

# MORRIS CANAL GREENWAY



## ANDOVER-MORRIS SCHOOL

The name of the Andover-Morris School is derived from the Andover Iron Company and the Morris Canal, two former users of its site along South Main Street.

In 1847 the firm of Cooper & Hewitt acquired land between the Morris Canal and the Delaware River and erected an iron furnace to supply their rolling mills in Trenton. By 1859 this was one of the most productive furnaces in the country. In 1867 the property was sold to the Andover Iron Company. The canal brought iron ore, coal, & lime stone and carried away the finished pig iron. Boats were loaded and unloaded at a canal basin wharf located near where the

school stands today. The furnace operated until 1912.

The Morris Canal, completed in 1831, extended 102 miles across New Jersey from Phillipsburg to Jersey City. The canal carried anthracite coal from mines in Pennsylvania to markets in New York and iron ore from the highlands of New Jersey to the furnace. Along its route places like Phillipsburg grew into important industrial towns.

After the canal was abandoned in 1924, the area along South Main Street was filled in and in 1975 the present school was built on the site of the former canal basin.



*Modern view of the Andover-Morris School. The canal prism remains buried between the school and the sidewalk along South Main Street.*



*This early 1900's view looking west along South Main Street shows the north end of the Andover Furnace property near where the Andover-Morris School stands today. On the right, the canal towpath extends along between street and the canal, until in the distance, it reaches the Center Street Bridge. It was called a change bridge and allowed mule teams to cross the canal when the towpath switched sides. Today, Center Street gives access to the school.*

### The Change Bridge

