

CAMP EBERHART BUILDINGS AND AREAS PAST & PRESENT

Update as of 6-12-2017

Dave's House

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Current Use | Multi use facility for astronomy and other activities has been used by water skiing, photography, library, and drama. During rainy days old movies were shown to the camp. |
| Original Use | Multi use facility for kids |
| Year Built | 1931 |
| Fact | The building is named after Dave Warner (1915 to 1931) who died at camp by jumping off Coop's in the wrong direction. His parents donated the building in his honor. The diving pier was connected to the shoreline and he was being chased in a game of tag. The flag pole on the south side is the source of the Hezekiah Thomas Treasure story. It is while digging the foundation for the pole that campers found the treasure chest. |

Hickory Limb

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Current Use | Waterfront bathhouse |
| Original Use | Changing and shower area for campers and staff for swimming, current bathrooms were once the swim staff locker rooms. The changing area was divided with the tall brick wall when camp went co-ed, 1976. |
| Year Built | 1 st ?? 2 nd 1960 |
| Fun Fact | When the building was redone the concrete flooring was broken up and loaded on wagons and used to hold the dirt, that was excavated from the pasture(Currant location of hay Barn/Day Camp), to build the road to the island in 1960. An old saying was, "Hang your clothes on a Hickory Limb and don't go near the water." |

Buckets of Blood

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Current Use | Staff Housing |
| Original Use | Staff housing for head of Swimming, Sailing, and Boats & Canoes. |
| Year Built | Probably late 1940's |
| Fun Fact | It was made by joining two of the wooden cabins from Tent Street after the low road cabins were built in late 1940/early 1950. The name was arrived at because the staff sold their blood at a blood bank to get money to install water and shower facilities. Art work drawn on the the original cabin walls has been saved and is still visable. |

Tent Street

Current Use
Original Use

Part of circular road that provides vehicle access through camp. Originally where camper's platform tents were, then they were replaced with wooden cabins in the 1920's. There are several buildings made from parts of those cabins, but the Haunted House is the only remaining intact original cabin.

Year Built
Fun Fact

1909
The road along the water front was lined with tents on either side, thus the name Tent Street, which originally had dirt floors and they had cement floors by 1913. Tents were replaced with wooden cabins in the same location. Once the stone cabins were completed, some of the wooden cabins were moved to Pioneer Camp. Other cabins were used for staff housing, the infirmary, and probably several program buildings.

Swim Area

Teaching everyone to swim has been a priority for the YMCA since inception, including Camp Eberhart. Swimming has been taught at the current location since Camp started. Changes have occurred with the piers, corner watch towers, diving boards and the tower. One of the most prestigious awards in Camp is "Swimming the Triangle". An endurance swim from the swim area south across the lake to the "House of Many Windows", north to the Island and back to the swim area. This was done with a row boat next to the swimmer for safety.

Gregory Lodge

Current Use
Original Use
Year Built
Fun Fact

Craft Shop
It was a place for staff to go when they had time off.
I think there is a plaque on the building-early 1960's
It replaced a building at that site that was called the Log Cabin, which was used for the above original use. The walk way along the beach was originally constructed by the South Bend Marine Corp reserves and rebuilt in 2009 funded by the alumni.

Fountain of Youth

Current Use
Original Use
Year Built
Fun Fact

Water fountain
Water fountain
1930's
This was a 2nd source of well water for the camp and was an early electrical pump system. A water fountain is integrated into the field stone. Original plumbing by Glenn Culver Moore.

Morris Lodge

Current Use Camper housing

Original Use Camper housing

Year Built

Fun Fact

Named for the Morris Family, several other camps in the area have the same building. History tells that units 17 & 18, when camp was not co-ed, were reserved for campers with a certain number of proficiencies. To stay in unit 17, 5 proficiencies were required. 7 or more were required for unit 18. The construction is a single thick exterior wood wall plank (no studs). It was originally varnished inside and out and would glow in the morning sun. Numerous changes have been made through the years including adding heating/cooling, removing the kitchen to enlarge the rest rooms, and adding fire separation walls from the sleeping areas per code so the fire place could be used. The addition of the log cabin siding and new windows, most of these changes were funded by the alumni.

Hezekiah's Treasure Chest

Current Use Store

Original Use Store/Post Office

Year Built 1960's

Fun Fact Store was open after rest hour for purchases, and after chapel for stamps and purchase of cartridges for riflery. The building was funded by the alumni.

Dog House and Oreno Lodge

Current Use Fishing

Original Use Oreno Lodge was the site of the Bait Casting program, and the Dog House housed the Boats & Canoes program.

Year Built 1950

Fun Fact The Oreno Lodge name came from a product line of the South Bend Bait Company, who gave the casting, spinning and fly fishing rods to camp. The equipment was packed up at the end of the summer and returned to South Bend Bait to be refurbished for the next camping season.

Flying Saucer

Was the original craft shop with a single 8 sided sleeping room on the 2nd floor. The Flying Saucer burned and all that is left is the concrete foundation just north of the current camp store. The open structure used by BC& K today was the outside area of the Craft Shop.

Outdoor Craft Shop

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Current Use | BC & K |
| Original Use | Outside work area for the craft shop which was located north of the store, behind the Dog House and Oreno Lodge |
| Year Built | |
| Fun Fact | See Flying Saucer above. A popular craft was "Beat Dishes" This was a process of beating aluminum sheets into maple wood molds using a wooden mallet to form a dish. The constant drum of 20-30 mallets beating is a sound that many have not forgotten after all of these years. |

Sailing Called the Corey Lake Monster because of its size and the camp story of a monster living in the lake.

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Current Use | Sailing |
| Original Use | Sailing |
| Year Built | The building came to camp from the South Bend Street Dept. and was funded by the Corey Lake Yacht Club. A rebuilt memorial is located on the east side of the Boat House. |
| Fun Fact | Next to the boat house was another of the original cabins from tent street that was re-purposed as the sail house during the summer. It has been replaced by a newer structure. The boat house was provided new sheet metal walls and roof in 2011. Wall art dating back to the 1940's on the old building walls were saved and hang inside the structure. A rail track system (still visible) allowed a cradle to be used to pull the heavier boats from the water with a winch. |

Corey Lake and Camp Eberhart had one of the largest Snipe fleets(Type of sail boat) in the mid west. Races were held every weekend with the Corey Lake Yact Club and others who would trailer their boats to Corey Lake.

The piers were much longer to accomidate all of the boats. There was also a stand alone pier between the Boat House and the Island with a small storage house. Remains of the wood piles are still visable under water.

The Corey Lake Monster has also been seen by many and documented in the local news paper. It was assumed to be a large Sturgeon fish that would swim next to slow boats at certain times of the day.

The retaining wall behind the Boat House has been built and rebuilt several times using volenteer labor and railroad ties. In 2009 the alumni

funded the current concrete block system. This also includes the walls behind the low road cabins and the Powder Room.

Goldberg and Ginsberg

Current Use Gone – foundation remains.
Original Use The store before the one on Tent Street was built, then it housed the kilns for the craft shop, then photography, and at one time housed staff.
Year Built
Fun Fact

Crow's Nest

 Located at top of hill between tennis courts and Boat House.
Current Use Does not exist
Original Use Restroom
Year Built 1950
Fun Fact Re-purposed cabin from Tent Street. The water used for hand washing and flushing came from the lake via a pump on the north side of the Boat House.

Chapel and Organ Building

Current Use Camp services and Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church service on Sunday mornings during the summer.
Original Use Same
Year Built
Fun Fact The current Chapel and Organ structures were rebuilt per the original design in 2007. Storms and falling trees had severely damaged the Chapel three times. The Organ Building housed an electric organ purchased by Mrs. Cooper. Many wedding of Camp Staff have been performed at this location. More information listed on wall plaque.

