

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



915

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Read Dunes House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1453 Tremont Road

not for publication

city or town Chesterton

vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Porter code 127 zip code 46304

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

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

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

___ national ___ statewide ___ local

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

☒ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Carol D. Shull

Date of Action

12-8-2011

Read Dunes House

Porter County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

☐ private
☐ public - Local
☐ public - State
☒ public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

☒ building(s)
☐ district
☒ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
1		sites
		structures
		objects
2	1	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic: Single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th & Early 20th Century American

Movements: Prairie School

Other: Dunes Rustic

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: STONE: Limestone

WOOD: Weatherboard

roof: SYNTHETICS: Fiberglass

other:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 1**7. DESCRIPTION****Summary:**

The 1952 Read Dunes House was commissioned by Philo Benham Read (1882-1961) and Irene Martin Read (1902-1981) of Chicago and designed by their architect son, Herbert P. Read (b. 1926).

The two-acre property is located in Tremont, the historic "Gateway to the Dunes" from the early 1900s. It lies 1,000 feet inside the southern boundary of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, which was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on Nov. 5, 1966. The site is one-and-one-half miles south of the Lake Michigan shoreline.

The Read Dunes House is a compact 58' x 29' rectangular one-story house with low-sloped gable roof and a partial, below-grade basement that includes a garage. The interior is an open floor plan with a large living room, fireplace as focal point, multitude of windows and minimal separate rooms. Locally quarried, rough-cut limestone stonework unites the exterior and interior.

As described by George D. Livingstone of Bentley & Livingstone in 1957, the Read Dunes House "was designed as a plan to be a living room with attached house. Rooms other than the living room are just large enough for use, and the entire focal point is the living room itself since the Reads entertain their club groups of between 40-50 persons at a time. Yet the house is not large. The architect calls the house a perfect example of a home built for a specific site and a specific family and their needs."¹

The design and location of the home came out of the Reads' long relationship to dunes preservation efforts, dating from the early 20th century, and heralded a new era of dunes preservation activism for the Read family, along with a core of volunteers who sought to create a national park in the Indiana dunes.

Site:

The Read family chose the site to be within walking distance of:

- The historic Tremont Station of the South Shore Line, the electric interurban railway running between Chicago and Dune country from 1908.² The site is one-quarter mile south of the old station. That station was demolished and replaced by the Dune Park Station in 1985 (three-quarters of a mile from the Read Dunes House).
- Wilson Shelter, the hiking trail system and the three Tremont high dunes (Mount Tom, Mount Jackson and Mount Holden) in the Indiana Dunes State Park, which was established in 1923. The Read Dunes House is one-half mile south of the shelter.

The Read family also chose the site for its short driving distance to:

- Highway 12, the Dunes Highway, a 25-mile segment of the historic east-west highway that parallels the Lake Michigan shoreline. The Read Dunes House is one-quarter mile south of Dunes Highway.
- Areas that became part of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. North and east of the property are the Furnessville and Beverly Shores sections of the National Lakeshore. North and west are the Porter Beach, Cowles Bog, Dune Acres, Bailly Homestead and Chellberg Farm, Inland Marsh and West Beach sections of the park.

¹ George D. Livingstone of Bentley & Livingstone. 1957. Letter to Pat Dalton of the *Chicago Daily News*, dated 3 September. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

² See 1925 poster "Visit Duneland: Tremont, The Gateway to the Dunes, 100 minutes from Downtown Chicago via South Shore Line," Ronald D. Cohen and Stephen G. McShane, eds. *Moonlight in Duneland: The Illustrated Story of the Chicago South Shore and South Bend Railroad* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1998), 59.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

The Read family chose this site, away from the lakeshore dunes, to be among the oldest dune ridges formed on the earlier beaches of what 11,000 to 14,000 years ago were the Calumet and Glenwood Beaches of ancient Lake Chicago, the predecessor of Lake Michigan. The house is nestled atop the gentle slopes of these oldest glacial beach dunes, surrounded by a characteristic mature oak forest (black oaks, white oaks). Also surrounding the site is the unique plant diversity of the dunelands; within a stone's throw of almost any spot are plants of the desert and plants of woodlands, plants of the pine woods and plants of swamps, plants of oak woods and plants of the prairies.

Today, the Read Dunes House lies centrally within the national lakeshore between the Lake Michigan shoreline, key park units and the Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center, which opened in 2006 outside park boundaries near the intersection of Indiana Highway 49 and U.S. Highway 20.

The northern boundary of the two-acre Read Dunes House property lies 87 feet from and parallels the Li-Co-Ki-We Trail, a hiking trail within the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. The western boundary is Tremont Road (a north-south road within the park between U.S. Highway 20 and U.S. Highway 12). The southern and eastern boundaries abut wooded areas within the park.

Style:

The Read Dunes House draws from the Prairie School heritage of 1900 to 1925, but the home's influences come more from the artists and naturalists of the early Dunes movement of the 1910s-1920s and the natural landscape than any particular architectural school.

Author J. Ronald Engel describes this in *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes*: "A recurring image in the life and work of those who participated in the Dunes movement is the image of building a fire and constructing a home at the center of the Dunes... There is remarkable similarity among the 'pictures' of the various camps, huts, cottages, lodges and houses that the leaders of the Dunes movement have established (or imagined establishing) over the years in the Dunes."³ These structures have three main elements: harmonious dwelling with nature, fellowship around a fire, an open community of friends. The Read Dunes House is the last remaining physical structure that bears an intimate relationship to this history.

Philo Read's ideas for a dunes home were drawn from specific examples. The Prairie Club, the Midwestern counterpart to the Sierra Club of California and leading organization promoting the value of the Indiana Dunes, built its Beach House along the Lake Michigan shore in the Tremont area in 1913. Philo Read helped to construct the building, with a floor plan radiating out from a central fireplace, and later served as the Beach House committee chairman in the push for a park.⁴ Another was his own small cabin, among the cluster of shoreline cottages near Mount Tom, featuring floor-to-ceiling windows.⁵ Another was artist Frank Dudley's 1921 shoreline Tremont cottage/studio, which he designed to "bring the dunes indoors" — with six windows in a gabled front facade, a large central

³ J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Wesleyan University Press: 1983), 185.

⁴ "Construction of Prairie Club Beach House," photograph by Arthur E. Anderson. 1913. Read Papers. See also "The Year Book of the Prairie Club" (Chicago, 1921). Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁵ The Prairie Club had marked off plats that members could lease. See "Beach Camp-Cabins." Series 6-6-3e photographs, Prairie Club Archives, Thomas Library, Chesterton, Indiana. The Prairie Club Beach House and the cottages were demolished in the years after the creation of the Indiana Dunes State Park in 1923.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 3

fireplace and open ceiling vault.⁶ Yet another was the home of poet Carl Sandburg, 20 miles north of the Indiana state line on a shoreline dune; the Read family rented a cottage from the Sandburgs in summers during the 1930s and were regulars at the Sandburg home known for its windows in all directions.⁷

Significant features of the Read Dunes House:

1. An open, spacious, free-flowing Great Room with a high-vaulted ceiling -- discarding an elaborate floor plan by combining living room and dining room focused on a central fireplace. This room comprises 57 percent of the interior space.
2. A broad, generous fireplace and tapered chimney of locally quarried, rough-cut limestone as the center of the design and most vital part of the house -- a gathering place for warmth, connection and storytelling, linked with nature.⁸ Low walls in the west entry (including a foyer bench) use the same rough-cut limestone. The stonework is of superior craftsmanship by a local stonemason.
3. No attic over the Great Room; the drywall ceiling is attached directly to the underside of the roof rafters. This enables the gently sloping roof to lie low when seen from the exterior, while creating a sense of spaciousness in the interior Great Room. Over the bedroom/kitchen areas, the drywall is attached to the bottom chord of the roof trusses, creating a low attic space above the ceiling.
4. Kitchen opening to the Great Room, separated by built-in cabinets and book shelves, providing easy flow of traffic to the social gathering place.
5. Windows in the Great Room on the south, west and east capture generous amounts of light and connect the interior with the outdoors. The south wall has a floor-to-ceiling bank of 12 windows (two-wide, stacked six-high, with the top two window panels trapezoid-shaped to follow the gabled roof line). The east and west walls have horizontal sliding-style windows. The east wall also has large sliding glass doors, each leaf 5' x 7'.
6. Indirect lighting hides and diffuses artificial light, creating a warm glow. The Great Room has eight exposed roof tie-beams; lights sit on top of three of the roof ties shining light up. The west and east walls in the Great Room have lights concealed behind wooden trim above the windows.
7. Vertically placed 9 1/2-inch redwood boards cover the walls in the Great Room and entry, stained in natural hues. The interior also has built-in redwood cabinets and bookshelves stained in natural hues.
8. Incorporated as part of the design of the Great Room were dunes paintings and etchings by the Reads' artist/dunes preservationist friends, bringing the dunes landscape into the home. These included two Frank Dudley paintings given to the Reads, one of which was a wedding gift in 1925, etchings by Earl Reed, Sr., and others.
9. Minimal number of separate rooms -- two isolated bedrooms and a bathroom comprising 20 percent of the interior space -- encourage family and friends to gather in the Great Room.

⁶ "Plan Indiana Memorial to Honor Dunes Painter," *Chicago Sunday Tribune*, September 3, 1967. Despite efforts to save the house, the state of Indiana demolished it in 1967. The Dudley Guest Books show that Philo, Irene and Herbert Read visited frequently in the 1930s and 1940s. See James R. Dabbert, editor. *Indiana Dunes Revealed: The Art of Frank Dudley* (University of Illinois Press, 2006), 53, 65.

⁷ Carl Sandburg had said: "I was foolish about windows...I was hungry for windows." Lillian Sandburg designed the house so it was lined with a multitude of panes facing in all directions. See Helga Sandburg, "The Walking Hills," *Chicago Sunday Tribune Magazine*, June 10, 1962.

⁸ Philo Read, chairman of the Prairie Club's Beach House Committee, was known as a builder of mountainous campfires at the beach near Mt. Tom, a meeting place for conversation, storytelling, linking people and nature. Philo Read's paintings for his father Opie Read's novels emphasize fire and light. For example, see "His sword was hanging near the mantelpiece," illustration in Opie Read, *Turk: A Novel* (Chicago, Laird and Lee: 1904).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 4

10. Locally quarried, rough-cut limestone wainscoting surrounds the exterior of the house, matching interior stonework. Limestone retaining walls on the east side of the house extend from the basement garage, following the lines and curves of the dunes. Another low wall, also curved, is on a terraced level between the garage and a flagstone patio outside the Great Room.
11. Redwood paneling (vertically placed 9 1/2-inch boards) on the exterior matches the redwood paneling on the interior, except that it is painted rust-red instead of stained.
12. Wide roof overhangs shade the windows and provide a sense of shelter.
13. Partial basement under the northern 43 percent of the house holds a one-car garage, utility area and bathroom with shower, sink and toilet.
14. The structural system is a concrete/10-inch reinforced concrete block foundation with wood framing. The Read Dunes House was described in 2009 by Virginia Phillips, of Marc T. Nielsen Interiors, as follows:

"The house is such a perfect inside/outside concept with large windows on three sides of the big room, welcoming the outside in. The materials, stone and wood, used both inside and outside, support that principle too. The high vaulted ceiling complements the proportion of this large room, unusual for a house designed and built in 1951-1952."

She continues: "The concept for the house was that it was intended to be used to entertain large groups. The house was designed by Herb Read for his parents, Philo and Irene Read, who had a strong interest in preservation of the Indiana Dunes. Their house was designed expressly to entertain sometimes large groups of people who were supporters and creators of their particular dunes preservation efforts. The house demonstrates this special effort of the Reads. The foyer is open to the unusually large gathering room, welcoming people in. The kitchen, open to the living room, shows the room was designed to entertain. The personal area consists of two small bedrooms and a bathroom, the minimal area which would support the lives of the family."

She highlights the home's lighting scheme: "The tie beams give an important opportunity for practical and effective lighting design. There are lights sitting on top of these tie beams shining up. Along with the indirect lights over the windows, this lighting afforded changing from living area to meeting room easily and quickly, with virtually no lamps to move...And in the inside/outside concept, lighting the landscape brings the outside right in again."⁹

Current condition:

The property has been subject to few changes since construction in 1951-1952 and retains a remarkable level of integrity.

Exterior: The only change is that original cement board soffit has been replaced with vented aluminum soffit.

Interior: The only change is replacement of wall tile, flooring and fixtures in the bathroom in the 1990s. Elsewhere in the house, the original materials, finishes and fixtures remain intact.

The house is in structurally sound condition, requiring routine maintenance and repair.

Additions: A non-contributing free-standing two-car frame garage was added in the driveway behind the east side of the house in 1985.

These alterations have not reduced the integrity of the Read Dune House's design, materials, workmanship, setting, feeling and association. The house and oak-forest dune setting remain largely original and powerfully convey the movement to save the Dunes.

Occupancy history:

Eight months after President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Act, Irene M. Read wrote to the National Park Service offering up the property:

⁹ Virginia Phillips. 2009. Letter to Herb and Charlotte Read, dated 22 November. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 5

"I understand the National Park Service has started purchasing some of the land in the Dunes National Lakeshore. My property is located within the boundaries of the Park. It consists of a house and two acres -- all wooded. As I am a widow with a very limited income, I must consider putting my property up for sale and have been 'holding on' as I would rather sell to the National Park if possible. Having helped fight for this park for many years as a member of the Save the Dunes Council and the Izaak Walton League, I am delighted to be included in the park area and wish it were financially possible to donate it. Hoping some arrangement can be made and assuring you of my cooperation in every way."¹⁰

The National Park Service purchased the property in September 1969, with a Reservation of Use and Occupancy of 25 years ending September 1994, requiring the seller to pay 1 percent of the purchase price per year during time she remained on the property after the sale. Irene Read received \$31,300 for the Read Dunes House, minus 25 years rent (\$313 per year, \$7,825 total), a total of \$23,475 and the right to remain in her home for 25 years.¹¹

With the park expansion bill of 1976, Herbert and Charlotte Read sold their home at 70 East State Park Boundary Road to the National Park Service in 1985 with a Reservation of Use and Occupancy of 25 years. The years reserved on that property were transferred, extending the reservation on the Read Dunes House until Sept. 30, 2010.

The Read family moved out of the Read Dunes House in September 2010. The house has been vacant since then. The Reservation and Use Policy of the park states: "Most of the houses are removed and the land is restored to its natural condition....If a building is determined to be historic, the NPS will not tear it down unless it is unsafe. If the historic structures are sound, the NPS will seek to find a use for the buildings. This might include use by visitors, by park partners, or for administrative use."¹²

Biographical Information

Philo Benham Read was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, on Dec. 25, 1882, the eldest son of novelist, journalist, lecturer and humorist Opie Pope Read (1852-1939) and Ada Benham Read (1856-1928). The family moved to Chicago in 1887. Philo Read was a graduate and instructor at the Art Institute of Chicago. After World War I, he formed Read Brothers Advertising Agency in Chicago with his brother Leslie O. Read, a firm they operated for more than 40 years. He died Nov. 21, 1961.

Irene Martin Read was born in Chicago, Illinois on Nov. 27, 1902, the eldest child of Dr. Eugene F. Martin and Hertha von Cotzhausen Martin. Her father died in the Flu Epidemic of 1918. Irene, a girl barely out of high school and a secretarial course, went to work. She met Philo Read in 1921, as she worked for several businesses that shared a suite of offices, including Read Brothers Advertising. They married in Chicago on Aug. 27, 1925. They had one child, Herbert P. Read, born June 22, 1926 in Chicago. She died on Nov. 21, 1981.

¹⁰ Irene M. Read. 1967. Letter to Allen T. Edmonds, Assistant Regional Director, National Park Service, dated 19 July. Read Papers, Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

¹¹ "More Deeds Filed," *Chesterton Tribune*, Sept. 17, 1969: 8.

¹² U.S. National Park Service. "Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Land Acquisition" (August 2009). www.nps.gov/indu/parkmgmt/land-acquisition.htm.

Read Dunes House

Porter County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

See continuation sheets

Narrative Description

See continuation sheets

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

CONSERVATION

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance

1952-1961

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Read, Herbert P.

Read Dunes House

Porter County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

Period of Significance (justification)

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

See continuation sheets.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

See continuation sheets.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

See continuation sheets.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 6**8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE****Summary**

The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, signed into law in 1966, was the culmination of 50 years of citizen effort to preserve dune lands on the southern shore of Lake Michigan, in the growing industrial and metropolitan complex from Chicago to Gary.

Preserving the Indiana Dunes as a national park was among Stephen Mather's first projects after becoming director of the newly created National Park Service in August 1916. After October hearings that year, he wrote, "In my judgment, a large section of this dune region should be preserved for all time. Its preservation would in no way interfere with the development of industrial enterprises in Indiana and it is needed for recreational purposes now and in the future." The problem was that the dunes were not public lands. Congress, he wrote, has "never made a practice of purchasing lands for park purchases; it has simply taken lands already in Federal ownership and dedicated them as parks."¹³

The Read Dunes House is historically significant for its association with citizen groups that over a period of 50 years sought to create a national park at the Indiana Dunes. This struggle took part in two phases -- the 1910s-1920s and the 1950s-1960s. The Read Dunes House, built in 1952, was a locus of activity in the second phase, culminating in the establishment of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in 1966. The Read family was active in the leadership of the citizens' movement in both phases.

The Read Dunes House site is associated with the struggle for the preservation of the dunes in the history of the State of Indiana, the history of the national park idea and the U.S. conservation movement of the 20th Century. The Read Dunes House is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for the long-term involvement of the Read family and association with events important to the conservation movement that led to preservation of the dunes and creation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

The Read Dunes House is the only remaining structure in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore that is intimately connected with the conservation movement that fought to create this mid-20th Century park.

The Indiana State historic preservation officer concluded that the property meets Criterion A "for its association with groups that were significant in the dunes ecological movement in northern Indiana. ... We believe the historical record leaves little doubt that the movement shaped Indiana's and other states' views about the natural resources of the area; the movement affected policy, land use, legislation and, negatively to some, issues of private property ownership. The tangible results of that movement are very much alive today."

He continues: "The Dune Acres Clubhouse (NR, 2007), Washington Park in Michigan City (NR, 1991) and properties in Dune State Park represent different aspects of the movement. The Read House had a more specific role, being one of several assembly places for various citizen-activist committees involved in the movement. ... It is clear enough that the work of the committees and groups that used the Read's house was crucial to the movement."¹⁴

¹³ Stephen T. Mather, *Report on the Proposed Sand Dunes National Park Indiana* (Washington, D.C.: Department of the Interior, Government Printing Office, 1917), 10-12.

¹⁴ James A. Glass. 2010. Letter to Constantine J. Dillon, Superintendent, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, dated 3 March.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7**Activity at the Read Dunes House**

The first brochure by the National Park Service on the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore credited two citizen organizations as decisive advocates in the final phase of citizen activism that won establishment of the national park in 1966:¹⁵

- The Save the Dunes Council, an independent, single-purpose organization founded in 1952 with women as the leaders and core membership;¹⁶ and,
- The Izaak Walton League of America, founded in Chicago in 1922 as the first national environmental organization with a mass membership, was the first environmental organization in Indiana.¹⁷ The Porter County Chapter was founded in 1958 at the Read Dunes House.

The Read Dunes House was a headquarters of Indiana Dunes preservation:

- The site, among other homes and locations, of formal monthly meetings of the core dozen to two dozen most active members of the Save the Dunes Council (particularly in the key period from 1957 to establishment of the park in 1966) and ad hoc meetings of the council's Engineering Committee. Of the Save the Dunes Council's 12 formal monthly meetings each year, one or two a year were held at the Read Dunes House (Aug. 20, 1957; Jan. 16 and Nov. 19, 1958; Nov. 16, 1959; July 18, 1960; Jan. 30, 1961; Feb. 19, 1962; Nov. 18, 1963; April 20, 1964; Feb. 15 and Sept. 30, 1965; Sept. 30 and Nov. 28, 1966).¹⁸

¹⁵ Steven Higgs, *Eternal Vigilance: Nine Tales of Environmental Heroism in Indiana* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1995), 63.

¹⁶ Dorothy Buell "organized the Save the Dunes Council from scratch, without previously 'networking' with other established organizations concerned with preserving natural landscapes. All the more remarkable that she was able to do it and make it a lasting success, with the organization she founded surviving her and preparing, even as I speak, to launch a new effort to expand the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore." Herbert Read, "Some Untold Tales" (Paper present to the Polymathic Society, Chesterton, Indiana, 1988), Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

¹⁷ David Stradling, "Environmentalism," *The Electronic Encyclopedia of Chicago* (Chicago Historical Society, 2005). <http://encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/431.html>.

¹⁸ Save the Dunes Council. Minutes. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

Jane Walsh Brown, Curator, Westchester Township History Museum. 2010. Letter to Herb and Charlotte Read. Dated January 11: As one of the sites of "the crucial formative and early meetings of the Save the Dunes Council and the Izaak Walton League," the Read Dunes House "stands as a reminder of the importance of citizen involvement in the creation, growth and protection of our state and national parks."

Sylvia Troy, president of Save the Dunes Council from 1966 to 1976. 2010. Letter to National Register of Historic Places. "The discussions and the decisions made on these matters took place in the Read's house. The Save the Dunes Council held their monthly meetings for years in the beautiful living room of the Read's house."

Ruth Osann, president of the Save the Dunes Council 1976 to 1977. 2009. Letter to Herbert Read. Dated December 15. "Especially during the early days of the Save the Dunes Council, we had many meetings in this house."

Congressman Pete Visclosky, D-Indiana. 2010. Letter to James Glass, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Indiana. Dated Jan. 13. Read Papers: "Many strategic meetings were held at this home by the Save the Dunes Council and the Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, not to mention the individual discussions held to continue the fight on behalf of the unique ecosystem found along our south shore."

Joan M. Costello, President, Duneland Historical Society. 2010. Letter to Herb Read. Dated January 29. The society endorsed preservation of the Read Dunes House "not only for its outstanding dunes-appropriate architecture, but for its rich history in the saga of saving the Indiana Dunes for public use. Significant meetings took place in this house."

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 8

- The organizing site and collecting point for several petition drives led by Irene Read urging the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and elected officials in the Indiana state capital and in Congress to preserve the dunes for public use.
- The site where Philo Read, the council's first publicity director and first male officer, drafted the key public relations campaign documents, monthly newsletters keeping members and friends informed of progress, notices to newspapers and magazines, fundraising appeals and strategy statements from 1956 until his death in 1961. The Save the Dunes Council Board decided to ask Philo Read formally to assume the publicity chairmanship at its November 1956 meeting. He would be the only male officer in the organization in the early years.¹⁹
- The site of letter-writing campaigns. The daughter of dunes activists Tom and Jane Dustin recalls, "The Read Home bore witness to late night letter writing and assembling of important communications, while hosting volunteers and calming the frayed nerves of weary activists."²⁰
- The staging site for dunes photography expeditions by John Nelson, photo director for the Save the Dunes Council, and Herbert Read gathering material for the council's film, "Indiana Dunes: Playground of Mid-America" and still photographs to send to members of Congress.²¹
- A gathering place for social events bringing together artists, writers, scientists, teachers, social workers, attorneys, historians, architects, elected officials, labor leaders and other conservation-minded friends, building a social community as well as a political movement around dunes preservation.

Context: The 1950s-1960s Dunes Movement

With the two world wars and the Great Depression, efforts to promote industrialization of the Lake Michigan crescent, a Great Lakes seaway and a new port for northern Indiana had gone into

¹⁹ Save the Dunes Council. 1956. Minutes, dated 20 Nov. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

²⁰ Mary Gustafson (daughter of dunes activists Tom and Jane Dustin). 2010. Letter. Undated. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

²¹ Nelson, John. 2010. Letter to Herbert Read, dated 10 January. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana: "Back in the early 50s when we first met, we both discovered our like of and for the dunes, and as camera buffs we got together to go out and shoot. But, not wanting to take random shots, we discussed the various areas of the dunes with your dad, Philo. I recall we always stopped at his house, sought Philo's opinion. He always offered opinions on our strategy. He wanted our quest to be fruitful. They didn't call him the "Sage of the Dunes" for nothing. Philo knew the dunes inside and out, and he would direct us to the various areas of the dunes. Philo became our principal authority on the subject. ... Our quest for photos always seemed to end up there. ... As I recall, your dad had a small (small?) corner of his house devoted to the stashing of our gear and reference books. In short, his house became our 'unofficial' headquarters for two dedicated photographers. It seems that we did this for weeks on end all during the mid-50s through the mid-60s. And, from time to time, after a session in my darkroom, I would bring my dunescape to have Philo critique. Then, in the late 50s -- 1958, I recall -- we started production of that 16mm movie for the Save the Dunes Council. I would bring the weekly rushes over to his house for comments. There, we would edit the film, and even shoot titles. I think his house began to resemble a movie studio -- with all our cinematic equipment stashed in the house."

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 9

dormancy.²² After World War II, those priorities reemerged as threats to the Central Dunes, the last undeveloped 3 1/2 miles of shoreline, a remnant of a native landscape in the heart of the industrial Midwest.

In 1949, two events brought citizens into action: The joint U.S.-Canadian Deep Waterway Commission decided to study the feasibility of a St. Lawrence Seaway and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers district office in Chicago issued a preliminary report favorable to a harbor at Burns Ditch, in the heart of the dunes. The push to build a deepwater harbor in the midst of the finest dunes, primarily for the benefit of two steel companies, was on.

Author J. Ronald Engel writes, "With the favorable report by the Corps of Engineers on a deepwater port, a new group anxiously sprang into life in 1949, the Indiana Dunes Preservation Council." It recommended preservation of seven miles of lakeshore. "But the new association had trouble getting started." Attending a meeting in early 1952, Dorothy Buell, remembering the efforts of women in winning the establishment of the 2,200-acre Indiana Dunes State Park in the 1920s, suggested, "Maybe the women could do it." After that meeting, ornithologist Reuben Strong, President of the Conservation Council of Chicago, pressed her to take up the task and she launched the Save the Dunes Council at her home on June 20, 1952, serving as the organization's president for 16 years.²³ The Reads were among the early members.²⁴

In the early years, the organization attempted to preserve the Dunes by buying land, a traditional philanthropic route for donating park lands. In 1953, the Save the Dunes Council bought 56 acres in Cowles Bog for \$1,730, hoping it would be the nucleus for a national monument or an addition to the existing 2,200-acre Indiana Dunes State Park.²⁵

That strategy lasted a few years: "The newly formed Council thought at first that it could raise money to buy the land, but it quickly became apparent that this was not practical. They explored the possibility of adding lands to the Indiana Dunes State Park, but the state of Indiana was becoming increasingly committed by that time to industrialization of the dunes and to a harbor at Burns Ditch."²⁶

Land speculation was driving land prices sky high. "The low point in the history of the Save the Dunes Council came in 1957 when Bethlehem Steel verified that it had acquired land in the Central Dunes through its undisclosed land-buying agent, Lake Shore Development Corporation. The second

²² Since 1929 Porter County business interests had been lobbying the federal government for a port subsidy at Burns Ditch. However, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reported unfavorably on proposals for a new harbor at Burns Ditch in 1931, 1935 and 1944, "citing as the principal problem that it would benefit only one or two private corporations, and existing harbor facilities at Chicago, Indiana Harbor and Michigan City were adequate." J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983), 333. See also William Peeples, "The Indiana Dunes and Pressure Politics," *Atlantic Monthly*, February, 1963, 85. Despite a 1932 deep waterway treaty between the United States and Canada and a 1941 basin agreement, the two world wars and opposition of influential railway lobbyists prevented development of a seaway through the Great Lakes.

²³ J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983), 254.

²⁴ Save the Dunes Council. General Membership List. 1954-1955. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

²⁵ J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983), 256.

²⁶ Sylvia Troy, "Citizens Action for Preservation," *The Indiana Dunes Story: How Nature and People Made a Park*, ed. Joan Gibb Engel (Beverly Shores, Indiana: Shirley Heinze Environmental Fund, 1984).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

largest steel producer in the nation was now committed to the development at Burns Ditch...This not only made it impossible for the council to acquire further tracts but called into question the capacity of any government agency to purchase the area."²⁷

The next phase was to present "the aesthetic merits of saving the Dunes to the responsible government officials and legislators," hoping they would "promptly act accordingly."²⁸ In this phase came public awareness campaigns, petition drives and legislation. The Read Dunes House and the Read family were integral to this phase.

At their January 1957 meeting, the Save the Dunes Council took up the issue of the proposed harbor at Burns Ditch. Indiana's governor had thrown his support behind the port project and recommended that the Indiana Legislature appropriate \$3.5 million to buy 1,500 acres for a harbor near Burns Ditch. Irene Read noted that in working against the harbor bill in the Indiana Legislature, time was of the essence. By the June 1957 meeting, the Save the Dunes Council decided to organize a drive to petition the governor and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The August 1957 meeting, held at the Read Dunes House, was devoted to the petition drive. Irene Read was appointed to head the movement to collect signatures at the Indiana Dunes State Park, where most of the signatures ultimately were gathered.²⁹ A five-member delegation, including Irene Read, presented petitions with 5,423 signatures to the district engineer in Chicago for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that October. The Save the Dunes Council presented similar petitions to Indiana Gov. Harold W. Handley.³⁰

At the same time, the group decided to pursue the legislative process for a national park. Indiana's senators Homer Capehart and Albert Jenner turned them down. So the organization "appealed in desperation to Senator [Paul] Douglas [of Illinois] to intercede on their behalf."³¹

In May 1958, after Sen. Douglas introduced a bill (S.3898/H.R. 12689) to create a 3,800-acre Indiana Dunes National Monument in the Central Dunes, including acres purchased by Bethlehem Steel and some of the land proposed for the Burns Ditch port, the Save the Dunes Council launched a national petition drive with the goal of gathering 1 million signatures asking Congress "that the last three and a half mile portion of the undeveloped duneland on Lake Michigan to the west of the present Indiana Dunes State Park be acquired by the public for a National Park."

Irene Read organized the effort — mimeographing and sending out petitions and collecting signatures. The petitions were gathered and counted at the Read Dunes House. Philo Read drafted appeals in the Great Room of the Read Dunes House: "We need your help in getting more signatures NOW. We want to ship another 100,000 signatures as soon as possible. Won't you aid us to provide the needed recreational potential for future generations and at the same time save an irreplaceable bit

²⁷ J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983), 260.

²⁸ Herbert Read. "The Indiana Dunes: A Case History." Presentation to the Save the Dunes Council. January 28, 1969. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

²⁹ Save the Dunes Council. 1957. Minutes, dated January 29, June 4, August 20 and September 19. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

³⁰ "Delegation Seeks to Save Dunes from Industry" (including photo showing Save the Dunes Council president Dorothy Buell, Irene Martin Read and three others presenting petitions to Col. John B. W. Corey). *Chicago Tribune*. Sunday, Oct. 6, 1957. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana. See also Richard Lewis, "Indiana's Sand Gold: What's Behind Dunes Battle." *Chicago Sun-Times*. Aug. 17, 18, 19, 1958. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

³¹ William Peeples, "The Indiana Dunes and Pressure Politics." *Atlantic Monthly*. February 1963. 87.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 11

of the American scene? We depend on you to canvass everyone in your acquaintance for this most important -- and perhaps last -- chance to save our beloved Dunes. A petition is enclosed which we ask you to have filled on both sides and return promptly to Mrs. Philo Read, M. R. 505, Chesterton, Indiana."³²

On July 6, 1958, Save the Dunes Council President Dorothy Buell and Irene Read met with Sen. Douglas. A news account notes that, "Mrs. Read presented Sen. Douglas with petitions bearing 100,000 signatures of backers of the senator's efforts [to make the Indiana Dunes area a national park]."³³

The next day, Sen. Douglas wrote to Philo and Irene Read: "I want to thank you for the magnificent work which you and your associates have done in collecting signatures for the campaign to save the Dunes. Your work is really beyond and above praise, but I do want you to know how much I appreciate having a chance to work with you all in this most worthy campaign. It was good of you to come into Chicago on the hot Saturday to present the petitions and I think we attracted sufficient popular attention through television and the press to make it worthwhile. The petitions are being sent to me parcel post from Chicago, and as soon as they arrive I will present them to the Senate and arrange to have Senator O'Mahoney, who is chairman of the appropriate sub-committee of the Interior Committee, receive them from my hands and I hope we can get a little added publicity for the venture."³⁴

Their efforts were rebuffed. "The corps eventually opposed park preservation, along with two of the nation's largest steel companies, various land speculators, certain citizens of the area, and, of course, all the Indiana state and federal legislators...The original strategy of the Save the Dunes Council was to put pressure on the Indiana governor and legislators to force them to change their policy toward the dunes. Half a million signatures were collected all over the country toward this end, all of which were ignored by the governor and members of the Indiana General Assembly."³⁵

But the effort to pursue legislation through Sen. Douglas changed the dynamic: "This countervailing pressure had its effect. The drive for the Burns Ditch port lost some of its momentum, and gradually the conflict came to a stalemate. At each session of Congress, the port backers pushed for approval of their project and their opponents countered with the Douglas bill."³⁶

The St. Lawrence Seaway opened April 25, 1959, intensifying the conflict.

As Indiana officials renewed their efforts for a harbor bill, the Save the Dunes Council established an engineering committee and Dorothy Buell named Herbert Read, son of Philo and Irene

³² Save the Dunes Council. 1958. Letter to "Member or Friend." Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

³³ "Douglas Gets Dunes Plea." *Chicago American*. July 7, 1958. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

³⁴ Sen. Paul H. Douglas. Letter. 1958. To Mr. and Mrs. Philo Read, dated July 8. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

³⁵ Lynton K. Caldwell, Lynton R. Hayes and Isabel M MacWhirter, "Chapter 2, Case VI: Industry versus Environmental Quality: The Indiana Dunes," in *Citizens and the Environment: Case Studies in Popular Action* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1976), 63-65, 70-74.

³⁶ William Peeples, "The Indiana Dunes and Pressure Politics," *Atlantic Monthly*. February, 1963. 87.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 12

Read, chairman.³⁷ That committee pointed out that alternate sites were available. "We cranked up a public awareness campaign and one of the council board members, Ray Humpfer of Munster, set up an extensive schedule of meetings and presentations of our alternative harbor – now renamed the 'Hammond-Whiting-East Chicago' or 'Tri-City' harbor," wrote Herbert Read. "I pursued the Tri-City Harbor and succeeded in gaining the full support of the mayors of Hammond, Whiting and East Chicago. I coordinated our efforts with the Lake County members of the Indiana General Assembly in opposing Porter County's drive to secure approval and funds for a Burns Ditch Harbor."³⁸

Author J. Ronald Engel wrote that "The principal weapon Douglas and the council had was persuasion. And the first and most effective form of persuasion, they agreed, was the persuasion of experience."³⁹

For that role, Philo Read was the ever-present scribe, the voice of the save the dunes movement, churning out pieces at the Read Dunes House. He had been active for nearly 20 years as a member and committee chairman in the Chicago-based Prairie Club's early efforts to create a national park in the 1910s, providing intergenerational continuity to the battles of the 1950s and 1960s. He brought to the cause his skills as a commercial artist and publicist, honed by his experience as a student and teacher at the Art Institute of Chicago and by work and connections forged with his Read Brothers Advertising Agency. Philo Read also was one of a small group of pre-World War II dunes activists who offered courses in the science, art and literature of the dunes tradition to a new generation of leaders and volunteers.⁴⁰

He wrote to key members of Congress to build support for the Douglas legislation: "The proponents for a port and steel mills in the Burns Ditch area of the Dunes constitute a well-organized coterie of promoters, including many big Indiana politicians, whose only purpose is to get rich quick."

³⁷ Ron Cockrell, *A Signature of Time and Eternity: The Administrative History of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana* (Washington DC: National Park Service, 1988): "An important ally of Douglas was Save the Dunes Council member Herbert Read, son of artist and Council publicity director Philo B. Read. Read, a dunes advocate who worked for a Chicago architectural firm, became chairman of the Council's Engineering Committee after educating himself on harbors through reading a borrowed technical manual. The self-taught 'harbor expert' was able to decipher the Corps' of Engineers formula for calculating benefit-cost ratios. The Engineering Committee demonstrated the Council's resolve to take the offensive. Ogden Dunes resident George Anderson, a railroad research engineer, assisted Read in identifying various harbor alternatives and technical report errors. Channeling the information to Sen. Paul Douglas, the result saw the Corps agree to a series of restudies."

See also Herbert Read, "Remembrances of Dorothy Buell, founder and first president of the Save the Dunes Council" (Paper presentation, date unknown). Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana: "The Indiana politicians were saying that they couldn't support our cause because Indiana needed a harbor and that the only place in the whole state that the harbor could be built was in the middle of the Indiana Dunes. Now, neither Dorothy Buell nor any of the rest of us knew anything about harbors...I went to Dorothy Buell and suggested that we get a 'harbor expert' to find out whether our opponents' claim was true and whether there were alternate locations...She said, 'I think that's a fine idea, Herbert. We'll set up an Engineering Committee and I know you'd be the perfect person to be chairman.'"

³⁸ Herbert Read, "Some Untold Tales" (Paper presented at the Polymathic Society, Chesterton, Indiana, 1988). Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

³⁹ J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983), 263.

⁴⁰ J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983), 257.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**

County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 13

They would be the sole beneficiaries. The people of Indiana and the Nation would be the losers. The promoters' motto seems to be, anything for a buck...Those in Indiana in favor of saving the Dunes are not against more steel mills in Indiana, as has been trickily charged. They want more mills for the benefit of the State, and realize their great value as a source of additional revenue for the State. But not being biased by a promotion scheme, they are free to see that Indiana can have both mills and Dunes, each in its proper place. The weight of opinion among qualified engineers and commercial planners is for placing the new mills and seaway harbor between Indiana Harbor and the Illinois state line."⁴¹

He informed Save the Dunes Council members of progress with monthly newsletters drafted and mimeographed at the Read Dunes House: "True, we are up against a power set of get-that-buck promoters and propagandists," he wrote, "but the Save the Dunes Council is now powerful and influential, too, with a national reputation. Millions of people know all about our cause and are rooting for us...Our program now calls for intensive education of the public as to the fallacies in the plans for an industrial development in the Dunes."⁴²

The Save the Dunes Council also had to move in the legal arena. While the Douglas bill was being considered, the Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) was leveling the dunes. At the November 1959 meeting at the Read Dunes House, Philo Read moved to raise money to proceed with legal action. And within the next week, he had drafted and sent out a fundraising newsletter to support legal action: "It is imperative for us to start immediate legal proceedings toward establishing a permanent injunction against molesting this water area, by steel mills or any other development. What are our chances of success? Not bad, at all. Well worth the effort, when you consider that our backs are against the wall. Besides, pending legal action has a tendency toward slowing up the opposition. Any delay would work to our benefit, while we are waiting for our new bills in Congress to gain footing after the first of the year...Our proposed legal action should be started immediately, but -- oh well, let's bring it out: The whole deal is estimated to cost about five thousand dollars. Alas, the high cost of justice! We don't have the money...We are calling upon the fortunate, energetic people to help us in our cause...The time is short, please act fast."⁴³

He also drafted a five-point strategic policy document for the council, concluding, "We are unalterably opposed to LEGISLATION BY BULLDOZER. The current destruction of this irreplaceable land before suitable compromises can be made or considered is inexcusable...It is immoral and is a direct attack on the American principles of fair hearing and fair play...The Save-the-Dunes Council and the private citizens of which it is composed will fight efforts to undermine the American process with all legal means at its disposal."⁴⁴

At the same time, Herbert Read had approached the executive director of the Izaak Walton League of America, headquartered in Chicago, as a way to expand the citizen effort. The Read Dunes House was the site of the founding meeting of the Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League in

⁴¹ Philo B. Read. Letter. 1959. To Sens. James Murray and Joseph O'Mahoney, dated July 8. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁴² Philo B. Read. Newsletter. 1959. To Member, dated 14 October. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁴³ Philo B. Read. Newsletter. 1959. To Members and Friends, dated 20 November and 25 November. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁴⁴ Philo B. Read. Draft. "Policy of the Save-the-Dunes Council" Dated 28 January 1960. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 14

the fall of 1958, with 15 to 20 people in attendance. The chapter was granted a provisional six-month charter and its formal charter was issued in the spring of 1959, with more than 50 members.

Herbert Read was the founder and president. Philo and Irene Read were founding members and tapped their neighbors to join for that initial meeting at their home. Philo Read recruited Colonel Robert Murray, who owned Neumode Hosiery, then living at Sunset Hill Farm. That property later became the first unit in the Porter County park system. From the beginning, the Porter County Chapter, which met at the Read Dunes House and other locations, took on urban and regional planning, creation of a forest preserve district, pollution control laws and creation of a county park system – in addition to preservation of the Indiana Dunes as a national park.⁴⁵

Where the Save the Dunes Council led efforts to create a national park at the local level, the Izaak Walton League focused on developing regional and national support, both within its own organization and among the national community of environmental organizations. "While the Indiana Division of the Izaak Walton League of America had resolved in 1952 that the remaining dunes should be preserved, it had not taken as active a role as the Save the Dunes Council," wrote Thomas Dustin. The creation of the Porter County Chapter changed that. "With the Council providing the bulk of local support and the League expanding the issue nationally, a coordinated citizens machinery was created."⁴⁶

By July 1960, the Save the Dunes Council was considering an overhaul. Meeting at the Read Dunes House, Irene Read was appointed co-chair with council Vice President Merrill Ormes to organize a strategic planning workshop "since we need to take a good look at the long haul before us."⁴⁷

By October 1960, Philo Read was writing about the importance of 1960-61 for the save the dunes movement: "With the new national administration coming in, this may be our year of decision, of victory."⁴⁸

At the same time, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued a report concluding that Burns Ditch, in the heart of the Central Dunes, was the ideal location for the Indiana Port (justifying a federal investment of \$25 million) and set the benefit-cost ratio at 5.66 to 1.⁴⁹

Herbert Read and the council's engineering committee set out to challenge the figures used by the Army Corps: "Okay, so it would have to be all-out war over the harbor," wrote Herbert Read. "So we had to fight the dunes battle in purely economic and engineering terms. We were probably the first citizen group – certainly the first environmental group to force the Corps to withdraw their report and

⁴⁵ John Drury, "Meet Porter County's 'Mr. Izaak Walton,'" a feature on Herbert Read. *Gary-Post Tribune*, Sunday, Feb. 19, 1961. D4-5. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁴⁶ Thomas E. Dustin, "The Battle of the Indiana Dunes," in *Citizens Make the Difference: Case Studies in Environmental Action* (Citizens Advisory Committee on Environmental Quality, 1973): 35-42.

⁴⁷ Save the Dunes Council. 1960. Minutes, dated 18 July. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁴⁸ Philo B. Read. Newsletter. 1960. To Members and Friends, dated October 14. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁴⁹ U.S. Army Engineers District, Chicago, Corps of Engineers. "Great Lakes Harbors Study: Interim Report on Burns Waterway" (Chicago: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: October 1960).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 15

'restudy' the whole thing. We went back and forth for several years with the Corps and finally they issued their final report with a barely acceptable benefit-cost ratio of 1.17 to one."⁵⁰

Shortly after President John F. Kennedy's inauguration and the Save the Dunes Council's January 1961 meeting at the Read Dunes House, Philo Read issued a long piece outlining the changes in the organization and the changes in Washington D.C.: "Entire climate in Washington changing in our favor. New Secretary of Interior Udall avows great interest in saving Indiana Dunes. Hopes to get action before it is too late...Still, it's going to be a hard fight for us to win. But we are fighters. The Save the Dunes officers, directors and committee members give tremendously of their work and time, often amounting to many hours a week. Considerable time is spent in giving talks and showing our films to clubs, schools, labor unions and various other organizations. Much time also is spent in conferences in various cities, in research and in preparation of tracts to combat our busy opponents' propaganda. These tracts and letters are mailed to hundreds of legislators and agencies, both Federal and State, by volunteer workers. For weeks the job of photographing various points in the Dunes has been going on to offset our opponents' propaganda claim that 'there are no Dunes left to save.'...One, two or three of such dollars from each of our members will provide us with operating funds for quite a while, perhaps until our cause is won. We have no other way of getting new operating funds for our legal actions, public relations service, printing, telegrams, stationery, postage, etc...We need new operating funds now."⁵¹

The year 1961 proved to be the decisive turning point for the Dunes movement. In March, President Kennedy in a "Special Message to Congress on Natural Resources" called for congressional approval of a "national lakeshore area in northern Indiana." In May, Sen. Douglas introduced S. 1797 to preserve 8,000 acres (amended in August to 9,000 acres) by purchase or donation.

A tour of the Dunes in July provided major momentum.⁵² It was attended by notable federal officials, including Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall⁵³ and National Park Service Director Conrad Wirth. Sen. Paul Douglas brought Sen. Alan Bible of Nevada, who as chairman of the Senate Parks and Recreation Subcommittee presided over "the greatest expansion of parks, historical monuments and recreation areas in American history."⁵⁴ Local officials included Indiana State Rep. Ray Madden of Lake County; Mayor Richard Daley of Chicago; and the mayors of Gary, Whiting, Hammond and East Chicago.

Earlier in the year, Philo Read had written a piece from the Read Dunes House encouraging people to attend and submit letters for key hearings in Indianapolis. He argued that, "Every community

⁵⁰ Herbert Read, "The Kennedy Compromise of 1963 (Paper presented at the 40th Anniversary of the Save the Dunes Council, Indiana, 25 October 1992). Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁵¹ Philo Read. Newsletter. 1961. To Members and Friends, dated February 14. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁵² "The pilgrimage to the Dunes on July 23, 1961, was one of the high points of Douglas's legislative campaign...Both Bible and Udall were converted by the trip." J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983), 265.

⁵³ Udall served as Secretary of the Interior under Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson from 1961 to 1969. Among his accomplishments: the addition of four national parks, six national monuments, eight national seashores and lakeshores, nine national recreation areas, 20 national historic sites, and 56 national wildlife refuges.

⁵⁴ Gary Elliot, *Sen. Alan Bible and the politics of the new West* (Reno, Nev.: University of Nevada Press, 1994), xvii.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 16

that has turned its shoreline over to industry has lived to regret it. Such a course represents poor planning. Let's be good planners. Place the port where there is already logical industrial development and save the Dunes country as a natural beauty spot for the benefit of the exploding population to come...We are asking EVERY MEMBER, without exception, to write."⁵⁵

As the momentum shifted in their favor, Philo Read took on the issue of property rights, writing to Save the Dunes Council members that "OPPOSITION ALREADY BUSY ALARMING HOME OWNERS. 90 percent of the area is practically free of homes. Home owners have been given the false impression that homes will be taken forcibly from them. GOVERNMENT ACQUIRES LAND BY FRIENDLY NEGOTIATION. Plenty of time is taken. Parallel instances show that practically everyone selling land for a National Park is more than satisfied. Many are allowed to keep their homes within National Parks for many years."⁵⁶

Philo Read also took on the task of publicity for the July tour and worked closely with Sen. Douglas on a post-tour mass meeting to address the rights of homeowners. He published a telegram he received at the Read Dunes House from Sen. Douglas: "Park Service procedures for setting up National Parks in areas which include privately owned property are firmly established and protect the rights of the property owners. In establishing the park, the Park Service would give highest priority to purchase of undeveloped areas, so it might be several years before negotiation with individual homeowners would begin. It has been the policy of the Park Service in the acquisition of areas with private residences to permit property owners to retain a life interest or 25 years, whichever they elect. Acquisitions are made by paying fair market values as determined by non-Federal appraisers. Every effort is made to reach agreement amicably...With a choice of either life occupancy or a specified period of say 25 years, and with all the protection afforded, it would seem to me this is a much better choice than the one which will eventually mean the entire area will be consumed by smoke, dirt, grime, asphalt and all the rest."⁵⁷

After the July 23 tour, Philo Read wrote a piece from the Read Dunes House describing the event in detail, including the mass meeting on property rights attended by 400 people: "Senator Douglas explained that in most cases of converting land into a National domain, most of the persons whose homes were included objected to the change. But, he said, the objections of these comparatively few have not been allowed to prevent the establishment of our great National Parks for the millions of people. At the close of the meeting, no one was in doubt as to the rights and privileges of in-dwellers, and we all had a good lesson from our speakers on public rights and private rights."⁵⁸

President Kennedy signed legislation creating the Cape Cod National Seashore on Aug 7, 1961. A day later, he sent a message to Congress requesting a \$2.5 million supplemental appropriation that would begin the process of establishing the park.⁵⁹ Park historian Ron Cockrell noted that "Cape Cod represented a radical change in the Federal Government's land acquisition policy. For the first time

⁵⁵ Philo Read. Letter. 1961. To Member, dated April 17. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁵⁶ Philo Read. Letter. 1961. To Members and Friends, dated June 3. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁵⁷ Sen. Paul Douglas. Telegram. 1961. To Philo Read, dated July 15. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁵⁸ Philo Read. Newsletter. 1961. To Members and Friends, dated Aug. 9, 1961. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁵⁹ Donna Tunney, "Cape Cod National Seashore 50th Anniversary: The Great Debate, A look back to the establishment of the Cape's national park," *The Cape Codder*. Feb. 1, 2011.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 17

Congress approved significant park enabling legislation which included the right to use Federal money to purchase national park land. The old 'beg, borrow, or steal system' -- where new park land had to be either already Federally owned or donated to the government -- was gone forever."⁶⁰ Philo and Irene Read wrote to the president comparing Cape Cod to the Indiana Dunes, and urging him to "hasten hearings on Sen. Douglas' bill, and get Federal action before it is too late."⁶¹

An exchange between Philo Read and Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall crystallized the issues at that time.

On July 27, Philo Read wrote to Udall from the Read Dunes House explaining that a "compromise" dunes plan "excludes the finest natural duneland, where you did your climbing..." He explained this as an opposition tactic: "This is a TRICK. It was originated by the Steel Companies' board of strategy, or by the clever real estate interests in Porter County, Indiana." He continued: "They have sprung and almost got away with numerous tricks before, such as: 'There are no Dunes left to save,' and 'the save the Dunes project is just a scheme to provide a bathing beach for the negroes of Gary,' and 'the whole save the Dunes plan is just a plot by Senator Douglas to get the steel mills to build in Illinois.'"⁶²

Udall's reply to Philo Read of Aug. 21 indicated his thinking on future action after the tour: "My recent hike along the dunes convinced me of the urgent necessity of a concerted drive to move this issue off of dead center, where it has rested for so long. The final decision, however, will depend heavily upon the active support of individuals, individuals who will lose a great scenic heritage if this stalemate continues."⁶³

In the meantime, Save the Dunes Council Engineering Committee efforts, led by Herbert Read, resulted in the report by the Army Corps in favor of a port at Burns Ditch being sent back for restudy. The Corps called for a public hearing in Indianapolis. Philo Read fired out a newsletter urging people to attend to counter the tactics of national park opponents, who, he wrote, have the financial wherewithal to subsidize bus fares and meals to create the appearance of "masses of marching, jeering, sign-carrying minions trying to produce the impression that nobody except a few bird watchers wants a National Park." He pointed out that while Save the Dunes advocates will have plenty of "top talent" to speak at the hearing, what is most effective is having ordinary people long devoted to the park cause showing up themselves: "Now they are up to it again, and we need your help -- not in money, but in a little good service at this particular time to counter their machinations...We need numerical representation. We don't want the newspapers to carry the story that 'only a handful' of people were present for our side."⁶⁴

⁶⁰ Ron Cockrell, *A Signature of Time and Eternity: The Administrative History of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana* (Washington DC: National Park Service, 1988).

⁶¹ Philo and Irene Read. Letter. 1961. To President John F. Kennedy, dated Aug. 10. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁶² Philo Read. Letter. 1961. To Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall, dated July 27. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁶³ Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall. Letter. 1961. To Philo Read, dated Aug. 21. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁶⁴ Philo Read. Newsletter. 1961. To Members and Friends, dated Aug. 21. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 18

Philo Read's last newsletter to the membership, dated Oct. 30, reported that "The climate in Washington continues to be very salubrious for our cause" and invited people to the Save the Dunes Council annual dinner.⁶⁵ He died Nov. 22, 1961.

In 1962 Congress reaffirmed the precedent of federal purchase by establishing Point Reyes National Seashore. In 1963, Secretary Udall's book, *The Quiet Crisis*, advocated use of the government's power of taxation as a creative force for scenic preservation.⁶⁶

During this period, neither side in the Indiana port versus park battle had the votes needed to pass legislation: "Douglas and his allies were able to thwart passage of port legislation in the public works committees of each house and block legislation in the Senate. The stalemate between the contending parties reflected in part the cleavage in the federal government between parks and public works projects. It also raised the possibility of a compromise."⁶⁷

Herbert Read's Engineering Committee had been able to get the Bureau of the Budget (forerunner of the Office of Management and Budget) to review their economic study of the port: "There followed numerous trips to Washington, D.C., in which George Anderson and I confronted the full force of the Corps of Engineers, including meetings with the Assistant Secretary of the Army and presidential staffer Lee White. Usually, the meetings were conducted in Sen. Douglas's office, but sometimes in the Old Executive Office Building. We argued not dunes or natural values, but dollars, tons and transportation savings in day-long meetings. Finally, we proved our case to the Bureau of the Budget and we had stalled the harbor. But neither could we get the dunes park bill passed...But with the elections coming up, President Kennedy wanted a resolution to the controversy. Hence, a compromise of sorts, in which the harbor was approved by the Bureau of the Budget and there was to be a National Lakeshore of nearly 14,000 acres."⁶⁸

Stephen Higgs has explained the significance of this achievement: "Herb and others in the Save the Dunes Council developed tactics and strategies that had never been used before. They challenged the cost/benefit analysis put forth by the U.S. Army engineers. Today such challenges are routine and fundamental to public land-use battles everywhere."⁶⁹

The Kennedy assassination interrupted further legislative progress. President Lyndon Johnson's 1964 conservation message proposed eight new national parks. In September 1964, Congress passed the Land and Water Conservation Fund, making substantial funds available for acquisition and development of park lands.

The Burns Waterway Harbor bill passed in 1965, before the park bill – but made appropriation of funds for the harbor contingent upon both chambers having a chance to vote on a Dunes bill in 1966.

The park bill passed the Senate in June 1966, the House in October. A bill authorizing an appropriation for the Burns Waterway Harbor also passed. On Nov. 5, 1966, President Johnson signed the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Act. It came with a cost, however, writes Herbert Read: "As soon

⁶⁵ Philo Read. Newsletter. 1961. To Members and Friends, dated Oct. 30. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁶⁶ Stewart Udall, *The Quiet Crisis* (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1963).

⁶⁷ J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983), 274.

⁶⁸ Herbert Read, "The Kennedy Compromise of 1963" (Presentation for the 40th Anniversary of the Save the Dunes Council, Indiana, 25 October 1992), Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁶⁹ Steven Higgs, *Eternal Vigilance: Nine Tales of Environmental Heroism in Indiana* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1995), 187.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 19

as the anti-park people got what they wanted, they backed down from the 1963 compromise and the National Lakeshore, as passed in 1966, was whittled down to 5,800 acres" (plus the 2,200 acres of the already existing Indiana Dunes State Park, if donated).⁷⁰

The first meeting of the Save the Dunes Council after President Johnson signed the bill into law was held at the Read Dunes House. The main issue was, "we must continue to be active since we only have the authorization for the park but no appropriations yet. We must try to get the deleted areas back in the park in a couple of years." Equally important was that Allen P. Edmonds, Assistant Regional Director of the National Park Service, would speak at the annual dinner on "next steps and answering the many questions related to the transition from privately owned property to a publicly owned Lakeshore."⁷¹

Thomas Dustin said one lesson from the experience was: "Authorization is only the start; beyond that is the appropriation of funds to buy the lands. No matter what has been 'authorized,' the wreckage that occurs after that but before actual purchase of the land can still defeat or impair a project."⁷² At the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, "Following authorization in 1966, progress in implementation through the purchase of land was slow. Six years later, however, 80 percent of the authorized land had been acquired; and a formal dedication was held on Sept. 8, 1972."⁷³

Irene Read sold the Read Dunes House to the National Park Service (with a reservation of use for 25 years) and continued to fight for expansion of the national park -- and creation of a county park system -- serving 10 years as membership secretary of the Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League and holding meetings at the Read Dunes House. She received recognition of her efforts at an Interchapter Council dinner in September 1981 "for her long efforts on behalf of preserving the Indiana Dunes" and as a "founding member of the Porter County Chapter."⁷⁴ She died Nov. 22, 1981, exactly 20 years after Philo Read.

The park, following the 1990 congressional session, finally reached the 14,000 acres promised in 1963. At the 40th Anniversary of the Save the Dunes Council in 1992, Herbert Read said, "So you see, 25 years later, our expansion bills are just now enabling us to catch up to 1963."⁷⁵

Beginnings of a Dunes park movement

J. Ronald Engel writes, "Among the Dune Country patriots of the Progressive Era, roughly the period 1890-1930, the Dunes movement and its informing vision took shape. During these years the

⁷⁰ Herbert Read, "The Kennedy Compromise of 1963" (Presentation for the 40th Anniversary of the Save the Dunes Council, Indiana, 25 October 1992), Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁷¹ Save the Dunes Council. 1966. Minutes, dated 28 November. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁷² Thomas E. Dustin, "The Battle of the Indiana Dunes," in *Citizens Make the Difference: Case Studies in Environmental Action* (Citizens Advisory Committee on Environmental Quality, 1973): 41.

⁷³ Thomas E. Dustin, "The Battle of the Indiana Dunes," in *Citizens Make the Difference: Case Studies in Environmental Action* (Citizens Advisory Committee on Environmental Quality, 1973): 41.

⁷⁴ *Hoosier Waltonian*. Fall 1981. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

⁷⁵ Herbert Read, "The Kennedy Compromise of 1963" (Presentation for the 40th Anniversary of the Save the Dunes Council, Indiana, 25 October 1992), Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 20

personal, associational and geographic relationships that nurtured the movement for the rest of the century were initially formed..."⁷⁶

Those involved in the 1950s and 1960s "were but the latest generation of a movement that began among Chicago Progressives at the turn of the century."⁷⁷

Engel describes the dynamic: "At the turn of the century, a small band of Chicago reformers, artists and scientists, joined by a few sympathetic Hoosiers, began the struggle to save the Dunes... Together with public-spirited businessmen, labor organizers, politicians, civic leaders and plain citizens who joined them, they created a movement that lasted through World War I, the roaring twenties, the Great Depression and World War II, and culminated in the 1950s and '60s with what one urban geographer has called 'perhaps the most savage conservation-industry confrontation in history.' Those in the vanguard of the Dunes struggle never numbered more than several hundred. But what they lacked in numbers, they made up in commitment and the hours, weeks and years devoted to the cause. In some cases several generations within a single family were involved in one phase or another of the 80-year struggle to preserve the Dunes."⁷⁸

The Read family was a key element of the intergenerational continuity and leadership of that movement.

As Engel writes: "One example of the remarkable series of relationships that have characterized the movement over the generations is the Read family. Chicago novelist Opie Read was a good friend of Carl Sandburg, Lorado Taft and other notables of the Chicago Renaissance. His son, Philo B. Read, an artist, was a friend of Jens Jensen and an ardent Dunatic. Philo participated in the Dunes Pageant of 1917 and worked assiduously for the Indiana Dunes State Park in the 1920s. Thirty years later he was a leader of the Save the Dunes Council. Philo's son Herbert P. Read, an architect, took up the fight for the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in the 1950s and continues to this day to be one of the Dunes' most outspoken advocates. Charlotte Johnson Read, his wife, became executive director of the Save the Dunes Council in 1976."⁷⁹

The park movement began in earnest with the Prairie Club of Chicago. As park historian Ron Cockrell notes, "The Prairie Club was the first group to propose that a portion of the Indiana Dunes be protected from commercial interests and maintained in its pristine condition for the enjoyment of the people."⁸⁰

And the geographical center of the Dunes movement was the south side Chicago neighborhood of Hyde Park. As Engel notes, "Hyde Park was ideally situated for Dune Bugs because of ready access by railroad lines to the Dune Country. For more than a century, Hyde Park has symbolized Progressive

⁷⁶ J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983), 48.

⁷⁷ J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983), xvii.

⁷⁸ J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983), 4-5.

⁷⁹ J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983), 80.

⁸⁰ Ron Cockrell, *A Signature of Time and Eternity: The Administrative History of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana* (Washington DC: National Park Service, 1988).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**
County and State **Porter, IN**
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 21

reform in Chicago, and no other community has contributed more leaders to the Dunes movement, or more of its own spirit to the Dunes vision."⁸¹

The Read family was among the community of writers, artists and scientists living in Hyde Park and Philo Read was an active member of the Prairie Club, founded in 1911. He helped build the Prairie Club Beach House 1913, which Prairie Club founder Jens Jensen conceived as a place "where the group could assemble and strategize."⁸²

Of Philo Read's early role, Herbert Read wrote, "There were great outdoor gatherings with giant campfires which were 'engineered' by my father. Sing-a-longs, storytelling, plays and pageants were common."⁸³ From 1913, dunes aficionados mounted plays and pageants to generate publicity for the Indiana Dunes. An annual open-air festival drew attendance from a few hundred to 1,500 people.

At the Prairie Club's annual picnic at the Beach House in 1916, park historian Ron Cockrell writes that the group "decided to take the offensive against the industrial interests despoiling the Indiana Dunes. They voted to form the National Dunes Park Association to promote the establishment of a national park on Indiana's lakeshore. On July 16, a mass meeting at Waverly Beach to inaugurate the effort resulted in three special trains from Chicago carrying 5,000 people to the dunes. With a theme of 'A National Park for the Middle West, and all the Middle West for a National Park,' a principal goal was to raise money to buy enough duneland to turn over to the Federal Government for a national park."⁸⁴

Stephen Mather, who had been a resident of Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood and was a member of the Prairie Club's conservation committee, became the first director of the National Park Service, created in August 1916.

Within two weeks of the National Park Service Act, Stephen Mather met with U.S. Sen. Thomas Taggart, D-Indiana, to draft a resolution authorizing a study of the "advisability of the securing, by purchase or otherwise, all that portion of the counties of Lake, LaPorte and Porter, in the State of Indiana, bordering upon Lake Michigan, and commonly known as the 'Sand Dunes,' with a view that such lands be created a national park."⁸⁵

The Senate adopted the resolution in September and Mather held hearings in Chicago in October.

Just before the turn of the century, Chicago was known as "one of the most abysmally filthy cities in the industrial world. Most of its streets were unspeakably dirty, the horrible-smelling river remained its sewer, and thick gray smoke from locomotives, river tugs and factories discolored its new skyscrapers, stung people's eyes, clogged their lungs, and soiled their clothing -- and reduced visibility in the Loop to little more than a city block."⁸⁶

⁸¹ J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983), 82.

⁸² Ron Cockrell, *A Signature of Time and Eternity: The Administrative History of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana* (Washington DC: National Park Service, 1988).

⁸³ Herbert Read, "The Prairie Club and the Indiana Dunes," in *Dunebeat*. Vol. 11, Number 15. Oct. 30, 1986.

⁸⁴ Ron Cockrell, *A Signature of Time and Eternity: The Administrative History of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana* (Washington DC: National Park Service, 1988).

⁸⁵ Stephen T. Mather, *Report on the Proposed Sand Dunes National Park Indiana* (Washington DC: Department of the Interior, Government Printing Office, 1917), 22.

⁸⁶ Donald L. Miller, *City of the Century: The Epic of Chicago and the Making of America* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1996), 423-424.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 22

A key element in the public testimony was the need for a national park in the Midwest as an outlet for people of working class and moderate means in the metropolitan Chicago region and as a means to unify a diverse population that had neither the time nor the means to travel to the national parks of the West.

"What are we doing for the tens of thousands of people in this noisy, grimy, seething city, who need to revive their souls and to refresh the inner man as well as the outer?" asked Jens Jensen, founder of the Prairie Club.

The president of the Chicago Association of Commerce noted that in this city of 2.4 million, 1.7 million were of foreign birth or foreign extraction. "One of the problems of Americanization," he observed, "is to bring to the people an understanding of their connections with our national affairs. This applies not only to the foreign born but to the American born."

Another agreed: "I look upon this national park reservation as a great unifier of the diverse elements of our population. I think it will give each citizen who visits these dunes a sense of proprietorship in the national assets. I really was thrilled when I went under that legend written over the entrance to Yellowstone Park for the first time, reading, 'For the pleasure of the people.' I felt that I was one of the people. It positively gave a new impetus to my own patriotism."

A representative of the Hammond (Indiana) Chamber of Commerce noted that the center of U.S. population during the 1910 Census was in Indiana. "I have often wondered, however, that all of our Government parks should be located west of the Rocky Mountains."⁸⁷

Mather submitted his report recommending a national park of 9,000 to 13,000 acres to Secretary Lane in December 1916.

He described the uphill battle this would be: "The dunes are not public lands. Their owners do not offer to donate them to the Federal Government, and no individual or organization has undertaken to purchase them and convey them to the Government for park purposes. All parks that have heretofore been established have been carved out of the public domain. Land has never been purchased for reservation as a national park, and in only a few instances have private holdings in a national park been purchased for park purposes."⁸⁸

Mather estimated that a park of 9,000 to 13,000 acres would cost between \$1.8 million and \$2.6 million. National park historian Ron Cockrell writes: "The document represented a potential turning point for Federal land acquisition policy for the Park Service director proposed the government purchase the land for a national park from private interests, a practice hitherto verboten by Congress."⁸⁹

Secretary Lane endorsed Mather's recommendation and forwarded it to Congress in early 1917.

