



Blue Star Highway, Ganges Township



**Blue Star Highway, Ganges Township
Church**



**Blue Star Highway, Ganges Township
Barn**



Blue Star Highway, Ganges Township Taylor Cemetery

The cemetery was deeded to the Ganges Burying Association on May 10, 1878 by Dr. Philander Taylor and his wife, Nancy. A Civil War monument in the cemetery

reads "Defenders of Our Union 1861-1865" and lists the names of the Ganges volunteers.



2320 Lakeshore Drive, Pier Cove O. C. Simmonds House and Arboretum

Chicago-based Prairie school landscape architect Ossian C. Simmonds purchased a Greek Revival farmhouse in Pier Cove for use as a summer home at the turn of the twentieth century. At the time the land had been logged off and was barren. Simmonds created an arboretum across

from the house to test how different species of plants would react to Michigan's climate. After his death, Simmonds ashes were scattered under this tree in the heart of the arboretum.



14 Ferry Street, Douglas West Shore Golf Club

According to an article in the *Saugatuck Commercial Record* a group of summer visitors first met on August 10, 1916 to discuss the formation of a golf club for the Saugatuck-Douglas area. Plans included establishing a membership fee of two hundred dollars and borrowing ten thousand dollars to erect buildings and layout a nine-hole course. The course design for the West Shore Golf Club is attributed to George Ferry. According to a February 24, 1916 article in the *Saugatuck Commercial Record*, a George

B. Ferry served as resident manager of the West Shore Farm owned by George Kingsley. The course was expanded in 1932 to eighteen holes.



Lakeshore Chapel, Douglas

Lakeshore Drive at Campbell Road

Harry L. Walker, a native of Oak Park, Illinois, who worked for architect Frank Lloyd Wright, designed the chapel in 1904.



Shorewood, Douglas

Lakeshore Drive at Campbell Road

In 1881 this area was a popular spot for tent camping. By 1896 nearby farm families had begun taking in summer boarders. In 1897 two men from Oak Park, Illinois, D. O. Barton and William Angus Douglas, built the first summer cottages. Professor Lucius Sayre of Lawrence, Kansas visited the area and purchased a sand hill called the Knolls in 1900. Sayre called for the establishment of a resort association to manage development of the site in order to protect its natural beauty.

The Shorewood Association was formed and

its members were predominantly a group of progressive thinkers many from Oak Park, Illinois. As a result, the twenty-three cottages built in the community between 1902 and 1930 were strongly influenced by the Arts and Crafts and Prairie styles. In 1902 the Shorewood Association contracted with John Alvord, an engineer in charge of the city of Chicago's water treatment system to layout a twenty-seven acre resort subdivision. Alvord had worked with the influential Chicago landscape engineer and planner, Daniel Burnham, and in 1904 was hired to design a water system for the village of Saugatuck. Shorewood is an example of the naturalistic landscape design style popular in the early twentieth century. The roads are curvilinear and take advantage of the natural terrain. The subdivision has retained rustic features including twig fencing and stonewalls.



2409 68th Street, Fennville
What Not Inn



6821 124th Street, Saugatuck
Lyon's Fruit Market



2790 Blue Star Highway, Saugatuck
Hunter's Lodge

A log motel built around 1940.



Blue Star Highway
Krupka's Blueberry Plantation



312 Ferry, Douglas
Kalico Kitchen Restaurant



2948 Blue Star Highway, Douglas
Blue Star Antique Pavilion



Saugatuck School Bus Garage
Blue Star Highway, Douglas

Douglas



Center Avenue, Douglas
Douglas Union School

The Union School was built in 1866.



Center Avenue, Douglas
Douglas Town Hall



33 Center Avenue, Douglas
French Cottage



36 Center Avenue, Douglas
Cabbages and Kings



38 Center Avenue, Douglas
Respite Cappucino Café

48 Center Avenue
Kubiak Gallery



50 Center Avenue, Douglas
Bentley's Antiques



137 Center Avenue, Douglas
Saugatuck Douglas Library



10 Blue Star Highway, Douglas
Keller Building

Built in 2000 it is a replica of the former Johnson Gas Station.



58 Blue Star Highway, Douglas
Pines Motor Lodge

Originally the Plaza Tourist Court, a 1950s era motel with little decoration, the motel was completely remodeled in 2004 to reflect the Arts and Crafts style.



Lake Kalamazoo, Blue Star Highway
SS *Keewatin*

A 1907 passenger ferry that was once operated by the Canadian Pacific Railway on the Georgian Bay and Upper Lake Superior. The ship was retired in 1965 and moved to Saugatuck in 1967. The ship is anchored at what was known as the Red Dock, a former fruit shipping port for local farmers.



**Lake Kalamazoo, Blue Star Highway,
Saugatuck**
Replica Lighthouse



Lake Kalamazoo, Blue Star Highway, Saugatuck

View of Mt. Bald Head

Saugatuck

Established by William and Mary Butler in 1830, Saugatuck began to prosper when a sawmill was built at nearby Singapore. Boat building, commercial fishing and peach growing soon became important industries. Around 1885 Saugatuck became a popular tourist destination and resorts began to spring up throughout the area. The establishment of the Ox Bow School of Painting in 1910 secured Saugatuck's reputation as an artist colony. In the 1920s Saugatuck reinvented itself for the auto tourist trade and created a picturesque resort village by adopting the Colonial Revival style for a number the buildings on its main streets.

The resources below are found along the original route of the West Michigan Pike, which followed Lake, Culver, Butler, Francis, and Holland streets.



Lake Street and Blue Star Highway

Welcome Sign, Saugatuck

It is not known when Saugatuck's neon entry sign was installed, but it is likely it was sometime between 1924 and 1930.

Originating in France, neon signs were first introduced to America in 1923 through a car dealership in Los Angeles. Information found in *Michigan Roads and Pavements* indicates that electric signs were popular with communities along state trunk line M-11.

There were electric entry signs in place at Muskegon in 1926. Holland had two electric signs with wooden shoe motifs erected in 1929 and Whitehall had an electric sign installed in 1930.



842 Lake Street, Saugatuck
Arrowhead Resort

Built in the 1940s, this was a popular post World War II resort.



787 Lake Street, Saugatuck
Saugatuck Harbor Inn



800 Lake Street, Saugatuck
Indian Summer



Butler Street, Saugatuck
Interurban Shelter

On August 19, 1899, the Holland and Lake Michigan Railroad Company began service to Saugatuck. The service connected Saugatuck to the city of Holland and the resorts on Lake Macatawa.



102 Butler Street, Saugatuck
Saugatuck Village Hall

In 1926 architect Carl Hoerman redesigned the Village Hall in the Colonial Revival style as part of an effort to increase Saugatuck's appeal as a tourist destination.



303 Butler Street, Saugatuck
Women's Club

Founded in 1904, the auditorium was designed by architect Thomas Eddy Tallmadge in 1934. The style appears to have been influenced by Tallmadge's work as a consultant for Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, in the 1920s.



Public Square, Saugatuck
Butler Street

In 1919 Michigan's Governor Sleeper urged the state's citizens to use Arbor Day as a means of commemorating veterans that served in World War I. According to a May 15, 1919, article in the *Holland Sentinel*, the village of Saugatuck chose to plant three trees in the southeastern portion of the public square. From south to north the trees were named for Charles Freshe, Frank Smith, and Earl Brunner, Saugatuck citizens that had been killed in the war.



12 Main Street, Saugatuck
Christian Science Society

Constructed in 1925, the building was designed by architect Howard Cheney.



428 Butler Street, Saugatuck
Maplewood Hotel

George Maher, a Chicago architect who was well known for his contributions to the Prairie style, designed the façade for the Maplewood Hotel. Maher owned a summer home in Douglas.



507 Butler Street
Residence

Designed by the architectural firm of Jacob H. & G. Davermen of Grand Rapids, the house was built for hardware store owner Ira Koning in 1922. Daverman was a Dutch-born architect that developed a series of house plans that were published in popular magazines such as *Ladies Home Journal*.



510 Butler, Saugatuck
Wickwood Inn

Built in 1940 it was originally an apartment house



237 Francis, Saugatuck
Residence



254 Francis, Saugatuck
Residence



290 Francis, Saugatuck
Residence



612 Holland Street, Saugatuck
Residence



Holland Street Maple Tree, Saugatuck

Maple trees were planted along roadsides in communities across America during the nation's bicentennial in 1876. The idea came from a tree planting program initiated for the Centennial Exposition held in Philadelphia.



650 Holland, Saugatuck Residence



724 Holland, Saugatuck Residence



820 Holland, Saugatuck
Moore's Creek Inn



888 Holland, Saugatuck
The Park House

Originally the home of lumberman H. D. Moore, women's rights activist Susan B. Anthony was once a guest. The residence was converted to a resort in 1885.



996 Holland, Saugatuck
Residence

This house was built in the community of the Singapore by a Dutch immigrant family name Martinus in 1867. The house was moved to this location around 1872. Local artist Sylvia Randolph resided in the house until her death in 2008.



