

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SMALLER SETTLEMENTS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]

ALPHA, Iron County: This iron mining settlement with a station on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, in **Crystal Falls Township**, was in Marquette County until Iron was organized in 1885; **Alfred Breitung**, of Marquette, opened the **Mastodon Mine** near here in 1881 and the community was given a post office named Mastodon on Oct. 1, 1883, with **Herbert Hughitt** as its first postmaster; this post office was closed on Dec. 7, 1888, but the village was given another named Alpha on Dec. 15, 1913, with **William H. Peters** as its postmaster; incorporated as the village of Alpha in 1914.



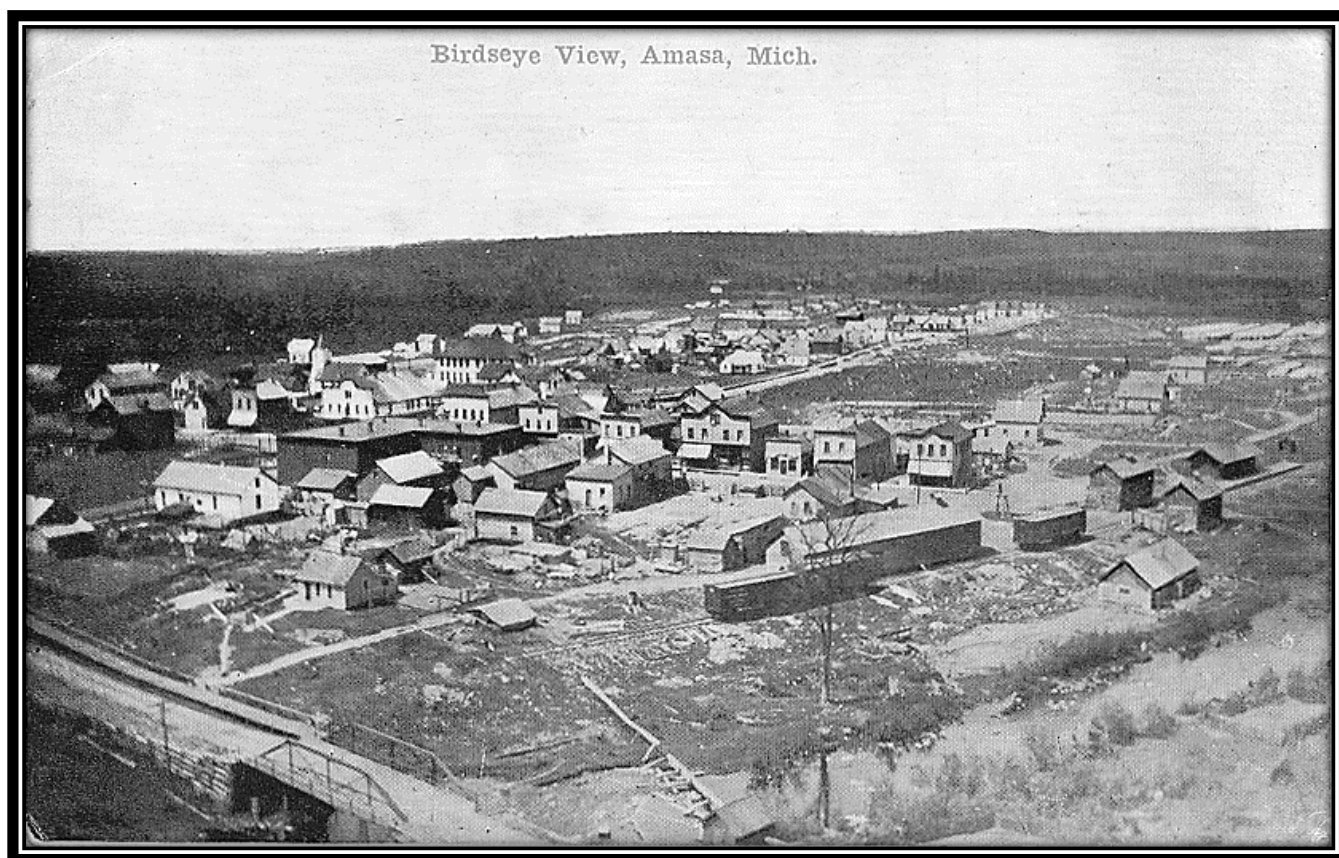
Mine Pit View, Alpha, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1907-1918: This unused real photo postcard view identified as **"Pit View, Alpha, Mich."** dates between 1907 and 1918. The Village of Alpha is located in southeastern Iron County and began as a mining settlement. The Mastodon Mine opened in 1882 several miles south of Alpha. This venture did not survive the Panic of 1893. In 1910 the Pickands-Mather Company began large scale exploratory operations in the area. [William J. Cummings]

The Alpha Public Buildings Historic Complex, a collection of three buildings – the village hall, the George F. Porter public school, and the water tower, all prominently located on a single block in the center of Alpha, was listed on the National Historic Register on December 22, 1983. All three structures on the register were built in 1914 at the peak of Alpha's growth and are typical of the civic buildings built in the Upper Peninsula in this time period. The water tower has been replaced with a modern structure.

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AMASA, Iron County: iron ore croppings were first discovered here along the shore of the Hemlock River by **Matthew Gibson**, and his son **Thoburn Gibson** in 1888; when sufficient ores had been uncovered, the property was taken over by the **Hemlock River Mining Company**, a subsidiary of the **Pickands, Mather Company**; the village which they platted in October, 1890, west of the workings, was first named Hemlock, but it was soon renamed for the father-in-law of **Col. Henry S. Pickands**, **Amasa Stone Mather**; a station on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad; **Frederick F. Sanford** became its first postmaster on March 7, 1891.

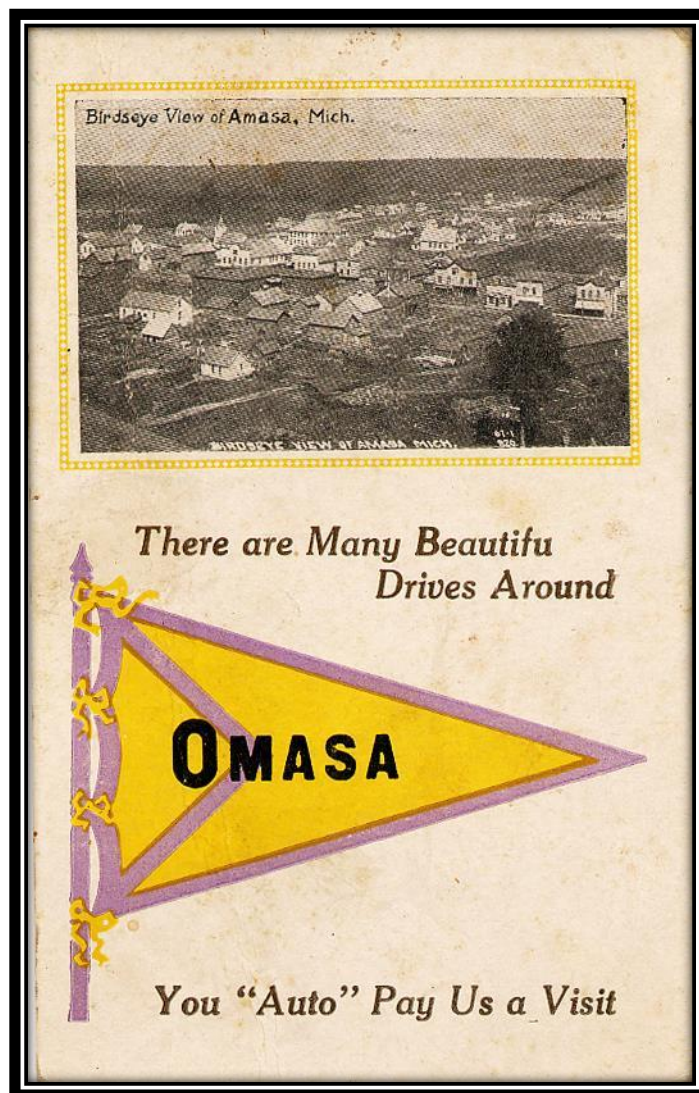


Birdseye View of Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1911: This black-and-white halftone postcard view identified as "Birdseye View of Amasa, Mich." was postmarked Calumet & Channing R.P.O. [Railroad Post Office], April 12, 1911 and shows the village of Amasa with a bridge at the lower left and main street in the center. This same postcard view is reproduced in Jack Hill's *A History of Iron County, Michigan*, and was dated to about 1907. [William J. Cummings]

The Amasa Historic Business District, listed on the National Historic Register on December 22, 1983, contains structures primarily built between 1890 and 1920. The district includes the township hall, a railroad depot, a church, four bars, a senior citizen's center, a lumber company office, three commercial structures and one single-family residence. After local mines closed, growth in Amasa halted, and the historic district remains as it was in the early 20th century.

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Birdseye View of Amasa, Iron County, Michigan with Colored Pennant, ca. 1910-1920: Despite the misspelling of Amasa as “Omasa” and the typographical error omitting the “l” in Beautiful, this unused halftone postcard view is identified as “**Birdseye View of Amasa, Mich.**” and probably dates between 1910 and 1920. The word play with “You ‘Auto’ Pay Us a Visit” indicates the popularity of touring in automobiles when they became affordable to the common man, largely due to Henry Ford’s Model T. [William J. Cummings]

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Greetings From Amasa, Mich., ca. 1910-1915: This multiview colored, printed postcard view identified as "Greetings From Amasa, Mich." dates between 1910 and 1915 and shows six views of Amasa, including three views of the business district. All of these views would probably have been made into individual postcards at the time. [William J. Cummings]

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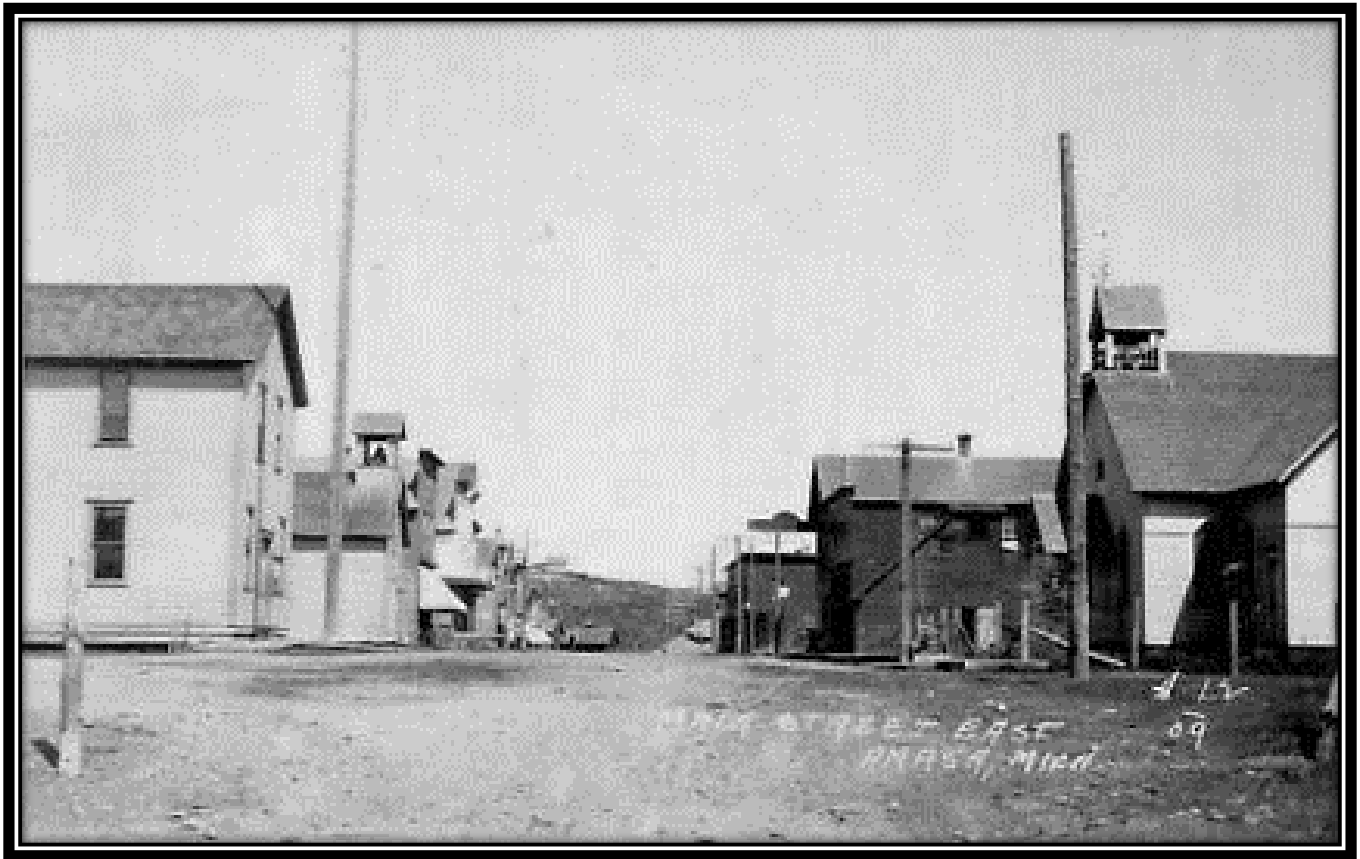
[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Main Street, Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1910-1918: This unused real photo postcard view identified as "Main St. Looking East, Amasa, Mich." dates between 1910 and 1918. The Premo Hotel halfway down the street on the left with the balcony running across the front and side is visible and the Amasa House is the building at the right. Note the enclosed exterior stairway leading to the second floor. Board sidewalks line the unpaved street on both sides. The building with the bell in the belfrey must be either the town hall or a school. [William J. Cummings]

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Main Street East, Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, 1909: This real photo postcard view identified as "Main Street East, Amasa, Mich., #12 – 09 [1909]" and postmarked Amasa, Michigan, September 15, 1909 and published by B.H. Dingman, Plymouth, Wis. shows Main Street looking East. [eBay]

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Part of Main Street, Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, 1909: This real photo postcard view identified as "Part of Main St., Amasa, Mich. #10 – 09 [1909]" postmarked Amasa, Michigan, November 19, 1909 and published by B.H. Dingman, Plymouth, Wis. shows the main street of Amasa. [William J. Cummings]

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Amasa House, Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1910-1918: This unused real photo postcard view without identification on the image shows the Amasa House, as indicated on the sign, and dates between 1910 and 1918. In Roy L. Dodge's *Michigan Ghost Towns: Upper Peninsula Volume III*, Frank Steddick was listed as proprietor of the Amasa House in 1905, and William Hermansen was operating the hotel in 1927. [William J. Cummings]

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Hotel Premo, Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1910-1918: This unused real photo postcard view identified as the "Hotel Premo, Amasa, Mich." dates between 1910 and 1918. In Roy L. Dodge's *Michigan Ghost Towns: Upper Peninsula Volume III*, in the entry for 1915, George Primeau [sic – Premo] was listed as running a hotel in 1915 in Amasa. [William J. Cummings]