In the meantime, citizen activists took the Prairie Club's annual outdoor festival concept and expanded it to prepare a June 1917 historical pageant. The "Book of the Historical Pageant of the Dunes" notes the preservation goal of bringing thousands "into contact with the romantic beauty of this historic region for the first time, and thereby, with national publicity, giving great help to the movement to 'Save the Dunes' as a public park for all to enjoy."⁹⁰

⁸⁷ Stephen T. Mather, *Report on the Proposed Sand Dunes National Park Indiana* (Washington DC: Department of the Interior, Government Printing Office, 1917), 24, 34-35, 37, 73-74.

⁸⁸ Stephen T. Mather, *Report on the Proposed Sand Dunes National Park Indiana* (Washington DC: Department of the Interior, Government Printing Office, 1917), 11.

⁸⁹ Ron Cockrell, *A Signature of Time and Eternity: The Administrative History of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana* (Washington DC: National Park Service, 1988).

⁹⁰ Thomas Wood Stevens, "Foreword," *Book of the Historical Pageant of the Dunes* (1917).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 23

Philo Read led the costumes and props committee for the 1917 pageant, which drew an audience of 25,000. J. Ronald Engel describes the significance of this event: "The Dunes Pageant of 1917 must occupy a central place in any effort to understand the larger meaning of the 80-year movement to preserve the Indiana Dunes. For those who participated, the pageant was a definitive expression of the purposes to which they were devoted. Its impact was felt for years...Six years later, the memory of the pageant was vivid in the minds of those who led the successful campaign for the Indiana Dunes State Park."⁹¹

Despite the citizen effort, the park movement suffered a series of blows. Mather suffered a breakdown in the spring of 1917 and was unable to lobby for the park. Sen. Taggart was defeated in the Nov. 1916 election, so the park lost its congressional champion. Then came U.S. entry into World War I, which ended in late 1918. By late 1920, Mather had given up on the cause. Assistant Director of the National Park Service Horace Albright recalled, "Mr. Mather was just too busy to get back to the Dunes Project and he gradually came to the conclusion that the only hope for them lay in the state park movement."⁹²

Dunes activists came to realize that any campaign to convince Congress to purchase land for a national park would be prolonged and "after that arduous process, there would be no dunes left to save."⁹³ They decided to focus on convincing the State of Indiana to create a state park. By then, the leadership of the dunes movement had passed to Bess Sheehan, who had been secretary of the National Dune Park Association and President of the Indiana Federation of Clubs.⁹⁴

From 1916 through the 1920s, writes Peggy Moran, "Philo [Read] lobbied, in and out of Indianapolis, on behalf of the State Park."⁹⁵ At the time, he was chairman of the Prairie Club's Beach House Committee.⁹⁶ The club held "Dunes Summer Camps" and "Summer Schools" at the beach

⁹¹ J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983), 17.

⁹² Kay Franklin and Norma Schaeffer, *Duel for the Dunes: Land Use Conflict on the Shores of Lake Michigan* (Urbana/Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1983), 36.

⁹³ Ron Cockrell, *A Signature of Time and Eternity: The Administrative History of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana* (Washington DC: National Park Service, 1988).

⁹⁴ She later wrote to Richard Lieber, the first director of the Indiana Department of Conservation, her thinking on the shift to a state park: "What did happen, as I have analyzed it, was, that the encouragement and interest then gathering momentum in state officials, state organizations and a few Indiana men and women of vision, induced the Indiana leaders to believe that it would be easier and quicker to create a state park, than a federal, and with the rapidly encroaching civilization, time was very precious." Sheehan, Beth. 1929. Letter to Richard Lieber, dated 5 September. Lieber Papers, DL90 Director's Correspondence 1919-1933, Department of Conservation, Archives Division, Indiana Commission on Public Records, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis.

⁹⁵ Peggy Moran, "The Dunes and Dune People," *Calumet Review* 3 (1969), 17.

⁹⁶ *Prairie Club Yearbook of 1921*. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 24

house. At these one- to two-week events, instruction was offered in the science, art and literature of the dunes. Philo Read was part of the leadership team offering these courses.⁹⁷

In 1920, Gov. James Goodrich and Richard Lieber, the first director of the Indiana Department of Conservation, were interested in creating a state park in the dunes. As he left office in January 1921, Gov. Goodrich endorsed the project in his final address to the Indiana Legislature. Incoming Gov. Warren McCray advocated purchase in his inaugural address.

A bill to establish a state park was offered in 1921, but failed.

In a 1922 *Prairie Club Bulletin* article, dunes artist Frank Dudley warned that "if some definite conservation action is not soon taken the Dunes will be lost forever. When that portion that lies between Dune Park and Michigan City is broken into and divided by corporate interests, the fate of the dunes will be sealed."⁹⁸

In 1923, another park bill was introduced and passed. On March 6, 1923, Gov. McCray signed the bill authorizing an Indiana Dunes State Park. "This provision was neither large, nor speedy, and did not insure the purchase of lands that might at any time slip away to other purchasers, but it was at least a definite step in the desired direction."⁹⁹

In May 1925, newly elected Gov. Edward Jackson took a dunes tour and authorized the Dunes Purchasing Board (a division of the State Conservation Commission) to use \$200,000 in tax revenue to buy 500 acres of duneland to spur private donations. On August 29, 1925, the deed for the first 110 acres was handed over at a ceremony on Mount Green -- renamed Mount Jackson. The state park opened in July 1926. The size had shrunk to 3 miles of shoreline and 2,182 acres -- one-quarter of the 8 miles of shoreline and 8,000 acres originally believed necessary by the Indiana Department of Conservation. Since the land acquisitions of 1925-26, no land has been added.

The *Prairie Club* sold its 56 acres and Philo Read gave up his beachfront cabin to the Indiana Dunes State Park. Asked by his young son why he would do that, Philo Read replied, "instead of being sole owner of several dune acres, you are now part owner of 2,200 acres of dunes."¹⁰⁰

With creation of the state park, "the activist phase of the [Prairie] club as the leading conservation group in Chicago ended."¹⁰¹

Not long after came the Great Depression and then World War II. Construction in the dunes came to a virtual halt. Dunes activism went into dormancy.

Historian Susan Schrepfer describes this pattern of 20th Century citizen conservation movements: "Strong if generally moderate from the 1890s into the 1920s, citizen activism was relatively

⁹⁷ J. Ronald Engel, *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983), 83: "In 1922, for example, the Dunes Summer Camp, held at the *Prairie Club Beach House*, was chaired by Bess Sheehan, with Henry Cowles serving as faculty chairman and Richard Lieber and Philo Read helping in other capacities."

⁹⁸ Frank V. Dudley, "The Dunes from an Artist's Point of View," *The Prairie Club Bulletin*, Feb. 1922, No. 113. n.p.

⁹⁹ George S. Cottman, *Indiana Dunes State Park: A History and Description* (Indianapolis: Indiana Department of Conservation, 1930).

¹⁰⁰ Peggy Moran, "The Dunes and Dune People," *Calumet Review* 3 (1969), 17.

¹⁰¹ Ryan Chew, "100 Years of the *Prairie Club*: How 'Saturday Afternoon Walking Trips' became a force for conservation," *Chicago Wilderness Magazine*, Spring 2008.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 25

quiet during the 1930s and 1940s. Then in the mid-1950s the anger and influence of participants burst forth, to flourish in the 1960s."¹⁰²

The activities at the Read Dunes House and of the Read family are a prime example of this resurgence of citizen participation.

Conclusion

The 50-year citizen movement to preserve the Indiana Dunes has a number of unique characteristics:

- Seeking to create a national park in an area with no pre-existing publicly owned federal lands at a time when Congress had no precedents for buying lands for national parks.
- Relying not primarily on private philanthropy or state government to secure land donations, but on citizen activism by homemakers, teachers, social workers, artists, writers, scientists, lawyers, engineers, architects urging the federal government itself to use federal appropriations to acquire lands.
- Depending explicitly on women for leadership in the movement, as well as for nuts-and-bolt activity.
- Setting aside public lands close to major population centers, out of land poised for development and easily accessible to millions of urban residents of all backgrounds – not out of sparsely populated open space in the West.
- Creating a national park in the Midwest, not the West or East.
- Acting over the objections of and in open confrontation with industry and the political establishment.
- Pursuing aggressive legislative advocacy, shepherding bills at every stage of the legislative process.
- Challenging government and private reports on the feasibility and benefits of industrial development and using litigation to delay or stop industrial activity as leverage in the legislative process.
- Retaining a core of intergenerational leadership and historical memory, providing continuity between the 1910s-1920s and 1950s-1960s.
- Relying on a core of willing sellers to build support for federal appropriations for private lands.

Ron Cockrell's history of the park begins: "The United States' Congress' 1966 authorization of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore represents the culmination of a movement which began in 1916 to establish a 'Sand Dunes National Park'...The ensuing 50 years spawned an increasingly bitter battle between the forces of conservation and development which did not abate with the Nov. 5, 1966 authorization of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore."¹⁰³

His history concludes that after the park was created, "Powerful, conservation-minded friends like the Save the Dunes Council and the Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League proved to be invaluable partners. These friends were more than willing to take on the bureaucracy – including the National Park Service itself – in defense of dunes preservation."¹⁰⁴

The Read Dunes House was a key site for the Save the Dunes Council and the Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League not only during the period from 1952 to park creation in 1966, but beyond. The Read family was in the leadership of the dunes movement from the beginning and has provided intergenerational continuity during the 20th century movement and into the 21st century. The Read Dunes House, designed as a clubhouse on an ancient dune ridge, was an integral part of Read family efforts to build a social community around dunes preservation.

¹⁰² Susan R. Schrepfer, *The Fight to Save the Redwoods: A History of Environmental Reform, 1917-1978* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1983).

¹⁰³ Ron Cockrell, *A Signature of Time and Eternity: The Administrative History of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana* (Washington DC: National Park Service, 1988).

¹⁰⁴ Ron Cockrell, *A Signature of Time and Eternity: The Administrative History of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana* (Washington DC: National Park Service, 1988).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 9 Page 26

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Caldwell, Lynton K., Lynton R. Hayes and Isabel M. MacWhirter. "Chapter 2, Case VI: Industry versus Environmental Quality: The Indiana Dunes," in *Citizens and the Environment: Case Studies in Popular Action* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1976).

Cockrell, Ron. *A Signature of Time and Eternity: The Administrative History of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana* (Washington DC: National Park Service, 1988).

Drury, John. "Meet Porter County's 'Mr. Izaak Walton.'" *Gary-Post Tribune*, Sunday, Feb. 19, 1961. D4-5.

Dustin, Thomas E. "The Battle of the Indiana Dunes," in *Citizens Make the Difference: Case Studies in Environmental Action* (Citizens Advisory Committee on Environmental Quality, 1973).

Engel, J. Ronald. *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983).

Franklin, Kay and Norma Schaeffer. *Duel for the Dunes: Land Use Conflict on the Shores of Lake Michigan* (Urbana/Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1983).

Higgs, Steven. *Eternal Vigilance: Nine Tales of Environmental Heroism in Indiana* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1995).

Lewis, Richard. "Indiana's Sand Gold: What's Behind Dunes Battle." *Chicago Sun-Times*. Aug. 17, 18, 19, 1958.

Mather, Stephen T. *Report on the Proposed Sand Dunes National Park Indiana* (Washington, D.C.: Department of the Interior, Government Printing Office, 1917).

Moran, Peggy. "The Dunes and Dune People," *Calumet Review* 3 (1969), 10-24.

Peeples, William. "The Indiana Dunes and Pressure Politics." *Atlantic Monthly*. February, 1963.

Read, Herbert. "The Indiana Dunes: A Case History." Presentation to the Save the Dunes Council. January 28, 1969. Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

_____. "Remembrances of Dorothy Buell, founder and first president of the Save the Dunes Council" (Paper presentation, date unknown). Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

_____. "The Prairie Club and the Indiana Dunes," in *Dunebeat*. Vol. 11, Number 15. Oct. 30, 1986.

_____. "Some Untold Tales" (Paper presented to the Polymathic Society, Chesterton, Indiana, 1988), Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**

County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 9 Page 27

_____. "The Kennedy Compromise of 1963 (Paper presented at the 40th Anniversary of the Save the Dunes Council, Indiana, 25 October 1992). Read Papers. Calumet Regional Archives, Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Indiana.

Troy, Sylvia. "Citizens Action for Preservation," The Indiana Dunes Story: How Nature and People Made a Park, ed. Joan Gibb Engel (Beverly Shores, Indiana: Shirley Heinze Environmental Fund, 1984).

Read Dunes House

Porter County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 16 496020 4610080
Zone Easting Northing

3
Zone Easting Northing

2
Zone Easting Northing

4
Zone Easting Northing

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

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Pia Lopez

organization N/A

date 1 September 2011

street & number 1529 - 3rd Street

telephone (916) 501-5725

city or town Sacramento

state CA

zip code 95814

e-mail pialopez@comcast.net

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Read Dunes House

Porter County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property:

City or Vicinity:

County:

State:

Photographer:

Date Photographed:

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1 of ____.

See continuation sheets.

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name National Park Service, Midwest Regional Office

street & number 601 Riverfront Drive

telephone

city or town Omaha

state NE

68102

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

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number ____ Page 28

PHOTOGRAPH, DRAWINGS, MAP LOG

1 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Arthur Anderson. Date Photographed: Fall, 1955.
East elevation. Camera facing southwest.

2 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Arthur Anderson. Date Photographed: Summer, 1955.
East elevation. Camera facing southwest.

3 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read. Date Photographed: Winter, 1957.
South and west elevations. Camera facing northeast.

4 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Arthur Anderson. Date Photographed: Summer, 1955.
Great Room from entry. Camera facing southeast.

5 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Arthur Anderson. Date Photographed: Summer, 1955.
Great Room and fireplace. Camera facing northeast.

6 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read. Date Photographed: 1961.
Irene Martin Read (1902-1981) and Philo Benham Read (1882-1961).
West entry. Camera facing east.

7 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read. Date Photographed: Spring 2010.
East elevation. Camera facing west.

8 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read. Date Photographed: April 2010.
East and south elevations. Camera facing northwest.

9 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read. Date Photographed: January 2010.
South and east elevations. Camera facing northwest.

10 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read. Date Photographed: December 2010.
South elevation. Camera facing north.

11 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read. Date Photographed: January 2010.
South and west elevations. Camera facing northeast.

12 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read. Date Photographed: November 2010. West and north elevations. Camera facing southeast.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Name of Property **Read Dunes House**

County and State **Porter, IN**

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number ____ Page 29

13 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read. Date Photographed: December 2010.
North elevation. Camera facing south.

14 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read. Date Photographed: October 2010.
Great Room and fireplace. Camera facing northeast.

15 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read. Date Photographed: October 2010.
Great Room. Camera facing southeast.

16 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read. Date Photographed: December 2010.
Great Room and hearth. Camera facing northwest.

17 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read. Date Photographed: September 2010.
Great Room from west entry. Camera facing southeast.

18 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read. Date Photographed: September 2010.
Great Room and hearth. Camera facing northwest.

19 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN.
Architectural drawings. Architect: Herbert Read. Date Designed: 1952.
East elevation.

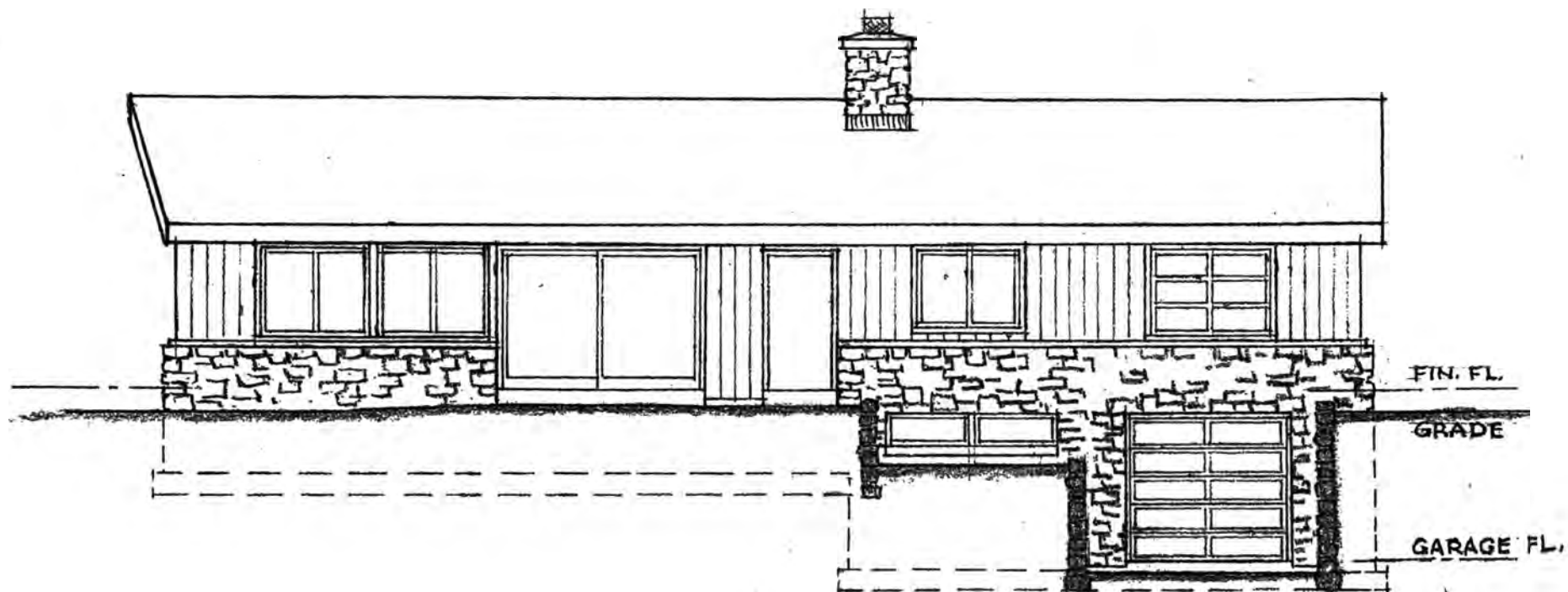
20 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN.
Architectural drawings. Architect: Herbert Read. Date Designed: 1952.
South elevation.

21 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN.
Architectural drawings. Architect: Herbert Read. Date Designed: 1952.
West elevation.

22 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN.
Architectural drawings. Architect: Herbert Read. Date Designed: 1952.
North elevation.

23 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN.
Architectural drawings. Architect: Herbert Read. Date Designed: 1952.
Floor Plan. (Also shows photo numbers and locations.)

24 of 24: Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN.
USGS map. Dune Acres Quadrangle, 7.5 minute series, Scale 1:24,000. Showing Read Dunes House and UTM References: 16/496020E and 16/4610080N.

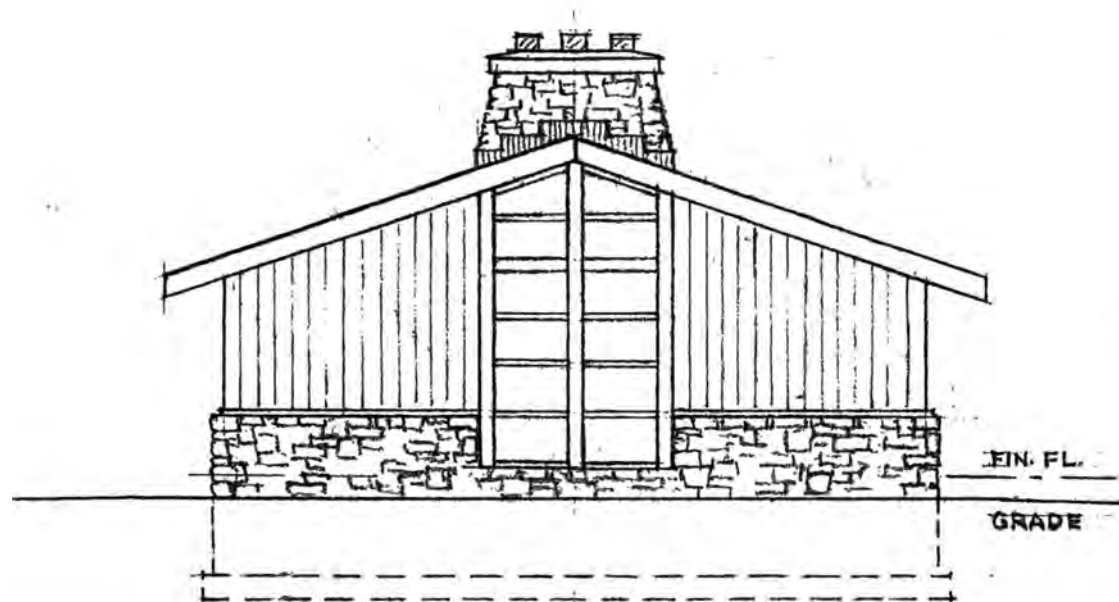


EAST ELEVATION

SCALE: $\frac{1}{8}" = 1'-0"$

#19

READ DUNES HOUSE
TREMONT RD. - PORTER COUNTY
(NEAR CHESTERTON, IN)
HERBERT P. READ - ARCHITECT

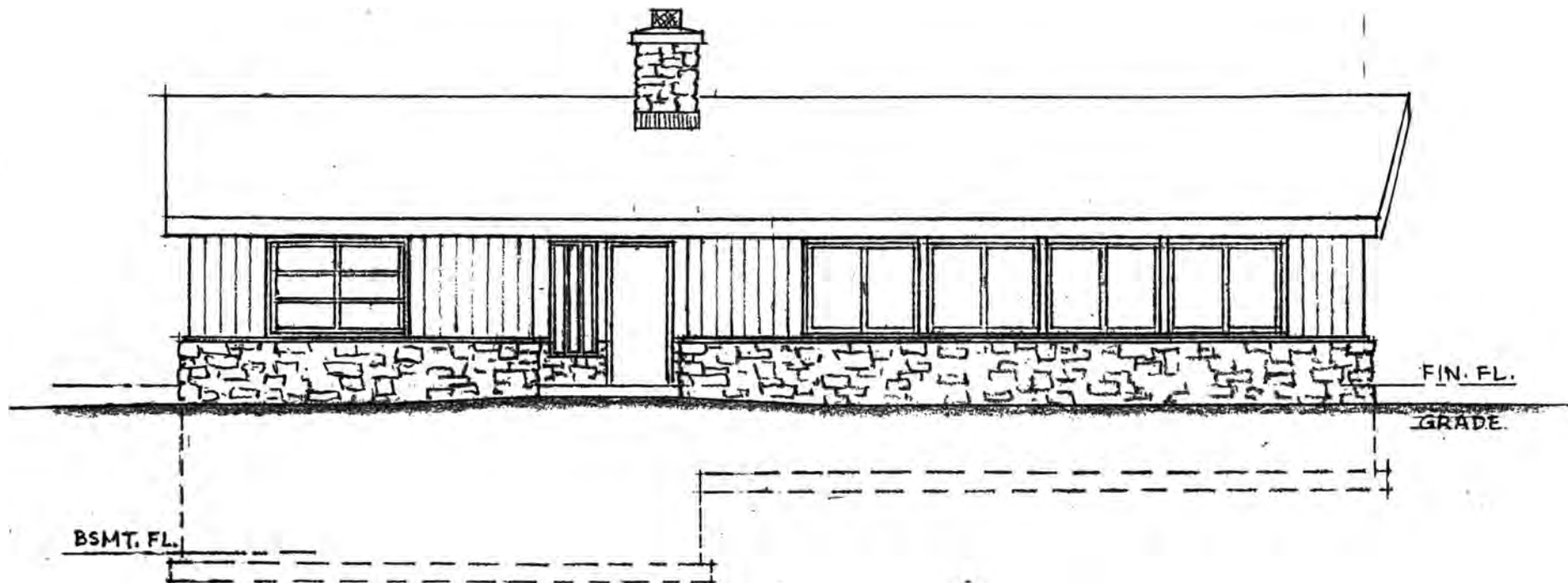


SOUTH ELEVATION

SCALE: $\frac{1}{8}" = 1'-0"$

#20

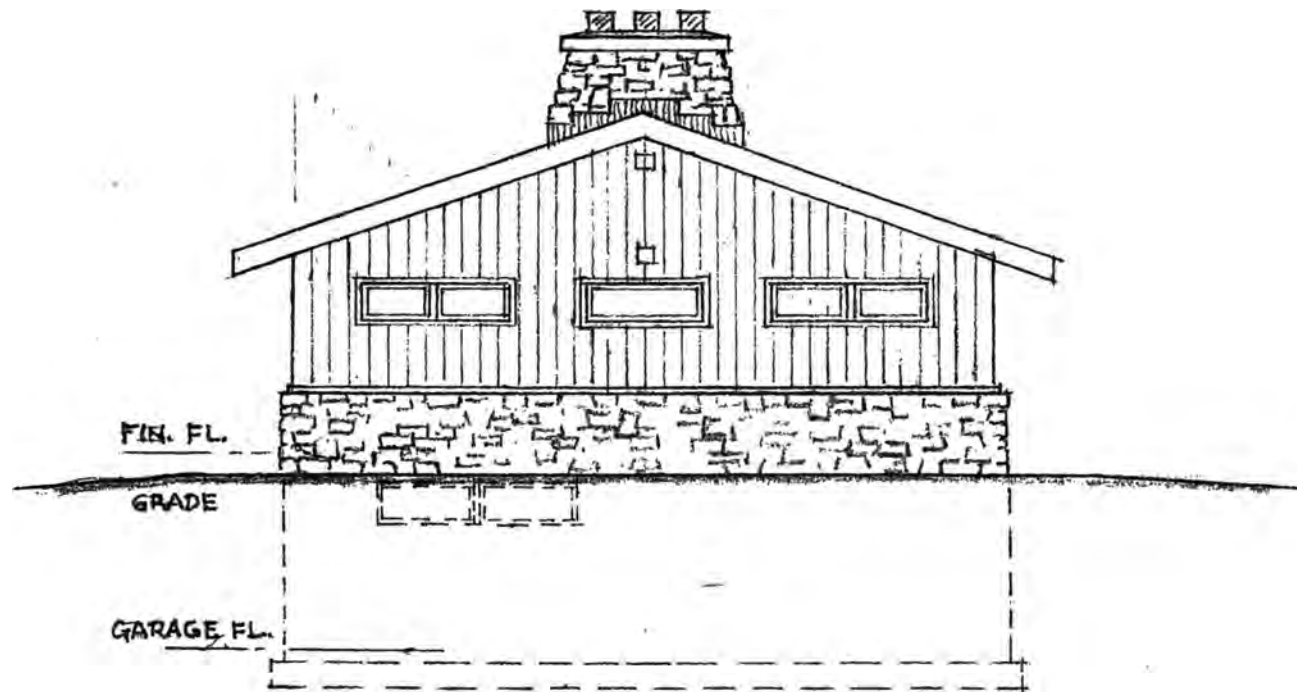
READ DUNES HOUSE
TREMONT RD. - PORTER COUNTY
(NEAR CHESTERTON, IN.)
HERBERT P. READ - ARCHITECT



WEST ELEVATION
SCALE: $\frac{1}{8}" = 1'-0"$

21

READ DUNES HOUSE
TREMONT RD. - PORTER COUNTY
(NEAR CHESTERTON, IN.)
HERBERT P. READ - ARCHITECT

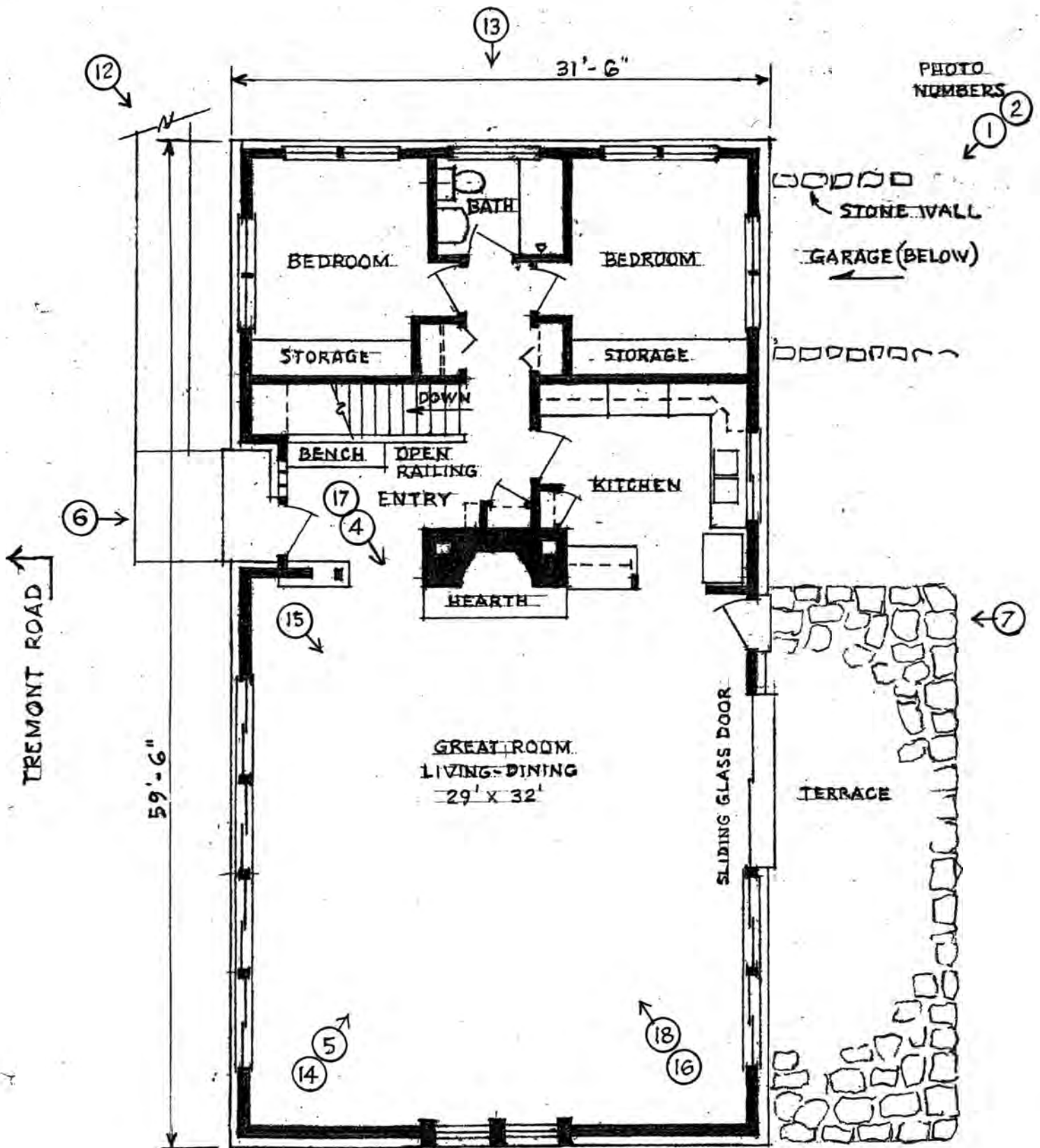


NORTH ELEVATION

SCALE: $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$

#22

READ DUNES HOUSE
TREMONT RD. - PORTER COUNTY
(NEAR CHESTERTON, IN)
HERBERT P. READ - ARCHITECT

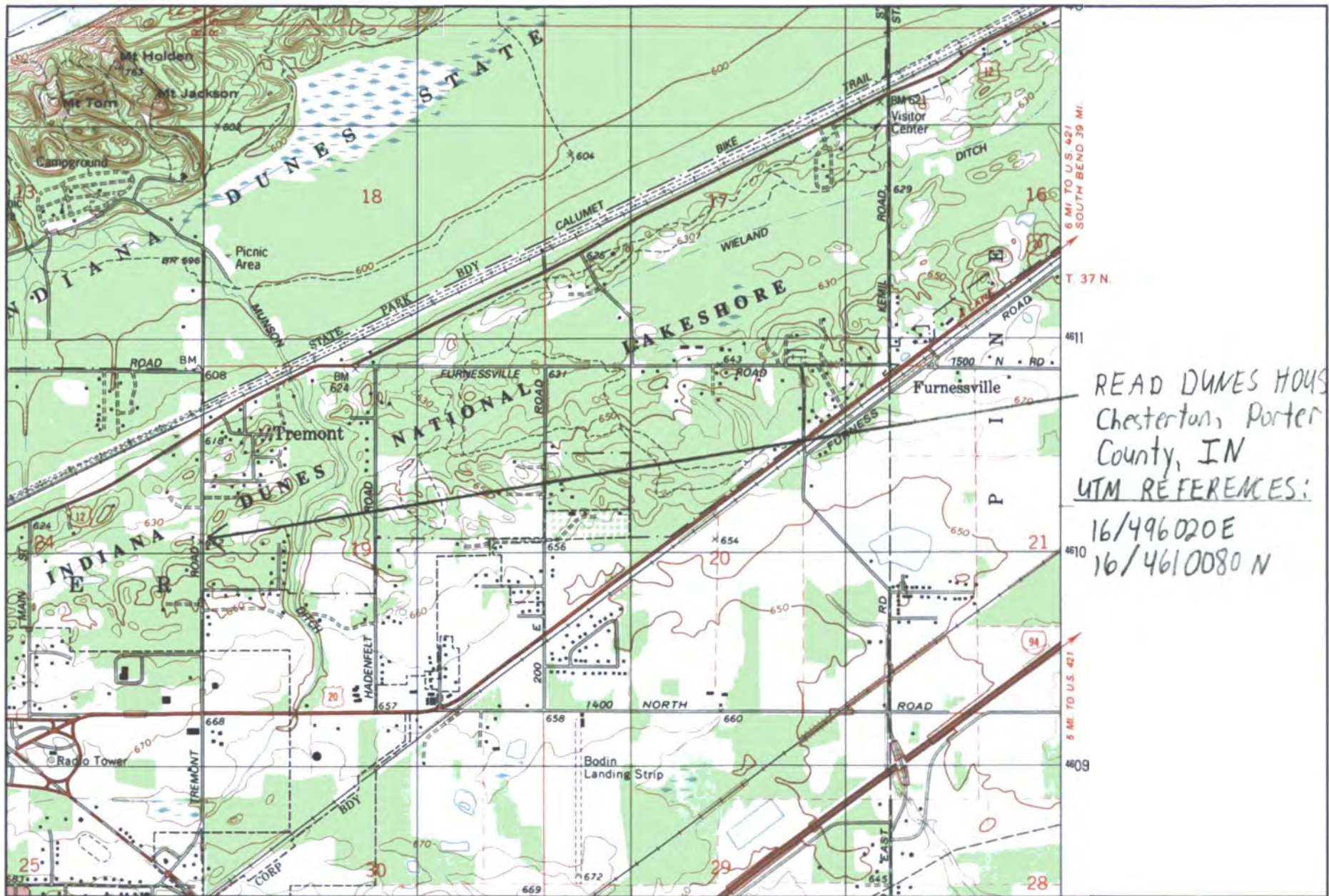


FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: $\frac{1}{8}" = 1'-0"$

#23

READ DUNES HOUSE
TREMONT RD. - PORTER CO.
(NEAR CHESTERTON, IN)
HERBERT P. READ - ARCHITECT



#24. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. USGS map. Dune Acres Quadrangle, 7.5 minute series, Scale 1:24,000. Showing Read Dunes House and UTM references: 16/496020E and 16/4610080N.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 10000858

Date Listed: 12/08/2011

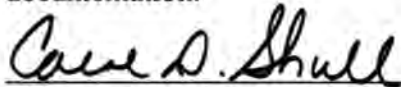
Property Name: Read Dunes House

Multiple Name:

County: Porter

State: IN

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper

12-8-2011

Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

The following technical corrections are made to the nomination form:

In Section 7, the Architectural Classification of the building is changed to Modern Movement.

