

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

53y

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Omena Historic District

Other names/site number: Omena

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: generally, from intersection of Tatch Road and M-22 north to east through intersection with N Omena Point Road, and north on east side M-22 1 mile.

City or town: Leelanau Township (Omena) State: MI County: Leelanau

Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

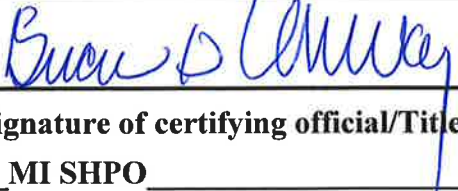
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local
Applicable National Register Criteria:

 X A X B C D

	<u>11/22/16</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>MI SHPO</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

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In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

State or Federal agency/bureau
or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 determined eligible for the National Register
 determined not eligible for the National Register
 removed from the National Register
 other (explain:)

For Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

1.17.17
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
Public – Local
Public – State
Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
District
Site

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Structure

Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>25</u>	<u>6</u>	buildings
<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	sites
<u>10</u>	<u>2</u>	structures
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	objects
<u>40</u>	<u>12</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic-hotel

Commerce/trade- department store

Religion-religious facility

Domestic-single dwelling

Agriculture/subsistence-agricultural fields and outbuildings

Government-post office

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Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic-hotel

Commerce/trade-department store

Religion-religious facility

Domestic-single dwelling

Agriculture/subsistence-agricultural fields and outbuildings

Government-post office

7. Description

Architectural Classification

Greek Revival

Italianate

Queen Anne

Bungalow/craftsman

Other-American Foursquare

Other: Gable-front, side-gable, upright and wing/gabled-ell house forms

Other: Falsefront store

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

foundation: stone/granite, concrete block;

walls: wood/weatherboard, concrete block, synthetic/vinyl, asbestos, shake

roof: asphalt, metal/tin, metal/steel

other: brick chimneys

Narrative Description- Summary Paragraph

The Omena Historic District comprises a rural settlement containing vernacular wooden buildings and open spaces that include fields, a cherry orchard, and woods. The village is located along and inland from Omena Bay, a small inlet off Lake Michigan's Grand Traverse Bay. Omena's buildings date primarily between 1858 and 1935 and, typically one or two stories in height, include houses, commercial buildings, and a church as well as barns and various smaller ancillary outbuildings. The heart of the district is a row of houses and commercial buildings near Omena Bay along the north side of state highway M-22 and Tatch Road west from the point where M-22 turns north toward Northport and along the first short section of M-22 running north away from the bay. Several buildings exemplify simple gable-front, upright-and-wing or gabled-ell forms, and two commercial buildings feature falsefront facades. One side-gable bungalow and one hip-roof foursquare house are present, and a few other buildings display simple Greek Revival and Queen Anne ("Free Classic") detailing, including buildings that formed an early resort complex, still in operation as a bed-and-breakfast inn. A highly visible historic feature of the district is the Omena Presbyterian Church (historically the Grove Hill New Mission Church), a belfry-topped clapboarded building of simplified Greek Revival design. Behind the church

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stands a cemetery containing graves dating back to the settlement's earliest years. Farther to the north are located the Cherry Basket Farm and Cherry Basket Neighbors property, historically a single property but now two parcels under separate ownership; this old farm retains its farmstead with a large gambrel-roof barn and other old farm buildings and also a cherry orchard, open fields and adjacent woods.

Narrative Description

The Omena Historic District encompasses the unincorporated historic village or hamlet of Omena within the southern part of rural Leelanau Township of Leelanau County. The main part of the village faces southward on Omena Bay, a deep water indentation on the west side of Grand Traverse Bay of Lake Michigan. Grand Traverse Bay extends in a north-south direction from about ten miles north of Omena to Traverse City, located about twenty miles south of Omena. The lower half of the larger bay is divided by the narrow, fifteen-miles long Mission Peninsula, with the divided southern sections of the bay labeled the West Arm (west side of Mission Peninsula) and East Arm. West Bay Shore Drive (state highway M-22) connects Omena with the hamlet of Peshawbestown, a few miles south, and, farther south, Suttons Bay and Traverse City, and with Northport, five miles to the north.

The village stands in a rural area, its roads bordered by abundant mature trees and shrubs. The nearby area contains a mixture of long established farms with new and old homes and cottages. To the north, east, and west the forested hills rise from the colorful basin of Omena Bay. The naturally terraced topography provides pleasant vistas of trees, fields and water, punctuated by old and newer buildings. There are no visually jarring elements and very few modern buildings. The gently rolling terrain in the potential historic district slopes gently downward upon entering the village from the south on M-22. A sharp left turn off the highway onto Tatch Road (County Road 626) follows a medium grade slope northwest up to Sunset Lodge, the sole remaining of a number of historic Omena resorts. The lodge's cluster of wooden building stand on level ground well back from the road amid large old trees. Back down to M-22 proceeding east from the Tatch Road intersection, M-22 takes a level course east along the bayside past a row of six old house and store buildings along the highway's north side, then bends sharply to the north away from Omena Bay just east of this old commercial area.

At the northward bend of M-22, another paved road, Omena Point Road, continues east to the Omena Beach (past the non-contributing Bourdo house and shop) to a Leelanau Township Park at the eastern boundary of the potential historic district. There is a small parking area and vault toilets on the north side of the road. The sandy and rocky beach contains a picnic area. The district boundary on the bay side of M-22/Omena Point Road is drawn to exclude the large modern Knot Just a Bar/Leelanau Cellars building (see Photo 11, far left edge) and parking area on M-22's southeast side across and just east of where Tatch Road intersects. But the boundary is drawn to include two sets of historically significant remnant dock pilings in Omena Bay. The Anderson Dock pilings are located across M-22 south of the Church and Omena Point Road in the Omena Beach swimming area. The pilings of the former Barth Dock are located a little farther west, across from the John Anderson house and near the Knot Just a Bar/Leelanau Cellars

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building. Portions of both sets of pilings are visible, the Anderson dock from the shoreline, and the Barth dock from the water.

Following M-22 in its northward course from the Omena Point Road intersection are, in order south to north, the Omena Presbyterian Church (Grove Hill New Mission Church), with its small, old cemetery behind; the Anderson family buildings and field; the farmstead and surrounding area of open fields of Cherry Basket Farm; and, finally, the farm's long established cherry orchards, now operated under a separate Cherry Basket Neighbors ownership established to maintain them as orchards in perpetuity in the face of intensive developmental pressures in this rapidly developing region. The property's north edge is located about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north of the village, just east of the M-22-Craker Road intersection. M-22's east side between the Omena Presbyterian Church on the south and the Anderson property on the north also contains a small row or group of residential lots, some containing homes and others not, that form a connection between the main part of the district to the south and the agricultural area to the north that is included because of these properties' close historical connections with the village. These lots contain four houses, two contributing, and include two largely undeveloped lots flanking the west end of Isthmus Road where it intersects M-22 (Isthmus Road to the immediate east is the main drive in a large-lot subdivision, Omena Shores Subdivision, developed in recent decades).

In the heart of the village the commercial and residential buildings face south on M-22 and Omena Bay. These buildings are wood-framed and sided, vernacular in style, and are one or two stories in height. A wide concrete sidewalk parallels M-22 on its north side, ending at the bend in the highway at the east. The commercial structures abut the sidewalk, while the two non-commercial buildings have small front yards. All of these parcels include bay frontage across M-22 to the south. (Not included in the district, on the south side of M-22 opposite the Tatch Road intersection, the Knot Just a Bar/Leelanau Cellars Tasting Room is located between the highway and Omena Bay. A circular drive and parking areas and a small marina surrounds this building but no sidewalk exists on this side of street.) The buildings on the edges of the potential historic district are set back from the road and do not have sidewalks. A loop with a small parking lot sits south of the Omena Presbyterian Manse. Outlying properties have private driveways.

The streets are uniformly asphalt-paved and sidewalks are paved in concrete. Minimal modern cobra head streetlights are attached to the electrical infrastructure along M-22. No government-sponsored streetscaping exists, but individual property owners have included landscaping and decorative elements. There are many window-boxes and planters. A number of open parallel parking spots are available on both sides of M-22, as well as a small slanted parking area on the north side of M-22 in front of the Tamarack Gallery. Private parking areas exist for Knot Just A Bar and the Omena Presbyterian Church. The streets are not tree lined, although individual properties have varying amounts of vegetation, including, notably, some mature maples.

Resources Contributing to the Character of the District

Inventory forms based on the *Michigan Above Ground Inventory* system were prepared for each building and site in the potential historic district. The properties are listed in order beginning

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with entering the village from the southwest and proceeding northerly along state highway M-22/West Bay Shore Road. For each of the entries, a number of standard references were consulted such as the Omena and Leelanau Historical Society Archives; the Omena Reference Map made by Tom Buehler of Cherry Basket Farms; the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office Inventory forms; Google Maps; and field observation. Additional unique sources for each site are cited at the end of each inventory entry. Amanda Holmes' historic narrative written for the Omena Local Historic Study Committee in 2004 has served as the basis for much of the nomination's historical information. Suzanne Miller's Independent Study paper: *A Pleasant Peninsula: The Origins of Omena, Michigan*, 2015, has also been heavily mined for information. Information compiled by Eastern Michigan University's Historic Preservation Program Preservation Research Techniques class, Winter 2014 term, was used in the inventory and integrity assessment.

1. 12819 East Tatch Road - Sunset Lodge (Photos 1, 2, 3 (far left atop hill), 5 (atop hill on left))

5 contributing buildings, 1 contributing structure, 1 contributing site

The Sunset Lodge complex stands on level ground atop a steep-sided embankment overlooking the center of the village on the west. Three of the buildings stand in a row well back from Tatch Road. A fourth, the Social Hall, stands back from the row northeast of its east building, the Wheeler House, and a fifth, the barn, is located behind the Wheeler House. A large lawn fronts the row of buildings, and large deciduous trees are scattered along the sloping road frontage and around the complex's buildings.

Wheeler House: The Wheeler House is the main building of Sunset Lodge. It is a two-and-a-half-story wood frame, clapboard-sided house of Queen Anne style, with an open wraparound porch on the southern and eastern sides. The front and a gabled west side porch both have turned wood columns and railings with simple squared balusters. The current main entrance is within a porte cochere on the west elevation. The door is of Queen Anne style, surrounded by multi-colored stained glass. Windows vary in size and shape, but are largely double-hung throughout. The building displays a variety of decorative elements.

Shedd and Dixie Cottages: Two cottages standing to the west of the Wheeler House constitute the major supporting buildings at Sunset Lodge. They were built between 1898 and 1911 to house summer visitors. The **Shedd Cottage**, in the center of the three-building row, is a one-and-a-half-story wood frame building with a side-gable roof whose front portion slants down to cover a full-width front porch. The building has clapboarded walls except for wood shingled areas – the ends of the front roof over the porch and in a large five-sided hip-roof dormer in the center of the front roof slope directly above a slant-sided central downstairs bay window. The front porch has simple square columns. The front of the porch's central bay and the eave of the central bay of the porch's roof both bow outward slightly reflecting the slant-sided projections of the bay window and dormer. The **Dixie Cottage** is a two-story, clapboard-sided wood-framed structure of the general upright-and-wing house form, with a two-story upright and one-story wing. The upright's front is topped by a jerkinhead or clipped gable, with a paired window beneath, the wing a large hip-roof dormer with two side-by-side windows.

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Social Hall and Barn: Supporting buildings at Sunset Lodge include a Social Hall and a Barn. An additional building, a summer kitchen and dining hall, was once part of the site but has since been demolished. The **Social Hall** is a two-story side-gable frame, clapboard-sided building with a central entry and full facade hip-roof porch on the first floor and gabled upstairs porch fronting the central of the three bays. The building also has a two-story wing on the rear (northern) side, and a one-story enclosure on the northwest corner. The **Barn** is a clapboard-sided, front-gabled building with steeply pitched roof. Its front has a broad sliding door and adjacent pedestrian door downstairs and a broad double-door above. The barn has broadly projecting eaves with large returns. There is a one-story side-gable later addition that serves as a garage.

Fieldstone Retaining Wall: A low fieldstone retaining wall (Photo 3) runs along the Tatch Road frontage at the base of the sloping ground below Sunset Lodge. Much of the wall are in a deteriorated condition.

Sunset Lodge has ties to Omena's years as a mission, as well as to its resort history. Leonard H. and Rhoda Spicer Wheeler moved to Omena in 1868 from Odanah, Wisconsin, where they both served with Leonard's father at the Odanah mission boarding school and had corresponded with Rev. Peter Dougherty, whose 1851 establishment of the "New Mission" nearby marked the beginnings of the Omena settlement. After three years they decided to rent out their buildings and acreage, and returned to Wisconsin to work in the family's new Eclipse Windmill enterprise. Nearly thirty years later they returned to Omena and built Sunset Lodge, so named because they saw it as their "final home dwelling place."

Sunset Lodge was first constructed as a retirement home by the Wheelers. As the number of guests they received increased over the years, the Shedd and Dixie cottages were constructed between 1898 and 1911 to provide additional housing. Other structures, including the extant social hall and barn, tennis courts, and a summer kitchen (now demolished), were added. The location remained a popular Leelanau resort until the Second World War, though the cottages continued to be rented to visitors. The dining hall was generally popular among visitors to the area, even those staying elsewhere, and was well-known for its fresh vegetables and homemade meals. The property stayed in the Wheeler family until 1976, when it was purchased by Richard Johnstone. Sunset Lodge was added to the Michigan State Register of Historic Sites in 1987 while under the Johnstones' ownership and use as a residence; they did not operate as a resort. The subsequent owners, Dave and Linda Jacobs, purchased Sunset Lodge in 1996 and re-opened the site as a bed and breakfast. The current owners, Dan and Mary Ziegeler, purchased the property in 2014 and continue that use.

The array of buildings shows that running a resort at the turn of the twentieth century involved skills both social and agricultural, with many of the labors taken on by the Wheelers themselves, later with help from family. Surviving records preserve the struggle by the owners of modest resorts to appeal to the changing tastes of resorters, who during the years Sunset Lodge operated, first arrived solely by steamer, then by train and steamer, and then motored in for shorter and shorter periods by automobile. Factoring in the effects of the world wars and the Depression, it is surprising that Sunset Lodge stayed in operation nearly four decades as a full-service resort. Even after the resort closed, the family rented out the cottages and continued to live on the

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property until it was sold in 1976. Its patrons, like those of the past, enjoy taking walks to explore the village, to purchase refreshments at the country store, and to test the waters of Omena Bay.

Bibliographic Reference

Armstrong, Betty. "Sunset Lodge." In: *A History of Leelanau Township*, The Leelanau Township Writers Group. 1982.

Inventory Form, Michigan Department of State Bureau of History. October 23, 1987.

Holmes, Amanda J. *Omena: A Place in Time*. Omena: The Omena Historical Society. 2003.

"Sunset Lodge," Omena Historical Society. NA, ND

Wheeler, Leonard H. Jr., "Newsomes Camp," to Rhoda Wheeler, Omena, February 5, 1871, Leelanau Historical Society

Wheeler, Charles Eugene to Miss. Viola Rutledge, May 19, 1925, Omena Historical Society.