Memorial Wall

Current Use Permeant place for cremated remains
Original Use Permeant place for cremated remains
Year Built 2015
Fun Fact

The Loo

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Current Use | Bathrooms |
| Original Use | Bathrooms |
| Year Built | 2014 |
| Fun Fact | Funded by the Abernathy family and the alumni. |

Sherwood Forest

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| Current Use | Archery |
| Original Use | Archery Range |
| Year Built | 1920's |
| Fun Fact | |

Riflery

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Current Use | Rifle range |
| Original Use | Rifle range |
| Year Built | 1929 |
| Fun Fact | Disaster was averted when a fire was extinguished before it could reach the stored munitions. |

Award Circle

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Current Use | Campfire |
| Original Use | Campfire |
| Year Built | 1950's |
| Fun Fact | Located just east of Riflery and used from the 1950's thru the 1970's until it became too small. At the end of each session the camp would assemble and the proficiency awards would be distributed. Using various chemicals and a hidden trip wire the fire would ignite as if by magic. |

Sollitt Road

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Current Use | Connect Island to camp |
| Original Use | Connect Island to camp |
| Year Built | 1960 or 1961 |
| Fun Fact | Sollitt Construction donated the equipment and operators to complete the road. Work on the road, such as putting the concrete from the old Hickory Limb to contain the erosion was done instead of athletics by senior campers and staff. A goal of every new rower was to travel thru the culvert, spiders and all. This was not authorized as the boaters could not be observed once in Turtle Bay, but this is camp! Memorial stone on the west end of the road. |

Wolf Den

Current Use Nature
Original Use Woodcraft
Year Built Structure was built using camp labor about 1971
Fun Fact Woodcraft previously met at the Outdoor Kitchen and at Pioneer Camp
Structure was built using camp labor.

Astronomy/Rocketry

Current Use Rocketry
Original Use Astronomy
Year Built Early 1960's
Fun Fact The program building replaces a house that was used prior to the road being built.

Observatory

Current Use Observatory
Original Use Observatory
Year Built 1961
Fun Fact The concrete for building was carried up the hill in buckets. The Yeager telescope was the 2nd most powerful in the State of Michigan when it was installed. Additional information is available on a plaque. The observatory hill is an interesting geological feature. It is visible in early photographs. It is a feature left over by the receding glaciers.

Island House

There was a house on the east side of the island. It has now been replaced with a program building. (See Astronomy/Rocketry above)

Island Pole Barn

Current Use Storage
Original Use Wind surfing
Year Built
Fun Fact

Outdoor Kitchen

Current Use Special events
Original Use
Year Built
Fun Fact The site was rebuilt in 2010. The well still works and has some of the best tasting water in Camp but is too shallow to be approved for use by the Health Department.

Pioneer Camp

Current Use None
Original Use Camper housing
Year Built 1949-50
Fun Fact The cabins from Tent Street were relocated here after the stone cabins were built.

Greenleaf Tree House Village

Current Use CIT/SIT Housing
Original Use Same
Year Built 2017
Fun Fact Donation made by the Mittler family who live on Corey in the cool log home. Greenleaf is the maiden name of Charolette Mittler.

Obenchain

(Mess Hall, renamed and re-purposed after Klinger was built)
Current Use Staff Housing, music program, staff lounge
Original Use Mess Hall
Year Built 1909
Fun Fact Oldest building on camp, flat, tiled area at back where Tail Biking is was the kitchen and dish washing area when Obenchain was the mess hall. Campers would assemble at benches prior to each meal for a head count. The Campers would also extend their hands and the camp nurse would inspect and make sure each had been washed. It was not uncommon to see campers running down to the Hickory Limb to rewash their hands so they would not be late for a meal. The whole cabin had to wait until all were present before they would be allowed in the mess hall.

Meals were served family style (No longer allowed by code) where a table “runner” would approach the kitchen serving window and bring back a large tray of the main course. This would be passed down the table and the campers would take what they wanted to their own tray (Military surplus).

The last cook in this facility was a Mr. Peterson (Pete). He was the cook for years and has many stories told about him. He would not place ketchup on the tables when he served beef stating that “You do not need ketchup with my meat!”

On special nights (i.e. ravioli) no eating utensils were placed on the table. Either you eat with your fingers or subjected yourself to the jeers and boos of your peers as you walked to the front to get silverware.

Cook’s One

Current Use
Original Use
Year Built
Fun Fact

None, only concrete slabs and chimneys are left.
Staff housing

Cooks 1 & 2 were the cabins that the cooks lived in during summer, later winterized for year-round staff housing.

Cook’s Two

Current Use
Original Use
Year Built
Fun Fact

None, only concrete slabs and chimneys are left.
Staff housing

Cooks 1 & 2 were the cabins that the cooks lived in during summer, later winterized for year-round staff housing.