In Section 7, page 1, last paragraph, the form is amended to delete the reference to Dune Acres as being part of the National Lakeshore.

In Section 7, page 2, in the first sentence, the form is amended to delete "11,000 to," and "Calument and."

In Section 7, page 4, in the first sentence the word "wainscoting" is changed to "water-table."

In Section 7, page 5, the second paragraph is amended to delete the reference "requiring the seller to pay 1 percent of the purchase price per year," and replace it with "the sales price is reduced 1 per cent for every year reserved by the former owner to remain in the property. After the sale of the property, the Reservation of Use and Occupancy holders pay nothing to the NPS; they are only required to pay property taxes."

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 10000858

Date Listed: 12/08/2011

Property Name: Read Dunes House

County: Porter

State: IN

p.2

In Section 7, page 5, in paragraph 4, the form is amended to delete the phrase "if a building is determined to be historic, the NPS will not tear it down." Add, "If a building is found eligible for the National Register, the National Park Service determines the disposition of the building."

In Section 7, page 5, in paragraph four, the form is amended to delete reference to a Reservation and Use Policy, and to add that National Park Service policy on management of historic properties is in the 2006 National Park Service Management Policies and the Director's Order #28.

In Section 8, page 6, in the second paragraph there is an apparent typographical error. The last sentence should read "for park purposes," rather than "for park purchases."

In Section 8, page 6, in the second to last paragraph, the form is amended to add the word Deputy so the title now reads Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file

Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 10000858

Date Listed: 12/08/2011

Property Name: Read Dunes House

County: Porter

State: IN

p.3

Amended Items in Nomination:

The resubmitted nomination did not include the Section 10 boundary and boundary justification. The boundary and boundary justification from the original nomination is hereby included.

Verbal Boundary Description. Beginning at a line 20' from and parallel with the north side of the Read Dunes House, at its intersection with the east edge of Tremont Road, continue in a line 149' south. Turn east and continue in a line 573' east. Turn north and continue in a line 149' north. Turn west and continue 573' west to a point of beginning at its intersection with the east edge of Tremont Road.

Boundary Justification. The described boundary incorporates all of the contributing resources, including the house and site, landscaping features including the drive, retaining walls, plant material and general vistas from and toward the house. The boundary incorporates wooded areas that provide context to the integrity of the house design philosophy and is part of the tract maintained by the Read family under the Indiana Dunes Lakeshore reservation of use agreement.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file

Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Read Dunes House

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: INDIANA, Porter

DATE RECEIVED: 9/15/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/13/10
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/28/10 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/30/10
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000858

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N	DATA PROBLEM: N	LANDSCAPE: N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N	PDIL: N	PERIOD: N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y	SAMPLE: N	SLR DRAFT: Y	NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

 ACCEPT ✓ RETURN REJECT 10/26/2010 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

See Return Sheet dated 10/26/2010

RECOM./CRITERIA Return

REVIEWER Patrick Andrus for/ DISCIPLINE

TELEPHONE Paul Loether DATE 10/26/2010

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Evaluation/Return Sheet

Property Name: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)
Reference Number: 10000858

Reason for Return:

The nomination for the Read Dunes House is being returned because it is not adequately documented and needs substantive revision.

The Read Dunes House was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under National Register Criteria A, B, and C in the areas of significance of Architecture, Conservation, and Politics/Government. Following a review of the National Register nomination form, we have concluded that the Read Dunes House appears to meet National Register Criterion A for the long term involvement of the Read family with the conservation of the Indiana Dunes and creation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, but it does not appear to meet National Register Criterion B or C. The nomination form should be substantially revised to delete references to Criteria B and C, and Architecture should be deleted as an area of significance. The Indiana State historic preservation office reached the same conclusion in a letter dated March 3, 2010.

The nomination form establishes that the Read Dunes House is associated with events important in the conservation movement which lead to the preservation of the dunes and creation of the National Lakeshore, which falls under National Register Criterion A and the areas of significance of Conservation and Politics/Government. The nomination should provide additional information about the specific activities that occurred at the house. ¹

The argument for significance under Criterion B is that various members of the Read family were instrumental in important conservation activities, but it is not always clear which family member made which specific contribution. The National Register's policy regarding achievements by family groups is that they are more appropriately recognized under Criterion A (see National Register Bulletin, *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with*

National Register of Historic Places Evaluation/Return Sheet

Property Name: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)
Reference Number: 10000858

p. 2

Significant Persons, pages 7-8), rather than Criterion B. In addition, some of the members of the Read family associated with these events are still living, and National Register policy generally precludes listing of properties under Criterion B for their association with living persons (see the Bulletin cited above at page 12).

The nomination form also claims that the house is architecturally significant under Criterion C as an example of a Prairie Style-inspired residence. We concur in the finding of the State historic preservation office that the Read Dunes house is a fairly routine example of 1950s domestic architecture and it does not possess architectural importance under Criterion C.

Technical deficiencies: The nomination form is bound in a spiral binder and this treatment does not meet National Register documentation standards. Please reprint the nomination on National Register continuation sheets and do not bind the copy.

Photographs and maps: The nomination includes only paper copies of photographs illustrating the house's current condition. The National Register requires hard copies of the primary photographs (photographs used as supplemental materials, or historic photographs, do not need to be original). In resubmitting the nomination, please provide hard copies of the primary photographs.

The nomination must include an original USGS map with a UTM point locating the nominated property, and section 10 of the form must include the UTM point.

See the National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register Registration Form*, for guidance on photograph and mapping requirements. The bulletins cited can be found on the National Register's website at: www.nps.gov/history/nr.

Supplemental materials: If supplemental materials are included with the nomination, they should be labeled with the name of the nominated property and the state and county.

Patrick Andrus

for J. Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
and National Historic Landmarks Program
10/26/2010

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY Read Dunes House
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: INDIANA, Porter

DATE RECEIVED: 11/04/11
DATE OF 16TH DAY:
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/20/11

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000858

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 12/8/2011 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A
REVIEWER Patricia Anderson / Camp Shultz discipline _____
DATE 12/8/2011

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS



#1. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Arthur Anderson. Date Photographed: Fall, 1955.
East elevation. Camera facing southwest.



#2. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Arthur Anderson.
Date photographed: Summer, 1955. East elevation. Camera facing southwest.



#3. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read.
Date photographed: Winter, 1957. South and west elevations. Camera facing northeast.



#4. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Arthur Anderson.
Date photographed: Summer, 1955. Great Room from entry. Camera facing southeast.



#5. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Arthur Anderson.
Date photographed: Summer, 1955. Great Room and fireplace. Camera facing northeast.



#6. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read.
Date photographed: 1961. Irene Martin Read and Philo Benham Read.
West Entry. Camera facing east.



#7. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read.
Date photographed: Spring 2010. East elevation. Camera facing west.



#8. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read.
Date photographed: April 2010. East and south elevations. Camera facing northwest.



#9. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read.
Date photographed: January 2010. South and east elevations. Camera facing northwest.



#10. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read.
Date photographed: December 2010. South elevation. Camera facing north.



#11. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read.
Date photographed: January 2010. South and west elevations. Camera facing northeast.



#12. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read.
Date photographed: November 2010. West and north elevations. Camera facing southeast.



#13. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read.
Date photographed: December 2010. North elevation. Camera facing south.



#14. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read.
Date photographed: October 2010. Great Room and fireplace. Camera facing northeast.



#15. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read.
Date photographed: October 2010. Great Room. Camera facing southeast.



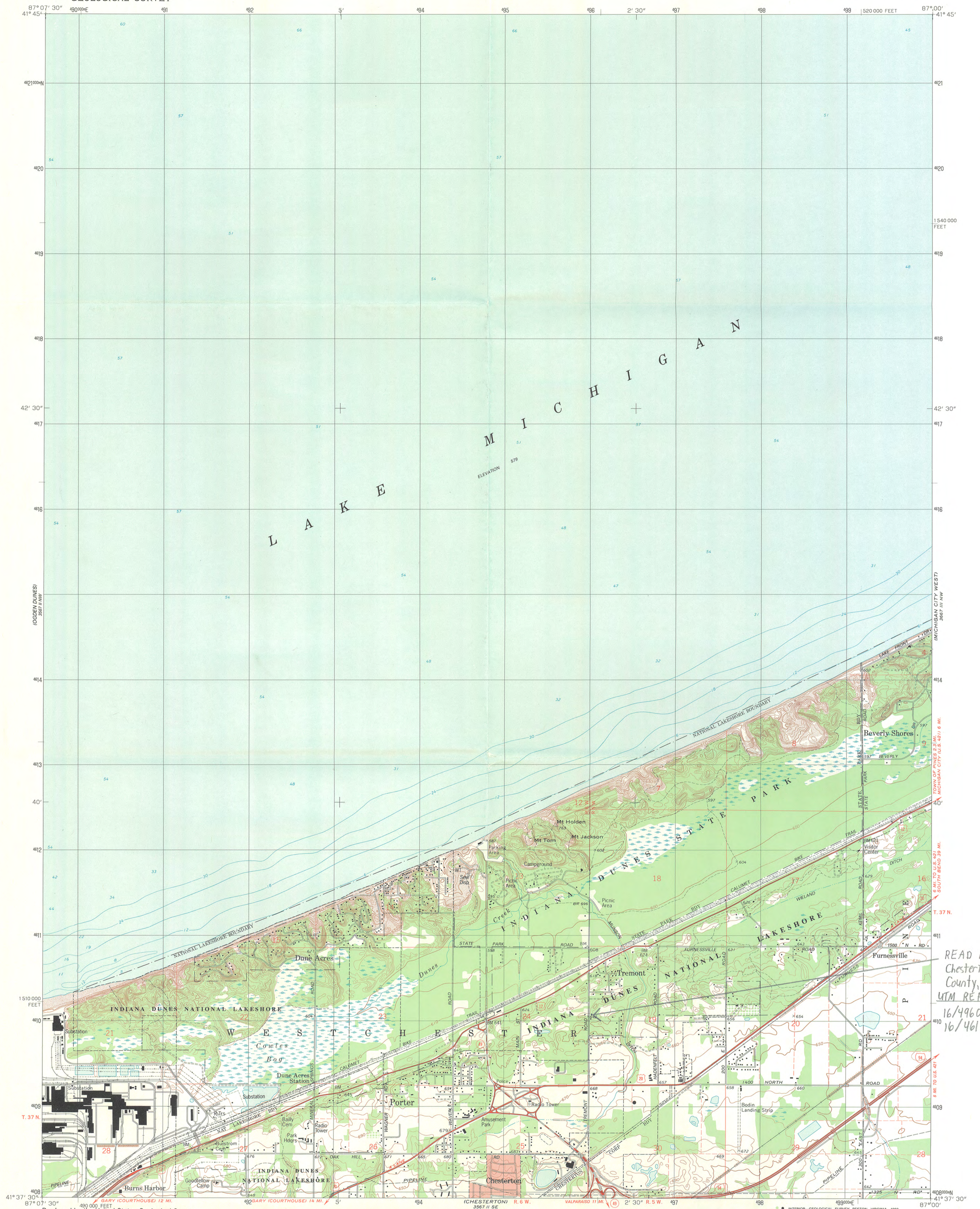
#16. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read.
Date photographed: December 2010. Great Room and hearth. Camera facing northwest.



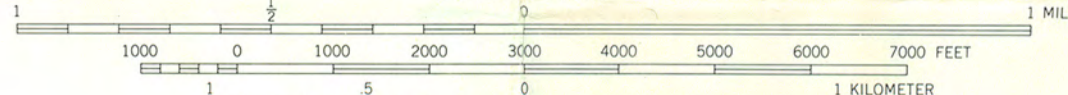
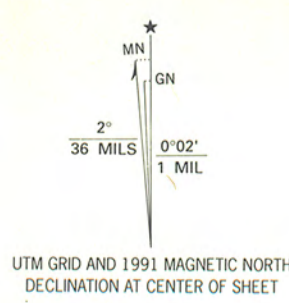
#17. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read.
Date photographed: September 2010. Great Room from west entry. Camera facing southeast.



#18. Read Dunes House. Tremont (near Chesterton), Porter County, IN. Photographer: Herbert Read.
Date photographed: September 2010. Great Room and hearth. Camera facing northwest.



Produced by the United States Geological Survey
in cooperation with Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1951-52 and planimetric surveys 1953. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1989 and 1991. Field checked 1991.
Map edited 1991.
Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS chart 14905 (1986).
This information is not intended for navigational purposes.
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Indiana coordinate
system, west zone (transverse Mercator).
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 16
1927 North American Datum.
The difference between 1927 North American Datum and North
American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) for 7.5-minute intersections
is given in USGS Bulletin 1875. The NAD 83 is shown by
dashed corner ticks.
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map.
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown.
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked.



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET
REFERENCE LEVEL 576.8 FEET; INTERNATIONAL GREAT LAKES DATUM
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE

COMPLIES WITH U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY STANDARDS FOR SPATIAL ACCURACY - CLASS 2
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route
U. S. Route
State Route

DUNE ACRES, IND.
41087-F1-TF-024

1991

DMA 3567 II NE-SERIES V851

READ DUNES HOUSE
Chesterton, Porter
County, IN
UTM REFERENCES:
16/496020 E
16/4610080 N

Re: Read Dunes House,
Porter County, IN

Marc t. Nielsen Interiors

November 22, 2009

Herb and Charlotte Read
1453 North Tremont Road
Chesterton, IN 46304

Dear Herb and Charlotte,

I am writing to you to express my support of the application by the Partners in Preservation Inc. that the Read Family Dunes House be placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

I have known the Read family for over 50 years, when the house was built for Philo and Irene Read, and have had many occasions to attend meetings there of the Polymathic Club, a social/historical study group which has been active in Porter County for 60 years.

My career and interest are in Interior Design. My many opportunities to visit the Reads' home allowed me to view the details of the house. The house is such a perfect inside/outside concept with large windows on three sides of the big room, welcoming the outside in. The materials, stone and wood, used both inside and outside, support that principle too. The high vaulted ceiling complements the proportion of this large room, unusual for a house designed and built in 1951/1952. All of us are now so accustomed to lofty rooms; it's hard to remember when it wasn't so.

The concept for the house was that it was intended to be used to entertain large groups. The house was designed by Herb for his parents, Philo and Irene Read, who had a strong interest in preservation of the Indiana Dunes. Their house was designed expressly to entertain sometimes large groups of people who were supporters and creators of their particular dunes preservation efforts.

The house demonstrates this special effort of the Reads. The foyer is open to the unusually large gathering room, welcoming people in. The kitchen, open to the

Re: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)

92 West Road
Dune Acres, 46304
December 15, 2009

Mr. Herbert Read
1453 North Tremont Road
Chesterton, IN 46304

Dear Herb:

I understand that an application to put the Read Family Dunes House on the National Register of Historic Places is being considered. I have reviewed the application and I fully supporting granting the House historic status.

My late husband, Edward, and I have known the Read family since 1952, the year the Save the Dunes Council was organized by Dorothy Buell. My husband Ed volunteered his legal services to help the Council with its legal affairs. He worked very closely with Philo and Irene Read, as well as Herb and Charlotte Read toward our common objective of creating the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. From my 58 years of experience with the Read family, I can attest that they have given their lives to saving the dunes, and were instrumental in creating and expanding the National Lakeshore.

I am also familiar with the Read Family Dunes House. Especially during the early days of the Save the Dunes Council, we had many meeting in the house. The extra large living room, and the view of the dunes from large windows on three sides, made the house a most inspiring place in which to meet. The house appears to blend in with its dunes site.

It is worthy of historic status due to the work of the Read family in helping to establish the National Lakeshore, as well as its beautiful and unique design.

Sincerely,



Ruth H. Osann
Past President, Save the Dunes Council

Re: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)

COUNTY-PORTER

NORTH DISTRICT
JOHN A. EVANS
(219) 465-3361

CENTER DISTRICT
ROBERT P. HARPER
(219) 465-3354

SOUTH DISTRICT
CAROLE M. KNOBLOCK
(219) 465-3349



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

PORTER COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER
155 INDIANA AVE. • SUITE 205
VALPARAISO, INDIANA 46383

(219) 465-3440
FAX: (219) 465-3362

January 6, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Herb Read and his wife, Charlotte, for many years.

However, before I met them personally, I had read many, many stories in the local papers regarding their work with the Save the Dunes Council and their interest in creating the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

It is hard to think of another couple in this area that is more well-known for their work not only in creating the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, but also their work in preserving the environment and natural resources in Porter County.

I have been told by others that the Read Family Dunes House was used for some of the early meetings when people were getting together and attempting to save the dunes.

It is my hope that you will consider putting the Read Family Dunes House on a National Register for Historic Places.

I have reviewed the application and I fully support granting this historic status.

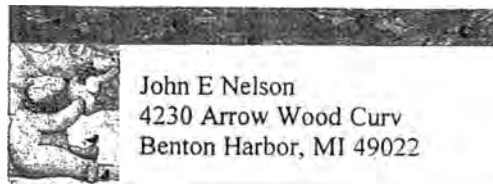
Very truly yours,

By:

ROBERT P. HARPER
Porter County Commissioner

RPH/dm

Re: Read Dunes House,
Porter County, IN



John E Nelson
4230 Arrow Wood Curv
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

1-10-'10

Dear Herb.

This is a non-fiction-tale about a house - your house. I wanted to provide you with a nostalgic remembrance of past years, about 60 or so, as they pertained to the Indiana dunes.

Back in the early '50's when we first met, we both discovered our like of and for the dunes, and as camera buffs we got together to go out and shoot. But, not wanting to take random shots, we discussed the various areas of the dunes with your dad, Philo. I recall we always stopped at his house, (your house now) and sought Philo's opinion. He always offered opinions on our strategy. He wanted our quest to be fruitful. They didn't call him the "Sage of the dunes", for nothing.

Philo knew the dunes inside + out, and he would direct us to the various areas in the dunes. Philo became our principle authority on the subject. I recall during the winter months, after hiking through the snow with cameras, we would stop at his house for some hot coffee, & even lunch.

Our quest for photos always seemed to end up there. Yes, those were timeless memories. As I recall, your dad had a small (small?) corner of his house devoted to the storing out gear & reference books. In short, his house became our "unofficial" headquarters for two dedicated photographers. It seems that we did this for weeks on end, all during the mid 50s through the mid 60s. And, from time to time, after a session in my darkroom, I would bring my dunescopes to have Philo critique.

Then, in the late 50s; 1958 I recall, we started production of that 16mm movie for the Save the Dunes Council. I would bring the weekly rushes over to his house for comments. There, we would edit the film, and even shoot titles. I think his house began to resemble a movie studio - with all our cinematic equipment stored in the house.

I do remember always looking forward to coming out to Tremont to pursue our endeavor at Philo's house,

because the building was so different from
the conventional houses in East Chicago, Ind.. Nowhere
else do I remember a structure that seemed to
"reach out" and bring the outside environment
inside. In short, that house seemed to just
grow there.

I hope you + Charlotte will have many more
years living there to enjoy the hinterlands.

Sincerely

John Nelson

Re: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)



The Brown Mansion

Westchester Township History Museum
An Educational Service of Westchester Public Library
700 West Porter Avenue, Chesterton, Indiana 46304
<http://www.wpl.lib.in.us/museum>

Jane Walsh Brown
Museum Curator
Assistant Library Director

219-983-9715

janeswb@wpl.lib.in.us

Herb and Charlotte Read
1453 North Tremont Rd.
Chesterton, IN 46304

January 11, 2010

Dear Herb and Charlotte,

It is my sincere pleasure to write in support of your application to have the Read Dunes House added to the National Register of Historic Places.

I very much enjoyed reading Kurt Garner's excellent application narrative and found the story of your family's involvement in the conservation of the Indiana Dunes both moving and inspiring. Although I have known for some time of the broad outline of your family's contributions to the saving of the dunes, it was very interesting to learn more about your family and the creation of the Read Dunes House.

As curator of the Prairie Club Archive, which is housed at the Westchester Township History Museum, I found the description of Philo Read's life fascinating. The Prairie Club Archive contains many references to his early involvement with the Club and to the contributions he made to its development. Now I have a broader context in which to set his membership in the club.

As the site of the crucial formative and early meetings of the Save the Dunes Council and the Izaak Walton League in the years 1952 -1959, the Read Dunes House stands as a reminder of the importance of citizen involvement in the creation, growth and protection of our state and national parks.

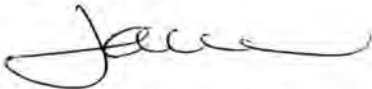
Having visited your house, I can well imagine large groups of dedicated conservationists meeting in your great room avidly discussing the creation of the national park, trying all the while to avoid the distraction of the beautiful views of dunes, trees, birds and wildlife out the many windows of the room.

The house's unique design, which so carefully merges it with the surrounding dune landscape, makes the Read Dune House both a time capsule of mid-20th century design and a timeless example of one of the best and most appropriate types of construction for the duneland environment. Its design and use of natural materials

could certainly be studied by contemporary architects when asked to build houses in dune areas not protected by the state or national park.

I enthusiastically endorse the nomination of the Read Dunes House because of the important contributions made by the Read family to the conservation of the Indiana Dunes and the creation of the state and national parks; because of the house's unique architecture and relationship to its surrounding dunes landscape; and finally, because the house was the site of the formative and early meetings of two groups that made major contributions to the creation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jane Walsh-Brown
Curator, Westchester Township History Museum
Assistant Library Director, Westchester Public Library

Re: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)

January 11, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to offer my enthusiastic support for the preservation of the historic Read Dunes House in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

As the archivist/curator for the Calumet Regional Archives here at Indiana University Northwest, I collect, preserve, and make available a variety of materials documenting the history of Lake and Porter Counties in Northwest Indiana. The items range from organizational records to private manuscripts. One of our strongest collection areas focuses on the environmental history of the Calumet Region, especially the campaigns to create state and national parks in the Indiana Dunes.

To that end, we have sought and preserved a number of significant collections documenting the establishment and history of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and serve as the designated repository for much Indiana Dunes historical material. The holdings include: The Save the Dunes Council Records; The Thomas Dustin Papers (Mr. Dustin was the public relations person for the Save the Dunes Council); the Edward Osann Papers (Mr. Osann was the legal counsel for the Save the Dunes Council); The Alton Lindsay Papers (Dr. Lindsay was a scientific adviser to the Save the Dunes Council); and the Sylvia Troy Papers (a former president of the Save the Dunes Council), among others. Of particular historical value, however, are the Read Family Papers. Herb and Charlotte Read have chosen the Calumet Regional Archives as the location for the preservation of their extensive files of documents and photographs relating to the history of the Indiana Dunes State Park and the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Their records provide primary documentation and information essential to understanding the history and development of the Save the Dunes movement.

Many of the files constituting the Read Family Papers were produced in the great room of the Read Dunes House in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. In fact, that structure saw history in the making, extending back to the early years of the twentieth century. Indeed, if not for the Reads (Herb's parents and later Herb and Charlotte), I believe that the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore would not exist. Their role in the Save the Dunes movement was critical to the successful establishment and expansion of the nation's first urban national park. Because of its importance as the "headquarters" of Indiana Dunes preservation, the Read Dunes House should be saved and utilized in the interpretative programs of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

I became very excited at the prospect of preserving the Read Dunes House for future generations and hope that we will see a successful result soon.

Sincerely,

Stephen McShane
Archivist/Curator

Re: (Read Dunes House, Porter County, IN)

COUNTY-PORTER

NORTH DISTRICT
JOHN A. EVANS
(219) 465-3361

CENTER DISTRICT
ROBERT P. HARPER
(219) 465-3354

SOUTH DISTRICT
CAROLE M. KNOBLOCK
(219) 465-3349



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

PORTER COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER
155 INDIANA AVE. • SUITE 205
VALPARAISO, INDIANA 46383

(219) 465-3440
FAX: (219) 465-3362

January 13, 2010

To whom it may concern:

I am writing you regarding Herb and Charlotte Read.

Anyone who has been in Porter County as long as I have are well aware of the long history both the Reads have in supporting the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and other environmental friendly projects in Porter County.

I strongly urge you to consider putting the Read Family dunes house on a national register for historic places.

The home was used on many occasions in the early stages for people in Porter County to get together to try to save the dunes.

Thank you for considering my viewpoint.

Very truly yours,
Board of Commissioners

Carole Knoblock

Carole M. Knoblock

CMB/dm

PETER J. VISCLOSKY
1ST DISTRICT, INDIANA

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEES
DEFENSE
ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT
FINANCIAL SERVICES
CONGRESSIONAL STEEL CAUCUS
CHAIRMAN
U.S. HOUSE LAW ENFORCEMENT
CAUCUS

Re: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1401

2256 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1401
(202) 225-2461

7895 BROADWAY, SUITE A
MERRILLVILLE, IN 46410
(219) 795-1844

Call Toll Free
1 888 423 PETE
(1 888 423-7383)

INTERNET
<http://www.house.gov/visclosky/>

January 13, 2010

Mr. James A. Glass
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
402 West Washington Street, W274
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Dear Mr. Glass:

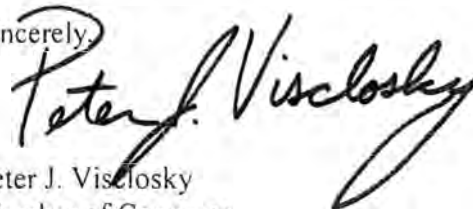
I write in strong support of an application to nominate the Read Dunes House in Porter County, Indiana for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

As you are aware, several generations of the Read family were instrumental figures in the environmental preservation efforts exerted by individuals and groups who championed the creation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in Northwest Indiana. From Northwest Indiana's earliest days, Opie Read and his son Philo Read began exploring the dunes and passed their enthusiasm for the natural ecology of the area to Philo's son Herb Read, who, with his wife Charlotte, fought alongside Dorothy Buell and Senator Paul Douglas for the establishment of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore by Congress in 1966.

To that end, the Read Dunes House, designed by Herb Read and occupied by Philo Read, then Herb Read, stands as a historic testament to the hard work and dedication of all those involved with the conservation of the lakeshore. Many strategic meetings were held at this home by the Save the Dunes Council and the Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, not to mention the individual discussions held to continue the fight on behalf of the unique ecosystem found along our south shore.

I know you will give this application the serious consideration it deserves. If you are in need of any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or have the appropriate member of your staff contact Elizabeth Johnson, Director of Projects and Grants, in my Merrillville District Office at 219-795-1844.

Sincerely,



Peter J. Visclosky
Member of Congress

PJV:ej

Re: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)

1000 N. Warrick Street

Gary, IN 46403

January 29, 2010

To Whom It May Concern,

I have read the application to put the Read Family Dunes House on the National Register of Historic Places. I fully support this application to grant the house historic status.

I have known the Reads and worked with them to preserve and protect the Indiana Dunes since 1972. Because of our common commitment to the dunes, I have interacted with the Reads as a member, board member and President of the Save the Dunes Council (1988-2003).

Meeting at the Read House to further the Dunes' cause, as so many people have done over the years, is always exciting. It is amazing to think of all the ideas for preservation that were and continue to be developed there. The house is beautifully located in the dunes, taking advantage of wonderful views which surround it. Its long, low construction of natural materials helps it compliment these oak savannah dunes.

The Read House would be an ideal place to tell the real story of the century old grassroots movement that was the impetus and vehicle for the establishment of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and the preservation of thousands of acres of globally endangered habitat and all that that implies. A small library and archive of the Indiana Dunes would be really great!

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Serynek

P.S.

The Read House is certainly more germane to the history of the Indiana Dunes than many of the structures(houses) currently owned and maintained by the NPS as historic places.

Re: Read Dunes House, Porter County IN

Duneland Historical Society



P.O. Box 2034, Chesterton, Indiana 46304

January 29, 2010

Mr. Herb Read
1453 North Tremont Road
Chesterton, IN 46304

Dear Herb,

In the archives of The Duneland Historical Society (DHS) is a "Preservation Statement" that reads: "The Duneland Historical Society, in recognition of the historical importance of the area's vintage homes, farms, and commercial buildings, encourages preservation of the architectural heritage of North Porter County, IN."

Since 1962, the DHS has championed the cause of local history: in research, in public programs, and in promoting the preservation of local sites such as the Bailly Homestead and the Chellberg Farm.

Therefore, it is well and appropriate for the Duneland Historical Society to endorse the preservation of the Read Dunes House, not only for its outstanding dunes-appropriate architecture, but for its rich history in the saga of saving the Indiana Dunes for public use. Significant meetings took place in this house. It could continue to be used for meetings, or housing, or certainly as a center available for many uses, but always to celebrate it as a site where vital decisions were made to save the Indiana Dunes from commercialization.

I earnestly hope the property is granted historic status.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan M. Costello".

Joan M. Costello
President, Duneland Historical Society

Re: Read Dunes House,
Porter County, IN



INDIANA UNIVERSITY
NORTHWEST

CALUMET REGIONAL ARCHIVES

February 3, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

We would like to offer our enthusiastic support for the preservation of the historic Read Dunes House in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

As Co-Directors of the Calumet Regional Archives at Indiana University Northwest, we are proud to have been able to preserve materials from the Read family concerning their crucial role in promoting the development of the Dunes National Lakeshore and documenting the history of the dunes, as well as the South Shore Railroad.

We are very excited at the prospect of preserving the Read Dunes House for future generations and hope that we will see a successful result soon.

Cordially,

Dr. Ronald D. Cohen
Professor of History Emeritus
Indiana University Northwest

Dr. James B. Lane
Professor of History Emeritus
Indiana University Northwest

Re: Read Dunes House, Porter County IN

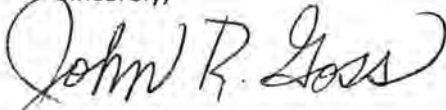
February 4, 2010

Dear Herb and Charlotte,

The nomination of the Read Family Dunes House to the National Register of Historic Places is a great honor that you and Charlotte certainly deserve. Your leadership and vigilant stewardship of the Indiana Dunes has been an inspiration to conservationists across Indiana. As the former Director of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, I certainly hope that your application is successful.

The National Park Service could develop some exhibits and programming based at your home that would provide future generations a link to the former residents who sacrificed their homes to make the expansion of the park possible. I would like to see the Read Family given appropriate credit for their extraordinary commitment and record of advocacy that has made the Dunes National Lakeshore the incredibly unique natural experience that future generations will cherish.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John R. Goss". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

John R. Goss

3340 Brookside Parkway N. Dr.

Indianapolis, IN 46218

copy

Re: Reed Dunes House,
Porter County, IN

Reverend Charles E. Doyle, J D
105 Autumn Trail

February 8, 2010 Michigan City, IN 46360
Constantine Dillon
Supt. Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Park
1100 N. Mineral Springs Rd
Porter, IN 46304

Dear Superintendent.:

I wish to share a concern with you for the preservation of the Reed Dunes House.

I became a member of the Save the Dunes Council in 1965 and had the pleasure of getting to know the various pioneers in bringing about the treasure of the National Park. In 1968 I was appointed pastor of St. Ann of the Dunes Catholic Church in Beverly Shores. Hence I have had access to the development of the Dunes area from a close proximity.

I have known Herbert and Charlotte Reed for many years and have come to know that many of the group meetings of proponents of the Park met at their home on Tremont Road in Porter County.

It was Herb Reed's grandfather, Opie Reed, who introduced Herb's father, Philo Reed, to the beauty of the Indiana Dunes which lead him to ask his architect son,, Herb, to create a design for a house appropriate for a dwelling surrounded by the Dunes.

I am informed that the Westchester Township History Museum has supported the application to have the Reed Dunes House added to the National Register of Historic Places.

I urgently petition your support in preserving the Reed House as a historic place in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Park.

Sincerely yours,

Charles E. Doyle

Re: Read Dunes House (Porter, IN)

Vicki B. Urbanik-Randall

378 S 150 E.

Valparaiso, IN 46383

Feb. 15, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of placing the Read Dunes House on the National Register of Historic Places. I have reviewed the application, and I fully support granting the House historic status.

As a long-time journalist in the Indiana Dunes region, I have known Herb and Charlotte Read for many years. When I first came to the Chesterton Tribune in 1987, I was given several "beats," one of which was to report on environmental issues. I soon learned about the rich history of the efforts to save the Indiana Dunes. Naturally, I quickly became acquainted with Herb and Charlotte Read, not just because of their involvement decades ago in establishing the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore but also because of their ongoing activism in local, regional and state environmental matters.

When I first visited the Read home several years ago, I was immediately struck by the interior design of the main room. As one who holds a degree in fine arts, I found myself studying the design elements. The vaulted-style ceiling and the large windows create a oneness with the outdoors. Though we clearly were physically in an interior space, the exterior woodland was an ever-present force, one that we could not ignore, even if we chose to, as we went about our discussion over a proposed county ordinance.

I was also struck by the room's contents. Paintings and photos of the Indiana Dunes, oversized coffee-table books about nature and history, and stacks of documents and newsletters were a treat for the eye. The seating area dominated the center part of the room, but off to the side were areas that I viewed as small but busy work stations. I could almost visualize Herb or Charlotte Read writing a letter to Congress or working on a grant application or poring through technical pollution permits at one of these desks, surrounded by books and paperwork and art. Herb may have thought I was drifting off during our conversation, when in actuality, I found myself imagining the many meetings among spirited volunteers that occurred in this very room over the decades.

In short, this room reminded me of a living library encompassing the history of the park and the activism that went into saving the dunes. I believe that when the home is listed on the National

Register, the "living library" element should be preserved in order to give visitors a flavor of some of the effort that went into saving their national park.

Before I visited the house, I did not know precisely where it was located. I was a bit surprised to find that the house is located somewhat near the edge of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore border, not deeper in the heart of the dunes. Actually, I was relieved at this, for I am of the opinion that the deep dunes and woodland area serve the public better if left to nature as much as possible. Thus, I believe the home's location is another strong benefit for its placement on the National Register.

I cannot think of another structure within the Indiana Dunes that better symbolizes the human element that went into saving the park. I am certain that visitors to the Indiana Dunes will find their experience made all the more richer and more meaningful by being able to stop at the Read Dunes House on their way into the park or upon their exit.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vicki B. Urbanik-Randall". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid.

Vicki B. Urbanik-Randall

Re: Read Warr House,
Porter County IN



The Izaak Walton League of America

INCORPORATED

www.in-iwla.org

DEFENDERS OF SOIL, AIR, WOODS, WATERS AND WILDLIFE

Indiana Division

Date: February 18, 2010

To: Constantine Dillon, Superintendent
Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
1100 North Mineral Springs Rd.
Porter, IN 46304

Fm: Charles Siar, President
Indiana Division, IWLA
2173 Pennsylvania St.
Portage, IN 46368

Re: Application for National Register listing

Dear Superintendent Dillon,

My following is in support of registering the Read Dune House, located immediately inside the National Lakeshore boundary, at 1453 N. Tremont Rd. Chesterton, IN 46304, as a part of the National Register of Historic Places.

I will not belabor the fully documented papers that this letter becomes part of, but will enhance those items that I will attest to with my personal knowledge of the Reads.

The Reads have been dedicated to conservation throughout their lives, as demonstrated with their involvement with the founding of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore (IDNL), among other endeavors.

The Indiana Division supported the Read efforts for the (IDNL) via resolutions in support of the creation of the (IDNL), reaching back to the 1950's.

The Reads formed the Porter County Chapter, IWLA in 1958 and became an icon for the conservation community.

I have known the Reads for a number of years, including my tenure of 14 years as Indiana Division president.

The Read House lives, and would live, as a reminder and symbol of past efforts and future conservation endeavors, that inclusion and protection of this property would be a lasting image to conservationists and the general public as an educational experience.

Yours in Conservation,

Charles Siar

Re: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)

J. Ronald Engel
P.O.B. 717
Beverly Shores, Indiana 46301

February 18, 2010

Mr. Constantine Dillon, Superintendent
Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
1100 N. Mineral Springs Road
Porter, Indiana 46304

Dear Superintendent Dillon,

I am writing in support of the nomination of the Read Dunes House at 1453 Tremont Road for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places and its preservation and use by the Lakeshore as an interpretative center for the conservation history of the Indiana Dunes.

The story of the century-long movement that led to the establishment of the Indiana Dunes State Park and Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is one of the great stories of American conservation history. It includes figures such as Stephen Mather, who played a seminal role in the genesis of the nation's national park system; scientists and naturalists, such as Henry Cowles and his many graduate students at the University of Chicago who were influential in the founding of the sciences of biogeography and plant and animal ecology in the United States; writers such as Carl Sandburg, Donald Culross Peattie and Edwin Way Teale who made the dunes landscape a sacred icon in American culture; artists such as Earl Reed and Frank Dudley and their many contemporary progeny whose etchings and paintings grace the homes and museums of our region; political leaders and citizens such as Bess Sheehan, Senator Paul Douglas, Congressman Edward Rousch, Dorothy Buell, and Herb and Charlotte Read who against overwhelming odds, fought long and hard to preserve the dunes for future generations.

You are doubtless aware of this history, well researched and presented by Ron Cockrell in *Signature of Time and Eternity: Administrative History of the Indiana Dunes* (1988), Kay Franklin and Norma Schaeffer's *Duel for the Dunes* (1983), and my own *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (1983), among other publications.

Since the publication of these studies Robert Gottlieb in *Forcing the Spring: The Transformation of the American Environmental Movement* (1993)) has agreed with my argument that the efforts to save the dunes were part of a "third" form of American environmentalism which arose in Chicago and the midwest in the Progressive Era. This movement was committed to both a more just urban industrial order and a new sense of

responsibility for understanding and preserving the living ecological community. It's spirit lives on in contemporary ecological restoration, regional planning, and environmental justice initiatives. But the Dunes history is important even beyond the Midwest or the United States. As I discovered through my work with UNESCO and IUCN (The World Conservation Union) in the 1990s, this landscape has been a seedbed for a number of international scientific and conservation efforts.

As I note in the Preface of *Sacred Sands*, I first became acquainted with the struggle to establish the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in 1965, and with the leaders of the Save the Dunes Council, including Herb and Charlotte Read, in the early 1970s when my wife and I moved to the dunes for the first time and became active in the effort to expand the Lakeshore. The Read home, with its great living room and fireplace, continued to serve during those years, as it had since it was built in 1952, as a center for meetings by the members of the Save the Dunes Council and other organizations seeking the preservation of the area. Herb and I worked closely on the park expansion bill for some years; later, after moving back to Chicago, I had the privilege of conducting the memorial service for Dorothy Buell in the Ogden Dunes Community Church; not long after this my daughter upon graduation from high school served as an intern with Charlotte Read, an experience which inspired her to follow a career that has led to a professorship in environmental law at the University of Arizona Law School; and I have had the honor of speaking about the meaning of the history of the struggle to preserve the dunes on numerous occasions at the Lakeshore and before schools, universities, and civic groups in our region. I say all this only to indicate how long and intimate has been my personal connection to the movement to preserve the dunes.

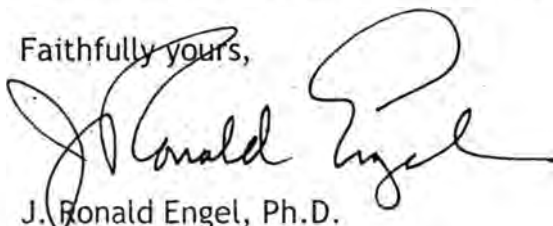
There is no place where the public can go to make contact with this history, one of the truly outstanding examples of the power of citizen action and democratic self-government in our nation. The Read Dunes House is the last remaining physical structure that bears an intimate relationship to this history -- home to four generations of Reads, a family that has been repeatedly recognized as without parallel in their love and dedicated stewardship of this precious place, and expressive in its very architecture, in its materials, Prairie school lines, and great open room for community gathering, the Midwestern social democratic vision of art serving and enhancing the common life.

What better and more appropriate place, therefore, to become an Interpretative Center for the better understanding, communication, and hopefully, perpetuation of the ideals of those who gave so willingly of their lives to the establishment of the two dunes parks? Those who fought for the Dunes believed that in a democracy the government is an expression of the people's will and a medium for realizing its best hopes for the common good of all. The state and national parks and public preserves of our country embody this vision, and owe their very being to it. The Read House could serve as a center for communicating this ideal directly and forcefully to the public today.

Your intention to prepare a new Comprehensive Interpretive Plan for the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore provides an excellent opportunity for you to recommend the Read House for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places and to consider its use as an Interpretative Center for the conservation history of the dunes parks. I am sure that many citizens of our region, and well beyond, would welcome such a decision on your part, and offer their services, ideas, and financial contributions to help make this a reality.

Thank you for your consideration of this appeal for the preservation of the Read Dunes House and my proposal for how it might continue to serve the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore for many more years to come.

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Ronald Engel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "J" and "R".

J. Ronald Engel, Ph.D.

Senior Research Fellow, Center for Humans and Nature

cc: Herbert and Charlotte Read
1453 Tremont road
Chesterton, Indiana 46304

Re: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)

VENABLE[®]
LLP

575 SEVENTH STREET NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004
T 202.344.4000 F 202.344.8300 www.Venable.com

February 19, 2010

Birch Bayh

T 202.344.4705
F 202.344.8300
bbayh@venable.com

Mr. Herbert P. Read
1453 North Tremont Road
Chesterton, Indiana 46304

Dear Herb:

I am writing to thank you once again for all of your efforts to save the Indiana Dunes. Recently, I was going over some of the issues with which I had dealt while in the Senate and saving the Dunes was one of my priority issues. As you know well, the Dunes were a treasure in Northwest Indiana, yet, industrialization was slowly creeping in and some folks were making plans to build factories over this precious creation of nature.

It was a real battle between those who wanted an Indiana port and those who wanted to save the Dunes. With your guidance, we introduced legislation to create an Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. This bill was subsequently passed and is now law. However, it is easy to overlook the battle that transpired while getting this legislation passed.

The Save the Dunes Council, under your leadership and that of Sylvia Troy and Ruth Osann, created an environment which made it all possible. Perhaps the following is redundant because I have said it many times before. However, all of us who have participated in and now share in the blessings provided by the Indiana Dunes Lakeshore, can never thank you too often. You and your family put in hours of tireless efforts. It is only fitting that the Read Dunes House, the center of the Save the Dunes activities, be included on the National Register of Historic Places. I applaud and support the efforts of "Partners in Preservation" to accomplish this goal. And, I hope the people, not only of Northern Indiana, but others throughout the country, will recognize the significant contribution that you and your family made to save a cherished site of nature's wonders.

I miss having a chance to see you, and hope that you and yours are well.

Sincerely,



Birch Bayh

BB:bwr

Re: Read Dunes House,
Porter County IN

Walter G. Breitinger

255 Park Avenue Valparaiso, Indiana 46383 • Telephone 219/462-5821

February 20, 2010

Re: Preservation of the Read Dunes House, Porter County

To Whom IT May Concern:

I have read the nomination form and strongly support the listing of the Read Dunes House on the National Register of Historic Places.

I first read about Herb and Charlotte Read in 1966 when I moved to Porter County. Approximately two years later I was honored to meet them at a "Save the Dunes" meeting at which I became further dedicated to helping protect and conserve the Dunes and, more specifically, create the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

The Reads served then to educate and inspire a wide range of students, scientists, and nature enthusiasts to study and protect what is now known as the birth place of the study of ecology.

The Reads are known nationally for their dedication and accomplishments including a long list of successful political campaigns for conservation legislation. Among other prestigious honors, they were both awarded "Sagamore of the Wabash" by our Governor ~~Daniel~~ O'Bannon.

I have attended meetings and gatherings at the Dunes House and listened to presentations there by a wide range of speakers including our U.S. Congressman.

This unique structure is well located and perfectly suited for National Park Service adaptive re-use, such as displays dedicated to telling the story of creating the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Indiana Dunes State Park, or for meetings of nonprofit organizations.

I urge you to support and approve any decisions to help preserve this house for posterity in order that it may continue, in the Read tradition, to provide a gathering space to educate and inspire generations for years to come.

Sincerely,



Walt Breitinger

Re: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)

To Herbert Read
Chesterton, Indiana
Feb. 21, 2010

Dear Herbert,

It is with some excitement that I approach the topic of recognizing the historic place the Read Home has in the movement to save the Indiana Dunes. The house is almost the only surviving physical link to the human struggle to save the dunes. The Coronado Lodge is gone, the Red Lantern is gone, dozens of other homes of activists and artists are gone.

What is needed is preservation and interpretation of the place of the struggle for the Dunes in the history of the state, nation and conservation movement in the 20th Century.

The struggle to establish the principle that a National Park could be created out of PRIVATE land was crucial to creating the modern mission of the National Park Service. This story is often told in connection with the establishment of Acadia NP in Maine. While that victory was important, the nearly-successful fight to establish Sand Dunes National Park in Indiana was also an important chapter in the development of a national movement to preserve important natural and historical features under federal protection and management in states with no large pre-existing federal lands.

As the activists and artists of those years passed on and their homes were taken for industry or parks, much of that history faded from public view. The same thing is now happening to the history of the successful fight to establish the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Indiana Dunes State Park. The Read Home is a physical and symbolic link to both these epic political/environmental campaigns.

Its continued existence and use for Izaak Walton League gatherings also gives it a role in the public policy debates ongoing after the establishment of INDU.

A good use for the house, particularly in view of its location and accessibility, would be as a museum for the history of the fight to save the dunes and the role of that fight in the creation, establishment and definition of the National Park Service and national conservation movement. Other solutions to preservation are also possible.

There are precedents within the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore for preserving the Read Home. The Chicago Worlds Fair houses, the old Goodfellow Camp Lodge, the Bailly Homestead and the Chellberg Farm are buildings that the NPS has chosen to preserve because of their place in regional or local history. These historic buildings are preserved more because they happen to be in the dunes than because of their connection to the Dunes. It is even more fitting to preserve a structure that is itself an important link to both the history of the National Park Service and the history of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

As Editor and the son and grandson of editors of the *Chesterton Tribune* I have lived through a part of that history. I remember the first narrow, greedy reaction of the local business community. I remember the debt we owe to the Prairie Club and the many other Illinois-based activists and political leaders. I find, however, that few of my neighbors remember these times. This lack of memory, lack of a sense of history, even includes many workers and volunteers at the dunes parks themselves. There is no better time for you to make your proposal to have the house listed on the National Register of Historic Places. I wish you every success.

David Canright
Managing Editor Chesterton Tribune

Re: Read Dunes House, Porter County IN

John Beckman

An Independent Insurance Agent

(219) 926-6606

(312) 318-6606 cell

(219) 764-3772 fax

Ameriplex @ the Port

Suite G 1575 Adler Circle

Portage IN 46368-6408

**Constantine Dillion, Superintendent
Indiana National Lakeshore
1100 Mineral Springs Road
Porter IN 46304**

February 28, 2010

Dear Superintendent:

I am writing to heartily endorse the Historic Preservation Designation of the Read Dune House when the National Park Service takes full possession of it.

It not only embodies the physical architectural characteristics representing assimilation into living with nature instead of pushing nature to the side for predominately human purposes, but the entire Read Family History has been central to the accomplished desires of a very famous Chicago organization, the Prairie Club.

While the Chicago "well to do" advocated the preservation of the Indiana dunes, the science of ecology's birthplace, even before World War I, their efforts were repeatedly thwart until they became sufficiently dissuaded and lost interest.

Yet the Read Family and others persisted and eventually formed the Save The Dunes Council, of which Charlotte was their longest serving Executive Director as well as served as a volunteer for many years before and after her tenure.

I first met Ms. Read in 1970 when she and an engineer came over from Porter County to my Hammond home to present aerial photos so we could clearly see how piers and other protrusions into Lake Michigan interrupted the natural flow of sand all along the shoreline beaches.

Years later, during the local utilities interest in building a nuclear power plant their was a firestorm of controversy both pro and con sweeping the Calumet Region.

An Independent Agent Representing Quality Life & Medical Insurance Companies!

I was directed by Hammond area leadership to sponsor a conference designed to give a balanced view of this important construction project.

Among the distinguished panelists who attended from Argon National Laboratory and various businesses with expertise in the design and operation of such a facility was Herb Read who could speak with authority about the architectural durability of the proposed plant as well as its environmental impact if it were to be built.

About a year later Ms. Read attended, at my invitation, an early meeting of the Grand Cal Task Force to discuss what would be feasible in bringing about the responsible dredging of the Grand Calumet River; fifteen years later she was instrumental in persuading the Save The Dunes Council to support the US Army Corp of Engineer's proposal to establish Confined Disposal Facilities so the contaminated soils could be removed from our drinking water.

Many times in those intervening years she was extremely helpful and freely gave of her insights when asked, which I frequently did.

There are several other lesser anecdotes where the Read Family has entered my personal and professional life and without exception I found their presence repeatedly muting or diminishing the frustrating parochial practices that have become the signature feature of so many other groups in the Calumet Region.

I would hope when the National Park Service begins to plan for the restored Read Dune House that the planners review their own study completed about ten years ago at the behest of the Calumet Ecological Park Association because the issues of ecology, labor, and ethnicity weave well with the history of the Reads and their enduring imprint on the Calumet Region!

I would hope the National Park Service places a priority on telling the human story that has led us all to begin to realize the importance of our natural world and how we endeavor to understand and submit to our limitations so we may lessen damage of our actions to the very earth from which we take so much and yet on which we depend!

Sincerely,

John F. Beckman

John Beckman

Re: Read Dunes House, Porter County, IN

53 Main Street,
Rockport, Ma. 01966
Ph. 978-546-7649

www.tutwilerstudio.com



P.O. Box 343
Beverly Shores, In. 46301
Ph. 219-879-5611

E-mail: dlutwiler@tutwilerstudio.com

Celebrating over 85 years in Fine Art

March, 2010



To whom it may concern,

Thoughts of an Indiana dune artist...

I stood outside the door waiting for a response to my knock, soon a friendly smile and a warm greeting welcomed me in. I stepped inside and out from the cold winter morning air. Answering the door, I was escorted by kindly Herb himself, through the low passageway entrance. I stepped in and to the right, the room before me opened into a large welcoming space which has fondly become known as the "great room".

Images of design by Frank Lloyd Wright crossed my mind. From across the room, Herbs wife, Charlotte greeted me with a smile and a friendly hello. Though I was inside, the room was filled with the brightness of the outdoors as the illumination from the numerous windows flooded the room with the light, casting illumination for discovery on all the personally sacred surroundings in this woodland home enveloped in history and charm. Throughout the house are mementos of history and experience. The walls are filled with dune paintings and old photographs recalling the beauty of the land and special occasions with family and friends.

Time seemed to stand still with the immense ambiance of history, conservation, and art... all around me. Dune paintings hung from the walls, books, notes and mementos of time gone by decorated this transitory space. Outside the large picture windows, birds gathered at the feeder and brought life to the gray winter depth beyond.

My sensitivity to the surroundings and the beauty of the winter woods outside the windows inspired my artistic sense and I felt compelled to note the paintability of the moment.

I thought, to myself, why can't this wonderful moment with it's personal collection, of the history and struggle for the beauty of the Dunes be saved for generations to share and learn from and to be saved and remain a treasure for many.

Herb & Charlotte Read have contributed so much to the struggle to save one of the last remnants of this ancient territory with its unique flora and fauna. They have experienced and documented so much of the local history here. Through the years, they have supported the arts and continue to support there love of the visual surroundings of the dunes and have personally initiated and invested in the formation of "Lost Dune Publishing", with the great desire to produce, on canvas, images of the lost parts of the Dunes that have disappeared forever into time. The first project in this endeavor was to have a painting produced of the long lost dune formation known as "Howlin' Hill" a giant dune that was swallowed up by the industrial growth of the steel industry. Herb believed that this effort would contribute, for generations to come, an education to the public into what was here for centuries and what has become lost and will never to be seen again.

As an artist that grew up under the tutelage of the American Marine Artist, Charles Vickery, who treasured the dunes and spent years wandering these shores, studying and learning about the inland sea, I have come to appreciate the treasure we have here in these forested dunes with it's symphonic orchestrated shoreline, and welcoming accessibility.

I have come to understand and appreciate the gift that has been cultivated by the Reads and their relentless struggle to document and help salvage this isolated remnant of creation, on the southern shores of lake Michigan.

I encourage the efforts to preserve the Read house for inclusion into the park as a special place of sanctuary, study and learning through it's inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

I believe that in saving their home within the park, it will contribute to the education, understanding, and appreciation, of the dunes and it's unique roll in contributing an oasis of peace in the middle of the industrialized Midwest.

Sincerely,

David Tutwiler

Signature Member Oil Painters of America

Tutwiler Studio

Re: Read Dunes House, Porter County, IN

JAMES L. OBERSTAR

CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

AT LARGE WHIP

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2508

March 2, 2010

Mr. James A. Glass
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
402 West Washington Street W274
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Dear Mr. Glass:

I am writing to support the application for the Read Dunes House, located in Porter County, Indiana, for inclusion to the National Register of Historic Places.


The inclusion of the Read Dunes House into the National Register of Historic Places would be an appropriate tribute to the efforts of the Read family to save the Dunes. It is important that we recognize the Read family's work to combine cultural and local values along with environmental advocacy and conservation in order to maintain preservation of the natural environment around them.

This application is critical to ensuring that past and present conservation movements are recognized and remembered.

I urge you to give the Read Dunes House application for the National Register of Historic Places due consideration.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,


James L. Oberstar, M.C.

JLO/br

DNR

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor
Robert E. Carter, Jr., Director



Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology • 402 W. Washington Street, W274 • Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
Phone 317-232-1646 • Fax 317-232-0693 • dhpa@dnr.in.gov • www.in.gov/dnr/historic

March 3, 2010

Constantine J. Dillon
Superintendent
Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
1100 N. Mineral Springs Road
Porter, IN 46304-1299

Dear Superintendent Dillon,

We have enclosed your copy of the National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Read Dunes House, Porter County, IN. After a careful review of the registration form, our assessment is that the Read Dunes House is eligible for the National Register. Let me explain why we came to that conclusion.

First, while we understand that the application was submitted for purposes of a determination of eligibility, we did want to point out that the text of the application has a number of minor errors. In the event that this application would be used in other ways, for example, for submittal for formal listing in the National Register or to serve as a historical record of the property, a few items should be corrected first. None of the errors bear on any of the crucial factors in our opinion.

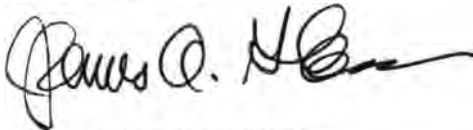
The author cites Criteria A, B, and C in the application. We believe that the property meets Criterion A only, for its association with groups that were significant in the dunes ecological movement in northern Indiana. In reaching this conclusion, my staff applied principles from past experience. The first issue is the relative significance of the Indiana dunes ecological/recreational movement. We believe the historical record leaves little doubt that the movement shaped Indiana's and other state's views about the natural resources of the area; the movement affected policy, land use, legislation, and, negatively to some, issues of private property ownership. The tangible results of the movement are very much alive today. Second, we debated whether this particular property or others like it represents this significant historical trend. One can argue that several properties represent this legacy. The Dune Acres Clubhouse (NR, 2007), Washington Park in Michigan City (NR, 1991), and properties in Dunes State Park represent different aspects of the movement. The Read House had a more specific role, being one of several assembly places for various citizen-activist committees involved in the movement. From evidence presented in the registration form, it is unclear how many other buildings the movement used as a focal point and it may never be fully known. It is clear enough that the work of the committees and groups that used the Read's house was crucial to the movement. That, in our opinion, confers eligibility upon the Read House.

Regarding Criterion B, past National Register advice is that specific persons need to have had specific roles within a given field in order for an associated property to qualify. It is difficult to discern which Read family member made which specific contribution, since their actions were part of a committee. In a situation like this, past Park Service-NR staff advice was to consider familial or group actions as a "pattern of history" appropriate to Criterion A, not Criterion B. Therefore, we believe Criterion B is inappropriate for this property.

We do not think that the property meets Criterion C. While the author describes the house as Prairie Style in inspiration, as interpreted by an architect practicing during the Modern period, staff views the house differently. Certainly, the house has remarkable integrity of design and materials, and is a pleasant living space. We believe that the design is certainly competent but fairly routine in the realm of design inspirations that were within reach. Some aspects of the interior and exterior appear similar to rustic retreats published before World War II in Craftsman magazine, for example, or could have been easily experienced in the 1930s in parks rustic style shelters at any of Indiana's state parks. Furthermore, the Park Service-NR staff has advised us that they are largely unwilling to list properties of living architects.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this property. We look forward to working with your staff on any other preservation issues you might have at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James A. Glass". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

James A. Glass, Ph.D.
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

JAG:PCD

Enclosure: NR application with original signatures, Read House

Re: Read Dunes House, Porter County, IN

COUNTY - PORTER

NORTH DISTRICT
JOHN A. EVANS
(219) 465-3361

CENTER DISTRICT
ROBERT P. HARPER
(219) 465-3354

SOUTH DISTRICT
CAROLE M. KNOBLOCK
(219) 465-3349



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

PORTER COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER
155 INDIANA AVE. • SUITE 205
VALPARAISO, INDIANA 46383

(219) 465-3440
FAX: (219) 465-3362

March 13, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter pertains to Herb and Charlotte Read. I have known Herb and Charlotte since I was a child growing up in Chesterton Indiana. Their reputation in our community has always been one of strong work and support of the surrounding natural resources. Their untiring work has helped to create and maintain the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and many other environmental projects in Porter County.

It has been brought to my attention that the Read family's dune house is being considered for submission to the National Register of Historic Places. I would strongly urge you to consider this honor. The Reads have opened their home on many occasions over the years as a meeting place for like minded individuals who also worked tirelessly to save our precious dune land areas for generations of people to enjoy.

I am writing to fully support this distinction. I can't think of a better honor for their precious dune land home!

Sincerely,

John Evans
Porter County Commissioner
North District

Re: Read Dunes House, Porter County, IN

April 23, 2010

Mr. James A. Glass
Department of Historic Preservation and Archeology
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
402 West Washington Street, W274
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Mr. Glass:

I write in support of an application to nominate Herb and Charlotte Read's house in Porter County, Indiana for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

I have read the application and fully support the nomination. I have known the Reads for over 20 years and have been at their home a number of times. I am also aware this location was used for activities, meetings, and events in support of saving the dunes for decades. Many historic events took place at the home.

Herb and Charlotte Read contributed enormously to the establishment of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in 1966 and they continue to protect these precious, natural lands in Northwest Indiana. In addition to being active in Save the Dunes Council, they are both still active in the Izaak Walton League and many other conservation activities.

The house, in a natural dunes setting, can illustrate how humans and nature can coexist. The home site is also very natural and can serve as an example of how development can enhance the natural setting and it will provide a 'living example' of sustainable design.

I urge the application be approved and this home can be protected forever to serve as an historic landmark for future generations.



Thomas R. Anderson
405 Hendricks Street
Michigan City, Indiana 46360

Re: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)

30435 Winchester Rd.
Castaic, CA 91384

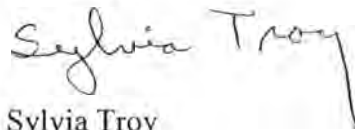
National Register of Historic Places
Department of Interior
Washington DC

Dear Friends,

I fully support Herbert and Charlotte Read's applications for Preservation of the Read's Dunes House to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Without the efforts of Herb and Charlotte Read, I doubt that Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Park would exist today. In my view, their work in connection with this Park was indispensable. I was President of Save the Dunes Council from 1966 to 1976 (after Dorothy Buell) and was intimately concerned with the establishment of the Park and its boundaries. The discussions and the decisions made on these matters took place in the Read's house. The Save the Dunes Council held their monthly meetings for years in the beautiful living room of the Read's house. By the way, Herbert's Read's parents, Irene and Philo Read, were deeply connected with the establishment of the Indiana Dunes State Park in 1923.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sylvia Troy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.


Sylvia Troy

Re: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)

Dear Herbert,

I remember your leadership well. I support your application and it is a privilege to help you,

Sincerely,

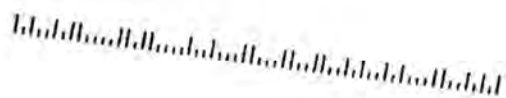

P 12/15/64

OFFICE OF
STEWART L. UDALL
1244 CAMINO CRUZ BLANCA
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87505



Herbert Read
1453 North Tremont Road
Chesterton, IN. 46304

46304+1135



Re: Read Dunes House,
Porter County, IN

872 MEADOW LANE
MUNSTER, IND
46321

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

AS A MEMBER OF THE SAVE THE DUNES COUNCIL FOR SOME 30 YEARS I HAVE KNOWN THE READ FAMILY IN OUR WORK TO SAVE THE DUNES. WE HAVE WORKED QUITE CLOSELY IN THIS ENDEAVOR.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE READ HOME IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR CONSIDERATION ON THE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES - THIS SHOULD BE AN ABSOLUTE MUST AS THIS HOME PLAYED A VERY IMPORTANT PART IN THE BATTLE TO PRESERVE AND SAVE THE DUNES.

DURING THE 1950's HENRY & I WOULD GO OUT 3 & 4 TIMES A WEEK TO TALK TO VARIOUS GROUPS TO SHOW THE DUNE MOVIE & TELL THE STORY OF THE DUNE. THROUGH OUR EFFORTS MANY PEOPLE LEARNED ABOUT THE DUNES AND HOW IMPORTANT ~~it~~ IT WAS TO SAVE & PRESERVE THEM.

Sincerely

HENRY & G. MURPHY

Marc t. Nielsen Interiors

living room, shows the room was designed to entertain. The personal area consists of two small bedrooms and a bathroom, the minimal area which would support the lives of the family.

The tie beams give an important opportunity for practical and effective lighting design. There are lights sitting on top of these tie beams shining up. Along with the indirect lights over the windows, this lighting afforded changing from living area to meeting room easily and quickly, with virtually no lamps to move.

Lighting, in my opinion, of of utmost importance. And in the inside/outside concept, lighting the landscape brings the outside right in again.

Overall, the Read Family House seems to fit perfectly in its dunes setting and is significant because the early advocates of dunes preservation met here and labored to establish the National Park which now exists.

With National Register approval, the Read Family House can continue to function for meetings, business of the National Lakeshore, and display exhibits to tell the long story of all the people who joined together to preserve the Indiana Dunes in the state and national park system.

