

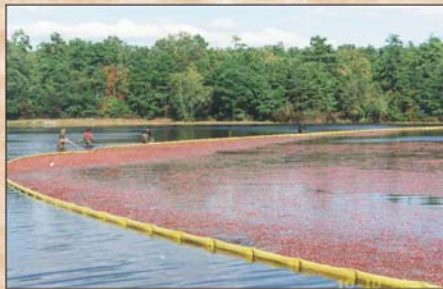


OCEAN COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

BARNEGAT BRANCH TRAIL

DEPARTMENTS OF PLANNING, ENGINEERING AND PARKS & RECREATION

GATEWAY TO DOUBLE TROUBLE (1964)



Pauline S. Miller, Collection of Ocean County



Pauline S. Miller, Collection of Ocean County

Double Trouble State Park Village entrance is located about 2.6 miles west of this sign on Keswick Road at the intersection of Keswick and Double Trouble Roads west of the Parkway. The sawmill and cranberry “company town” is about 200 acres but is surrounded by a larger state owned park that “protects about 8,000 acres of significant natural, cultural, and recreational resources representing the Pinelands National Reserve.” The Village was purchased by the state of New Jersey in 1964 and placed on the state (1977) and national (1978) register of historic places. The area has been occupied since Colonial times and has been the home to a white cedar sawmill, shingle shop, and cranberry industries.



Pauline S. Miller, Collection of Ocean County

There are conflicting stories behind the origin of “Double Trouble.” Thomas Potter is often credited with giving this area the name in the 1770s when heavy rains damaged the earthen dam on the mill pond twice in one season, causing first trouble and then double trouble. A late 19th century newspaper article attributed the name to the washing out of the dam, followed by the destruction of the sawmill. A more colorful legend involves local beaver or muskrats that persisted in gnawing at the dam, which caused frequent leaks. Such leaks gave rise to the alarm “Here’s trouble,” upon which workmen would rush to repair the leak. One day two breaks were discovered and one worker overheard the shout “Here’s double trouble.” The name was already in use by the early 1800s. In 1909, Edward Crabbe formed the Double Trouble Company to market lumber, blueberries and cranberries.



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For more information, please call the park headquarters or visit: <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/double.html>

Freely adapted for the NJ Department of Environmental Protection website and Ocean County: Four Centuries in the Making, by Pauline S. Miller, 2000.

The Barnegat Branch Trail logo was explicitly designed with history in mind: Lady Liberty’s silhouette is reminiscent of the Central Railroad of NJ (CNJ) logo, adopted by the railroad in 1944 to reflect the close proximity of the CNJ terminal in Jersey City to the Statue of Liberty. The BBT logo also includes a ghost locomotive, as well as Ocean County’s most recognizable environmental features.



OCEAN COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION