

HISTORICAL SITES

Upper Park



WASHINGTON'S ENCAMPMENT AT THE THOMPSON-NEELY FARMSTEAD
In December 1776, approximately 2,400 Continental soldiers camped in the frozen farms, fields, and forests of rural Bucks County. The home of mill owner Robert Thompson and his son-in-law William Neely served as housing for officers and a temporary regimental army hospital for the sick and wounded. The grounds were used by camping soldiers and to bury the dead.

At the age of eighteen, Lieutenant James Monroe, artillery officer and future President of the United States, was second-in-command to Captain William Washington, distant cousin of George Washington. Both stayed at the Thompson-Neely House. The men led reconnaissance missions in New Jersey prior to the Ten Crucial Days. On December 25, the army moved out of their camps and gathered at McConkey's Ferry to cross the river and make their attack on the Hessian barracks in Trenton, New Jersey. Previously hidden Durham boats were brought south to assist the crossing.



THOMPSON-NEELY GRIST MILL
In December 1776, the army was unwelcome in many parts of Bucks County. Some millers refused to accept Continental money to grind grain for the hungry army. As a result, Washington ordered mills and grain to be seized from uncooperative millers and the millers be paid full value for their loss. Robert Thompson likely embraced the patriotic cause and provided the army with much needed flour from his mill while they camped on his property.

In the late 1820s, construction of part of the Delaware Canal on the property raised the water level of Pidcock Creek and halted operation of the mill. Robert Thompson Neely, Robert Thompson's grandson, eventually moved the mill from its original location in front of the house to a new site 100 yards upstream. In 1873, that second mill caught fire and was rebuilt in the same location. The third and final mill is what you see today. Tour the mill for a fee. The mill is in operation during special events throughout the year.



SOLDIERS' GRAVES
The graves of many unknown soldiers who died during the December 1776 encampment are located on park property. The only known soldier buried here is Captain Lieutenant James Moore of the New York Artillery. Alexander Hamilton wrote of Moore's death and said that "a promising officer, who did credit to the state he belonged to, died on the 25th of December after a short but excruciating fit of illness." The stone wall surrounding the graves was finished in 1929 and the flagpole monument was dedicated in 1940.



BOWMAN'S HILL TOWER
This 125-foot tower was built in 1931 to commemorate the American Revolution. 124 stone steps lead to the top of the tower with an impressive view of the Delaware River and surrounding countryside. The tower roof may also be reached by elevator and then 23 stone steps. This site is open seven days a week, March through December, weather permitting. An admission fee is charged.

Lower Park



HIBBS HOUSE
This restored and furnished nineteenth century home was erected circa 1828-1830 as part of the village of Taylorsville. It was leased out as a tenant house for craftsmen and was advertised as a wheelwright's house and shop. Open hearth cooking demonstrations are held here at various times throughout the year.



BLACKSMITH SHOP
The current blacksmith shop was built in 1990 to replicate Taylorsville's original blacksmith shop constructed around 1830. Living-history demonstrations are conducted here during special events throughout the year.



FRYE HOUSE
Built circa 1828-1830 by the Taylor family, this home is believed to have been constructed for a blacksmith.



DURHAM BOAT BARN
This twentieth-century structure houses the Durham boat replicas. Durham boats were originally used to haul iron ore and were the sturdy craft used by Washington and his men for the crossing. Today, these replicas are a key component of the annual reenactment of Washington crossing the Delaware River on Christmas Day.



MCCONKEY'S FERRY INN
This eighteenth-century inn and tavern was owned by Samuel McConkey. The inn served as a guard post during the Continental Army's encampment in Bucks County in December 1776. Earthworks and cannon defended the ferry landing. According to tradition, this inn is where Washington and his aides ate their dinner prior to the crossing of the Delaware River on December 25, 1776. Additions were made to the inn in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries by the Taylor family. This building continued to serve as an inn for many decades, and it is the only original structure that was in the Lower Park at the time of the crossing.



TAYLORSVILLE GENERAL STORE
Beginning around 1828, this store was owned and operated by Mahlon K. Taylor. It also functioned as the post office for Taylorsville. Mahlon Taylor served as the postmaster for nearly 40 years.



MAHLON K. TAYLOR HOUSE
This home was built circa 1817 for one of the town founders of Taylorsville, now known as Washington Crossing. It shows the status and prosperity of the Taylor family in the community.

INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS

Washington Crossing Historic Park
1112 River Road
Washington Crossing, PA 18977
215-493-4076
WashingtonCrossingSP@pa.gov

Bowman's Hill Tower
215-862-3166

Washington Crossing Historic Park is administered by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in partnership with the Friends of Washington Crossing Park.

An Equal Opportunity Employer
www.visitPAparks.com

Access for People with Disabilities

This symbol indicates facilities and activities that are Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible for people with disabilities. This publication text is available in alternative formats.

In an Emergency

Call 911 and contact a park employee. Directions to the nearest hospital are posted on bulletin boards and at the park office.

NEAREST HOSPITAL
St. Mary Medical Center
1201 Langhorne-Newtown Road
Langhorne, PA 19047
215-710-2000
www.stmaryhealthcare.org

Capital Health
One Capital Way
Pennington, NJ 08534
800-637-2374
www.capitalhealth.org/our-locations/hopewell

Electric Vehicle Charging Station
Two 2-plug, electric-vehicle charging stations are available for public use in the visitor center parking lot. Please move to another parking space once your vehicle has been charged.