Yours Most Sincerely,

Virginia Phillips
American Society of Interior Designers

Re: Read Dunes House, Porter County, IN

Mr. James A. Glass

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Department of Historic Preservation and Archaeology

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

402 West Washington Street W274

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Dear Mr. Glass;

I am writing to support the application to include the Read Dunes House in Porter County Indiana for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The Registration Form which I have had the pleasure of reviewing makes an absolutely compelling case for this inclusion. It very accurately traces the involvement of several generations of the Read Family in the epic fight to save the Dunes. The birth of a formal organization dedicated to this high purpose; and, the organization of a stellar Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America happened in the Read Dunes House.

The resulting History on behalf of the of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is so very well documented that inclusion of the Read Dunes House is not only appropriate; but compelling. It would be a serious omission to fail to include this important part of a great example of how caring citizens can and do make great things happen in America.

The efforts of the Read family, and, those of many other citizens is a part of this specific History that must be recorded. Not simply a paper record, but the Read House itself goes beyond the "symbolic", and it will serve us as an important physical source of education for a long, long time.

The effort by the Read Family and their partners, not only motivated the interest of local and national politicians; and, woke up the general public; but the meetings at the Read Dunes House served to keep this project in the care and focus of the major conservation organizations, as well.

I can also state without any fear of contradiction that often, even Park Service personnel do not have a well grounded understanding of the history behind their current assignments as they appropriately should have. Institutional memories are often short lived! In my relationship with the National Park Service here in Minnesota for over forty years, I have observed that the Service frequently fails to understand the importance of local citizens and culture in the values within the boundaries of the assets under their care. The retention of the geology, flora, and fauna are the critical pieces that have

motivated generations to seek preservation. Yet; without the people part, and the Read Dunes House, this act of preservation would not have been possible.

Let me close by stating that as past National President of the Izaak Walton League of America 1975-77; I was very much aware of the courage and persistence of this Family and can state unequivocally; that without the Reads, we'd be without the precious Dunes Lakeshore. I urge inclusion in the National Register.

Sincerely;

David F. Zentner, Past National President Izaak Walton League of America

2216 Columbus Ave.

Duluth, MN 55803

218-724-3926

Re: Read Dunes House, Porter County IN

To whom it may concern:

When I was asked to make comment on behalf of the Reads toward the end result of preserving their home on the National Register of Historic Places I was overwhelmed, completely awestruck. Could I possibly make a difference? I hope to. But when you stack it next to the accomplishments of great activists like the Read family and those that convened at the Read Home I can only be scratching the surface.

My earliest recollections of the Dunes (not yet the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore) and the surrounds including the Read Home were born of my parent's connection with the Reads. It was my parent's love and respect for the natural order of life, spawned early in their respective lives, that led them to know Herb and Charlotte Read – to know their fervent and committed mission to preserve the Dunes for future generations.

The lifelong friendship between the Reads and my family was cemented by the teamwork that was needed to preserve what is left of the original Dunes area. My father was a PR man at a time when you could change the course of history with a typewriter. Coupled with the mastermind of Herb Read and his league of dedicated activists the movement resulted in a firestorm of accomplishment. The Read Home bore witness to late night letter writing and assembling of important communications, while hosting volunteers and calming the frayed nerves of weary activists. My father and mother were no strangers to the Read Home.

The "Save the Dunes movement" started almost three generations ago with Herb's father, Philo, who walked his beloved Dunes and understood them well. He and his wife lived their final years in the Home after which Herb and Charlotte took up residence. The Home, a battlefield, remains a small yet highly important tribute to a kind of movement that you see less and less of today. Environmental activism has a new face. It bares embers of the original fire but not like the grass roots movements that occurred in the Read's generation.

These material objects that express a human movement that benefited us all should remain as reminders of our place in modern culture and the difference that we can make. All we need is the fire in our bellies and a place to have the meeting!

As a little girl I have memories of the Dunes that will stay with me as long as I live. Mom and Dad pretty much took us wherever they went. "Land rich, money poor" is what they always said, so baby sitters were not an option. Quite possibly we wouldn't have known who my parents were if they hadn't lugged us along. They were always going to meetings. As a consequence of this, we were given a bigger gift than most other children. We saw places on earth that shaped our very existence. The Indiana Dunes, the Red Desert and Sunlight Basin in Wyoming, the Hoh River Rainforest in Washington. We backpacked in the Green River Lakes. We canoed every body of water in northern Indiana. We always seemed to visit places in need of protection.

Of all these places, the Dunes stand alone with the unbelievable existence of prickly pear cactus and skinks; the lovely swales rich with ferns and the magnificent blowouts giving you a perfect illustration of the power of the wind. Dad would load Mom, my brothers, me and all our junk into his 1942 Ford Army issue "Jeep". Hanging on like we were the Job family, we would journey into the heart of the Dunes. It was a magical time of discovery.

We are all fortunate that the Dunes have been preserved for us to enjoy and to learn from. Had the Reads not been there at the right time and the right place the Dunes would be condemned to be the foundation for a steel mill. The Read Home, the birthplace of a movement, is humble in size but immense in its stature. Let it stand as a reminder to all those who come after the Reads that you really can make a difference even if the journey seems overwhelming.

Sincerely,
Mary Gustafson
Leesburg, VA

Re: Read Dunes House, Porter County, IN

DUNELAND PRODUCTIONS

DIGITAL DOCUMENTARIES / COMMERCIALS

17 Indian Camp Trail • Ogden Dunes, IN 46368
(219) 762-1162

To w\Whom It May Concern:

This is to support and encourage the placing of the Read family home in the Indiana Dunes into the National Register of Historic Places.

As a resident of the Indiana Dunes for more that 40 years and as a long-time broadcast journalist for both Chicago and South Bend network TV and radio stations it was often my pleasure to interview Herb and Charlotte Read on their massive efforts to preserve endangered Dune land through the efforts of the Save The Dunes Council.

Indeed, I was able to interview Dorothy Buell once before her passing.

It is entirely fitting and proper to preserve the Read family home as a part of what has happily becme the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Park.

Bill Warrick

Bill Warrick

**EXCERPTS FROM 30 LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR READ DUNES HOUSE
NOMINATION TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

- 1. Stewart Udall, Secretary of the Interior under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson when the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Act of 1966 passed, 1961-1969 (handwritten note to Herbert Read dated Dec. 15, 2009)**

"I remember your leadership well. I support your application and it is a privilege to help you."

- 2. Birch Bayh, former U.S. Senator and co-author of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Act of 1966 and subsequent dunes legislation (letter written to Herbert Read, Feb. 19, 2010)**

"As you know well, the Dunes were a treasure in Northwest Indiana, yet, industrialization was slowly creeping in and some folks were making plans to build factories over this precious creation of nature. It was a real battle between those who wanted an Indiana port and those who wanted to save the Dunes. With your guidance, we introduced legislation to create an Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. This bill was subsequently passed and is now law. However, it is easy to overlook the battle that transpired while getting this legislation passed.

"The Save the Dunes Council, under your leadership and that of Sylvia Troy and Ruth Osann, created an environment which made it all possible... You and your family put in hours of tireless efforts. It is only fitting that the Read Dunes House, the center of the Save the Dunes activities, be included on the National Register of Historic Places."

- 3. J. Ronald Engel, author of "Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes" (1983)**

"The story of the century-long movement that led to the establishment of the Indiana Dunes State Park and Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is one of the great stories of American conservation history... The efforts to save the dunes were part of a "third" form of American environmentalism which arose in Chicago and the Midwest in the Progressive Era. This movement was committed to both a more just urban industrial order and a new sense of responsibility for understanding and preserving the living ecological community. Its spirit lives on in contemporary ecological restoration, regional planning and environmental justice initiatives...

"There is no place where the public can go to make contact with this history, one of the truly outstanding examples of the power of citizen action and democratic self-government in our nation. The Read Dunes House is the last remaining physical structure that bears an intimate relationship to this history -- home to generations of Reads, a family that has been repeatedly recognized as without parallel in their love and dedicated stewardship of this precious place, and expressive in its very architecture, in

its materials, Prairie School lines, and great open room for community gathering, the Midwestern social democratic vision of art serving and enhancing the common life.

"What better and more appropriate place, therefore, to become an Interpretive Center for better understanding, communication and, hopefully, perpetuation of the ideals of those who gave so willingly of their lives to the establishment of the two dunes parks? Those who fought for the Dunes believed that in a democracy the government is an expression of the people's will and a medium for realizing its best hopes for the common good of all. The state and national parks and public preserves of our country embody this vision, and owe their very being to it. The Read House could serve as a center for communicating this ideal directly and forcefully to the public today.

"Your intention to prepare a new Comprehensive Interpretive Plan for the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore provides an excellent opportunity for you to recommend the Read House for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places and to consider its use as an Interpretive Center for the conservation history of the dunes parks."

4. David Canright, Managing Editor of the Chesterton Tribune, son and grandson of editors of the Chesterton Tribune

"The house is almost the only surviving physical link to the human struggle to save the dunes... What is needed is preservation and interpretation of the place of the struggle for the Dunes in the history of the state, nation and conservation movement in the 20th Century. The struggle to establish the principle that a National Park could be created out of PRIVATE land was crucial to creating the modern mission of the National Park Service. This story is often told in connection with the establishment of Acadia N. P. in Maine. While that victory was important, the nearly-successful movement to establish Sand Dunes National Park in Indiana was also an important chapter in the development of a national movement to preserve important natural and historical features under federal protection and management in states with no large pre-existing federal lands.

"As the activists and artists of those years passed on and their homes were taken for industry or parks, much of that history faded from public view. The same thing is now happening to the history of the successful fight to establish the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Indiana Dunes State Park. The Read Home is a physical and symbolic link to both these epic political/environmental campaigns...

"A good use for the house, particularly in view of its location and accessibility, would be as a museum for the history of the fight to save the dunes and the role of that fight in the creation, establishment and definition of the National Park Service and national conservation movement... Historic buildings are preserved more because they happen to be in the dunes than because of their connection to the Dunes. It is even more fitting to preserve a structure that is itself an important link to both the history of the National Park Service and the history of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore."

5. Congressman Peter J. Viscloskey, First District, Indiana

"I write in strong support of an application to nominate the Read Dunes House in Porter County, Indiana for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

"As you are aware, several generations of the Read family were instrumental figures in the environmental preservation efforts exerted by individuals and groups who championed the creation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in Northwest Indiana. From Northwest Indiana's earliest days, Opie Read and his son Philo Read began exploring the dunes and passed their enthusiasm for the natural ecology of the area to Philo's son Herb Read, who, with his wife Charlotte, fought alongside Dorothy Buell and Senator Paul Douglas for the establishment of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore by Congress in 1966.

"To that end, the Read Dunes House, designed by Herb Read and occupied by Philo Read, then Herb Read, stands as a historic testament to the hard work and dedication of all those involved with the conservation of the lakeshore. Many strategic meetings were held at this home by the Save the Dunes Council and the Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, not to mention the individual discussions held to continue the fight on behalf of the unique ecosystem found along our south shore."

6. Stephen McShane, Archivist/Curator, Calumet Regional Archive, Indiana University

"Many of the files constituting the Read Family Papers were produced in the great room of the Read Dunes House in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore...Indeed, if not for the Reads (Herb's parents and later Herb and Charlotte), I believe that the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore would not exist. Their role in the Save the Dunes movement was critical to the successful establishment and expansion of the nation's first urban national park. Because of its importance as the 'headquarters' of Indiana Dunes preservation, the Read Dunes House should be saved and utilized in the interpretive programs of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore."

7. Vicki B. Urbanik-Randall, journalist, Chesterton Tribune

"When I first visited the Read home several years ago, I was immediately struck by the interior design of the main room. As one who holds a degree in fine arts, I found myself studying the design elements. The vaulted-style ceiling and the large windows create a oneness with the outdoors. Though we clearly were physically in an interior space, the exterior woodland was an ever-present force...I was also struck by the room's contents. Paintings and photos of the Indiana Dunes, oversized coffee-table books about nature and history, and stacks of documents and newsletters were a treat for the eye...In short, this room reminded me of a living library encompassing the history of the park and the activism that went into saving the dunes. I believe that when this home is listed on the National Register, the 'living library' element should be preserved in order to give visitors a flavor of some of the effort that went into saving their national park...I cannot

think of another structure within the Indiana Dunes that better symbolizes the human element that went into saving the park. I am certain that visitors to the Indiana Dunes will find their experience all the more richer and more meaningful by being able to stop at the Read Dunes House on their way into the park or upon their exit."

8. Jane Walsh-Brown, Curator, Westchester Township History Museum

"As curator of the Prairie Club Archive, which is housed at the Westchester Township History Museum, I found the description of Philo Read's life fascinating. The Prairie Club Archive contains many references to his early involvement with the Club and to the contributions he made to its development...

"As the site of the crucial and formative meetings of the Save the Dunes Council and the Izaak Walton League in the years 1952-1959, the Read Dunes House stands as a reminder of the importance of citizen involvement in the creation, growth and protection of our state and national parks...

"I enthusiastically endorse the nomination of the Read Dunes House because of the important contributions made by the Read family to the conservation of the Indiana Dunes and the creation of the state and national parks; because of the house's unique architecture and relationship to the surrounding dunes landscape; and finally, because the house was the site of the formative and early meetings of two groups that made major contributions to the creation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore."

9. Sylvia Troy, second president of Save the Dunes Council (1966-1976, after founding president Dorothy Buell)

"I fully support Herbert and Charlotte Read's application for preservation of the Read Dunes House to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Without the efforts of Herb and Charlotte Read I doubt that Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Park would exist today. In my view, their work in connection with this park was indispensable. I was President of Save the Dunes Council from 1966 to 1976 (after Dorothy Buell) and was intimately concerned with the establishment of the park and its boundaries. The discussions and the decisions made on these matters took place in the Reads' house. The Save the Dunes Council held their monthly meetings for years in the beautiful living room of the Reads' house. By the way, Herbert Read's parents, Irene and Philo Read, were deeply connected with the establishment of the Indiana Dunes State Park in 1923."

10. Ruth Osann, third president of Save the Dunes Council (1976-1977)

"My late husband, Edward, and I have known the Read family since 1952, the year the Save the Dunes Council was organized by Dorothy Buell. My husband Ed volunteered his legal services to help the Council with its legal affairs. He worked very closely with Philo and Irene Read, as well as Herb and Charlotte Read toward our common objective of creating the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. From my 58 years of

experience with the Read family, I can attest that they have given their lives to saving the dunes, and were instrumental in creating and expanding the National Lakeshore.

"I am also familiar with the Read Family Dunes House. Especially during the early years of the Save the Dunes Council, we had many meetings in the house. The extra large living room, and the view of the dunes from large windows on three sides, made the house a most inspiring place in which to meet. The house appears to blend in with its dune site...It is worthy of historic status due to the work of the Read family in helping to establish the National Lakeshore, as well as its beautiful and unique design."

11. Thomas C. Serynek, former president of Save the Dunes Council (1988 to 2003)

"Meeting at the Read House to further the Dunes' cause, as so many people have done over the years, is always exciting. It is amazing to think of all the ideas for preservation that were and continue to be developed there. The house is beautifully located in the dunes, taking advantage of wonderful views which surround it. Its long, low construction of natural materials helps it complement these oak savannah dunes.

"The Read House would be an ideal place to tell the real story of the century old grassroots movement that was the impetus and vehicle for the establishment of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and the preservation of thousands of acres of globally endangered habitat and all that implies. A small library and archive of the Indiana Dunes would be really great!"

12. Robert P. Harper, Porter County Commissioner

"It is hard to think of another couple in this area that is more well-known for their work not only in creating the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, but also their work in preserving the environment and natural resources in Porter County. ... I have reviewed the application and I fully support granting this historic status."

13. Carole M. Knoblock, Porter County Commissioner

"Anyone who has been in Porter County as long as I have is well aware of the long history both the Reads have in supporting the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and other environmentally friendly projects in Porter County.

"I strongly urge you to consider putting the Read Family dunes house on a national register for historic places."

14. Congressman James Oberstar of Minnesota, then-Chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure (2007-2010)

"The including of the Read Dunes House into the National Register of Historic Places would be an appropriate tribute to the efforts of the Read family to save the Dunes. It is

important that we recognize the Read family's work to combine cultural and local values along with environmental advocacy and conservation in order to maintain preservation of the natural environment around them. This application is critical to ensuring that past and present conservation movements are recognized and remembered."

15. Walter G. Breiting, Valparaiso, Indiana

"This unique structure is well located and perfectly suited for National Park Service adaptive reuse, such as displays dedicated to telling the story of creating the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Indiana Dunes State Park, or for meetings of nonprofit organizations."

16. Bill Warrick, Duneland Productions, Ogden Dunes, Indiana

"As a resident of the Indiana Dunes for more than 40 years and a long-time broadcast journalist for both Chicago and South Bend network TV and radio stations, it was often my pleasure to interview Herb and Charlotte Read on their massive efforts to preserve endangered Dune land through the efforts of the Save the Dunes Council."

"Indeed, I was able to interview Dorothy Buell once before her passing."

"It is entirely fitting and proper to preserve the Read family home as part of what has happily become the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Park."

17. John Beckman, insurance agent, Portage, Indiana

"I would hope when the National Park Service begins to plans for the restored Read Dunes House that the planners review their own study completed about 10 years ago at the behest of the Calumet Ecological Park Association because the issues of ecology, labor and ethnicity weave well with the history of the Reads and their enduring imprint on the Calumet region! I would hope the National Park Service places a priority on telling the human story that led us all to begin to realize the importance of our natural world..."

18. Charles Siar, President, Indiana Division, Izaak Walton League of America

"The Reads formed the Porter County Chapter, IWLA in 1958 and became an icon for the conservation community. ... The Read House lives, and would live, as a reminder and symbol of past efforts and future conservation endeavors. Inclusion and protection of this property would be a lasting image to conservationists and the general public as an educational experience."

19. Mary Gustafson, daughter of dunes activists Thomas and Jane Dustin, Leesburg, Virginia

"The lifelong friendship between the Reads and my family was cemented by the teamwork that was needed to preserve what was left of the original Dunes area. ... The Read Home bore witness to late night letter writing and assembling of important communications, while hosting volunteers and calming the frayed nerves of weary activists. ... The Home, a battlefield, remains a small yet highly important tribute to a kind of movement that you see less and less of today. ... These material objects that express a human movement that benefitted us all should remain as reminders of our place in modern culture and the difference we can make. All we need is a fire in our bellies and a place to have the meeting!"

20. John R. Goss, former director of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer, 2002-2004 (letter addressed to Herb and Charlotte Read)

"Your leadership and vigilant stewardship of the Indiana Dunes has been an inspiration to conservationists across Indiana. ... The National Park Service could develop some exhibits and programming based at your home that would provide future generations a link to the former residents who sacrificed their homes to make the expansion of the park possible."

21. Joan M. Costello, President, Duneland Historical Society

"The Duneland Historical Society ... encourages preservation of the architectural heritage of North Porter County, IN. Since 1962, the DHS has championed the cause of local history: in research, in public programs, and in promoting the preservation of local sites such as the Bailly Homestead and the Chellberg Farm. Therefore, it is well and appropriate for the Duneland Historical Society to endorse the preservation of the Read Dunes House, not only for its outstanding dunes-appropriate architecture, but for its rich history in the saga of saving the Indiana Dunes for public use."

22. Dr. Ronald D. Cohen and Dr. James B. Lane, co-directors of the Calumet Regional Archives at Indiana University

"We would like to offer our enthusiastic support for the preservation of the historic Read Dunes House in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. ... We are proud to have been able to preserve materials from the Read family concerning their crucial role in promoting the development of the Dunes National Lakeshore and documenting the history of the dunes, as well as the South Shore Railroad."

23. Virginia Phillips, Marc T Nielsen Interiors, American Society of Interior Designers

"I have known the Read family for over 50 years, when the house was built for Philo and Irene Read, and have had many occasions to attend meetings there of the Polymathic Club, a social/historical study group which has been active in Porter County for 60 years. ...

"The house is such a perfect inside/outside concept with large windows on three sides of the big room, welcoming the outside in. The materials, stone and wood, used both inside and outside, support that principle, too. The high vaulted ceiling complements the proportion of this large room, unusual for a house designed and built in 1951/1952. ...

"The concept for the house was that it was intended to be used to entertain large groups. The house was designed by Herb for his parents, Philo and Irene Read, who had a strong interest in preservation of the Indiana Dunes. Their house was designed expressly to entertain sometimes large groups of people who were supporters and creators of their particular dunes preservation efforts.

"The tie beams give an important opportunity for practical and effective lighting design. There are lights sitting on top of these tie beams shining up. Along with indirect lights over the windows, this lighting afforded changing from the living area to meeting room easily and quickly, with virtually no lamps to move. Lighting, in my opinion, is of utmost importance. And in the inside/outside concept, lighting the landscape brings the outside right in again.

"Overall, the Read Family House seems to fit perfectly in its dunes setting and is significant because the early advocates of dunes preservation met here and labored to establish the National Park which now exists.

"With National Register approval, the Read Family House can continue to function for meetings, business of the National Lakeshore, and display exhibits to tell the long story of all the people who joined together to preserve the Indiana Dunes in the state and national park system."

24. John Nelson, photographer, Benton Harbor, Michigan (letter written to Herbert Read, Jan. 10, 2010)

"Back in the early 50s when we first met, we both discovered our like of and for the dunes, and as camera buffs we got together to go out and shoot. But, not wanting to take random shots, we discussed the various areas of the dunes with your dad, Philo. I recall we always stopped at his house (your house now) and sought Philo's opinion. He always offered opinions on our strategy. He wanted our quest to be fruitful. They didn't call him 'Sage of the Dunes' for nothing.

"Philo knew the dunes inside and out, and he would direct us to the various areas in the dunes. Philo became our principal authority on the subject. ...

"As I recall, your dad had a small (small?) corner of his house devoted to the stashing of our gear and reference books. In short, his house became our 'unofficial' headquarters for two dedicated photographers. It seems that we did this for weeks on end, all during the mid-50s through the mid-60s. And, from time to time, after a session in my darkroom, I would bring my dunescape to have Philo critique.

"Then, in the late-50s -- 1958, I recall -- we started production of that 16 mm movie for the Save the Dunes Council. I would bring weekly rushes over to his house for comments. There we would edit the film, and even shoot titles. I think his house began to resemble a movie studio -- with all our cinematic equipment stashed in the house.

"I do remember always looking forward to coming out to Tremont to pursue our endeavor at Philo's house, because the building was so different from the conventional houses in East Chicago, Indiana. Nowhere else do I remember a structure that seemed to 'reach out' and bring the outside environment inside. In short, that house seemed to just 'grow' there."

25. Raymond G. Mumpfer, Munster, Indiana

"As a member of the Save the Dunes Council for some 30 years, I have known the Read family in our work to save the dunes. ...

"I understand that the Read home is being considered for ... the Register of Historic Places. This should be an absolute must as this home played a very important part in the battle to preserve and save the dunes.

"During the 1950s Herb and I would go out 3 and 4 nights a week to talk to various groups to show the dunes movies and tell the story of the dunes. Through our efforts many people learned about the dunes and how important it was to save and preserve them."

26. Rev. Charles E. Doyle, Pastor of St. Ann of the Dunes Catholic Church, Beverly Shores, Indiana

"I became a member of the Save the Dunes Council in 1965 and had the pleasure of getting to know the various pioneers in bringing about the treasure of the National Park. ... It was Herb Read's grandfather, Opie Read, who introduced Herb's father, Philo Read, to the beauty of the Indiana Dunes which led him to ask his architect son, Herb, to create a design for a house appropriate for a dwelling surrounded by the Dunes. ... I urgently petition your support in preserving the Read House as a historic place in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Park."

27. David Tutwiler, painter, Tutwiler Studio, Beverly Shores (commissioned by Herb Read in 2003 to paint "Howlin' Hill," a rare "turret dune" photographed by Herb Read in January 1961, the first in an intended series of "Lost Dunes")

"Herb & Charlotte Read have contributed so much to the struggle to save one of the last remnants of this ancient territory with its unique flora and fauna. They have experienced and documented so much of the local history here. Through the years, they have supported the arts and continue to support their love of the visual surroundings of the dunes and have personally initiated and invested in the formation of Lost Dune Publishing, with the great desire to produce, on canvas, images of the lost parts of the Dunes that have disappeared forever into time. The first project in this endeavor was to have a painting produced of the long lost dune formation known as Howlin' Hill, a giant dune that was swallowed up by the industrial growth of the steel industry. Herb believed that this effort would contribute, for generations to come, an education to the public into what was here for centuries and what has become lost and will never be seen again. ... I have come to understand and appreciate the gift that has been cultivated by the Reads and their relentless struggle to document and help salvage this isolated remnant of creation, on the southern shores of Lake Michigan. I encourage the efforts to preserve the Read house for inclusion into the park as a special place of sanctuary, study and learning through its inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places."

28. John Evans, Porter County Commissioner

"I have known Herb and Charlotte since I was a child growing up in Chesterton, Indiana. ... It has been brought to my attention that the Read family's dune house is being considered for submission to the National Register of Historic Places. I would strongly urge you to consider this honor. The Reads have opened their home on many occasions over the years as a meeting place for like minded individuals who also worked tirelessly to save our precious dune land areas for generations of people to enjoy."

29. David F. Zentner, past national President, Izaak Walton League of America, Duluth, Minnesota

"I am writing to support the application to include the Read Dunes House in Porter County Indiana for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The Registration Form which I have had the pleasure of reviewing makes an absolutely compelling case for this inclusion. It very accurately traces the involvement of several generations of the Read Family in the epic fight to save the Dunes. The birth of a formal organization dedicated to this high purpose; and, the organization of a stellar Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America happened in the Read Dunes House. ...

"It would be a serious omission to fail to include this important part of a great example of how caring citizens can and do make great things happen in America. ...

"The effort by the Read Family and their partners not only motivated the interest of local and national politicians; and, woke up the general public; but the meetings at the Read Dunes House served to keep this project in the care and focus of the major conservation organizations as well.

"Let me close by stating that as past National President of the Izaak Walton League of America 1975-77; I was very much aware of the courage and persistence of this Family and can state unequivocally; that without the Reads, we'd be without the precious Dunes Lakeshore. I urge inclusion in the National Register."

30. Thomas R. Anderson, former executive director, Save the Dunes Council (1992-2010)

"I have known the Reads for over 20 years and have been at their home a number of times. I am also aware this location was used for activities, meetings, and events in support of saving the dunes for decades. Many historic events took place at the home.

"Herb and Charlotte Read contributed enormously to the establishment of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in 1966 and they continue to protect these precious, natural lands in Northwest Indiana. In addition to being active in Save the Dunes Council, they are both still active in the Izaak Walton League and many other conservation activities.

"The house, in a natural dunes setting, can illustrate how humans and nature can coexist. The home site is also very natural and can serve as an example of how development can enhance the natural setting and it will provide a 'living example' of sustainable design.

"I urge the application be approved and this home can be protected forever to serve as an historic landmark for future generations."



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240



Memorandum

To: Acting Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

From: Designated Federal Preservation Officer, National Park Service

Subject: Determination of Eligibility for The Read Dune House in Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

Handwritten signature
7/13/10
10/3

This property was reviewed by the superintendent under the requirements of Section 110 of the Historic Preservation Act, and found that it was not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Following that decision, a private citizen from California, Ms. Pia Lopez, sought a determination of eligibility from the Indiana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The Indiana SHPO found that the house was eligible for listing.

Ms. Lopez subsequently submitted a nomination for the property to me as the designated Federal Preservation Officer. Under 36 CFR 60.9(i), a person or organization who opposes or supports the nomination of a property by a Federal Preservation Officer may petition the Keeper during the nomination process. This is an unusual situation in that the private citizen has submitted a nomination directly to me. While, it does not meet the letter of the language in CFR, I believe I have the authority to nominate this property to the National Register of Historic Places.

In my opinion, this property does not meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The house was built in 1952, and is currently owned by the park. The preparer of this nomination states that the property is significant under criteria A, B, and C.

Under Criterion B, the former house owners, Herbert and Charlotte Read, were involved in the establishment of the park, and several meetings that led up to the creation of the park took place in this house. According to the nomination, the Reads are still living and continue to be active in conservation efforts. Criterion B concerns properties "that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past." Federal regulations do not state that properties associated with living people cannot be nominated, but the National Register bulletins have established the general prohibition. *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* states the following:

Properties associated with living persons are usually not eligible for inclusion in the National Register. Sufficient time must have elapsed to assess both the person's field of endeavor and his/her contribution to that field. Generally, the

JAN 14 2011

H32(2280)

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

From: Associate Director, Cultural Resources /s/ **Stephanie Toothman**

Subject Read Dunes House, Porter County, IN

I have considered your memorandum of November 8, 2010, requesting that I review the October 26, 2010, decision of the Chief of the National Register of Historic Places regarding the eligibility of the Read Dunes House, located at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, for the National Register. I would like to reiterate that no final decision has been made on the eligibility of the building for listing in the National Register.

In March, 2010, a private citizen submitted a National Register of Historic Places nomination form for the Read Dunes House to the National Park Service Federal Preservation Officer and requested that he forward the nomination to the National Register for listing. This request was in accordance with Federal regulations 36 CFR Part 60.11, which stipulates that anyone can prepare a nomination form for a property and request the appropriate nominating authority to submit it to the National Register. Under the regulations, the Federal Preservation Officer can either deny the request (in which case the denial could be appealed to the National Register) or submit the nomination to the National Register with his or her opinion on its eligibility. To expedite a decision on the eligibility of the Read Dunes House, the Federal Preservation Officer submitted the nomination to the National Register on September 15, 2010, along with a memorandum expressing his opinion that the building did not meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. The documentation also included both your opinion on the property's eligibility and the opinion of the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer.

Following a review of all submitted documentation, the Chief of the National Register of Historic Places concluded on October 26, 2010, that the Read Dunes House appears to meet National Register Criterion A for its association with events related to the creation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, but that the nomination form was not adequately documented and needed substantive revision. The nomination was returned to the person who had submitted it to the National Park Service along with a detailed request for revisions. To date it has not been resubmitted to the National Register.

The National Register staff has consulted with your staff and requested copies of documentation mentioned in your memorandum that you consider important in evaluating the claimed significance of the Read Dunes House. When the nomination is resubmitted, the National Register will take into consideration your memorandum and any additional documentation you provide. Under the regulatory framework, the final decision on listing the Read Dunes House in the National Register will be made by the Keeper of the National Register. As stipulated in Federal regulations, 36 CFR Part 60, the decision of the Keeper is the final administrative action regarding listing properties in the National Register.

bcc: 2285

2280 Loether; Shull

Basic File Retained In 2280

FNP:PAndrus:OP:1-07-2011:S://nr-correspondence/ReedDunesHouse.memo

September 5, 2011



J. Paul Loether, Chief
c/o Patrick Andrus, Historian
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C Street NW
Washington DC 20240

Property Name: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)
Reference Number: 10000858
RESUBMISSION

Enclosed is a revised nomination for the Read Dunes House, as requested in your letter of Oct. 26, 2010. That letter concluded that "the Read Dunes House appears to meet National Register Criterion A for the long term involvement of the Read family with the conservation of the Indiana Dunes and creation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore" but stated that the nomination as earlier submitted was not "adequately documented and needs substantive revision."

The Indiana State Historic Preservation Office in a letter dated March 3, 2010 also said, "We believe that the property meets Criterion A only, for its association with groups that were significant in the dunes ecological movement in northern Indiana." A copy of the full letter is included in the supplemental materials.

It is significant, too, that former Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall -- who was key to getting the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore established 50 years after National Park Service Director Stephen Mather recommended it for national park status -- hand wrote a letter on Dec. 15, 2009, to Herbert Read saying, "I remember your leadership well. I support your application and it is a privilege to help you." This must have been one of Udall's last public acts before he died three months later, on March 20, 2010. A copy of Udall's note is included in the supplemental materials.

Below are the revisions you requested:

1. Delete references to Criteria B and C and Architecture as an area of significance. DONE.
2. Focus on Criterion A with Conservation and Politics/Government as areas of significance. DONE.
3. Provide additional information about the specific activities that occurred at the house. DONE.
4. Reprint the nomination on National Register continuation sheets and do not bind the copy. DONE.
5. Provide hard copies of the primary photographs. DONE.
6. Include an original USGS map with a UTM point locating the nominated property, and include the UTM point in Section 10 of the form. DONE.
7. Label supplemental materials with the name of the nominated property and the state and county. DONE.

September 5, 2011

The nomination application follows the "50-year rule," including events through 1961 -- though the park was established in 1966. That context is included. With the centennial of the National Park Service coming up in 2016, preserving the record of the history of the mid-20th Century parks will be important.

In the future, the Read Dunes House will be equally significant for events that took place after 1961 because of its connection with Herbert and Charlotte Read (now in their 80s), who have spent their lives fighting to save the Indiana Dunes, lobbying to expand the boundaries of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, safeguarding the park from environmental threats, and in countless other ways working to preserve the natural environment of northern Indiana and the larger Great Lakes region.

