

1.18 Historic and Cultural Resources

The first settlers of Watershed Management Area 6 were the Lenni Lenape Indians. Numerous relics have been uncovered in the Millburn area, and an Indian burial ground has been found in East Hanover.

WMA 6 was originally hunting and fishing ground for the Lenape Indians, then later for the Dutch and English who had settled farther east. In the early 1700s, the Dutch and English began to move into the area that is now WMA 6 and established a community that was primarily agricultural.

During the Revolutionary War, Morris County was known as *The Military Capital of the American Revolution*, because of its strategic location, which prompted Gen. George Washington and his Continental Army to make their winter encampments near Morristown on two different winters. Much of the historic lore of these encampments is preserved today in Morristown National Historical Park.¹ There are markers along the route Washington followed back to Jockey Hollow from skirmishes which occurred in the Springfield area (outside WMA 6) between the British forces and local militia.

During the war, Shepard Kollock began printing New Jersey's first continuously published paper, the "New Jersey Journal and Political Intelligencer", in Chatham. The paper later moved out of WMA 6 to Elizabeth. After the war, industry began to build up in the area. In western Essex County the primary industries were paper mills, gristmills and textile factories, and in Morris County a thriving iron industry developed.

In the early 1800s, the Morris Turnpike was constructed through WMA 6. The turnpike was a toll road, leading to the construction of several free parallel roads to avoid the toll (often named "Shunpike") and other roads to interconnect to the turnpike.

Railroads were constructed through the area in the mid-17th century. Railroads received especially strong support in the areas not served by the Morris Canal. As the area became more accessible, it became a popular site for wealthy financiers and industrialists to build their mansions. Historical resources in this area, as in much of the Passaic Basin, include many manor houses on the National Register of Historic Places.

Plate 1.18.1, Major Open Space Land Areas, also shows the locations of several historic and cultural sites in WMA 6.

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¹ "History of Morris County," <http://www.co.morris.nj.us/history/history.html>