

Delaware Water Gap

NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
NEW JERSEY AND PENNSYLVANIA

A RIVER MEETS THE MOUNTAINS

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area lies between the Kittatinny Ridge in New Jersey and the Pocono Mountain Plateau in Pennsylvania and includes some 56 kilometers (35 miles) of the long, narrow Delaware River Valley. At the gap, the Delaware River glides through a bold rent in the mountains, a memorable sight that explains why the area earned popularity in the 19th century as one of the Nation's foremost natural landmarks.

VISITING DELAWARE WATER GAP

In generations past the region lured well-to-do vacationers who often spent entire summers here, enjoying the invigorating mountain air, the dramatic views, and the services of an elaborately equipped resort haven. With the vacationers came many well known landscape painters. Their works have given the gap a prominent place in American art history.

Today you can enjoy the rural quiet of yesterday. With the exception of I-80 and U.S. 209, major roads have bypassed the area and the impact of events, except for the resort boom, has been slight. Succeeding generations have peacefully tilled the soil, leaving miniature landscapes quite unaltered by modern intrusions. Farmlands and villages fill the flatlands along the river. Trails lead into the backwoods to remote streams and hidden lakes. Fish are plentiful in the Delaware's tributaries.

TOURING THE PARK

A good place to start your visit is at the Kittatinny Point Information Station in New Jersey, off I-80. Some facilities are closed during winter, but ice fishing, ice skating, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling are allowed in designated areas.

Continuing on from the Kittatinny Point Information Station, you can find your way to the River Road and points along the New Jersey side of the river via I-80 east and N.J. 94 north. Or you can take the toll bridge across to Pennsylvania and visit the points of interest highlighted on the maps.

Organized groups with interests in history, natural science, and environmental studies can arrange for special tours by writing to the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, Bushkill, PA 18324, or calling 717-588-6637.

PROGRAMS IN THE PARK

Environmental programs for students of all ages are held year round at several residential education centers converted from former resorts and camps. These programs are operated cooperatively by the National Park Service and nearby colleges and school districts. For information on programs and fees, contact: Pocono Environmental Education Center, R.D. 1 Box 268, Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328, telephone 717-828-2319; or Walpack Valley Environmental Education Center, Box 134, Walpack Center, NJ 07881, telephone 201-948-5749. Information on arts and crafts programs may be obtained by writing the Peters Valley Craftsmen, Layton, NJ 07851.

VISITOR SERVICES

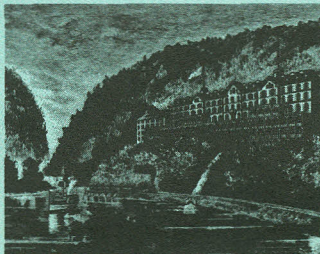
Family camping facilities are not available in the park; several private and State campgrounds, however, are located in the immediate vicinity.

Food, lodging, gasoline, souvenirs, and other goods and services are available in towns and communities from Port Jervis, New York, at the upper end of the park to Portland, Pennsylvania, just south of the gap.

Medical services are in East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, Newton, New Jersey, and Port Jervis, New York.

1-3a GAP OVERLOOKS

Resort Point (1), just south of the village of Delaware Water Gap, is located on the site of Kittatinny House whose guests enjoyed the beautiful vistas that made the area popular in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The stone foundations of the huge hotel, destroyed by fire in 1931, are visible at the left of the parking area. The small stream once flowed through the hotel kitchen, providing water for cooking and cleaning.



A short distance south, exhibits at Point of Gap (2), illustrate how the mountain range developed from a great upfold in the earth's crust and how water over many thousands of years cut a path through erodible rock, leaving a sharp gap and visible evidence of angled rock layers on the exposed mountain sides. The water here deepens to 27 meters (90 feet) as the banks of the river narrow through the gap.

Farthest south is Arrow Island Overlook (3a), both a scenic site and point of access to the Arrow Island self-guiding trail.

3b SLATE QUARRY TRAIL

This is a take-off point for cross-country skiing and hiking.