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Easter Greetings



The Leader

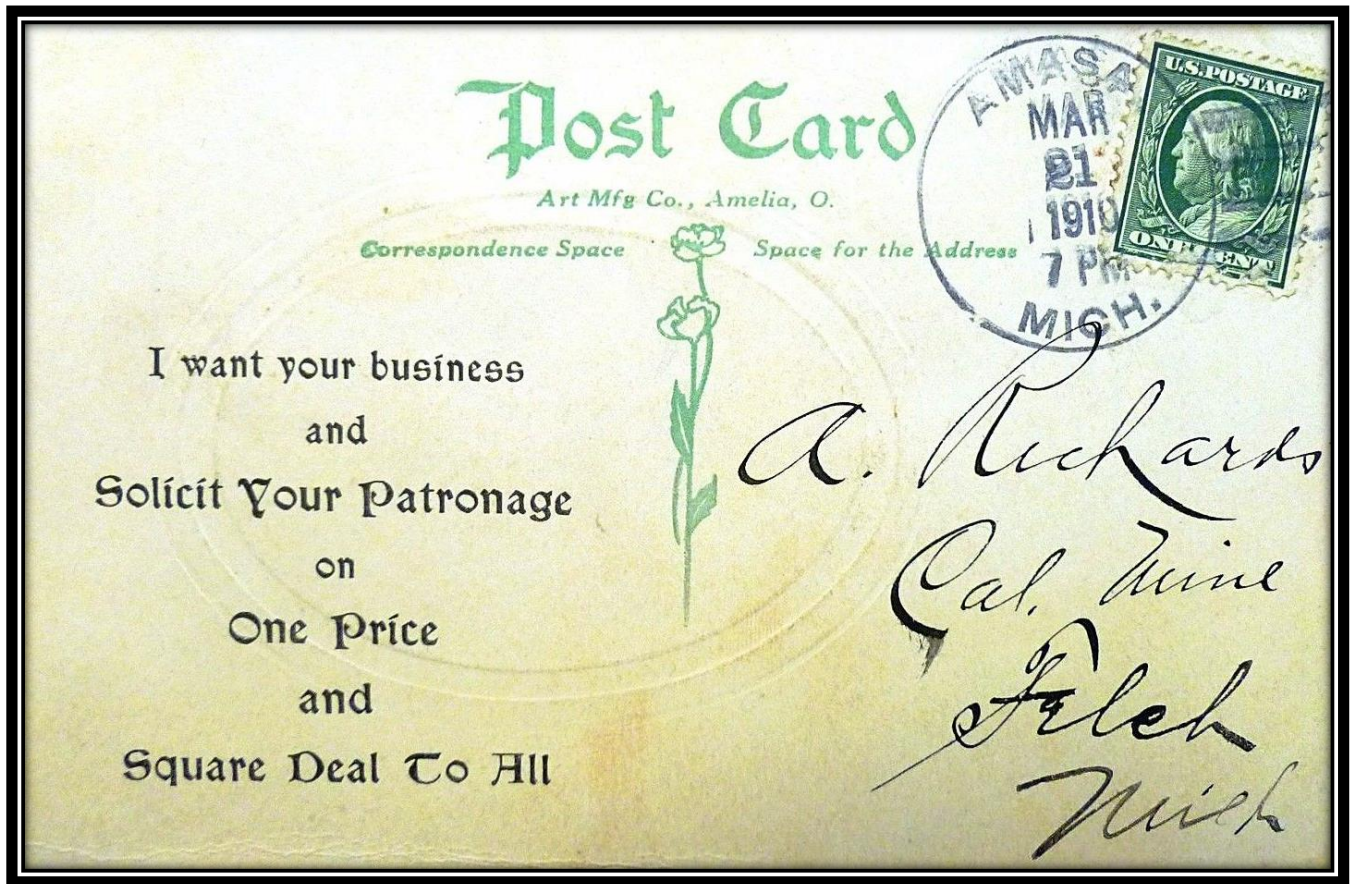
Louis Minkus, Prop.

Amasa, Mich.

“The Store With One Price to All”

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Louis Minkus, proprietor of The Leader, a store located in Amasa, Michigan, sent Easter Greetings to prospective customers on postcards in 1910 in an early advertising campaign, stating "I want your business and Solicit Your Patronage on One Price and Square Deal To All." Postmarked Amasa, Michigan, March 21, 1910 this postcard was sent to A. Richards, Calumet Mine, Felch, Michigan. Louis Minkus immigrated to the United States from Russia as a young man. [William J. Cummings]

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Grammar and High School, Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1907-1918: This unused real photo postcard view identified as "Grammar & High School, Amasa, Mich." dates from 1907 to 1918. [William J. Cummings]

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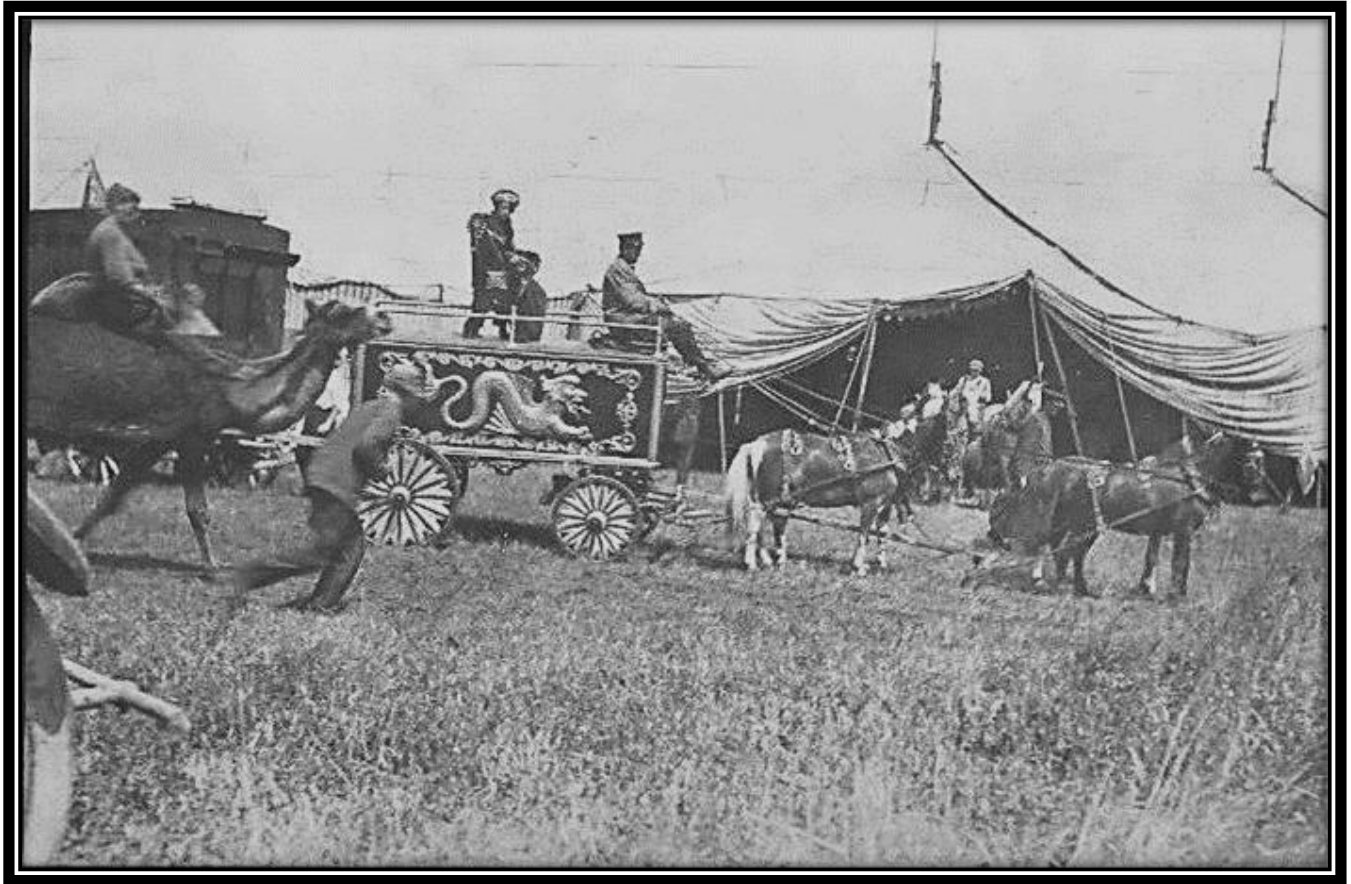
[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Circus, Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1918-1930: This unused real photo postcard view unidentified on the image shows the big top circus tent being erected prior to the performance. Note the elephant at the far right. [eBay]

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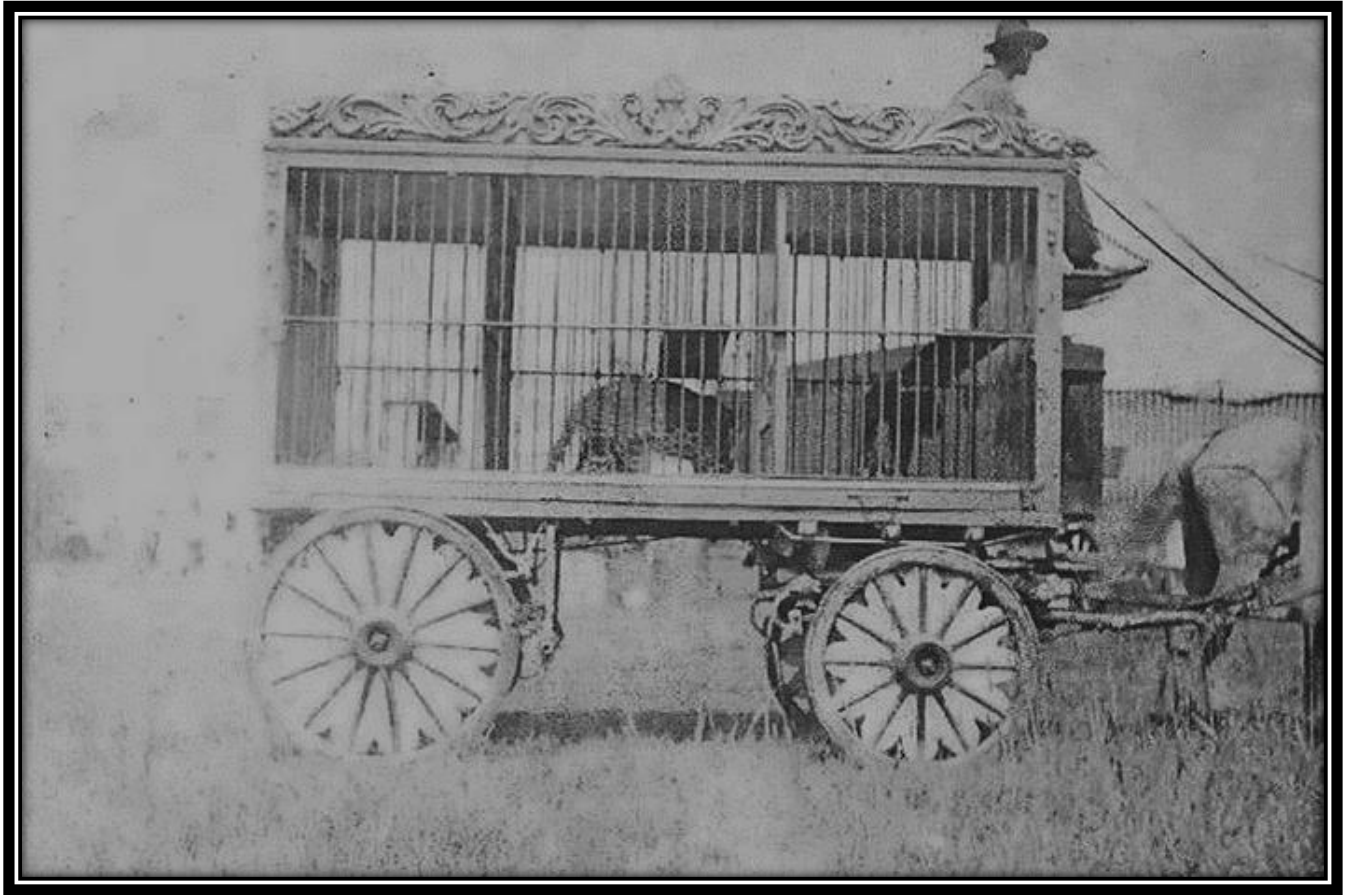
[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Circus, Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1918-1930: This unused real photo postcard view unidentified on the image shows the big top circus tent with a circus wagon pulled by four ponies and a camel. [eBay]

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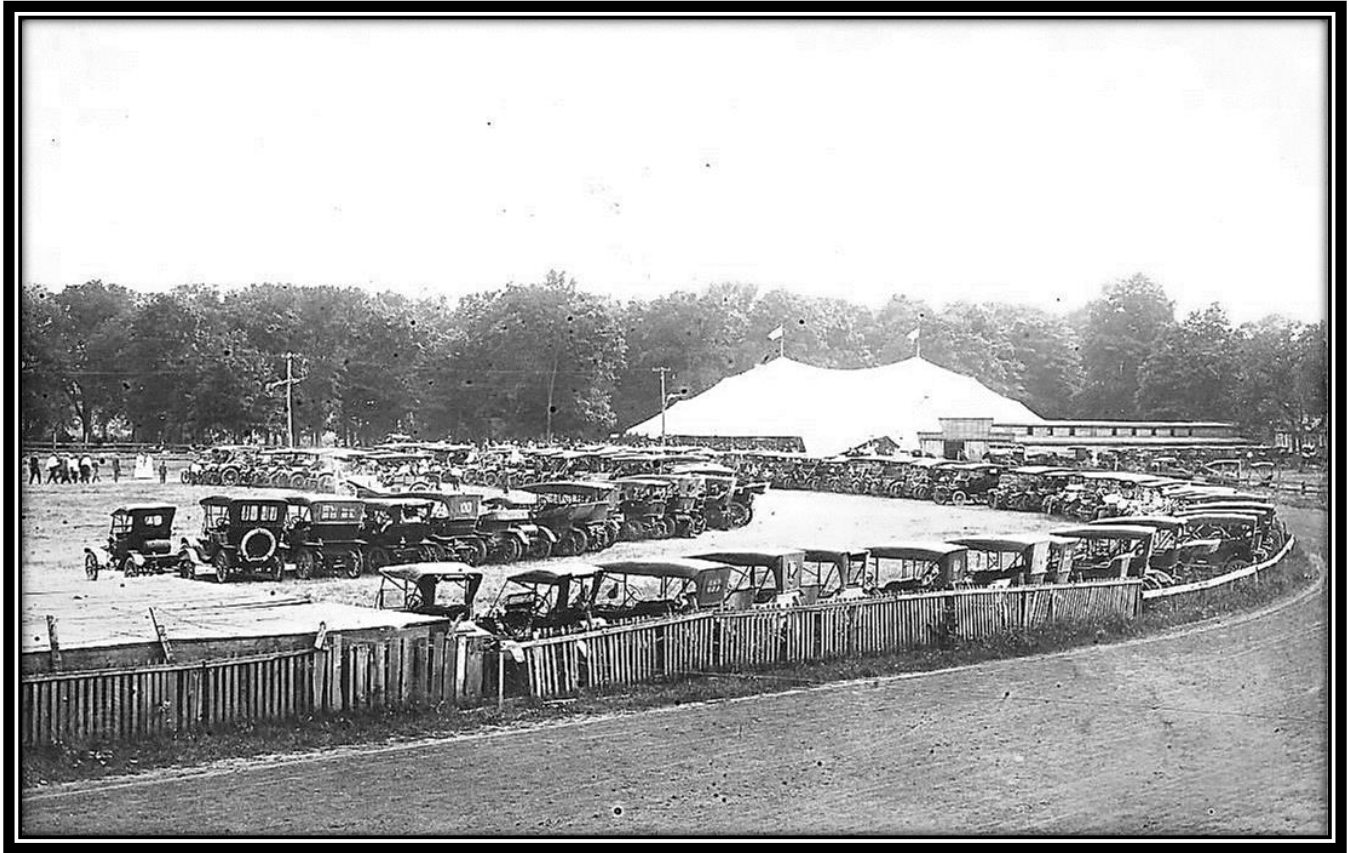
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Circus, Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1918-1930: This unused real photo postcard view unidentified on the image shows a cage wagon with a leopard inside. [eBay]

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Circus, Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1918-1930: This unused real photo postcard view unidentified on the image shows the big top circus tent erected and a large number of early automobiles belonging to those attending the show are parked around what might be a racetrack. [eBay]

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Circus, Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1918-1930: This unused real photo postcard view unidentified on the image shows two circus performers astride a pair of white horses. The man has one foot on the back of each horse and the woman is climbing up on the man's shoulders. A circus wagon and a circus worker are visible at the right. [eBay]

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Circus, Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1918-1930: This unused real photo postcard view unidentified on the image shows a costumed woman performer kneeling on the rump of a white horse. A couple of circus wagons are visible at the left and a portion of the tent can be seen at the right. [eBay]

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Circus, Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1918-1930: This unused real photo postcard view unidentified on the image shows a costumed woman performer reclining on the rump of a white horse held by the ringmaster with a whip. A couple of covered circus wagons are visible in the background. [eBay]

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Country Road, Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1907: This real photo postcard view identified as "Country Road, Amasa, Mich." and postmarked Amasa, Michigan, May 7, 1907 shows an early automobile with a driver and passenger coming down a country road near Amasa. [William J. Cummings]

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Cowboy and Airplane at the Triangle Ranch, North of Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1920-1925: This unused real photo postcard view unidentified on the image dates from about 1920 to 1925 and shows a cowboy on horseback next to an airplane. [eBay]

Triangle Ranch was started in 1920 by Judson G. Rosebush, a prominent banker from Appleton, Wisconsin, through an independent company he called the Rosebush Ranch Company. Rosebush's aim was to "test out exhaustively the practicability of large-scale, capitalistic manufacturing methods in agriculture" by raising pedigreed Hereford cattle. Rosebush initially purchased 9,472 acres of land and built five enormous barns. However, the short growing season made laying in necessary winter fodder difficult.

