



HISTORY OF MEMORIAL PARK

This plaque marks some of the most historic ground in Hightstown.

Earliest records of this area show that long before Europeans arrived, there was a Lenni Lenape Indian trail traversing the wilderness here – which eventually became Main Street, the road directly behind you. In the early 1700s, John and Mary Hight, Hightstown’s founders, established their settlement here. It consisted of a log cabin, grist mill, blacksmith shop and a few other buildings nearby. To power their grist mill, they dammed Rocky Brook – and their millpond later became known as Peddie Lake. Over time, Hightstown became an agricultural hub for the surrounding area farms. In 1920, the Gross Flour and Feed Mills, which stood along the water directly in front of you, burned to the ground. This land was then purchased by area businessmen and donated to the Borough to become Memorial Park, as a tribute to the local residents who served our country in World War I.

As you walk along the bridge, take note of the images that represent the long and storied history of Memorial Park, this very special place in Hightstown.

Many thanks to the friends and residents of Hightstown who made this project possible, most notably

Donor 1, Donor 2 and Donor 3.

Dedicated XXXX, 2011