2. 5031 North West Bay Shore - Putnam/Smith/Lingaur Home (Photos 4, 5, 6) 2 contributing buildings

This one and two-story residence, built c.1893, is a frame upright-and-wing house, with two-story upright and one-story wing. It stands upon a concrete foundation. A broad shed-roof front porch with four square wood columns displays a low gabled roof over the front entrance. The porch, which spans the upright and about half of the wing, features a coursed cobblestone-front base. The exterior has vinyl siding over clapboards and an asphalt shingle roof. The front elevation features broad picture and paired windows, including a paired double-hung windows in the upright's second story. The house has multiple double-hung windows, including a line of rectangular basement windows. This house features two entries and additions on the south elevation; a two story, flat roof addition off the main two-story section and a single addition at the intersection of the upright and wing with a shed roof.

The property includes a gable-roof wood frame **Barn**, clad in vertical wooden planking. Located behind the house, this former livestock barn stands in a deteriorated state.

Rinaldo Putnam was an early settler in the Omena area. He purchased his acreage in 1872 from George Armstrong Custer (of Civil War and Little Big Horn fame) and Elizabeth Bacon Custer, who had inherited it from Libbie's father, Judge Daniel Bacon. This residence was built by Rinaldo Putnam. He previously lived approximately a mile south of this residence (in what is now the Putnam-Cloud Tower House, on its original site, at what is now the Villa Marquette) where he farmed for nearly two decades before relocating to more fertile ground on what is now Putnam Road. He never liked the "town" house and gave it to his son John Donovan Putnam and his wife Anna Rennie Putnam. In 1900 John Putnam along with his wife and father were living in the residence. Rinaldo passed away in 1906 and his son followed in 1926. John's widow, Annie Rennie Putnam, survived for several years in the home, passing away in 1929. She bequeathed the home to her granddaughter Geneva Putnam Smith, who was the first born of her eldest son Frederick Rennie Putnam. Geneva married and raised her family and lived out her life in the home for about 50 years. She passed the home to her granddaughter Sheila Smith Lingaur. Sheila lives in the home currently with her husband Jeff and their youngest daughter.

Bibliographic Reference

Historic District Study Committee Final Report: Omena Historic District, Omena Michigan, (June 13, 2005), page

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13. His first residence was moved in 2004 to current location. See inventory card 5047A N West-Bay Shore Drive, Omena, Michigan: The Putnam Cloud Tower House.

Holmes, Amanda. *Omena: A Place in Time*, Omena: Omena Historical Society, 2003.

Year: 1900; Census Place: Leelanau, Leelanau, Michigan; Roll 724; Page 11B; Enumeration District: 0023; FHL microfilm: 1240724.

Ancestry.com. Michigan, Deaths and Burials Index.

**3. 5039 N. West Bay Shore Drive - Anderson Store/Kimmerly Grocery/Tamarack Gallery (Photos 4 (center), 6 (right))
1 contributing building, 2 contributing structures**

This one and two-story clapboarded wood frame building, built c.1885, has a front-facing gable roof that is hidden behind a false front façade. A cornice supported by four single brackets with decorative arches of wood battens beneath adorns the top edge of the falsefront façade. This decorative feature is also found on the Post Office. A shed-roof canopy spans the full front of the building's two-story section, about two-thirds of the building's frontage. The building has a rectangular footprint, with a single story, fully enclosed rectangular shed addition, with a falsefront façade, on the west side. There are two entrances; the primary one is a single door centered in the southeast side of the main rectangular building footprint. The door is flanked by a large picture window on each side. The shed addition features one door on the west end of this addition. The door is flanked by a horizontal sliding window to the east. Three two-over-two double hung windows are equally spaced and centered above the main door in the false front façade. Directly centered above those windows is a single four-over-four double hung window in the one-half story above. Nine two-over-two double hung windows are equally spaced on the north side of the house. The east side of the structure has a modern second story stair entrance extending above the shed addition. There is a single story, fully enclosed shed addition at the rear of the structure. The foundation is cut and whole field stone with some cement block. A single chimney stack is located on the rear ridge-line. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The property also contains a small **well house** of wood plank construction, and **ice house foundation** of cut stone.

John Anderson arrived in Omena in the 1860s. His twelve- year old son Andrew F. Anderson came to the United States from Sweden in 1869, and moved to Leelanau County in 1879. Andrew worked for a merchant in Suttons Bay, and married Maret Bahle of that town in 1883. Andrew's father John purchased the land in 1879 from Rinaldo Putnam; the store was built c.1885, and the land transferred from John to Andrew in 1888. The young Andersons lived above the store. In 1894 the Omena post office was moved into the store while A. F. Anderson was Postmaster. According to advertising in 1901 issues of the *Northport Leader*, the Anderson Store sold clothing as well as canned foods and dry goods. In its heyday the property included a barn, icehouse, carriage house, livery, and windmill, all of which were removed when no longer of utility. Circa 1930 Andrew retired and passed the operation of the store on to his son Louis, who eventually moved the Anderson Store operation to Northport.

In 1946 the store was operated by Myles and Beatrice Kimmerly, who ran it as an independent business, Kimmerly Grocery. In 1958 Myles was appointed Probate Judge and the Kimmerly Grocery ceased operation. Over the next few years the building saw use as a tea shop, gift shop,

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and residence. David and Sally Viskochil moved their Tamarack Gallery to the store from the Sugarloaf resort in 1976 and lived in the residence above the store, raising their daughter Sarah there. Though David passed away in 2005, Sally continues the gallery's operation, and the manager, Len Cowgill, lives in the residence.

Bibliographic Reference

Leelanau Township Historical Writers Group. Lawrence Wakefield, ed. *A History of Leelanau Township*. Revised Edition. Chelsea, Mi.: Book Crafters, Inc., 1983.

Omena Historical Society. Omena, Michigan.

Viskochil, David. *Michigan Above-Ground Survey Field Form: Tamarack*. 2003

4. 5045 N. West Bay Shore Drive - Putnam House/Cloud House/Omena Historical Society and Museum (Putnam-Cloud Tower House) (Photos 7 (left) 1 contributing building

This ca. 1876 building is a vernacular Victorian farmhouse with a simple pilaster-and-entablature-framed front entrance of design harkening back to the Greek Revival. The two-story gable-front building has a one-and-a-half-story rear ell. The rear part of the house had been opened up on the interior to expose the rafters and create a worship space used by the Jesuits, who owned the home prior to its acquisition by the Omena Historical Society. The front part of the main floor closely follows a 2/3 Georgian Plan. The house is clad in white painted wood clapboard siding, but the front gable displays narrow vertical boarding at the base, diamond-pattern shingling in a broad mid-level band, and horizontal boarding at the apex. The roof is clad in asphalt shingles. The foundation is of concrete block, new in 2004. There is an open shed-roof porch along the north side of the building and another on the south side, which was added onto the building after the structure was moved here in 2004.

In 1872 Rinaldo Putnam and his family bought property from General George A. Custer and his wife Elizabeth B. Custer to establish a farm and build a home. The house was built ca. 1876 by Rinaldo Putnam, a newly arrived settler from Canada, and is now the second oldest farmhouse standing in the Omena area. After farming the rocky land for nearly two decades, Putnam moved to more fertile property inland, and sold his land and farmhouse in 1893 to Frank Cloud of Cincinnati, who built additions to accommodate the new summer house use, including a commodious porch and a tower on the southeast corner. The house was used as a Cloud family summer home for nearly forty years.

In 1936 the land and farmhouse-turned-cottage, as well as the Cloud "Rock House" just to the north at the original location, passed by will from Frank's widow, Julia Cloud, to their son Rev. Charles Cloud, Provincial of the Chicago Province of the Society of Jesus, and became known as Villa Marquette. The house was called the Tower House by the Jesuits. The house gradually fell into disuse, until the Detroit Province (who then owned it) determined it should be razed. In 2004 the Omena Historical Society acquired the property for \$1.00 from the Detroit Province, and moved the Putnam-Cloud House from its original location a half mile south of Omena to its current location on N. West Bay Shore Drive. When the house was moved the Cloud family additions were removed to accommodate the size of the new lot. Its lot is owned by the Omena Village Preservation Association, and is leased for \$1 per year to the Omena Historical Society,

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which owns the museum building. Because of its historical and architectural importance and its close historical associations with Omena, the house is considered contributing despite the half-mile move to the present location.

Bibliographic Reference

Abstract of Title from Leelanau County Register of Deeds's Office, Michigan. December 17, 1872.

Omena Historical Society

Holmes, Amanda. *Omena: A Place in Time: a sesquicentennial history, 1852-2002*. Omena, Michigan.: Omena Historical Society, c2003

Information from Marsha Buehler, a Cloud family descendant

5. 5047 N. West Bay Shore Drive - John and Celia Anderson House (Photos 7 (right), 9 (yellow, center left))

1 contributing building

The 1880s gabled-ell dwelling at 5047 N. West-Bay Shore Drive has an irregular footprint. The land was part of John Anderson's 1879 purchase from Rinaldo Putnam. Reportedly the gable-front upright portion of the house was moved from the nearby Omena Heights (site of the mission school), after which the side-gable wing with rear leanto was added. Around 1940 the wing gained a second story and an ell was added to the rear of the upright. This created an additional gable in the front of the wing as well as an additional gable on the rear of the ell. There is a shed-roof porch that spans the entire width of the wing; it was originally open but has since been enclosed. The windows appear to be double hung throughout; some are two-over-two while some are one-over one windows. The enclosed porch has casement windows below three-vertical-light transoms. The roof is clad with rectangular asphalt shingles. The exterior's wood clapboarding has been covered with vinyl siding. The main entrance is located in the wing, sheltered by the porch.

The Anderson home was built by local businessman and store operator John Anderson. After his death in 1903 his son A. F. Anderson and his family lived in the home. It eventually passed to a granddaughter, Halcyon Anderson Nelson, whose family lived in the home, occasionally running a small shop on the porch. The home is currently a residence owned by the Omena Village Preservation Association, founded in 2002.

Bibliographic Reference

Omena Village Historical Society Hazel Taylor Oral History

Omena Village Historical Society Archival Photographs

Ancestry.com 1880 census

Holmes, Amanda J., *Omena: A Place in Time*, Omena Historical Society, 2003

6. 5059 N. West Bay Shore Drive - Anderson's Ice Cream Parlor/Omena Post Office (Photos 8 (left), 9 (center))

1 contributing building

This c. 1880 one-story building built by John Anderson has a front-facing gable roof that is hidden behind a falsefront upper façade. The cornice on the façade includes single brackets and decorative arches of wood battens. This detail is the same design that appears in the falsefront façade of the Anderson Store building a few doors to the west. A shed-roof canopy spans the

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entire width of the front of the building, creating a covered porch space underneath. The building has a rectangular footprint and is of wood frame construction and clad in wood clapboard siding. The entrance is a single door topped by a large transom and is flanked on one side by a sidelight with a narrow window in the upper half and wooden panel in the bottom half. A large, nine-light showcase window flanks the central door on each side. A six-over-six double-hung window is centered over the front door in the falsefront façade. Each side elevation displays two two-over-two double-hung windows. A single door is located between the windows on the west side. A single chimney stack is located on the ridgeline. A single story, fully enclosed lean-to addition with a shed roof extends from the rear of the dwelling. The roof is clad in asphalt shingles.

The property transferred in 1905 from John and wife Celia Anderson to Jeanette Ballard Keyes, and then to Maret B. Anderson, wife of Andrew F. Anderson. Through the years the building was also used as a pharmacy and for storage, and was rumored to have also been a blind pig. The location of the post office varied over time, but during the summer months mail was distributed from a back room at the ice cream parlor. The 1913-1914 *Michigan State Gazetteer* lists Frank Anderson, son of Andrew and Maret, as confectioner. The post office clerk would also scoop ice cream and sell candy. The Omena Post Office has been permanently located in this building since 1959. A former postmaster, Mark Frank, located and installed additional period postal boxes to match those re-located to the building from the Clover Lodge post office. The building is owned by the Omena Village Preservation Association.

Bibliographic Reference

Omena Historical Society

Holmes, Amanda. *Omena: A Place in Time: a sesquicentennial history, 1852-2002*. Omena, Michigan: Omena Historical Society, c2003.

Leelanau County Register of Deeds, Suttons Bay, MI. 2016

7. 5055 N. West Bay Shore Drive - P. R. Barth, General Merchandise/Barth's Cash Store/Omena Bay Country Store (Photos 8 (right half), 9 (right half), 10) 1 contributing building

This c. 1891 one-and-a-half and two-story building has two attached components: a gable-front two-story store building and one-and-a-half side-gable residence. The building stands on a combined concrete block and stone foundation. The west side and partial back side are constructed with concrete block, while the remainder of the building is wood. The façade has been partially re-covered with vinyl siding. The roof is covered by asphalt shingles which are in need of repair. The store section is fronted by a shed-roof porch, supported by four turned columns. The porch is now enclosed, except for a recessed double-door central entry, reached by three concrete steps. Multi-paned showcase windows flank the recess on each side and fill the front and sides of the enclosed porch's side bays above vinyl-sided bulkheads. These windows replaced flat multi pane windows and were installed by the current owner. All other windows appear to be double-hung. A brick chimney is centrally located. There is a residential apartment above the store, and an exterior wooden stairway on the north side. A wood frame, one-and-a-half-story residence projects from the store's east side, its front set back from the store facade. It

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served as the residence of the Barth family and remains the residence of the current owner. This part of the building has a side-gable roof, with a gabled dormer on each side flanking a narrow central two-story gable-front projection that displays a paired window in each story. The **Barth Dock** was located on the shore almost directly across from the store; it today exists only as timbers and rubble stone on the lake bottom.

The P. R. Barth General Merchandise store was built on land purchased from R. D. Putnam in 1891 by Paul Barth, who had come to the United States from Germany in 1866. By 1900 he had also built a dock, which was essential during that time in order to obtain supplies for the store; his competing merchant, Andrew Anderson, also had a dock just to the east. The dock allowed Barth to receive and ship goods with the steamer ships arriving in Omena. Barth's store catered mostly to area farmers and other permanent residents. The farmers grew and canned their own food and butchered their own meat, and Barth carried the staples they could not supply themselves, like flour, sugar, and cheese. They would exchange their fresh meat and produce for the goods they needed. Barth also bartered with the Native Americans, trading his goods for handmade rugs and baskets, which were very popular with the cottagers.

After Paul Barth died in 1936, his son Ernest took over the store and renamed it "Barth's Cash Store." Ernest Barth added a stockroom to the west side of the building and carried sundries, work shirts and other items useful to the locals and migrants who worked on the surrounding farms. He operated it as a "cash" store, but he also kept a tab for regular customers. He and his wife ran the store until 1972, when they retired and sold the business to Bert and Bette Wheeler, who renamed it "Bert's Country Store." They remodeled the second floor and rented it out, first to Golden Rule Insurance Agency. In 1978 Richard and Ingrid Colling bought the store and once again changed the name, this time to "Omena Bay Country Store." They added the enclosed display window spaces flanking the entry within the former open porch to the front of the store *circa* 1982. Ingrid "Sunny" Colling still operates the store today; there is still a rental residence above. The presence of this store and its accompanying dock helped to establish Omena as a successful commercial center in northwest Michigan, and it remains an important element of the community.

A separate vacant parcel (45-008-126-029-00) is included with this property. It is a narrow strip which runs east-west behind the row of commercial buildings.