After 1925 the ranch sold off some parcels of land and attempted to diversify operations by fur farming, raising sheep and poultry and operating a dude ranch, but was never profitable. In 1952 the Triangle Ranch closed for good.

Triangle Ranch is significant as a rare attempt at large-scale ranching in Michigan. The historic district contains both agricultural and residential buildings. The structures on the site include a frame bungalow sheathed in cobblestones and shingles used as the manager's house, a single-story gable-roofed structure clad with shingles used as the manager's office, three frame bungalows used by ranch employees, a single-story bunkhouse, a gambrel-roof barn, three silos, a board and batten garage, a shop and a granary.

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Hereford Cattle at the Triangle Ranch, Cloverland, Near Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1922-1926: This unused real photo postcard view identified as **"At Rest' Triangle Ranch, Cloverland"** was taken by the Iron Range Studio, Iron River, Michigan and probably dates between 1922 and 1926. The pedigreed Hereford cattle appear to be in a corral at the Triangle Ranch. [William J. Cummings]

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Triangle Ranch, near Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1920-1925: This unused real postcard view identified as "Triangle Ranch Cloverland" was taken by the Iron Range Studio, Iron River, Michigan, and dates from 1920 to 1925. A cowboy has roped a calf whose head is being held by another cowboy in the right foreground, while a mounted cowboy with a lariat is behind and a gentleman in a suit is holding a horse at the left. [eBay]

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Triangle Ranch Headquarters Historic District, near Amasa, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1982:

This photograph shows the Triangle Ranch Headquarters located near Amasa in Iron County, Michigan. Triangle Ranch is significant as a rare attempt at large-scale ranching in Michigan. The historic district contains both agricultural and residential buildings. The structures on the site include a frame bungalow sheathed in cobblestones and shingles used as the manager's house, a single-story gable-roofed structure clad with shingles used as the manager's office, three frame bungalows used by ranch employees, a single-story bunkhouse, a gambrel-roof barn, three silos, a board and batten garage, a shop and a granary. *[Internet]*

The impressive remains of the Triangle Ranch can be seen by taking the Triangle Ranch Road east from U.S. 141 a mile or so north of town. In the 1920s five enormous barns were built, plus pens, corrals, and houses, including a quite impressive manager's bungalow. But feeding the cattle over the area's six-month winters required more fodder than the ranch could raise. Triangle tried other things. In 1927 it advertised itself as "the only dude ranch east of the Mississippi." It raised sheep and poultry. It attempted "fur farming" by fencing in wild muskrats and beaver. None of these worked. Eventually most of the land was sold to Kimberly-Clark and reforested for pulp production.

The Triangle Ranch Headquarters Historic District was listed on the National Historic Register on December 29, 1983.

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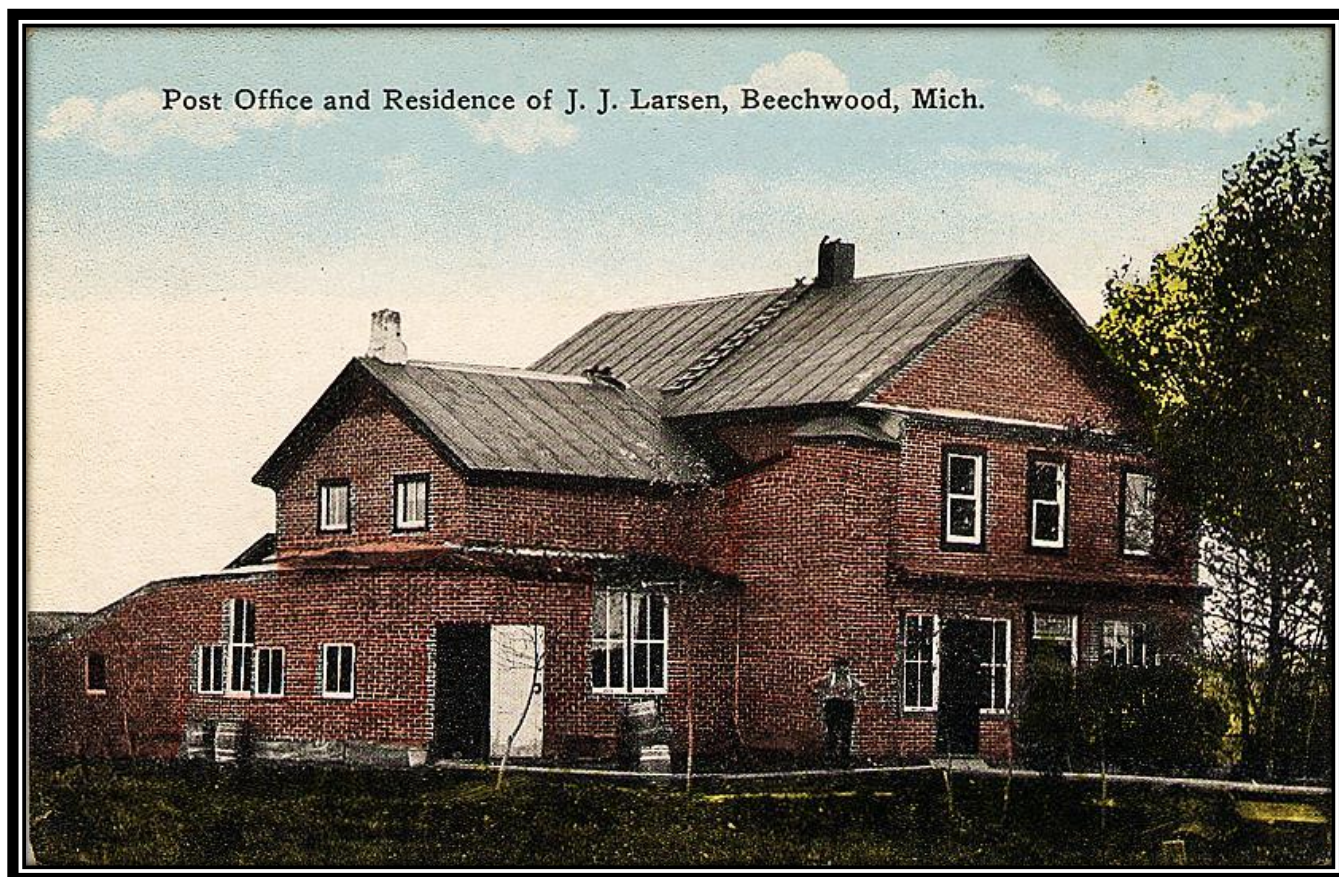
BEECHWOOD, Iron County: in 1888, the village began by being given a station on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad and on Nov. 17, 1889, a post office, with **Richard M. Dwyer** as its first postmaster, succeeded by hotelman **J.J. Larsen** in 1890; beech trees are said to have been numerous in the area at the time.



General Store of Sandgren & Anderson, Beechwood, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1915: This tinted halftone postcard view identified as "**General Store of Sandgren & Anderson, Beechwood, Michigan**" was postmarked Beechwood, Michigan, November 15, 1915. Albert J. Sandgren, of Gladstone, put up a one-room store, then known as the General Mercantile Store, which was only a lean to, located where the Beechwood Mercantile Store pictured above stands. Sandgren and his brother-in-law, A.J.T. Anderson, went into partnership, but Sandgren sold out to Anderson when he retired. After Anderson's death, his wife Mayme managed the store until she sold it to her brother, Louis Henricksen, who took over in 1944 and died in 1950. His wife, Mildred (Johnson) Henricksen, then took over until she retired in 1975. Their daughter Dorothy Javoroski operated the store until it was closed in August, 1979. Sandgren & Anderson took over as the post office in this store in 1906, and A.J.T. Anderson took over as postmaster from about 1918 until November, 1944. Store owners served as the postmaster from then on. [William J. Cummings]

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Post Office and Residence of J.J. Larsen, Beechwood, Mich., ca. 1910-1915: This unused, tinted halftone postcard view identified as "Post Office and Residence of J.J. Larsen, Beechwood, Mich." probably dates between 1910 and 1915. The founders of Beechwood, the very first settlers, were J. Jens Larsen, a Dane, and his wife, Lebbe Larsen, a highly respected Indian squaw. The upstairs of their tin-covered house was rented out as a rooming house. Jens Larsen was one of the first postmasters and ran the post office from his home, where settlers would congregate around his pot-bellied stove after their day's work. Children were allowed to play and scream to their hearts' content in the basement which could be reached through a trap door in the floor. Jens became postmaster in April, 1891, and continued as postmaster until 1906. [William J. Cummings]

The Beechwood General Store, listed on the National Historic Register on December 22, 1983, was constructed in 1912 for Albert J. Sandgren and Andres J.T. Anderson, brothers-in-law and community leaders in Beechwood. It served as country store, post office and the social center of Beechwood, a small Swedish settlement later absorbed into Iron River. The building has been demolished.

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Beechwood Mercantile Company, Beechwood, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1925-1942:

This unused real photo postcard view identified as the "Beechwood Merc. Co., Beechwood, Mich." probably dates between 1925 and 1942. Albert J. Sandgren, of Gladstone, put up a one-room store, then known as the General Mercantile Store, which was only a lean to, located where the Beechwood Mercantile Store pictured above stands. Sandgren and his brother-in-law, A.J.T. Anderson, went into partnership, but Sandgren sold out to Anderson when he retired. After Anderson's death, his wife Mayme managed the store until she sold it to her brother, Louis Henricksen, who took over in 1944 and died in 1950. His wife, Mildred (Johnson) Henricksen, then took over until she retired in 1975. Their daughter Dorothy Javoroski operated the store until it was closed in August, 1979. Sangren & Anderson took over as the post office in this store in 1906, and A.J.T. Anderson took over as post from about 1918 until November, 1944. Store owners served as the postmaster from then on. [eBay]

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Beechwood School, Beechwood, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1910-1915: The Beechwood School, built in about 1914, was the second school built for area children. The first school, the "Track" School, was located at Larsen (Lindahl) Lake and was a log structure. Teachers through the years, in approximately the following order, were: Annie [?] Mahar, Mrs. Milander, Bertha (Anderson) Fredlund, Angeline Revolta, Gladys Perry, Mrs. Homer Bender, Peter Heppen, Mamie (Henriksen) Grieg, Esther (Alanen) Konwinski (who quit when one of her students, Loren Lindahl, was struck and killed by a car), Hazel Helgemo and Kathryn Tiihonen. After the school was closed in 1933 the children were transported to the Benson School by Algot Johnson in his car, or if they chose, they could go by bus to Iron River. The Beechwood School was used as a community hall and voting precinct after it closed in 1933 and is now the home of the Beechwood Historical Society. [*Beechwood Historical Society*]

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CASPIAN, Iron County: a station on a branch of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad in 1884; a village was platted and recorded as **Palatka** in 1901 and given a post office of that name on April 12, 1906, with **William G. Hanson** as its first postmaster; it was the headquarters of the **Veroner [sic – Verona] Mining Company**, which operated the **Caspian**, **Baltic**, and **Fogarty** mines; to provide for more housing facilities, an adjacent village named **Caspian** was platted in 1908, and the Palatka post office was moved to it; the venture failed because the location was poor, and at a better one nearby the village of **New Caspian** was platted in 1909; the Palatka post office was moved to it in 1915 and renamed Caspian in 1918; incorporated as a village in 1919; the place was also known locally as **Spring Valley** and as **Newtown**, but now only as Caspian.



