UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
WINDEMERE

AND/OR COMMON
The Ernest Hemingway Cottage

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Lake Grove Road (Resort Township)

CITY, TOWN
Petoskey

STATE
Michigan

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

X BUILDING(S)

X STRUCTURE

X OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

X BOTH

STATUS

X OCCUPIED

X UNOCCUPIED

X WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

PRIVATE

OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mrs. Ernest John Miller (Madelaine Hemingway)

STREET & NUMBER
Lake Grove Road (Resort Township)

CITY, TOWN
Petoskey

STATE
Michigan

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Register of Deeds, City-County Building

STREET & NUMBER
Division Street

CITY, TOWN
Petoskey

STATE
Michigan 49770

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE
Built in 1900 the Hemingway cottage stands on the shore of Walloon Lake in a pleasant wooded setting. The structure has changed, though not drastically, in its 74 year history. Its shape and dimensions are those it had in 1904. The exterior clapboard siding has been replaced with aluminum and the original cedar shingles have given way to those made of asphalt. Perhaps the greatest differences after seven decades is in the appearance of the breezeway connecting the sleeping and living rooms on the one side of the house to the kitchen on the other. The area is now enclosed—where there was once a screen, there is now a wooden den—although wide windows at either end of the room retain the warm and sunny character of the original porch.

On the inside, a few other changes have been made. At the west end of the living room on either side of the doorway leading from the enclosed porch are partitioned compartments, one a bathroom, the other a utility closet. The kitchen is modern as might be expected. On the other hand, the unpainted clapboard of the interior of the main section of the house has not been touched. A picture window has been made from the wood of an unpainted door that was located in the northwest corner of the room. The baseboard of this window is the former door jamb on which the names and heights of the six Hemingway children are clearly visible.

In the living room the visitor finds a number of Hemingway momentoes: a Civil War sword of Ernest's grandfather, a favorite hunting rifle of Dr. Hemingway, a photograph of the novelist taken in Paris in the middle of the 1920's and a number of other trophies and memorials of the family's past.

Several years after they built the cottage, the Hemingways added a smaller building of similar style a few yards east. Referred to as the annex, the little cottage contained three bedrooms. It survives intact. The original porch has been enclosed to make a small kitchen.

Located directly behind the house to the south is a garage constructed of aluminum. The modern convenience of an automatic door has been installed.

The cottage at Walloon Lake serves the same function as it did when constructed. Windemere's present owner, Mrs. Madelaine Hemingway Miller, the younger sister of Ernest, received the cottage from Ernest who had in turn received it from his mother and occupies it only during the summer months. She maintains a winter residence in Florida. The cottage, annex, and grounds are maintained in excellent condition.
Critics agree that Ernest Hemingway was one of the most influential writers that this country has ever produced. His way of writing earned him many admirers and imitators. Hemingway is generally credited with founding a whole new school of "tough" detective story writers. In 1953 he won the Pulitzer Prize for The Old Man and The Sea, and in 1954 he became the fifth American to win the Nobel Prize for Literature for "powerful and style-making mastery of the art of modern narration." Among his finest books are The Sun Also Rises (1926), A Farewell to Arms (1929), and For Whom the Bell Tolls(1940). Some of his most famous short stories are "The Millers," "The Snows of Kilimanjaro," and "The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber."

"Windemere," built in 1900 as a summer retreat on Walloon Lake south of Petoskey, Michigan, was a vital force in the life of young Ernest Hemingway. Here the writer spent all of his summers, except one, until he reached the age of 21. Here he learned to hunt and fish and first began to write serious fiction. His Michigan experiences later provided him with invaluable incidents which were the basics of settings for ten short stories and his first published novel, The Torrents of Spring.

**HISTORY**

In about 1898, Dr. Clarence Hemingway and his wife purchased four lots on the south shore of Walloon Lake (then Bear Lake) in Emmet County, Michigan. In 1900 they build a comfortable cottage on the property, about 59 yards from the beach, and during the decades that followed used the building for a summer retreat.

The Hemingway cottage, which the family dubbed "Windemere," was a frame structure, one story in height, with a gabled roof and white clapboard siding. A screened breezeway separated the kitchen from the rest of the house. Bedrooms were at the east end of the main section of the cottage and opened off the living room. A large fireplace heated the principal rooms in cool weather. Unpainted clapboard gave the interior a rustic character.