1007 Holland, Saugatuck
Residence



1036 Holland, Saugatuck
Residence



Ship 'n Shore Motel-Boatel, Saugatuck
528 Water Street

This motel built in the 1960s is in a location that allows boaters to dock in front of their rooms.



Saugatuck Chain Ferry, Saugatuck

This was the last chain ferry to operate in West Michigan. The original ferry was simple and undecorated.



Historic Features, Saugatuck

Saugatuck retains a number of historic features that together give it its sense of place. These include the band shelter in Cook Park, the marina, early concrete steps and curbing, signs such as the "Holiday Hill" sign below right, and the old growth trees that line its streets.





3353 Blue Star Highway, Saugatuck
Timberline Motel



6541 Blue Star Highway, Saugatuck
Hooten Inn



6495 Blue Star Highway, Saugatuck
Saugatuck Dune Rides

Established in 1954 by World War II veteran Ron Jousma who converted a 1942 Ford into a dune buggy.

Laketown Township



3656 Blue Star Highway, Saugatuck
Belvedere Bed & Breakfast

Built in 1912 as a summer home for the John D. Williamson family of Chicago. Williamson was vice president of People's Gas and Electric Company. The county gentleman estate embodied the ideas put forth by Liberty Hyde Bailey Jr. and the *Country Life in America* magazine he founded.



3657 Blue Star Highway, Saugatuck
Red Barn Playhouse



6190 Blue Star Highway, Saugatuck
Shangrai-La Motel



6597 138th Street, Laketown Township
Dorr E. Felt Estate, Shore Acre Farms

Dorr Felt was a Chicago businessman that invented an innovative adding machine called the Comptometer. He purchased land north of Saugatuck in 1919 to build a summer home, which was completed in 1928. Felt operated a working farm and was involved in dune conservation.

Holland



South Shore Drive, Holland Macatawa Park

One of the earliest resort communities established south of Ludington, Macatawa Park was founded in 1881 by a group of Holland investors known as the Macatawa Park Association. They changed the name of Black Lake to the more romantic



sounding "Lake Macatawa" and built three hotels and a number of summer cottages on the site. The resort was an instant success and in 1884 a fourth hotel was built. The grandest and most elegant of the Macatawa Park Hotels, the Hotel Macatawa, was built in 1895. Frank Baum, author of the *Wizard of Oz* books owned a home in Macatawa Park and was an association officer. Macatawa Park has seen many changes over the years due to massive fires and storm damage.



2223 S. Shore Drive, Holland Eldean Marina

Established in 1910 as the Jesiek Brothers Boat Yard, the original boat works burned and was rebuilt in 1915 on what is now the site of the Eldean Marina. During World War II, the boat works was leased to the Victory shipbuilding company who built submarine chasers for the military.



S. Shore Drive, Holland Delft House Reconstruction



1642 S. Shore Drive, Holland

South Shore Marina (Beacon Boats, Campbell Boat Company)

In 1937 the Campbell Boat Company was established to manufacture sailboats. The site includes a former resort hotel building that was used as for company's offices. Beacon Boats purchased the boat works in 1953 and produced sailboats and wooden mine



sweepers for the military during the Korean War. The site became the South Shore Marina in 1963. The marina closed in 2003 and the site is now a township park.



1642 S. Shore Drive, Holland

Parkway Inn

Though completely altered inside and out, this local restaurant has been on the same site since the 1920s. Photographs of the original diner decorate the interior of the restaurant.



1516 S. Shore Drive, Holland

Sunny Brook Cottages

The concrete block cabins with pyramid roofs are a classic example of a 1920's tourist court.



S. Shore Drive, Holland
Parkville Motel

An example of a post World War II “mom and pop” motel.



752 Lugers Road, Holland
Lakeview Elementary School



530 South Shore, Holland
Brick Commercial Building



407 W. Seventeenth Street, Holland
West Michigan Uniform

Originally the West Michigan Laundry, the company became West Michigan Uniform in 1963.



South Shore and Homestead Avenue, Holland
H. J. Heinz Company

In 1897 the H. J. Heinz Company broke ground for a new pickling plant, Salting House No. 16, in Holland. By 1907 the plant had become the second largest facility operated by Heinz in the United States.



Seventeenth Street between Ottawa and Van Raalte, Holland
Craftsman Bungalows

Many of the homes in this neighborhood of Craftsman bungalows have battered porch columns, a style common in West Michigan. These may have built by one developer.





W. Tenth and Van Raalte, Holland Kollen Park

While the park retains some of its historic features, such as the entry posts, it has lost most of its historic integrity due to new construction and redesign.



Sixteenth and River Streets, Holland Holland High School



Washington, between Eighteenth and Nineteenth Street, Holland Washington Square

German immigrants built many of the commercial buildings constructed in Washington Square. The small 1920s era gas station and garage are representative of early automobile tourism that was so important to the city. The West Michigan Pike ran along nearby Seventeenth Street.





Washington Street Historic District, Holland

Established as a local historic district in 2001, the district contains two hundred and resources. The neighborhood was an interurban neighborhood built along the route of the Holland & Lake Michigan Electric Railway which connected Holland to Grand Rapids and to Lake Michigan beaches and Jenison Amusement Park. Thirteenth Street at Maple, pictured here, is the commercial block that has served the neighborhood since 1902. Today the neighborhood is home to a number of Hispanic residents.



228 W. Ninth Street, Holland

Cappon House Museum

Isaac Cappon was an early industrialist and prominent civic leader in Holland. He was a founder of the Cappon and Bertsch Leather Factory, a major employer in the city. The Cappon family lived in the home until 1978. Today it is a house museum that provides a glimpse into nineteenth century life. The Cappon House is located in the Washington Boulevard local historic district, which also contains the Settler's House.

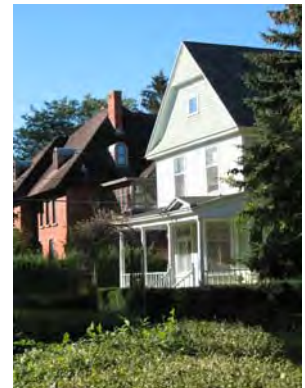


Holland Historic District, Holland

The city of Holland established a seven block residential local historic district bounded by Thirteenth Street, River Avenue, Pine Avenue and Twelfth Street in 1986.

The district displays a large range of architectural styles and was home to some of Holland's most significant businessmen and professionals including department store owner Andreis Steketee;

the president of the St. Louis Sugar Company, Charles McLean; and William Wing of the Ottawa Furniture Company.





River Street, Holland
New Dutch Gallery Building

The building demonstrates the Flemish architectural influences of Holland's commercial buildings.



River and Eighth Streets, Holland
Clock Tower Building

Built in 1892 as the Holland City State Bank, the building is constructed of Waverly Stone, a regional stone quarried east of the city.



Tenth and Central, Holland
Bell Telephone Building

This building is an excellent example of local architecture that exhibits the Flemish influence.



Central Avenue at N. River Street, Holland Centennial Park

In 1876 as America celebrated its centennial, President Rutherford B. Hayes started a national trend when he planted a centennial tree in the White House garden.



To commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the city of

Holland established Centennial Park and invited families to plant trees. According to Arend Visscher in a report to the Michigan Pomological Society, the park “started as a bare strip of sand, not a tree there.” The city chose to plant maple trees and a Mr. Dutton offered to provide them for fifty cents. Centennial trees were also planted in Holland’s public school yards and Mr. Visscher himself planted a centennial row of over twenty-five trees at his own home. A flagpole was installed in the park in 1877. Tenius Ten Houten donated a twenty-foot high fountain of tufa-stone (coral) that was installed in the center of the park and surrounded by a cast iron fence. A tufa-stone lily pool is also found in the park. Lighting was first added in 1884. Comfort stations and a bandstand were added in 1908, the bandstand was demolished in 1937. A number of the old trees were lost in a windstorm in 1964 and the comfort station was remodeled in 1971 after a fire. In 1985 a Veteran’s Memorial was erected in the park.



31 West Tenth Street, Holland Holland Museum

The building was originally the post office built in 1914. The museum collection includes paintings by Dutch masters.



57 East Tenth, Holland
Pillar Church

This Greek Revival style church was built in 1857 and is one of the few buildings in Holland to survive the fire of 1871. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



248 South River Avenue, Holland
Park Theatre

Originally a woodworking mill and feed store, the building was converted to a theater in the 1920's and called the Colonial Theater. The interior burned in 1935 and the theater was reopened as the Park Theatre in 1936. It closed in 1984.



Tenth and College Avenue, Holland
Hope College

Hope College began as the Pioneer School. The oldest building on campus is VanVleck Hall, which was constructed in 1858.



86 E. Eighth Street, Holland Knickerbocker Theatre

The Knickerbocker was built by Tieman Slagh in an attempt to bring vaudeville to the Holland area. The theatre was named after a popular early twentieth century New York City playhouse. Its construction began in 1910, but Slagh himself was killed before the Knickerbocker opened when he was putting light bulbs in the marquee and fell off a ladder. A new owner was eventually found, and the theatre opened

in 1911 as a vaudeville house. Soon after, it began to screen movies as well. The Knickerbocker was modernized and given a new name, the Holland, in the 1960s. It was purchased by Hope College in 1988, renovated, and the original façade restored. (Picture is from the Hope College Arts website)



12755 Quincy, Holland Veldheer's Tulip Farm & Delft Factory

This is the only remaining tulip farm in Holland and the only Delft factory in the United States. The building displays a traditional Dutch thatched roof.