Caspian Location, Palatka, Iron County, Michigan, 1908: This unused real photo postcard view identified as "**Caspian Location, Palatka, Mich. No. 12 1908**" shows a portion of the front of what appears to be a store at the left. Note the team of horses and wagon and the buggy parked in front of the building. The Caspian Location is in the background and a mine shaft and engine house are visible on the right. [William J. Cummings]

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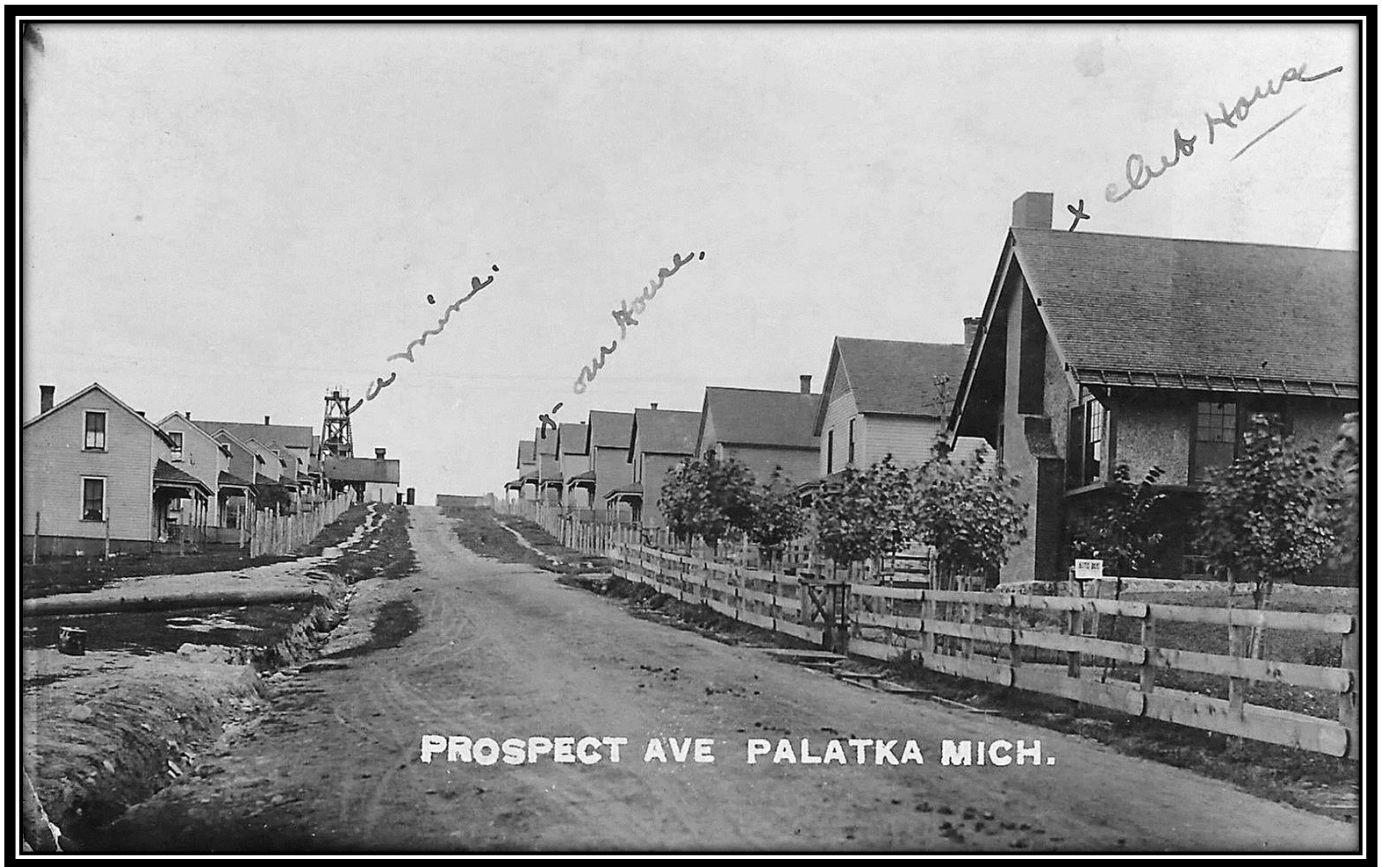
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Prospect Avenue, Palatka, Iron County, Michigan, 1908: This unused real photo postcard view identified as "Prospect Ave., Palatka, Mich. No. 9 1908" shows a line of identical company houses on the right side of the avenue and additional houses with a saltbox style of architecture and the mine's shaft housing on the left side of the avenue. The building at the far right is the Club House. [William J. Cummings]

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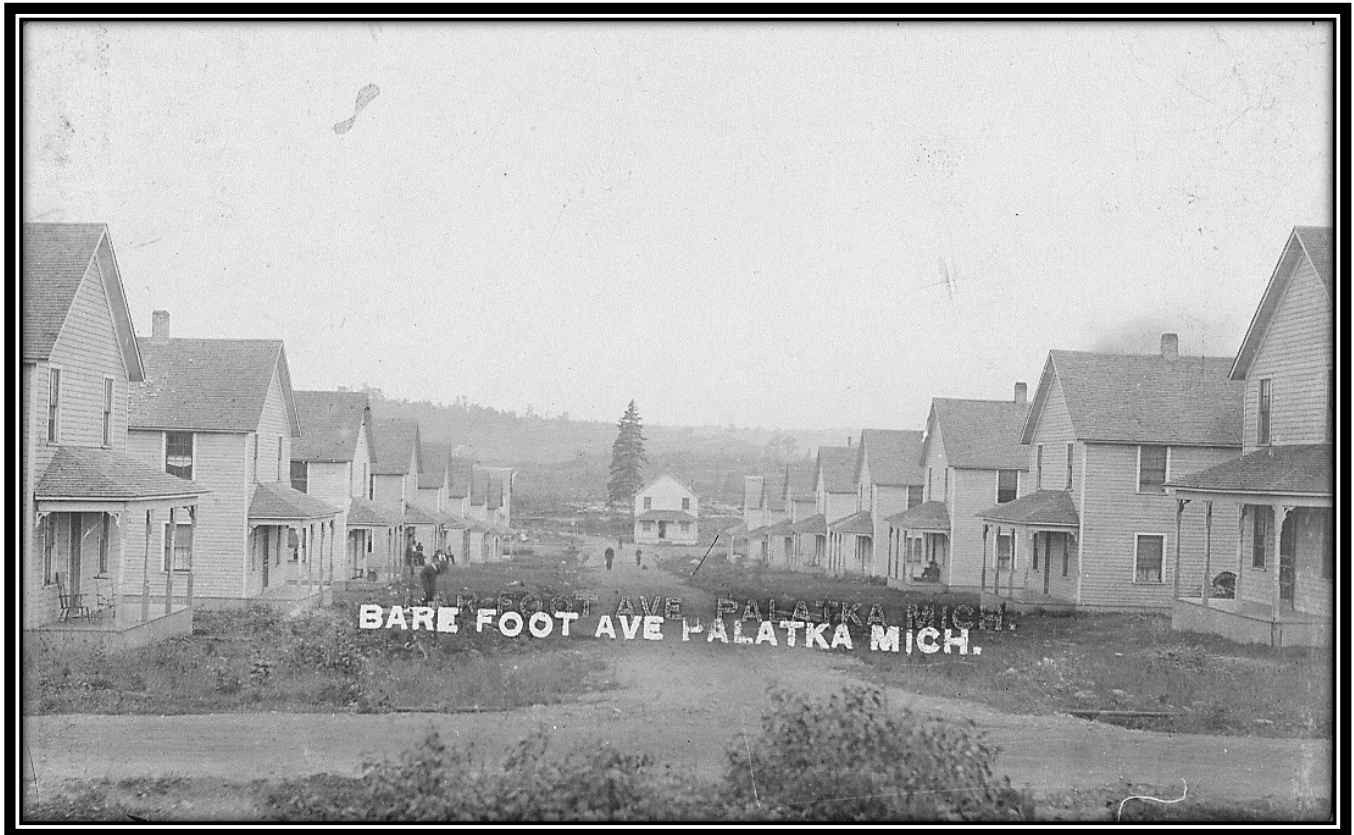
[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Prospect Avenue, Palatka, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1909: This real photo postcard view identified as "Prospect Ave., Palatka, Mich." is postmarked Palatka, Michigan, September 8, 1909, and shows the same view as the previous postcard view of Prospect Avenue. Note the shaft housing at the end of the street at the left and the club house at the right. The postcard was written by "Mae" to "Miss Donna Goodrich" who lived in Vassar, Tuscola County, Michigan. [eBay]

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Bare Foot Avenue, Palatka, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1910: This real photo postcard view identified as "Bare Foot Ave. Palatka, Mich." is postmarked Palatka, Michigan, October 8, 1910 and shows a dirt street flanked by identical company houses and another house at the end of the avenue. [William J. Cummings]

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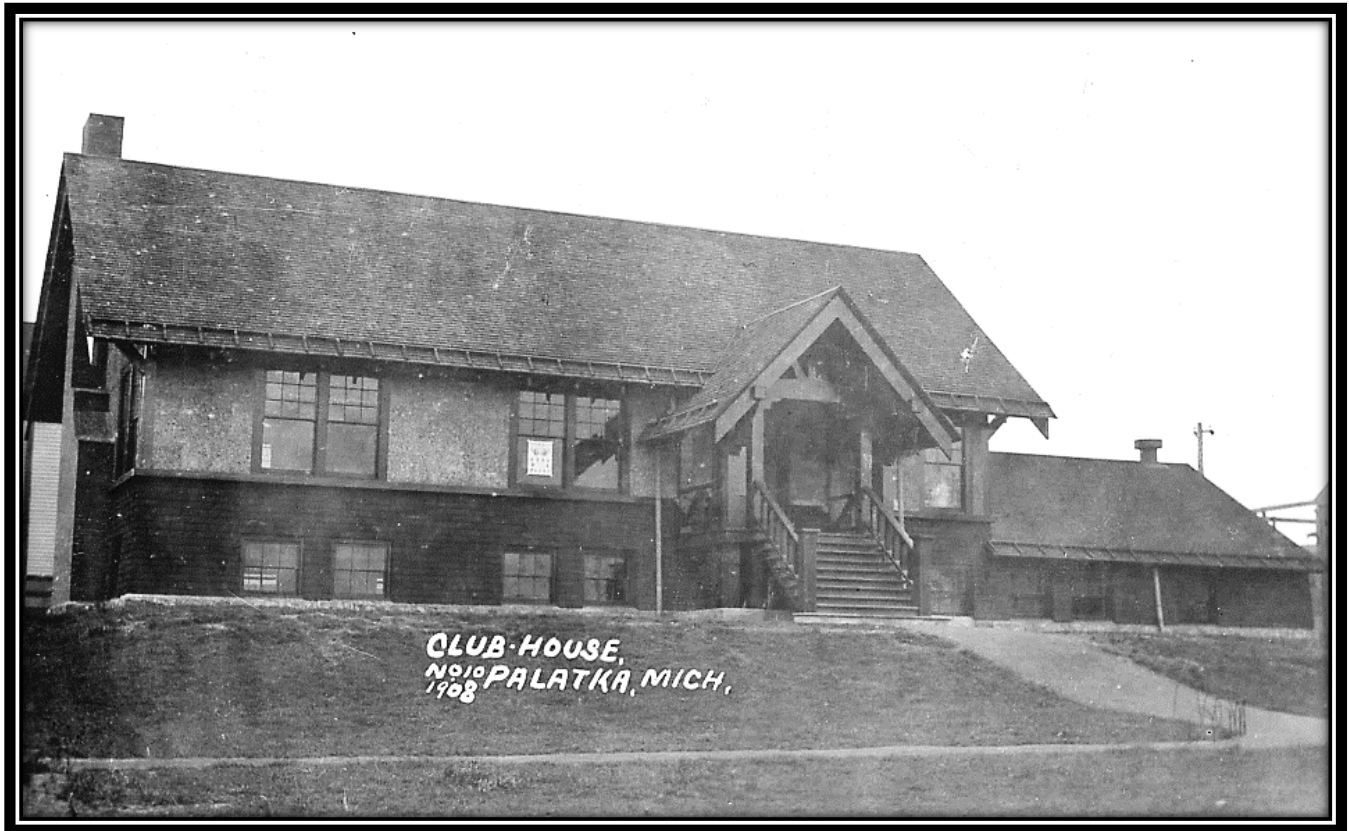
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Smuggler Water Wagon, Palatka, Iron County, Michigan, 1908: This unused real photo postcard view identified as "Smuggler Water-Wagon, Palatka, Mich. No. 13 1908" shows a large barrel on wheels pulled by a horse, a buggy pulled by a team of horses behind the water wagon, a boy on a bicycle accompanied by two friends and a dog. [William J. Cummings]

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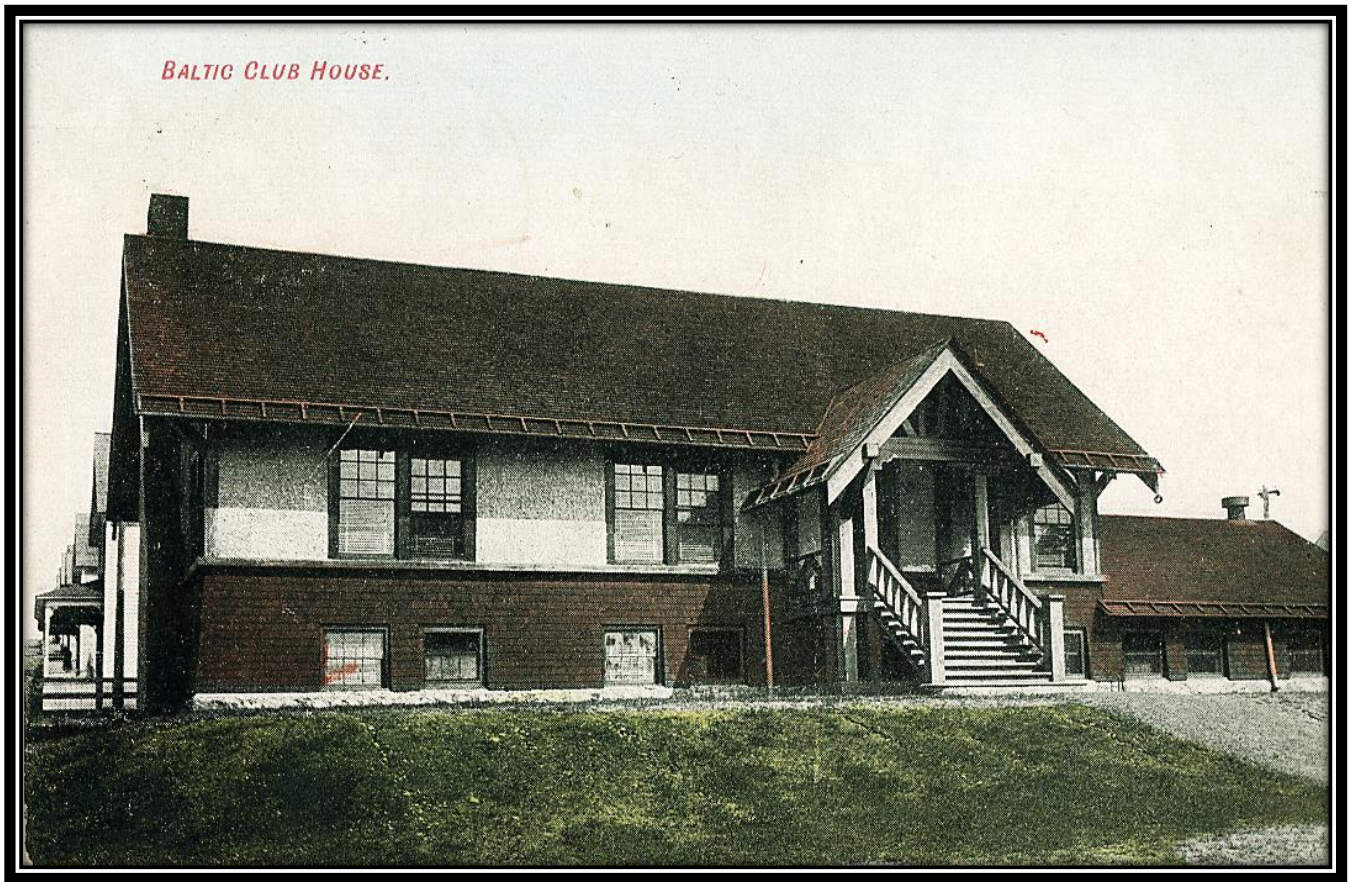
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Club House, Palatka, Iron County, Michigan, 1908: This real photo postcard view identified as the "Club-House, Palatka, Mich. No. 10 1908" is postmarked Palatka, Michigan, March or May 4, probably 1908 [year date not printed]. The Club House was the first structure built on Prospect Avenue, and remained standing until May, 2009, when it burned to the ground. In later years it served as a residence for several different families. [William J. Cummings]