Bibliographic Reference

Averill, Marie. "An Unofficial Information Center: The Country Store." *The Record Eagle* [Traverse City] 3 Aug. 1984: n. pag. Print.

Buehler, Marsha, comp. *HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE FINAL REPORT OMENA HISTORIC DISTRICT*. Rep. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Disch, Debby, and Joan Blount. "P. R. Barth General Merchandise/Barth (Cash Store." *Omena Timelines* (2012): 6-8. Print.

Knickerbocker, D. C. "Ernest Barth and a Bend in the Road Named Omena." *The Grand Rapids Press* 12 Dec 1971, n.p. Print.

- 8. 5123 N. West Bay Shore Drive - Barth House and Outbuildings (Photos 17, 18)
5 contributing buildings, 4 contributing structures, 1 contributing object (black walnut tree)**

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Residence: This one-and-a-half-story bungalow residence has a side-gable roof. The house has three porches: an enclosed gabled one in the center of the front, and enclosed hip-roof back porch. The foundation is of rock-face concrete block, the walls clad in white asbestos shingling, and the roof in asphalt shingles. The bungalow was built *circa* 1930 by Albert Solem and Carl Garthe. Lumber and beams from the demolished Leelanau Hotel were utilized in its construction. There have been no additions though the front entrance porch has been slightly modified.

The windows on the first floor are double-hung, with three vertical lights above and one below. The attic displays both three-over-one and one-over-one double-hung windows. The basement windows are ground-level, fixed sash, single pane windows. The window frames are all painted black. The four wood doors each feature three elongated glass lights. Three of the storm doors have eight lights arranged in two vertical columns. The fourth storm door has a single large light. There are several outbuildings associated with this property.

Milk House: A milk house is located about ten feet directly to the west of (behind) the house. It has concrete block walls and foundation and a corrugated metal side-gable roof. The gables are faced in white asbestos shingles. The south side elevation contains side-by-side twelve light windows. The east front contains a wood plank door.

Small Barn: A small animal barn is a front-gable structure located west of the milk house. It has a concrete block foundation and walls. The front contains a plank door offset from the center and, in the front gable, a wood plank door that provides access to the hay loft. Above the plank door is an outlet ventilator. The north elevation contains one window and the south three. All windows are fixed sash with six lights. The roof is finished in corrugated metal with a metal ridge cap. The interior has a single stall and was converted into living quarters for the hired farm hand.

Chicken House: The chicken house is a small gable-front structure located to the north of the small animal barn and to the west of the milk house. The façade faces south and displays a plank door and a six-light fixed window. The east elevation has a six light fixed window and two ground level doors for chickens. The foundation and walls are of concrete block, and the gables faced in vertical planking. The roof is clad in corrugated metal with an asphalt shingle ridge cap.

Root Cellar: The root cellar is a small concrete block structure whose sides are built into the hillside to the west of the animal barn. It has a wood plank door and there is also a small single pane window. The roof is covered with earth.

The site also contains intact concrete block **granary, icehouse, barn, and outhouse foundations.** (A mid-nineteenth-century barn from the property was moved about a mile to the east on Omena Point Road and currently functions as a residence.)

A 200-year old **black walnut tree** south of the house (Photo 17, just to left of house) is said to be an Indian marker tree, with its bent limb pointing the trail south.

The Barth House is the second home to be built on the property, the first having been built by the

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Robert Dorland family, who purchased the land from Judge Daniel Bacon in the 1850s. Daughter Della Dorland married Frank Craker, and daughter Lizzie married Dr. Frank Buckworth. (The widowed Lizzie owned Cherry Basket Farm from 1885 to 1899, and later provided the land just over the hill to the west for the Omena Hillcrest Cemetery (outside of the district), where she is buried.) The original Dorland house was rolled on logs to the south side of the property, and the new Barth house built on its site.

Robert (Bob) Barth (1895-1963) was the son of Paul Barth and brother to Ernest Barth, owners of the Barth Store. Robert Barth married Effie Ranger (1894-1979) in 1924. Together they had one daughter, Janet Barth (1936-2002). Bob Barth was the foreman of the Cherry Basket Farm located ¼ mile north of the Barth House on Bayshore Drive. He also farmed his own 25-30 acres, raised his own cows (which he pastured across the road) and chickens, in addition to his own cherry crop. The family sold their products such as milk, eggs, and cherries at the country store owned by Bob's brother Ernest Barth. Effie Barth was an outstanding cook and sold her creations from the front porch of their home, as did many rural wives in the area. The house remained in the Barth family until Janet Barth's death in 2002. Michael and Kathryn Bosco purchased the property to preserve its heritage, and they use the residence as a summer rental home.

Bibliographic Reference

Kathy Bosco email to Marsha Buehler January 9, 2005. No Subject
Supervisors Ledger for Leelanau Township Leelanau County. Michigan rural property inventory. Works progress administration project. WPA. Michigan State Tax Commission- Sponsor. 1942. Book 1 of 6.
Township 31 N Range 11 W Sections 4-36. USED sec 26

**9. Barth and Anderson Docks and Omena Beach and Park (Photos 11 (park in foreground), 12 (Anderson Dock pilings in center), 13 (park lower half), 15 (parking lot in foreground, park rear))
2 contributing structures, 1 non-contributing site (park)**

This site includes the township park, a narrow strip of beach and ground between the road and Omena Bay, and the adjacent remnants of the docks, offshore to the south. The park includes the narrow sandy beach and a level terrace of lawn, edged on the street side and ends by split rail fencing. The grounds contain a few picnic tables, metal grills for cooking, a bench, a set of swings, and a memorial boulder with plaque. A small gravel parking area for the park north across the street is also included in the district.

Only remnant wood pilings, timbers resting on the bottom, and rubble stone from the two once busy docks remain, including some pilings for the Anderson Dock that rise approximately two feet above the surface and are up to 210 feet from the shore at the edge of an eighty-foot deep drop-off in Omena Bay. A local newspaper noted that they were situated at "the most perfect harbor imaginable" (*Leelanau Enterprise* July 7, 1887). The docks jutted out from near what is now the Omena Beach and Park, which serves as a community gathering place just as it did in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when the dock was used to ship a succession of products from cordwood to cherries, as well as for resort transit. During the Dougherty era, prior to the construction of the dock, the area was the site of Lewis Miller's trading post and a busy commercial landing. The docks were built using pilings and timber-framed cribs filled with rock

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for support, the crib timbers notched together at the corners similar to log home construction. Only a small percentage of the timber material is still evident amid the large piles of rock from the cribs.

Built in 1886, the Anderson Dock remnants symbolize what was once a safe landing for steamships, the predominant way of travel and commerce trade in the late 19th century and early 20th century. The dock led to Omena becoming a summer resort destination where “visitors can engage board for the season, and the broad beach makes an ideal tenting ground. Lovely walks and drives abound, and perch fishing is good from the piers” (*Leelanau Enterprise*). The property adjoins the 1858 former New Mission Church, called Grove Hill Church, and now called the Omena Presbyterian Church. The church grounds on the hill offer a commanding view of Omena Bay, and the church steeple is the predominant structure from the bay. This site was owned by Leonard H. Wheeler at the turn of the century, and was part of the Omena Inn resort hotel a bit later. The Barth Dock, some of whose pilings remain visible beneath the water surface east of the Anderson Dock, was built several years later, and is included with the Anderson Dock as access is from the Township Park by water. The beach, park and dock site are now owned by Leelanau Township, the lake bottomlands by the state.

Bibliographic Reference

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Grand Traverse Herald, December 16, 1886
Holmes, Amanda J. *Omena, A Place in Time. A Sesquicentennial History, 1852-2002*. Omena Historical Society: Omena, MI., 2003.
Leelanau Enterprise July 7, 1887
Little, Edmund M. *One Hundred Years in Leelanau; The Print Shop Leland, Michigan, 1965*.
Omena Historical Society. Omena, Michigan
Leelanau Township Historical Writers' Group, *A History of Leelanau Township*. Friends of the Leelanau Township Library, 1982.

10. 3015 N Omena Point Road – Bourdo House and Shop

2 non-contributing buildings

This 1 ½-story rough-sawn grooved plywood-finished house has a deck off the east façade facing a detached shop. Both have concrete block foundations and asphalt shingle roofs. The home was built in 1950. The property itself has seen many uses, and was prior to 1935 one of Maret Bahle Anderson’s land holdings. It was also part of the Omena Inn resort. It served in the 1930s as the location of a Sinclair filling station. The building has since seen use as a three-unit motel, and is currently a rental residence and commercial space. Pat Bourdo is the current owner.

Bibliographic Reference

Holmes, Amanda J. *Omena, A Place in Time. A Sesquicentennial History, 1852-2002*. Omena Historical Society, 2003.
Leelanau County Register of Deeds.

11. 5066 N. West Bay Shore Drive - Omena Presbyterian Manse (Photos 16 (left), 19 (right))

1 contributing building

The Manse of the Omena Presbyterian Church is located at the foot of a low hill, a short distance

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south of the church, and faces south toward the bay rather than west on the street. It is a two-story frame foursquare-form residence. On the first floor the exterior is finished in cream colored siding; the second story above window-sill level is faced in gray-painted wood shingles. The roof is a pyramidal hip roof with slate gray colored asphalt shingles. The front door is situated at the west end of the façade, within a small enclosure beneath a full width Tuscan column front porch that spans the south façade. The east side just back from the house's southeast corner features a tall cobblestone chimney that rises alongside the wall and well above the eaves. The house has an attached one-car garage on the east elevation of the building as well as an open porch on the north side. It stands atop a fieldstone foundation. There is a mixture of double-hung and casement windows. The Manse appears to be a modified Aladdin Company 1917 model entitled "The Standard." It was modified by moving the front door from the right to the left, subtracting the dormer, and having one large three-part window instead of three separate windows (which may be a later remodeling).

The Manse of the Omena Presbyterian Church was built in 1917 at the time of arrival of the Rev. Joseph M. Rodgers, the church's first full time pastor since the Rev. Alonzo Barnard left in 1880. The house was a catalog home designed by Aladdin Homes of Bay City, Michigan, one of the pre-eminent "kit home" producers in Michigan and the longest surviving, ceasing production in 1987, lasting forty-seven years longer than their biggest rival, Sears & Roebuck. At the time the house was built it stood out among the majority of cottages and farms in the area due to the fact that it had indoor plumbing and a full modern bath. With a home for a full-time pastor, the church increased its membership, and by the early 1920s was thriving and taking a central place in the community. Since the Rev. Rodgers left in 1925 the manse has hosted over fifty summer guest ministers from a number of different denominations who are offered the use of the manse for a month's vacation in exchange for their preaching. That tradition continues in the 21st century.

Bibliographic Reference

Holmes, Amanda J. *Omena A Place in Time: A Sesquicentennial History, 1852-2002*. Omena Historical Society, 2003

Roth, Ronica. *Built in a Day. Humanities*. September/October 1998 | Volume 19, Number 5

12. 5066 N. West Bay Shore Drive - Grove Hill New Mission Church/Omena Presbyterian Church and Cemetery (Photos 10 (in distance on right), 14, 19) 1 contributing building, 1 contributing site, 1 non-contributing structure, 1 non-contributing object

Standing atop a small knoll and facing south toward Omena Bay, the 1858 Omena Presbyterian Church is a simple rectangular front-gabled building with white clapboarded exterior and square-plan belfry topped by a tall shingled roof rising to a point. It has an attached one-story frame shed-roofed rear (north) addition. The main church has a fieldstone foundation and was constructed using a balloon frame made of fine quality pine shipped from Green Bay, Wisconsin. The building displays simple Greek Revival styling with plain cornerboards and frieze supporting a pedimented gable with simple classical cornices. An early photograph shows that the church had two front doors and no front windows; later, however, a central double door replaced the separate doors, and two large twelve over twelve front windows were added. There

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are four similar (12/12) windows on each side of the building. The gabled front porch and steeple are also later additions (the steeple was replicated in 2002). The church bell is original, brought from Old Mission, and reportedly was cast from pennies that were gathered by the Native Americans as a free will offering. The roof is clad in wood shingling, and there is a chimney toward the northwest corner of the church.

The interior of the church is painted a cream color, with the original designs – hand painted by the Native Americans – along the top of the plaster walls. The small and simple space is an open rectangle with a flat ceiling. A doorway leads into a smaller room in the back left side of the church. Overall, the church has remained relatively unchanged throughout the years; the original pews remain, along with the original wood offering bowls that were made by the Native Americans.

Behind the church to the north and east is a small cemetery containing the graves of many Native Americans and American settlers. The grounds contain numerous small rough-cut stone slab markers bearing no names along with a small number of larger ones bearing inscriptions. A larger slant-topped pedestal monument is labeled Agosa and marks the burial location of Chief Aghosa/Agosa. Nearby is a smaller round-top marker for George Agosa. There is also a Keyes monument displaying a Masonic emblem and topped by a tall shaft tapering into a Gothic-arch cap. The cemetery also contains a large stone slab monument (non-contributing) bearing the carved inscription:

IN MEMORY OF
290 NATIVE AMERICANS
AND WHITE SETTLERS
BURIED BETWEEN 1850
AND THE EARLY 1900'S
ON THE SITE OF
THE FORMER
GROVE HILL
MISSION CHURCH
FINAL RESTING PLACES
REMEMBERED BY
UNMARKED STONE

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

A stone columbarium with fieldstone walls was added to the north edge of the graveyard (circa 1980; non-contributing).

The Rev. Peter Dougherty founded Old Mission in 1843 on the Mission Peninsula east across the West Arm of Grand Traverse Bay, comprising both Europeans and Native Americans (eight whites and twelve Native Americans). After scouting the peninsula in 1851, Dougherty followed the Aghosa Band in 1852, and moved the mission to Omena, building the church in 1858 and calling it the Grove Hill New Mission Church. It was the first Presbyterian church on the

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Leelanau Peninsula. The church, now called the Omena Presbyterian Church, was dedicated on December 26, 1858. The Native Americans were dedicated to the first church in the area because they helped create the church, the church served them, and they served in the church. The church offered non-segregated services, first led in the Ottawa tongue and then repeated in English. The church struggled through the mid-1860s with a decline in the Native population and hard economic times after the Civil War, and consequently no regular services were held for a number of years after the Rev. Dougherty's departure in 1871. The last Presbyterian minister sent by the Board of Foreign Missions to the Native Americans was the Rev. Alonzo Barnard, who finished his work in 1881/82. In 1885 a Congregational church was established, using the Mission church facility. In 1896 the Congregationalists separated from the Presbyterians, forming their own church, and this church again became Presbyterian. Many Native Americans, including Chief Agosa (Aghosa), were buried in its graveyard and their gravestones can still be seen. Since 1925 to the present, visiting ministers have led services during the summer months.

The Omena Presbyterian Church is individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Bibliographic Reference

Craker, Ruth. *First Protestant Mission in the Grand Traverse Region*. Leland, Mich.: *The Leelanau Enterprise*, 1932.

Cym Sommerville, "Indians Helped Found 1st Church Here," *The Enterprise*, ND.

Holmes, Amanda J. *Omena: A Place in Time: A Sesquicentennial History, 1852-2002*. Omena, Mich.: Omena Historical Society, 2003.