4 SLATEFORD FARM

Pause here to tour this partially restored farm site at the foot of Mount Minsi off U.S. 611. The farmhouse is furnished with 19th-century pieces. The house was an obvious improvement over the small cabin, now

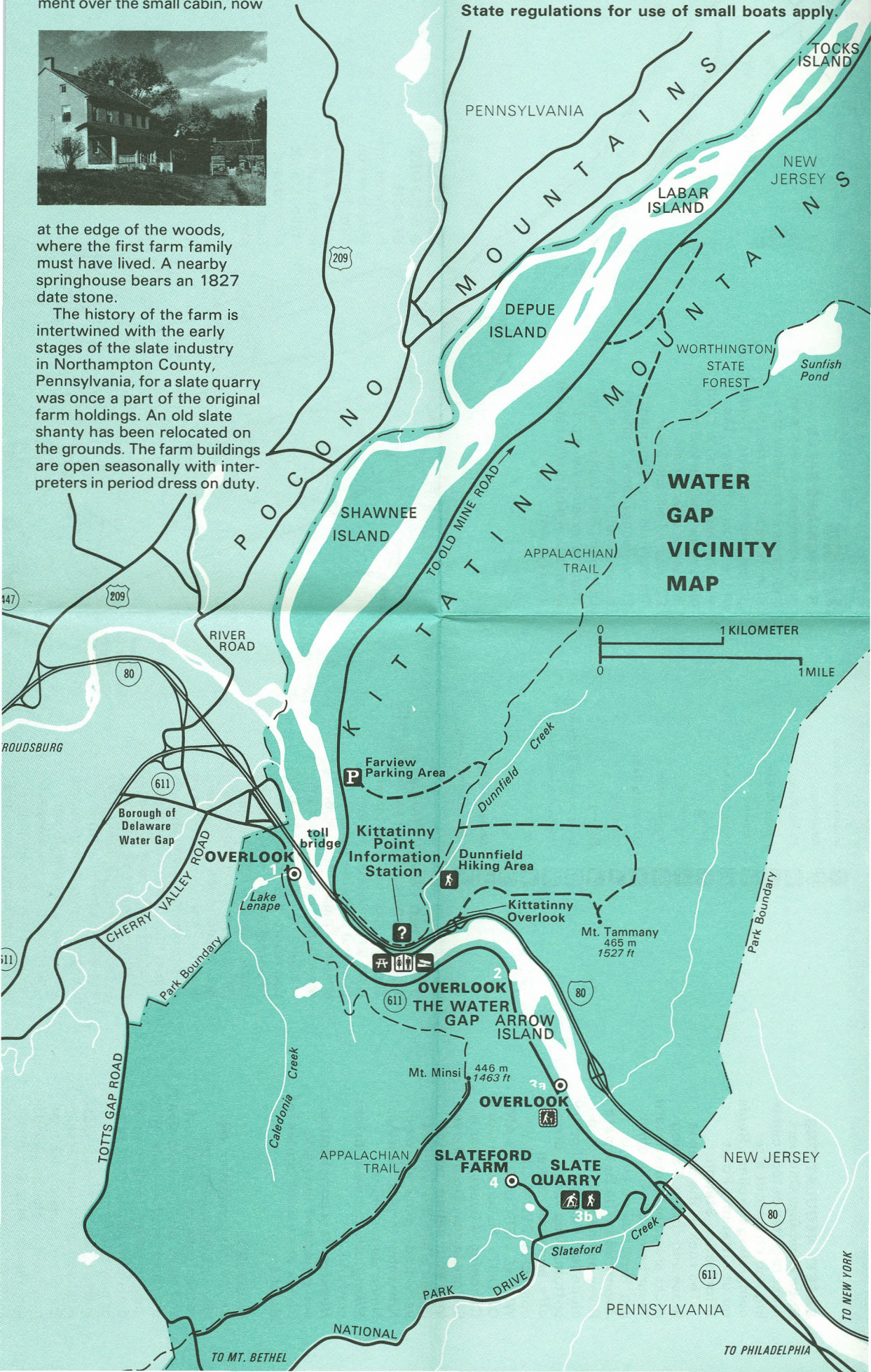


at the edge of the woods, where the first farm family must have lived. A nearby springhouse bears an 1827 date stone.

The history of the farm is intertwined with the early stages of the slate industry in Northampton County, Pennsylvania, for a slate quarry was once a part of the original farm holdings. An old slate shanty has been relocated on the grounds. The farm buildings are open seasonally with interpreters in period dress on duty.

