

**A SPECIAL HISTORY STUDY OF**

**PORT ONEIDA**  
**AND THE PYRAMID POINT**  
**AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT**

**SLEEPING BEAR DUNES NATIONAL LAKESHORE**  
**MICHIGAN**



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**Omaha, Nebraska**

**APRIL 1983 (Revised: June 1984)**

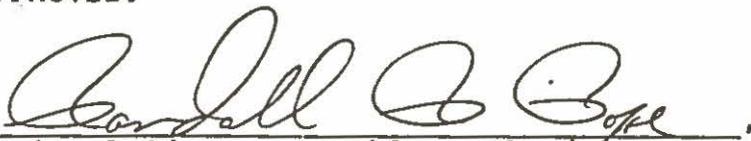
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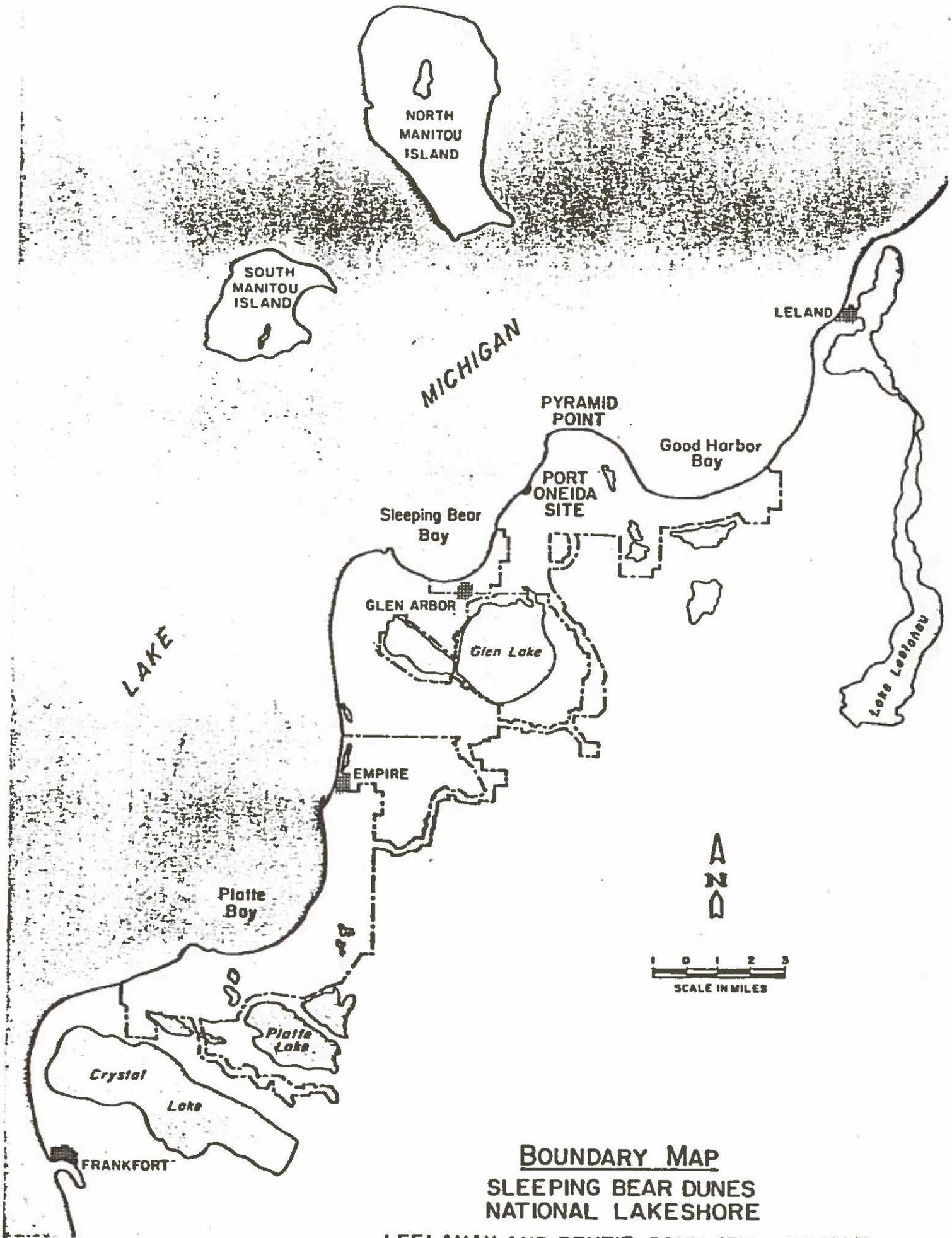
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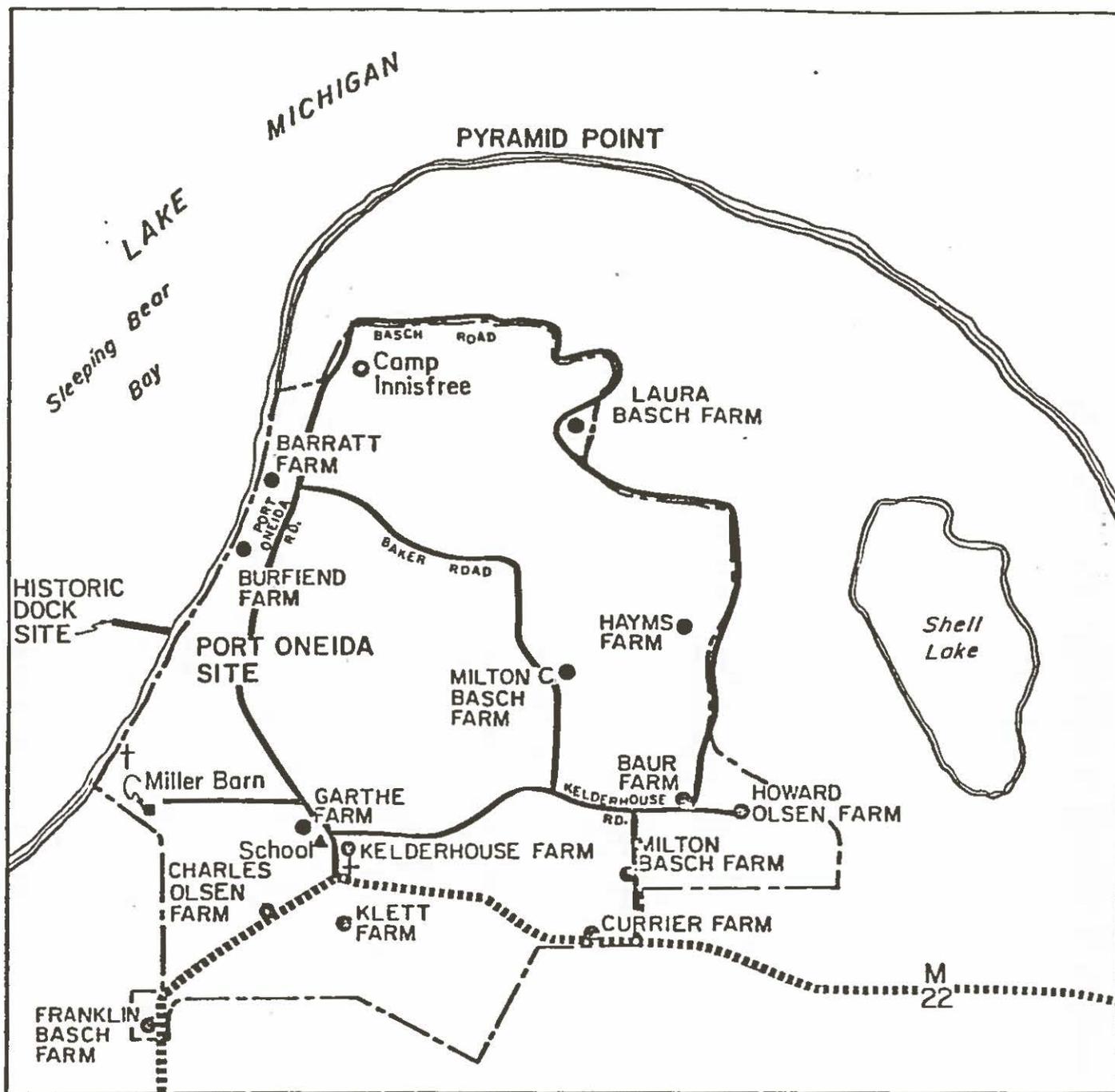


Regional Director, Midwest Region

7-25-84  
Date



**BOUNDARY MAP**  
**SLEEPING BEAR DUNES**  
**NATIONAL LAKESHORE**  
**LEELANAU AND BENZIE COUNTIES, MICHIGAN**



- — — — — PROPOSED STUDY AREA BOUNDARY
- FARM
- † CEMETERY

PORT ONEIDA/PYRAMID POINT  
SLEEPING BEAR DUNES NATIONAL LAKESHORE  
LEELANAU COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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## INTRODUCTION

Solitude and picturesque beauty are the key words to describe Port Oneida, a once thriving center of commerce on Michigan's Leelanau Peninsula. Today the Pyramid Point area is a quiet, rural community within the boundaries of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Farm buildings dating to as early as the 1850s can be seen here, although little agricultural activity is now conducted. Few tourists who pass through this pastoral district realize it was one of the earliest settlements in Leelanau County. It was the second mainland community on Sleeping Bear Bay to construct a cordwood dock and wooding station to serve the passing steamers (1862). It received its name from the S. S. Oneida, the first steamer which stopped at the new dock. With the boom in maritime travel on Lake Michigan during the mid- to late 19th century, fueling stops like Port Oneida were important to these steamships, which required large quantities of wood.