Howard Bossen, "The Little White Church in Omena," *The Record-Eagle*, September 2, 1983, 4-A.

James L. Kerwin, "Summer Sabbaticals," *The Detroit News*, June 26, 1982, 17A.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory - Nomination Form.

NOTE on Properties #13 through #19

Properties 13 through 19 share much history, and that history typifies the tangled chain of title of much of the land in the Omena area. The parcels were part of an 1872 eighty-acre federal land patent to Mary Ke way saw no quay (Liber 7, p 498). In 1892 a forty-acre portion of the land was transferred to Elizah (nee Antoine) Sahgah (L. 19, p 262); this transfer included also the contributing orchard parcel to the north referred to in this nomination as the Anderson-Deibel orchard. Also in 1892 a 5.36-acre portion was transferred to Lewis Petoskey (L. 19, p 277). A 2.19-acre portion of the Lewis Petoskey parcel was transferred again in 1892 to Mary (Maret) Anderson (L. 19, p 278). The north 100 feet of the parcel went to Louis Anderson, son of Maret and Andrew Anderson (L. 48, p 336), then to Annette Anderson Deibel, Glenn and Susan Brown, and Mark and Jan Morgan. The south 108 feet transferred from Maret Anderson to Will and Carrie Solle, then to Glenn and Susan Brown, then to Gary Brown. The 2.17 acres remaining of the Lewis Petoskey parcel transferred in 1893 to P. R. Barth and wife (L. 19, p 495). The remainder of the forty-acre parcel transferred in 1892 from Eliza Sahgah to Peter Mougey (L. 19, p 363), and again in 1908 to Leonard LaBare (L. 33, p 477). The Omena Shores Subdivision lots described in #16-19 above were eventually created from these lands.

The next four properties border M-22 and are part of the Omena Shore Subdivision, platted in 1972 by Coleman V. and Eileen M. Gronseth.

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13. East Isthmus Road – Disselkoen Parcel, Lots 24 & 25 Omena Shores Subdivision (Photos 31 (part of cemetery in foreground), 32).

Lot 25: 1 non-contributing site, 1 non-contributing structure (boulder wall)

The southwest corner of what is now platted as Lot 24 forms a portion of the early church cemetery (site #12 above), and several graves have been located and are marked on the property. This portion is contributing, included as part of the cemetery on the church parcel. The remainder of this lot is not within the district boundaries.

Lot 25 has no house or buildings on it. It has a frontage of 283 feet on M-22 (N. West-Bay Shore Drive) and 190 feet on the curve to Isthmus. There is a small recently planted vineyard and a decorative boulder wall running north-south in the valley on the lot.

14. N. West-Bay Shore Drive – Beeler Parcel, Lot 5 Omena Shores Subdivision (Photo 33). 1 non-contributing site.

Lot 5 is located at the northeast corner of M-22 and Isthmus and has 155 feet of frontage on M-22 and 143 feet on Isthmus. The northern boundary with Lot 4 runs east-west 283 feet. The lot's southern boundary on Isthmus angles southeast. The boundary with Lot 6 runs northeast 207 feet to the shore of Mougey Lake. This is a vacant parcel which slopes steeply from the road level to the shoreline of Mougey Lake. The lot is covered with trees and a dense shrubby wetland thicket.

15. 5200 N. West-Bay Shore Drive – Ellen & Myrn Steele House, Lot 4 Omena Shores Subdivision. 1 non-contributing building.

Lot 4 has 100 feet of frontage on M-22 and is 175 feet deep east to west on its northern boundary with Lot 3 and 200 feet deep on its southern boundary with Lot 5. The house is a single-story white ranch house built in 1972, with a front entry porch and a two-car garage facing west toward M-22. There is a deck along the south and east elevations, with a view of Mougey Lake. The east elevation has a lower level walk-out to the shoreline. The lot slopes from the road to the shores of the lake.

16. 5220 N. West-Bay Shore Drive – Susan Brown House, Lots 1, 2 & 3 Omena Shores Subdivision. 1 non-contributing building.

Lots 1, 2 and 3 each have 100 feet on frontage on M-22 and vary in depth east to west from 315 feet at the north line to 175 feet deep at the south line. The house, built in 1984-85, is a dark brown wood-sided ranch house with a 2009 garage addition on the north elevation. There is a deck along the south and east elevations, with a view of Mougey Lake. The lot slopes from the road down to the shores of the lake.

17. 5300 N. West-Bay Shore Drive – Anderson/Solle/G. Brown House (Photo 29) 1 contributing building, 2 non-contributing buildings.

The house is a 1915, 1 ½-story building with a cross-gable form. There is a shed roof over a small entry porch. The house has had two additions: small entry closet addition on the west front and a larger living space addition built in 1977 on the south elevation. There is a 1980-era three-car garage/shop to the west of the house in the front yard near M-22 and also a small utility shed.

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All buildings are faced in dark stained wood vertical board-and-batten siding, with asphalt roofs and concrete foundations. The original siding was horizontal wood, which remains in place under the vertical siding. The house retains the original beach stone chimney, while the garage has a concrete block one. This property was owned by Maret Anderson in 1892, and in 1933 the house was sold to Will and Carrie Solle, who operated Solle's Bookshop there for several years before building a home and shop just south of Omena. Glenn and Susan Brown purchased the home in the 1970s and operated a large canopied fruit stand in the front yard from 1980 to 2002. Glenn Brown's son Gary Brown and his wife Dottie currently own the house.

Bibliographic Reference

Leelanau County Register of Deeds

Supervisors Ledger for Leelanau Township Leelanau County. Michigan Rural Property Inventory. Works Progress Administration project. Michigan State Tax Commission, sponsor, 1942. Book 1 of 6.

Interview with Susan Brown, July 13, 2016.

18. 5330 N. West-Bay Shore Drive – Anderson/Brown/Morgan House (Photos 20, 21 (center, in distance), 28)

1 contributing building

This 1 and 1 ½-story house was built in 1898 around the earlier house of Mary Ke way saw no quay. The original 12 X 28-foot building was expanded with leanto front and rear extensions and a small front porch. The 1898 structure has been expanded within a recent addition and renovations. The front now displays a central gable-front addition over the enclosed entry porch. The siding is dark green composition with white trim. The house is situated at the corner of M-22 and N. Omena Point Road. It has an attached garage facing Omena Point Road. The foundation is of concrete block and the roof asphalt-shingled. The east elevation overlooks Mougey Lake. There are remnants of the earlier structure in the house's basement, and the foundation blocks clearly show the differing ages of parts of the building. In 1892 the house was owned by Maret Anderson, and the Anderson family retained it for many years. It was the home of the Andersons' orchard manager, Chatham Brown, and his wife Anna. Annette and Gil Deibel renovated the house in 1975 and used it as a vacation home for their family until 1990. Susan Brown owned the house and used it as a rental home until selling it to Jan and Mark Morgan in 2008.

Bibliographic Reference

Leelanau County Register of Deeds

Supervisors Ledger for Leelanau Township Leelanau County. Michigan Rural Property Inventory. Works Progress Administration project. Michigan State Tax Commission, sponsor, 1942. Book 1 of 6.

Interview with Annette Deibel, July 13, 2016.

19. N. West Bay Shore Drive-Anderson agricultural parcel (Photos 20 (far left), 21)

1 contributing site

The small field is bordered on the north by Cherry Basket Farm and on the east by Mougey Lake. This is a 5.64-acre agricultural parcel, originally patented to Mary Ke way saw no quay (Kasemaquah or Quasemaqua) in 1872. It was eventually transferred to Louis Petoskey, then Maret Bahle Anderson, who in 1919 sold a 200x400 rectangle at the northern line to Herman Hyman, owner of Cherry Basket Farm. Anderson family descendants still farm the parcel, which until 2015 held a sweet cherry orchard, now fallow prior to replanting. In the past this parcel included the 5300 and 5330 parcels, but was bisected by the North Omena Point Road extension

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built in 1936, bordering Mougey Lake and connecting with M-22. This parcel is owned in 2016 by Maret Anderson's granddaughter, Annette Deibel.

NOTE: The next two properties are described together. They share a common history of ownership until the most recent transfers in 2000-2004.

20. 5530 N. West Bay Shore Drive - Cherry Basket Farm (Photos 22, 23, 24 (center in distance), 26, 27)

4 contributing buildings, 1 contributing structure

21. N. West-Bay Shore Drive - Cherry Basket Neighbors (Photos 24, 25)

1 contributing site

These two adjacent properties, now under separate ownership, form what was historically a single property, the Cherry Basket Farm, and so will be discussed here together. The entire property comprises about fifty acres – about ten of it, containing all the farm's buildings, in today's Cherry Basket Farm, the rest owned by Cherry Basket Neighbors, an organization established to assume ownership of the orchard acreage and maintain it in production as an orchard. The combined property is roughly rectangular in form, bounded west on M-22. An old pre-1936 road that connected the Ingalls Bay area to the east with M-22 (the 1863 Newaygo-Northport State Road) is still visible at the southern boundary. This old gravel/dirt road runs from Omena Point Road to the southeast on a tree-lined course up a hill to run between the Cherry Basket Farm's house and hog house, just several feet from each, and west of the buildings continues as a paved driveway up the slope to M-22. There is a pond, still used for irrigation for the field crops, at the northeast corner of the overall site. The orchard area is edged along the east side by a high orchard fence, and the property has occasional remnant sections of low livestock fence along the eastern and southern boundaries.

The present ten-acre Cherry Basket Farm area forms a roughly rectangular area at the southwest corner. A partly paved, partly gravel drive runs off M-22 into the farmstead complex, which stands in a hollow a short distance east off the road, with open crop fields between it and the road and to its immediate north, with the orchard farther north and woods to the east. A large barn is located to the drive's left/north closest to the road. Opposite (south of) it across the drive is a former hog house. East/northeast of the hog house stands the house. North of the house, directly east of the barn, stands a machine shed, located at the east head of the drive. To the machine shed's east stands a small fruit stand, formerly located out by the road.

Farmhouse (Photos 22 (background, right), 26): The house stands well back from the road, with large old trees around it so that it is barely visible from the highway. The original footprint of the very small circa 1889 farmhouse is rectangular in shape. It is a one story wood-sided building, with a front gable facing west. Its front contains a door, with concrete slab stoop out front, and a one-over-one double-hung window. A shed-roof extension along the west end of the north side (pre-1920) has a single north-side window. The back/east end of this original house was expanded with a short bathroom addition circa 1926 by Enid Bailey and Louise Taylor. A second one-story eastern addition (1948), slightly taller than the original house but of matching frame construction, telescopes out behind it. A gable-roof southern ell (also 1948), containing a

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large living room with fireplace, is broader than the original house and its roof ridge rises well above that of the original house. It is of matching frame construction with large “picture” windows flanked by small two over one double hung windows on the southern and western facades. Both of the 1948 additions were built by Wilbur Sutcliff. The flooring and lumber were milled from lumber cut on the farm. There is an entrance door and a small concrete porch at the southern facade, just west of the southern facade window. There are two brick chimneys, one central in the original building and the other in the east wall of the 1948 southern addition.

Main Barn (Photos 22 (left), 23 (right center)): The main barn is a 2800-square foot, two-story structure of post and beam construction with vertical board-and-batten wall cladding. It is a raised or basement barn with a fieldstone base. The barn was built in two phases. An original 700 square foot c. 1895 structure now constitutes the east approximately one quarter of the barn. It has a steeply pitched gable roof with the gables at the north and south ends, board-and-batten-clad walls, and a fieldstone base lower than the rest of the barn’s. This part of the barn has broad plank double doors in its north and south ends. The south side contains a single six-over-six window in the upstairs. The much larger c. 1910 west section of the barn contains 2100 square feet of floor space and stands on a full story high fieldstone foundation. A steeply pitched ramp, with poured concrete retaining wall on each side, leads to a broad double-door entrance in the center of that part of the barn’s south side facing the entry drive into the complex. This part of the barn has a gambrel roof that covers it as well as the west half of the older barn (the wood shingled roof of the older barn roof’s west slope remains in place beneath the gambrel roof). Its foundation contains sixteen six-over-six windows, and the upstairs walls contain three six-over-six windows in the west end and a bank of four, four-over-four windows in the center of the north facade. The midpoint of the gambrel roof ridge is crowned by a square-plan cross-gable-roof cupola, with paired louvers in each face. Both sections of the barn and the cupola have asphalt shingle roofs. The cupola was restored in 2013. A new ash plank bisquit joined floor (milled from timber cut one-half mile south of Omena) was installed over the main floor in 2013-14.

Hog Barn (Photo 27): The former hog barn is a wood frame structure with a long rectangular gable-roof main section, ranged east-west, a small gable-roof east-end section with gables at its north and south ends, and a shed-roof south-side extension near the west end. The c. 1880 east-end section with north and south gables has a square-plan footprint. It is a wood framed, drop siding-clad structure with a loft and cold cellar below. It has a front door and window on the north façade and broad, horizontal tripartite windows on the east and south facades. The c. 1915 west end of the hog barn, comprising about three-fourths of the structure, is a one-and-a-half-story structure with a rectangular shape. It has gables at the east and west ends and a gabled wall dormer, with a hay door, in the center of its north façade. This part of the barn is clad in vertical cedar board-and-batten siding, painted white, with multiple six-light casement windows in the north, south, and west sides, two double fifteen-light French doors near the ends on the north side, and a single French door on the south. It has a concrete pad and a metal roof. The western exposure included a now removed large rolling barn door, the hardware for which remains present. There is a shed addition to the south side of this end of the barn, built in 2004. The addition is sheathed in metal siding and has a metal roof.

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Machine Shed (Photo 23 (immediate left of barn)): The c. 1915 machine shed is a one-story building with an asphalt shingled, side-gable roof. It is a wood-frame building with vertical board-and-batten siding. The west front contains two large double sliding doors to accommodate farm machinery plus a single pedestrian door, with a four-light non-opening window in its upper section, at the south end. The north end has a small non-opening window, the eastern side two six-light non-opening windows flanking a board door. The south end has a metal roofed board-and-batten siding-clad shed addition built in 2014 with two flat panel doors on the south side and six-light outward-opening awning windows on its west and east sides. These windows were from the original south end of the building. The upper loft area above the shed addition has a six-over-six double-hung window.

Fruit Stand: The fruit stand is a small one-story frame structure with a side-gable roof with gables now located on the east and west ends. It now stands a short distance behind (east of) the machine shed. The present west end contains a door, while the present north side contains two six-light inward-opening awning windows and the produce shelf. The south side has one six-pane awning window and the east end one six-pane casement window. This structure was once used as a roadside summertime fruit stand.

History: Peter Greensky and his wife Susan owned this land from 1855 until his re-licensing as a local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1859, at which time he sold it to the Hazen Ingalls family. Two of the Ingalls children taught school at Northport. A son, Ammon, married Grand Traverse Lighthouse keeper Philo Beers' daughter, Magdalena, and along with several family members moved to the Charlevoix/Bear River area. Hazen Ingalls became the first permanent white settler to make Bear River his home in May of 1865. He bought the mill, which had been built in 1862 by Messrs. Fox and Rose, and his trading store was the first place of business on the south side of Little Traverse Bay. Several of the Ingalls children, Elizabeth, Jackson, and Lydia, owned a portion of the farm until 1880. (In 1869 Jackson Ingalls was elected first county treasurer of Charlevoix; Philo Beers was elected judge of probate.) In 1880 the farm was sold to lumber speculator Hiram N. Ballard (whose widow Jeanette would marry Sidney Keyes of the Clovers Resort). Subsequent transfers from 1884 to 1909 include to Lizzie Dorland Buckworth, Leonard LaBare, and Joseph and Ellen Kirt, each of whom held ownership for a few years. Prior to 1889 there was a small house constructed on the property – the east end of the hog barn appears to be the oldest existing structure, and the log and hewn beams are visible from the cellar. The east gable end of the large barn was built *circa* 1895, based upon construction technique and shingle wear.