SPORTING REGULATIONS

Hunting and fishing are allowed in season, except in posted areas. State regulations apply, and State licenses are required. Canoeing is popular on the Delaware River. Canoes can be rented outside the park. U.S. Coast Guard and State regulations for use of small boats apply.



WATER GAP VICINITY MAP

RODSBURG

209

80

611

Borough of Delaware Water Gap

CHERRY VALLEY ROAD

Park Boundary

TOTTS GAP ROAD

RIVER ROAD

SHAWNEE ISLAND

DEPUÉ ISLAND

LABAR ISLAND

TOCKS ISLAND

WORTHINGTON STATE FOREST

Sunfish Pond

POCONO MOUNTAINS

KITTATINNY MOUNTAINS

TO OLD MINE ROAD

APPALACHIAN TRAIL

Farview Parking Area

Kittatinny Information Station

Dunnfield Hiking Area

Kittatinny Overlook

Mt. Tammany 465 m 1527 ft

OVERLOOK

Lake Lenape

toll bridge

2

OVERLOOK THE WATER GAP ARROW ISLAND

611

80

Mt. Minsi 446 m 1463 ft

3a

OVERLOOK

3b

SLATEFORD FARM 4

SLATE QUARRY

APPALACHIAN TRAIL

NEW JERSEY

NEW JERSEY

PENNSYLVANIA

PARK DRIVE

Slateford Creek

TO MT. BETHEL

TO PHILADELPHIA

TO NEW YORK

0 1 KILOMETER

0 1 MILE

SAFETY REGULATIONS

Rock climbing: Climbers must register before climbing and check out after completing the climb. Register at Kittatinny Point Information Station.

The rock in the area is loose and rotten. Falling rocks are an extreme hazard. Wear helmets while climbing. Never climb alone.

Swimming: The Delaware River has hazards that include fast current, slippery bottom, deep water, drop-offs, and underwater obstacles. **SWIM ONLY WHERE LIFEGUARDS ARE ON DUTY.** Never swim alone.

Canoeing: Always wear a life preserver. Do not overload your canoe; do not canoe while the water is very cold—generally from November through mid-April. Never canoe alone.



















Hiking: Always wear bright clothing.

Hunting: It is permitted in some parts of the park. Check at a visitor center for details.

WILDLIFE

Be alert for glimpses of wildlife. Raccoons, cottontail rabbits, squirrels, woodchucks, and foxes are often seen along roadsides and foot trails. Most animals prefer the deep woods during the day, so start early or stay late. Of the large animals, the one visitors most often see is the whitetail deer. On rare occasions black bear may be seen. Hawks gliding in the wind currents along the ridge tops are a regular sight, but if you see a bald eagle, count yourself among the fortunate few.

Poisonous copperheads and timber rattlesnakes are infrequently sighted on hillsides and rocky ledges.

	Information Station
	Restrooms
	Picnic Area
	Ranger Station
	Parking
	Interpretive Trail
	Hiking
	Swimming
	Amphitheater
	Launching Ramp
	Canoeing
	Fishing
	Environmental Study Area
	Winter Recreation Area
	Ice Skating
	Drinking Water
	Snowmobiling
	Cross-country Skiing

7 POCONO ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATIONAL CENTER

The pine and hardwood forest, clear streams, lakes, waterfalls, and fields in various stages of natural succession provide rich opportunities for studying nature. Once a vacation resort, this 14-hectare (35-acre) tract in the Pocono foothills is now used by students making environmental field observations. Classes and seminars are taught in the converted main lodge, and students live in the surrounding cabins.

Organized groups of adults or students can arrange to stay at the fully equipped center for any length of time up to a whole summer. A professional staff from Keystone Junior College in La Plume, Pennsylvania, that administers the environmental programs, provides basic instruction, study guides, and planning for field trips, or groups can pursue independently their own ecology course.



Casual visitors are encouraged to stop at the center and to test their awareness of nature without the use of sight by walking a nearby trail designed for handicapped persons.