Make online reservations at
www.visitPAparks.com or call toll-free 888-PA-PARKS (888-727-2757), 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday to Saturday, for state park information and reservations.

@WashingtonCrossingPark

If you need an accommodation to participate in park activities due to a disability, please contact the park you plan to visit.



Protect and Preserve our Parks

Please make your visit safe and enjoyable. Obey all posted rules and regulations and respect fellow visitors and the resources of the park.

- Be prepared and bring the proper equipment. Natural areas may possess hazards. Your personal safety and that of your family are your responsibility.
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.

Nearby Attractions

Information on nearby attractions is available from Visit Bucks County.
www.visitbuckscounty.com

The Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor provides many opportunities to explore the area along the 165-mile D&L Trail. 610-923-3548. <https://delawareandlehigh.org>

In the Upper Park, **Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve** showcases an extraordinary diversity of plants native to Pennsylvania and the Delaware Valley. The non-profit organization cares for and protects the native plant collection with the goal of encouraging the public to visit, enjoy, and learn about the richness of Pennsylvania's natural heritage. Admission fee is charged. 215-862-2924. www.bhwp.org

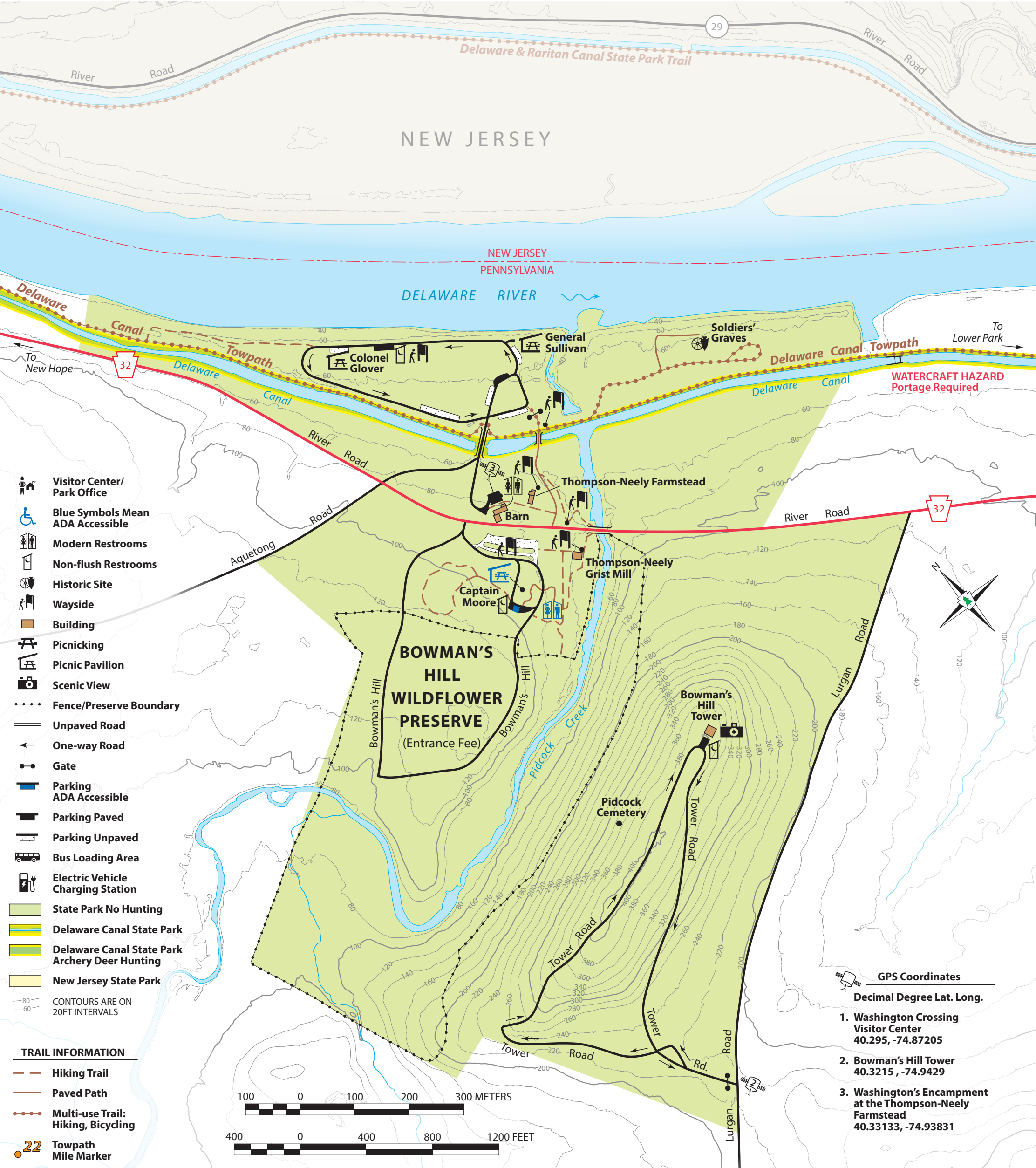
At **Delaware Canal State Park**, visitors enjoy biking, hiking, boating, and learning about the canal-building era of American history. 610-982-5560

Tyler State Park has hiking, bicycling, exercising and nature trails, fishing, picnic facilities, environmental education programs, summer canoe rentals, and a mobile food concession. 215-968-2021

Washington Crossing State Park in New Jersey offers a visitor center, trails, camping, fishing, picnicking, and educational programs. Entrance fee is charged in the summer season. 609- 737-0623

WASHINGTON CROSSING HISTORIC PARK

Upper Park



Lower Park

