmithing demonstrations, stop in at the Hannaway Blacksmith Shop (1880). The public is invited to watch, or take classes, every weekend from 8:00 a.m. till noon. Chase Farm Park • 669 Great Road • 401-726-0597 • www.hearthsidehouse.org

Lincoln Woods State Park • 401-726-0597 • www.heathsidehouse.org

If you wish to tour aren’t open on the day you’re there, opt for a leisurely drive to view these wonderful buildings from the outside or hike and bike the new Blackstone River Bikeway which runs by the Kelly House. Either pack a picnic to enjoy on the Blackstone River State Park or dine at the Lodge Pub & Eatery.

Tollgate residence, this building is currently home to the Blackstone Valley Historical Society. 1873 Old Louisquissett Pike • Open for special events.

Check for schedule. 401-862-4202 • www.bvhori.org

For turn-of-the-century blacksmithing demonstrations, stop in at the Hannaway Blacksmith Shop (1880). The public is invited to watch, or take classes, every weekend from 8:00 a.m. till noon. Chase Farm Park • 669 Great Road • 401-726-0597 • www.heathsidehouse.org

Lincoln Woods State Park • 401-726-0597 • www.heathsidehouse.org

If you wish to tour aren’t open on the day you’re there, opt for a leisurely drive to view these wonderful buildings from the outside or hike and bike the new Blackstone River Bikeway which runs by the Kelly House. Either pack a picnic to enjoy on the Blackstone River or in Lincoln Woods State Park or dine at the Lodge Pub & Eatery.

For further information visit www.nps.gov/blac/planyourvisit www.blackstonevalley.org or Call 401-724-2200