Sixteenth Street, Holland Pilgrim Home Cemetery

Established as Fairlawn Cemetery in 1877, the name was changed in 1934. The Art Deco inspired gate posts were built in 1940 when the cemetery was expanded.





777 Lincoln Avenue, Holland
Windmill Island

The De Zwaan is an authentic windmill from the Netherlands that is two hundred and forty years old. It was purchased after World War II thanks to the efforts of Willard Wichers. (Photo taken from the city of Holland website)



12350 James Street, Holland
Nellis' Dutch Village

The Nellis family came to America from the Netherlands in 1911 and, after stops in Missouri and Chicago, settled in Holland where they were vegetable farmers. They began growing daffodils and tulips in the 1930s. The family purchased this tract of land in 1952 and in 1958 constructed a replica of a Dutch Village.



Ottawa Beach Road, Holland
Waukazoo Resort

Holland attorney J. C. Post and Judge Everett, partnered in 1901 to purchase six hundred acres of land from Hope College to create the Waukazoo Resort. Everett used inventive marketing ploys, such as hosting a yacht race from Chicago to Holland, to promote the new resort. A significant architectural resource in the resort is Marigold Lodge designed by Prairie school architect Thomas Eddy Tallmadge.



116 Hazel Avenue, Holland
Marigold Lodge

Egbert H. Gold, President of the Chicago-based Vapor Car Company made his fortune inventing a heating system that was used by the railroads. In 1919 he built Marigold Lodge, one of the first summer resort homes built to be built on Lake Macatawa in Holland. The Chicago architectural firm



of Tallmadge and Watson designed the Prairie style stucco house. The grounds were landscaped with plants from England and the Netherlands. The lodge is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Herman Miller Furniture Company has owned it for over thirty years.

Ottawa Beach Road, Holland
Ottawa Beach Resort



Established in 1886 by the West Michigan Park Association, a group of Grand Rapids businessmen that included officers of the Chicago and West Michigan Railroad and United States Senator William Alden Smith. The association built the Hotel Ottawa (later renamed the Ottawa Beach Hotel, which Michigan historian Willis Dunbar called “one of the largest and most elaborate of the resort hotels.” It burned in 1923.) One hundred and fifty cottage lots were plotted and common areas for parks were included in the design. The Ottawa Beach cottage development was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1995.



Parkview Marina



Ottawa Beach Boat House



Ottawa Beach Store



Holland Harbor South Pier Head Light, Holland

Holland State Park

The Holland Harbor light was first established in 1872. The brick, two-story twin gable light keepers quarters was built in 1907. A wooden tower covered in steel plate was added in 1936 when the light was electrified. The light's original Fresnel lens is located in the Holland Museum. The lighthouse was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1986.



Lakeshore Drive South, Holland

Holland State Park

Holland State Park was established on the site of the Ottawa Beach Hotel after the hotel burned in 1926. The thirty-three acre site included two thousand feet of Lake Michigan frontage along the channel to Black Lake (Lake Macatawa). When the Ottawa Beach and the Macatawa Beach Resort companies donated the land to the state it contained an existing bathhouse. In 1927 a new concrete road and a parking lot

were completed and the bathhouse was remodeled to include a store, office, and living quarters for the caretaker. During the Great Depression of the 1930s, Holland State Park benefited from federal relief funding. The Works Progress Administration (WPA) made a number of improvements in the park between 1937 and 1938. Public Works Administration (PWA) funds were used to construct a bathhouse, which was completed in 1939-40. New staff quarters were constructed in 1946-48. Ninety-eight acres were added to the park in 1965.



Lakeshore Drive, Holland Tunnel Park

Created in 1930 Tunnel Park was the first county park constructed in Ottawa County. The county acquired four acres of land through a land exchange with Chicago businessman George Goetz, who had developed a private zoo on his summer resort property and wanted a more accessible entrance for visitors. Goetz traded two hundred feet of Lake Michigan

frontage for sixty-six feet at the end of Lakewood Boulevard. The Holland Chamber of Commerce donated fifteen hundred dollars to build a concrete tunnel through a sand dune to provide access to the beach from the picnic grounds. The Ottawa County Road Commission constructed the sixty-foot tunnel, which was eight-foot wide so that a team of horses could enter and grade the floor bed. Carl T. Bowen, a county road commission engineer, designed a one-story frame bath/concession house containing ten changing booths, a shower, and a concession room in order to save architect expenses. The park design, with its single oval loop drive, is typical of the 1930s.



264 Lakeshore, Holland Goetz Farm, Lakewood Farms and Zoo

George F. Goetz was a coal magnate from the city of Chicago. In 1910 he purchased seventy acres of land north of Holland, in what became Park Township, to build a summer estate. He added sixty-three acres in 1916, and the farm eventually grew to two hundred and fifty-three acres. Goetz operated a working farm on the site, growing fruit and vegetables, and was known for his prize chickens. Goetz was most known for his collection of exotic animals. He purchased his first in 1913 and eventually constructed a zoo, which he opened to the

public attracting up to twenty thousand people each summer. A popular feature of the zoo was Nancy the elephant. Goetz also built cottages, a botanical garden, and a movie theater on his estate. In 1928 the Ottawa County Road Commission changed the name of the Alpena Beach Road to Lakewood Boulevard in honor of Goetz's farm after Goetz donated fifteen thousand dollars for paving the road. In 1930 Goetz participated in a land exchange with Ottawa County that resulted in the creation of Tunnel Park on Lakeshore Road. Goetz was forced to close his zoo in 1933 after a severe storm damaged many of the animal habitats. Because of the Great Depression, the cost of repair was prohibitive and Goetz sent the majority of the animals to the newly established Brookfield Zoo in Chicago. The Goetz home was purchased in 2007 and is being rehabilitated as a private residence.

Grand Haven



U.S. 31 over Grand River
Bascule Bridge

The plate girder bascule bridge was opened in 1960.



Central Park

Central Park in Grand Haven was established in 1889 on what was originally the site of the city cemetery. As part of a City Beautiful improvement project the bodies were exhumed and removed to Lake Forest Cemetery. A fountain that had been in the courtyard of W. C. Sheldon's Magnetic Springs Sanitarium was placed in the park after the resort was destroyed by fire. In 1913 the Grand Haven Bird Club erected a concrete bird feeder in the park.



Residential Architecture

Grand Haven has some of the finest housing stock within the project area. The residential neighborhoods to the south and west of the city display a wide array of styles and great deal of historic integrity. This home is located on Central Avenue across from Central Park.



209 Washington, Grand Haven
Glo Barber Shop



123 Washington, Grand Haven
Floto's



22 Washington Avenue
Grand Theater

The Grand Theater opened in 1928 at a cost of one hundred and seventy five hundred dollars. The theater was once part of the Michigan-based W. S. Butterfield chain and was purchased by the Grand Rapids-based Jack Loeks Theater chain in the late 1960s and remodeled. It was sold to an independent operator in 1996 and closed in 1999. The theater was demolished in 2005 except for the lobby, facade and marquee. In 2006 Condominiums were built on the theater site and a restaurant occupies the former lobby.



114 Washington Street
Fortino's

Louis Fortino, an Italian immigrant from Calabria, Italy, first opened a grocery store in Muskegon in 1907. Fortino moved the store to Grand Haven in 1911. He built the current store building in 1923 but rented it to other businesses until 1930 when he moved his grocery business into it. The store was purchased by Fortino's son, Paul, in 1941 who converted it to a gourmet grocery after World War II.



2 Washington, Grand Haven
The Kirby House



15 S. Third, Grand Haven
Elks Lodge 200



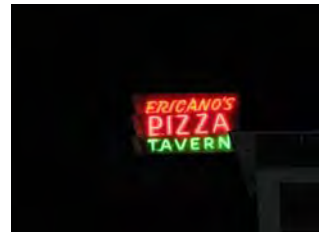
Coast Guard Boathouse, Grand Haven

The Coast Guard lifesaving station opened at Grand Haven in 1977. A second station was opened in 1922.



1400 Fulton Street Fricano's Pizza Tavern

The building was constructed as the Ottawa Tavern in 1911 and served the laborers of the Eagle Tannery located across the street. It was purchased in 1951 by Gus Fricano, a Sicilian immigrant that had worked in the celery fields before World War II.



N. Harbor, Grand Haven Story & Clark Piano Factory



17 S. Second Street, Grand Haven
Armory

The armory was constructed in 1905.



Duncan Park
Lake Avenue

Martha Duncan donated forty acres on Lake Avenue to the city in memory of her husband, a 46-year resident of Grand Haven. The Grand Haven Women's Club funded the construction of four fieldstone pillars at the park's two entrances. The pillars were designed by a Grand Rapids architect and the construction work was done by Blakenmeier and Spencer of Spring Lake.



