

Map 2

Belleville Park to Brookdale Park

From Belleville Park, the Lenape Trail follows road sidewalks before turning left onto a footpath paralleling a pipeline. It then follows road sidewalks to reach sidewalks through Booth Park and Yanticaw Park, and then follows road sidewalks to reach a second section of footpath along the pipeline. The Lenape Trail continues along road sidewalks, including a pedestrian crossing of the Garden State Parkway, to reach a path through Clark's Pond Preserve. It then follows short section of road sidewalks before reaching Brookdale Park.

Points of Interest:

The Enclosure Historic District: In 1873, James Hay, a New York City realtor, purchased the circa-1812 John Mason house in Calico Lane and enticed scores of artists to move to the area known as the Enclosure. The rustic beauty and the quiet setting were ideal for creative work. Many artists also had studios in the city, where the market for their work was centered, and they commuted via the railroad built around 1885. Among the residents were painters Frank Fowler, Frederic Dorr Steele, and Frederick Dana Marsh, authors Frank Stockton and Henry C. Brunner, and editors of prominent magazines such as Puck, Century, Judge, and The Railroad Gazette. Even the famous sharpshooter Annie Oakley took up residence in 1892 in a house on Grant Avenue, which has since been demolished. The Enclosure was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1974.

Vreeland Homestead (228 Chestnut St): The Vreeland Homestead stands at the southern entrance to Memorial Park, which honors those who died in World War I and World War II. The house was built by Hendrick van Giesen in 1751. Recent research has found that the history listed on the site plaque is incorrect. The homestead was sold to Captain Abraham Speer in 1783, and he in turn sold the house to his brother-in-law John M. Vreeland, who had served as a private in his militia company. The house remained in the Vreeland family until the early 1900s. The Women's Club of Nutley purchased the house in 1923 and owned it until 2012, when it was turned over to the Nutley Historical Society. It was added to the National Register of Historical Places in 1994.

Nutley Museum (65 Church St): The Nutley Museum is housed in the former Church Street School built in 1875, and it holds a spot on the National Register of Historic Places. The museum, home of the Nutley Historical Society, houses an interesting collection of photographs and artifacts of famous Nutley residents. These include guns that belonged to Nutley resident Annie Oakley, a coin shot by Oakley during a town fair, and a narwhal's "tusk" (actually a protruding canine tooth) collected from the Arctic during Admiral Robert Peary's expedition in the early 1900s. It was brought back by former Nutley Mayor Emil Diebitsch, who served as Peary's astronomer.

Morris Canal Greenway: In 1824, the Morris Canal & Banking Company was chartered to build a canal to carry coal, mined in Pennsylvania, to developing markets along the eastern seaboard. The completed Canal extended 102 miles across the highlands of New Jersey, from Phillipsburg on the Delaware River to Jersey City. In the heyday of the canal, hundreds of boats carried everything from coal and iron ore to agricultural products. The canal's famous water-powered inclined planes were an engineering marvel that enabled canal boats to be raised or lowered up to 100 feet at a time. The canal promoted commerce and shaped the economic development of the northern part of the state. By the early 1900s, the canal had become obsolete. Today, the Morris Canal Greenway is preserving the historic remains.

Clark's Pond: Fed by the Third River, this pond and nature preserve is home to a wide variety of wildlife. There are deer, fox, wild turkey, egrets, and blue heron among other animals that live in the preserve. The pond is a favorite spot for fishing, where you can find bass, sunnies, carp, catfish, perch, and some trout. There is a path that follows one side of the pond, a small picnic area, and a pedestrian bridge over the river.