Picnic
MOUNTAIN
POCONO
ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATIONAL
CENTER



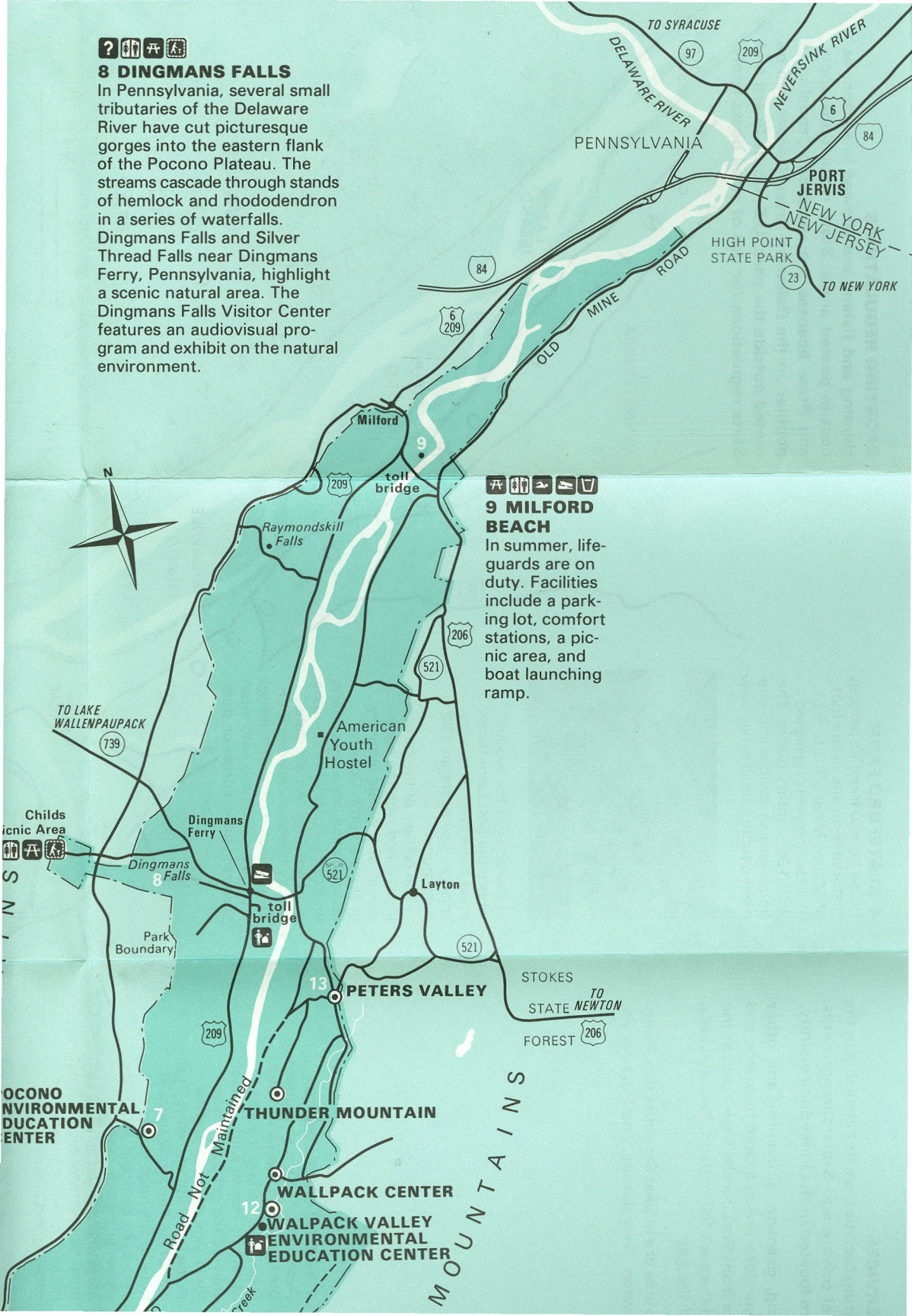
8 DINGMANS FALLS

In Pennsylvania, several small tributaries of the Delaware River have cut picturesque gorges into the eastern flank of the Pocono Plateau. The streams cascade through stands of hemlock and rhododendron in a series of waterfalls. Dingmans Falls and Silver Thread Falls near Dingmans Ferry, Pennsylvania, highlight a scenic natural area. The Dingmans Falls Visitor Center features an audiovisual program and exhibit on the natural environment.