Like most other cordwood stations, a small community developed adjacent to the dock and nearby saw- and gristmills. All of the settlers of Port Oneida/Pyramid Point traced their heritage to the divided Germanic states in Europe. They encouraged their fellow Germans and Bohemians to settle there also. When these Europeans came to the area, Port Oneida served as a port of entry, one of many in northern Michigan. The

Leelanau County immigrants who chose to homestead in the Port Oneida/Pyramid Point vicinity were mainly farmers who raised cattle and cultivated grains and vegetables.

With the general decline of the lumber industry in Michigan, the local paucity of timber, and the fierce competition from other, more successful operations like the D. H. Day Lumber Company in Glen Haven, the Port Oneida dock and mill were sold in the early 1890s. By the turn of the century, it was clear that Port Oneida was no longer a viable economic enterprise, and the dock and mill ceased to function as the steamers stopped calling there for wood.

As early as 1910, Port Oneida was a ghost town. Its abandoned buildings were used only for storage. The dock, once the pride of Sleeping Bear Bay because of its termination in deep water, could only be identified by pilings jutting out into the relentless surf of Lake Michigan. Port Oneida fell victim to the fate which so many other early settlements also met: over-reliance on one industry. Without its principal asset, the town ceased to exist, but the farming community which had grown up around it proudly continued. Although the local Lutheran church was razed, the schoolhouse continued serving as an academic and community center and the cemetery still provided a final resting place for local citizens.

Today many of the farms are still owned by the descendants of the original settlers. Most of the houses appear much as they did in the last century with only minor changes or "modernization." The historic integrity of the Port Oneida district (see study area map) has been preserved with remarkably few modern intrusions.

PART I

What follows is a discussion of the establishment of Port Oneida, the people who settled there, and an accounting of historical events garnered through library research and interviews with local citizens. At the end of this special history study is a farm-by-farm inventory of the district.

PORT ONEIDA'S FIRST SETTLER

Carsten Burfiend (1825-18??), the first settler at Port Oneida/Pyramid Point, arrived in 1852. Burfiend left Hanover, Prussia, in 1846 and arrived in New York City. From there he proceeded through the Erie Canal to Buffalo where his wife, Elizabeth, and other relatives remained. Burfiend traveled on to seek the vast, new lands opening up in Michigan. He arrived on the Manitou Islands in 1846, where he built a log cabin and resumed his trade as a fisherman.<sup>1</sup> (While one source states that Burfiend first arrived on South Manitou Island in 1846, others assert that he actually lived on North Manitou Island.<sup>2</sup>) Every autumn, he returned to Buffalo to purchase the next year's supply of groceries and visit his family.<sup>3</sup>

According to the Eighth Census of the United States (1860)

for Michigan, "Cass" Burfiend's first daughter, Nancy, was born in New York in 1852 and his second daughter, Catherine, was born in Michigan in 1853.<sup>4</sup> The dates suggest that Burfiend brought his family to Michigan and moved them to a permanent home on the mainland in 1852.

Burfiend, a commercial fisherman, often ran into misfortune on this new frontier. Between 1847 and 1856, he was robbed three times by a band of Mormons led by the infamous "King Strang" of Beaver Island, in the Fox Island chain. They "took or 'liberated' all of his fish nets, and once they went so far as to take his boat, which later was found on the beach several miles to the north with a hole punched in its bottom."

The U.S. Government opened the Michigan mainland to legal settlement in 1852. Carsten Burfiend ferried many of the early settlers on the Manitou Islands over to the mainland of Sleeping Bear Bay on his fishing boat. One of his passengers was John E. Fisher, the mainland's first settler and the founder of Glen Arbor.<sup>5</sup>

Burfiend moved his family to a special spot he had earlier selected, on the eastern shore of Sleeping Bear Bay which sailors called Pyramid Point. The site he chose was a quarter-mile north of there; a decade later it was named "Port Oneida." Burfiend

filed claim to and purchased all of the land on the western shore of Pyramid Point, and as the land was slowly cleared, he began farming several years later.<sup>6</sup>

The Burfiends built a three-level log cabin on the beach. Elizabeth gave birth there to most of their 10 children. Four of the sons, who helped their father with fishing or in the fields, died from either pneumonia or by drowning. The log cabin, exposed on the beach to the fury of Lake Michigan as well as roving marauders, reflected the hard life of these pioneers. One night, an electrical storm was so fierce that it produced:

. . . waves so great that their cabin was pounded to pieces, and their possessions scattered along the beach. The exasperated mother attempted to salvage necessities, and recovered the drifting baby cradle, lest the child have no bed.

Maurauders [sic], heinous villains from the lake, vandalized their property and stole fishing nets. In their boldness they once had entered the house. While concealed upstairs, Elizabeth and the children trembled in fear. You can well imagine the terror inspired by these unexpected visits of pirates upon everyone along the lake, morbid fear ruling entire towns where protection was afforded only by their numbers. Maurauders [sic] put fear in the hearts of women and children, while they worried whether the husband and father had been brutalized or murdered, fishing on the lake or working in the field.<sup>7</sup>

#### THE EARLIEST TOWN OF PYRAMID POINT

Around the same time that the Burfiends settled the west

shore of Pyramid Point (Port Oneida), several Bohemian families led by Joseph Shalda established a town called North Unity on the east shore in 1855. The families arrived together on the same ship and landed at Shalda Creek near the site where they established North Unity.

The Bohemians built a schoolhouse (HS-35-203, the only structure which is still extant), a grist mill on Traverse Lake and a store. Most of the people of North Unity were farmers who tilled grievously low-yielding fields. Many of their important provisions had to be delivered by ship. Other Bohemians soon followed the Shalda group to North Unity, but usually landed not at Shalda Creek, but at Port Oneida. The two young communities, so similar in ethnic and linguistic origins, helped each other in those early days. A tragic fire in 1871, however, was so crushing that the small Bohemian colony never fully recovered.

The 1871 fire consumed the snug grouping of wooden buildings of North Unity. The North Unity families decided not to rebuild the town and most migrated to the Little Traverse Lake area or went farther south into Leelanau County. The Shaldas moved to what is now known as "Shalda's Corners" on Highway M-22, and "Joseph Shalda built his log cabin on what is the location of the former Port Oneida Grange building."<sup>8</sup>

Today the site of North Unity can be viewed from Port Oneida from a scenic overlook on Basch Road. Located in an open field in a picturesque valley surrounded by trees, only foundation depressions remain to indicate that a town once existed there.

Some families stayed and continued to farm the area, growing their staple crop of potatoes. The North Unity School, spared from the flames due to its location 1.5 miles south of the town, continued as an educational facility for the local children, including some from Port Oneida.<sup>9</sup> The North Unity Post Office, established on July 27, 1859, with John Hartung as the first postmaster, also survived the fire and continued operating until December 10, 1875. "The office was restored from August 21, 1876, to November 30, 1892, and from February 23, 1894, to February 14, 1905."<sup>10</sup>

#### ORIGINS AND RESULTS OF EARLY GERMAN IMMIGRATION

When Michigan entered the Union in 1837, the need to entice new settlers was acute. The State Legislature in 1845 appropriated funds to employ John Almy of Grand Rapids as Michigan's agent to represent and promote the State among the newly arrived immigrants in New York City. He published a six-page pamphlet extolling the virtues of farming in Michigan. Soon after,

Governor Epaphroditus Ransom appointed Edward H. Thompson as the new agent, and he wrote an improved, 47-page pamphlet in 1848-49 in German and English titled Auswanderer Wegweiser nach dem Staate Michigan/The Immigrant's Guide to Michigan.

The literature was widely distributed in the German states through consulates and professional societies. Many Germans were even persuaded to leave their first colonies in Pennsylvania and New York to live in the new state: "Michigan found that these Germans were good, reliable settlers and officially encouraged their immigration . . . ."11

The work of propagandists like Almy and Thompson helped alter the State's demographic mold. The lure of cheap, fertile land populated by fellow Germans, the failure of the 1848 German revolutionary movement, and the promise of plentiful jobs in the growing lumbering industry, all combined to make Michigan very attractive to German immigrants. The census of 1860 revealed the success of this initiative. Almost one-fifth of the State's population was foreign-born, with the largest two groups born in the British Isles (61,000) and the German states (38,787).12

The passage of the Homestead Act of 1862, however, opened the European emigration floodgates even wider. Under the Homestead Act, any American could claim from the Federal

Government 160 acres of free land in return for five years' occupancy plus a \$10 registration fee, or one could pay only \$1.25 an acre with 14 months' residence on the land.

