

Just the beginning -

The work of the ANJEC Grant Committee is truly "a work in progress". The committee has identified and mapped existing trails, paths, and pedestrian and bike-friendly areas within the borough and identified others that have the potential to add to the Borough's status as a pedestrian-friendly community. Much has been accomplished...and much more remains to be done.

When completed, this project - the work of dozens of volunteers who have shared their expertise and knowledge of the community - will provide residents and visitors alike with an overview of the many historic and natural treasures available in Stanhope. The completed study will also provide a framework for future planning and development within the Borough. The map printed on the reverse side is just the beginning....

The Stanhope House

Built during the late 1700's, the Stanhope House was originally the home of the early forge owners. It began operating as a hotel around 1810 when the Morris & Sussex Turnpike was built through Stanhope. When the Morris Canal was completed, it became a popular stopping place for canal boatmen and it is the site of the first Post Office in town. Today it operates as a bar which features well-known bluegrass and blues bands.



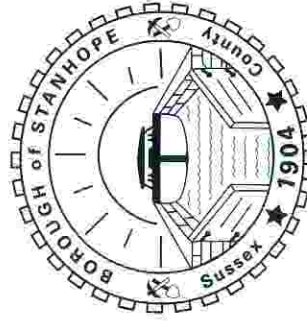
Musconetcong Park

The Borough Park on Musconetcong Avenue includes a newly outfitted playground, benches on the lakeside, fisherman's access paths to Lake Musconetcong and the Borough's September 11, 2001 Memorial. Grant monies obtained in 2006 enabled the planting of a riparian buffer along the lake.

Special Thanks to David Kunz, MIS Manager, Sussex County MISP and his staff for their technical assistance in the preparation of the Stanhope Trails Map.

This plan prepared with the assistance of a Smart Growth Planning Grant from the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions.

For Additional Information, Contact Janice Hunts,
Chairman ANJEC Grant Committee 973-448-4180



Borough of Stanhope

77 Main Street, Stanhope, NJ | 973-347-0159

Borough of Stanhope Pedestrian Trails & Walkways



Preliminary Map Prepared by
ANJEC Grant Committee
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About the ANJEC Grant -

The Borough of Stanhope was awarded a Smart Growth Grant from the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC) in 2007 for the purpose of identifying and mapping the trails, pedestrian walkways, and bike paths located within the Borough that connect neighborhoods and provide pedestrian-friendly opportunities to view historic and other points of interest within the community as well as those that have the potential to connect to trains and points of interest in neighboring communities. The Grant Committee, chaired by Janice Hunis, includes more than 30 volunteers and elected officials. On the inside of this brochure is a preliminary map showing the trails mapped by the Committee.

A brief history of Stanhope -

The Borough of Stanhope evolved from a small forge town in the late 18th century to a sizable iron manufacturing community in the 19th century. The major outlet for goods into upper Sussex County at that time was through the Morris Canal which flows through the center of the community. Although the iron manufacturing period ended around 1925, numerous remnants of the early industrial community have survived. Stanhope began as an unincorporated village in the southern portion of Byram Township and was incorporated as a Borough in 1904. Between 1930 and 1980 the Borough's population more than tripled in size. The opening of interstate highways brought a further influx of people making Stanhope a suburb of the older cities to the east. Stanhope consists of 1.87 square miles of land area and .34 square miles of water. Approximately 40% of the Borough's land area is developed. Lake Musconetcong and the headwaters of the Musconetcong River comprise the major portion of the open waters in the Borough and are a treasured natural resource in the heart of this community of approximately 3,600 residents. A largely residential community, Stanhope is home to the Valley Road elementary school and Lenape Valley Regional High School, attended by students from Stanhope and the neighboring communities of Byram and Netcong.



Lake Musconetcong

During the mid-1800's the Morris Canal and Banking Co. created Lake Musconetcong as an additional water source for the Morris Canal. The original dam was an earthen mound with wooden flood gates and located on the site of the present dam which was built around 1926. Currently boating, fishing, ice fishing and Jet Skiing are popular recreational activities on the lake.



The Plaster Mill

Located behind the Post Office, the Plaster Mill was built in about 1800 and is probably the oldest structure in Stanhope. It was built by the iron company and originally operated with waterpower to grind gypsum and lime to spread on farm fields. It was added to and converted to apartments for workers at the iron furnace in the early 1840's.

Trails and Paths -

The mapped trails and paths highlighted on the map on the reverse side fall into three primary categories: Historic, Scenic, and Paths to School.

- **Historic Trails** are located primarily in the Borough's downtown area and, for the most part, follow the route of the former Morris Canal. Remnants of the canal's inclined plane as well as a number of historic buildings can be viewed along these trails.

- **Scenic Trails** travel along the shoreline of Lake Musconetcong and connect the Borough to the neighboring communities of Netcong, Byram, Hopatcong, and Roxbury.

- **Paths to School** include a number of paved and unpaved trails connecting neighborhoods throughout the Borough to both the Valley Road Elementary School and Lenape Valley Regional High School. In addition to being used by students they are frequently used by residents who enjoy walking through our wooded areas.