On April 10, 1894, a group of women met in Morristown to plan a new enterprise: A golf club. They were well-known leaders of Morristown society.

The group they formed was headed by Miss Nina Howland, who was president. Other officers were Mrs. H. McK. Twombly, of Florham, Mrs. William Shippen, a Miss Fields and Mrs. Charles Bradley. (Please note that few married women used their own first names).

And they succeeded in beginning what is still called the Morris County Golf Club, in Morris Township.

They rented 20 acres, one half containing what was called the Devil's Punch Bowl, a large deep hole whose bottom was 100 feet below the surface. The first course was laid out with seven holes.

Their club was a great success. Within the first year, it had 200 female members and 175 males. Members arrived in horse-drawn carts, phaetons and bicycles. And they were skilled enough to compete in tournaments.

Gradually, the course grew – and became more professional. In 1896, it was incorporated with capital stock of $50,000 and the clubhouse was enlarged to give the men better facilities. Almost 100 acres were purchased, bringing the course up to the regulation 18 holes.

And by 1897, men had taken over management. A gentleman named Paul Revere was elected president. After that, it was noted that Miss Howland, the founder of the club, seldom came to play.