It is very likely that the Michigan propaganda campaign and the Homestead Act influenced the German/Bohemian settlers of Port Oneida/Pyramid Point to leave their native lands and come to Michigan. Upon the conclusion of the Civil War, any farmland still unclaimed in Leelanau County was soon acquired under this historic act by war veterans, other Michigan settlers, or these new immigrants. The early settlement of the Port Oneida vicinity by this ethnic group helped to consolidate it into one cohesive, identifiable community unique within the boundaries of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. This esprit de corps of Port Oneida helped the community grow and kept many of its farms in the possession of the same families. Structurally, it has continued relatively unchanged even today.

#### WESTERN PYRAMID POINT IS SETTLED

Along with the Burfiends, the 1860 census also identifies other early settlers. Born in Hanover, Frederick A. (1822-1907) and Margretha (1826-1899) Werner laid claim on September 8, 1855, to a huge tract of land one mile south of the Burfiends and the

future Port Oneida town site. The farm structures that they built are now the Franklin Basch Centennial Farm (HS-34-114).<sup>13</sup> (A centennial farm is one that has remained in the same Leelanau County family for over 100 years). Revealing the close interrelationship of these pioneers, Margretha Werner's maiden name was Burfiend<sup>14</sup> while Elizabeth Burfiend's maiden name was Werner<sup>15</sup>. An 1881 plat map of the area<sup>16</sup>, used in conjunction with the 1860 census, identifies other early settlers. Joseph Bronson, 54, born in Prussia, was a farmer on the land where the Milton Basch House (HS-35-116A) stands.<sup>17</sup> Also listed on the 1860 census is Henry Ekhart, 35, from Saxony. Ekhart built the Baur House (HS-35-118A) and farm buildings.<sup>18</sup>

THOMAS P. KELDERHOUSE (1823-1884)

Port Oneida's most famous citizen, Thomas P. Kelderhouse, arrived in the area in the early 1860s. He was born in New York of German parents. Kelderhouse, who first lived on North Manitou Island with his second wife, Margaret, was interested in buying land on the eastern side of Sleeping Bear Bay. He approached the man who owned most of the western half of Pyramid Point, Carsten Burfiend. Burfiend told Kelderhouse that he would sell him some of his land on the shore of Sleeping Bear Bay only if Kelderhouse agreed to build a dock there. Kelderhouse, a shrewd businessman

who probably intended to do just such a thing anyway, readily accepted. He sold Kelderhouse the land immediately south of the Burfiend homestead. This became the town of Port Oneida.<sup>19</sup>

George Ray built the first dock on Sleeping Bear Bay at Glen Arbor in 1856-57. Thomas Kelderhouse completed his dock at Port Oneida in 1862, thus becoming the second dock on the mainland opposite the Manitou Islands. C. C. McCartey constructed a third dock at Glen Haven in 1865. These docks did a booming business of selling cordwood to steamers navigating the busy Manitou Passage.<sup>20</sup>

Port Oneida's dock was popular with steamship captains. It was shorter than the other docks on Sleeping Bear Bay and terminated in deep water. This made the approach easier and safer without the fear of becoming grounded. Port Oneida received its name soon after the dock opened in 1862. The first steamer to use the facility, S. S. Oneida, is credited with lending its name to the new town site evolving near the dock. According to a local historian, the Kelderhouse wooding business:

. . . brought about the erection of a store building and several houses. One of them, since torn down, was a "plank house," its walls being built of heavy planks two inches thick and eight inches wide which were stood upright and nailed to heavy squared timbers, thus eliminating studding. Another house was of squared logs laid one on the other and plastered on the inside, weatherboarded on the outside.<sup>21</sup>

A lifelong area resident stated that the town, when it was razed in the early 1940s, consisted of two barns, a small boarding house/hotel, a blacksmith shop, and a large residence where the Kelderhouse family once lived.<sup>22</sup> A 1908 geological survey of the Manitou Passage by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers showed "PORT ONEIDA (abandoned)" and a settlement of five buildings and an orchard to the east.<sup>23</sup>

It is possible there were once more than five buildings at Port Oneida. Corps surveyors may not have included support buildings for the main structures in their coastal survey or some structures could have been moved, torn down, or burned. Archeological investigation is needed to determine the town's extent.

To assist his cordwood business, Kelderhouse built a sawmill. Precise dates on the structure are unknown, but it began operating in the 1860s.<sup>24</sup> The sawmill was across Port Oneida Road from the Garthe House (HS-34-145A), near the swamp. The area near the Franklin Basch Centennial Farm (HS-34-114) was used as a lumberyard with wood stacked up in huge piles.<sup>25</sup> The Kelderhouse sawmill produced only cordwood for the steamers, not cut timber for export to the cities. In its heyday, it cut such prodigious quantities that wood was stacked all along the beach at Port Oneida "as far as the eye could see."<sup>26</sup>

In 1866, Kelderhouse bought a gristmill from John E. Fisher of Glen Arbor. Fisher built the gristmill in 1860 and added it to his sawmill which he erected the year before. Fisher dammed the Crystal River two miles north of George Ray's Glen Arbor dock for his operation, but decided to sell it to Tom Kelderhouse. Kelderhouse tore the mill down in 1879 and erected a new flume and structure on the other side of the road where it now stands in Glen Arbor, outside the boundaries of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.<sup>27</sup> The gristmill was the only one within a 30-mile radius and this monopoly was an important economic asset to the Kelderhouse family.<sup>28</sup>

The census of 1870 reveals that "wood merchant" Thomas Kelderhouse, 52, and his wife, Margaret, 28, lived in a house with Frank Kelderhouse, 22, a son by his father's first marriage in New York. Frank was a clerk at his father's wood dock. Another son, Charles, 25, lived on his own farm with a wife and two children.<sup>29</sup>

Few products other than cordwood left the dock, but huckleberries from the Kelderhouse's inland swamp were harvested and packed into barrels. Additionally, fish caught from Pyramid Point were salted, packed into barrels, and shipped to Chicago along with the huckleberries. This easy outlet to Midwestern

markets helped men like Carsten Burfiend and Tom Kelderhouse earn a living.

Port Oneida was a successful cordwood operation. The small settlement established there by the Kelderhouse family existed solely due to the dock. Only those employed by the family wooding business or general store permanently resided at the Port Oneida town site. Because all the land at Port Oneida was owned by one person, Thomas P. Kelderhouse, no real town or community developed.<sup>30</sup>

By 1880, Thomas Kelderhouse had become one of the prominent businessmen in Leelanau County. He owned more than half of the land north of the Crystal River in Glen Arbor Township, as well as sizeable landholdings in adjoining Cleveland Township.<sup>31</sup> The Kelderhouse farm was second in size only to that of the Northern Transit Company farm at Glen Haven. In comparison, while the Northern Transit Company farm was three times as large as the one at Port Oneida, it was devoted to raising livestock such as cattle, horses, sheep, and swine, as well as hay and other feed crops. Kelderhouse's farm was far more productive and profitable per acre because it supported fewer animals and was devoted to general agriculture.<sup>32</sup> The principal crops of the area included "wheat, corn, oats, barley, buckwheat, vegetables, and potatoes." Farming in the area, however, was not easy:

The price of the main cash crop--potatoes--fluctuated continuously, providing both good and bad income years. The lakeshore's poor soils also caused problems. While good for potatoes, the locally sandy soils became easily exhausted after a few seasons of growing grains and other crops. This resulted in lowered yields when farmers used improper agricultural methods. Still, the area of the lakeshore provided most farm families with an adequate income.<sup>33</sup>

In 1881, a Philadelphia publisher compiled the Atlas of Leelanau County, but local citizens patronized the effort. Maps of both Glen Arbor and Cleveland townships reveal that Thomas "Kilderhouse" owned most of the farmland in the area. Other familiar early settlers' names are easily discernible, such as "Burfeind"; Fred and Margaret "Warner"; F. "Daga" and F. "Daga" Jr. (the DeChows or Dagos, builders of the Klett farm (HS-34-116)<sup>34</sup>; Diederich "Schnorr"; Nich. Basch; and F. Bronson. The 1881 map also shows the dock, cemetery, school, and a church.<sup>35</sup>

While it is not known when the church was constructed, the denomination was Lutheran and it was across from the cemetery at the junction of Highway M-22 and Port Oneida Road. The identity of at least one of its pastors is also known. Reverend John J. Maakstad, stationed for 36 years in Suttons Bay (eastern Leelanau County), served congregations in Leelanau, Benzie, and Grand Traverse Counties. From 1882 until 1918, this itinerant ministered to thousands of Lutherans, including the small church

of German-Americans at Port Oneida.<sup>35</sup> As roads improved and travel became easier, the small Lutheran church closed. Unable to attract a permanent minister, the building was torn down in the early to mid-1920s when the state highway was graded and built. The structure stood in the road's right-of-way and had to be removed.<sup>36</sup>

Settlers erected the Port Oneida Schoolhouse (HS-34-122) in the 1860s. The instructors who taught at the one-room school were generally good, according to most lifelong residents. As many as 20 to 25 children from the Port Oneida area attended the school which Thomas Kelderhouse deeded to the community. Terms of the deed were that it be used either as a school or a community hall, or else the building and the land would revert to the Kelderhouse family. While classes ceased being taught there by the beginning of World War II (1940-41), it is still in use as a community hall.<sup>37</sup>

#### THE DEATH OF THOMAS P. KELDERHOUSE

On January 11, 1884, Thomas P. Kelderhouse died of a heart attack. The retail grocer, farmer, lumberman, and gristmill operator had done much to develop the Pyramid Point region of Leelanau County. With the elder Kelderhouse gone, the division

of the family estate resulted in profound changes for the settlement of Port Oneida.

The vast Kelderhouse lands were divided among the family and most of the parcels were sold before 1900 to nearly a dozen different farmers. William and Frank, Thomas Kelderhouse's sons, assumed the family businesses with Frank managing the two mills. By the early 1890s, it was clear that the sawmill had to be closed.<sup>38</sup> The Pyramid Point area had already been cleared of most of its timber. The demand for cordwood by the passing ships was no longer as great, especially with larger operations like D. H. Day's at Glen Haven handling most of the business of Sleeping Bear Bay.

In the mid-1890s, the Kelderhouses sold the gristmill.<sup>39</sup> A man named Andrew Pellitier purchased the dock and general store in 1895.<sup>40</sup> With no sawmill to provide cordwood, the very purpose of the town of Port Oneida was gone. Since no accounts of Pellitier's business dealings have survived, it can be assumed that his enterprise did not last long. Port Oneida was dying. Even its small post office, which opened on June 3, 1886, with William Kelderhouse as its postmaster, closed its doors forever on April 15, 1905.<sup>41</sup>

The 1908 Corps of Engineers survey map of the Pyramid Point

coast shows Port Oneida "abandoned" with the "Old Dock" shown with striated lines indicating that it was in ruins.<sup>42</sup> The Kelderhouses used the abandoned buildings only for storage.<sup>43</sup>

Fred Johan Baker (1885-1980) first came to the area to farm in 1910. Baker, a German-American born in Dixon, Illinois, first purchased land at Pyramid Point from Minor Kelderhouse. Baker recalls how:

I bargained with Minor Kelderhouse for the first property I bought. I had some second thoughts about wilderness farming when I came back the next year or so by boat--with a good horse. Although I had bought a ticket to Glen Haven, the captain decided he wouldn't stop there until the return trip from Mackinaw. So I had no choice but to get off at Frankfort. My horse didn't care much for boat travel! I had a miserable hike since the horse wasn't broken to saddle riding. It took about three days through swampland and sand, trying not to get lost and in a pouring rain most of the time.<sup>44</sup>

In 1910, Baker purchased the present Barratt farm (HS-34-169) immediately north of the Burfiend homestead. He bought the farm with its circa 1860 house from Minor Kelderhouse's widow. Minor Kelderhouse, given to "spells of insanity," committed suicide on September 9, 1910, by hanging himself from a heavy beam in the barn.<sup>45</sup> Baker was a successful farmer and added more land to his original purchase. He raised American Saddle horses after farming nearly 60 years there, and was interested in soil conservation. He was the first in the



Klett House (north/front)  
(HS 34-116A)



Klett House (south/rear)  
(HS 34-116A)



Klett Barn  
(HS 34-116B)



Klett Chicken Coop  
(HS 34-116C)



Klett Granary  
(HS 34-116D)



Klett Shed  
(HS 34-116E)



Klett Pasture Barn  
(HS 34-116F)



Klett Sugar Shed  
(HS 34-116H)

CHARLES OLSEN FARM (HS-34-118)

## LCS Information

Treatment recommended: May be removed (LCS Update 1981)  
Preservation (1980)

## Composition of structures:

House (HS-34-118A): The wood frame house is 28' x 28' with a steep gable roof and shed roof dormer window. It has clapboard siding, a concrete basement and foundation, and a diamond-shaped window and sunburst design at gable ends. A concrete porch with a square wood support and shed roof with an arch and sunburst design in the middle graces the front of the house. Oak woodwork is throughout the house. Good, altered condition.

Barn (HS-34-118B): The LCS update of 1981 recommends preservation of the barn which is a large timber-framed structure built into the hillside. It measures 40' x 30' with a gambrel, metal-covered roof. Vertical board siding meets the lower concrete walls and foundation. A lean-to addition on one end measures 30' x 15'. An earthen ramp and a concrete wall lead to the wagon door. Lightning rods are present on the ridgeline. Good, altered condition.

HISTORY

The Olsen House was built in 1919 when Charles and Hattie (Brammer) Olsen moved in to start their honeymoon on Thanksgiving Day. The Olsens lived there and raised their nine children, among whom is Mrs. Al (Lorraine) Mason. The barn was the first structure built on the property in 1918. The rear addition is a pumphouse which was added in 1920. Before it was constructed, the family had to walk to the barn to get water. The pantry is still in its original condition, but the kitchen cupboards were added by a son, Everett Olsen of Glen Arbor.

The Olsen farm, which produced Guernsey cattle, wheat, oats, corn, hay, potatoes, and apples, was carved out of land purchased from Fred DeChow (Dago) who lived in what is now the Klett farm. Charles Olsen died in 1949 and Hattie in 1963 when Everett Olsen bought the farm.

[Source: Mrs. Al (Lorraine) Mason, November 8, 1982]



Charles Olsen House (south/front)  
(HS 34-118A)



Charles Olsen House (west)  
(HS 34-118A)



Charles Olsen Barn (west)  
(HS 34-118B)



Charles Olsen Barn (south/front)  
(HS 34-118B)

PORT ONEIDA SCHOOLHOUSE (HS-34-122)

## LCS Information

Treatment recommended: Preservation (1980)

## Composition of structure:

Schoolhouse (HS-34-122): The wood frame building measures 35' x 22' and is covered by a gable roof. A shed addition appears at the rear and a shed roofed porch with a cement floor is in the front. The principal building rests on a fieldstone foundation. A bell tower and bell rests on the roof. Excellent, altered condition.

HISTORY

The school was built in the 1860s. Thomas P. Kelderhouse deeded the land and the building to the community of Port Oneida to be used as a school or for community purposes. If it would never be used for these purposes, it would revert to the Kelderhouse family.

The one-room facility generally held 20 to 25 students. All of the residents who grew up at Port Oneida attended school here. It closed its doors to pupils in 1940 or 1941, and is now being used as a community club.

[Source: Jack Barratt, November 7, 1982]



Port Oneida Schoolhouse  
(HS 34-122)



Port Oneida Schoolhouse  
(HS 34-122)



Port Oneida Schoolhouse Privy  
(No LCS Field Inventory Report)

PORT ONEIDA DOCK (HS-34-131)

## LCS Information

Treatment recommended: Neglect or remove (1980)

## Composition of structure:

Dock (HS-34-131): Several submerged pilings from the old dock are all that remains. Deteriorated condition.

HISTORY

The dock was completed in 1862 and opened along with a cordwood station. The land was purchased from Carsten Burfiend by Thomas P. Kelderhouse. Kelderhouse's enterprise soon also included a sawmill, a gristmill, a general store, boarding house, and a blacksmith shop. This town, which owed its existence to the dock, was called Port Oneida after the steamer S. S. Oneida first came for cordwood at the new dock in 1862.

After Kelderhouse died in 1884, the family businesses passed to his sons. By the end of the century, the Kelderhouses sold all of their business enterprises and most of their extensive landholdings principally because of the scarcity of lumber in the Pyramid Point region. The dock and store were sold to a man named Andrew Pellitier, of whom nothing substantial is known. It must be assumed that he was unsuccessful at Port Oneida for the dock was in ruins by 1908.

The buildings which remained at Port Oneida were razed in 1944 by Jack Barratt and his grandfather. Between the dock site and the Kelderhouse buildings site, there is evidence of wooden steps in an open area leading down to the beach. Modern resort homes now surround this area.

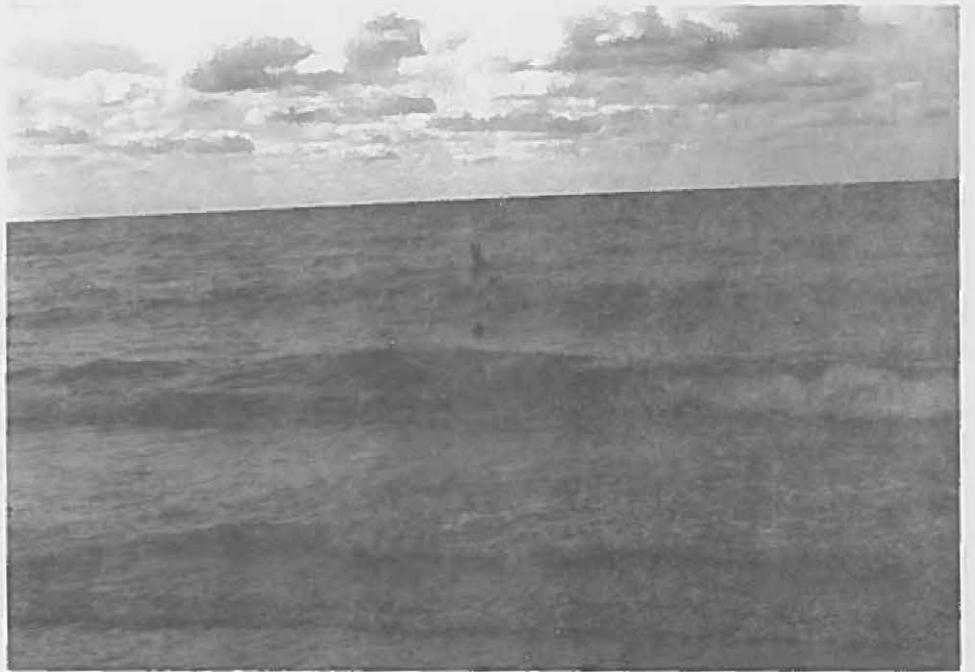
[Source: Jack and Lucille Barratt, November 7, 1982; Rader, Beautiful Glen Arbor Township]



Site of Kelderhouse buildings  
(PORT ONEIDA)



Historic steps to dock?  
(PORT ONEIDA)



Port Oneida Dock Pilings  
(HS 34-131)

BURFIEND FARM (HS-34-139)

## LCS Information

Treatment recommended: Preservation (1979)

## Composition of structure:

House #1 (HS-34-139A): A wood frame two-story, L-shaped house with a gable roof. A large, one-story shed-roofed addition surrounds the south side. The roof covering is asphalt shingle on the two-story sections and asphalt roll on the additions. The siding is wood clapboard. Good, altered condition.

House #2 (HS-34-139B): A 1-1/2 story wood frame house measuring 28' x 30' with a gabled roof. There are two gabled dormer windows on the north side. The roof covering is asphalt shingle while the siding is clapboard. The foundation is concrete. Good, altered condition.

Garage (HS-34-139C): A wood frame, 18' x 24' gabled roof garage with two pairs of double doors on the east elevation. The roof covering is asphalt shingle and the siding is shiplapped horizontal boards. The foundation is concrete. Good, unaltered condition.

Privy (HS-34-139D): The 7' x 7' wood frame privy features a standard gable roof with a single door. The roof covering is asphalt shingle and the siding is wood clapboard. Fair, unaltered condition.

Granary (HS-34-139G): The wood frame structure consists of a 20' x 24' main building and a 10' x 25' addition to the north. The roof is metal over wood shingles and the siding is wood clapboard, horizontal boards, and horizontal lattice at the corn crib. The foundation is concrete piers with some sections resting on a concrete slab. Deteriorated, altered condition.

Shed #2 (HS-34-139H): The 18' x 30' wood frame shed is covered by a metal roof, wood clapboard and asbestos shingle siding, and rests on a concrete foundation. Fair, altered condition.

Shed #3 (HS-34-139I): The wood frame shed measures 15' x 45'. The roof is covered with metal and the siding is vertical board-and-batten. The foundation is concrete. Fair, altered condition.

Chicken Coop (HS-34-139J): Wood frame, 10' x 20' structure has a

metal roof, asbestos shingle siding, and a concrete foundation. Fair, altered condition.

#### HISTORY

The main house (HS-34-139A) was constructed ca. 1890 from hand-hewn timbers, some of which were from the original log cabin built by Carsten Burfiend in 1852. Carsten Burfiend never lived in this house, however. He died while staying with his daughter in Traverse City (year unknown) and is buried with his wife and some of his children approximately 200 yards due south of the house. The family plot is marked only by a large boulder amid a cluster of lilac bushes. Mrs. Orpha Burfiend's parents died in 1924 and she came to live in this house with her new husband, Howard Burfiend (who was born in 1895), in 1926.

The modern Burfiend house (HS-34-139B) was built in 1930 by a contractor from the nearby town of Lake Leelanau. It was built on the site of the original farm buildings. Only one of the Burfiend farm buildings which were moved across Port Oneida Road to their present site is extant, the Granary (HS-34-139G). Two other buildings which were moved across the road--the Shed (Milk and Pumphouse, HS-34-139F) and the Barn (HS-34-139E)--burned in July 1982.

The Garage (HS-34-139C) was built in 1930, while the Shed #2 (HS-34-139H), Chicken Coop (HS-34-139J), and Shed #3 (HS-34-139I) were constructed in 1929. The Privy (HS-34-139D) is presumed to be as old as the main house, ca. 1890.

[Source: Mrs. Orpha Burfiend, November 8, 1982; Jack and Lucille Barratt, November 7, 1982. Jack Barratt lived with his grandparents at the Burfiend House (HS-34-139A) during the summers and at other times during his boyhood. He supplied most of the information and dates on the Burfiend farm buildings as he helped with the relocation of the structures across the road.]



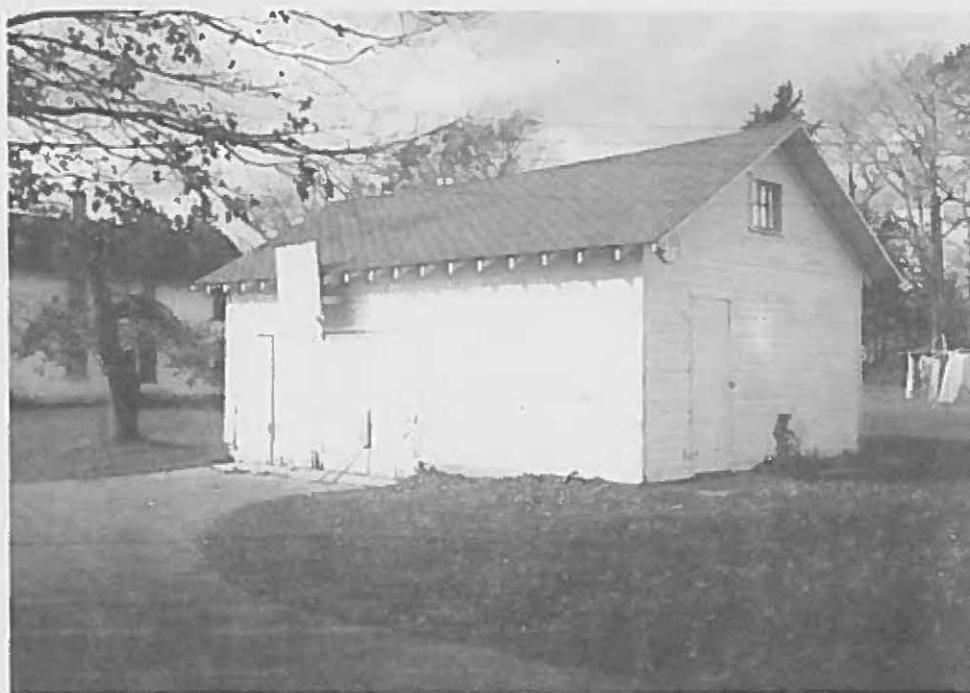
Burfiend House #1 (west/front)  
(HS 34-139A)  
and Privy  
(HS 34-139D)



Burfiend House #1 (north)  
(HS 34-139A)



Burfiend House #2  
(HS 34-139B)



Burfiend Garage/Shed  
(HS 34-139C)



Burfiend Barn (HS 34-139E)  
and Milkhouse (HS 34-139F) site  
These structures were destroyed by fire in July 1982.



Burfiend Granary  
(HS 34-139G)



Burfiend Shed #2  
(HS 34-139H)



Burfiend Shed #3  
(HS 34-139I)



Burfiend Chicken Coop  
(HS 34-139J)

GARTHE FARM (HS-34-145)

## LCS Information

Treatment recommended: Preservation (1979)

## Composition of structures:

House (HS-34-145A): The two-story house is wood frame and measures 18' x 25'. It has a gabled roof with a 10' x 25' shed-roofed addition. The roof is covered with sheet metal and asphalt shingles. The siding is asbestos shingles. Good, altered condition.

Barn (HS-34-145B): The wood frame barn is gable-roofed, 28' x 55', and features a full-width shed-roofed addition on the rear. The roof covering is asphalt roll and the siding is vertical board with some covered by wood shingles. Fair, altered condition.

Shed (HS-34-145C): The one-story shed and garage combination has a peaked roof and side shed roof. Asphalt paper covers the roof and asphalt shingles cover the front and one side with cedar shingles on the rear and other side. Fair, altered condition.

Garage (HS-34-145D): The wood frame, one-story garage is 20' x 20' with a peaked, asphalt shingle roof and siding. Good, altered condition.

Privy (HS-34-145E): The 8' x 10' wood frame privy has an asphalt shingle roof and clapboard siding. Excellent, altered condition.

HISTORY

The Garthe House was once owned by Mrs. Garthe's father, John Schmidt, who also owned and operated the Hayms farm (HS-35-123). According to Mrs. Garthe, the house once was at Port Oneida along with the other Kelderhouse buildings, and was moved to its present site later.

The one-story addition was added later to the historic two-story structure. Mr. Garthe stated that the structure is at least 100 years old, if not older.

The Garthe Garage (HS-34-145D) is not significant, contrary to the LCS field inventory report. It was constructed in 1939-40. The remaining farm buildings are believed to be at least 80 years old.

OTHER STRUCTURES: Garthe Garage (1978)

[Source: Mr. Garthe, November 8, 1982, Port Oneida, Michigan; Jack and Lucille Barratt, November 7, 1982]



Garthe House  
(HS 34-145A)



Garthe Barn  
(HS 34-145B)



Garthe Shed  
(HS 34-145C)



Garthe Garage  
(HS 34-145D)



Garthe Privy  
(HS 34-145E)

MILLER CENTENNIAL BARN (HS-34-153)

## LCS Information

Treatment recommended: May be removed (1981 LCS Update)  
Preservation (1980)

## Composition of structure:

Barn (HS-34-153): The barn is timber framed and L-shaped. Each wing is 20' x 30' with gable roofs and vertical board siding. The roof is metal. There are sliding barn doors at each end. Good, unaltered condition.

HISTORY

The Miller farm was carved out of land purchased from Frederick Werner. John and Margaret (Werner) Miller (Mrs. Miller was a cousin of Carsten Burfiend) first settled the new farm. Fred Miller was their oldest son who was a boat and house carpenter. He was responsible for building many structures in the area.

The Miller house burned in 1940 and was rebuilt. That structure was removed from the property by the National Park Service and only the barn now remains.

Mrs. Orpha Burfiend stated that John and Margaret Miller are both buried atop the nearby hill in the Werner family cemetery, but no markers are there to indicate this. Fred Miller is mentioned in Rader's history:

Fred Miller was one of the best carpenters in the area. He built the most beautiful log cabins and boats. His home served many visitors to this region and his wife cared for them with her pleasant manners and marvelous cooking. The Millers had a farm that provided dairy products to many of the local resorts and residents. It was a tragedy that their resort, too, burned down in 1922.

Rader states that the Millers operated a "resort on Lake Michigan near Port Oneida." None of the local people interviewed mentioned this resort.

[Source: Rader, Beautiful Glen Arbor Township, p. 61; Mrs. Orpha Burfiend, November 8, 1982; and Jack and Lucille Barratt, November 7, 1982]



Miller Centennial Barn  
(HS 34-153)

CAMP INNISFREE (HS-34-165)

## LCS Information

Treatment recommended: Preservation (1980)

## Composition of structures:

House (HS-34-165A): A 1-1/2 story, L-shaped wood frame farmhouse measures 30' x 20' with a 15' x 18' modern one-story addition. A modern porch crosses the front (south) side of the building. Good, altered condition.

Barn (HS-34-165B): The timber framed barn is 40' x 28' with vertical board-and-batten siding. The two-story structure has a metal roof and a stone foundation. Good, altered condition.

HISTORY

The property was originally the Snohr farm. Diederich Snohr, a German, was the first settler and it was he who constructed both the house and barn. The dates of these structures are the 1870s. An 1881 atlas of the county identified Diederich Snohr's property.

The Snohrs left around the period of World War I, and the farm was purchased by Christian Scientists who operated a girls' camp there.

In the 1950s, the property changed hands again and was renamed Camp Innisfree. It is a private education camp in the summers, devoted to deprived children from the inner cities. During the winter months, it is popular with college students and adults who like cross-country skiing and other outdoor winter sports. The National Park Service has a scenic easement agreement with the operators of Camp Innisfree to allow them to continue using the farm for private education and recreation.

[Source: Jack and Lucille Barratt, November 7, 1982]



Camp Innisfree House  
(HS 34-165A)



Camp Innisfree Barn  
(HS 34-165B)



Barratt House  
(HS 34-169A)



Barratt House  
(HS 34-169A)



Barratt Barn  
(HS 34-169B)



Barratt Barn  
(HS 34-169B)



Barratt Shed (Milk/Pumphouse)  
(HS 34-169D)



Barratt Chicken Coop  
(HS 34-169C)

KELDERHOUSE/PORT ONEIDA CEMETERY (HS-34-170)

LCS Information

Treatment recommended: Preservation (1980)

Composition of structure: An active 3-acre cemetery

HISTORY

The cemetery is the final resting place for many of Port Oneida's early settlers. Its first settler, Carsten Burfiend, is not buried here, however. He and his family are buried near the family homestead. The Kelderhouse family commands the greatest number of gravemarkers here. A Lutheran Church once stood less than 100 yards from the cemetery at the junction of M-22 and Port Oneida Road.

Julia Terry Dickinson's The Story of Leelanau refers to this area:

The outlook at Port Oneida is beautiful with the Manitou passage and its lake freighters always a picture of interest. The old cemetery on the M-22 corner started years ago is one of the best kept in the county. (p. 43)

Some of the gravestones of persons mentioned in this Special History Study are:

THOMAS P. KELDERHOUSE, Died Jan. 11, 1884, Aged 62 years, 11 months, 10 days

WILLIAM J. KELDERHOUSE, 1869-1933

MARGARET KELDERHOUSE, April 24, 1842--Oct. 27, 1913

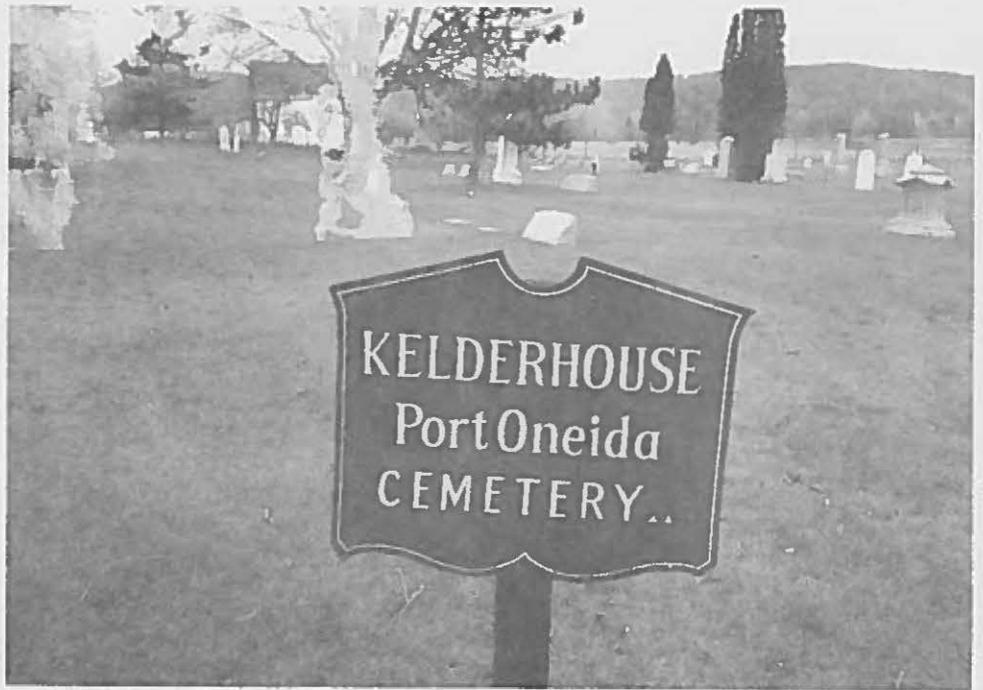
M. KELDERHOUSE, Sept. 7, 1875--Sept. 9, 1910

CHARLES F. OLSEN, 1875-1949; HATTIE A. OLSEN, 1881-1963

FREDERICK DAGO, 18 Dec. 1810--March 1884

DIEDERICH SNOHR, 1836-1918

[Source: Kelderhouse/Port Oneida Cemetery; Dickinson, The Story of Leelanau]



Cemetery Entrance Sign



View of Cemetery Enclosure from M-22 and Port Oneida Road



Gravestone of Frederick Dago 1840-1907



Gravestone of Thomas P. Kelderhouse, died 1884

MILTON BASCH FARM (HS-35-116)

## LCS Information

Treatment recommended: Preservation, except for outbuildings  
which Should Be Removed (1981 LCS Update)

## Composition of structures:

House (HS-35-116A): Wood frame, two-story house which measures 40' x 20' and is L-shaped. Two small brick chimneys grace the structure. A circular lunette is in the front gable. A hipped roof porch fills in the "L" at the entrance. The gable roof covering is asphalt shingle and the siding is wood clapboard. Excellent, unaltered (?) condition.

Shed #1/Granary (HS-35-116C): Wood frame, 1-1/2 story gable roofed structure with clapboard siding. Fair, unaltered condition.

Shed #2/Chicken Coop (HS-35-116D): Wood frame shed. Fair, altered condition.