Highland Drive, Grand Haven
Highland Park Association

The Highland Park Association was established in 1886 to develop a resort and to maintain Highland Park on Lake Michigan. The first cottage built in Highland Park is located at 1040 Lake Avenue and is called "Loch Hame." Around one hundred and seven cottages had been completed by 1917.



1304 Lake Avenue, Grand Haven
Lake Forest Cemetery

The cemetery was established in 1872.

Railroad Resources

The Detroit, Grand Haven and Milwaukee Railroad which from Detroit to Grand Haven was completed in 1858 and later purchased by the Grand Trunk Railroad. The passenger depot was constructed at the end of Washington Street in 1870. The railroad was later purchased by the Grand Trunk Railroad. The railroad contracted with steamship companies to transport freight across Lake Michigan to Milwaukee until 1883 when it decided to operate its own railroad car ferry. In 1903 the Grand Haven ferry docks were completed and the Grand Trunk Railroad put its car ferry into operation. The Grand Trunk ferry was moved to Muskegon in 1936.



Grand River, Grand Haven
Metal Truss Swing Railroad Bridge



1 North Harbor, Grand Haven
Tri-Cities Museum

The railroad depot was built by the Grand Trunk Railroad in 1870.



N. Harbor Drive, Grand Haven
Coal Tower



N. Harbor Drive, Grand Haven
Shay Locomotive

The Shay Locomotive was built in 1882 and served the Cutler and Savidge Lumber Company.

Grand Haven Road



7312 Grand Haven Road, Grand Haven
Mason's Kitchenettes

A former "mom and pop" motel.



7200 Grand Haven Road, Grand Haven
Agricultural Building



Grand Haven Road, Grand Haven
1920s Gas Station and Farm Buildings



Grand Haven Road, Muskegon
Concrete Block Building

This rock face concrete block farm building was probably built in the early 1920s.



4616 Grand Haven Road, Grand Haven
Goose's Service Towing

This is a former Texaco gas station building. In 1937 Texaco Oil Company hired a pioneer in industrial design, Walter Dorwin Teague, to create a new standardized service station building for the company. Teague's strikingly simple design, based on the International style changed the way gas stations were constructed and how they were viewed by the public. The shining porcelain enamel buildings were symbols of safety, cleanliness and service wherever a

motorist traveled. Soon other oil companies adapted Teague's radical design and it came to dominate the American landscape throughout the 1940s and 1950s.



4221 Grand Haven Road, Muskegon
Airline Dog 'n Suds

The Dog 'n Suds chain of restaurants was established in 1953. This location opened in 1967. It is one of sixteen remaining franchises. This restaurant was purchased by the owner of the Montague Dog 'n Suds, Dave Hosticka.



Grand Haven Road, Muskegon Robert Hall Clothes Sign

Robert Hall was a popular chain store that began in Waterbury, Connecticut in 1941. By 1949 seventy-five stores had been open east of the Mississippi River. Robert Hall was known for its inexpensive clothing—its founder referred to it as “the A & P of the clothing business.” The company declared bankruptcy in 1977.



4258 Grand Haven Road, Muskegon Airport Plaza

A 1960s-era shopping center.



Muskegon

From Grand Haven Road, the West Michigan Pike followed Summit Street to Merriman and then went north on Peck Street into Muskegon. Within the city it followed Third Street to Western, turned east on Eastern and then followed Ottawa Street to the Memorial Causeway.



Grand Haven Road @ Business U.S. 31 Hidden Cove Park

In the 1920s travelers on the West Michigan Pike would drive from Grand Haven to Muskegon Heights via what is today Grand Haven Road. To accommodate travelers, an auto tourist camp was built on the northern shore of Muskegon Lake, today the site of Hidden Cove Park. This was



part of a larger system of camps developed by the West Michigan Tourist Association along the West Michigan Pike. The large trees and open land that served as the campground and a historic bridge can still be found in the park.

Peck Street

Muskegon Heights

In 1890 an Ohio businessman named C. C. Howell approached Muskegon's city leaders with the idea of developing factory sites in the area. A group of citizens, including lumberman Charles Hackley, found Howell's proposal appealing and formed the Muskegon Improvement Company to diversify Muskegon's economy as the city's lumber boom years ended. The group purchased over one thousand acres of land south of Muskegon, which became known as Muskegon Heights and set aside about one hundred and fifteen acres for industrial development. They sold the lots by lottery and used the funds to underwrite new business development. A few lots adjacent to the Pere Marquette railroad line were offered free to entrepreneurs with a viable plan for establishing a business. Though six companies initially agreed to build factories in the area, only one actually did—Kelley Brothers, a refrigerator manufacturing company. Over time some of the region's most successful industries constructed plants in Muskegon Heights including Shaw Electric Crane Works, Alaska Refrigeration, and the Nelson Piano Company. When truck transportation began to replace rail, Airline Road was constructed to expedite the distribution of materials and products for the Muskegon Heights industries.

Part of the Muskegon Heights development plan called for twenty-eight hundred lots to be set aside for residential home sites. Ten acres originally set aside for parkland later became the site of Muskegon Heights High School. According to Alice Kyes in her book *Romance of Muskegon*, "building restrictions were laid down" for housing in Muskegon Heights. Houses on Peck and Jefferson Streets were to be somewhat grander in scale and were required to cost at least \$2,500 while housing on Sanford, Fifth and Maffet Streets was to be of a more modest scale costing a minimum of \$1,500. There was a required set back of twenty-five feet from the street. The lots were sold by lottery and it was by the luck of the draw as to which lot a potential purchaser received. Over two thousand lots were sold the first day they were put on the market and due to

this unprecedented success, the Muskegon Improvement Company decided to hold a second sale, this time building six model homes on existing lots to increase consumer interest.



Peck Street, Muskegon Heights
Commercial Building



2927 Peck Street, Muskegon Heights
Commercial Building



22 Broadway, Muskegon Heights
Strand Theater

Built in 1920 by Paul Schlossman who also built Muskegon's Michigan Theater (Frauenthal Theater).



Peck Street, Muskegon Heights
Garage

This rock face concrete block garage was built around 1920.



Broadway and Peck Street, Muskegon Heights
Commercial Building



Broadway and Peck Street, Muskegon Heights
Commercial Building



2731 Peck Street, Muskegon Heights
Hope Lighthouse



2700 Block of Peck Street, Muskegon Heights
Commercial Building



Peck Street at Henry, Muskegon Heights
Campbell, Wynant & Cannon Foundry

Three businessmen from Chicago started a foundry in Muskegon in 1908. They built a new facility on Peck Street in 1922. The foundry was critical to the United States' World War II military production and at one

time was the largest gray iron foundry in America. The nearby Roosevelt Park subdivision was developed by the company to house its workers. During World War II a large number of African Americans migrated from Southern states, mostly from Arkansas, to work in the foundry.





2715 Peck Street, Muskegon Heights
Noel Block



Peck Street @ Sherman, Muskegon Heights
Central School



**N. W. Corner Peck Street at Sherman,
Muskegon Heights**
Art Moderne Commercial Building



2544 Peck Street, Muskegon Heights
Commercial Strip



2501 Peck Street, Muskegon Heights
Bill's Transmission

This former Texaco gas station building is an example of a revolutionary new building design introduced in 1936. The design was developed by Walter Dorwin Teague, a pioneer in industrial design, and was used by Texaco until the 1960s.



Peck Street at Keating, Muskegon Heights



1928 Peck Street, Muskegon
Commercial Strip

A classic neon "Eat" sign at the site of a former restaurant.



1901 Peck Street, Muskegon
Dymet Corporation



1871 Peck Street, Muskegon
Disability Connection



HPeck Street at Laketon, Muskegon
C. W. Marsh Field

Charles Marsh came to Muskegon in 1900 from Nunda, New York. He started the C. W. Marsh Company to manufacture leather screw collars. The company is still in operation using the same equipment and production techniques. An avid baseball fan, Marsh was thrilled when Muskegon became a member of the Michigan Baseball League in 1910. Marsh served as

president of Muskegon's Club from 1912 to 1914. Muskegon became part of the Central League (Illinois, Michigan and Indiana) in 1914. In 1916 Marsh built a professional league baseball field at the corner of Peck and Laketon. He sold the field to the city of Muskegon in 1919. Marsh, an inductee into the Muskegon Area Sports Hall of Fame, died on January 1, 1943.



1845 Peck Street, Muskegon
Stone Commercial Building



Peck Street, Muskegon
Brick Commercial Building



Peck Street, Muskegon
Craftsman Bungalow



1631 Peck Street, Muskegon
Muskegon Rescue Mission

This Art Moderne style building was originally an apartment complex.



1562 Peck Street, Muskegon
Residence



Peck Street, Muskegon
Residence



1516 Peck Street, Muskegon
Michigan Works

A Prairie-style house and adjacent apartment building.





Peck Street, Muskegon
Kensington Apartments



1239 Peck Street, Muskegon
Sherman's Apartments



1189 Peck Street, Muskegon
Chris Houghling & Associates

The building is an example of Veneklasen brick, the local name given to the polychromatic brickwork that decorates over one hundred buildings in Allegan and Ottawa Counties. The brick work is associated with Dutch immigrants that settled the area in the late nineteenth century.