Please review this revised nomination application for listing of the Read Dunes House on the National Register of Historic Places and let me know what are next steps.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pia Lopez", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Pia Lopez
1529 3rd Street, Sacramento CA 95814
Phone: (916) 321-1904 (daytime)
e-mail: pialopez@comcast.net

Enclosures:

- National Register of Historic Places Registration Form
- Continuation sheets
- Photographs
- Architectural sketches
- USGS Map
- Letter from the Indiana State Historic Preservation Office
- Excerpts from 30 letters of support (and copies of the 30 letters)



PIALOPEZ@comcast.net

09/07/2011 10:56 AM

To: Patrick_Andrus@nps.gov

cc

bcc

Subject: RESUBMISSION: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)

Property Name: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN)
Reference Number: 10000858
RESUBMISSION

Dear Mr. Andrus,

I sent off a package to the 1849 C Street NW address on Wednesday with a revised nomination for the Read Dunes House, as requested in your letter of Oct. 26, 2010. That letter concluded that "the Read Dunes House appears to meet National Register Criterion A for the long term involvement of the Read family with the conservation of the Indiana Dunes and creation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore" but stated that the nomination as earlier submitted was not "adequately documented and needs substantive revision." You should receive the package by Friday.

Below are the revisions you requested:

1. Delete references to Criteria B and C and Architecture as an area of significance. DONE.
2. Focus on Criterion A with Conservation and Politics/Government as areas of significance. DONE.
3. Provide additional information about the specific activities that occurred at the house. DONE.
4. Reprint the nomination on National Register continuation sheets and do not bind the copy. DONE.
5. Provide hard copies of the primary photographs. DONE.
6. Include an original USGS map with a UTM point locating the nominated property, and include the UTM point in Section 10 of the form. DONE.
7. Label supplemental materials with the name of the nominated property and the state and county. DONE.

The revised nomination application follows the "50-year rule," including events through 1961 – though the park was established in 1966. That context is included. With the centennial of the National Park Service coming up in 2016, preserving the record of the history of the mid-20th Century parks will be important.

In the future, the Read Dunes House will be equally significant for events that took place after 1961 because of its connection with Herbert and Charlotte Read (now in their 80s), who have spent their lives fighting to save the Indiana Dunes, lobbying to expand the boundaries of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, safeguarding the park from environmental threats, and in countless other ways working to preserve the natural environment of northern Indiana and the larger Great Lakes region.

Please let me know when you receive the package, and what the next steps will be.

Thanks much,

Pia Lopez

1529 3rd Street, Sacramento CA 95814

Phone: (916) 321-1904 (daytime)

e-mail: pialopez@comcast.net



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

H32(2280)

SEP 16 2011

Mr. Robert K. Sutton
Deputy Federal Preservation Officer
National Park Service
1201 I Street, NW
8th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Sutton:

The National Register of Historic Places has received a revised nomination for the Read Dunes House, in Porter County, Indiana, a property located within the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

As you are aware, under National Register of Historic Places regulations 36 CFR 60.9, you forwarded the original nomination to the National Register on September 15, 2010, with a recommendation that the property did not meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. On October 26, 2010, the National Register returned the nomination and requested that the form be revised and additional information provided. The nomination preparer, Ms. Pia Lopez, has submitted a revised nomination directly to the National Register.

As the National Park Service official designated with authority to process nominations to the National Register of properties within parks, we are forwarding the revised nomination to you for review and consideration.

Sincerely,

J. Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
and National Historic Landmarks Division

cc: Superintendent, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

IN SHPO

Ms. Pia Lopez
1529 3rd Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

America's public lands. Join a ranger to help improve one of our most threatened wetlands.

October 15

Harvesting the Prairie

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Mnoke Prairie parking lot

Help collect seeds from this tall grass prairie that will be used to restore additional prairie lands throughout the national lakeshore. Meet at the Mnoke Prairie parking lot.

More....



Park Prescription Program

What's a "Park Prescription?"

Imagine getting a written prescription to take a walk, bicycle, or kayak in a national park. That's exactly what a "park prescription" is.

Your health care providers prescribe contact with nature for various health conditions and encourage you to take advantage of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, a great regional health resource.

more...



Indiana Dunes Visitor Center

Porter IN 46304.

A Great Place to Start

The visitor center is wonderful place to begin your Indiana Dunes experience. At the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Visitor Center, you can find amenities and other services such as maps, trail guides, a short orientation video, bookstore, and hands-on activities. If you can't find what you're looking for, a park ranger will be happy to assist you and help you have a safe adventure. The visitor center is located at 1215 N. State Road 49,

Write to

1100 N. Mineral Springs
Road
Porter, Indiana 46304

E-mail Us

*Superintendent National Lakeshore
Indiana Dunes Climate*

The national lakeshore's weather is greatly affected by Lake Michigan and can change quickly. Summers are generally in the mid-80s°F (30C) with lows in the mid-60s°F (18C). There are about 15 days per year above 90°F (32C). Highs in winter are usually in the



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

September 19, 2011

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Indiana Dunes National Seashore

From: Chief Historian/Designated Federal Preservation Officer, WASO

Subject: Read Dunes House, Porter County, IN

William L. Myers
9/19/2011

The Park History Program has received a revised National Register nomination for the Read Dunes House. A copy of the nomination, complete with supporting documentation, is enclosed for your review and consideration. Please forward any comments to this office by October 19, 2011.

cc: IN SHPO

Ms. Pia Lopez
1529 3rd Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Mr. Robert Carter, Jr.
State Historic Preservation Officer
Director, Department of Natural Resources
402 West Washington Street
Indiana Government Center South
Room W256
Indianapolis, IN 42604

Dear Mr. Carter:

The Park History Program of the National Park Service has received a revised National Register nomination for the Read Dunes House. A copy of the nomination, complete with supporting documentation, is enclosed for your review and consideration. Please forward any comments to this office by October 19, 2011.

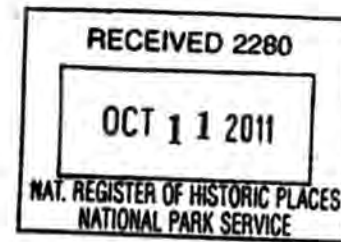
Sincerely,

Robert K. Sutton, Ph.D.
Chief Historian/Designated Federal Preservation Officer

cc: Superintendent, Indiana Dunes National Seashore

Ms. Pia Lopez
1529 3rd Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM THE DESK OF
PIA LOPEZ



October 1, 2011
Mr. Robert K. Sutton
Deputy Federal Preservation Officer
National Park Service
1201 I Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington DC 20005

Re: Read Dunes House (Porter County, IN) nomination for National Register of Historic Places

Dear Mr. Sutton,

I understand from Patrick Andrus that the Read Dunes House nomination, in Porter County, Indiana, a property located within the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore has been forwarded to you for "review and consideration."

I also received copies of letters from you indicating that you have forwarded the nomination to Robert Carter, Indiana State Preservation Officer, and Constantine Dillon, Superintendent of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, for their comments. These are due to you by Oct. 19.

What steps happen after that?

The authors of the two definitive histories of the dunes movement and the park history are still around and might be valuable resources.

Here is their contact information:

1. Cockrell, Ron. *A Signature of Time and Eternity: The Administrative History of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana* (Washington, DC: National Park Service, 1988)

Ron Cockrell
Senior Historian, National Park Service
Midwest Regional Office
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha NE 68102
Phone: 402-661-1922
Email: Ron_Cockrell@nps.gov

FROM THE DESK OF
PIA LOPEZ

2. Engel, J. Ronald. *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes*
(Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1983)

Ron Engel
PO Box 717
Beverly Shores IN 46301
Phone: (219) 874-0067
Email: jronengel@comcast.net

Mr. Engel currently is a professor in Social and Environmental Ethics at
Meadville/Lombard Theological School at the University of Chicago and a Senior
Fellow at the Center for Humans and Nature.

Please let me know what next steps to expect.

Sincerely,



Pia Lopez
1529 3rd Street, Sacramento CA 95814
Phone: (916) 321-1904 (daytime)
e-mail: pialopez@comcast.net



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
1100 N. Mineral Springs Road
Porter, Indiana 46304-1299

October 19, 2011

H4217(INDU)

Memorandum

To: Stephanie Toothman, Associate Director, Cultural Resources, WASO (3128)

From: Superintendent, Indiana Dunes

Subject: Determination of Eligibility of the Read House, Tract 38-146, Porter County, Indiana; a property of the National Park Service, Department of Interior

We have reviewed the documentation sent by your office and by Ms. Pia Lopez regarding the eligibility of the Read House (NPS Tract 38-146). We find that the information provided does not change our position that the house is not eligible for the National Register.

On November 8, 2010, we requested your office review the National Register Nomination for the Read property and provide a Determination of Eligibility. Midwest Region (MWR) Associate Regional Director for Cultural Resources, Mr. Steve Adams, had suggested that we consult directly with you due to its complexity and controversial nature. At that time the national lakeshore and the MWR Cultural Resource staff concurred that the property was not eligible for the National Register based upon all of the criteria. We provided you with background information on the completion of our Section 110 inventory, and information to substantiate our determination of not eligible.

The National Register staff reviewed the nomination and provided comments to the preparer, Ms. Lopez, requesting that she edit the document before further review could take place. Ms. Lopez has recently resubmitted the nomination to the National Register, the national lakeshore, and the MWR for review and consideration; stating that she had made all of the requested corrections.

Creating Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore was the result of the work of hundreds of people over many years. The battle to establish this park came with compromises and political trade-offs that continue to resonate. There can be no doubt that the dedication of the people who met at the Read house and other places led to the establishment of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. The region and the nation should continue to be grateful for this accomplishment. The question before us is not to whether or not to recognize the hard work and successes of those who fought for the park. Rather, it is solely to determine if this particular house meets National Register criteria. In total, we find no compelling evidence to reverse our previous determination that the house is not eligible.

Ms. Lopez states that the Read house is the last remaining structure in the park that is intimately connected with the conservation movement. While this may be technically true, it does not have bearing on the eligibility of this house. Other prominent members of the Save the Dunes Council, including Ms. Dorothy Buell, the organization's founder, lived in communities adjacent to and surrounded by the park, including Dune Acres and Ogden Dunes. Many of the homes used for meetings and/or owned by founding members of Save the Dunes remain.

Ms. Lopez provided additional information which emphasized the architectural design of the house. In addition, she included extensive quotes from an unknown interior designer who expounded on the design of the house and its links between the exterior and the interior spaces. While interesting, this information is irrelevant to the question at hand. The Indiana State Historic Preservation Office has already determined that the house may be eligible only under Criteria A: "Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history." The architecture of the house is not relevant to Criteria A.

While the 1950s and 1960s efforts on behalf of an Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore were a great accomplishment, they were not a significant event in the history of national park creation. Earlier efforts to establish national parks in the eastern United States by acquiring private land included such achievements as those by Marjorie Stoneman Douglas in creating Everglades National Park in 1947, and by Mr. and Mrs. Willis P. Davis in creating Great Smoky Mountains National Park in 1934. Other, earlier pioneering efforts included the creation of Acadia National Park in 1919 and Shenandoah National Park in 1926. The formation of these parks was groundbreaking in their vision, innovative in their establishment of collaboration between government and private interests, and creative in securing state funds and private donations to acquire land. The origins of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore was on par with parks like Cuyahoga Valley National Park and Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore where opposition was primarily local, the pattern of establishment and political lobbying had been set by earlier parks, and land was acquired primarily through purchase by federal funds. In fact, the legislative record for Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore cites earlier establishments of Fire Island National Seashore and Cape Cod National Seashore as models.

Ms. Lopez included information that is erroneous concerning the Reservation of Use and Occupancy program. Section 8, Page 5, Paragraph 4, "if a building has been determined historic it will not be torn down." This is not correct. If a building is determined potentially historic, further research will be completed to determine its significance. If a building is found eligible for the National Register, the National Park Service determines the disposition of said building, which can include relocation or documentation and demolition. In this case, the location of this house is in an area identified in the park's General Management Plan for road closures, building removal, and restoration to natural landscape. The site is not suitable for a visitor use facility.

Other errors:

Section 7, Page 1 – The residential area of Dune Acres is not located within the boundaries of the national lakeshore, and cannot be considered part of the national lakeshore.

Section 7, Page 2 - First paragraph second line - strike out "11,000 to" and "Calumet and" as this information is incorrect.

Section 7, Page 4 Point #10 - The stone on the exterior of the building is not a wainscot - it is a water-table.

Section 7, Page 5 – The fourth paragraph cites the park's "Reservation and Use Policy." There is no such policy. Ms. Lopez is referencing a FAQ section on land acquisition on the park website.

This is a simple discussion of land acquisition procedures to answer public questions. NPS policy on management of historic properties is in the 2006 National Park Service Management Policies and Director's Order #28.

Section 8, Page 5 - The description of the Reservation of Use and Occupancy (RUO) program is incorrect. Ms. Lopez stated that the seller of the property pays the National Park Service 1% of the sale price each year as rent, when in fact the actual sale price is reduced 1% for every year reserved by the former owner to remain in the property. After the sale of the property the RUO holder pays nothing to the NPS; they are only required to pay property taxes.

Section 8, Page 6 Third paragraph third sentence – We believe Ms. Lopez meant to type the word "focus" not "locus".

The sole criteria postulated for National Register inclusion is that meetings and associations related to the creation of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore occurred in this house. While we do not doubt that the Read family was active and instrumental in Save the Dunes and the efforts to create Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, we continue to question this particular house as having the significance required to meet National Register eligibility.

- Many national parks have been created through the active efforts and political lobbying of individuals. While accomplishments here are laudatory, they were not innovative or precedent-setting.
- The Save the Dunes organization continues to exist and is headquartered in the Barker Mansion – a building on the National Register.
- Many organizations and individuals were advocates and supporters of the park. Recognizing this house as the single preserved site of actions that led to the creation of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is not historically accurate and stretches the credibility of the National Register criteria of historical association.
- The house is poorly suited as a location for telling the history of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Public access is limited, the site is not suitable for expansion to support visitor amenities, and the location is slated for natural resource renovation – the very purpose of creating Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. In short, preserving the house in its location is contrary to the historic purpose it purports to represent.

After review of the edited document the national lakeshore stands by its original determination of not eligible for the National Register and the additional information provided by Ms. Lopez does not change our position. We want to emphasize again that our determination is not a reflection on the actions of the individuals who worked to create Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. The Reads, and hundreds of others were energetic in their successful attempt to have a national park created here and they deserve to be commended for their achievements.

We are requesting your consideration of our comments on the edited document, and the information we provided in the memo dated November 8, 2010, to substantiate our determination of not eligible. We hope that you will concur with our determination of not eligible for the National Register.

If you or your staff has any questions please feel free to have them call me at 219-395-1699, or Ms. Judith Collins, Historical Architect, at 219-395-1986.



Constantine J. Dillon

DNR

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor
Robert E. Carter, Jr., Director



Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology • 402 W. Washington Street, W274 • Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
Phone 317-232-1646 • Fax 317-232-0693 • dhpa@dnr.IN.gov • www.IN.gov/dnr/historic

October 25, 2011

Robert K. Sutton, Ph.D.
Chief Historian/ Designated Federal Preservation Officer
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1849 C Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: Read Dunes House, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Porter County, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sutton:

I am writing to provide comment on the National Register nomination for the Read Dunes House in Porter County, Indiana. The house is located within the boundary of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and is owned by the National Park Service. This office received a copy of the nomination forwarded by J. Paul Loether, Chief, National Register of Historic Places on September 16, 2011 for review and a second copy forwarded by yourself on September 21, 2011 requesting comment.

As I stated in my correspondence with Constantine J. Dillon, Superintendent, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, dated March 3, 2010, we believe the property meets National Register Criterion A. We support its listing in the National Register of Historic Places.


In reviewing the most recent revision of the document dated September 1, 2011, my staff noted several points in the nomination that we recommend be adjusted. I am listing our recommendations below:

- We disagree with the Architectural Classification of the property in section 7 of the cover sheet which currently is "Late 19th & Early 20th Century American Movements: Prairie School". We believe a more accurate classification would be "Modern Movements" with no sub-category. We also recommend the removal of "Other: Dunes Rustic".
- One noncontributing building is listed in the resource count in section 5 yet is not identified or described in the narrative.
- We recommend that the "Occupancy history" and "Biographical Information" located at the end of the section 7 narrative be moved to the Statement of Significance.
- On p. 6 of the document we believe the word "purposes" should replace "purchases" at the end of the second paragraph and the word "Deputy" should be inserted in the second to last paragraph so the title reads "Indiana Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer".
- Finally, it is our understanding that historic photos and plans presented as part of the documentation should not be included in the photo log which should contain only those current photos submitted to support the nomination and document the property.

An Equal Opportunity Employer
Printed on Recycled Paper

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the nomination. I hope you find our recommendations useful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James A. Glass", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

James A. Glass, Ph.D.
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

JAG:FDH:fdh

Cc: Pia Lopez, 1529 3rd Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



"Hurd, Frank"
<FHurd@dnr.IN.gov>
10/26/2011 09:25 AM

To <Patrick_Andrus@nps.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject comment letter for Read Dunes House

Patrick,

After a little bit of confusion, we're providing a comment letter for the federal nomination for the Read Dunes House, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. The letter is addressed to Robert Sutton because the copy of the revised nomination was forwarded to us by him to us with the request for comment. In talking with Alexis yesterday, she suggested it would be a good idea to copy you as a "heads-up" but since the letter was already prepared for signature and I couldn't add you as a cc. so I'm sending your copy electronically.

Frank D. Hurd, Jr.
Assistant Director for Preservation Services
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
402 W. Washington Street W274
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
317-232-3494
317-232-0693 (fax)
fhurd@dnr.in.gov



Sutton-Read Dunes signed.pdf



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240



November 3, 2011

Memorandum

To: Acting Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

From: Designated Federal Preservation Officer, National Park Service

Subject: Re-submitted National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Read Dunes House in Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore (INDU)

Robert R. Muth
11/4/2011

This property was originally reviewed in November 2010 by the superintendent under the requirements of Section 110 of the Historic Preservation Act, and found that it was not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Following that decision, a private citizen from California, Ms. Pia Lopez, sought a determination of eligibility from the Indiana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The Indiana SHPO found that the house was eligible for listing.

Ms. Lopez subsequently submitted a nomination for the property to me as the designated Federal Preservation Officer. I concurred with the park's opinion that the house did not appear to meet the criteria for listing, and forwarded the nomination to the National Register Program. National Register staff reviewed the document and sent comments to the preparer, requesting that substantial revision be undertaken and missing materials be provided before additional review could take place.

Ms. Lopez submitted a revised nomination to the National Register program on September 9, 2011. As advised by the National Register staff, the revised nomination proposed significance under Criterion A, with areas of significance of Conservation and Politics/Government and a period of significance of 1952-1961. It was subsequently forwarded to me on September 16, 2011. I forwarded it to the Superintendent of INDU and the Indiana SHPO on September 19, with a request for comments by October 19, 2011.

On October 19, the Superintendent of INDU provided comments electronically, advising that despite acknowledgement of the Reads' and the Save the Dunes Council's accomplishments and the revisions made to the nomination, the park's opinion that the house does not meet the criteria for listing had not changed. In a letter dated October 25, the Indiana SHPO upheld its previous recommendation that the house is eligible under Criterion A.

The activities of the Save the Dunes Council were clearly significant in the fight to establish the national lakeshore, and the Read family undoubtedly was among its most active

members. It may be appropriate for a property associated with the Council's activities to be recognized the National Register listing at a local or state level of significance. Whether this should be the Read House is another matter. The revised nomination provided more information about specific activities that occurred at the house during the period preceding the establishment of the national lakeshore in 1966. However, while acknowledging that it was one "among other homes and locations" where activities and planning took place, the nomination does not provide information about those other locations. This has the effect of presenting the Read House in a vacuum.

That the house is located inside the current boundaries of the national lakeshore does not necessarily lend it more weight for eligibility. Edward Engels, author of *Sacred Sands*, a history of the movement to create the national lakeshore and one of the sources cited in the nomination, argues that (p.256) the "scope, imagination, and ambition of the activities initiated that first year [of the Save the Dunes Council, in 1952] were to characterize the functional citizenship of the Save the Dunes Council for the next three decades." The Read House was not used by the Council regularly until later in the 1950s. A location used in the early, formative years of the movement, including founder Dorothy Buell's house where the Council was established, would seem to be a more fitting property to represent the Council's contributions, assuming one still exists. The nomination does not indicate whether this is the case, although the comments provided by the INDU Superintendent clearly state that many homes used for meetings and/or owned by founding members of Save the Dunes remain outside the park boundaries.

The INDU Superintendent's memorandum also discussed the acquisition of private land and the use of political lobbying to establish a national park. I concur that this was, by the 1950s and 1960s, an established practice. The efforts of the Indiana Dunes supporters in this regard were admirable and ultimately successful, but they were not innovative or precedent-setting, and do not rank as significant within the context of the history of national park creation.

The dedication and accomplishment of the Reads and other members of the Save the Dunes Council is unquestioned and representation of it is preserved perpetually in the national lakeshore itself. The question of National Register eligibility of a particular property is separate from acknowledgement of the Council's impact and must be grounded in application of the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Therefore, the revised nomination does not change my opinion of the eligibility of the Read House.

cc: Constantine Dillon, Superintendent, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

November 30, 2011

**To: The National Register of Historic Places review team:
Robert Sutton, Kelly Spradley-Kurowski, Patrick Andrus,
Paul Loether, Carol Shull**

Re: Read Dunes House, Porter County, Indiana

The Indiana State Historic Preservation Office supports listing of the Read Dunes House on the National Register of Historic Places in its comment letter of October 25, .

It reaffirms its view of March 3, 2010, that the property meets Criterion A "for its association with groups that were significant in the dunes ecological movement in northern Indiana...We believe the historical record leaves little doubt that the movement shaped Indiana's and other states' views about the natural resources of the area; the movement affected policy, land use, legislation and, negatively to some, issues of private property ownership. The tangible results of the movement are very much alive today."

The Indiana SHPO also talked about other properties that represent different aspects of the movement, but concluded: "The Read House had a more specific role, being one of several assembly places for various citizen-activist committees involved in the movement."

However, Constantine Dillon, superintendent of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, does not support listing. His two letters (dated October 19, 2011, and November 8, 2010) demand a response, as he explicitly denies the significance of the citizens movement to preserve the Indiana dunes and implicitly calls into question the idea of historic preservation.

Author J. Ronald Engel writes in *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* (1984): "Now that a representative portion of the landscape is preserved, it is important that the story be told. As Dorothy Buell once commented, 'It is a saga worthy of respect.'"

The citizen movement was, concludes Engel, about "the fight of a small band of citizens against public apathy and powerful opposition over nearly a century to save a few miles of native landscape." That view is amply corroborated in the published literature and the historic record collected at the Calumet Regional Archives at Indiana University, Northwest.

Incredibly, Superintendent Dillon's account of the National Park Idea misses entirely the national park project of the 1960s, the legacy of Interior Secretary Stewart Udall (1961-1969). This was the most ambitious era of park creation since the New Deal -- including creation of great urban parks within a short distance of large cities, shoreline parks and mid-

FROM THE DESK OF
PIA LOPEZ

western parks -- of which the 1966 Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is a notable example.

It is significant that Udall handwrote a letter on Dec. 15, 2009, to Herbert Read saying, "I remember your leadership well. I support your application and it is a privilege to help you." That must have been one of Udall's last public acts before he died three months later. A copy of his note is in the supplemental materials.

Superintendent Dillon also suggests that the park itself stands as a monument to the citizen movement to preserve the dunes, implying there is no need to preserve a structure that reflects that movement.

This is like saying that we have the novels of John Steinbeck; why should we preserve his home in Salinas, California, where he wrote his books? We have the results of the women's movement in the successful drive to win the vote; why do we need to preserve the M'Clintock House in New York, where women met and conceived the idea of a women's rights convention? We have results of the civil rights movement in the successful drive to overturn segregation in the 1950s and 1960s; why do we need to preserve the Juanita J. Craft house in Dallas, where Lyndon Johnson and Martin Luther King, Jr. visited?

This gets at the very heart of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The idea is to connect people with "the continuum of history." By allowing them to stand in the places where history took place and to get acquainted with the people who made history, present and future generations "can forge a personal connection" with the nation's heritage.

The places that connect people with the conservation movement in the United States should be preserved in the same way that we preserve the places that connect people with the civil rights movement and the women's rights movement. And that doesn't just mean preserving the birthplace or living quarters of famous individual conservationists such as Aldo Leopold or John Muir. It means preserving places where ordinary citizens met and worked over years in the struggle to preserve significant natural landscapes and historic sites.

The Read Dunes House is one of those places where conservationists met and worked and made history, the creation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Several questions arise out of Superintendent Dillon's two comment letters. Please consider my responses, below, in your review of the Read Dunes House.

Sincerely,

Pia Lopez

QUESTIONS ON THE READ DUNES HOUSE, PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA

1. Is the citizens movement to preserve the Indiana dunes and create a national park historically significant?

Superintendent Dillon writes in his Oct. 19, 2011 comment letter: "Many national parks have been created through the active efforts and political lobbying of individuals. While the accomplishments here are laudatory, they were not innovative or precedent-setting."

Yet the importance of the citizens movement to preserve the Indiana Dunes and create a national park is well-documented in published literature included in the revised nomination bibliography.

National Park Service historian Ron Cockrell begins the preface of the administrative history of the Indiana dunes: "The United States Congress' 1966 authorization of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore represents the culmination of a movement which began in 1916 to establish a 'Sand Dunes National Park.' It is indeed an honor for this National Park Service historian to compile the first administrative history of this unit of the National Park System because the sand dunes of northwest Indiana were the first new area to be considered by Stephen Tyng Mather, the much revered founder and first director of what has become the nation's principal resource preservation agency. Although the Sand Dunes National Park proposal had Mather's enthusiastic support, national policies as well as world events prevented the addition of the area to the National Park System during Mather's day. The ensuing fifty years spawned an increasingly bitter battle between the forces of conservation and development which did not abate with the November 5, 1966, authorization of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore."

Polly Welts Kaufman, in *National Parks and the Woman's Voice: A History* (2006) also has understood the importance of the citizens movement to preserve the Indiana Dunes.

She writes, "The fifty-year struggle to save the Indiana dunes from development by the steel industry that circumscribes and intrudes on a landscape considered 'sacred' by many preservationists was one of the hardest-fought preservation battles in U.S. history." She notes, in particular, the women-led Save the Dunes Council: "Led by women for more than forty years, the work of the Save the Dunes Council is a remarkable testament to the tenacity and persistence of women citizens."

That story deserves to be told in a context specific place.

Thomas E. Dustin, "The Battle of the Indiana Dunes," in *Citizens Make the Difference: Case Studies in Environmental Action* (1973) has described the importance of the coordinated citizen machinery that developed in that key 1950s-1960s period. The Save the Dunes Council -- an independent, single-purpose organization formed from scratch in 1952 by women without networking with other established citizen organizations -- led efforts to create a national park at the local level. The Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League -- attached to the first national environmental organization with a mass membership -- was founded in 1958 at the Read Dunes House and focused on developing regional and national support, both within its own organization and among the national community of environmental organizations.

Dustin wrote: "With the Council providing the bulk of local support and the League expanding the issue nationally, a coordinated citizens machinery was created."

This kind of coordinated citizen machinery is unique nationally and cannot be taken for granted in citizen movements to preserve natural lands. For example, in the struggle to save the redwoods and create the Redwoods National Park in northern California from 1917 to 1978, the local Save the Redwoods League and the regionally/nationally connected Sierra Club often were in conflict, if not at loggerheads. That is well-documented in Susan Schrepfer's book *The Fight to Save the Redwoods: A History of Environmental Reform, 1917-1978*.

Author J. Ronald Engel's history *Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes* notes what is important about preservation of the dunes: "Given the region's history, it is a wonder that any of the Dunes remain. If the allegedly normal course of development had occurred without intervention, the Dune Country would be completely settled and industrialized, and the megalopolis of the Midwest would extend unbroken across Indiana to the Michigan line...But something did intervene."

That something was a persistent citizen movement to preserve the dunes.

Engel continues: "Those in the vanguard of the Dunes struggle never numbered more than several hundred. But what they lacked in numbers, they made up in commitment and the hours, weeks and years devoted to the cause. In some cases several generations within a single family were involved in one phase or another of the eighty-year struggle to preserve the dunes."

That story deserves to be told, as Engel writes, "through the eyes of those who loved and fought for the dunes."

2. Does the struggle to create the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore contribute to the national park idea?

Superintendent Dillon writes in his Nov. 8, 2011, letter: "While the 1950s and 1960s efforts on behalf of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore were a great accomplishment, they were not a significant event in the history of national park creation."

Superintendent Dillon lists early eastern parks -- from the 1916-1929 Mather era (Acadia, 1919; Shenandoah, 1926) and the 1933-1945 New Deal era (Great Smoky Mountains, 1934; Everglades, 1934) as pioneering efforts: "The formation of these parks was groundbreaking in their vision, innovative in their establishment of collaboration between government and private interests, and creative in securing state funds and private donations to acquire land."

Certainly, relying on donations by wealthy eastern patricians or "influential men" is one model of national park development. But the democratic urge -- the post-World War II activism of citizen volunteers seeking to establish parks with federal funding is another.

Superintendent Dillon skips over the 1960s, the most ambitious era of park creation since the New Deal -- including creation of great urban parks within a short distance of large cities, shoreline parks and midwestern parks -- of which the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore established in 1966 is a notable example.

Significantly, the 1960s era also established federal funding for park land acquisition, through the precedent-setting Cape Cod National Seashore, the nation's first parkland to be purchased entirely with federal funds. Dunes activists seized on the opportunity to raise the issue of the Indiana Dunes, as documented in the revised nomination. In 1962, Congress reaffirmed the precedent of federal purchase by establishing Point Reyes National Seashore. These precedents were an important part of the Indiana Dunes story -- not a replacement for that story. That era also is significant for the establishment of the Land and Water Conservation Fund of 1965, creating a regular source of federal funding for park land acquisition.

Superintendent Dillon inexplicably jumps past the 1960s era to highlight creation of the national parks of the 1970s (Sleeping Bear, 1970; Cuyahoga Valley, 1974). Dillon claims, oddly, that the origin of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore "was on a par" with these two parks "where opposition was primarily local, the pattern of establishment and political lobbying had been set by earlier parks, and land was acquired primarily through purchase by federal funds."

In fact, the Indiana Dunes project was Stephen Mather's first national park project in 1916. It was Mather, and citizens who testified at the October 1916 hearing on an Indiana dunes national park, who put in play the notion of acquiring parklands with federal funds.

The opposition to a national park for the Indiana dunes in the 1950s and 1960s was not "primarily local" -- but the largest national steel companies, the Indiana political establishment and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Engel notes that "when, in 1949, the push for the final industrialization of the Dune Country came, the Dunes movement was pitted against a coalition of political and economic interests of a sort not encountered before in the American environmental experience. The alignment seeking development of the remaining Dunes included not only the interests of utilities, railroads, banks, land-holding combines, and the Bethlehem and National Steel corporations, but also virtually the entire Indiana congressional delegation and state administration."

Udall understood the value of the national park project and its uniqueness in the Midwest. In a 1961 letter to Illinois Sen. Paul Douglas he wrote, "We ought to make a last ditch fight to save the dunes as a national park. Our great National Park System has no major unit in the mid-western heartland; your people need something above all. I hope that we can take a walk through the dunes again soon, and that it then will be a great national park."

Udall also understood the importance of the citizens movement in that 50-year effort. In a 1961 exchange with Philo Read, then publicity director for the Save the Dunes Council and member of the Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League, Udall wrote: "My recent hike along the dunes convinced me of the urgent necessity of a concerted drive to move this issue off of dead center, where it has rested for so long. The final decision, however, will depend heavily upon the active support of individuals, individuals who will lose a great scenic heritage if this stalemate continues."

Incidentally, the effort to create a national park in Cuyahoga Valley between the spreading suburbs of Akron and Cleveland was opposed by Udall in the mid- and late-1960s (he thought it was better suited for state park status). That national park was later established over the objections of the Interior Department in the Nixon and Ford administrations, making it very different from the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Sleeping Bear Dunes -- unlike the Indiana Dunes in the heart of the industrial crescent along Lake Michigan and part of the urban metropolitan complex from Chicago to Gary -- is in a rural area far from any cities.

The initiative for Sleeping Bear came from the National Park Service and a congressional champion, not from a 50-year citizens' movement.

From Cape Cod in Massachusetts to the Indiana Dunes to Point Reyes in California, the stories of the mid-century park establishment of the great shoreline parks deserve to be told.

3. Didn't the citizen movement fight for the park to have the land returned to its natural condition? Wouldn't it be contradictory to preserve a structure that captures the citizen movement to preserve the dunes?

Superintendent Dillon writes that "natural resource renovation" was "the very purpose of creating Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore." He concludes, "In short, preserving the house in its location is contrary to the historic purpose it purports to represent."