Shed #3/Small Chicken House (HS-35-116E): Wood frame shed. Fair, altered condition.

HISTORY

The 1860 census identifies a Joseph Bronson from Prussia farming in Sleeping Bear (later Glen Arbor) Township. Milton Basch, the owner of the Basch House (HS-35-116A) stated that the Bronsons originally settled the land in 1860, but that his grandfather, Milton C. Basch, built the house (and probably all the farm buildings) for the Burfiends ca. 1890. Another owner was a Great Lakes ship captain called "Captain Walker."

The present owner purchased it from Walker in the early 1940s. He stated that all the outbuildings dated to at least 1900, except the modern garage which he himself constructed. A dormer window once existed above the front porch but was replaced by the present window more than 20 years ago when it was damaged by fire. Basch also correctly identified the support structures of the farm which are shown above. The Corn Crib, HS-35-116B, has been removed.

[Source: Milton Basch, November 9, 1982; Jack and Lucille Barratt, November 7, 1982; 1860 Census; Atlas of Leelanau County, Michigan (1881)]



Milton Basch House  
(HS 35-116A)



Milton Basch House  
(HS 35-116A)



Milton Basch House  
(HS 35-116A)



Milton Basch Shed/Granary #1  
(HS 35-116C)



Milton Basch Sheds/Chicken Coops #2 and #3  
(HS 35-116D) (HS 35-116E)

BAUR FARM (HS-35-118)

## LCS Information

Treatment recommended: Preservation (1980); according to the 1981 LCS Update, the following structures Should Be Removed: HS-35-118D, E, F, G.

## Composition of structures:

House (HS-35-118A): The wood-framed, two-story farmhouse is L-shaped and 35' x 25'. The front wood porch is 10' x 20'. There is a one-story addition in the rear with a shed roof. The house has a metal roof and clapboard siding, and a stone foundation. Excellent, unaltered condition.

Barn (HS-35-118B): The wood-framed barn is one level, measuring 35' x 40'. It has a peaked roof with corrugated metal covering, vertical board siding, stone foundation, and a shed addition on the rear. Good, altered condition.

Small Barn (HS-35-118C): Wood framed, two-story barn which is 20' x 15' and vertical board siding with cedar shingles. Good, unaltered condition.

Shed and Carport (HS-35-118D): One story, wood-framed shed, 15' x 12', with a shed roof for a carport on one side. It has a peaked roof with horizontal boards. Good, altered condition.

Chicken Coop (HS-35-118E): Wood frame building with concrete floor and foundation measuring 20' x 10'. Asphalt roll roofing appears on the roof and walls. Fair, altered condition.

Brooder House (HS-35-118F): Wood frame, 10' x 10' building with concrete foundation and floor. There is a shed roof and vertical board siding. Good, unaltered condition.

Privy (HS-35-118G): Wood frame, 5' x 5' privy with peaked roof, vertical wood siding and asphalt paper on the walls. Fair, unaltered condition.

HISTORY

The land where the Baur farm now stands was first settled by a Bohemian, Henry Ekhart, who was born in Saxony. Ekhart is listed on the U.S. Census as early as 1860 as a farmer. (His

name is misspelled as "Eckert.")

The house and farm buildings listed above date to the 1860-70 period, and were built by Ekhart. The Burs are more recent owners having purchased the property in the 1940s or early 1950s.

[Source: Milton Basch, November 9, 1982; Jack and Lucille Barratt, November 7, 1982]



Baur House  
(HS 35-118A)



Baur House  
(HS 35-118A)



Baur Shed and Carport  
(HS 35-118D)



Baur Barn  
(HS 35-118B)



Baur Small Barn  
(HS 35-118C)



Baur Chicken Coop  
(HS 35-118E)



Baur Brooder House  
(HS 35-118F)



Baur Privy  
(HS 35-118G)

HAYMS FARM (HS-35-123)

## LCS Information

Treatment recommended: Preservation (1980)

## Composition of structures:

House (HS-35-123A): Wood frame, two-story house with gable roof and cut stone foundation. Asphalt roll roofing on roof and asphalt shingles cover the sides. Lean-to addition in the back is joined by a newer addition. Overall dimensions are 20' x 27'. The front door no longer has steps up to it. Fair, altered condition.

Barn (No LCS)

Privy (No LCS)

Shed (No LCS)

NOTE: These structures ARE at least 50 years old.

HISTORY

The Hayms farm was first settled by John Schmidt who came to the United States from Prussia in the late 1850s or early 1860s. He built the present farmhouse on the property where he engaged in general farming, growing and cultivating a vineyard, and raising cattle.

After John Schmidt's death, his son, Oscar, ran the farm. Oscar's son, Willard J. Smith (the retired Coast Guard Commandant changed his name and now lives in Traverse City), grew up on the farm and stated that the outbuildings are original structures. They are the Shed, Small Barn, and Privy. The large barn and granary are no longer extant, however. The small two/three bedroom house has been added on to several times.

The farm was sold by Mr. Smith's mother in 1958 or 1959. Mr. Smith said he believed the farm had been in his family approximately 100 years.

[Source: Willard J. Smith, Admiral (Retired), telephone conversation, November 9, 1982, Traverse City, Michigan; Jack and Lucille Barratt, November 7, 1982]



Hayms House  
(HS 35-123A)



Hayms House  
(HS 35-123A)



Hayms Shed  
(No LCS number)



Hayms Small Barn  
(No LCS number)



Hayms Privy  
(No LCS number)

HOWARD OLSEN FARM (HS-35-146)

## LCS Information

Treatment recommended: May Be Removed (1981 LCS Update)  
Preservation (1979)

## Composition of structures:

House (HS-35-146A): The wood frame farmhouse is irregularly shaped. It is a 1-1/2 story, gabled roof structure with many additions. The roof covering is metal and asphalt shingle while the siding is clapboard. The foundation is stone. Fair, altered condition.

Barn (HS-35-146B): Wood-framed, 18' x 32' gable-roofed barn. The roof covering is metal, the siding is vertical board, and the foundation is stone. Good, unaltered condition.

Pig Pen (HS-35-146C): The wood frame shed is 15' x 10' with a peaked roof, horizontal board siding, and corrugated metal patches over the walls. There are numerous small animal door openings.

Granary (HS-35-146D): Wood frame, one-story building with peaked roof and clapboard siding, 15' x 15', and set on concrete post foundations. A corn crib of wood lath is at one side and measures 5' x 15', also resting on a concrete foundation. A shed roof also covers a machine storage area. Fair, unaltered condition.

Garage (HS-35-146E): A 1-1/2-story, wood frame building measuring 18' x 25' with a peaked roof. Garage doors appear at one end. A window is set in the upper loft. The siding is clapboard while the roof is covered by an asphalt roll. Good, unaltered condition.

Sheds (No LCS field inventory reports.)

HISTORY

The family of Charles Olsen (the man who lived in the Olsen farm on M-22 [HS-34-118]) first settled this farm. The Olsens were a German family who settled the area around 1860. One of their children was born on North Manitou Island before they came to the mainland. The main section of the house and the farm buildings date to the 1860s or 1870s.

The next owner around the turn of the century was Albert

(A1) Prause, who married a Dago (of the Klett farm, HS-34-116) and was also the uncle of Milton Basch. The farm was devoted to general agriculture. Since 1954, the farm has been owned by Howard (deceased) and Bertha Olsen.

[Source: Milton Basch, November 9, 1982; Orpha Burfiend, November 8, 1982; and Jack and Lucille Barratt, November 7, 1982]



Howard Olsen House  
(HS 35-146A)



Howard Olsen Barn  
(HS 35-146B)



Howard Olsen Pigpen  
(HS 35-146C)



Howard Olsen Granary  
(HS 35-146D)



Howard Olsen Garage  
(HS 35-146E)



Howard Olsen Sheds  
(No LCS Field Inventory Reports)

CURRIER FARM (HS-35-175)

## LCS Information

Treatment recommended: May Be Removed (1981 LCS Update)  
Preservation (1980)

## Condition of Structures:

House (HS-35-175A): The L-shaped, two-story wood frame house measures 30' x 20'. There is an enclosed porch on the front and back of the house along with a dormer window and a brick chimney. A modern lean-to garage attaches to the east side of the structure. The house is covered by aluminum siding. Good, altered condition.

Barn (HS-35-175B): A two-story barn with a one-story side wing. It is wood frame, vertical siding, with a gabled wood roof. A ventilator is perched atop the roof. The wing has a cut stone wall which is seven feet high. The main section is 20' x 35', while the stone wall wing is 25' x 15'. Fair, altered condition.

Chicken Coop (HS-35-175C): A one-story wood frame building with clapboard siding, shed roof, measuring 15' x 10'. Fair, altered condition.

Shed (HS-35-175D): Two-story, wood frame shed has clapboard siding, metal roof, and a garage door on one side with a small roof overhang. A new door has been added in the back and the building has been moved while under a lease agreement. Fair, altered condition.