1222 Peck Street, Muskegon
Muskegon Flower Girls



Peck Street, Muskegon
The Christansen Building

A commercial building constructed in 1913.



Peck Street, Muskegon



990 Terrace, Muskegon
Hall of Justice

The Muskegon architectural firm of Magnuson & Sumner, which was established in 1948, designed this International style building. It was constructed in 1959. The firm also designed the St. Frances de Sales Parish School on McCracken Street in 1954.

Third Street



1144 Third Street, Muskegon
Betten Chevrolet Cadillac Body Shop



1117 Third Street, Muskegon
MAISD Transition Center



1125 Third Street, Muskegon
Orphanage Tatoo and
Walt Plant Building

Hackley Park



Hackley Park is a representative example of the City Beautiful movement, one of the earliest forms of city planning in America, the City Beautiful movement. The movement is rooted in a form of urban planning implemented in late nineteenth century England where “garden cities” were being constructed to provide relief from the grimy living conditions brought on by industrialization. In the United States, civic leaders adapted the garden city principles to help their communities evolve from the rough and tumble construction of early pioneer days to become settled, prosperous places of beauty that could

match the great cities of Europe. The movement became a national phenomenon after the opening of the World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. The detailed planning undertaken by Daniel Burnham and his team of renowned architects, engineers, and landscape architects in the creation of a “White City” for the Exposition struck a chord with the American people. The resulting City Beautiful Movement dominated American city planning between 1900 and 1925. Both large cities and small rural towns adopted its principles. Typically, a civic improvement association was formed and a beautification plan and implementation strategy for the community was developed. The City Beautiful was based on a few simple ideas meant to improve the aesthetic appeal of the community:

- Create distinctive entry points such as decorative arched bridges, decorative entry arches or gateposts, or public art works
- Group decorative civic buildings around a central park
- Establish a city park system linked by parkways or tree-lined boulevards
- Improve infrastructure by paving streets, laying concrete sidewalks and curbs, and planting street trees
- Bury electric and phone lines to remove them from view



Muskegon's City Beautiful projects were made possible through the help of local lumberman and philanthropist, Charles C. Hackley. He first implemented its principles in Muskegon in 1889 when he began buying land for the creation of a central park. Hackley commissioned a statue for the new park from the sculptor Joseph Carabelli. Named the *Soldiers and Sailors Monument*, it honored Muskegon's Civil War veterans. In 1890 Hackley provided funding for the construction of a new library to be built adjacent to the park. He later commissioned sculptor Charles H. Niehaus to complete statues of Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, General Sherman, and David Farragut for inclusion in Hackley Park. He also gave money for the construction of a new Central School on the park, after the original school burned in 1890. When President William McKinley was assassinated in 1901, Hackley purchased a statue of McKinley and it, too, was placed the park. Though Hackley died in 1905 his influence on the beautification of Muskegon continued after his death. In his will he created a fund for the city of Muskegon to purchase paintings and artwork. To honor Hackley's lifelong contributions to Muskegon, in 1912 the Board of Education built the Hackley Art Museum (today known was the Muskegon Art Museum) just off Hackley Park to house the art collection purchased through Hackley's "picture fund."



Clay Street, Hackley Vocational School

Charles Hackley put up the funding for the construction of a new school after Muskegon's Central High School was destroyed by fire in 1890. It was the first technical/vocational school in the state of Michigan. In addition to funding its construction, Hackley provided a one hundred thousand dollar endowment and an annual five thousand dollar maintenance fund. He later built a gymnasium and constructed an adjacent athletic field called Hackley Field Stadium.



316 W. Webster Avenue, Muskegon Hackley Public Library

The Richardsonian Romanesque library building was designed by Chicago architect Normand S. Patton who developed plans for over one hundred Carnegie libraries throughout the United States. The trim is Lake Superior Sandstone. The library contains a stained glass window designed by the Chicago firm of Healy and Millett.



1006 Third Street, Muskegon
St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Constructed in 1893, the church is made of Green Bluff stone from Stony Point, Michigan, and sits on a foundation of Bedford Limestone. The interior woodwork was completed by Kelly Brothers of Muskegon who also did the finish work on the Charles Hackley house. Memorial stained glass windows were a gift of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hume in 1921 while Mrs. Erie Hackley Smith donated the white Italian Carerra marble altar.



425 W. Western Avenue, Muskegon
Michigan Theater (Frauenthal Center for the Performing Arts)

Muskegon movie mogul, Paul Schlossman, built the Michigan Theater in 1929. Noted Detroit-based theater architect, C. Howard Crane, designed it in the Spanish renaissance style. The theater opened on September 17, 1930. A gift from local industrialist, A. Harold Frauenthal, enabled the building's rehabilitation as a performing arts theater in the 1970s.

Downtown Muskegon



When Muskegon's early commercial district on Pine Street was destroyed by fire in 1891, Western Avenue became the location for the creation of a new central business district. In the 1970s this historic business district was enclosed to create an indoor mall. At that time most of the historic wooden buildings were razed and new infill buildings were constructed to tie together the remaining historic masonry buildings under one roof. The mall was demolished around 2003 and five historic buildings remain standing:

- The Russell Block at 360-66 Western Avenue was built in 1890 by L. G. Mason. The office of the Muskegon Improvement Company was located here in the 1920s.
- The Century Club Building at 356 Western was built for the Muskegon Club in 1890.
- The Muskegon Savings Bank at 350 Western was built in 1908.
- The Montgomery Block (National City Bank) at 335 Western was a Walgreen's Drug Store from 1946 to 1961.
- The Hackley Union Bank Building built in 1919 was considered to be Muskegon's first skyscraper.



560 Mart Street, Muskegon
West Michigan Dock and Market
(The Mart Dock)

In 1932 Muskegon's harbor was deepened and a modern breakwater and concrete revetments were constructed as part of a two million dollar federal improvement project. The West Michigan Dock and Market constructed in 1933 was the vision of brothers, Max and Mark McKee of the Sand Products Company. They were instrumental in turning Muskegon into a major shipping port in the 1930s. Known locally as the Mart

Dock, the building contains a bulk warehouse, a cold storage facility for fruit, and an eight-vessel wharf. Also incorporated into the building are a four thousand five hundred-seat auditorium and a sports arena where ice hockey was first introduced to the city. The Mart Dock covers fifty-two acres and was built with federal reconstruction finance funding and local funds during the Great Depression. On June 3, 1941, the SS *Milwaukee Clipper*, a newly remodeled 1904 passenger steamer, arrived in Muskegon to serve as an automobile ferry between Milwaukee and Muskegon. Today the Mart Dock is a boat storage facility and is the homeport of the *Port City Princess*, a paddlewheel boat.



560 Mart Street, Muskegon
LST 393

The Landing Ship Tank (LST) 393 was originally constructed in the Newport News, Virginia, shipyard in 1942. It transported troops and equipment to European battle fronts during World War II including the invasions of Salerno and Anzio and the invasion of Normandy in 1944. The ship was awarded four battle stars for its service and was decommissioned in 1946. After the war, the ship transported new automobiles between Muskegon and Milwaukee. The ship is owned by the USS *Silversides* and Maritime Museum in Muskegon.

Other Historic Resources



5803 Lake Harbor Road, Muskegon Mount Garfield Motorcyclist Hill Climb

In 1919 Dan D. Raymond opened the Raymond Motor & Cycle Company on Ottawa Street in Muskegon. Raymond organized the Muskegon Motorcycle Club in 1920 and in 1921 leased a nearby sand dune, Mount Garfield, for a motorcycle hill climb. The Muskegon Motorcycle Club purchased the forty-acre site that included Mount Garfield in 1923, the same year that over 3,000 spectators attended the climb. The club also purchased a farmhouse, which was converted into a clubhouse and improved the hill with wooden steps, an

observation tower, and clay surfacing. The Muskegon Motorcycle Club received the National Championship Hill Climb award from the American Motorcycle Association (AMA) in 1929. Though the Great Depression curtailed participation in the popular climb, by 1939 the AMA once again decided to hold a national hill climb event at Mount Garfield. For the event, a concrete staircase with the name of a sponsor etched in each of the three hundred and thirteen stair slabs was installed. Mount Garfield is the site of the first professional hill climb in America. The climb was suspended during World War II but was resumed in 1946. A stone monument to the members of the Muskegon Motorcycle Club that died in World War II was erected at the entrance of the Mount Garfield grounds in 1949. The Mount Garfield Hill Climb lost favor with some locals in the 1960s when unruly cyclists caused problems in the area.



Lake Harbor Road, Norton Shore Lake Harbor Park

In 1877 an investor from New York purchased a small resort operated by Julius Antisdale at this location and improved and expanded it. In 1896 the resort was purchased by Edward Swett of Chicago who turned it into a first class resort with a two hundred room



hotel, a bathhouse, bowling lanes, croquet and tennis courts, and a golf course. The city of Norton Shores purchased the site in 1980 and created a park. Though the resort buildings are gone, foundations from the resort hotel are still visible in the park.