With resort development in Omena around 1900 there was increased demand and opportunity for nearby farmers to provide the fresh farm products desired by the resorters. A railroad line north from Traverse City extended past Omena to Northport in 1903, and both people and livestock were more easily transported to the area. Herman Hyman with his wife Anna and son Julius bought the farm in 1909. Mr. Hyman was a horse dealer from Traverse City, and based on the construction of the gambrel hay barn and Mr. Hyman's need for hay storage, it is reasonable to date the gambrel barn to about 1910. Maret Bahle Anderson sold Herman Hyman the 200' x 400' bump out on the south quarter line – that is the location of the hog barn and attached gable house. It may be that Mr. Hyman believed that that structure stood on his land (it appears on the tax rolls

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as his), and he added on to it. In any event, he purchased the structure and small lot in 1919. The farm was referred to as the “candy stick farm” in an article in the mid-1920s, so it is likely that the red barn with white battens was painted during this time also.

During the 1910s and 20s the transition from pastures and fields to orchards was underway. As the agriculture of the area evolved and became more specialized in fruit-raising, so did the functions of the Cherry Basket barn, which for a time during orchard years housed harvest workers and, eventually, mechanical harvesting machinery.

The Cherry Basket Farm acquired some wide notoriety in the late 1920s. The farm was purchased in 1926 by two Grand Rapids women, Miss Enid Bailey, nurse superintendent of the Mary Free Bed Convalescent Home, and Miss Louise Taylor, owner of the Taylor Typewriter Shop. The new owners named their venture Cherry Basket Orchards, because from the road the farm nestles in a hollow in the trees resembling a basket.

In spite of their career successes the two women were unable to arrange bank financing, so were committed to paying off the \$23,500 balance over two years. They knew nothing about farming and turned to the Graham Experimental Station of the Michigan State College of Agriculture and Applied Science (now Michigan State University) on how best to manage their 5,000 cherry trees. Assisted by their farm manager, Bob Barth, they overcame enormous obstacles, received a record high price for their crop in Chicago, and paid off the farm in two years per contract. They installed electricity and gas, and used electricity to run their sprayer at less cost for a month than the cost of one day's labor. They were the first in the area to use bees for improved pollination. By 1930 Miss Bailey and Miss Taylor had paid off the farm purchase price, bought a new tractor, sprayer and fertilizer, and renovated the farmhouse, including adding a bathroom.

The story of the farm property is representative of many in the area. It began as a government land patent, then was divided, divided again, portions sold, and then re-combined and expanded. Later owners have come, put the land and structures to good use, and moved on and away from the area. What is highly unusual is that through all of those changes in ownership and utility, the farm's original acreage is relatively intact and still in agricultural use.

The farm changed hands four times from the 1940s to 1990, with the orchard acreage retained, although the Grand Traverse Bay shore lands were subdivided into lots and sold. Wilbur Sutcliff (owner 1947-63) was superintendent of Northport Schools and a cherry and apple farmer. John Bruce (1963-71) farmed cherries, apples and strawberries. George Harris died shortly after buying, and his widow, Jeanne (1971-90), used the farm as a family summer place, hiring a manager for the farming operations. In 1990 the Robert Weaver family's Sunshine Fruit Farms added the Cherry Basket to its other area holdings, and used the buildings for worker housing and storage. The Weavers replaced the barn roof and doors, which greatly helped to preserve the building.

In 2003 the remaining acres were to be divided for building lots, and a group called Cherry Basket Neighbors purchased most of the orchard land to keep it in cultivation as a cherry orchard. In 2004 the current owner, Cherry Basket Farms LLC, purchased the remaining ten

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acres and buildings. The fields and pond continue in active agriculture, under lease to a local young farmer, Nic Welty. The hog barn is home to a family member's catering business, Epicure Catering. The Cherry Basket barn continues to support the ever evolving farm needs as workshop and storage space, with the main hay barn area and cattle stall areas adaptively reused as a summer event venue on a limited basis. Modifications over the years have been minimal and for maintenance and preservation purposes. The Cherry Basket barn is a much photographed and beloved landmark on the M-22 Scenic Byway and is a symbol of the agricultural heritage and beauty, past and present, of the Leelanau Peninsula.

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Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Maritime History

Exploration and Settlement

Commerce

Entertainment and Recreation

Religion

Social History

Agriculture

Period of Significance

1851-1935

Significant Dates

1858 completion of church construction

1886 construction of Anderson Dock

1903 extension of railroad to Omena

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Dougherty, Rev. Peter

Greensky, Rev. Peter (Sha sko ge shick or Shagasokicki)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The village of Omena began with the founding of a Presbyterian mission school nearby for the local Chippewa band under Chief Agosa or Aghosa in 1851 by the Rev. Peter Dougherty. White settlement in the area also began in the 1850s, and a village began to coalesce along the bayside within a few years. The Omena Historic District meets national register criterion A under the contexts of Exploration/Settlement, Religion and Ethnic History/Native American for its associations with the early Chippewa mission school, under Commerce and Maritime History for its development during the later nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as a locally important commercial center and water shipping point for cordwood, lumber, and agricultural products, under Agriculture, for the Cherry Basket Farm, which reflects the long history of agriculture in this area, especially the development and continuation of cherries as a locally important crop, and under Social History and Entertainment/Recreation as a resort community. The district retains buildings and other features that reflect this long history, including an 1850s church building that served both the Native American and white communities; a cemetery that, also established in the 1850s, contains the graves of both early whites and Indians; a farm that reflects the long history of agriculture in the area and the continuation of cherry farming throughout the past century; buildings and remnants of docks that served the locale's commercial and maritime interests; and a multi-building complex that reflects the village's importance as a summer resort during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The village retains its historic orientation to Omena Bay, which served as the primary transportation route for its early history. The Omena Historic District also meets national register criterion B under the contexts of Exploration/Settlement, Religion and Ethnic History/Native American for its direct associations with two persons of importance – the Rev. Peter Dougherty, who served in the Grand Traverse Bay region as a Presbyterian missionary to the Indians beginning in the 1830s, before white settlement began, and founded the Omena mission school in 1851 and ran it for twenty years, and Peter Greensky, a Chippewa who served as a preacher and as Dougherty's interpreter at Omena in the 1851-59 period as part of much longer service from the 1830s to his death in 1864 as a preacher and influential figure among the Chippewa in the area from Grand Traverse Bay to the Straits of Mackinac, parts of it under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Omena Historic District possesses direct historic associations with both Dougherty and Greensky in the Omena church building, built during the period when both men were at Omena, and with Peter Greensky in the Cherry Basket Farm, part of whose property was owned during the 1850s by Greensky.

The district's period of significance is from 1851, when Dougherty chose the location for his New Mission, a boarding school for Indian children, to the late 1930s, when the growing popularity of the automobile and Americans' changing use of leisure time gradually diminished Omena's tenure as a summer resort destination.

Narrative Statement of Significance

HISTORIC CONTEXT

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Native Americans inhabiting what is now the northern lower peninsula of Michigan began practicing agriculture by 1320 A.D., based upon archaeological evidence of corn grown near the Straits of Mackinac (Haswell, 19-20). By this time, bands of related families gathered to fish and hunt in summertime villages along the shorelines of the upper Great Lakes, while also tending to small gardens and foraging for wild plants (Cleland, 23). From these settlements emerged an annual pattern of seasonal migration, continuing with what are believed to be the precursors of the Odawa and Ojibwe (Cleland, 25).

Alongside the Potawatomi, with whom they shared a similar Algonquin-based language and culture, the Odawa and Ojibwe united in creation of the Three Fires Confederacy (Weeks, 2-3), or Three Brothers (Leach, 6). During the seventeenth century these three tribes, also known as the Anishnaabeg, were allied in their efforts to resist the advancing Iroquois. Their own lands trapped out, the Iroquois aimed for territorial dominance of the upper Great Lakes region, still rich in the fur-bearing animals necessary to conduct trade with European interests. Driven from the east by the Iroquois, the Anishnaabeg in their forced migration were soon threatened by the Sioux to the west; for several years in the mid-1600s, their mobility was limited to the western Lake Superior area (Bellfy, 20). Supported by the French and other Algonquin tribes, the people of the Three Fires eventually terminated the Iroquois occupation, and greatly expanded their own territories during the later seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, occupying the entirety of lands comprising what is now Michigan, as well as the lion's share of the Great Lakes region, by 1768 (Fig. 1 & 2). The Odawa assumed control of many of the former territories of the Potawatomi, who largely departed and relocated to the south (Bellfy, 38-41). The Ojibwe held territories farther to the north and east, in present-day Ontario, Wisconsin, and the upper peninsula of Michigan, but they cohabitated with the Odawa on Grand Traverse Bay as well (Tanner, 57).

The completion of the Erie Canal in 1825 changed the course of settlement in the expanding country. The canal was a key step in opening easier access to the Great Lakes region from the northeastern United States, and its completion opened the flood gates for white settlement in southern Michigan and hastened the process of settlement of the entire state.

Omena's story begins with the *Treaty of Washington* of 1836. In return for the surrender of Native American claims to most of what is now northern Michigan (13 million acres), the federal government provided some monetary compensation and pledged to supply teachers, missionaries and farmers to educate the Indians in established reservations. Chief Aghosa was among the twenty-two chiefs and headmen of the Ottawa and Chippewa tribes who traveled to Washington that year to sign the treaty (Omena Timelines, 3).

After Michigan became a state in 1837, the federal government provided funds for missions, education, and agricultural training in order to further assimilation efforts. The Ojibwe and Odawa turned to missionaries to help with government negotiations and land purchases. In turn, the missionaries relied upon their native interpreters and guides, including Peter Greensky, Mwakewenah, and Andrew Blackbird, as they were unable to travel through the region on their own (Cassidy, 9-10).

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In 1838 the Rev. Peter Dougherty, a young Presbyterian minister, was sent from Newburgh, New York, to northern Michigan for the purpose of establishing a mission serving the Indians of the region. Dougherty spent a month, from July to August, that year scouting the area and learning the languages of the local bands of Native Americans.

Dougherty surveyed the interest of the head chief of the Grand Traverse Chippewas, Aish-quawan-aba (Esquagonabe), on the idea of a mission. The chief did not give him a “decided answer but said he would like a school” (Craker, 13). Dougherty found the Grand Traverse Bay a welcoming locale, buffered from the worst of the elements. George Johnston, the government carpenter assigned to Dougherty’s first mission, wrote of the favorable conditions of the region, noting “the climate here differs materially from that of the Sault & Mackinac...we are not subject to colds as experienced at either of the above places, this may be owing to the dryness of the soil, and little exposure of easterly winds” (George Johnston Letterbook, 1832-60). Having secured a suitable location for his mission, in October of that year the Rev. Dougherty returned to his home in New York to make arrangements for a permanent move to Michigan (Craker, 13).

In May of 1839 the Revs. Peter Dougherty and John Fleming, another Presbyterian minister, arrived in a Mackinaw boat at the site of what became known as “Old Mission” located near the tip of the Mission Peninsula on the East Arm of Grand Traverse Bay, at a site known as Mission Harbor, located roughly seven miles (as the crow flies) southeast of the Omena site across the bay’s West Arm. They met with Chief Aish-quawan-aba at an encampment place known as Tawassing, later the site of Elk Rapids, located at the mouth of the river on the opposite side of the East Arm approximately five miles southeast of Old Mission. Chief Aish-quawan-aba and other area chiefs held a council and agreed to allow the mission to unite the Native American bands of the Grand Traverse Region and to establish permanently at Tawassing. The Revs. Dougherty and Fleming selected a location roughly a quarter of a mile from the mouth of the Elk River on the south side, and on May 20, 1839, commenced building a house. Shortly thereafter the Rev. Fleming departed due to the sudden death of his wife; he did not return. The house was finished with the help of Dougherty’s Indian interpreter, Peter Greensky (Leach, 24). As a show of friendliness, Chief Aish-quawan-aba and his wife stayed with Dougherty for a few days (Craker, 14-15).

In June, soon after the completion of the house at Tawassing, the federal Indian agent, Henry Schoolcraft, traveled via boat to the fledgling mission, and recommended that Dougherty relocate to a point on the Mission Peninsula across the bay’s East Arm directly opposite Tawassing, to the Ojibwe village of Chief Aghosa, at the location now known as Old Mission (Craker, 14-15).

At about the same time, Chief Aghosa told the Rev. Dougherty that his band had decided not to move across the bay to join the other bands at Tawassing. Chief Aghosa offered to transport Dougherty and his possessions back across the bay and to build him a house if he agreed to locate the mission at the Old Mission site. Dougherty readily agreed to the conditions. Through the summer and into the fall of 1839, Dougherty and Aghosa’s band worked on several houses. Aghosa and his people valued the opportunity to learn English, as well as the treaty benefits, but were not quick to convert. Aghosa’s active role in establishment of the mission demonstrates the

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autonomy and equal relationship, or alliance, that the Indians valued. They did not consider themselves a conquered people, and viewed their relationship with the missionaries as mutually beneficial and dissolvable (Cassidy, 12).

As required by the 1836 *Treaty of Washington*, the federal government provided a blacksmith, Isaac George; a farmer, John Johnston (agent Schoolcraft's brother-in-law, later succeeded by Joseph Dame); and also Peter Greensky as interpreter and teacher (Sprague ch. 4). As of the following autumn, "there were five buildings at the Mission, aside from the Indian wigwams." A log schoolhouse, which served as the initial site of religious services, was also completed in 1843. The schoolhouse and church were erected on the beach, among the Indian residences, thus providing the growing community convenient access to schooling and religious services. The Rev. Dougherty worked with the Indians on domestic tasks like building fences and whitewashing buildings (Dougherty, 243-52). Assisting in this work were George Johnston and Isaac George, who was accompanied by his Native American apprentice, Andrew Blackbird. Greensky continued working and teaching with Dougherty at Chief Aghosa's village at Old Mission, and received his first license to preach for the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1844 (Cassidy, 20).

By 1848, census records indicate Ahgosa's village had expanded to include 166 individuals (Craker, 19). From that time until 1850, the Rev. Dougherty, with the help of the other white settlers, including George Craker, Lewis Miller, and Joseph Dame, continued to teach and work with Chief Aghosa's band. In the summer of 1850 the village had grown large enough to have a post office called Grand Traverse (Craker, 20). It was the only post office north of Muskegon and south of Mackinac. By the end of 1850, the settlement consisted of roughly forty homes, a church, a school, and mechanic shops (Johnson, *Once Upon a Time in Old Mission* <http://www.leelanau.com/nmj/views/old-mission.html> accessed 2/14/2016).