Leighton Lodge

Current Use
Original Use
Year Built
Fun Fact

Camper housing/Robert Oare Say Ahh Inn
Camper housing/Robert Oare Say Ahh Inn

Named for the Leighton family who provided funding

Obstacle Course

The obstacle course was where Leighton Lodge is today. It was designed using the military ideas at the time and ran along the road towards the high road cabins.

The Toy House

Current Use
Original Use

Year Built
Fun Fact

Land Sports?
Used to store materials for evening programs during Girls Camp craft house for Junior Camp.

1950’s

A good example of the style and construction methods used in the stone cabins and other various storage buildings with names such as: Katie’s

Corner, The Toy House & Land Sports. The budget for Camp was small resulting in using "Creativity" in gathering building materials. Field stones were collected from the property and neighboring farms. Wood came from Camp owned trees by allowing a logger to take out selected trees and paying by providing a percentage back in rough cut lumber. Labor was often volunteer or donated resulting in various levels of skill.

Klinger

Current Use

Dining Hall

Original Use

Dining Hall

Year Built

1971

Fun Fact

Overall shell of the building design was supposedly that of a church/revival hall. The mezzanine area was used for sleeping in the winter as this was one of the few heated buildings. A change in the fire codes no longer allows this practice.

The 1st few summers cooking was done from scratch by an Amish Mennonite crew. 5" cookies and cinnamon rolls on the Sunday morning of change over week are still discussed by the alumni.

The prayer above the fireplace originally hung in The Mess Hall (Obenchain)

Pony Ring

East of the current mess hall on the low spot next to the road was the location of the pony ring. This is where they brought the smaller horses for Junior Camp use as there was no room at the low road location.

Athletic Field

Just north of Klinger. At the beginning of camp prior to all of the programs being built swimming and land sports were the main activities. The Athletic Field was the location of cabin vs. cabin competitions such as baseball. The big event for the session was The Olympics.

Baker-Cooper

Current Use

Camper housing

Original Use

Infirmery and later photo lab

Year Built

Fun Fact

Named for the Baker/Cooper families for ongoing support.

Hand's House

Current Use Camp Directors residence
Original Use Residence for caretaker when camp became a year around facility
Year Built
Fun Fact Named for Dale & Helena Hand. Dale and Helena were the 2nd occupants but the 1st full time maintenance person. Helena taught in the Three Rivers schools system. They endeared themselves to the staff and campers and became special freinds to many.

Day Camp

Current Use Day camp
Original Use Hay barn
Year Built
Fun Fact Original area of the stables.

Lazy W

Current Use Visitors housing
Original Use Cabin for exec. Director of YMCA
Year Built
Fun Fact Made from parts of original cabins. Named for Mr. Wiseman who was the Executive Director of the YMCA when it was built. **Originally used by the South Bend Y staff and Elmer Wiseman the exec. Hence the name the lazy "W".**
The tool shed across the driveway was the first store, the side had a window you could pull up for sales. The adjoining "L" was added in the late 60's by Jim Gould the exec at the time.

Old Camp Gate

Current Use None
Original Use Camp entrance
Year Built 1960's
Fun Fact It and the road proved to be too small to let in all the required trucks and vehicles.

Whitwer House

Current Use Staff housing
Original Use Camp Director's home
Year Built 1978
Fun Fact Jr. Archery and Jr. BB range were located in this area.

BB Gun Range

(Junior Camp) This was in the area of the current Director's house. It was area used for the BB gun instruction.

Junior Program Building (next to Whitwer House)

Current Use Storage for Whitwer House
Original Use Storage for junior archery and Junior BB guns.
Year Built 1950
Fun Fact

Stone Cabins (High and Low Road)

Current Use Camper housing
Original Use Camper housing
Year Built 1949-50 over several years in the 1950's
Fun Fact In 1950, the water level of the lake was so high that you could not drive on the low road. Originally a semi private area was installed in the center of each cabin for the staff members. This was removed in the mid 2010's when the Michigan Camping Code changed the occupancy requirements. The fire places can no longer be used because of the current fire codes requiring a fire rated separation wall from the sleeping areas. This is also why there are exit doors on each end.