Ernest Hemingway made his first trip to Walloon Lake when he was only a year old and spent every succeeding summer there, except one (he was in

*An amplified treatment of the life of Ernest Hemingway can be found in the Special Report of John McDermoth, "Sites Associated with Ernest Hemingway in Michigan, Florida, and Idaho." Statement of Significance from this report.
### Major Bibliographical References


### Geographical Data

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<th>Acreage of Nominated Property</th>
<th>UTM References</th>
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**Verbal Boundary Description**

See continuation sheet.

### List All States and Counties for Properties Overlapping State or County Boundaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Code</th>
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### Form Prepared By

**Name / Title**

Joseph S. Mendinghall, Historian

**Organization**

Historic Sites Survey

**Street & Number**

1100 L Street, N.W.

**City or Town**

Washington, D.C.

**State**

D.C.

**Telephone**

(202) 523-5464

### State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

**The Evaluated Significance of This Property Within the State Is:**

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL ___

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

**State Historic Preservation Officer Signature**

[Signature]

**Title**

[Title]

**Date**

24 Nov 1966

**For NPS Use Only**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

**Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation**

**Attest:**

**Date**

11/9/79

**Keeper of the National Register**

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)
4. Owner of Property

Joint ownership of the property with right of survivorship:

Mr. Ernest Hemingway Mainland
Bear River Road
Boyne Falls, Michigan 49713
Italy in 1918), until he reached the age of 21. It was here at Walloon Lake that Hemingway learned to hunt and fish under the guidance of his father who was an avid sportsman and something of a naturalist. The Michigan experience loomed especially large in Hemingway's mind and in his development as a writer providing themes and settings for many of his early short stories and his first novel.

Unlike Oak Park, Illinois, where Hemingway was born on July 21, 1899, the second of six children, northern Michigan in the first decade of the twentieth century was a wild, semi-isolated land still inhabited by the Ojiba Indians and "rough and ready" whites. It was likewise a land of great natural beauty; a place of deep forest, wide lakes, and the fragrance of pines. Here young Hemingway found pastimes that he continued to enjoy and write about during the rest of his life. It was also here that he first became aware of death and violence, themes that he continued to exploit in one book after another. Philip Young put it succinctly when he observed that "the parts of the childhood which stuck were the summertimes... in Michigan."

Hemingway early in the summer of 1920, after having graduated from High School in 1917, and having worked for the Kansas City Star, returned to Walloon Lake and a climax in his relations with his parents. Although he sold occasional pieces to the Star, his parents considered him unemployed and finally ordered him to leave the cottage at Walloon Lake and make it on his own. Hemingway continued to stay in the area and picked apples to make ends meet. Late in the fall he decided to return to Chicago and lived with a friend, Bill Norse, in an attic bedroom at 1230 North State Street. Through a want ad, he was successful in obtaining a job as an associate editor for Co-operative Commonwealth, folksy house organ. Before the end of the year, Hemingway sold fifteen articles to the Star and was secure in the knowledge that he could make it as a writer.

In many of the short stories and books that flowed from his pen in the years that followed, he drew upon his Michigan experiences. For example, he used the region as the setting for 10 published stories and sections of two other pieces, including "Indian Camp," "The Doctor and the Doctor's Wife," "Fathers and Sons," "The Battler," "The Light of the World," "Ten Indians," "Up in Michigan," "The End of Something," "The Three Day Blow," and "Big Two Hearted River." Petoskey was the setting for his first published novel, The Torrents of Spring. But more than that, Hemingway was a very autobiographical writer, and many of the incidents and characters found in some of his other books and stories are easily traced to and explained
by what he saw, heard, and learned in Michigan.

On September 3, 1921, Hemingway married his first wife, Hadley Richardson, in the Methodist church in Horton Bay. The couple honeymooned at the cottage and then returned to Chicago. Hemingway apparently came back to the cottage only once more in his lifetime—in the early fifties—and then only for a very short visit. But, of course, he did not leave Michigan behind him. He used it as he had been used by it. Physical isolation from the places he wanted to write about seemed to be necessary for him. When he began to write an account of his life in Paris in the 1920's, more than three decades after the fact, Hemingway wrote that he had hoped for success based on past triumphs in similar situations. "Maybe away from Paris," he wistfully confided, "I could write about Paris as in Paris I could write about Michigan." He could and did write well about both places.
9. Bibliography


The extent of the present grounds of the Hemingway Cottage is composed of:

Lots 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22, Henry Baron's addition to Illinois Park---
Also land between rear of Lots and County Road.

The boundary is coterminus with the property lines as shown on the accompanying plat dated December 21, 1899.