OMENA

By 1850 the confluence of several government treaties brought the Rev. Dougherty and the Chippewa to a crossroads that would turn Dougherty's original mission into Old Mission, and would lead to the founding of Omena on the western shore of Grand Traverse Bay. In that year a new Michigan Constitution declared the Indians eligible for Michigan state citizenship, but only on the condition that they relinquish their tribal ties. Many Indians openly approved of the push for citizenship, because it would allow them to purchase lands and would make their children eligible for education (Cleland, 243).

In 1848 Chief Aghosa's band, with forty families, was one of the largest in the area, and had 350 acres under cultivation on the Mission Peninsula. Under the 1836 *Treaty of Washington*, the right of the Indians to occupy land on the peninsula expired after five years. While the band's legal claim to the land "had long since expired," the land there was not yet available for their purchase (Leach, 29). However, the land immediately to the west across Grand Traverse Bay's West Arm in township 31 was open for purchase in 1850. The band then purchased land north of present-day Omena and named the area Aghosatown "in honor of their chief" (Dickinson, 10).

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Their departure settled, the Rev. Dougherty decided to follow and establish a mission school (the “New Mission”) nearby, one mile south of Aghosatown, at what soon came to be called Omena. Dougherty called this new mission “a manual labor boarding school,” and the intensive education to be provided to the children was designed to “ensure their adjustment into white society” and “instill the arts of civilization” (Holmes, 2). The location of the new mission was well chosen, as it was in the vicinity of the property of families that had already purchased land from the government (Leach, 31).

For a time, the Leelanau Peninsula “was the exclusive home of the Indians and those who, in one way or another, were there to look after their interests” (Holmes,11). An Odawa and Ojibwe settlement near Cathed Point at the northern tip of the peninsula had existed prior to the 1820s, and Waukazooville, near present day Northport, five miles north of Omena, and Peshawbestown, a few miles to the south, were established at roughly the same time as Ahgosatown (Weeks,11).

The Rev. Peter Dougherty and his party first arrived in 1851 at Omena, then an unnamed spot with a good harbor, where scattered parcels of land were occupied seasonally by Chief Shab-wa-sung and his band of Chippewa families. Dougherty’s journey to Omena was a short but precarious one, six miles westward across the waters of Grand Traverse Bay’s West Arm from the small peninsula where he had served as a missionary to the Chippewa since 1839, under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church.¹

The site Dougherty selected for the mission boarding school lies one mile east of Omena on a bluff overlooking Grand Traverse Bay once occupied by a band led by Chief Shab-wa-sung. This band used the area now known as New Mission Point (Omena Point) as an annual summer camp until 1853 when Shab-wa-sung followed another Protestant missionary, the Rev. George Smith, to the area now known as Northport a few miles farther north. The Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions purchased 333 acres on what is now Omena Heights, east outside of the boundary of the proposed historic district (Holmes, 10-11). It was there that Dougherty oversaw construction of this “New Mission.” It contained a large balloon-frame building designed to serve as a schoolhouse and dormitory, a barn, and several other buildings to accommodate the educational and practical needs of fifty Indian children, teaching staff, and his growing family – buildings of which only a few traces survive today. Construction began in the summer of 1851 and the Rev. Dougherty provided \$600.00 of his own inheritance to advance the progress. In September 1853 the New Mission boarding school opened. The finished main building had ground dimensions of seventy-five feet by twenty feet, and there were outbuildings such as a barn, washhouses and outhouses. The first class had twenty-two boys and seven girls. The work these children did as part of their training helped pay the school’s expenses. In 1855 crops from the school yielded \$400.00 (Holmes, 13-15).

¹ Peter Dougherty to Walter Lowrie, September 13, 1851, Box 7. Vol. 1, #18, American Indian Correspondence. Collection of Missionary Letters, Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (hereafter cited as AIC). Abram S. Wadsworth, Deputy Surveyor, noted the “good harbor,” and that Chief Shabwasung occupied “Shobwasson Point,” at the end of what would soon become known as New Mission Point, appear on his map, “Geological Survey, Township No. 31 North, Range No. 11 West,” 1851, Register of Deeds, Leelanau County Courthouse, Leland, Michigan.

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Even as the mission buildings were nearing their laboriously slow completion late in 1853, Dougherty pushed forward plans for a church building away from the school that could serve both Indians and white settlers. The site Dougherty chose was on a hill overlooking the bay; originally named Good Harbor by the government surveyor Adams Wadsworth, it is now known as Omena Bay. The Rev. Dougherty arranged a donation by fellow Presbyterian Judge Daniel S. Bacon, of Monroe, Michigan, who owned much of the acreage on the east side of the harbor (Holmes, 17,191). Bacon was brother-in-law to William A. Richmond, who succeeded Schoolcraft as Indian agent in Michigan and Wisconsin (Bacon's daughter, Libby, would later marry George Armstrong Custer). In June 1857 Dougherty applied to the county clerk "for a piece of land for a graveyard and church lot at the harbor." The graveyard had already been in use since the first burial in 1855. Dougherty had also solicited donations of lumber and freight, and expected that the Indians would contribute labor to the construction. By July of the following year construction was underway, with much help from the Indians, and the church was dedicated December 26, 1858, as the Grove Hill New Mission Church (Minutes of the Old Mission and New Mission Grove Hill Church, December 26, 1858). Because building the church involved little monetary expense to the mission, Dougherty, who meticulously documented the mission finances, left little detail about its construction. The mission manse and barn were built the same year as the church, a short distance southeast, but their lack of expense to the governing board has likewise shrouded record of their construction.

In June, 1857, Dougherty reported that they were "to have a Post Office at our place... the first of July, called Omena." Dougherty never mentioned the origin of the name in that letter. An 1881 history produced by H. R. Page reported that by 1840, shortly after Michigan's statehood, the area was known as "Omeena." The name most likely came from Henry Schoolcraft, the Indian Agent for the Chippewas in 1822-41. Schoolcraft was one of the first American ethnologists and was responsible for naming many of the areas he explored. He was known for taking tribal phonetic syllables and combining them into names to allow "a poetic drapery over our geography" (Holmes 79-80).

Peter Greensky had again assisted Dougherty, as at the Old Mission and before that at Elk Rapids. A Chippewa, Greensky (c. 1807-1866), according to a Memoir prepared by U. Boynton for the 1866 Methodist Episcopal Church Michigan Annual Conference, "was among the first Indians converted under the labors of Rev. John Sunday in the Lake Superior country, in 1833." He accompanied the Presbyterian Rev. Dougherty to the Elk Rapids mission location in 1839. He appears to have served with the Rev. Dougherty from then until 1844. Greensky received his first license to preach in 1844 from the Methodist Episcopal Church and was appointed to missions at Fond du Lac and Sault Ste. Marie in the 1844-46 period. United Methodist Church Detroit Conference records then show him with no active ministry assignments during the 1846-58 period; this likely coincides with the time that Greensky served with Dougherty as interpreter at his Old and then New Mission. In 1859 he was re-licensed as a local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church and left to serve the Pine River Mission northeast of Charlevoix. He served at Pine River for two years, then at other Lower Peninsula missions until 1864 when he was returned to Pine River, where he died of "consumption" in April 1866 (the hewn log Pine River, or Greensky Hill, mission church, built probably in 1864-65 during Greensky's time there, still

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stands in Hayes Township, Charlevoix County, and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places). Boynton states of Greensky: "Brother G. was a strong preacher, a faithful pastor, a rigid disciplinarian, and a man of great influence. He was a powerful man in argument, and hence in council among his people he was generally the ruling spirit. This contributed much to his influence as a missionary."

During his time in Omena, Greensky founded the Methodist Episcopal Indian Camp Meeting near Northport which bears his name, Shas-sko-ge-schick, or Greensky, Camp Meeting.²

Peter Greensky was a native leader in his own right, though he was viewed by Dougherty as an employee under his direction. Greensky's more evangelical and emotional Methodist preaching style gained its own followers, and this led to an "unhappy division" of Dougherty's nominally Presbyterian congregation. The services sometimes became "rowdy meetings" with loud praying, chanting, and calling out. Dougherty wrote, "Mr. Greensky did not aid me to restrain these demonstrations, but rather fostered them," causing them "to make unnecessary noise" (Peter Dougherty to Walter Lowrie, February 16, 1859. Dougherty Papers, AIC). Peter Greensky left the mission to hold separate meetings in Northport, and fourteen of the congregation followed him there, and then on to Pine River, northeast of today's Charlevoix. Dougherty wrote to Walter Lowrie that he worried about the stability of his mission, as some of the young men who left with Greensky were well thought of and among the most promising in the congregation (Cassidy, 27).

One property in the district that possesses direct associations with Peter Greensky is the Cherry Basket Farm. In 1855 Dougherty transferred to him 67 1/2 acres of what is now Cherry Basket Farm.³ Greensky and his wife Susan owned the land for several years until 1859, when the Greenskys departed from Omena. Greensky also may have helped build and perhaps attended services in the Omena church, built in the 1856-58 period before his departure.

With all of the hoped-for and essential buildings in place, life at the mission took its toll on the mission family as they sought to teach to young Indian children western methods of farming, housekeeping, and behavior. The graveyard near the church also testifies to the hardship of life in the Old Northwest, with its first burial dating from 1855. Among the more than 200 interred there are several mission employees who died of illness and disease.⁴ The 1860s led to a decline in the Native American population due to disease (such as tuberculosis and pulmonary pneumonia), and a number of men were lost in the Civil War.

Mission work was complicated by the mobile and seasonal practices of the tribes, which depended upon hunting, gathering, cultivation of crops, and sugaring. Church and school

²J.M. Bulkley "An Indian Camp Meeting." *The Christian Work and the Evangelist*. Vol. 79, No. 2012 (Sept 9, 1905, p.345) .

³The Grand Traverse Abstract of Deeds records the transfer from Dougherty to Greensky in 1855, p.176; Dougherty received the US patent for the land in 1856, Grand Traverse Abstracts of Deeds Leelanau County, p.49

⁴In 2002 the Historic Resource Foundation conducted a survey of the Presbyterian Church burial ground, which had become overgrown and most of the unmarked graves further obscured. Using a pair of trained dogs, the Foundation discovered over 200 gravesites. According to Betty Armstrong, a descendent of one of the mission families, the first burial occurred April 17, 1855.

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attendance was intermittent, and affiliations with missionaries were viewed much like tribal alliances based upon reciprocal obligations and kinship. Dougherty and his fellow Presbyterian missionaries expected their followers to be exclusive in their practice of Christianity, while the native culture freely allowed changes in denominations for numerous reasons: familial, worship style, faith, resources, proximity (Cassidy, 11, 15).

The Treaty of Detroit in 1855 demonstrated the U. S. Government's policy shift from removal of northern American Indians to the West to individual allotments of land in an attempt to assimilate them into the American political and economic structure. A deadline of 1861 was established for the Indians here to register land claims (Cassidy, 8). Per capita annuities to the Indians provided under the treaty of 1855 expired in 1865, and the Indian land allotments were nearing the end of their tax-free term. Natives who did not have a tradition of individual land ownership soon would be required to pay taxes on their lands, and unallotted lands would soon be opened to white buyers (Vogel, 199).

Due to the growing strain of service on his wife and family, in combination with the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions' inability to fund the boarding school after the Civil War, Dougherty determined to leave Omena, and departed in early 1871. The Civil War years must have been especially difficult for Maria Dougherty, a Virginia native who had two brothers in the Confederate Army. The prevailing sentiment in the Omena area, with its predominantly northern immigrant and native population, was staunchly pro-Union and anti-Southern, and many local men fought for the Union (Barnes, 26).

By the end of his nearly two-decade tenure, Dougherty had become one of the Presbyterian Church's most esteemed missionaries, and probably one of the most important to serve in Michigan. In a history of the mission field published by the Presbyterian Church, Clifford Drury wrote that Dougherty was "the most outstanding of the missionaries to the Chippewa and Ottawa Indians" (Drury, 140). Dougherty had toiled to create in New Mission a realization of his larger vision of a place where, when white civilization inevitably arrived, the Indians might be prepared for and welcome it.

When Dougherty sailed from Omena he left behind several landmarks that are still extant today: the Presbyterian Church and Dougherty's original manse and barn. The much renovated manse and barn stand just northeast of the proposed district. Today the church still opens in the summer for services. Guest ministers played such an important role in the summer community that the Presbytery built a second manse in the 1930s to house the clergymen and their families. The Aladdin Homes kit building still stands directly south of the church.

Dougherty's original manse has had a long history as a summer retreat, first as a cottage and then, from 1921 through the 1950s, as the Omena Inn summer resort under several proprietors, the original being John R. Santo, one time mayor of Traverse City. Beginning in 1978 the building was reclaimed as a single-family residence. Large additions that had formed part of the inn complex were removed in the 1980s and the original gable-roof building renovated and opened as a bed and breakfast. It is currently once again a private residence.

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Omena Village: A Water-Directed Life

Early maritime activity in Omena's harbor paralleled that of the rest of Grand Traverse Region, but later it developed its own particular characteristics. Grand Traverse and the smaller bays leading off of it were not well charted until 1851-52; thus ship captains on the Great Lakes paid it little attention. Dougherty likely made his first journey to Omena in the same way that he had navigated the waters of the Grand Traverse Region for the previous decade, via canoes and small sailing craft, which were usually twenty-thirty feet long. Once settlement in the region was underway, however, larger vessels servicing the area soon followed. Starting in the 1840s Dougherty did extensive business with Cowles and Campbell, entrepreneurial men in the region who built and operated several schooners, one of which was the two-masted schooner *Arrow*, built in Old Mission in 1847 (Leach, 1883). The earliest shipments to Omena can be attributed to Cowles and Campbell, though not necessarily on the *Arrow*, including a yoke of oxen from Chicago, from whose labor the entire operation of building the mission was to commence.⁵

Life on the Leelanau Peninsula in the early years of the New Mission was marked not only by difficulty, but isolation as well. According to the diary of the Rev. George Smith, local inhabitants began clearing one of the earliest roads on the peninsula, linking Northport to Omena, in late 1853. Expansion of overland routes connecting to the mainland, however, did not begin in earnest until a decade later when the Newaygo to Northport Road (state highway M-22 in the Omena area) was opened (Haswell, 34-34). During the winter months, travel across the ice was possible (Leelanau Township Historical Writers Group, 159). In warmer weather, while some traveled on foot via narrow Indian trails or along the beaches to reach Traverse City, Indians and settlers alike primarily utilized the waterways for transportation and communication with the outside world (Haswell, 34).

Omena Bay provided a rare safe deep harbor in the Great Lakes, and over the years had at least four docks. Dougherty had used the natural landing places in front of his manse and near the present site of the Omena Traverse Yacht Club (outside of the district) as landing points and later built at least one short-lived dock, but as soon as business activity warranted, two new docks were erected in the 1880s by competing store owners in the central part of the village. Traces of the latter two remain evident in the water within the proposed district. A few pilings of John Anderson's dock, built in 1886, still rise out of the water in front of the public beach, whereas remnant pilings of the Barth dock, built in 1889 or 1891, exist only below water level a short distance to the west (*Grand Traverse Herald*, December 16, 1886).

