

Historic Speedwell Mad-Lib

This National Historic Landmark Site _____(verb) part of the Homestead Estate of Stephen Vail, _____(Occupation)and proprietor of the Speedwell Ironworks from the early to mid-1800s. Among the restored buildings is the Factory, where his son, Alfred, and Samuel F.B. Morse first publicly _____(verb) the telegraph in January, 1838. Also on site are three historic homes moved from central _____(Name of a Town)in the 1960s.

The Speedwell Ironworks, a small industrial complex in Morristown, NJ, is unique as it played a _____(adjective)role in two landmark developments in the history of transportation and communication. In 1818, the works manufactured the engine, paddle wheels, and some other _____(noun)for the SS Savannah. The Savannah was the first ship to cross the _____(Body of Water)propelled or aided by steam. Another development, possibly of even greater importance, occurred there _____(Number)years later when Samuel F.B. Morse and Alfred Vail, with _____(noun)assistance of Stephen and George Vail, succeeded in perfecting the electromagnetic _____(Invention).

Of considerable importance was Speedwell's proximity to an extensive _____(noun) network, which connected it to the mines and New York Harbor, fewer than thirty miles away. In addition to being a fine _____(Occupation), Stephen Vail was also an inventor and a designer of considerable ability. Nothing is left of the _____(noun), the workman's cottages, and the workshops but a few _____(Building Material)walls near Speedwell Lake. The preservation and restoration at Speedwell is an _____(adjective)example of what can be done when _____(noun)of an area decide to _____(verb)and work together to preserve their past.