Hello again Jenny,

I have some more on that "new" name for the stream in N. Jersey. As I wrote last time, one of the people I contacted was named Ray, and I wrote:

"Another is named Ray Whritenour and he is quite familiar with the N. Unami dialect of Lenape as was recorded by the Moravian missionaries in the 1700s."

After I asked Ray, he wrote to the people at Lake Neepaulin and got the following reply:

>>Hi Ray!

Contrary to popular assumption that Neepaulin is a Native American word, it is a combination of the original developer's children's names when man-made Lake Neepaulin was first "built," that is, when the field was dammed up.

Have a great day!
Lucia, member :)

Ray further commented about a fact that you are probably familiar with and that is lists of Indian words which might be used anywhere to name things. Ray wrote:

>>Oh, well. There are a slew of such names propagated by Henry Rowe Schoolcraft, William Tooker and numerous town planning boards in the Eastern states. We'll just have to sort them out. Not always an easy task!

Schoolcraft's creations are easy enough to sort out. He wrote a book on New York's Indian place-names. Whenever he came to a place which had no known name, he simply named it! His wife was Ojibwe, and he seems always to have used Ojibwe words--some of which he made up, himself!

Tooker wrote a book on the Indian place-names of Long Island, NY. In the back of this book, he lists a bunch of words from the Narragansett list of Roger Williams, which he said were suitable for naming "boats, hotels," and so forth!

Another source for phony "Lenape" place-names is Trumbull's NATICK DICTIONARY. This must have been a very popular book, in its day. Local planning boards and developers get a hold of this one and start "naming."

So, Jenny, I hope this additional information is of benefit to you in your job.

All the best,

Jim