From the time of Dougherty's arrival in 1851 until the late 1920s, ships were a vital – and often only – link to the rest of the world. Before the 1903 completion of the Traverse City, Leelanau &

⁵ Peter Dougherty to Walter Lowrie, April 23, 1852, Box 7. Vol. 1, #18, AIC. Dougherty wrote: "Two vessels are in the Bay, one from Racine and one from Chicago. The head of the Bay is still full of ice...I have just drawn on the Board four drafts, one of three hundred dollars and three of one hundred each -- One to Mr. Whiteside for one hundred dollars dated April 20th the others to Mr. Cowles and Campbell dated April 23rd. Mr. Cowles is going on one of the vessels to Chicago and will get a yoke of cattle and some provision for Mr. Thomas to begin operation with."

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Manistique Railway from Traverse City past Omena to Northport – in the 1903-08 period connected by railroad car ferry to an Upper Peninsula line running northwest from Manistique – the waterways served as the region’s highway, an often turbulent and unpredictable connection between local environs and the larger world (although the car ferry connection was unprofitable and short-lived, passenger service on the railroad line to Northport continued until 1948 (Dunbar, 170-72).

The importance of the agricultural potential of the Omena area cannot be overstated. The raising of food crops in the area had taken place for centuries; when the missionaries arrived they found mature apple and plum orchards, as well as corn, beans, squash and potatoes (Leelanau Township Historical Writers’ Group, 67). The availability of agricultural land for his Native American followers was an important consideration for Dougherty’s establishment of the school at New Mission, and instruction in up-to-date American agricultural practices was a fundamental of mission life. By the time of Dougherty’s departure from Omena in 1871, agriculture had begun to transform the peninsula. The 1870 census records for Leelanau County indicate a preponderance of farmers in the region; as of 1874, there were 678 farms within the county, with a population of 5,031 (Johnson, 39).

For the area's agricultural potential to be realized, the densely forested land first needed to be cleared. Cordwood provided an early industry for the inhabitants of Leelanau Peninsula, with the wood both being shipped to Chicago and sold as fuel directly to passing vessels representing “an important branch of business” (Winchell, 71). Some aspiring farmers worked for the lumbermen to earn money to purchase their own land to farm, while others bought land and harvested their own timber, growing crops between the stumps at first. The local Indians evidently participated in the cordwood commerce as well as white settlers, despite the dearth of docks. A boat captain from Racine, Wisconsin, noted their efforts: “At Omena, Suttons Bay, Cross Village and other points around Traverse Bay we would lie at anchor and load tanbark and cordwood. We had Indians bring the bark and cordwood out in canoes. These canoes would carry about half a cord, when the canoe rail would be hardly three inches above the water. The Indians stood in their canoes and threw the wood and bark six or eight feet up into the schooner. They were good and industrious workers” (Gjerset, 10).

The arrival and departure of “vessels” regularly appears in Dougherty’s correspondence, though he, like most correspondents of his day, seldom identifies the vessels by type or name. That Omena was founded as a site for education and not for its commercial prospects also meant that there were no formal records kept to record the coming and going of ships and their cargoes. Mission employees as well as lumber, apples, potatoes, and all other kinds of trade goods arrived and departed through Omena Bay, but not on the determined scale of surrounding communities. In November 1880 the schooner *J. P. Descondres* sank in Omena’s harbor, earning herself a recorded place in Omena’s maritime history. The sloop *Celia*, likewise, was noted as having been in Omena due to a mishap. In December 1886 she went ashore in Omena, but was soon freed by the *Cummings* and repaired (Mansfield).

Visitation to the area and the demand for a hostelry in Omena was great enough as early as the late 1850s that Aaron B. Page (who was married to Joseph Dame's daughter Almira and brother-

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in-law to Indian agent William A. Richmond) built a rooming house to accommodate lumbermen clearing Leelanau County's yet untapped virgin timber (Holmes 117).⁶ It was located on the west bluff of Omena, across from present day Sunset Lodge. Local community members also gathered here to collect their mail from Page, who served as Omena's first postmaster from 1859 to 1881.

Omena's harbor became a hub of activity beginning in the mid-1880s, when agricultural development in the area, growing local commerce, and Omena's growth as a summer resort all came to a head. Over the next several decades the growing number of summertime visitors who came to Omena's hotels and guest houses were served by steamers, including the *Illinois*, *Manistee*, *Manitou*, *Missouri*, *Puritan*, *Kansas*, *Crescent*, and *Columbia*, all of which wove in and out of the Grand Traverse Bay ports on regular schedules, even after the arrival of the railroad in 1903 (Holmes, 96-100).

The 1880s and 1890s were a pivotal time for Omena, when enough settlement had taken place that the community could support basic businesses. Although Lewis Miller and John Anderson were early merchants, among the first new businesses to come to the burgeoning community of Omena in the 1880s were two general stores. The Anderson store was built in 1885, and Paul R. Barth opened his competing establishment to the east in 1889. These two businesses created lasting anchors for the community.

Both Andrew Anderson and Paul Barth also farmed, and their farms helped to furnish their stores. Both men at one time owned land between the church and the Cherry Basket Farm; an Anderson descendant still owns a farm field in the proposed district, as well as others in the surrounding area. The farm that, today known as Cherry Basket Farm, was originally Peter Greensky's, was transferred several times, first to the Ingalls family, after whom Ingalls Bay is named, then to others who saw advantage in its resources and location near the village and the bay.

The lands about Omena were first lumbered and, once cleared, used for grazing, then as crop fields. The proximity of the Omena harbor and then, in the early twentieth century, the railroad and the road to Traverse City opened markets beyond Omena. In 1915-16 farmers took their cream cans to the railroad depot in Omena for shipment to Grand Rapids (Leelanau Township Historical Writers' Group, 67).

The stores in the small row of buildings in the village seemed to promise future growth for the little northern Michigan town. But unlike other communities, the building boom never extended beyond the boundaries established by 1890. Three two-story frame houses grew up near the stores, each accompanied by a number of outbuildings meant to serve the interests of the stores as well as the proprietors' families. Omena preserves as well the building, built c. 1890, which housed an ice cream parlor, and which has served solely as the U. S. Post Office since 1959.

⁶Julie Schopieray, a historian who has extensively researched Page family history, has found no evidence that the home was a hostelry of any type until 1880, when the Pages sold it and it became a resort hotel. From 1858 till 1880, she believes it was solely Aaron and Almira Page's family's home on their working farm. (email to Marsha Buehler, 2-21-16.) Considering the scarcity of accommodations in Omena, it is likely that the Pages extended hospitality on occasion.

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Curbside gasoline pumps appeared in front of Anderson's store in the 1920s. Competition from two other gas stations emerged in the mid-1930s as other local residents also sought to benefit from the increasingly busy highway. Sweetie Bidleman, proprietor of the Omena Inn, a nearby summer resort based in Dougherty's original manse, sold Sinclair products on the northeast corner of M-22 and the Omena Point Road. At the south end of the district, John Putnam's fruit stand became a Texaco station which grew over the years from a fourteen by sixteen-foot building on the bay into a full-service garage and a bar, plus living quarters. Keith Brown, the new owner in 1957, expanded the restaurant and living quarters and added marina facilities.

Brown's Harbor Bar building has been the focus of the most significant changes in Omena during the twentieth century, gradually expanding directly on the shoreline, and is now the home of Leelanau Cellars and Knot Just a Bar Restaurant. Except for the construction of a fire station and community room, just across from the bar, little else has altered the landscape.

A notable addition to the village was the Putnam-Cloud-Tower House, moved from a short distance away in 2004. Local residents banded together to rescue the house from demolition at its former location and, under the auspices of the Omena Historical Society, moved the building to the center of Omena, between the Tamarack Gallery and the Anderson House (replacing a pole barn of similar size, which was moved elsewhere). The house's gabled front continues to face Omena Bay, only a mile north of its original location. Rinaldo Putnam had been a major landowner in Omena in the nineteenth-century and the building was moved from one piece of his original property to another.

True to Omena residents of the past finding practical and creative new uses for old buildings – most often involving physically moving them – the Putnam-Cloud-Tower House continues a tradition begun in the days soon after the Rev. Dougherty departed in the 1870s. Portions of at least three buildings within the district have been moved from previous locations, and others are partially built from materials salvaged from other buildings, including the mission buildings themselves. The Barth barn was moved out of the district, but the foundation remains, and an ice house was moved and re-purposed several miles north.

Omena as a Summer Resort

Omena businesses cultivated the image of Omena as a summer destination, especially A. F. Anderson, who catered to summer visitors and residents as heartily as he did to his farming clientele. Beginning with Mackinac Island by the mid-nineteenth century, numerous towns and villages along Michigan's western (Lake Michigan) shore became summertime resorts by the late nineteenth century, welcoming visitors from Midwestern cities and towns seeking respite from the summer heat in the lakeshore region's open space, pleasant surroundings, and fresh air and cool breezes. The growing numbers of visitors were brought from Midwest urban centers such as Chicago and Indianapolis by a growing network of railroad and steamship transportation that delivered them directly to Michigan's shoreline resorts. The more famous watering spots in the region are Harbor Springs, Petoskey, and Mackinac Island.

The comparatively mild temperatures and the purity of both the air and water were emphasized by publications painting northern Michigan as a refuge from mosquitoes and allergies alike (see,

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for example, Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad Company, 6-8). Summer resorts at different locations on Omena Bay boasted as loudly as any, in colorful brochures with poetic language, about the healthful offerings of their particular bay and lake breezes. Page's Rooming and Boarding House, a "house high on the hill west of Omena, overlooking the Bay," transitioned from a hostelry serving lumbermen to a resort. The Shab-Wah-Sung Club, possibly the earliest resort in the area, was in operation by 1868. Originally a duplex built to the southeast of the Presbyterian church and manse, it catered almost exclusively to vacationing Chicagoans, eventually earning the moniker of the Chicago Club (Leelanau Township Historical Writers Group, 173-174). Guests of the Shab-Wah-Sung Club arrived via steamer, which made "daily calls during the season of navigation" (Johnson, 41).

Before the completion of rail service to Omena in 1903, the Traverse Bay Line transported guests from Traverse City to the communities of Northport and Omena. In particular, those who vacationed at The Clovers, a mile south of Omena, benefited from convenient connections, with regular arrivals and departures from the ships of both the North American Transportation Company and Traverse Bay Line (Sprague, 1050). Opened in 1898 by Sidney A. Keyes, the Clovers stood on an elevated site that provided a beautiful view of the bay. Previously Keyes had been a merchant in the village, selling both general merchandise and lumber products (Johnson, 58). The resort would eventually grow to a sizable complex featuring accommodations for seventy-five guests, who were treated to meals prepared from the harvest of its on-site farm, garden, and orchard products (Fig. 6).

The Freeland resort was located just south of the Clovers, and the Freeland family lived in tents in the summer so as to accommodate their guests. Dougherty's mission school building was transformed into the Hotel Leelanau, the manse into the second Omena Inn. The Oaks opened a mile down the shore, not far from the site of the first Omena Inn, which burned down.

Within the district, Sunset Lodge (12819 E. Tatch Road) preserves the built legacy of the resort era in Omena, not only in the survival of most of its Victorian buildings known to have been built between 1890 and 1907, including the main building, separate guest cottages, dining and staff facilities, barn and other utilitarian structures, but in continuing operation as a hostelry today. The resorts were also benefitted by the opening of the railroad connection on the Traverse City, Leelanau & Manistique in 1903. The line was built as a branch of the Grand Rapids & Indiana, which served the northern Lower Peninsula's west shore from Traverse City north, and the GR&I, itself under the control of the Pennsylvania Railroad system, heavily promoted northern Michigan's resorts and hunting and fishing opportunities as a means of developing its passenger traffic.

Most of Omena's buildings are still in use as originally intended, some still in the same family ownership since the 1800s. Many have had less than a handful of owners in their existence. Omena's changes have been adaptations built upon its existing structure, and the village has not suffered the wholesale eradication, wasteful misuse of resources, and reconstruction that is so common in this country.

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Omena Historic District

Name of Property

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County and State

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Notes:

Suzanne Miller's Independent Study paper: *A Pleasant Peninsula: The Origins of Omena, Michigan*, 2015, was revised to become part of this report.

Amanda Holmes historic narrative written for the Omena Local Historic Study Committee in 2004 was revised and updated for use in this report.

Information compiled by EMU Historic Preservation Program Preservation Research Techniques class, Winter 2014 term, was used in the inventory and integrity assessment.

Julie Schopieray, Joey Bensley, and Doni Lystra reviewed the report for omissions and accuracy.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 72.9 acres_

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

Omena Historic District
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- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 45.067250 | Longitude : -85.591175 |
| 2. Latitude: 45.067256 | Longitude: -85.581304 |
| 3. Latitude: 45.054319 | Longitude: -85.581289 |
| 4. Latitude: 45.054317 | Longitude: -85.591176 |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning at a point on the S line of Tatch Rd. right of way opposite west line of Sunset Lodge property (parcel 45-008-126-026-00); thence along irregular west and north boundaries of Sunset Lodge property and north line of Barth house property (45-008-126-032-00) to west line of M-26 right of way; thence north along west line of M-22 right of way to point opposite north line of Cherry Basket Neighbors property (45-008-125-001-00); thence east and south along north and east boundaries of said Cherry Basket Neighbors property to north line of Omena Point Road; thence southwest to north edge of Moughey Lake; thence generally southwest along northwest shore of said lake along east lines of Omena Shores Subdivisions Lots 1, 2, and 3 to the east line of Lot 4 of said subdivision; thence along the east and southeast lines of Lots 4 and 5 to the northeast line of Isthmus Road; then southeast along said northeast line to a point in line with the east-southeast lines of Lots 25 and 24 in Omena Shores Subdivision; thence south-southwest along said east-southeast lines of Lots 25 and 24 to junction with Omena Presbyterian Church/cemetery/

Omena Historic District

Leelanau, MI

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manse property (parcel 45-008-125-016-00); thence east and south along north and east boundary of said Presbyterian church property and south along east line of the Bourdo property (45-008-136-015-00); thence east and then south along the north and east edges of the Leelanau Township Park property on Omena Point Road's north and south sides south to Omena Bay (parcels 45-008-126-036-00 and 45-008-136-014-00); thence west along edge of Omena Bay to a point 30 ft. of the underwater remnants of the Barth Dock; thence south-southeast parallel with remains of Barth Dock to a point 50 ft. southeast of end of apparent dock remnants; thence the boundary is a line between said point 50 ft. southeast of end of said Barth Dock remains to a point 50 ft. southwest of the end of Anderson Dock remains; thence the boundary runs north-northwest from said point 50 ft. southwest of Anderson Dock remains in a line parallel to said Anderson Dock to the south-southeast line of the M-22 right of way; thence along the south-southeast line of the M-22 right of way and along the south right of way line of Tatch Road to the Point of Beginning.

Parcels are in sections 25, 26, and 36 of Township 31N Range 11W Leelanau Township, Leelanau County MI.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries have been drawn to include intact buildings and features that have direct historical associations with the Omena community, while excluding to the degree feasible properties that do not possess historic associations and that do not meet the register's integrity requirements. Development east of the district between Omena Bay and Moughey Lake includes the Omena Shores Subdivision along Isthmus Road, characterized by homes built since the early 1970s on large lots, and individual homes along solidly built-up Omena Point Road, these homes and cottages a mixture of older and more recent but with newer predominating.