Lakeshore Boulevard, Muskegon
Mona Lake Park

Originally the site of a park established by the Mona Lake Resort Association it once contained a popular beer pavilion, which burned in 1908. The name was later changed to Recreation Park.



740 W. Laketon, Muskegon
Wayne's Deli

A family owned deli for over fifty years that roasts its own coffee.



1971 W. Sherman, Muskegon
Cherokee Restaurant

Established in 1969 the teepee entrance is an example of "roadside architecture."



2929 McCracken Street, Muskegon St. Frances de Sales Church

Marcel Breuer, one of the world's most celebrated Modern architects, was born in Hungary in 1902. In 1920 he joined the Bauhaus of Weimar, Germany, an art and design school that operated from 1919 to 1933. Breuer worked with the Bauhaus for the next eight years, serving as head of the furniture design department from 1924 to 1928. He left in 1937 to concentrate on architecture and later partnered with architect Walter Gropius, one of the founders of the modern architecture

movement. Breuer joined the faculty of Harvard University in 1937 and in 1946 left to practice architecture in New York City.

Breuer began designing churches in 1950. In 1953 he designed St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota, and Annunciation Priory in Bismarck, North Dakota, in 1954. In 1964 Breuer began work on the St. Frances de Sales Catholic Church in Muskegon, which was completed in 1968. It is considered to be his best religious structure. The building received the Silver Medal from the American Institute of Architects. According to Kathryn Eckert's book *Buildings of Michigan* the design incorporates "A 75-foot-high, banner-shaped concrete trapezoid topped by a concrete trough that houses the suspended bells creates a unique skyline."



Wickham & Glen Streets, McGraft Park Wickham & Glen

Newcomb McGraft, a civic leader that had served as mayor of Muskegon in 1886, donated the land for the ninety-two acre park to the city in 1894. McGraft partnered with L. N. Keating in 1887 to establish the Muskegon, Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad, which operated until 1896 when it merged with the Pennsylvania Railroad. In 1894 McGraft introduced the idea of establishing a bonus fund to encourage new industry to come to

Muskegon—a successful venture that brought companies such as Brunswick and the Campbell, Wynant and Cannon Foundry to Muskegon. McGraft Park is an example of a City Beautiful movement resource and forty-five acres of the park along Ruddiman Creek still retain the natural style landscape popular at the turn of the century. McGraft's daughter, Edith, met Clarence Wickham of Manchester, Connecticut (the inventor of the window envelope) on a trip to Europe. They were married in Muskegon in 1900 and Edith continued to actively participate in McGraft Park's development, providing funds for the construction of the community building and setting up a trust fund that would continue to benefit the park upon her death. Those funds were used to construct tennis and basketball courts, a baseball diamond, and other facilities related to active sports. Upon their deaths, the Wickham estate in Manchester, Connecticut, was deeded to that city for the creation of a park.





1716 Sixth Street, Muskegon
Saint Michael's Catholic Church

The church was established in 1912 to serve the city's Polish population.



1014 W. Hackley, Muskegon
Polish Falcon Lodge

Patterned after the Czech Sokol, the Polish Falcon organization was founded in Lwow, Poland in 1867. The Falcons encouraged exercising both the mind and body through gymnastics. In 1884 there was a push to expand the organization worldwide. The first Polish Falcon group was founded in Chicago in 1887. The Muskegon lodge (Nest 276) was organized in 1911. At the turn of the century, the Falcons supported a free Poland after the Tsar was overthrown in Russia and pushed for the creation of a Polish Army.

They also acted as a fraternal aid organization for Polish immigrants to America.



3335 Mona View, Muskegon Heights
Mona View Cemetery

The cemetery was established in 1921.



3690 Airline, Muskegon
Masar's Drive-In

Masar's Family Restaurant was started in 1940 on Apple Street in Muskegon by Joe Masar Sr. In 1999 Joe Masar III purchased a former A & W drive-in and started this new business. Masar's manufactures their own brand of Airline Root Beer.



540 Houston, Muskegon
Samuel Lutheran Church

The church was founded in 1875 by Swedish and Finnish immigrants.



151 W. Muskegon Avenue, Muskegon
U.S. 31 Bar-B-Q

George Buris started his Bar-B-Q business in downtown Muskegon in 1939. The restaurant moved to this subdued version of a "Googie" style diner in the late 1960s.



920 E. Summit, Muskegon
Getty Drive-In Theater

Constructed by Nick Kuris in 1949 it was called the NK Drive-In. Jack Loeks of Grand Rapids who operated a chain of theaters throughout Michigan purchased the theater in 1966.



1531 Sherman, Muskegon
Sherman Bowling Center

Sherman Bowling Center opened in August 1958 with twenty-eight lanes; twenty-two more lanes were added in 1960.



504 W. Clay Street, Muskegon
Scolnik House Museum

Established in 2007, the museum depicts the lifestyle of a common working class family during the Great Depression.



502 W. Clay, Muskegon
Fire Museum

This firehouse is a re-creation of the original Hackley House Company #2 that operated in Muskegon between 1875 and 1892. The re-created firehouse was built in 1976 during the Bicentennial.



Edgewater Street, Muskegon
Beachwood-Bluffton Neighborhood

At the turn of the century C. S. "Pop" Ford operated a resort that became popular with the entertainers that performed at nearby Lake Michigan Beach amusement park. One of these performers on the vaudeville circuit, Joe Keaton, liked the area so much that in 1908 he joined with two other vaudeville performers, Paul Lucier and William Rawls, to establish what became known as "the Actor's Colony." They purchased a strip of land between Lake Michigan and Muskegon Lake and soon

vaudeville performers began building cottages in the area. By 1911 the colony was thriving with over two hundred performers in residence. A clubhouse was constructed and an annual vaudeville show was established in 1917. Joe Keaton's son, Buster Keaton, spent his summers in Bluffton during his youth. In the 1930s he became one of the world's most popular silent film comedians.



1346 Bluff Street, Muskegon
Great Lakes Naval Memorial and Museum

The memorial includes two ships, the World War II submarine the USS *Silversides*, a designated National Historic Landmark, and the USCGC *McLane*, a 1927 Coast Guard Cutter.

North Muskegon



Memorial Causeway at Business U.S. 31 and M-120, North Muskegon

Veteran's Memorial Park, Richards Park, and the Ottawa Street Bridge

In 1924 the chair of the Muskegon Chamber of Commerce, Louis Lunsford, announced plans to develop a park to honor Muskegon's World War I dead. Lunsford chose fifty-five acres of marsh land between Muskegon and North Muskegon. He envisioned turning an eyesore filled with lumber debris into a park with lagoons, curving paths, and statues dedicated to Muskegon's veterans. At first

considered a folly, the idea eventually gained universal support. The Michigan State Highway Department agreed to build a divided highway with decorative parallel bridges over the wetlands if the county paid for the extra expense incurred beyond the cost of a standard highway bridge design. The project became a reality when federal funds were made available through the New Deal during the Great Depression. National Recovery Highway Act money was used to realign U.S. 31 and incorporate it with the proposed project, which became known as the Muskegon Causeway. As part of the project, the State Highway Department built the Ottawa Street Bridge (located on the original route of the West Michigan Pike), which was completed in 1934. Ottawa Street was also widened to provide a forty entrance to the Causeway. The project not only created a Veteran's Memorial Park, it also established a scenic entrance to Muskegon for auto tourists entering the city from the north and provided a connection from U.S. 31 to Muskegon State Park and Scenic Drive. Landscape architect Willard S. Gebhart, a native of Hart, Michigan who had established a practice in Washington, D.C., was hired to oversee the construction of the park and the creation of its lagoons and lawns. Special appropriation from a



special appropriation from a federal landscaping fund enabled the planting of hundreds of trees along the lagoons. A total of four bridges were to be built for the project. Construction on a forty-foot steel beam stringer span northbound bridge began in 1928; the companion southbound bridge and was completed in 1931. Veteran's Memorial Park took three years to complete. The design of the memorial itself was approved by the American Legion and consisted of a fountain and mirror pool encircled by stonewalls. Limestone pillars with bronze plaques listing the names of Muskegon's one hundred and four World War I veterans who died between 1917 and 1918. At the dedication ceremony held on Armistice Day,

November 11, 1934, Monsieur Rene Weiller, Chicago Consul of the Republic of France, planted several of the two hundred fleur de lis bulbs, a gift from France, among the myrtle at the base of the columns.

The Muskegon Causeway project was just one in a series of highway beautification projects undertaken in the 1930s to create a system of scenic shore and connecting roads for automobile tourists carrying them to some of the state's most beautiful vacation spots. The first such project

was undertaken on U. S. 2 to create a beautified entry into Michigan from the Indiana State Line to New Buffalo.



1502 Ruddiman, North Muskegon
Walker Civic Center

The land for the North Muskegon Civic Center was donated in 1928 by Louis C. Walker, president of the Shaw Walker Company. Throughout his lifetime Walker



supported efforts to enhance the quality of life for Muskegon's citizens. In the 1920s and

1930s Walker supported a plan to create a park system around Muskegon and Muskegon Lake that would link to Muskegon State Park and the Scenic Highway. He also commissioned Donald Ross, a world-renowned golf course architect, to redesign the course at the Muskegon Country Club. In the 1940s, Walker worked to provide public recreation areas around the city (tennis courts, ball parks, etc.) that could be used by the hundreds of factory workers that came to Muskegon to work in the foundries and factories during the war years. He also gave money for an indoor sports center that was completed in 1960.



The Walker Civic Center includes the city hall, a school, a library and a community hall. Dedicated in June 1940, the buildings and park-like setting display the design style of resources constructed with federal relief funding during the Great Depression.



350 Cihak Street, North Muskegon
Pointe Marina Association



360 Ruddiman, North Muskegon
Bear Lake Inn



3942 Memorial, North Muskegon
Snug Harbor Motel

Scenic Drive



Scenic Drive, Muskegon

Muskegon State Park

The creation of Muskegon State Park is really a story of conservation. Ryerson Hill & Company, which operated a sawmill at Snug Harbor, once owned the land. After the timber had been logged, the company intended to sell the property to a Cleveland-based foundry that wanted to mine the sand dunes for commercial use. Muskegon's Chamber of Commerce president, Louis Lunsford, convinced the Muskegon County Board of Supervisors to purchase and preserve the site. The property was

transferred to the state for use as state park land in 1924. In 1933 the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) established the Muskegon SP-5 camp adjacent to the park and CCC workers made extensive improvements, to the park creating roads and a campground and planting over three thousand native trees. A log blockhouse was built as an observation tower. (It burned in the 1960s and was rebuilt in the 1980s.) From 1937 to 1941 the Works Progress Administration (WPA) funded park improvements including development of the beach area and construction of a bathhouse, toboggan slide, and ice rink. Today, Muskegon State Park's Winter Sports Complex hosts one of the few luge runs in the country that is opened to the public.



1563 Scenic Drive, Muskegon

Pioneer County Park

It is unclear when Pioneer Park was established. It is known to have existed in 1928 and may have been a township park at the turn of the twentieth century. In the 1930s the site was used as a camp for WPA crews working



on improvements to Muskegon State Park and on the extension of Scenic Drive. The site was acquired by Muskegon County in 1937 for park use. Two Depression-era features remaining in the park are the log lodge building that was once used as a mess hall for WPA workers and two concrete bandstands. Other historic features include a pyramid roof concession stand, a small picnic shelter, tennis courts, a campground, and the park layout and landscape features.



Scenic Drive, Muskegon
Rustic Lantern Motel

The farmhouse and two six-room motel units, located just north of Pioneer County Park, are reminders of how tourism and the construction of the highway changed the economy of Muskegon County. The current owner replaced the asphalt roof with tin to preserve the resource. He is interested in rehabilitating the buildings.



2998 Scenic Drive, Muskegon
Red Rooster Tavern



5207 Scenic Drive, Muskegon
Michilinda Resort

Known as the Michilinda Pines Resort in 1890, the historic inn has undergone extensive remodeling. The landscape still retains its turn of the century feeling and features.





5333 Scenic Drive, Muskegon
White Duck Country Market



5700 Scenic Drive, Muskegon
Lakeside Inn

Lakeside Inn resides on what was known as Sprigg's Landing in the 1850s. It later became the Fernwood Resort. George and Emma Mason built the Lakeside Inn on this site in 1913. The Goodrich Steamship line docked to the west of the inn at what was then known as the Michilinda Dock. Lakeside Inn was purchased by Glenn Tallant in 1917 who operated it for twenty-three years until it was purchased by the Groessel family in 1935. The Groessels operated the inn on the American

Plan (meals and board) and began modernizing it after World War II. They added an apartment unit, cottages, and a motel unit in the 1950s.

Whitehall Road



2165 Whitehall Road, Whitehall
Bear's Den Motel

A 1940s era tourist court.



Whitehall Road, Whitehall



Lone Saddle Ranch Sign, Whitehall
Whitehall Road



4750 Whitehall Road, Whitehall
Michigan Adventure Amusement and Wild Water Adventure

Michigan Adventure was founded in 1956 as a petting zoo called Deer Park. In 1968 it was purchased by Roger Jourden who changed the name to Deer Park Funland and added rides like the Tilt-a-Whirl and Scrambler. In 1988 a roller coaster was added and the name was changed to Michigan Adventure. The Wildwater Water Park was added in 1991. Cedar Fair Entertainment Company, who operates the Cedar Point Amusement Park in Cedar Point, Ohio, purchased the site in 2001.



4907 Whitehall Road, Whitehall
Lincoln Golf Club

A private course established in 1927. The course appears to have been redesigned sometime between 1954 and 1960.

White Lake, South Shore Drive



6806 South Shore Drive, Whitehall
South Shore Marina



6777 South Shore Drive, Whitehall
White Lake Golf Club

Established in 1916, the original course was designed by E. E. Roberts.



6478 South Shore Drive, Whitehall
White Lake Yacht Club

The White Lake Yacht Club was established on the north side of White Lake in 1903 by three Chicagoans with summer residences on White Lake: E. S. Douglas, John A. Kruse, and G. F. Wadsworth. The club was relocated to its current location in 1906. The clubhouse was built from plans by Robert Rae. The yacht club did well until 1912 when golf became such a popular sport and interest in boating began to decline. As a result, the yacht club combined with the White Lake Golf Club in 1915. In 1925 local businessman Clarence Pitkin worked to

bring the Mississippi Valley Speedboat Association Gold Cup races to White Lake. The White Lake Speed Boat Club was formed and interest in the yacht club was renewed. In 1926 the club offered sailing and swimming classes for children. In the 1930's sailboat racing made a comeback on White Lake and the Western Michigan Yachting Association was formed. In 1933, the clubhouse was expanded to include the Anchor Room. During the Depression, the yacht club worked to get the channel piers to Lake Michigan rebuilt by the Army Corps of Engineers.



White Lake Community Club, Whitehall
South Shore Drive

Built as a schoolhouse in 1882 by Thomas Keilor it was known as White River School District No. 6.



South Shore Drive, Whitehall
Crosby Park

An estate built in 1904 in the Craftsman style.



South Shore Drive, Whitehall
Farm Buildings



Murray Road, Whitehall
Wabaningo Post Office

This building reportedly was originally a dance hall. It was first moved to serve as a baggage room on the Goodrich steamer dock arcade (demolished 1944) once located on South Shore Drive near the Lakeside Inn. The building was moved to its current site in 1979 after the Wabaningo Clubhouse that was once located here burned in 1978.

According to the publication *Summer and Winter Resort Post Offices of the United States*

1891-1966 by Chester Smith Jr., the Wabaningo Post Office began operation in 1897 and ran continuously until 1938. The post office was open from June 15 to September 15 and served the Sylvan Beach Resort and other resorts in the area. There were over one hundred resort post offices in Michigan that operated three or four months out of the year during the peak of the resort area in the 1920s and 1930s and one thousand six hundred resort post offices across the United States. After 1938 the Wabaningo Post Office continued to operate sporadically until 1999 when it was closed.



5250-5318 South Shore Drive, Whitehall
Frank Lloyd Wright Cottages
Birch Brook Subdivision

Frank Lloyd Wright designed six of the seventeen cottages located in the Birch Brook Subdivision in Whitehall. Thomas Hart Gale, a lawyer and developer that attended the University of Michigan, and his friend Walter Gerts, a brush manufacturer established the subdivision in 1896. The two men had married sisters and both lived in Oak Park, Illinois near Frank Lloyd Wright's home and office. Gale asked Wright to

design a residence for him in Oak Park as well as a summer cottage at White Lake. The Thomas H. Gale Cottage at 5318 South Shore was completed in 1897. Wright also designed a house for Walter Gerts at 5292 South Shore, which has since been extensively altered. In 1905 Gale asked Wright to design three rental cottages for him at 5324, 5370, and 5380 South Shore. Walter Gerts' parents commissioned Wright to build a cottage for them at 5250 South Shore (pictured) in 1909. The double cottage, connected by bridge that crosses over a small stream on the property, was a precursor to Wright's masterwork, *Fallingwater*.



Murray Road, Whitehall
Sylvan Beach Resort

Though the first cottage was built in the area in 1874, the Sylvan Beach Association wasn't established until 1895. The resort contains over sixty cottages. A clubhouse built in 1906 later burned. Frank Ramsay Adams, a writer and musician from Chicago who was a partner in the construction of the Howmet Playhouse Theater, owned the Sylvan Beach Resort Company from 1916 to 1932. Adams, whose papers are at the University of Oregon archives, gained fame as a director and songwriter. He wrote the popular song "I Wonder Whose Kissing Her Now."



Murray Road, Whitehall
White Lake Harbor Navigation Structures

This historic navigational structural system includes two contributing resources, the south and north piers, and the non-historic revetments. This resource is an example of federal construction and improvement to Great Lakes channels that occurred between 1867 and 1937. The last major repair work was completed in 1936-37 when the piers were replaced with concrete.