Each cabin had running cold water and a sink in each ½ of the cabin. The waste water went to a 55 gal buired drum behind each cabin. Current codes prevent that design.

Originally all of the wood was harvested from camp trees including the doors and shutters. Over the years repairs have replace many of these componets. The field stone is also localy gathered materials

There is one story that the builder of the cabins did not pick up his check for the last set, thus donated them to Camp.

Powder Room

Current Use Restroom
Original Use Restroom
Year Built 1950
Fun Fact Re-purposed cabin from Tent Street then replaced by Cole Davis with the underground facility, 1981.

Haunted House

Current Use Restroom
Original Use Housing on Tent Street
Year Built 1950
Fun Fact Another re-purposed cabin from Tent Street last remaining intact Tent Street cabin. Located on High Road north of Unit 1/2.

Harwood's Ghost

Current Use Does not exist
Original Use Staff housing was located on High Road between units 3/4 and 5/6.
Year Built
Fun Fact The name refers to the Camp ghost story of (Old Lady Harwood)

Headless Horseman's Bridge

Current Use Bridge
Original Use Linked high road cabins to Mess Hall (Obenchain)
Year Built
Fun Fact (Notre Dame Bridge) Located behind Powder Room
Design and built by Notre Dame Students and funded by the Alumni.
Replaces path connector between High Road Cabins and mess hall that was eroding.

Kings Tut Tomb

Located on the Low Road between cabins 13/14 and 15/16.
It used to store the Astro equipment off season and was destroyed by a falling tree in 2013

Coopers Coop

Current Use Special visitors
Original Use Camp Directors Residence when Camp was only a summer camp
Year Built
Fun Fact

Coop's Fire Circle

Below Cooper's Coop is Coop's Fire Circle. It was a special honor for a cabin to use this facility for a meal.

Coop's Garage Located just outside Coop's door. It was used to store his Red Jeep that has many stories. It was flattened by a falling tree. Is the concrete slab is still there.

Benches

Current Use All camp meeting place
Original Use All camp meeting place
Year Built
Fun Fact Reoriented by 180 degrees when rebuilt.

*The 6 cabins listed below were built along the ridge and on the hill leading to Obenchain. These are all gone but parts of the foundations may still be found.

Say Ahh Inn (Old infirmary)

Current Use None
Original Use Infirmary
Year Built
Fun Fact Remodeled when coed camp began. At top of hill south of Mess Hall between Half Way and White Pigeon.

Halfway

Current Use None
Original Use Staff Housing
Year Built Late 1950's
Fun Fact

White Pigeon

Current Use None
Original Use Staff Housing
Year Built
Fun Fact Across From the Bugle House.

Blue Heron

Current Use None
Original Use Staff Housing
Year Built
Fun Fact West of White Pigeon.

Cobblestone

Current use None
Original Use Staff Housing
Year Built
Fun Fact West of Blue Herron.

Delehant

Current Use None
Original use Staff Housing
Year Built
Fun Fact West of Cobblestone.

Well House

Located just to the east of the bugle building. It has a water fountain on the east side built into the stone wall. The old well pipe is still visible but unused.

The Pit

A buried concrete room under the Well House. It was for cool storage. It was then used for the new water storage tanks.

Bugle House

Housed the P.A. system for the Bugler, then the recorded bugles and then it was set up on a timer.

High Barn

Current Use Maintenance Building
Original Use same
Year Built
Fun Fact Used to have a gas pump outside.

Apple Orchard

Just west of the current horse barn (Now a pasture) and prior to the new road was an apple orchard. There was a shack also in the area. These two items were part of a camp ghost story connected to the historical fact that this area was the end of the Underground Railroad but the story is no longer politically correct. (A run-a-way slave lived there and was caught and hung from one of the trees.)

Pine Forest

Just west of the current riding building was a large stand of Pine trees. This was one of Coop's funding ideas in the early 1960's to be harvested

and sold for Christmas trees. They grew well but were not harvested. There is still the end of a few rows left.

High Ropes

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Current Use | High Ropes |
| Original Use | High Ropes |
| Year Built | |
| Fun Fact | Skeet range, riding ring and golf course were in this area before the forest was planted. |

Skeet Range and 100 Yard Range for Riflery

| | |
|--------------|------------------------|
| Current Use | Storage for High Ropes |
| Original Use | Skeets and Riflery |
| Year Built | |
| Fun Fact | |

John Rich Fire Circle

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| Current Use | Closing campfire |
| Original Use | Campfires |
| Year Built | |
| Fact | Named after John Rich a CIT who died |

Hill Cabins

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Current Use | Staff and senior boys housing |
| Original Use | Camper housing |
| Year Built | |
| Fun Fact | Called O'Brien Hill Cabins for donation by O'Brien family. The original cabins in this area were lost in a fire. The new ones were built to include winter use with insulated walls, tight windows and a heating system. |

Tubing Hill

| | |
|--------------|--------|
| Current Use | None |
| Original Use | Skiing |
| Year Built | |
| Fun Fact | |

Tow Rope Building To the east of the ridding ring is the Tubing Hill rope house. It housed a 4 cylinder engine that operated a 1" rope to pull people back up the slope. The building is still there. This is the location of the 2nd death on camp when a youth went down the hill without a helmet, as requested, and hit a tree.

Original Stables The original stables were in the area of the current Day Camp (Hay Barn) and excavated during the building of the Island Road.

Farm House and Barn To the west of the original stables (Current Day Camp) and across the road is the location of the original homestead. There was a house, barn, wind mill for water pump and a concrete water tough. Parts of the concrete foundation is still visible as is parts of the old field stone lower west walls of the barn.

Horse's

Current Use

Equestrian

Original Use

Equestrian

Year Built

Fun Fact

Mrs. Delehant taught riding, horses came from Culver Academy, then rented horses from Chicago area until Camp started owning the horses. May have been called Ups and Downs or Ups-n-downs. **The coronel and Mrs Delehant owned a farm by long lake. The camp used their string of horses and they were housed in a makeshift stable parallel to the road going down the hill. There was a two story barn from the original farm property owned by the Nevel family. We used the upper story and loft to store hay and the camp stored items in the lower level. There was also a small one room cabin with a screened porch which was for Duke the Delehants groom. He was described to me as 6'tall African American who could rest his foot on the saddle while standing alongside the horse. Instruction took place in a small ring just off the ball field, which is why the old award signs in the stone cabins had a place for Road Rider as an award. The horses had to be ridden to and from the riding ring by capable riders.**

In 1964 a new stable was erected with an office perpendicular to the old one. In 1967 the riding ring was moved to the area across from the stable, where the camp fires are now held. It was a big change for the program eliminating the need for road riders and supplying much needed shade and water. As the groom's cabin and the barn deteriorated in the late 60s and early 70s they provided the basis for many a story told around the campfire.

Bob's House

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Current Use | Weekend Directors residence |
| Original Use | Home of Bob Kolbe |
| Year built | |
| Fun Fact | Bob bought the home to live at camp until a facility directors home could be built. The house has yet to be built. There is a foundation in place. |

Old Initiation Circle

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Current Use | None |
| Original Use | Closing campfire and initiation of new campers |
| Year Built | |
| Fun Fact | |

Summer School and the Astronomy Club began in 1910.

Girls Camp began in 1912.

Four medals were established in 1913 honoring achievements in spirit, aquatics, athletics and all-around development. The awards were renamed the "E.G. Eberhart Medals" in 1916 in honor of Harris Eberhart's deceased father.

By 1919, the program areas had expanded from the basic ones that camp began with: archery and woodcraft were featured in camp's promotional poster for the 1919 season. By 1924, the camp brochure mentions a "sporty nine hole golf course."

By 1920, there were 12 tents and 2 tent cottages. The "honor system" or main program of camp was outlined in the booklet Tracks & Trails. A camp fire is built each evening in the center of the Mystic Circle.

1921 saw the establishment of The Cooper Life Saving Medal in honor of Coop's heroic rescue at Indian Lake, pulling three people from the water at great risk to his own life.

1923, The Doodlebug Review, camp's weekly paper, had 8 editions that summer, its 9th year of publishing.

By 1929, horse-back riding, riflery, leather and hand crafts, and overnight camping and canoe trips were a part of the program offerings