HISTORY

The Currier buildings were all constructed during the 1890s. The land was one of the parcels sold by the Kelderhouses.

George Lahr, a German, settled the farm and built the house and other structures. The foundation stone wall of the Currier Barn (HS-35-175B) was also constructed by George Lahr. Lahr's wife is Jack Barratt's aunt. Since the Lahrs settled the farm, it has had many owners. Today, the Curriers raise Great Danes on the property.

[Source: Milton Basch, November 9, 1982; Jack and Lucille Barratt, November 7, 1982]



Currier House  
(HS 35-175A)



Currier House  
(HS 35-175A)



Currier Barn  
(HS 35-175B)



Currier Chicken Coop  
(HS 35-175C)



Currier Shed  
(HS 35-175D)

The Kelderhouse Garage (HS-35-183B) was built in the late 1940s to early 1950s and is not significant. The large barn was torn down in 1965 or 1966.

[Source: Jack and Lucille Barratt, November 7, 1982; Mrs. Orpha Burfiend, November 8, 1982]



Kelderhouse House (north/front)  
(HS 35-183A)



Kelderhouse House (southwest/rear)  
(HS 35-183A)



Kelderhouse Garage  
(HS 35-183B)



Kelderhouse Chicken Coop  
(HS 35-183C)



Kelderhouse Outbuildings  
(No LCS Field Inventory Reports)

LAURA BASCH FARM (HS-35-187)

## LCS Information

Treatment Recommended: Preservation (1979)

## Composition of structures:

House (HS-35-187A): The wood frame house is irregularly shaped and has several modern additions. It is 1-1/2 stories with an asphalt shingle roof and clapboard siding. Good, altered condition.

Barn (HS-35-187B): Wood frame barn with gable roof and vertical board wood siding. Fair, unaltered condition.

Shed #1 (HS-35-187C): Small wood frame shed with clapboard siding and shed roof covered by asphalt shingles. It measures 10' x 10'. Good, unaltered condition.

Wash House (HS-35-187D): One-story wood frame building with clapboard siding and asphalt shingles on a gable roof. The 15' x 10' structure rests on a cement foundation. Good, unaltered condition.

Chicken Coop (HS-35-187E): The wood frame building measures 10' x 8' and has a metal, sloping roof and clapboard siding. It is built upon a log base foundation. Good, unaltered condition.

Garage (HS-35-187F): A one-story wood frame building, 20' x 15', with a metal gabled roof. The siding is plywood with batten boards and the foundation is concrete. Good, unaltered condition.

Shed #2 (HS-35-187G): A one-story wood frame shed with metal gabled roof and clapboard siding. It is 15' x 12'. Good, unaltered condition.

Metal Shed (HS-35-187H): Wood frame, 12' x 15' shed with corrugated metal sides and metal roof. Fair, altered condition.

Gas Pump (HS-35-187I): The metal gas pump stands seven feet high and is crowned by a white glass globe marked by a "Marathon" winged horse emblem. Fair, unaltered condition.

HISTORY

Unfortunately, not much is known about this property. Mrs. Laura Basch, the current property owner, was not at home and available for an interview. The Basch farm is, however, another Centennial farm of Leelanau County which means that it has been in the possession of the same family for more than 100 years.

According to Jack Barratt, Claus Basch was Laura's father-in-law. He also stated that Milton Basch was the original settler to homestead the property which would tie Milton Basch not only to this farm, but to Basch farm, HS-35-199.

[Source: Jack and Lucille Barratt, November 7, 1982]



Laura Basch House (west)  
(HS 35-187A)



Laura Basch House (north)  
(HS 35-187A)



Laura Basch Barn  
(HS 35-187B)



Laura Basch Shed #1  
(HS 35-187C)



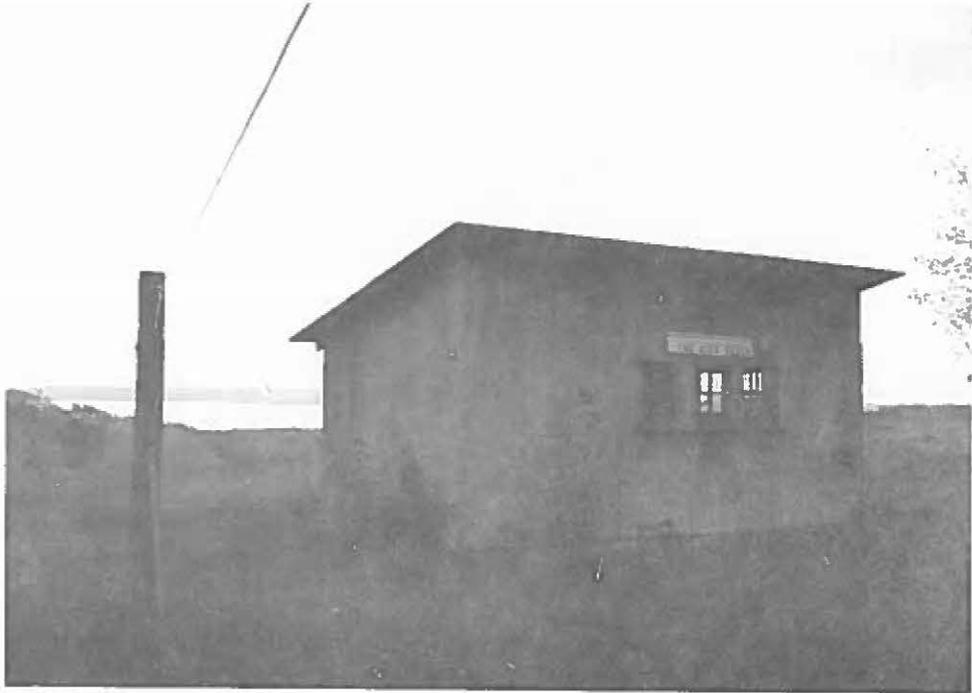
Laura Basch Wash House  
(HS 35-187D)



Laura Basch Chicken Coop  
(HS 35-187E)



Laura Basch Garage (HS 35-187F)  
and Shed #2 (HS 35-187G)



Laura Basch Metal Shed  
(HS 35-187H)



Laura Basch Gas Pump  
(HS 35-187I)

MILTON C. BASCH FARM (HS-35-199)

## LCS Information

Treatment recommended: Neglect or Removal (1979)

## Composition of structures:

House (HS-35-199A): Wood frame, two-story irregularly shaped house which measures 35' x 35'. The gable roof is covered by asphalt shingle and the siding is unpainted clapboard. The foundation is concrete and stone. Windows have pedimented window heads with two small circular wood turnings flanking a larger central one. A circular window is in the attic gable. Other decorative millwork consists of a porch gable with dentils around the cornice line and also a central half-circle wood ornamentation. Gutters and downspouts lead to a cistern at the rear of the structure. A fieldstone porch foundation with post piers laid in a random pattern are all that remain of a porch addition. Deteriorated, altered condition.

Shed #1 (HS-35-199B): Wood frame, 15' x 18' shed with asphalt roll roof covering. Siding is board-and-batten and the foundation is concrete. It has two pairs of open doors. Deteriorated, unaltered condition due to neglect.

Shed #2 (HS-35-199C): Wood frame shed measuring 15' x 20' with vertical board siding, asphalt roll roof, and concrete foundation. Fair, unaltered condition.

Shed #3 (HS-35-199D): The main section of the wood frame shed is 1-1/2 story and 20' x 25'. The roof covering is metal, the siding is horizontal board with some clapboard, and the foundation is concrete piers. Partially attached is a 25' x 15' one-story shed in a very deteriorated state. The roof covering is asphalt roll and is falling in. The siding is horizontal boards covered with asphalt roll. The foundation is concrete. Deteriorated, altered condition.

## HISTORY

Milton C. Basch was the original owner of this farmstead. Basch was a blacksmith who shod all of the horses in the Port Oneida vicinity. He was also a carpenter whose talents were relied upon to construct other farm buildings in the area. The Basch farm was where the third-generation Milton Basch (owner of HS-35-116A) grew up. [Note: From grandfather, to father, to son, all were named Milton Basch.]

The Basch house has remained empty for nearly three years during which time it has deteriorated badly. It dates to at least the 1890s--the time period of most other structures at Port Oneida. The house is of solid construction, despite the fact that it has been stripped, ransacked, and its windows broken.

According to one student architect/preservationist, "These buildings are the most interesting in the total area," and recommended that they be preserved. Milton Basch claimed the structure was one of the most well constructed, and criticized how the National Park Service arbitrarily decided to abandon it.

[Source: Jack and Lucille Barratt, November 7, 1982; Milton Basch, November 9, 1982; Eugene Herbert, Historic Preservation Alternatives, Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore]



Milton C. Basch House (south)  
(HS 35-199A)



Milton C. Basch House (west)  
(HS 35-199A)



Milton C. Basch House (east)  
(HS 35-199A)



Milton C. Basch Shed #1  
(HS 35-199B)



Milton C. Basch Shed #2  
(HS 35-199C)



Milton C. Basch Shed #3  
(HS 35-199D)

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