6199 Murray Drive, Whitehall
White River Light Station

Constructed in 1875 in the Norman Gothic style, according to a standard plan developed for light stations. The Eagle Harbor light station on the Keweenaw Peninsula follows a similar plan. The lighthouse cast iron stairs were made by the Ryerson Company of Muskegon. The Fresnel lens began operation in May 1876 under lighthouse keeper William Robinson. The lighthouse was decommissioned in 1960 and became a Fruitland Township museum and park in 1966.

Whitehall



1300 Block Colby, Whitehall
Oakhurst Cemetery

Ruth Thompson, the first woman elected to the United States House of Representatives, was buried here in 1970.



1002 E. Colby, Whitehall
Lakeland Motel



107 E. Colby, Whitehall
Colby's Designer Outlet



103 E. Colby, Whitehall
The General Store



101 W. Colby, Whitehall
Pitkin Rexall Drug



105 W. Colby, Whitehall
Gale's Jewelry



107 W. Colby, Whitehall
Pitkin Sale Shoppe



102 W. Colby, Whitehall
State Bank Building (right)



104 E. Colby, Whitehall
Bell's Clearance Center

This commercial building was built in 1913.



106 E. Colby, Whitehall
Colby Street Shops



124 W. Hanson, Whitehall
White Lake Chamber of Commerce

The Chicago & Michigan Lake Shore Railroad began construction of a north-south rail line in West Michigan in 1869. The line reached the Muskegon/Pentwater area around 1872. The Panic of 1873 caused the company to declare bankruptcy and reorganize as the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad and begin to acquire feeder lines to the north.

The Pere Marquette Railroad absorbed the company in 1917. Throughout the 1920s and 1930s, the railroad provided service from Chicago to West Michigan's resorts, even running extra trains called the *Resort Special* in summer months. In 1946 the Pere Marquette Railroad merged with the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad and became a freight line.



233 S. Mears, Whitehall
Cocoa Cottage

Harvey and Madge Esterdahl built this Arts and Crafts bungalow around 1912 and lived here until 1956.



303 S. Mears, Whitehall
White Swan Inn



304 S. Mears, Whitehall
Howmet Playhouse

The Playhouse Theater was built in 1916 by James Nufer, a Whitehall businessman, and Frank Ramsay Adams, a lyricist, director and short story writer from Chicago. Adams, a graduate of the University of Chicago and owner the Sylvan Beach Resort on White Lake from 1916 to 1932, served as the theater's manager. Adams wrote film scripts and movie scores and gained national attention through his popular song "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" written in 1909. He died in the White Lake area in 1963 and his papers are in the University of Oregon Television Archives. The design for the four hundred seat theater was based on a design used for the LaSalle Theater in Chicago. The Playhouse Theater was purchased by the Blue Lake Arts Camp in 1974 with the assistance of the Howmet Corporation and renamed the Howmet Playhouse.



503 S. Mears, Whitehall
Peckadill's



500 block S. Mears, Whitehall
Florist



1101 S. Mears, Whitehall
Swedish Lebanon Lutheran Church

A group of Danes, Swedes and Norwegians who came to Whitehall to work in the lumber industry and tannery organized the Scandinavian Lutheran congregation in 1872. The Swedes later withdrew to join the Augustana Synod and in 1877 built the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Lebanon Church of Whitehall.

Swedentown, Whitehall

In the late 1870s a large contingent of Swedes came to Whitehall to work in the village's lumber mill and tannery. By 1882 over seven hundred Swedes had settled in the White Lake area. In Whitehall the area roughly bounded by Main, Johannah and Johnson Streets became known as Swedentown.



115 Main Street, Whitehall
Swedentown Boarding House

This former boarding house was the first stop for many of the Swedes that came to Whitehall around the turn of the century.



Main and Johannah Streets, Whitehall

Typical examples of the cottages found in the Swedentown area.



340 Main Street, Whitehall

Johnson Centennial Farm

Charles Johnson is credited with being the first Swede to settle in Whitehall in 1866. It was through his promotion and assistance that other Swedes began coming to Whitehall in the 1870s. The Johnson's became one of the first farm families in the White Lake area to take in summer vacationers as boarders when they agreed to let three Irish families from Chicago stay at their farm for a summer. The Johnson's moved into tents, giving the resorters access to the farmhouse. The venture was so

successful that the Johnson's eventually quit farming and operated a resort full time. They built cottages and a dining room for the resort trade and continued to farm enough to provide fresh produce and milk for their guests and other resorters visiting White Lake. Nora Svensson, one of the Johnson's daughters, later operated the White Lake Villa Resort. The Johnson Farm was designated a Centennial Farm in 1958.



Lake and First Streets, Whitehall

Railroad Trestle Bridge

Located on the Hart Montague Bike Trail the bridge was once part of the Chicago & West Michigan rail line.



Lake and First Streets, Whitehall
Utility Building near Trestle Bridge



302 S. Lake, Whitehall
Crosswinds Marina



415 Division, Whitehall
A Finch Nest Bed & Breakfast

Built around 1868 by O. Wayne Gonzales, it was later owned by the Williams family. The house was purchased by the White Lake Leather Company and used as a residence for one of their executives (picture from www.afinchnest.com)

Old Channel Trail, Montague



Old Channel Trail, Montague
Queen Anne Cottage



Old Channel Trail, Montague
Italianate Cottage



8637 Old Channel Trail, Montague
Ferry Memorial Reformed Church (Heritage Hall)

The church was built in 1874 to honor Noah H. Ferry whose family once owned a lumber mill in the White Lake region. Ferry served as a major in the Civil War commanding the White River Guard, a battalion of one hundred and two men. He was killed in the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863.



6235 Old Channel Trail, Montague
White Sands Resort



6905 Old Channel Trail, Montague
Old Channel Inn



Old Channel Trail, Montague
Joseph Sadony Estate, Valley of the Pines

Joseph Sadony was an early twentieth century clairvoyant, spiritualist, and Renaissance man. He investigated the conditions on Indian Reservations for President Theodore Roosevelt, worked as a trapeze artist for P. T. Barnum's circus, experimented with early film production and was a friend of James Cruze, one of the most popular film directors of the 1920s. Best known for his spiritual writings, Sadony corresponded with some of the great minds of his day including Mahatma Ghandi, Rudyard Kipling, Admiral Byrd, and Franklin Delano Roosevelt. After visiting the White Lake area on a camping trip in 1900 he purchased eighty acres of farmland and established an estate called "Valley of the Pines" in 1907. The estate evolved over the fifty-three years that he lived there, to include a print shop, laboratory, chapel and guest cabins.



7147 Old Channel Trail, Montague
Pigeon Hill Resort



Montague



4454 Dowling, Montague
Dog 'n Suds

Two music teachers from the University of Illinois-Champaign created the Dog 'n Suds drive-in restaurant chain in 1953. The business was an overnight success and by the 1970s there were over six hundred Dog 'n Suds franchises located in thirty-eight states. Today only sixteen Dog 'n Suds locations are still in operation—two are in Michigan. The proprietor of Montague's Dog 'n Suds also owns the drive-in on Grand Haven Road in Ottawa County.



4586 Dowling, Montague
Montague Antique Mall



4574 Dowling, Montague
Page's LLC

The Ohrenberger Block was built in 1930.



4578 Dowling, Montague
Paisley Place



Dowling, Montague
Wildflower Antiques II



8695 Ferry, Montague
Arts Council of White Lake



8701 Ferry, Montague
White River Gallery



8718 Ferry Street, Montague
Lipka's Soda Fountain (Lipka's Drugs)

Established in 1946 as a drug store and soda fountain by Glen Lipka, it was converted into a restaurant and soda fountain in 2002 by the Lipka family.



8720 Ferry Street, Montague
Jimmy's Pub



8721 Ferry Street, Montague
(Formerly Dave Schultz Civil Engineer)



8726 Ferry Street, Montague
Book Nook & Java Shop



8700 Block Ferry Street, Montague
Commercial Building



8736 Ferry Street, Montague
Wanda's Pets & Supplies



8744 Ferry Street, Montague
Todd Pharmacy



8741 Ferry, Montague
White Lake Senior Center

This building was constructed in 1951.



8747 Ferry Street, Montague
Professional Building



8779 Ferry Street, Montague
The Arrowhead Agency (Far right)



8789 Ferry, Montague
Ramthun Building Materials



8819 Ferry, Montague
Tri-County Feed Service

The feed service was established in 1951.



Knudson at Dowling, Montague
War Memorial

The plaque on the obelisk reads:

"To Honor All Who Serve Our Country
The Civil War
The Spanish American War
The World War"

Oceana Drive

The original route of the West Michigan Pike through Oceana County followed what is today known as Oceana Drive through Rothbury, New Era, Shelby and Hart to Smith Corners where it ran west to Pentwater. Oceana County retains much of its rural character—the county boasts it has only one stoplight, which is located in Hart.



5900 Water Street, Rothbury
Double JJ Resort



6309 Oceana Drive, Rothbury
Mac's Meats

This local meat market was established around 1950.



Oceana Drive, Rothbury
Queen Anne Residence