This is an odd claim. Preservation of human stories has been at the center of the dunes citizen movement from the beginning. These human stories also are at the heart of the "National Park Idea" -- that significant natural areas and historic sites will be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations.

Dunes preservationists, the record shows, saw the Indiana Dunes not just as a place of scenic beauty and scientific interest, but as a place rich in history. The aim of the dunes citizen movement has been to connect present and future generations, as Ron Engel has written, with "human beings across the generations, which it was the purpose of the park to serve." (p 20).

For example, dunes activists put on the 1917 Historical Pageant of the Dunes, titled "The Dunes Under Four Flags," to promote a national park for the dunes area after Stephen Mather's October 1916 hearings. The pageant dramatized the story of Indian settlement, midwestern exploration and settlement in the context of the nation as a whole. Philo Read was chairman of the 1917 pageant's costumes and props committee, providing a wonderful opportunity to tell the story of that pageant and its aims.

The pageant began with the story of the Potawatomie and Miami Indians, moved to French missionaries and colonists, to the struggle between British soldiers and American revolutionaries (showing the capture of Tom Brady at Dune Creek after a raid on a British fort), to the Spanish march across the dunes in a campaign into Michigan in 1781, and finally to the westward movement of American traders and permanent settlements in the Northwest Territory (shown in the life of Joseph Bailly, first white settler in the Dunes).

Caroline McIlvaine, librarian of the Chicago Historical Society, wrote after the event: "This patriotic pageant not only profited the project of 'saving the Dunes,' but has done something toward re-cementing the

sympathies of people of all degrees and nationalities in this region.” (see “The Memorable Inaugural Pageant on the Dunes,” *Chicago Commerce*, June 8, 1917, p. 8).

Significantly, Dunes activists in the 1950s-1960s and beyond supported inclusion in the national park of the early 19th Century Bailly Homestead. They also supported inclusion in the park of the Chellburg Farm, the early 1900s farm of a Swedish immigrant, and have been persistent advocates of keeping it open for public access as a “living history” program. Both are on the National Register of Historic Places. The Read Family also has been active in preserving the history of the South Shore rail lines from Chicago to Dune Country.

As the National Trust for Historic Preservation argued before the Second Century Commission, the desire to protect nature “should not mean the loss of historic and cultural sites and the erasure of human stories.” Further, the National Trust noted, “There are important human stories to tell in ‘natural’ areas. These stories are best conveyed at the place where these people lived. Not in a book and or museum exhibit hall someplace else...Natural resources and cultural resources are inextricably linked. They always have been.”

The Second Century Commission itself recommended that the National Park Service “examine present park units for opportunities to preserve and interpret forgotten, overlooked, or omitted stories.” The story of the citizen conservation movement to preserve the dunes and create a national park is one of those stories.

4. Wasn't the Read Dunes House part of the 1996 park inventory of historic structures in the park and determined “not eligible” for the National Register at that time?

Superintendent Dillon writes that in 1996, the park determined that the Read Dunes House was “not eligible” for listing on the National Register of Historic Places “based upon recent construction or extensive alterations.”

Certainly, “recent construction” was an issue in 1996. The Read Dunes House, completed in 1952, was only 44 years old at the time so did not meet the 50-year age requirements until 2002. The house is now in its 58th year.

The Read Dunes House has been subject to few changes since construction in 1951-1952 and retains a remarkable level of integrity. On the interior, the only change is replacement of wall tile, flooring and fixtures in the bathroom in the 1990s. On the exterior, the only change is that original cement board soffit has been replaced with vented aluminum

soffit. Outside, a non-contributing free-standing two-car frame garage was added behind the east side of the house in 1985.

As the revised nomination states, "These alterations have not reduced the integrity of the Read Dunes House's design, materials, workmanship, setting, feeling and association. The house and oak-forest dune setting remain largely original and powerfully convey the movement to save the Dunes."

Superintendent Dillon offers no evidence for his claim that the Read Dunes House does not retain its integrity.

However, Superintendent Dillon does mention four context studies. None of them, however, deals with the movement to preserve the dunes or the citizen activists involved in that movement. The four context studies make a priority of preserving the homes of artists, recreational enthusiasts, industrialists and real estate developers as "forging patterns of public and private land use which now comprise the national lakeshore" -- no mention of the conservation movement and the homes of conservationists who fought to preserve the dunes from the beginning of the 20th Century!

5. How does the Read Dunes House specifically capture the citizens movement?

No structure inside or outside the park captures all of the features that the Read Dunes House does in telling the story of the citizen movement to preserve the Dunes:

- No other structure captures the coordinated citizens machinery that developed to create the park -- the Save the Dunes Council (which led the effort at the local level) and the Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America (which focused on developing regional and national support among the national community of environmental organizations).

The first brochure by the National Park Service on the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore credited these two citizen organizations as decisive advocates in the final phase of citizen activism in the 1950s and 1960s that won establishment of the national park in 1966. The Porter County chapter of the Izaak Walton League was founded at the Read Dunes House, with the Reads as the founding members and Herbert Read serving as the first president. The Read Dunes House was the site of significant meetings and activities by the Save the Dunes Council and the Porter County Chapter. Read family members were key leaders in both organizations.

Some other homes capture the Save the Dunes Council side of this story, but not the coordinated citizen machinery. For example, the Save

the Dunes Council was founded at the home of Dorothy Buell in a town outside of park boundaries.

- No other structure reflects the intergenerational links between the citizen dunes movement efforts of the 1910s-1920s and 1950s-1960s.

Ron Engel writes in *Sacred Sands*: "One example of the remarkable series of relationships that have characterized the movement over the generations is the Read family. Chicago novelist Opie Read was a good friend of Carl Sandburg, Lorado Taft and other notables of the Chicago Renaissance. His son, Philo B. Read, an artist, was a friend of Jens Jensen and an ardent Dunatic. Philo participated in the Dunes Pageant of 1917 and worked assiduously for the Indiana Dunes State Park in the 1920s. Thirty years later he was a leader of the Save the Dunes Council. Philo's son Herbert P. Read, an architect, took up the fight for the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in the 1950s and continues to this day to be one of the Dunes' most outspoken advocates. Charlotte Johnson Read, his wife, became executive director of the Save the Dunes Council in 1976" (p. 80).

Philo Read, known as "Sage of the Dunes," was chairman of the Prairie Club's Beachhouse Committee in the 1920s during the push to create a state park after efforts to create a national park had stalled. Prairie Club founder Jens Jensen had conceived of the beachhouse as a place "where the group could assemble and strategize." Philo Read was part of the leadership team that offered "Dunes Summer Camps" and "Summer Schools," offering instruction in the science, art and literature of the dunes. He promoted the idea of outdoor festivals and gatherings at the beachhouse to publicize the dunes effort. He led the costumes and props committee for the 1917 pageant that drew an audience of 25,000 and won national publicity for the park cause. He lobbied in and out of Indianapolis on behalf of the state park cause.

When the dunes effort rebooted in the 1950s, Philo Read was the first publicity chairman for the Save the Dunes Council. He was the public voice of the movement in newsletters, press releases, strategy documents and brochures until his death in 1961. He also was one of a small group of pre-World War II dunes activists who offered courses in the science, art and literature of the dunes, bringing the dunes tradition to a new generation of leaders and volunteers.

- No other structure captures dunes leaders' efforts to give up their own private homes to create a public park.

This is the story at the core of the struggle to preserve the dunes. David Canright, managing editor of the *Chesterton Tribune*, describes this best in a letter included in the supplemental materials: "The struggle to establish the principle that a National Park could be created out of PRIVATE land was crucial to creating the modern mission of the National

Park Service.” He continues: “This story is often told in connection with the establishment of Acadia National Park in Maine. While that victory was important, the nearly-successful fight to establish Sand Dunes National Park in Indiana [in 1916-17] was also an important chapter in the development of a national movement to preserve important natural and historical features under federal protection and management in states with no large pre-existing federal lands.”

One of the unique features of the 50-year-long citizens conservation movement has been the willingness of the advocates to give up their properties for the park cause. The Read family is a notable example, giving up three properties:

i. Philo Read willingly gave up his beachfront cabin near Mount Tom and the Prairie Club Beachhouse as part of his efforts to create the Indiana Dunes State Park in the 1920s.

The Prairie Club sold its 56 acres and Philo Read gave up his beachfront cabin. Peggy Moran recounts this in her 1969 article, “The Dunes and Dune People” in the *Calumet Review*: Asked by his young son why he would give up his cabin, Philo Read replied, “instead of being sole owner of several dune acres, you are now part owner of 2,200 acres of dunes.” The Read cabin was demolished in the 1930s.

ii. Herbert and Charlotte Read willingly gave up their home in the Tremont Triangle, where they raised their five children.

As part of the citizen effort to expand the park, the Read family petitioned to have the lands that included their home in the 1976 park expansion bill. The National Park Service bought the house in 1985. It was demolished in the 1990s.

iii. Irene Read willingly gave up the Read Dunes House as part of the 1966 bill that created the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Eight months after President Lyndon Johnson signed the bill creating the park, Irene Read wrote to the National Park Service offering up her property.

“I understand the National Park Service has started purchasing some of the land in the Dunes National Lakeshore. My property is located within the boundaries of the Park. It consists of a house and two acres -- all wooded. As I am a widow with a very limited income, I must consider putting my property up for sale and have been ‘holding on’ as I would rather sell to the National Park if possible. Having helped fight for this park for many years as a member of the Save the Dunes Council and the Izaak Walton League, I am delighted to be included in the park area and wish it were financially possible to donate it. Hoping some arrangement can be made and assuring you of my cooperation in every way.”

Some dunes activists held out to give up their homes for a national park, but these homes were demolished as Bethlehem Steel acquired the land in the 1960s. Artist and dunes activist John Hawkinson's house was the last private inholding on the Bethlehem Steel tract. Other dunes activists also held out, such as Virginia Reuterskiold. These structures are long gone. And as recounted by Ron Engel in *Sacred Sands*, Dorothy Buell at a 1965 committee hearing "told the committee that although she did indeed reside in a town with a private beach, she and the other members of the Save the Dunes Council favored including that beach in the Lakeshore, and furthermore, she would be pleased to see the government take her home as well!" (xv).

6. What about the homes of dunes conservation movement leaders that exist outside the park that might equally reflect significance in conservation of the Dunes?

Superintendent Dillon writes: "Other prominent members of the Save the Dunes Council, including Ms. Dorothy Buell, the organization's founder, lived in communities adjacent to and surrounded by the park, including Dune Acres and Ogden Dunes. Many of the homes used for meetings and/or owned by founding members of Save the Dunes remain."

First, the existence of homes outside the park does not absolve the National Park Service of the duty to preserve historic properties within the boundaries of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Second, the homes of other leading conservationists should be considered on their own merits. Superintendent Dillon mentions only one home -- the home of Dorothy Buell, founder of the Save the Dunes Council. No other homes are mentioned in the SHPO letter.

Third, the nomination is about the larger citizen movement to preserve the dunes and create a national park -- not the history of one organization. The Save the Dunes Council was one of two citizen groups credited with decisive advocacy for preservation of the dunes in the 1950s-1960s. The Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League was the other. The 1950s-1960s effort to preserve the dunes is described in the League's history as "the largest single battle ever undertaken by the Indiana Division" (<http://www.in-iwla.org/history/history.htm>). Nowhere does Superintendent Dillon mention the role of the Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League.

7. Is the house well-located to tell the story of the citizens movement to preserve the dunes and create a national park?

Superintendent Dillon notes that surrounding homes have been removed or are awaiting removal and, thus, "there is no remaining physical

context.” The context that remains, however, is the key context -- the historical association with the two groups that were the decisive advocates in the 1950s-1960s struggle to create the national lakeshore.

The Read Dunes House also is significantly located at the southern part of the park as a way to link visitors traveling from the Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center to the Ly-Co-Ki-We Trail, to the oldest of the prehistoric beach ridges (the former Lake Chicago’s 14,000-year-old Glenwood Beach), and through the historic Tremont “Gateway to the Dunes” to park units closer to the Lake Michigan shore.

In short, the Read Dunes House is in a prime location to tell both human and natural history that is the essence of Dune Country. Superintendent Dillon writes that the area is “slated for natural resource renovation,” but he does not address the issue of whether the Read Dunes House is well-placed to tell the natural and human history of the dunes and the park.

8. Why does the Read family and others who have written support letters seek listing of the Read Dunes House on the National Register?

Superintendent Dillon writes that “Mr. Read’s attempts have been seen [by whom he doesn’t say] as an effort to remain in the property past the September 30, 2010, expiration of the Reservation of Use and Occupancy; which was mandated by the national lakeshore’s enabling legislation.” Oddly, Superintendent Dillon makes this allegation in his Nov. 8, 2010 letter after the Read family already had moved out of the house! The house has been vacant for more than a year. This clearly is a non-issue.

The real issue is captured at the end of Superintendent Dillon’s letter: “Mr. Read has often said to national lakeshore staff that he is disappointed with the lack of exhibits and interpretive programs on the effort to create the park.” This is a legitimate issue -- especially given the upcoming 50th anniversary of the park and 100th anniversary of the National Park Service, the park’s lack of a context study on the conservation movement and Superintendent Dillon’s dismissal of the movement’s significance in his letters of Nov. 8, 2010 and Oct. 19, 2011.

The heart of the National Historic Preservation Act is to have context-specific places to tell these stories. The Read Dunes House is a fitting place to tell the story of the people who made a park.

PETER J. VISCLOSKY
1ST DISTRICT, INDIANA

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
DEFENSE
ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT
FINANCIAL SERVICES
CONGRESSIONAL STEEL CAUCUS
CHAIRMAN
U.S. HOUSE LAW ENFORCEMENT
CAUCUS

**Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1401**

4206 KAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1401
(202) 225-2461

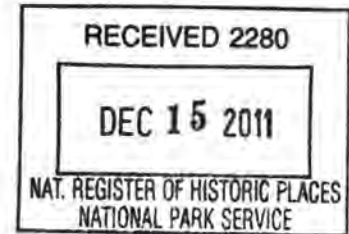
7895 BROADWAY, SUITE A
MERRILLVILLE, IN 46410
(219) 795-1844

Cell Toll Free
1 888 423 PETE
(1 888 423-7383)

INTERNET:
<http://www.house.gov/visclosky/>

December 1, 2011

Mr. J. Paul Loether
Chief
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
849 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240



Dear Mr. Loether:

I write in strong support of an application to nominate the Read Dunes House in Porter County, Indiana for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

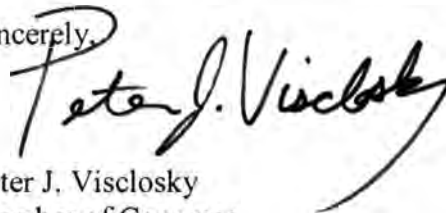
As I noted in my January 2010 letter to John Glass, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for Indiana, several generations of the Read family were instrumental figures in the environmental preservation efforts exerted by individuals and groups who championed the creation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in Northwest Indiana. From Northwest Indiana's earliest days, Opie Read and his son, Philo Read, began exploring the dunes and passed their enthusiasm for the natural ecology of the area to Philo's son, Herb Read, who, with his wife Charlotte, fought alongside Dorothy Buell and Senator Paul Douglas for the establishment of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore by Congress in 1966.

To that end, the Read Dunes House, designed by Herb Read and occupied by Philo Read, then Herb Read, stands as a historic testament to the hard work and dedication of all those involved with the conservation of the lakeshore. Many strategic meetings were held at this home by the Save the Dunes Council and the Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, not to mention the individual discussions held to continue the fight on behalf of the unique ecosystem found along the south shore of Lake Michigan. Further, the Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America was founded in the Read Dunes House and as founding members, the Reads energized the other members of this organization with their ceaseless enthusiasm to protect this most precious resource.

As you are aware, the southern shore of Lake Michigan largely is occupied by industry. It is home to steel producers, oil refining, and other heavy manufacturing interests. The federal highways of Interstates 80, 90, 94, and U.S. Highways 12, 20, and 6 traverse this landscape. Early settlers were brought to this area given its access to water, rail, and the Chicagoland region. They were industrious and hard working. Their efforts reshaped our landscape to attract the aforementioned industries. Since the 1950s, local activists, such as the Reads, worked to protect and save the areas now known as the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Without the efforts to preserve this area undertaken by the Read family, our most primitive history in the region would have been lost to the growing industrial and metropolitan outgrowths from Chicago, thereby ultimately changing the complexion of Northwest Indiana. Instead, today, we are able to showcase the coexistence of industry and the environment.

It is my hope the contributions of Herb and Charlotte Read, Philo and Irene Martin Read, Opie Read, and their family members, to the preservation of the dunes and the ultimate formation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore are given the serious consideration they deserve as you review the application to place the Read Dune House on the National Register of Historic Places. If you are in need of any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or have the appropriate member of your staff contact Elizabeth Johnson, Director of Projects and Planning, in my Merrillville District Office at 219-795-1844.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter J. Visclosky". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Peter J. Visclosky
Member of Congress

PJV:ej

P. Andrus 12/20/2011

DEC 20 2011

J. Paul Loether

A. Lee

12/20/2011

JAN 5 2012

H32(2280)

The Honorable Peter J. Visclosky
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Visclosky:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the Read Dunes House, located at 1453 Tremont Road in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, in Porter County, Indiana.

We are pleased to inform you that the Read Dunes House was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on December 8, 2011, for its historic importance. The National Register of Historic Places, administered by the National Park Service under the Secretary of the Interior, is the official list of the Nation's historic places and includes districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture.

We appreciate your interest in the historic preservation programs of the National Park Service. Please let me know if we can provide any additional information or assistance.

Sincerely,

/s/ Stephanie Toothman

Stephanie Toothman, Ph.D.
Associate Director, Cultural Resources

bcc: 2285

2280 Loether

Basic File Retained In 2280

FNP:PAndrus:OP:12-19-2011:s:\NR_correspondence\Visclosky



Patrick Andrus/WASO/NPS
12/08/2011 12:42 PM

To Stephanie Toothman/WASO/NPS, Robert
Sutton/WASO/NPS,

cc

bcc

Subject Read Dunes House letter

Stephanie and Bob: attached is a copy of Carol Shull's letter explaining the listing of the Read Dunes House in the National Register.

Patrick W. Andrus
Historian
National Register of Historic Places
Patrick_Andrus@nps.gov



ReadDunesHouse.20001.pdf

P. Andrews 12/8/2011
12/8/11

H32(2280)

Robert K. Sutton, Ph.D.
Chief Historian/Deputy Federal Preservation Officer
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Dr. Sutton:

We have completed our review of the revised National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Read Dunes House, located at 1453 Tremont Road in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, in Porter County, Indiana. After considering all documentation submitted, including the revised nomination, your memorandum and that of the Superintendent of the National Lakeshore, the opinion of the Indiana Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer and additional comments, I have determined that the Read Dunes House meets National Register of Historic Places Criterion A for its historic significance and listed the Read Dunes House in the National Register of Historic Places on December 8, 2011.

The Read Dunes House is historically significant for its association with the efforts of citizen conservation groups to preserve the Indiana Dunes and create the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. While the beginning of these efforts dates back to the early 20th century, it was in the 1950-1960s that they proved successful, overcoming the opposition of industry and much of the state's political leadership, leading to the preservation of the dunes and the creation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in 1966. It was during this time period that events occurring at the Read Dunes house played a central role.

In October of 2010, we considered the first version of the National Register nomination form. While it was evident that the Read family had for decades played a significant role in the preservation of the dunes, we had concerns with the sufficiency of the documentation, specifically the lack of detailed information as to what events associated with this movement occurred at the Read Dunes House. We recognized that other locations served as meeting places for environmentalists working to preserve the dunes and needed to evaluate how important a role were the events at the Read House. We returned the nomination and requested additional information about the specific activities at the house.

The revised nomination provides the specifics of the events that occurred at the Read House including the dates of strategic meetings of the Save the Dunes Council and the Izaak Walton League (whose Porter County chapter was founded in the Read Dunes House), the legal, political and public awareness strategies planned there, the fundraising efforts directed, the petition drives undertaken, the newsletters written, the letter-writing campaigns, and the studies produced. We agree with the opinion of the Indiana Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer that the work of the committees and groups that met at the Read's house was crucial to the movement. The considerable number of letters and statements of support included with the nomination further demonstrate the importance of the Read family and their home in the efforts to save the dunes and establish the National Lakeshore.

Both the Superintendent and the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer recommended specific revisions to the nomination form. We have revised the form with a Supplementary Listing Record (copy enclosed) to address these recommendations.

Please let me know if you have any questions concerning this decision. As stipulated in Federal regulations, 36 CFR Part 60, the decision of the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places is the final administrative action regarding listing properties in the National Register.

Sincerely,

(Sgd) Carol D. Shull

Carol D. Shull
Interim Keeper of the
National Register of Historic Places

Enclosure

cc: Constantine J. Dillon
Superintendent
Indiana Dune National Lakeshore
1100 N. Mineral Springs Road
Porter, IN 46304-1299

Steve Adams
Associate Regional Director, Cultural Resources
Midwest Regional Office
National Park Service
1709 Jackson Street
Omaha, NE 68102

Mr. Robert Carter, Jr., SHPO
Director, Department of Natural Resources
402 W. Washington Street, W256
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739

James A. Glass, Ph.D.
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
402 W. Washington Street, W274
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Ms. Pia Lopez
1529 3rd Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

bcc: Associate Director, Cultural Resources, WASO
2285
2280 Loether, Shull
Basic File Retained In 2280

FNP:PAndrus:OP:12-08-2011:S:\nr_correspondence\ReadDunesHouse.2



Patrick Andrus/WASO/NPS

12/09/2011 08:31 AM

To PIALOPEZ@comcast.net

cc

bcc

Subject Read Dunes House

Ms. Lopez: Carol Shull, the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places, has completed her review of the National Register nomination for the Read Dunes House. After considering all documentation submitted, on 12/08/2011 she listed the Read Dunes House in the National Register of Historic Places for its historic significance under National Register Criterion A.

She has written a letter to Dr. Robert K. Sutton, the National Park Service's Chief Historian and Deputy Federal Preservation Officer, explaining the decision. You will receive a copy of the letter by mail.

Sincerely,

Patrick W. Andrus
Historian
National Register of Historic Places
Patrick_Andrus@nps.gov

DNR

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology • 402 W. Washington Street, W274 • Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
Phone 317-232-1646 • Fax 317-232-0693 • dhpa@dnr.in.gov • www.in.gov/dnr/historic



December 14, 2011

Robert K. Sutton, Ph.D.
Chief Historian/Deputy Federal Preservation Officer
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: Read Dunes House, 1453 Tremont Road, Porter County, Indiana

Dear Mr. Sutton:

We have received an application for the above named property to be listed in the Indiana Register of Historic Sites and Structures. The purpose of this letter is to provide information on the State Register program and to afford you an opportunity to concur in or object to the application in accordance with IC 14-21-1-17.

Any person who wishes to object to State Register listing must submit a written statement indicating his or her interest in the property and that they object to the listing. The statement must be sent to the Director, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, 402 West Washington Street, Room W274, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739 and must be received within thirty (30) days of the date of this letter.

The property will be evaluated by the Indiana Historic Preservation Review Board at their meeting at the following date, place and time:

February 15, 1:30 PM EST, at Indiana Government Conference Center, 302 W. Washington Street, Training Room 17, Indianapolis, IN

You are welcome to attend the meeting.

If no negative comments are received within the allotted time, the property will be listed in the Indiana Register of Historic Sites and Structures in accordance with the state law. If negative comments are received, an additional hearing on the nomination to the State Register will be held by a designated member of the Indiana Historic Preservation Review Board. The member will make a recommendation to the full Review Board, which will make the final determination. The Review Board's decision is subject to administrative review by the Natural Resources Commission in accordance with IC 4-21.5.

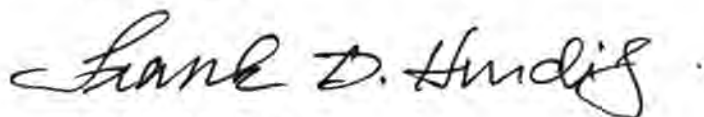
Review of State Funded and Assisted Construction

IC 14-21-1-18 seeks to encourage the preservation of Indiana's historic resources. All state funded or assisted construction which will adversely affect historic sites or structures owned by the State of Indiana or historic sites or structures listed in the State Register must be approved by the State Review Board. This provision does not limit what a private owner or a local government may do with non-state owned property, as long as state or federal funds are not involved.

State Register notification letter, p. 2.

More information about this property or the State Register program may be made available by calling 317/ 232-1646, or by writing to the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, 402 West Washington Street, Room W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2739.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Frank D. Hurdis, Jr." with a stylized, cursive script.

Frank D. Hurdis, Jr.
Assistant Director of Preservation Services
Division of Historic Preservation
and Archaeology
FDH:PCD

duplicate letters mailed to:

Constantine J. Dillon, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore; Steve Adams, NPS; Pia Lopez; Robert K. Sutton, NPS.

December 23, 2011

The Director of the National Park Service is pleased to send you the following announcements and actions on properties for the National Register of Historic Places. For further information or if you would like to receive this list weekly via e-mail, contact Edson Beall via voice (202) 354-2255 or E-mail: Edson_Beall@nps.gov

Our physical location address is:

National Park Service, 2280, 8th Floor
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20005

Please have any Fed Ex, UPS packages sent to the above address. Please continue to use alternate carriers, as all mail delivered to us via United States Postal Service is irradiated and subsequently damaged.

WEEKLY LIST OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON PROPERTIES: 12/12/11 THROUGH 12/16/11

KEY: State, County, Property Name, Address/Boundary, City, Vicinity, Reference Number, NHL, Action, Date, Multiple Name

COLORADO, DELTA COUNTY,
Hotchkiss Homestead,
422 Riverside Dr.,
Hotchkiss, 11000900,
LISTED, 12/15/11

COLORADO, EL PASO COUNTY,
Fort Collins Municipal Railway No. 22,
2333 Steel Dr.,
Colorado Springs, 11000901,
LISTED, 12/15/11

COLORADO, EL PASO COUNTY,
Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church,
631 N. Tejon St.,
Colorado Springs, 11000902,
LISTED, 12/15/11

COLORADO, GILPIN COUNTY,
Russell Gulch I.O.O.F. Hall No. 47--Wagner and Askew,
81 Russell Gulch Rd.,
Russell Gulch, 11000903,
LISTED, 12/15/11

FLORIDA, DADE COUNTY,
Collins Waterfront Architectural District,
Bounded by 24th St., Atlantic Ocean, Indian Creek Dr., Pine Tree Dr. & Collins Canal,
Miami Beach, 11000905,
LISTED, 12/15/11

FLORIDA, LEE COUNTY,
Tween Waters Inn Historic District,
15951 Captiva Dr.,
Captiva, 11000904,
LISTED, 12/15/11
(Lee County MPS)

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY,
Wee Haven,
1509 W. Park Ave.,
Champaign, 11000906,
LISTED, 12/15/11

INDIANA, BOONE COUNTY,
Cragun, Strange Nathaniel, House,
404 W. Main St.,
Lebanon, 11000908,
LISTED, 12/15/11

INDIANA, HANCOCK COUNTY,
Greenfield Residential Historic District,
Roughly bounded by Hendricks, South, & Wood Sts., & Boyd Ave.,
Greenfield, 11000909,
LISTED, 12/15/11

INDIANA, JACKSON COUNTY,
Carr High School,
10059 W. Cty. Rd. 250 S.,
Medora vicinity, 11000910,
LISTED, 12/15/11
(Indiana's Public Common and High Schools MPS)

INDIANA, JACKSON COUNTY,
Jackson County Courthouse,
111 S. Main St.,
Brownstown, 11000911,

LISTED, 12/15/11

INDIANA, LAKE COUNTY,

Wynant, Wilbur, House,
600 Fillmore St.,
Gary, 02001168,
REMOVED, 12/15/11

INDIANA, MARSHALL COUNTY,

Argos Izaak Walton League Historic District,
7184 E. 16th Rd.,
Argos vicinity, 11000914,
LISTED, 12/15/11

INDIANA, PORTER COUNTY,

Read Dunes House,
1453 Tremont Rd.,
Chesterton, 10000858,
LISTED, 12/08/11

INDIANA, POSEY COUNTY,

I.O.O.F. and Barker Buildings,
402--406 Main St.,
Mt. Vernon, 85002133,
REMOVED, 12/15/11

INDIANA, SHELBY COUNTY,

Shelby County Courthouse,
407 S. Harrison St.,
Shelby, 11000917,
LISTED, 12/15/11

LOUISIANA, ORLEANS PARISH,

Mid-City Historic District (Boundary Increase and Decrease),
Roughly bounded by City Park Ave., St. Louis St., Claiborne Ave. & I10.,
New Orleans, 11000780,
LISTED, 12/15/11

MARYLAND, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY,

Piscataway Village Historic District,
Bounded by Piscataway Cr., Piscataway Rd. & Livingston Rd.,
Clinton vicinity, 11000919,
LISTED, 12/15/11

MASSACHUSETTS, DUKES COUNTY,

Barn House,
451 South Rd.,
Chilmark, 11000920,
LISTED, 12/15/11

MICHIGAN, WAYNE COUNTY,

Atkinson, Edmund, School,
4900 E Hildale Ave.,
Detroit, 10000635,
LISTED, 12/12/11
(Public Schools of Detroit MPS)

MICHIGAN, WAYNE COUNTY,

Cooley, Thomas M., High School,
15055 Hubbell Ave.,
Detroit, 10000651,
LISTED, 12/12/11
(Public Schools of Detroit MPS)

MICHIGAN, WAYNE COUNTY,

Doty, Duane, School,
10225 3rd St.,
Detroit, 10000654,
LISTED, 12/12/11
(Public Schools of Detroit MPS)

MICHIGAN, WAYNE COUNTY,

Miller, Sidney D., Junior High and High School,
2322 DuBois St.,
Detroit, 10000689,
LISTED, 12/12/11
(Public Schools of Detroit MPS)

NEBRASKA, DOUGLAS COUNTY,

Thiessen, H., Pickle Company,
3101 S. 24th St.,
Omaha, 11000887,
LISTED, 12/13/11

OKLAHOMA, TULSA COUNTY,

Sophian Plaza,
1500 S. Frisco Ave., W.,
Tulsa, 11000896,
LISTED, 12/13/11

OREGON, CLACKAMAS COUNTY,
Ertz, Charles W., House,
1650 North Shore Rd.,
Lake Oswego, 92000081,
REMOVED, 12/07/11

PENNSYLVANIA, ALLEGHENY COUNTY,
Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania Western Headquarters Building,
201 Stanwix St.,
Pittsburgh, 11000921,
LISTED, 12/15/11

PENNSYLVANIA, CHESTER COUNTY,
Sharpless Homestead,
1045 Birmingham Rd. (Birmingham Township),
West Chester vicinity, 11000924,
LISTED, 12/15/11

PENNSYLVANIA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY,
Green Hill Farms,
6 E. Lancaster Ave.,
Lower Merion, 11000925,
LISTED, 12/15/11

PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA COUNTY,
Park Towne Place,
2200 Park Towne Place,
Philadelphia, 11000926,
LISTED, 12/15/11

TENNESSEE, GREENE COUNTY,
Chuckey Depot,
SR 2391,
Chuckey, 79002432,
REMOVED, 12/15/11

TEXAS, CULBERSON COUNTY,
Pratt, Wallace E., House,
Pratt Dr. at McKittrick Rd.,
Salt Flat vicinity, 11000927,
LISTED, 12/15/11

VIRGINIA, CHARLOTTESVILLE INDEPENDENT CITY,
Jefferson, Martha, Historic District,
Includes parts of Lexington, Locust & Grove Aves., & E. High, Maple, Sycamore, Poplar & Hazel Sts.,
Charlottesville (Independent City), 08000066,
ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION APPROVED, 12/15/11

VIRGINIA, FAUQUIER COUNTY,
Auburn Battlefield,
Bounded by Casanova, Auburn Baptist Church, & Catlett,
Catlett vicinity, 11000873,
LISTED, 12/05/11
(Civil War in Virginia MPS)

WEST VIRGINIA, HAMPSHIRE COUNTY,
South Branch Bridge,
WV 259 N. of jct. Cty. Rd. 16,
Capon Lake, 11000929,
LISTED, 12/15/11

WEST VIRGINIA, MINGO COUNTY,
Williamson Field House,
1703 W. 3rd Ave.,
Williamson, 11000930,
LISTED, 12/15/11

WEST VIRGINIA, PUTNAM COUNTY,
Winfield Toll Bridge,
WV 34 mi. 21.34,
Winfield, 11000931,
LISTED, 12/15/11

[History and Culture](#) | [National Park Service Home](#) | [National Register of Historic Places Home](#) | [National Park Service FAQ](#) | [National Register FAQ](#) | [NPS Focus](#)