To the southwest along M-22 is the large Knot Just a Bar/Leelanau Cellars building and a non-historic firehouse building, both too new to contribute. Farther west and southwest buildings are more scattered and of mixed age. Along the west side of M-22 north of the village woods and fields predominate, with few buildings and no historic resources present. North and east of Cherry Basket Farm/Neighbors, woods predominate and historic resources are few and scattered.

22. Form Prepared By

name/title: Marsha C. Buehler

organization: Omena Historical Society

street & number: 4100 N Omena Point Road, PO Box 196

city or town: Omena state: MI zip code: 49674

e-mail buehlerm@earthlink.net

telephone: 231-386-9139

date: March 26, 2016

Omena Historic District
Name of Property

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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:**
- A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. Attached: Map #4
- **Leelanau Township map with north arrow and scale.** Attached: Map #3
- **Omena Historic District Map with Latitude and Longitude.** Attached: Map #2
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map. Attached: Map #1

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Omena Historic District
City or Vicinity: Leelanau Township (unincorporated village of Omena)
County: Leelanau State: MI
Photographer: Camilla Buehler

Omena Historic District

Name of Property

Leelanau, MI

County and State

Date Photographed: May 13, 2016; subsequently renamed and converted to tiff, unedited

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: 25 photos.

Photo #1 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0001)

Sunset Lodge (from left) Dixie, Shedd, and Wheeler Cottage south facades, west elevations, camera facing northeast from Tatch Road.

Photo #2 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District-0002)

Sunset Lodge, Wheeler House (center) and Social Hall (right) south facades, camera facing north from Tatch Road.

Photo #3 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0003)

Sunset Lodge, Social Hall (on left), center of village to right, south façades, camera facing east from Tatch Road to village.

Photo #4 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic Village_0004)

Entering Omena on N. West Bayshore Drive (M-22) from south, at intersection with Tatch Road (CR626), Putnam House south façade (on left), center of village (right), camera facing northeast.

Photo #5 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0005)

Sunset Lodge Wheeler Cottage and Social Hall on hill to northwest, Putnam House south façade, M-22 and Tatch Road intersection, camera facing north.

Photo #6 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0006)

Putnam House, west (on left) and Anderson Store, east (on right) south façade, east elevation, camera facing northwest.

Photo #7 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0007)

Putnam-Cloud-Tower House, west (on left) and Anderson House east (on right) south facades, east elevation, camera facing northwest.

Photo #8 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0008)

Ice Cream Parlor/post office west (on left) and Barth Store east (on right), south facades, camera facing north.

Photo #9 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0009)

Omena village view, showing line of south building facades, facing Omena Bay, camera facing west (from east to west (right to left), Barth Store, Ice cream parlor/post office, Anderson House, Putnam-Cloud Tower House, Anderson Store).

Photo #10 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0010)

South façade of east corner of Barth Store and yard, at bend of M-22, camera facing north. New Mission Grove Hill Church and Manse in background to northeast (on right).

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Photo #11 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0011)
Park and beach near Anderson Dock site (Township Park) looking west toward village.

Photo #12 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0012)
Anderson Dock Site, offshore of Township Park, pilings in the water, camera facing south. Barth Dock site on bay bottom (not visible) to west (on right).

Photo #13 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0013)
West edge of Township Park near Anderson Dock site, New Mission Grove Hill Church (Omena Presbyterian) in background, camera facing north.

Photo #14 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0014). July 2016.
South Façade of New Mission Grove Hill Church (Omena Presbyterian), camera facing north.

Photo #15 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0015)
View from churchyard toward Anderson Dock site and Omena Bay, Bourdo House to west, behind trees, camera facing south.

Photo #16 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0016)
North elevation of Church Manse, Omena village to the southwest, camera facing south.

Photo #17 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0017)
Barth House south elevation, animal barn west of house (on left), chicken house (on right) camera facing northwest.

Photo #18 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0018)
Barth House east façade, milk house, chicken house, and root cellar behind house to west, camera facing west.

Photo #19 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0019). July 2016.
Omena Church (left) and Manse (right), looking north along M-22.

Photo #20 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0020)
From southwest, Morgan House, Anderson field, Cherry Basket Farm and Cherry Basket Neighbors orchard in distance, camera facing northeast.

Photo #21 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0021)
Anderson field, Moughy Lake to the left, Morgan house (in center), M-22 on right, camera looking south toward Omena Bay.

Photo #22 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0022)
Cherry Basket barn west and south elevations, and farmhouse west façade (on right), field and orchard to the north (on left).

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Photo #23 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0023)

Cherry Basket Farm, barn and machine shed north west oblique elevations, camera facing east from M-22.

Photo #24 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0024)

Cherry Basket Farm/Neighbors orchard, pond, and farm buildings in the distance, camera facing west.

Photo #25 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0025)

Cherry Basket Neighbors orchard, at eastern boundary of district, camera facing west from Ingalls Bay Road.

Photo #26 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0026). July 2016.

Cherry Basket Farm, farmhouse, north and west elevations.

Photo #27 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0027). July 2016.

Cherry Basket Farm, Hog House, north elevation.

Photo #28 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0028). July 2016.

Morgan House, west elevation.

Photo #29 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0029). July 2016.

G.Brown House, north and west elevations, garage at south edge of view.

Photo #30 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0030). July 2016.

Cemetery east of Omena Church, Agosa family monuments, facing southeast.

Photo #31 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0031). July 2016.

Cemetery, northeast of Omena Church, looking east (house in Omena Shores Subdivision, outside of district, in background).

Photo #32 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0032). July 2016.

Disselkoen property (non-contributing), site 13, looking northeast.

Photo #33 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0033). July 2016.

NE corner of M-22 and Isthmus Rd. (site 14; non-contributing), looking north.

Photo #34 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0034). July 2016.

Steele House (site 15, non-contributing), looking east.

Photo #35 (MI_Leelanau County_Omena Historic District_0035). July 2016.

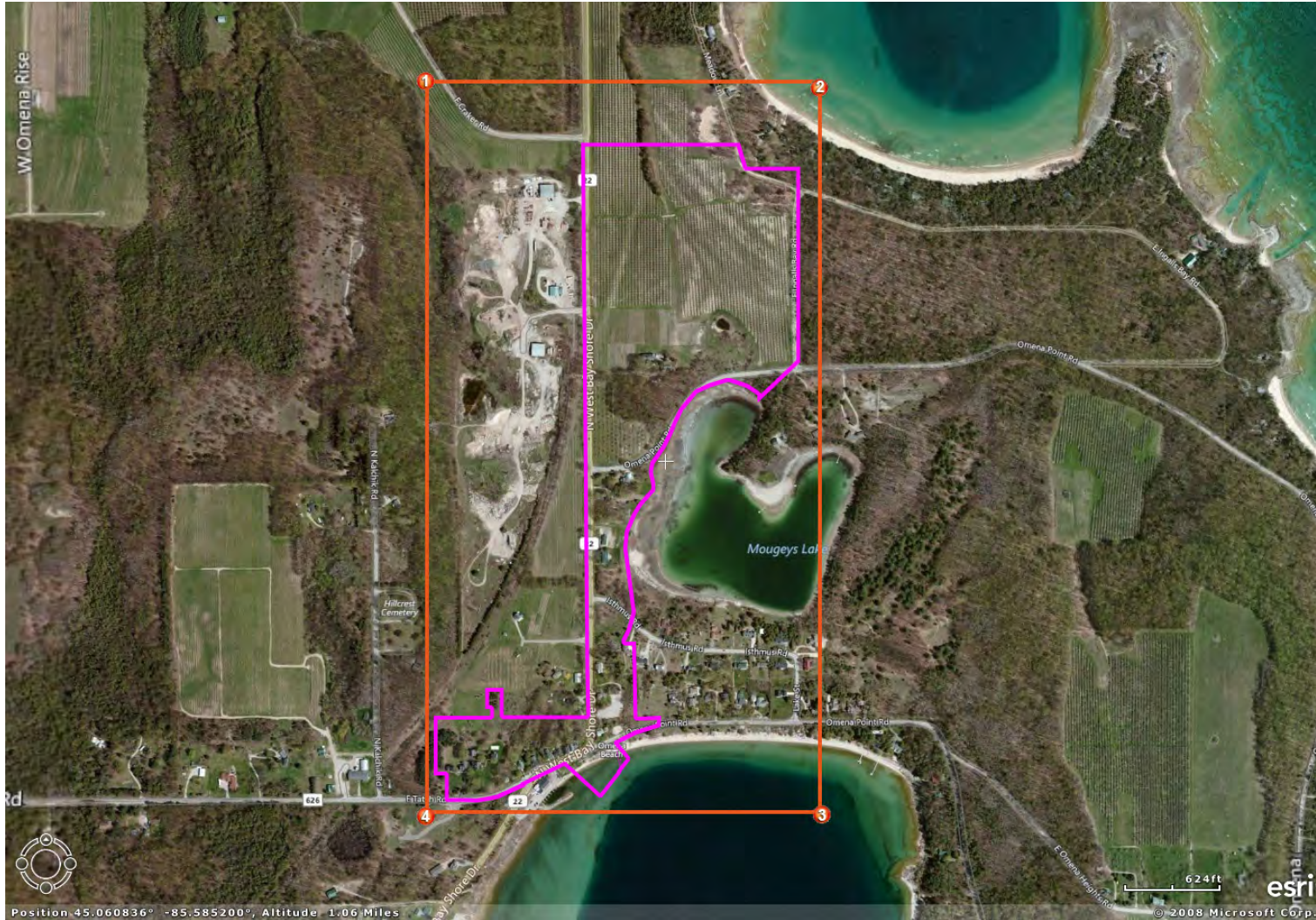
Susan Brown parcel (site 16, non-contributing), northeast corner of house, looking southeast.

Omena Historic District
Name of Property

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Omena Historic District, Omena, Leelanau County, Michigan

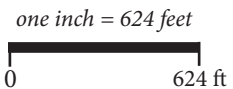
Intersection of Tatch Road and M-22 north to east through intersection with N Omena Point Road, and north on east side M-22 1 mile.

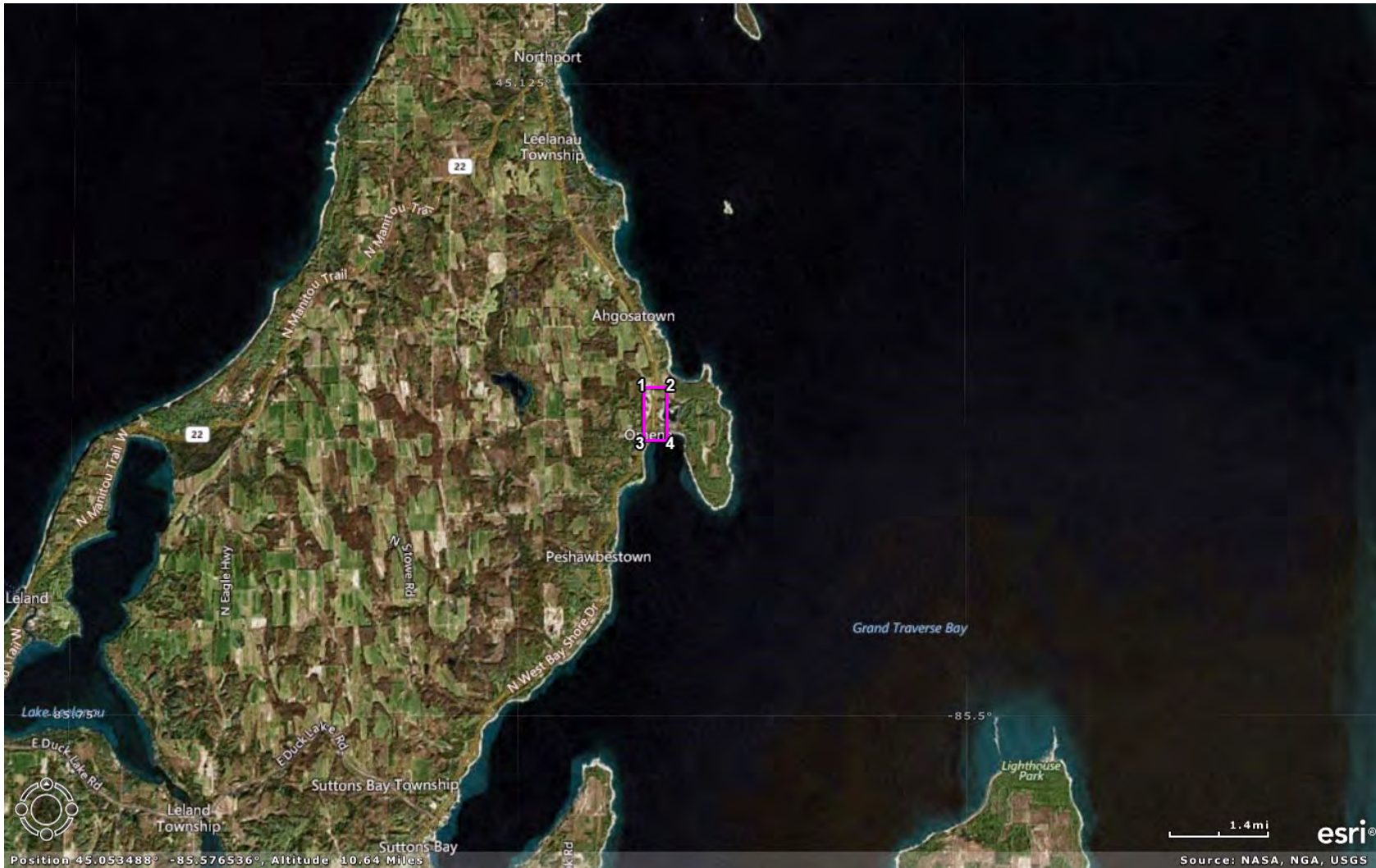
Lat./Long. (1): 45.067250; -85.591175

Lat./Long. (3): 45.054319; -85.581289

Lat./Long. (2): 45.067256; -85.581304

Lat./Long. (4): 45.054317; -85.591176





Omena Historic District, Omena, Leelanau County, Michigan

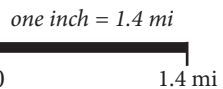
Intersection of Tatch Road and M-22 north to east through intersection with N Omena Point Road, and north on east side M-22 1 mile.

Lat./Long. (1): 45.067250; -85.591175

Lat./Long. (2): 45.067256; -85.581304

Lat./Long. (3): 45.054319; -85.581289

Lat./Long. (4): 45.054317; -85.591176





Omena
SUNSET LODGE
5 nights & breakfast







STOP

WEST BAY SCOTCHBORO





TAMARACK
GALLERY

OPEN



MUSEUM

5047



ROUTE 1065

OMENA BAY COUNTRY STORE

LIQUOR

OMENA BAY COUNTRY STORE

PREPARED

LIQUOR

OMENA BAY COUNTRY STORE

PREPARED











NO DOGS
ALLOWED
HERE

NO DOGS
ALLOWED
HERE

OLIVERA BEACH
This beach was named after
the family that owned the
property in the early 1900s.
The beach is a beautiful
spot for a picnic or a
relaxing day in the sun.
Please enjoy it responsibly.







Omena
Presbyterian
Church
ESTABLISHED 1862

STATE
ROAD

1337





9123

9123





DO NOT
PASS















2014
BARN OF THE YEAR













ISTHMUS →

LIMIT
55