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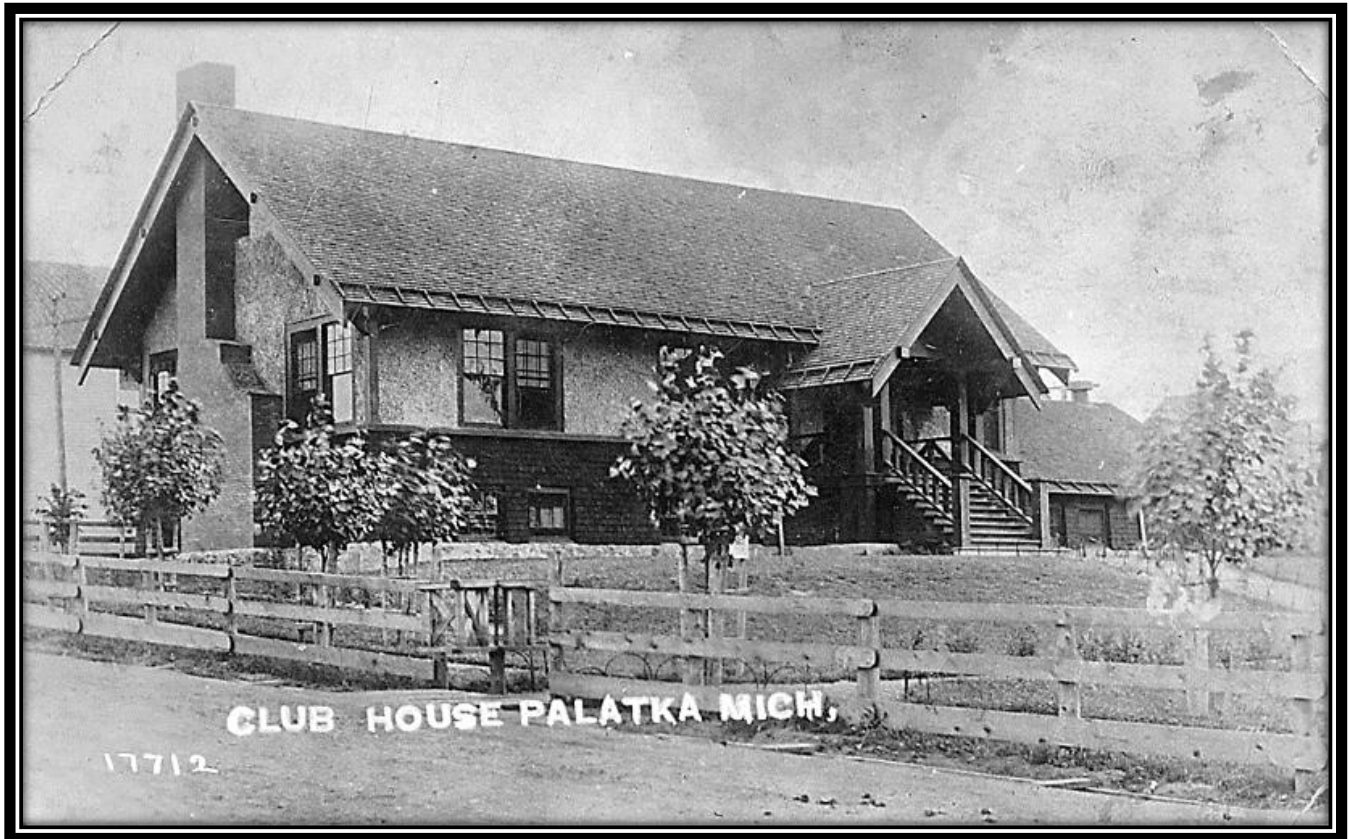
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Baltic Club House, Palatka, Michigan, ca. 1909: This tinted black-and-white halftone postcard view identified as the "Baltic Club House" is postmarked Iron River, Michigan, March 15, 1909. The Baltic Mine was located in the Caspian area. [William J. Cummings]

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Club House, Palatka, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1913: This real photo postcard view identified as the "Club House, Palatka, Mich. 17712" is postmarked Palatka, Michigan, January 25, 1913. [William J. Cummings]

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Caspian Club House, Iron River, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1915-1920: This unused real postcard view identified as the "Caspian Club Houses, Iron River, Mich." is postmarked Iron River, Michigan, April 16, probably 1920 [year not printed]. It appears that the club house has undergone some renovations and additions, and would still be the structure located in Caspian, Michigan. [William J. Cummings]

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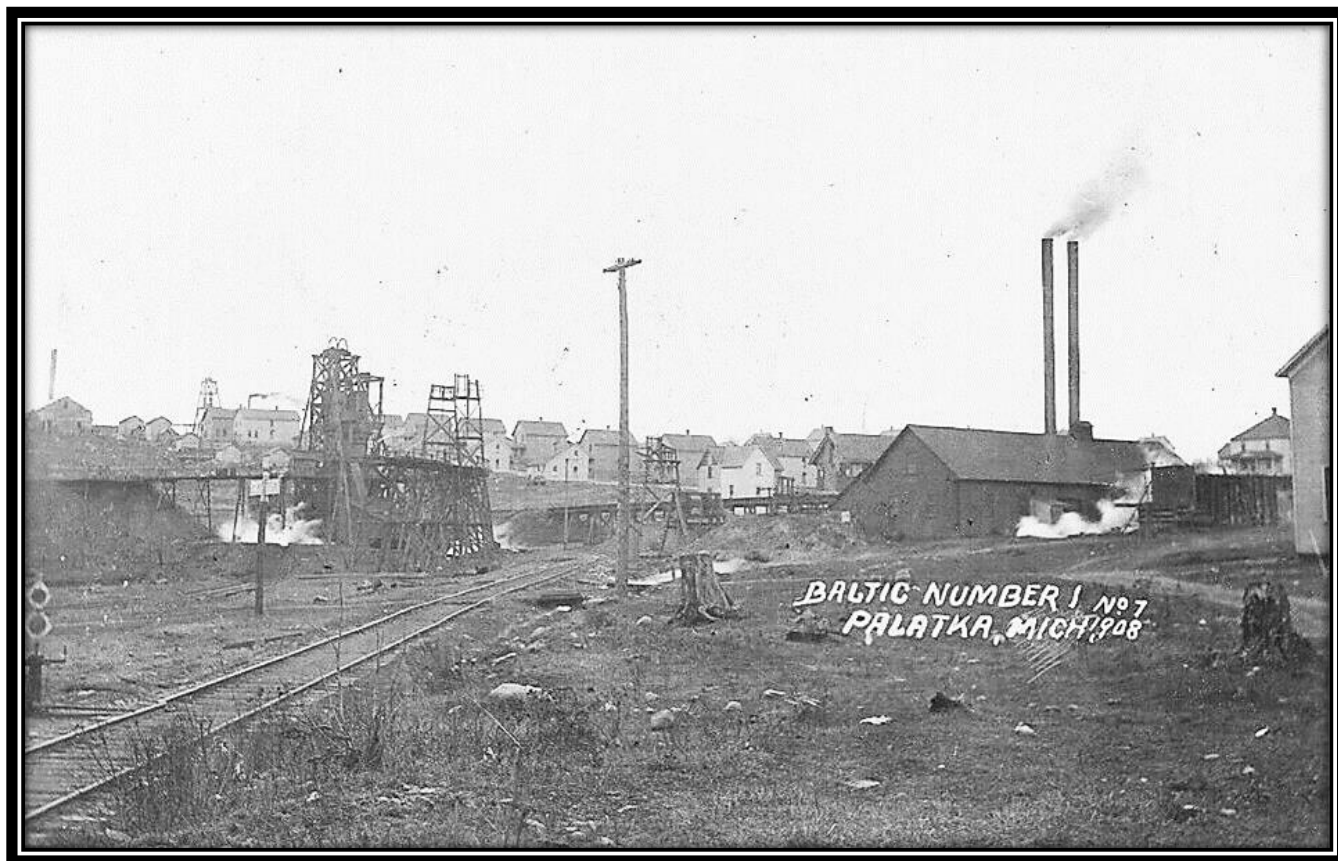
[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



School, Palatka, Mich., 17740, ca. 1913: This real photo postcard view is identified as "School, Palatka, Mich., P.P. 17740" and is postmarked Palatka, Michigan, September 12, 1913. The initials P.P. in the lower right corner may stand for May indicate the photographer. P.P. could stand for Pesha Photo. Louis Pesha (1868-1912) was one of the most prolific (and is one of the most highly collected) postcard producers of the early years of the Twentieth Century. Born in Shetland, Ontario, he had, over the years, studios in Alvinston, Ontario, Oil Springs, Ontario, Oil City, Ontario and Marine City, Michigan. Louis Pesha was killed in an automobile accident at the age of 45 in October 1912. He did photograph areas in the Upper Peninsula. [William J. Cummings]

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SMALLER SETTLEMENTS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Baltic Mine, Palatka, Iron County, Michigan, 1908: This unused real photo postcard view identified as the "Baltic Number 1, Palatka, Mich. No. 7 1908" shows the Baltic Number 1 Mine Shaft. Located on Section 7, Township 42 North, Range 34 West, the Baltic Mine opened in 1901. Operated by the Verona Mining Company, Cleveland, Ohio, with the Pickands, Mather & Company, Cleveland, Ohio, serving as sales agents, the Baltic Mine's greatest vertical depth was 553 feet. Between 1901 and 1913 the Baltic Mine shipped a total of 1,638,402 tons, shipping annually. [eBay]

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SMALLER SETTLEMENTS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

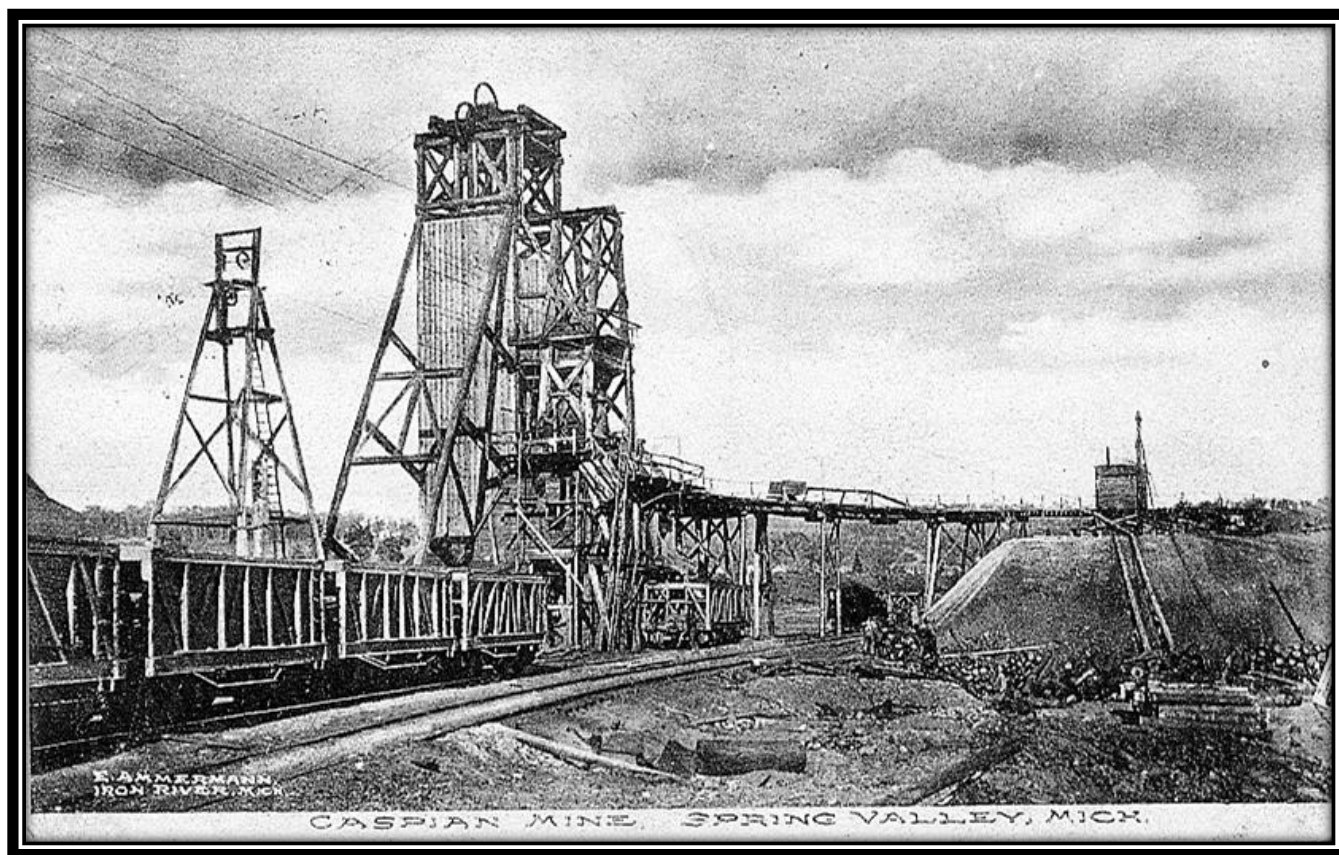
[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Caspian Mine, Stambaugh, Iron County, Michigan, 1908: This real photo postcard view identified as "Caspian Mine, Stambaugh, Mich., No. 2 1908" is postmarked Stambaugh, Michigan, October 5, 1912 and shows the Caspian Mine, located in Caspian/Palatka. Note the headframes and the multiple smokestacks, various mining buildings, the trestle and the iron ore stockpile. Located on the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 1, Township 42 North, Range 35 West, the Caspian Mine opened in 1903. Operated by the Verona Mining Company, Cleveland, Ohio, with the Pickands, Mather & Company, Cleveland, Ohio, serving as sales agents, the Caspian Mine's greatest vertical depth was 539 feet. Shipping yearly from 1903 through 1937 except for 1921 and 1932, the mine's total output was 6,623,320 tons of iron ore. [William J. Cummings]

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SMALLER SETTLEMENTS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Caspian Mine, Spring Valley, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1908: This black-and-white halftone postcard view identified as the "Caspian Mine, Spring Valley, Mich." and published by E. Ammeremann, of Iron River, Michigan, is postmarked Stambaugh, Michigan, August 25, 1908. Located on the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 1, Township 42 North, Range 35 West, the Caspian Mine opened in 1903. Operated by the Verona Mining Company, Cleveland, Ohio, with the Pickands, Mather & Company, Cleveland, Ohio, serving as sales agents, the Caspian Mine's greatest vertical depth was 539 feet. Shipping yearly from 1903 through 1937 except for 1921 and 1932, the mine's total output was 6,623,320 tons of iron ore. [William J. Cummings]

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SMALLER SETTLEMENTS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

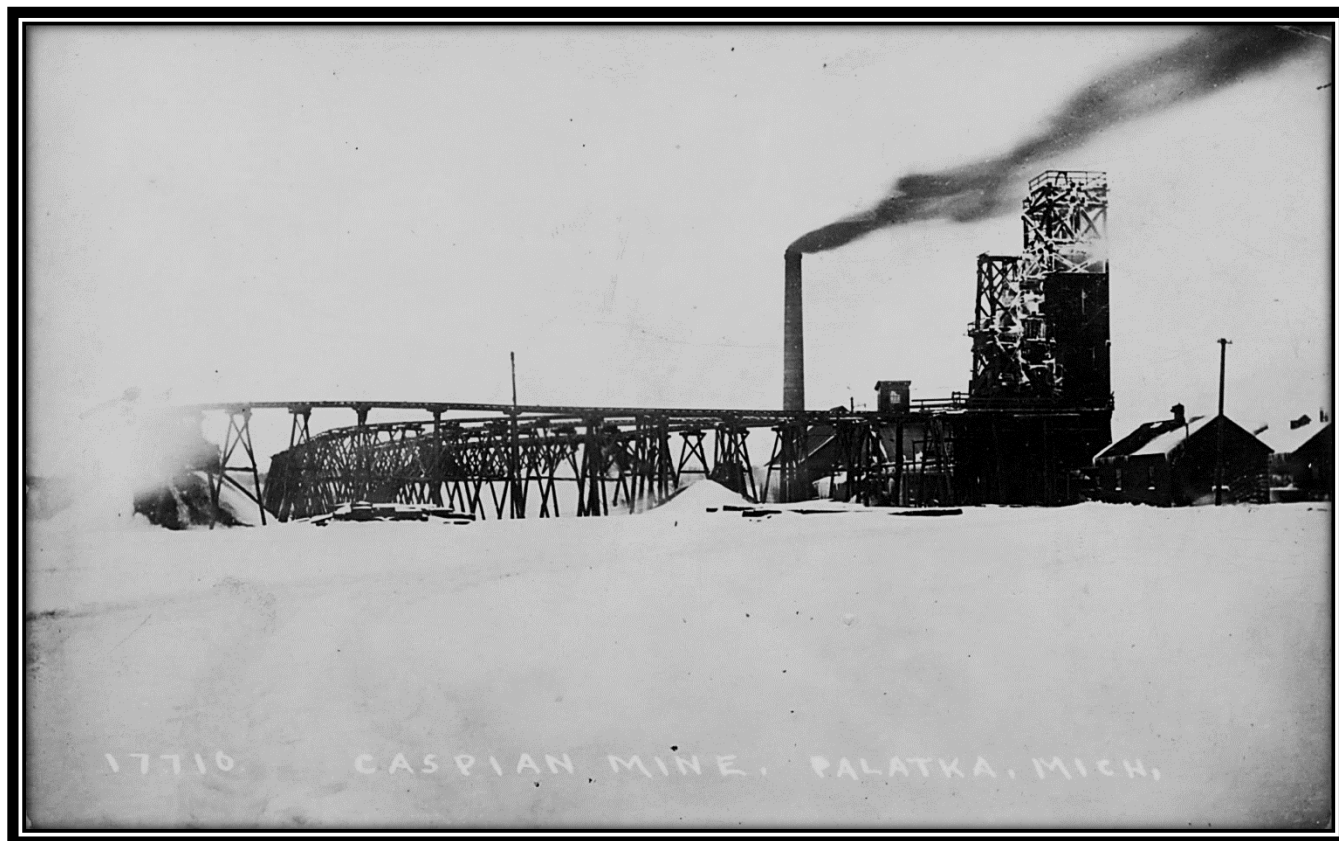
[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



The Caspian, Iron River District, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1911: This tinted black-and-white halftone postcard view identified as “The Caspian, Iron River District, Mich.” and published by the C.E. Knoff Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is postmarked Powers, Michigan, March 4, 1911. Located on the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 1, Township 42 North, Range 35 West, the Caspian Mine opened in 1903. Operated by the Verona Mining Company, Cleveland, Ohio, with the Pickands, Mather & Company, Cleveland, Ohio, serving as sales agents, the Caspian Mine’s greatest vertical depth was 539 feet. Shipping yearly from 1903 through 1937 except for 1921 and 1932, the mine’s total output was 6,623,320 tons of iron ore. This photograph is identical to the preceding postcard view. [William J. Cummings]

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SMALLER SETTLEMENTS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Caspian Mine, Palatka, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1913: This real photo postcard view identified as the “Caspian Mine, Palatka, Mich. 17710” is postmarked Palatka, Michigan, September 12, 1913. Note the two headframes, the smokestack and the complex trestle system, as well as the mine buildings to the far right in this winter scene. Located on the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 1, Township 42 North, Range 35 West, the Caspian Mine opened in 1903. Operated by the Verona Mining Company, Cleveland, Ohio, with the Pickands, Mather & Company, Cleveland, Ohio, serving as sales agents, the Caspian Mine’s greatest vertical depth was 539 feet. Shipping yearly from 1903 through 1937 except for 1921 and 1932, the mine’s total output was 6,623,320 tons of iron ore. The number on this view could indicate the negative number and appears to be similar to the photograph of the Palatka School. [William J. Cummings]

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SMALLER SETTLEMENTS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Caspian Mine, Palatka, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1915: This real photo postcard view identified as "Caspian Mine, L551g" is postmarked Gaastra, Michigan, September 11, 1915. Note the various mine buildings as well as the shaft housing at the far right. Located on the NE ¼ of Section 1, Township 42 North, Range 35 West, the Caspian Mine opened in 1903. Operated by the Verona Mining Company, Cleveland, Ohio, with the Pickands, Mather & Company, Cleveland, Ohio, serving as sales agents, the Caspian Mine's greatest vertical depth was 539 feet. Shipping yearly from 1903 through 1937 except for 1921 and 1932, the mine's total output was 6,623,320 tons of iron ore. [eBay]

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SMALLER SETTLEMENTS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Caspian Mine, Iron River (Palatka/Caspian), Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1915-1920: This unused real photo postcard view identified as "**Caspian Mine, Iron River, Mich.**" probably dates between 1915 and 1920. Located on the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 1, Township 42 North, Range 35 West, the Caspian Mine opened in 1903. Operated by the Verona Mining Company, Cleveland, Ohio, with the Pickands, Mather & Company, Cleveland, Ohio, serving as sales agents, the Caspian Mine's greatest vertical depth was 539 feet. Shipping yearly from 1903 through 1937 except for 1921 and 1932, the mine's total output was 6,623,320 tons of iron ore. [eBay]

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SMALLER SETTLEMENTS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

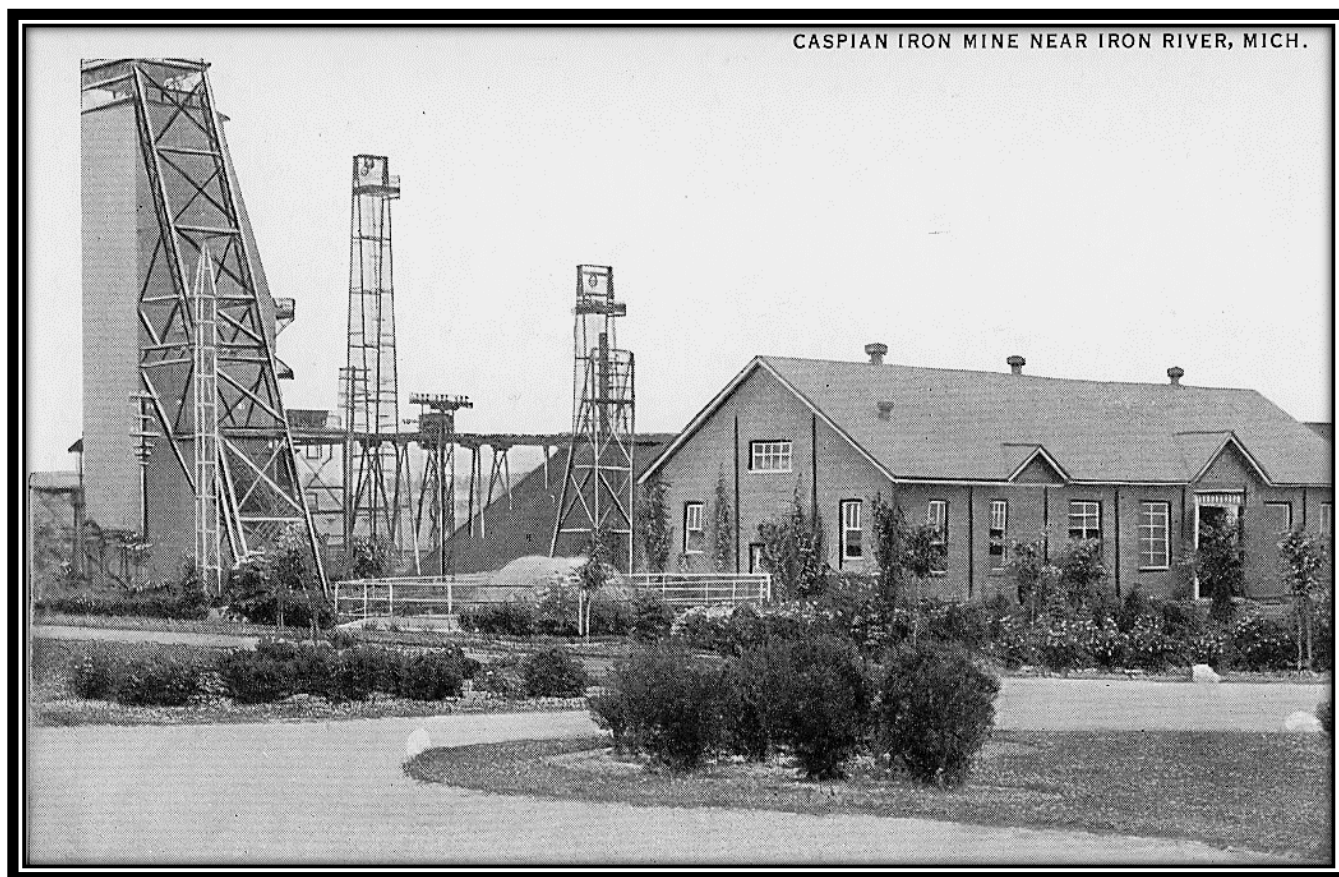
[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Caspian Mine, Caspian, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1922-1926: This unused real photo postcard view identified as the "Caspian Mine, Caspian, Mich. (Shipped to End of 1922 – 4,327,758 Tons)" was taken by the Iron Range Studio, Iron River, Michigan. Note the various mining buildings and the two shaft houses. Located on the NE ¼ of Section 1, Township 42 North, Range 35 West, the Caspian Mine opened in 1903. Operated by the Verona Mining Company, Cleveland, Ohio, with the Pickands, Mather & Company, Cleveland, Ohio, serving as sales agents, the Caspian Mine's greatest vertical depth was 539 feet. Shipping yearly from 1903 through 1937 except for 1921 and 1932, the mine's total output was 6,623,320 tons of iron ore. [eBay]

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SMALLER SETTLEMENTS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

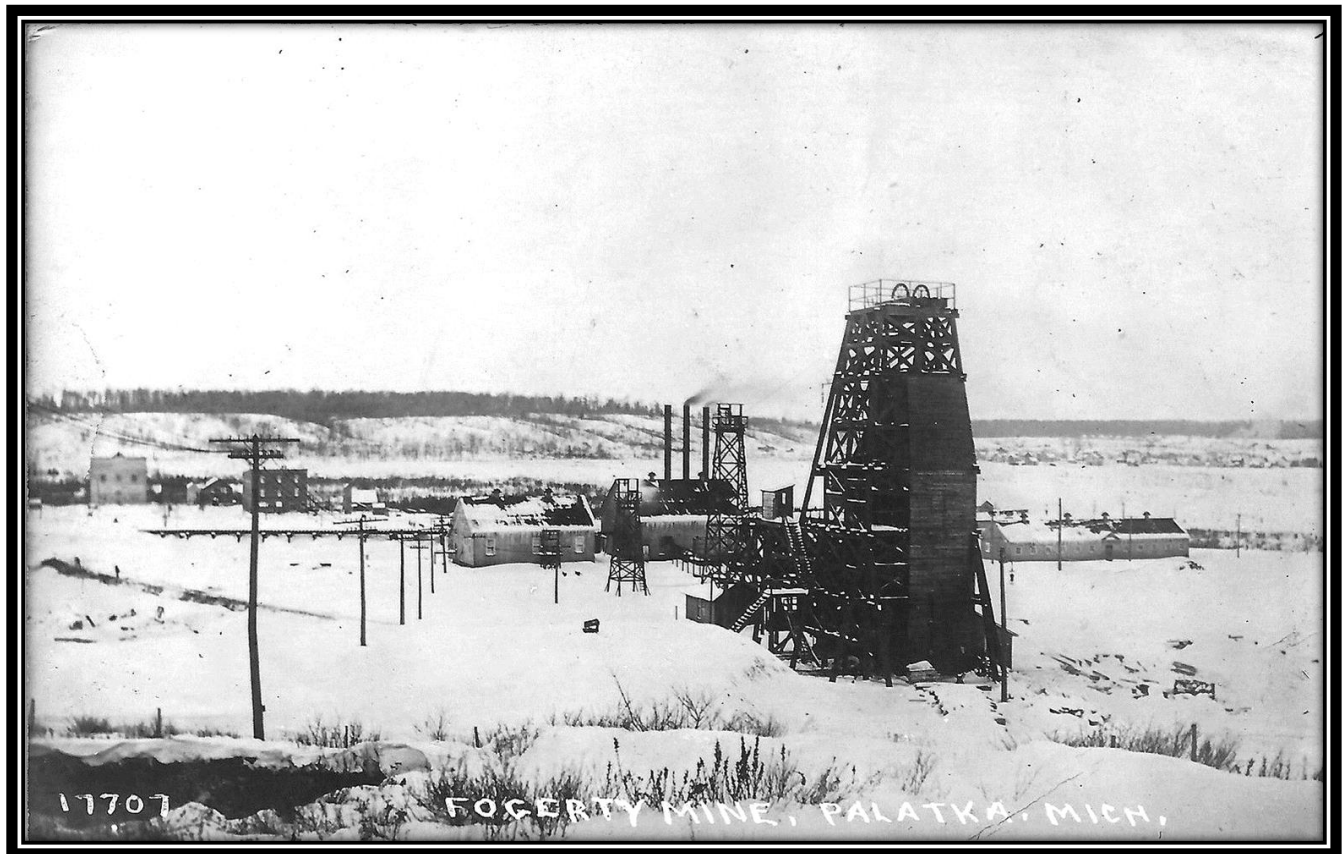
[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Caspian Iron Mine Near Iron River, Mich., ca. 1920-1940: This unused real photo postcard view identified as the “Caspian Iron Mine Near Iron River, Mich.” probably dates between 1920 and 1940. Note the similarities in the shaft housing on this postcard image to the image of the shaft housing on the left side of the previous postcard image. Located on the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 1, Township 42 North, Range 35 West, the Caspian Mine opened in 1903. Operated by the Verona Mining Company, Cleveland, Ohio, with the Pickands, Mather & Company, Cleveland, Ohio, serving as sales agents, the Caspian Mine’s greatest vertical depth was 539 feet. Shipping yearly from 1903 through 1937 except for 1921 and 1932, the mine’s total output was 6,623,320 tons of iron ore. [eBay]

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SMALLER SETTLEMENTS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

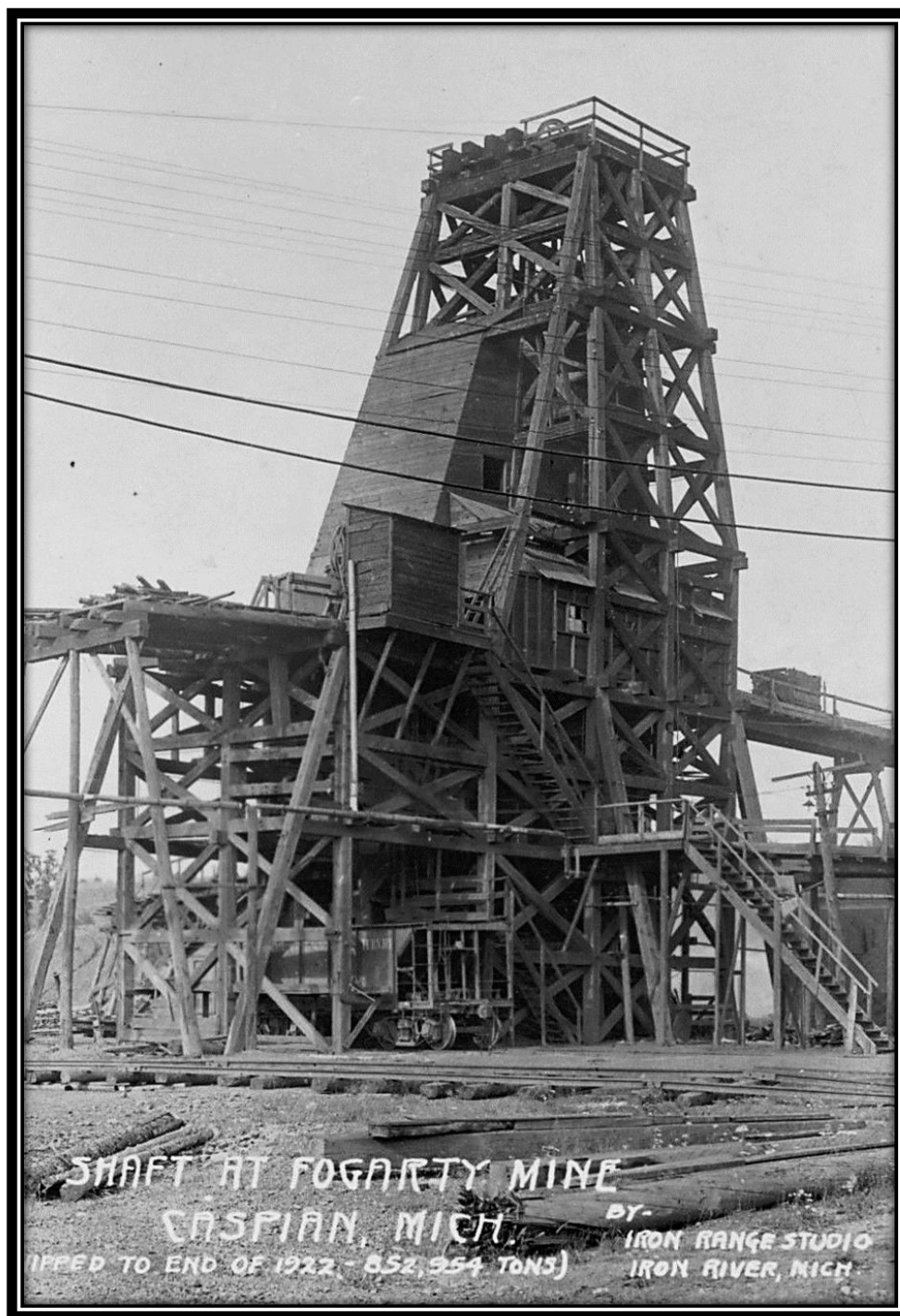
[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Fogarty Mine, Palatka, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1907-1918: This unused but messaged real photo postcard view identified as the "Fogarty Mine, Palatka, Mich. 17707" dates from 1907 to 1918 based on the stamp box. The negative number on this view could appear to be similar to the photograph of the school and the Caspian Mine, both of which were mailed in 1913. The message on the back reads: *Dear Annie, Just a card to show you the place I work. I run the Hositing engine at this mine. It is an easy job but lolng hours. Hope this will find you all well. I am fine & dandy, but hope to see you all this summer. Your loving brother, Ernest XX.* [eBay]

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[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Fogarty Mine, Caspian, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1922-1926: This unused real photo postcard view identified as the "Shaft at Fogarty Mine, Caspian, Mich., Shipped to End of 1922 – 852,954 Tons" was taken by the Iron Range Studio, Iron River, Michigan. Located on Section 1, Township 42 North, Range 35 West, the Fogarty Mine first opened in 1906 and by 1914 had reached a maximum vertical depth of 365 feet. The Verona Mining Company, Cleveland, Ohio, operated the mine and Pickands, Mather & Company, Cleveland, Ohio, was the sales agent. A total of 445,194 tons of iron ore were shipped between 1907 and 1913, and shipping occurred during each of those years. [eBay]

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SMALLER SETTLEMENTS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Smuggler Mine, Palatka, Iron County, Michigan, 1908: This unused real photo postcard view identified as the "Smuggler Mine, Palatka, Mich., No. 6 1908," shows the mine shaft and tramway, engine house and other mining buildings. No further details have been found regarding the Smuggler Mine. [William J. Cummings]

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[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]

CHICAGON LAKE AND PENTOGA PARK

CHICAGON LAKE, Iron County: Andrew J. Blackbird's Ottawa grammar gives She-gog for skunk and She-gog-ong, also She-kaw-gong, for Chicago, i.e. skunk place. Written in French orthography, the final "g" was dropped. Joutel's spelling of the name survives here in Chicagon Lake.



Pentoga Park, Chicagon Lake, 1630 County Road 424, Crystal Falls, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1940-1950: This unused black-and-white real photo postcard identified as "**Princess Pentoga, Pentoga Park, Crystal Falls, Mich. N1692**" dating between 1940 and 1950, shows the entrance to Pentoga Park with the statue of Princess Pentoga and another Native American just left of center. The back of this postcard bears a written date of June 13, 1951.

Pentoga Park is located at 1630 County Road 424 on the southern tip of Chicagon Lake five miles southwest of Crystal Falls in Iron County and is built on the former site of an Ojibwa village. Iron County purchased the land for this park in 1924 as a tribute to the Native Americans that congregated here and to preserve their burial grounds. The wooden burial structures have endured time to protect and mark the graves of the ancient Ojibwa bands that made this spot their permanent area headquarters in the 1800s.

The drums pound out a steady irresistible beat that can be heard across the calm waters of the lake. Long shadows move and mingle with the tall pines and hardwoods. The huge ceremonial fire tinges everything around orange and yellow. The Ojibwa Indians dance in a circle around the fire. The humble village stands silhouetted along the shore where birch bark

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SMALLER SETTLEMENTS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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canoes sit waiting to be taken out on the water for fishing. The ceremony is in honor of one who has passed on to the realm of the Great Spirit. The body had been earlier put to rest in the burial ground on the far ridge. Occasionally mourning wails mingled with the drumbeats.

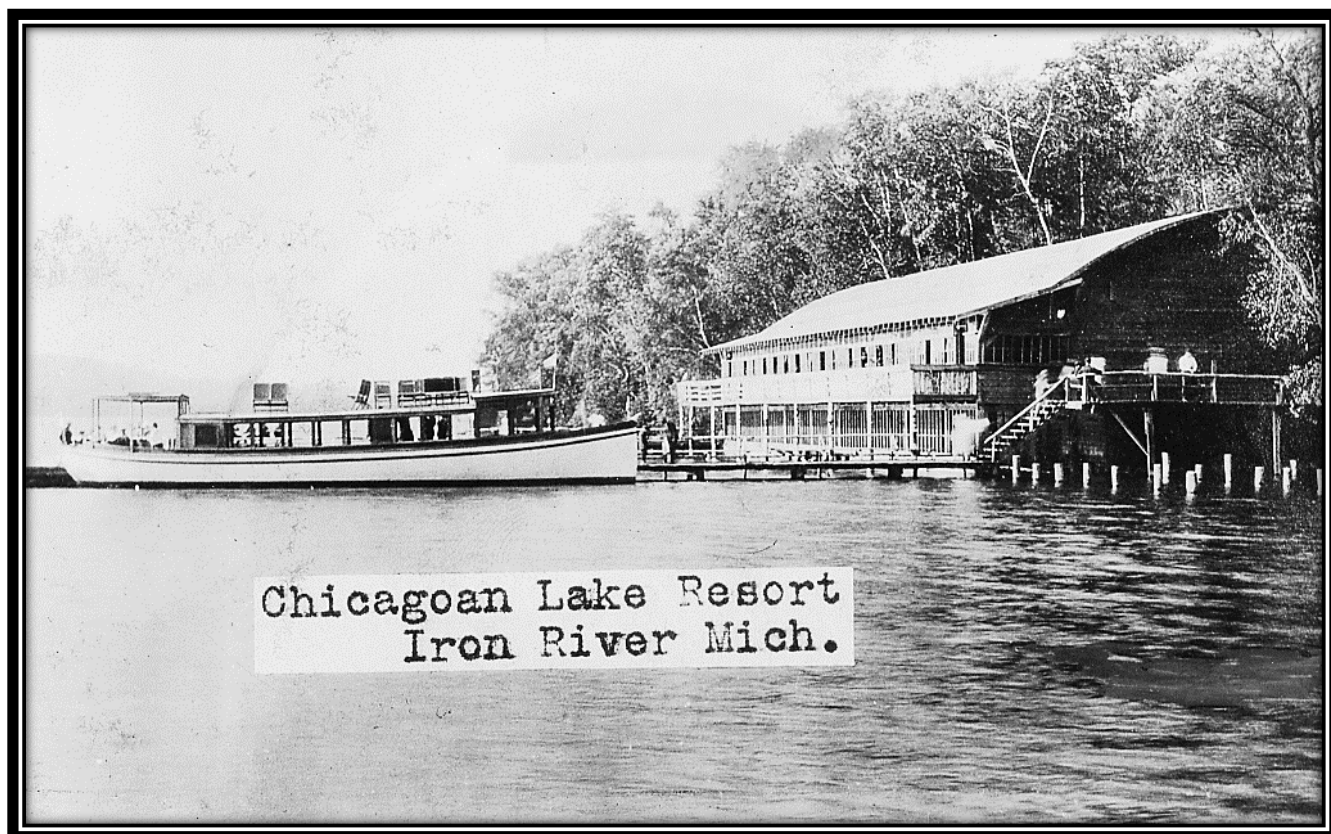
Chicagon Lake is 1,100 acres in size and approximately 115 feet deep at its deepest point. Anglers can expect to catch a variety of fish including lake trout, largemouth bass, muskie, northern pike, rock bass, smallmouth bass, walleye and yellow perch. Pentoga Park offers swimming, fishing, boating, 100 camp sites and more. [William J. Cummings]



Pentoga Park, Chicagon Lake, Near Crystal Falls, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1941: This real photo postcard view identified as “Pentoga Park, Crystal Falls, Mich. A-1778” postmarked Iron River, Michigan, July 21, 1941 shows a slide, rustic pavilion near the lake shore, picnic tables and a diving platform out in the lake. [William J. Cummings]

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[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]

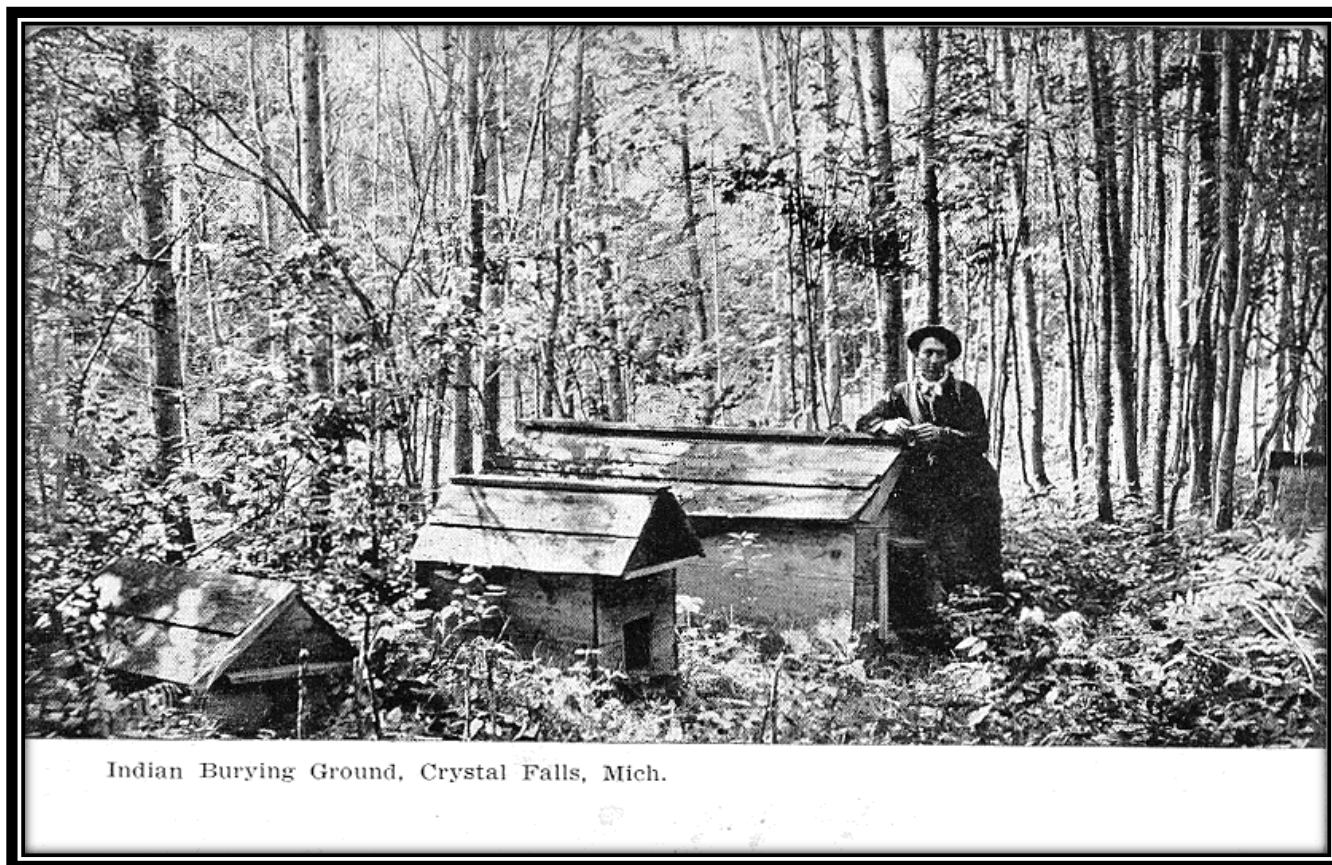


Chicagoan Lake Resort, Iron River, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1923: This real photo postcard view identified as “Chicagoan Lake Resort, Iron River, Mich.” Postmarked Iron River, Michigan, July 25, 1923 shows a large launch pulling up to the Chicagoan Lake Resort.

An article appearing in *The Iron Mountain News* on June 6, 1925, noted the formal season opening of the Chicagoan Lake Pavilion that evening, featuring Okie Anderson and his seven-piece jazz band from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Dances were to be held at the pavilion every Wednesday and Saturday night throughout the summer. A number of “high class orchestras” had been booked. Free orchestra concerts were given on Sunday afternoons. The article noted, “Chicagoan Lake will be a haven for dancers this summer, being cool and pleasant, the board walk out into the lake providing a novel attraction.” [William J. Cummings]

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SMALLER SETTLEMENTS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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Indian Burying Ground, Chicagon Lake, Near Crystal Falls, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1908: This black-and-white halftone postcard view identified as “Indian Burying Ground, Crystal Falls, Mich.” Postmarked Crystal Falls, Michigan, October 23, 1908 shows three wooden burial “houses” with a man in a hat standing to the right of the largest burial “house” in a dappled woodland setting at Pentoga, Chicagon Lake.

According to Ojibwa funeral customs, upon death the corpse was washed, groomed, dressed in fine clothing, and wrapped in birchbark before burial in a shallow grave. Following death, the soul of the deceased was believed to journey westward for four days to an afterlife in the sky. [William J. Cummings]

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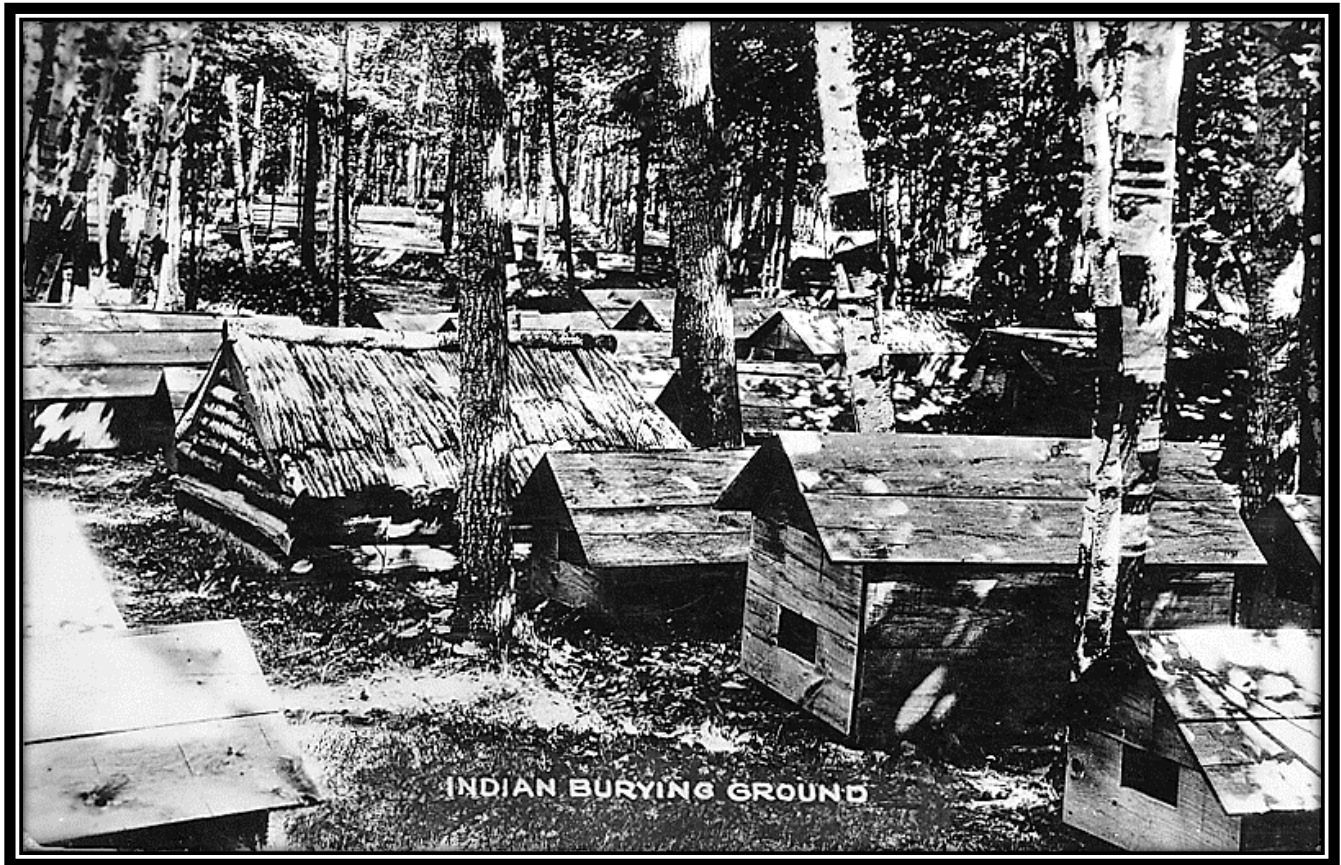


Chippewa Burying Ground, Chicagon Lake, Near Crystal Falls, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1925-1942: This unused real photo postcard view identified as “Chippewa Burying Ground, Chicagon Lake” taken and copyrighted by the Iron Range Studio, Iron River, Michigan, probably dates from the 1920s and shows the Chippewa or Ojibwa Indian burial ground with covered graves in a birch woods. The wooden sign at right reads “O-jib-way Je-bay-mig-gon” and has a painted head of a Native American with a feathered headdress.

The funeral ceremony was attended by friends and relatives and was conducted by a Mide priest, who talked to the deceased and offered tobacco to the spirits. [William J. Cummings]

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SMALLER SETTLEMENTS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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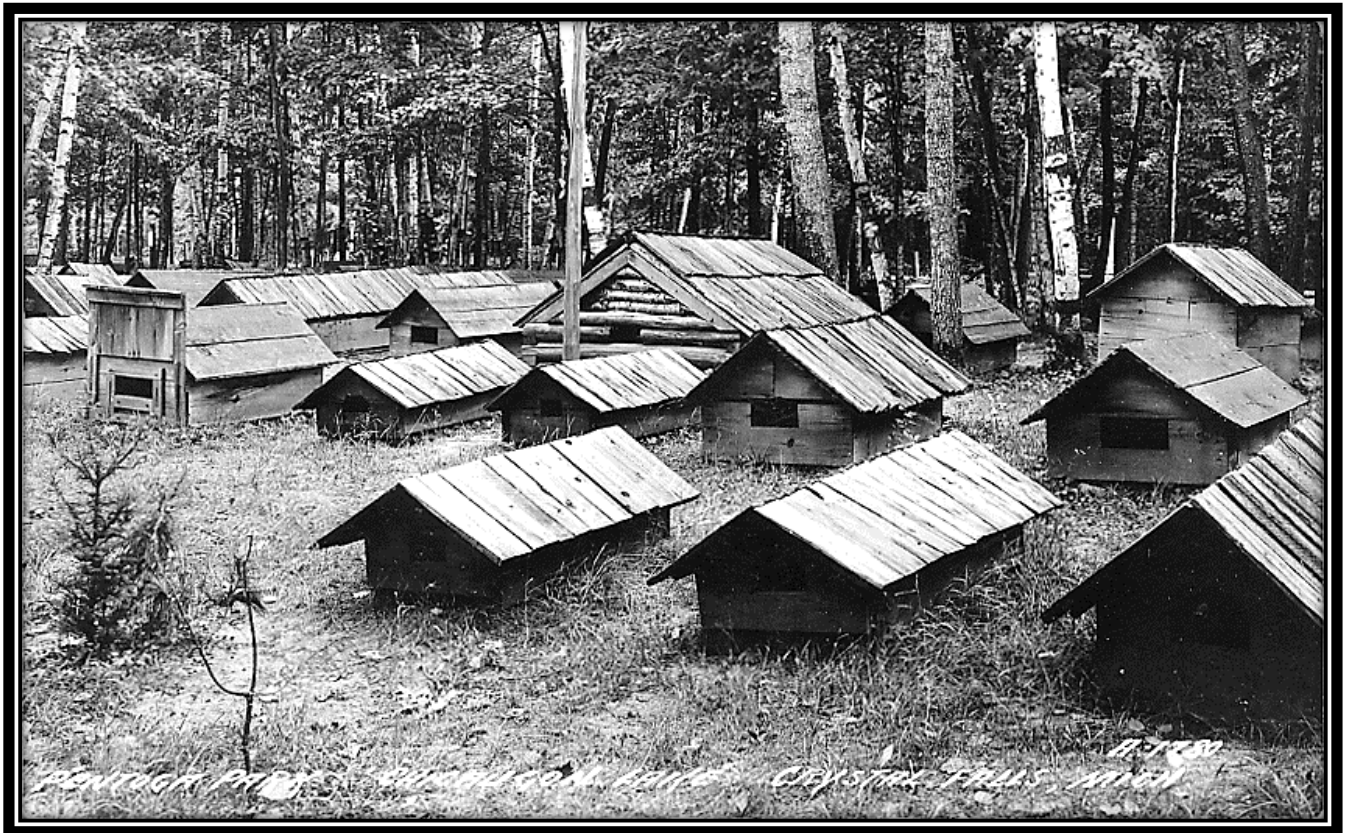


Indian Burying Ground, Pentoga Park, Chicagon Lake, Near Crystal Falls, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1940-1950: This unused real photo postcard view identified as "Indian Burying Ground" probably dates between 1940 and 1950 and shows the Chippewa or Ojibwa Indian burial ground with covered graves in a birch woods.

After the ceremony was concluded the body was removed through a hole in the west side of the wigwam to the grave site, where it was buried along with personal possessions. [William J. Cummings]

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[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Indian Burying Ground, Pentoga Park, Chicagon Lake, Near Crystal Falls, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1940-1950: This unused real photo postcard view identified as "Pentoga Park, Chicagon Lake, Crystal Falls, Mich. A-1780" probably dates between 1940 and 1950 and shows the Chippewa or Ojibwa Indian burial ground with covered graves at Pentoga Park on Chicagon Lake.

The door of the wigwam was not used when removing the deceased for fear that the departed soul would return through the door. [William J. Cummings]

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Indian Cemetery, Pentoga Park, Chicagon Lake, Near Crystal Falls, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1950-1960: This unused real photo postcard view identified as “Indian Cemetery Near Crystal Falls, Mich. A-2251” probably dates between 1950 and 1960 and shows the Chippewa or Ojibwa Indian burial ground with covered graves at Pentoga Park on Chicagon Lake.

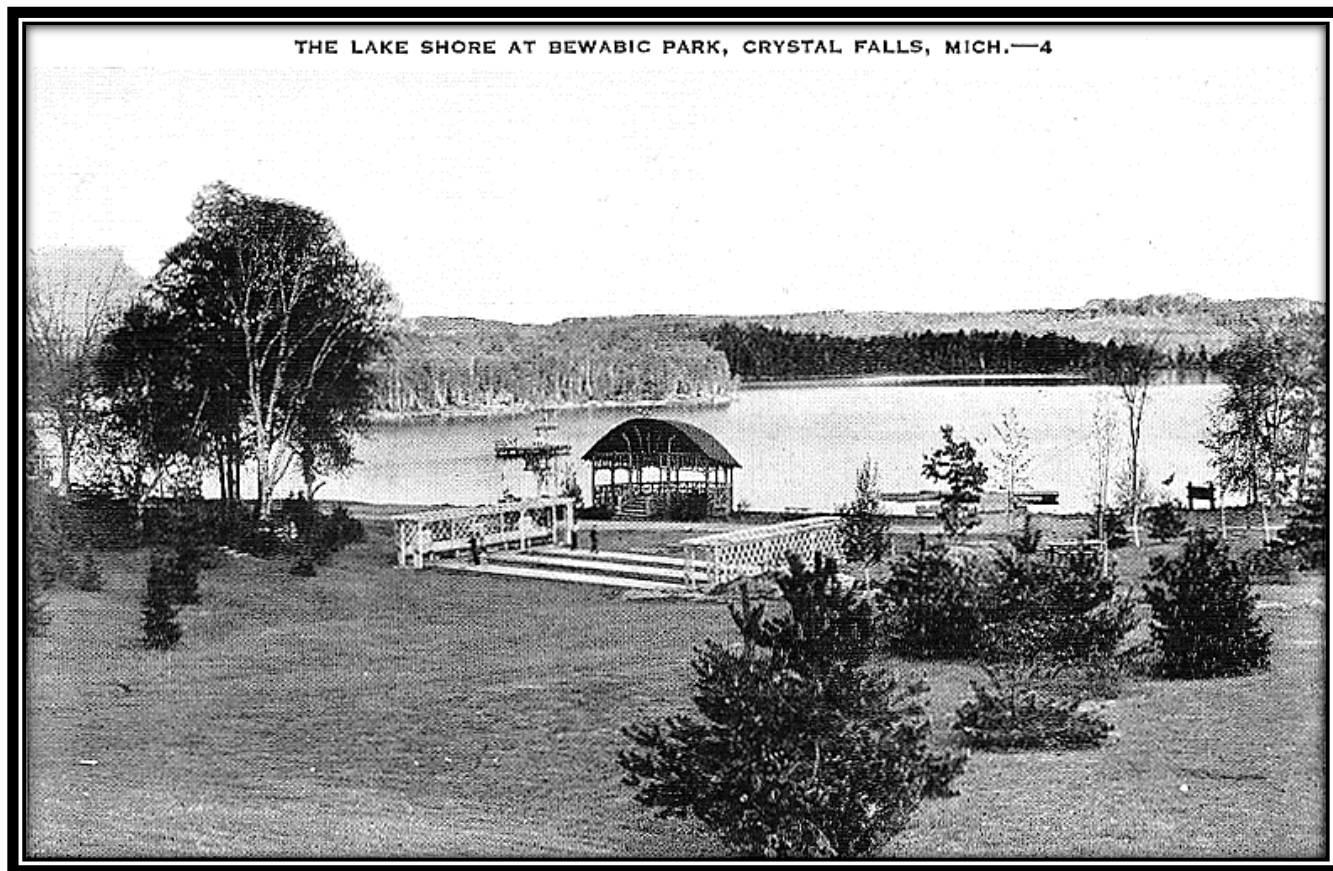
In later times a long, low, gabled plank house was constructed over the grave. The Plains Ojibwa also employed the gabled grave house and left offerings of food and water at the grave house for four days after burial for the soul’s subsistence on its journey to the afterlife. [William J. Cummings]]

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[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]

BEWABIC PARK AT FORTUNE LAKE

FORTUNE LAKE, Iron County: although the mine property here had been explored in 1915 and again in 1920, and a shaft sunk, no ore was produced until Pickands took it over in 1952; the railroad and highway were relocated, and mining began, the first ore coming up in 1953; now a developed recreation area.



Bewabic Park, Fortune Lake, West of Crystal Falls, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1930-1940: This unused black-and-white halftone postcard view identified as “The Lake Shore at Bewabic Park, Crystal Falls, Mich. – 4” probably dates between 1930 and 1940 and shows the bathing beach at Fortune Lake with shuffleboard courts and a covered pavilion near the lake shore.

Fortune Lake is actually a chain of lakes located 4.6 miles west of Crystal Falls on U.S. 2. Bewabic State Park’s physical address is 1933 U.S. 2. A 137-site campground is situated in a shady, wooded site with buffer strips between most of the sites. Bewabic has picnic areas, a tennis court, a hiking trail, two playgrounds, an excellent beach and a boat launch to Fortune Lake. It is also part of the Iron County Heritage Trail system. The 2.5 mile ski trail is groomed for both classical and skating style skiing during the winter. The park is also open to individuals who want to snowshoe. Perch, bass, bluegill and walleye are plentiful in Fortune Lake. [William J. Cummings]

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[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



Bewabic Park, Fortune Lake, West of Crystal Falls, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1940-1950: This unused real photo postcard view identified as “Be-Wa-Bic Park, Crystal Falls, Mich. A-1948” probably dates between 1940 and 1950 and shows the bathing beach at Fortune Lake with shuffleboard courts and a covered pavilion near the lake shore. [William J. Cummings]

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Bewabic Park, Fortune Lake, West of Crystal Falls, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1940-1950: This unused real photo postcard view identified as “Be-Wa-Bic Park, Crystal Falls, Mich.” shows a huge log exemplifying virgin timber originally found on this site protected under roofed enclosure and a pair of big wheels used in logging at the right. [William J. Cummings]

This unused postcard view, dating between 1950 and 1960, shows Be-Wa-Bic Park at Fortune Lake. This section of a virgin pine tree, exemplifying the size of the logs cut in the early years, and the set of big wheels used in logging to get cut timber out of the woods when there was no snow for sleighs were exhibited at Be-Wa-Bic Park for the tourists to examine. [WJC Photo]

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PARK SIDING

PARKS SIDING, Iron County: this lumber settlement, on a siding of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad, was founded by and named for John Parks, a local lumberman; from its location just west of the Net River, it was given a post office as Net River on Dec. 9, 1907, with Herbert E. Hesseline as its first postmaster; the office operated until May 31, 1910.



O.A. Wade's Hunting Camp, Park's Siding, Iron County, Michigan, ca. 1907-1910: This unused real photo postcard view identified as "O.A. Wade's Hunting Camp, Park Siding, Mich." probably dates to between 1907 and 1910 and shows O.A. Wade's Hunting Camp at Park Siding in Iron County, Michigan. The construction is typical of that seen in logging camps at the time. Note the antlers and deerskins at the corner of the roof, the boards placed for a walkway and the bench underneath the window next to the door. [William J. Cummings]