9 MILFORD BEACH

In summer, lifeguards are on duty. Facilities include a parking lot, comfort stations, a picnic area, and boat launching ramp.



POCONO ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

Childs Picnic Area

TO LAKE WALLENPAUPACK (739)

Park Boundary

Dingmans Ferry
Dingmans Falls

Milford
toll bridge

Raymondskill Falls

American Youth Hostel

Layton

13 PETERS VALLEY

STOKES FOREST TO STATE NEWTON (206)

THUNDER MOUNTAIN

WALLPACK CENTER

12 WALPACK VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

POCONO MOUNTAINS

Road Not Maintained

PENNSYLVANIA

PORT JERVIS
NEW YORK
NEW JERSEY

HIGH POINT STATE PARK

TO SYRACUSE

TO NEW YORK

OLD MINE ROAD

DELAWARE RIVER

NEVERSINK RIVER

84

209

97

209

84

6

23

206

521

521

209

521

13

7

12

9

nature without the use of sight by walking a nearby trail designed for handicapped persons.

5 SMITHFIELD BEACH

In summer, lifeguards are on duty. The beach is a good access for canoeists.

6 HIDDEN LAKE

North of the gap in the Marshalls Creek area, between U.S. 209 and the river, is Hidden Lake, a prime spot for fishing and picnicking. There is a self-guiding nature trail that circles the lake.



PARK HEADQUARTERS

HIDDEN LAKE

SMITHFIELD BEACH

WATERGATE

MILLBROOK

11 MILLBROOK

A swift brook, then farms and a gristmill, and soon a small community is born. Millbrook's origins are as commonplace as its name. It never did grow much. Bigger cities and better means of transportation elsewhere left it behind. Millbrook and countless other rural communities receded into the backwater of American life.

The original inhabitants may have gone, but today's interpreters are recreating Millbrook's heyday in the late 1800s. From July until Labor Day, visitors can tour the

10 WATERGATE

Here visitors can picnic, bike, hike, or fish for chain pickerel and largemouth and smallmouth bass in several man-made lakes. A New Jersey fishing license is required.

12 WALPACK VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

Two former residences near Walpack Center have been adapted for use as living quarters and classrooms for small groups of students using the National Recreation Area for educational purposes. The



center is operated by the Eatontown, New Jersey, school district, but may be utilized by students from any area. Teachers who are interested in bringing groups to the center are welcome to visit and observe the educational program in action.



blacksmith shop, store, church, school, weaving shop, shoemaker's shop, and several residences. Park neighbors have donated their time and many authentic furnishings to bring this quiet country setting back to life.

13 PETERS VALLEY

Peters Valley is a community of skilled artisans who create contemporary handcrafted works in wood, clay, textiles, heavy and fine metals, and photography. Because courses in these fields are often being taught by the resident artists, visitors may tour the studios by appointment only. They are, however, encouraged to stop at the information center, visit the craft store, and attend the annual craft fair the last weekend in July.



THE STROUDSBURGS

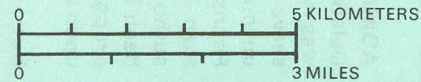
TO THE POCONOS
TO SCRANTON

PENNSYLVANIA

NEW JERSEY

TO NEW YORK

Portland



Columbia toll bridge

Borough of Delaware Water Gap

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR DETAILS

STATE

FOREST

APPALACHIAN TRAIL

RIVER ROAD

WORTHINGTON

Sunfish Pond

Shawnee

209

80

611

611

94

209

615

11

6

5

10

615

APPALACHIAN TRAIL

Long Pine Lake

Flatbrookville

Flatbrook

OLD MINE RD

Park Boundary

KITTATINNY

POCONO

HELP PRESERVE THE PARK

Federal regulations prohibit the disturbance, destruction, or removal of public property or natural, historical, or archeological features or materials.

ADMINISTRATION

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area was authorized by Congress in 1965 to preserve for public use a large and relatively unspoiled area along the river boundary of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. An area of more than 28,000 hectares (70,000 acres) has been authorized for the park. Land acquisition has been in progress since 1966, but some of the property is still in private ownership and is not open to the public.

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior