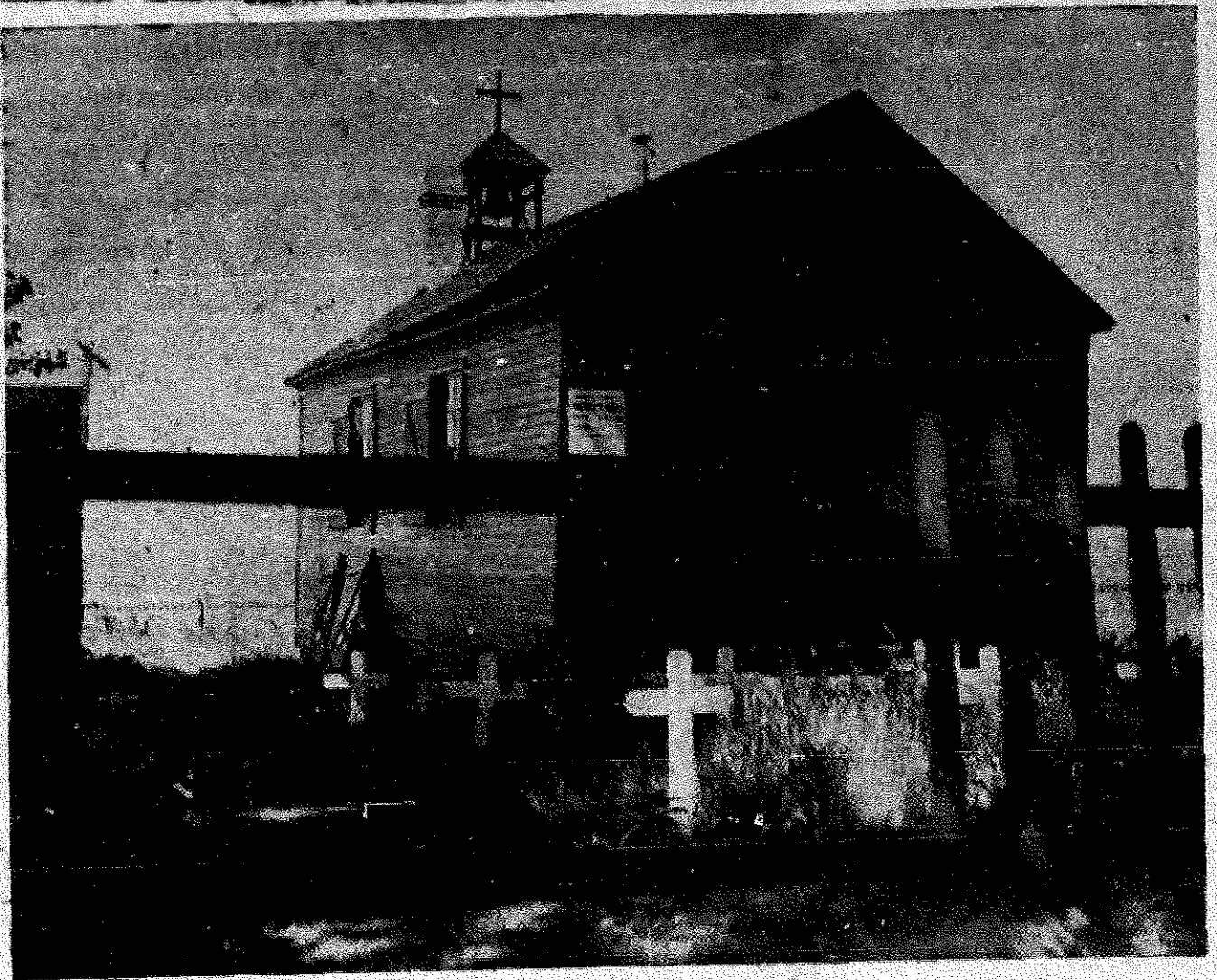


**ST. FRANCIS SOLANUS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH
AND BURIAL GROUNDS**

**400 BLOCK, WEST LAKE STREET
PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

BUILT 1859.

**ST. FRANCIS SOLANUS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND
WEST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN
BUILT IN 1859 DEDICATED 1860**



"THE OLD INDIAN MISSION located on the shores of Little Traverse Bay on Lake st., Petoskey, was built by Catholic missionaries in 1859 and still stands today almost as it was 88 years ago.

The church was reconstructed about 15 years ago to conform with its early appearance. The old structure was erected to serve the Indians who settled on the south shores of Little Traverse Bay, stretching from

the north shore of the bay beginning with Neuve L'Abre Croche (Harbor Springs) to the northward along the shoreline terminating at Vetus L'Abre Croche (Middle Village).

L'Abre Croche is the French translation of the Indian Wa - ga - na - kis - ing, meaning "The Place of the Crooked Tree."

During the fifties, many Indians drifted across to settle on

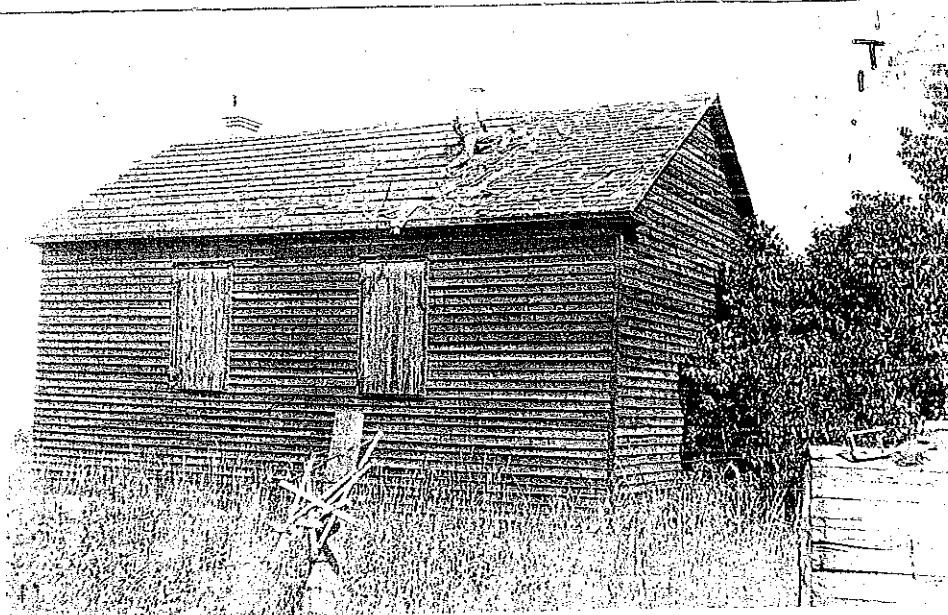
the south shore of Little Traverse Bay, leaving behind their ancient village of Wa-ga-na-kis-ing for the waters of the Mak-wa-Sig-ing (Bear River). It was at this time that the need for a church was apparent here.

In 1884 the church was renovated for the first time and was in use until 1890 when it was abandoned and its contents moved to the Indian church at Bay Shore.

**ST. FRANCIS SOLANUS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH
400 BLOCK, WEST LAKE STREET**

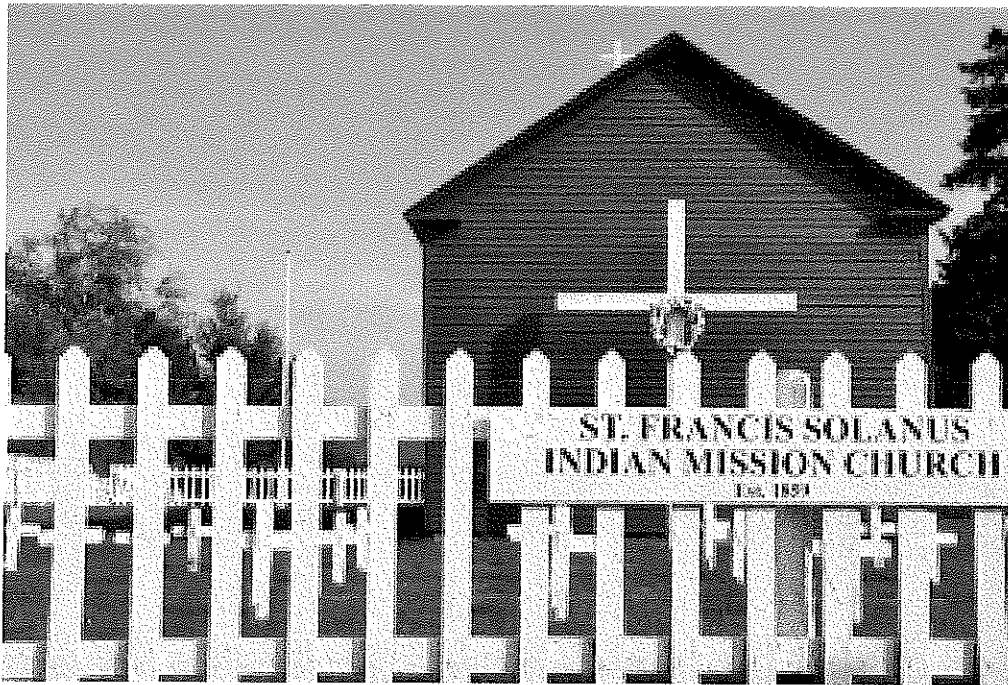


Catholic Mission Built 1859



**Mission Rebuilt in 1931. At one time used for
Lumber Storage By
Wolds Lumber Company, Petoskey, Michigan**

ST. FRANCIS SOLANUS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND
WEST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN
BUILT 1859 DEDICATED 1860



The oldest building still standing in Northern Lower Michigan, Solanus Mission Church in Petoskey, has undergone period-specific restoration in recent years. Today, the "*Little Indian Church*" appears on the state of Michigan's Register of Historic Places and it is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

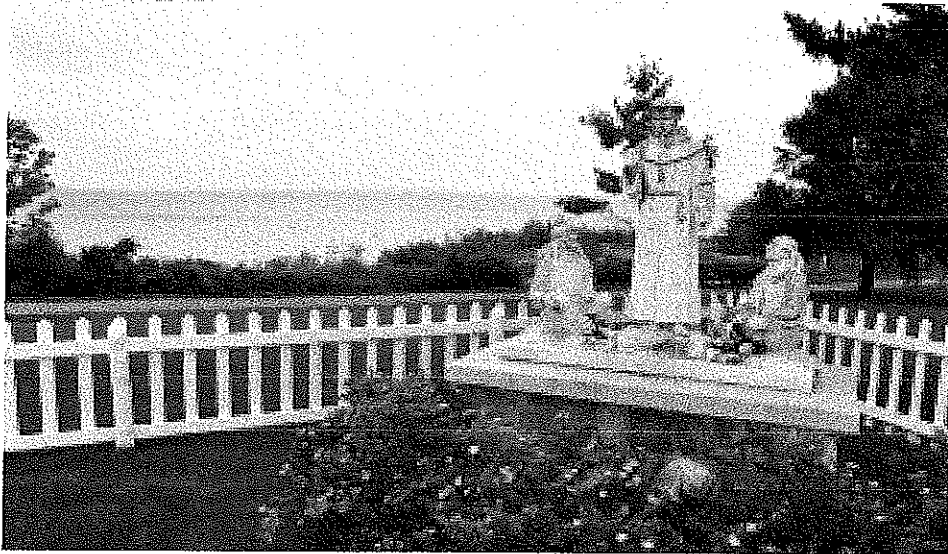
This church, setting on the shores of Little Traverse Bay on West Lake Street, has seen many sunsets since 1859. It was established by Father Baraga {*"the snowshoe priest"*} who had arrived in the country from Slovenia, a province of Austria, in the early 1830s.



In 1858, a carpenter and his wife, Jean Baptiste and Sophie Trotochaud, donated 1 acre of land to now-bishop Baraga for the new church, its dimensions are 30x20, and 12 feet high. It was built b Trotochaud under the direction of Father Sifferath, a missionary from Harbor Springs, and blessed by Baraga in 1860. The church was used by both the Indians and white settlers, and it remains a sacred burial ground of Indian remains today.

A renovation took place in 1931 by an Ottawa Indian organization, and since that time, Mass has been offered once a year on the feast day of St. Francis Solanus and Blessed Kateri Teckakwitha.

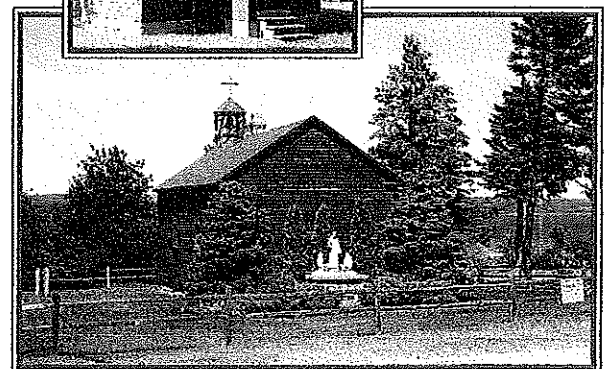
**ST. FRANCIS SOLANUS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND
 WEST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN
 BUILT 1859 DEDICATED 1860**



A third renovation took place in 1959 in honor of the 100th anniversary. Early in Jan. 2005, a committee of locals formed to preserve the historic building; it included Father Dennis Stilwell, pastor of St. Francis Xavier Church in Petoskey. Local architect Rick Neumann handled the planning for the restoration. Among the extensive restoration work, the foundation was restored, boards were repaired and painted and windows restored as well. Symbolic crosses now mark the area of the Native American Ancestors buried on the property. {More information is also available at www.petoskeystfrancis.org.}

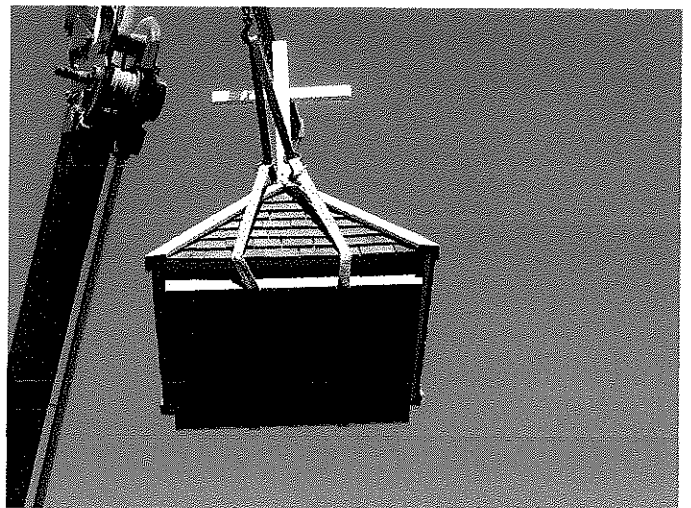
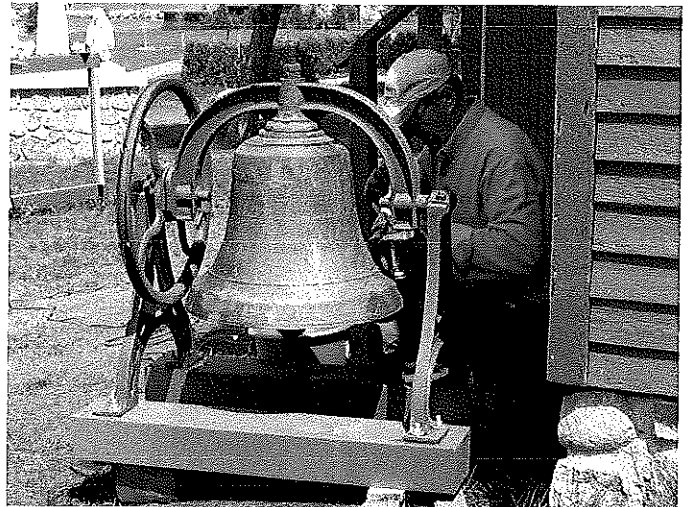
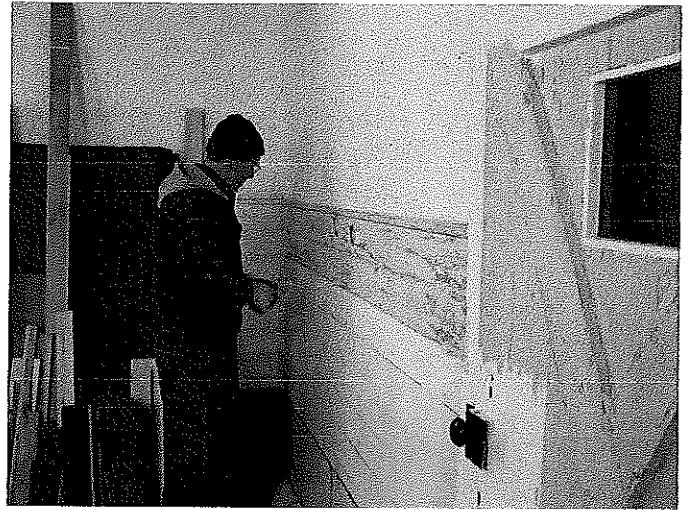
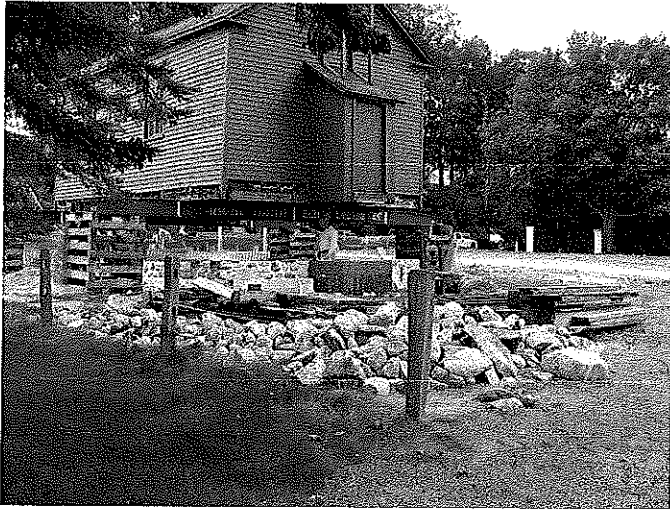


Circa 1996

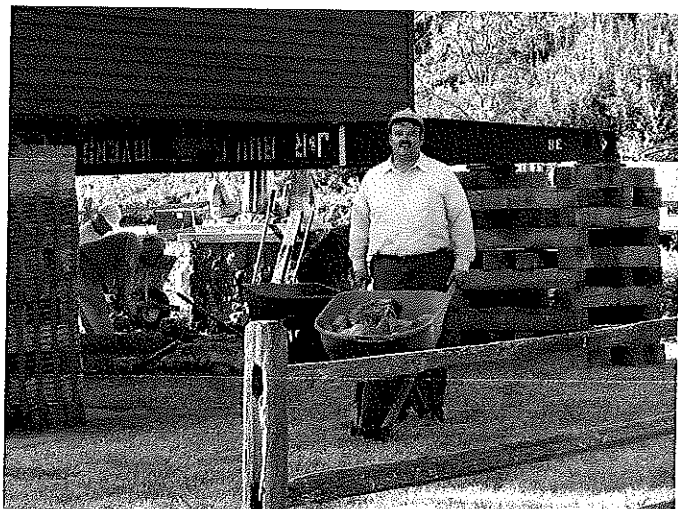
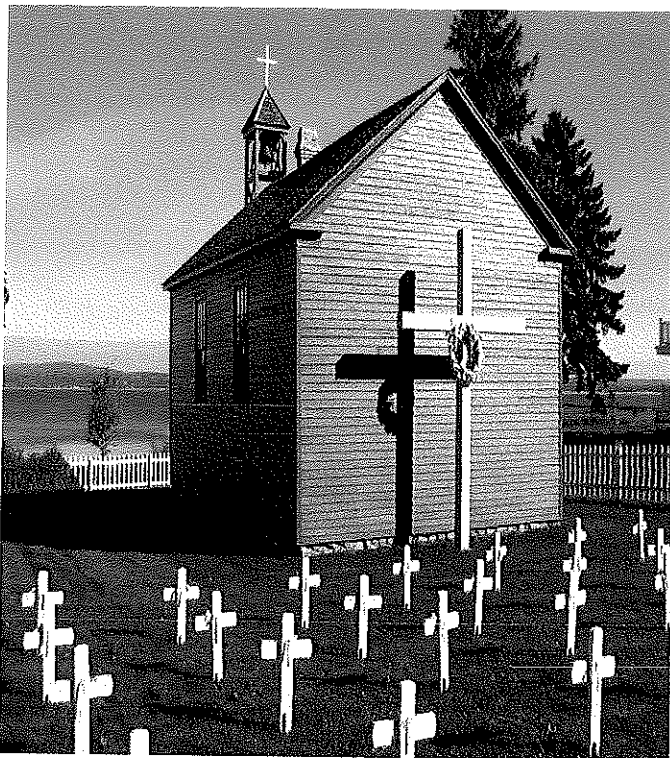
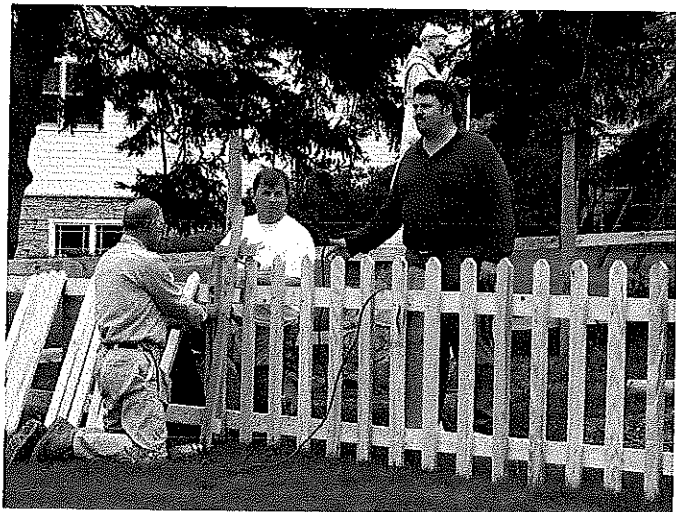


**St. Francis Solanus
 Indian Mission Church & Burial Ground
 West Lake Street
 Petoskey, MI**

**ST. FRANCIS SOLANUS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND
RESTORATION 2005 -- 2008
WEST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN**



**ST. FRANCIS SOLANUS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND
RESTORATION 2005 -- 2008
WEST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN**



ST. FRANCIS SOLANUS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND
WEST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN
BUILT 1859 DEDICATED 1860

Petoskey News-Review

Friday, June 10, 2005

**By Ryan Bentley News-Review
staff writer**

RESTORING THE MISSION

The 146-year-old **St. Francis Solanus Indian Mission** along **Petoskey's** waterfront has a longer history than the city itself.

And some local Catholics see a need to ensure that this history can continue to unfold.

In recent years, the wooden building in the **400 block of West Lake Street**, which **St. Francis Xavier Church** currently oversees, has been showing visible signs of decay.

Cracks have appeared in the foundation and interior plaster. Roof shingles, windows and exterior siding have been showing their age as well.

More than a century after the building ceased to be the primary church home for local **Native Americans** and early white settlers, it continued hosting Mass on special occasions. But in 2004, **St. Francis Xavier's** pastor, the **Rev. Dennis Stilwell**, said the building's condition prompted parish officials to suspend this practice.

Stilwell would like to keep further deterioration of the structure from happening on his watch, and he's found numerous others interested in reversing the decay.

*"We believe that the restoration of this **St. Francis Solanus Church** is not simply in the interest of **Catholic Church**, but of **Petoskey**," he said. "It's part of the history of **Petoskey**."*

In early 2005, a committee **Stilwell** had recruited from his parish and

several other nearby began work toward organizing such a building project.

*"They're highly motivated," **Stilwell** said. "I didn't have to beg anyone to do anything."*

One of the early tasks which the group set out to do was to gather historical data pertaining to the building.

The early days

A state registry of historic sites identifies the **Solanus Mission** as the oldest public building in **Northern Lower Michigan**.

It was constructed in 1859 by **Jean Baptiste Trotochaud**, a carpenter living nearby. **Bishop Frederic Baraga of Sault Ste. Marie /Marquette**, who had established Catholic missionary efforts among the **Native Americans** of the **Little Traverse Bay** area during the previous several decades, had sought **Trotochaud's** services.

The mission was the third building to be constructed for Catholic worship around the **Native American Village** at the mouth of the **Bear River**, where **Petoskey** would later be established.

Missionary priests, who had many churches to serve across a wide swath of **Michigan** in the mid-19th century, would visit the waterfront mission four or so times a year for the recitation of Mass.

By the late 1870s, a growing number of white families settling in the region sought a parish of their own. **St. Francis Xavier**, which saw it's

first church building constructed in 1879, would fill this purpose.

The waterfront mission was abandoned for several years. In the mid 1880s, **Pius Nierman**, a priest at **St. Francis Xavier**, had it restored. **Nierman** also had the previously unnamed mission dedicated in honor of **St. Francis Solanus**, a missionary priest.

As the 19th century drew to a close, many **Native Americans** had dispersed the area or found other places to worship. The **Solanus Mission** was again abandoned until 1931, when missionary priest **Aubert Keuter** arranged additional building updates.

Since then, yearly celebrations of Mass have taken place at the mission around July 13, the feast day of **St. Francis Solanus**. In recent years at least, **Native American** cultural elements like a drum ceremony and the **Blessing of the Four Winds** have been tied in.

Some updates were made to the mission building around the time of its centennial anniversary in 1959, with some local **Boy Scouts** tending to maintenance needs there in the years since.

The building remains without electricity or plumbing. Inside, it's furnished with plain wooden benches, a wood altar, an old confessional and the stations of the cross. **Stilwell** said many of the furnishings appear to have been part of the mission since the 19th century.

The property includes a graveyard from which burial markers were

**ST. FRANCIS SOLANUS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND
WEST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN
BUILT 1859 DEDICATED 1860**

removed years ago. Restoration committee members continue to seek details about the identities of those buried there.



The Rev. Dennis Stilwell (left), pastor at St. Francis Xavier Church, and Pellston resident Marie Boda are pictured in front of the St. Francis Solanus Indian Mission in the 400 block of West Lake Street. Stilwell and Boda are part of a committee making plans to restore the historic mission building.

By getting involved with the restoration work, **St. Francis Xavier** parishioner and **Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians** member **Jane Martell** said she hopes to help ensure that the cemetery is preserved.

"There are our ancestors buried there," she said. "It's sacred ground."

Making plans

Attending Mass at the mission each summer has been an enjoyable tradition for some of the dozen or so people involved with the restoration committee.

*"As a young boy, I was fascinated," St. Francis Xavier member **Joe Hoffman Jr.** said. "I always volunteered to be altar boy for the services down there."*

Hoffman said memories like these, along with his love for history, prompted him to get involved with the restoration drive.

Marie Boda, a Pellston resident and member of the **Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians**, also has looked forward to the yearly celebration of Mass. During last year's service, she noticed that the stair railing leading into the building had become unsteady.

Not long after, she volunteered to be part of any preservation efforts that might be organized for the building.

I said, *"That's not just a church down there, that's an historic place,"* said **Boda**, who attends **St. Clement Catholic Church** in Pellston.

Stilwell set up an account to build funds for the restoration project at **St. Francis X Federal Credit Union**. To date, at least \$4,000 has been raised, with contributions coming from all restoration committee members and some other members at **St. Francis Xavier**.

Using some of these funds, the committee enlisted **Petoskey** architect **Rick Neumann** to undertake a study of the mission building and make recommendations for a professional restoration.

"I love old buildings," Neumann said. "The history of the community, I think, is really important to preserve."

"I don't think anything speaks better to people than old buildings in representing the past."

Neumann is preparing to present the committee with some recommendations for the building project this month.

"The study will tell us exactly what we need to do step by step, as well as the approximate project cost," Stilwell said.

Neumann, who's worked in architecture for more than 30 years, believes that the mission's foundation - which has numerous cracks, loose stones and deteriorating mortar joints, should receive high priority as part of a restoration project, as should the cracking ceiling and wall plaster inside.

He added that he'd like to see as many of the original building elements kept intact as possible through restoration work.

*"It isn't **Independence Hall** or something like that, but for our area it's a very significant structure," Neumann said. "We want to preserve as much of the fabric as we can."*

Neumann said he still needs to assemble some cost projections for the work.

Moving forward

Once those projections become available, **Stilwell** said the

ST. FRANCIS SOLANUS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND
WEST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN
BUILT 1859 DEDICATED 1860

restoration committee will launch a higher-profile effort to raise funds for the work.

Along with local Catholic parishioners, **St. Francis Xavier's** pastor expects the general public will be invited to contribute, and that grant funding will be sought to help with restoration expenses.

"We don't want to delay this," Stilwell said. "We want to work on it as fast as possible. "As soon as we get enough money to start (restoration work), we're going to start."

The committee continues to seek historical data about the **Solanus Mission** property, including details related to the cemetery on site. Members hope to assemble a book with history and photos of the mission.

Once restoration is complete, **Stilwell** hopes the mission can serve as a stop along local historical tours, in addition to hosting more church services on special occasions.

Candace Fitzsimons, executive director of the **Little Traverse Historical Society**, said she welcomes the restoration committee to use her organization's archives in their research, and that she senses opportunities for the historical society to help showcase a restored mission for area residents and visitors in tours.

"It's a landmark," she said. "People come in and ask about it all the time. It's important that concerned people are making the effort to restore it."

Assistance welcomed

The committee pursuing a restoration of **St. Francis Solanus Indian Mission** seeks input from people who have historical knowledge or documents concerning the 19th century church. Funds are also being gathered to help cover restoration costs. To learn more, call the **St. Francis Xavier Church** office at 347-4133.

Monetary donations to the project can be made at any **St. Francis X Federal Credit Union** branch or at the parish office on **Howard Street**. Checks can be made payable to **St. Francis Solanus Indian Mission Restoration**.

**ST. FRANCIS SOLANIS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND
WEST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN
BUILT 1859 DEDICATED 1860**

Petoskey News-Review

July 15, 2008

By Christina Rohn, News-Review Staff Writer

**St. Francis Solanus Indian Mission Church Rededicated
For Most the Day Signified Unity**

On Monday, after more than three years of restoration efforts, the 149-year-old **St. Francis Solanus Indian Mission Church** and burial ground was rededicated.

The day began at 1 p.m. with a flag raising by **Boy Scout Troop No. 7**, and was followed at 2 p.m. by the mass of dedication, which was presided over by **Bishop Patrick Cooney**.

Around 4 p.m. a **Jiimaan** {large wooden canoe used by **Odawa** and northern tribes for hundreds of years} arrived at the church's waterfront, and subsequently the church opened to the public for tours as members of the **Little Traverse Bay Bands {LTBB}** of **Odawa Indians** drummed in the background.

Several **Native American** speakers imparted their wisdom and spoke of their history during the event, including storyteller **Simon Otto**, member of the **Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe** and the **Little River Band of Ottawa Indians**.

Otto said, in his 81 years, he'd never seen so much support and togetherness for one event.

"To me this kind of ties all cultures together. The reason I write and tell stories is because I'm trying to bridge that gap so we're all the same-red, black and white," he said. *"this is the same thing; this is the most people I've seen down here since I've been alive."*

The Rev. Dennis Stilwell, **St. Francis Xavier's** pastor, said the restoration project has been a unifier, not only for members of his church, but for the entire community.

"It's brought people together again, Native Americans and the rest of the community worked together," he said. *"I think people have a respect for history and I think they like seeing historical buildings restored."*

Stilwell said during the rededication service thoughts of the past as well as the future ran through his mind.

"I closed my eyes and imagined when {the mission church} was first dedicated and I felt a real continuity to the past," he said. *"Then I was wondering, when I'm dead and gone, who's going to be here to take care of this?"*

"It's humbling, it makes you feel really small, but you know that your small part does count," **Stilwell** said, *If you don't do your small part, the continuity ends."*

For **Art Dembinski** of **Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio**, member of the **Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians**, the rededication of the church was more personal. His great-great-grandfather, **Jean Baptiste** donated part of his land to the church in 1859 and helped to build it.

ST. FRANCIS SOLANIS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND
WEST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN
BUILT 1859 DEDICATED 1860

“It is really something beautiful for our family,” he said. “Our family has lost every home and piece of land we ever owned, but this connects all of us.”

Jackie Martin, a Petoskey resident and member of **St. Francis Xavier**, said she was overwhelmed when she first laid eyes of the church.

“It’s beautiful, it’s unbelievable really what they’ve done, the before and after is just night-and-day,” she said.

Martin said she believes that the church is a symbol of unity.

“That’s what we should all be together – one – this is an example of that.” she said. “It’s so uplifting.”

Patrick Naganashe, member of the **LTBB**, said for him, the rededication was about respecting **Native American** culture and preserving their history.

“To me {the rededication} re-emphasizes what’s here and what’s on this land, there are still a lot of people buried in these parts,” he said. “To me, it’s a reminder that they’re here, you have to remember those who passed on before us,”

ST. FRANCIS SOLANUS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND
WEST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN
BUILT 1859 DEDICATED 1860

Petoskey News-Review
Friday, August 22, 2008
Page 1 & Page A15
By Christina Rohn

Solanus Church Opened to Public

For the first time since its July 14 open house, the **St. Francis Solanus Indian Mission Church**, which underwent three years of restoration efforts, is being reopened for public viewing.

According to **Ed Brochu**, chairman of the church's restoration committee, there was a significant response from community members following the July open house, with requests that there be more chances to see the newly renovated church, located in the **499 block of West Lake Street in Petoskey**.

"There were so many people who wanted to see it, word got around, and it was kind of at the request of the public," Brochu said.

The viewings will take place 9:15 a.m. – noon every Sunday, beginning through September.

Brochu said the viewings will be informal. *"People can come and go, there won't be any formal tours set up,"* he said. *"they can come in and ask questions if they want to, hopefully we'll have the answers for them."*

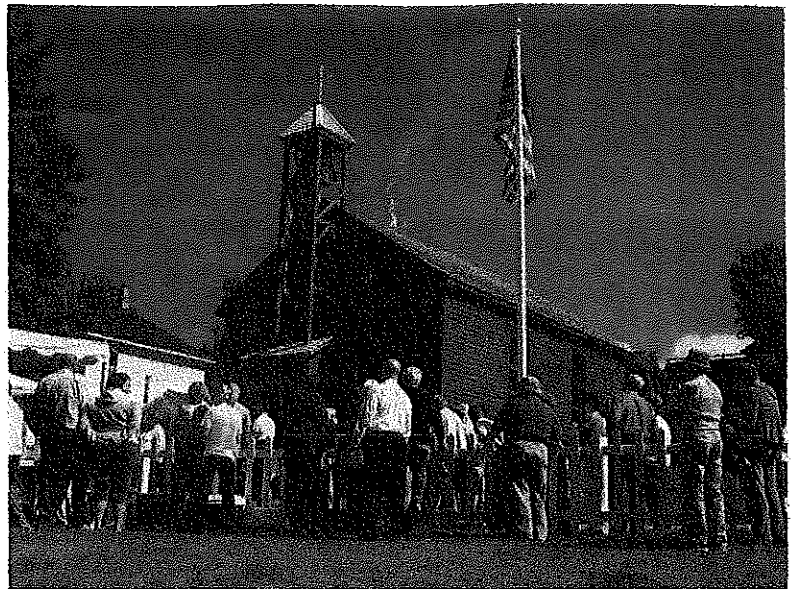
The church, which was built in 1858 by **Jean Baptiste Trotochaud** under the direction of **Bishop Frederic Baraga**, has received more than \$70,000 worth of restorations since 2005, including a new foundation; new siding; a new roof with cedar shake shingles; its chimney was rebuilt with original bricks; the inside was replastered; the bell tower was replaced maintaining its original bell; a new fence was built to surround the property; a statue of **St. Francis Solanus**, which was dedicated at the church's centennial, was moved from the street side to the lake side; 45 to 50 small white crosses were placed on the property to mark **Indian Grave Sites**; and a historical marker was installed on its grounds.

Brochu said he believes these viewings are an opportunity for the public as well as the restoration committee.

"We'd like to show it off," he said. *"It's been a lot of work and it's the oldest building in Petoskey."*

"We just hope everybody will take advantage of this and see the building," Brochu said. "It's a plus for the community and the Petoskey area."

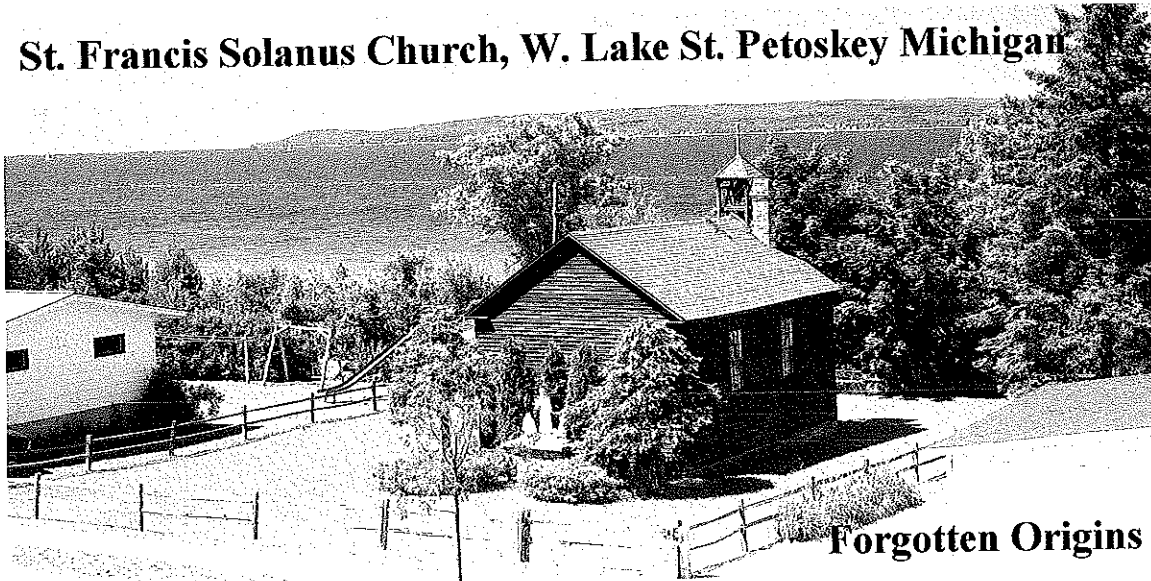
For more information about the upcoming viewings, contact **Brochu** at {231} 535-2344.



A crowd gathers outside the restored St. Francis Solanus Indian Mission Church during a July dedication ceremony.



St. Francis Solanus Church, W. Lake St. Petoskey Michigan



Forgotten Origins

Email: adembinski@hotmail.com

A. Dembinski great-great grandson of Jean and Sophie Trotochaud

Jean Baptiste Trotochaud (about 1800-1873) and his wife Sophie Anaquet Trotochaud (about 1800-about 1872) bought ten acres of land on the south shore of Little Traverse Bay for \$5 from an Indian named Amewee, deed dated 24 September 1851.⁽¹⁾ The deed mentions that Jean and Sophie were already living locally. The 1850 U.S. Census shows a John B. Trotochaud, age 46, born in Canada, working as a fisherman, and illiterate, living in Mackinac County.⁽²⁾ The 1820 and 1830 U.S. Census records of northern Michigan also show one man with a very similar name and background. No evidence has been found of anyone else with a similar name living in the Michigan area.

The land purchased by the Trotochauds was defined as lying in Section 6, Township 34 North, Range 5 West. Then the land was part of Charlevoix county. In the next few decades the area was also variously known as Bear River, Bear Creek, Agaming, and finally the city of Petoskey, Emmet County, Michigan.

Jean Trotochaud and Sophie Anaquet were married 9 June 1836 at St. Anne's Catholic Church on Mackinac Island.⁽³⁾ One of their children, Theresa Trotochaud, was born at Mackinac on about 11 August 1840 and baptized at St. Anne's 16 August 1840.⁽⁴⁾ Theresa spent the rest of her days at Bear Creek/Petoskey and died 5 June 1908.⁽⁵⁾ Other Trotochaud children were born in Bear Creek/Petoskey: Jean Baptiste Jr., Louis or Lewis, Angeline, and Lucy. I have not found their birth or baptismal certificates, but their marriage records indicate their place of birth.

Andrew Porter, Presbyterian missionary, arrived at the mouth of Bear River, now the heart of Petoskey, on 1 June 1852. Porter's mother and sister accompanied him. The Presbyterians had been granted 80 acres of land on high ground in Bear Creek Township, about a half mile southwest and uphill from the shore, for the purpose of establishing a mission and school for the local Ottawa and Chippewa Indians. Some of the financial support for the new mission came from the U.S. government in partial fulfillment of treaty obligations to the Michigan Indian tribes after the tribes ceded their claim to most of the lower peninsula of Michigan prior to Michigan statehood. Later an additional 80 acres was granted for enlargement of the mission farm. Pre-cut lumber was waiting on the shore for the Porters when they arrived, but the land had to be cleared, and the lumber dragged uphill.⁽⁶⁾

The diary of the catholic Bishop Baraga⁽⁷⁾ mentions that in 1858 Trotochaud was working for Baraga as a carpenter. On 8 June 1858 Baraga wrote that Trotochaud donated "an acre of land on which I shall build a small church, -- 30 by 20 and 12 feet high". The deed is recorded at the Emmet County Register of Deeds office, Liber A, p. 377 and 378. The church was completed and dedicated by Baraga in June 1860.

There was some conflict between the Presbyterian Andrew Porter and the Catholic Jean Trotochaud regarding this newly planned church, to be named for St. Francis Solanus, a Franciscan missionary. On 14 June 1859 Porter wrote a complaint to Andrew Fitch, Indian agent at Mackinac. Porter: "you are aware also of the sneaking course pursued by Baraga in aiding Trotochaud to build a dwelling house designed, & since used as a church. The bishop has been here again, and has obtained a lot in our village from this same ignorant Frenchman, upon which he designs raising a church at once... The case on the part of the bishop is mean and arbitrary, since he knows that his party is a small minority..."⁽⁸⁾ Porter indicates Baraga helped Trotochaud during his original settlement in Bear Creek, although Porter had not yet arrived when Trotochaud purchased his land in 1851. Relations between the two seemed to have improved, since Porter, acting as justice of the peace, later performed the marriages of several of the Trotochaud children.

By 1871 government financial support for the mission ended, and the mission school closed. In 1875 Porter returned home to Pennsylvania. Later he returned to Petoskey, moved in with his dentist son Reuben, and died there in 1899.⁽⁹⁾

On 9 April 1873 Jean Baptiste Trotochaud died at about age 75 in Bear Creek Township.⁽¹⁰⁾ I have not found a record of Sophie after 1870, and her death and burial go unrecorded. Since the couple apparently ended their days where they spent their lives, they are most likely buried in the churchyard of St. Francis Solanus on W. Lake St. All old grave markers were removed after about 1960. I have searched for written records of burials at St. Francis Solanus, but have found none so far.

R.M. and Wm. Little moved to Bear Creek in the summer of 1873 just before the railroad made its connection to the settlement.

Kilborn's History states "The Andrew Porters were indeed, Petoskey's first white family." Another history of Emmet County⁽¹¹⁾ states Hazen Ingalls was the "first white settler who came to Bear Creek for the purpose of making a home", but he arrived in 1866! The same history also states that "At the time the village of Petoskey was started in 1873, Messrs. Ingalls and Porter were the only white people in this vicinity." However, by 1873, Jean Baptiste Trotochaud had already been living in the area for about 22 years, along with his Indian wife and children.

Kilborn's statement is true in detail, but Jean Baptiste and his wife had purchased land close by a year before, and all available evidence indicates the white / Indian couple spent the rest of their days where W. Lake St. is now, in a cabin next to the St. Francis Solanus Church. The family they raised grew and multiplied in the Petoskey area, and some of their direct descendants continue to live in Emmet County. I believe Jean Baptiste Trotochaud deserves the credit of being the first permanent white settler in Petoskey, unless and until evidence of a prior claim is found.

What became of the church Jean B. Trotochaud built?

The state of Michigan on its website of state historical sites states: "Saint Francis Solanus Church remains the oldest public building in northern Michigan south of the Straits of Mackinaw." This statement was found on the Internet at <http://michsite.state.mi.us/detsite.cfm?ObjectID=10789> .

The building still stands on the shore of Little Traverse Bay, and may be found in the 400 block of W. Lake St. in Petoskey. The badly weathered metal sign identifying the church was stolen during the summer of 2002. The crosspiece of the steeple's cross vanished years ago. There is no identification marking this church for what it is.

As I mentioned before, no written records of burials in the churchyard have been found, and the markers have been removed.

This is a preliminary report. Eventually I hope to further edit and publish it in a more widely available form. I'm sure there are significant mistakes and omissions, and I invite comments.

1. Deed, Liber I, p. 279, Emmet County Register of Deeds, Emmet County Courthouse, Petoskey, Michigan.
2. Family History Library Film 0443573, MI, 1850 U.S. Census: Macomb, Marquette, Mason, Mackinac.
3. "Die Nona Junii, anno 1836, dispensatione duorum bannorum publicationis concepta, matrimonio juncti fuerunt ab infra Scripto Joannes Trotochaud, filius Ludovici Trotochaud et Margarittae Lionin, et Sophia Anakoite, filia d'Anakoite et de Nejiothekouoitaoue. Testes fuerunt David Magolpin et Franciscus Archambaut. [signed] F. J. Bonduel." From the CDROM of the parish records of St. Anne's Mackinac Island, file "Page 13.tif"

My translation of the original Latin parish record starts after the date (9 June 1836) and explanation of the dispensation of publication of banns: "Jean Trotochaud, son of Louis Trotochaud and Margaritte Lionin, and Sophia Anaquet, daughter of Anaquet and Nezhwatekuwatay, were joined in matrimony by the undersigned. Witnesses were David Magolpin and Francois Archambaut. [signed] F. J. Bonduel." I used the "Anaquet" and "Nezhwatekuwatay" spelling of the Indian names rendered as "Anakoite" and "Nejiothekouoitaoue" in French to better reflect the current Odawa pronunciation and modern alphabet spelling. Assistance in re-formatting the Odawa names was provided by Mr. Wesley Andrews. An essentially identical record is recorded and held in the form of a marriage certificate at the Mackinac County Register of Deeds office at the county courthouse in St. Ignace, Michigan.

4. CD-ROM of St. Anne's Parish records. The date of birth is difficult to make out exactly, but the date of baptism is clear.
5. Emmet County Marriage Records, p. 25 #31, shows on 3 January 1861, Ignatius Abatakamig, of Middle Village, age 25, married Theresa Trotasha, of Bear Creek, age 20, marriage performed by Ignatius Petosegwey, Justice of the Peace, Witnesses Andrew Porter and A. Porter. Records viewed on Family History Center Microfilm 0966507, Locale: U.S.A., Michigan, Title: Marriages 1856-1931, Vital Records, Emmet County, Michigan. Also, on 3 October 1878 the Petoskey Record mentions the "Pashaba-Shatkah" marriage on 24 September 1878, at the M.E. parsonage, by Rev. W.L. Tilden, Albert Pashaba and Tevase Shatkah, both of Mackinac, this citation found on the Internet at <http://members.tripod.com/~deemafred/news1878.html> . The Petoskey Evening News, on 6 June 1908, p. 3, has "---Mrs. Theresa Peshabay, an old and respected Indian woman, passed away Friday afternoon [5 June 1908] at her home in Bear Creek Township. She was the widow of Albert Pershabay, who was an honored veteran of the Civil war. The funeral will be held Sunday at 1:30 at St. Francis church, with interment in Greenwood." Microfilm copy of article viewed at Petoskey Public Library. A sworn statement signed by "Theresa Peshaba" of Emmet County identifies herself as one of the heirs of "John B. Trotasho deceased, late of Emmet County" on a Warranty Deed, dated 10 November 1880, filed at the Emmet County Register of Deeds, p. 445. Jean B., his daughter Theresa, and son-in-law Albert being most likely illiterate, the spelling of their names varies widely from one document to another. I have relied on multiple documents, many of them sworn statements, which link and identify the individuals named in this report.

6. History of Petoskey, Harriet Kilborn, 1960. Quote found on Internet at <http://members.tripod.com/~deemafred/emhist.html>

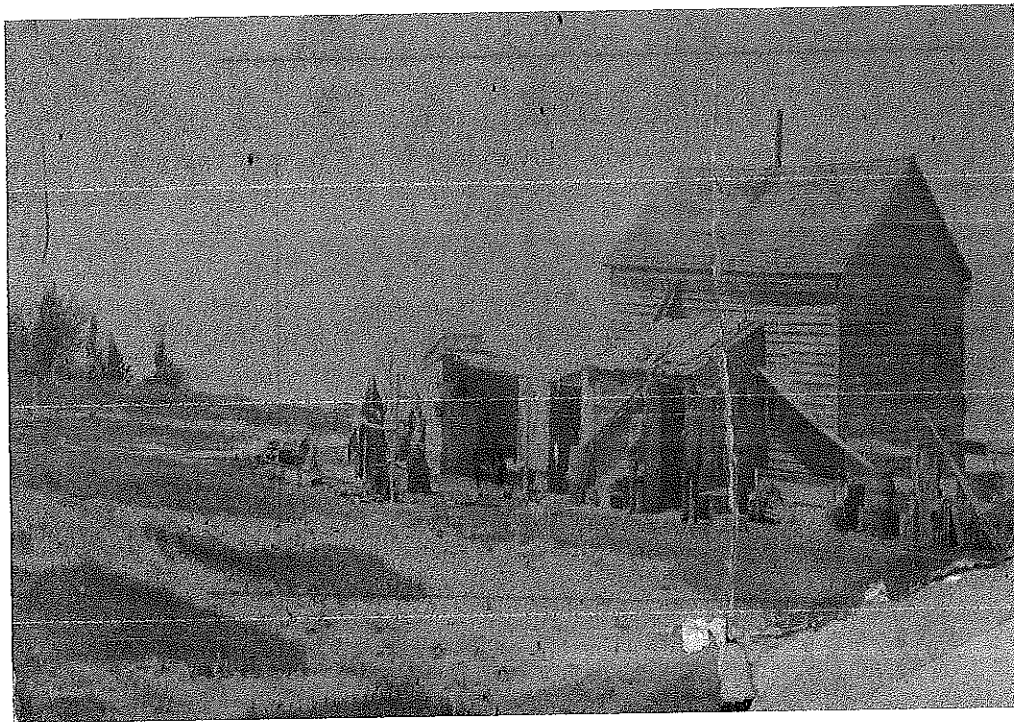
7. The Diary of Bishop Frederic Baraga: First Bishop of Marquette, Michigan / edited and annotated by Regis M. Walling and N. Daniel Rupp; translated by Joseph Gregorich and Rev. Paul Prud'homme, S.J., Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1990.

8. The book of the diary mentions that the letter from Porter is held by the National Archives, records of the Office of Indian Affairs.

9. History of Petoskey

10. Death record, Liber 1, p. 12, #221, Emmet County clerk's office, Petoskey, Michigan.

11. The History of Emmet County, published 1884, transcription of pp. 129-132 found at <http://members.tripod.com/~deemafred/tr129-132.html>



Trotochaud Homestead originally located a distance west of St. Francis Church on shoreline, long since razed and replaced. The camera is pointed to the northwest.

**The horizon {Lake Michigan} can barely be seen in the photo.
Magnus City Park is now located very close to where this cabin once stood.**

**ST. FRANCIS SOLANIS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND
WEST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN
BUILT 1859 DEDICATED 1860**

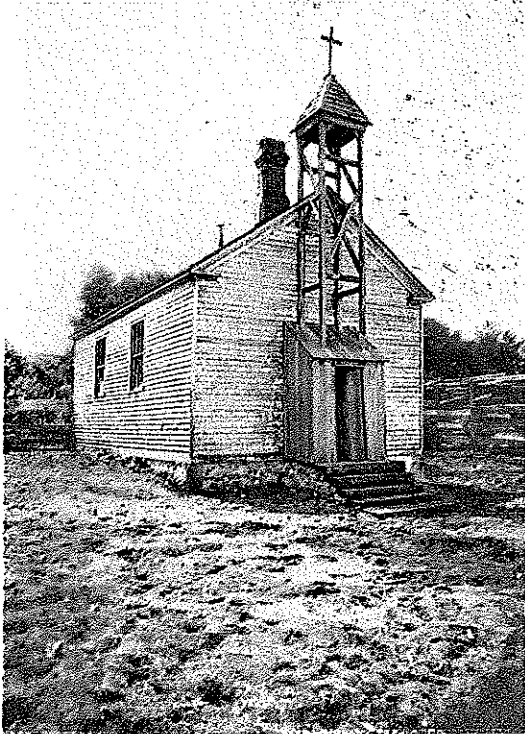
POSTCARD COPY

FRONT

Old Indian Church, Petoskey, Michigan
Copyright 1902, by Detroit Photographic Co.

BACK

Dated: Sept. 14, 1904
U. S. Postage 1 cent



OLD INDIAN CHURCH, PETOSKEY, MICHIGAN.

*The folks are home and
all right... came Saturday
mornin'; I'm glad! Amine.*

6164. COPYRIGHT, 1902, BY DETROIT PHOTOGRAPHIC CO.

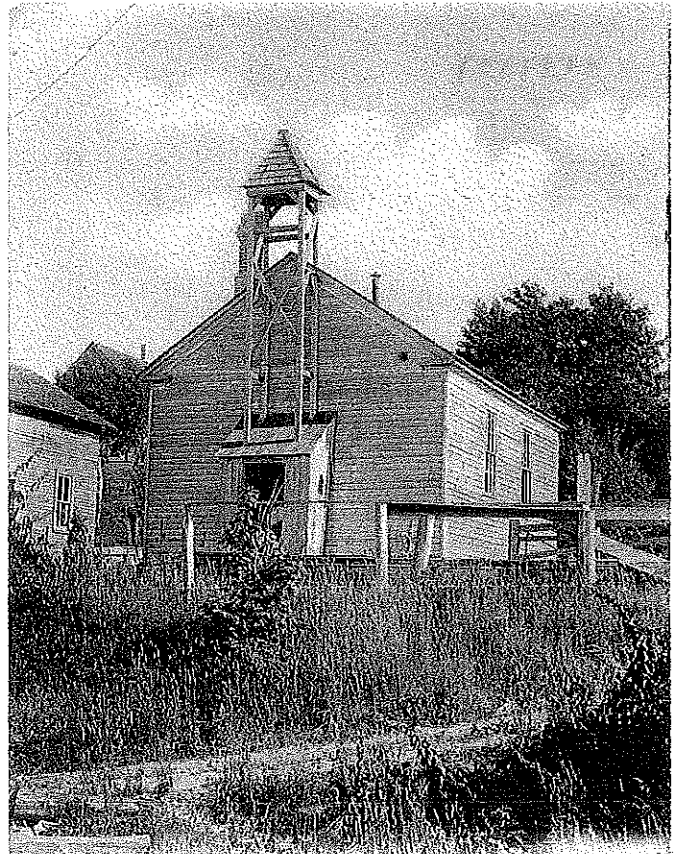
POSTCARD COPY

FRONT

Old Indian Mission, Petoskey, Mich.
Copyright 1906 by the Rotograph Co.

BACK

Dated: August 24, 1910
The Rotograph Co. N. Y. City {Germany}
U. S. Postage 1 cent



Copyright 1906 by the Rotograph Co.

A 7470 Old Indian Mission, Petoskey, Mich.

*lots doing in Petoskey. Has been
very warm here. Lots of love from
H. P. D. J.*

**ST. FRANCIS SOLANIS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND
WEST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN
BUILT 1859 DEDICATED 1860**

POSTCARD COPY

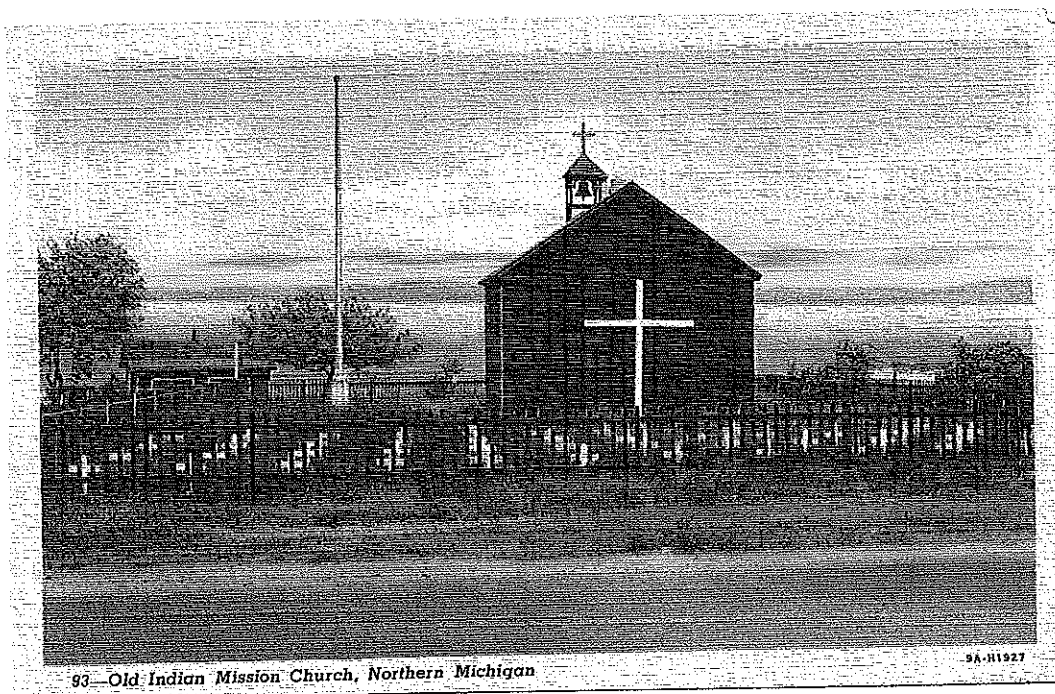
FRONT

Old Indian Mission Church, Northern Michigan

BACK

**Dated: June 20, 1946 U. S. Postage 1 cent
Mrs. A. G. Cook, Petoskey, Mich. G. T. Colortone**

This Catholic Mission Church, the second oldest building in Petoskey, was erected in 1859 on land donated by an Indian couple. Services were held in this church for many years.



93—Old Indian Mission Church, Northern Michigan

9A-H1927

62

**ST. FRANCIS SOLANIS INDIAN MISSION CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND
WEST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN
BUILT 1859 DEDICATED 1860**

POSTCARD COPY

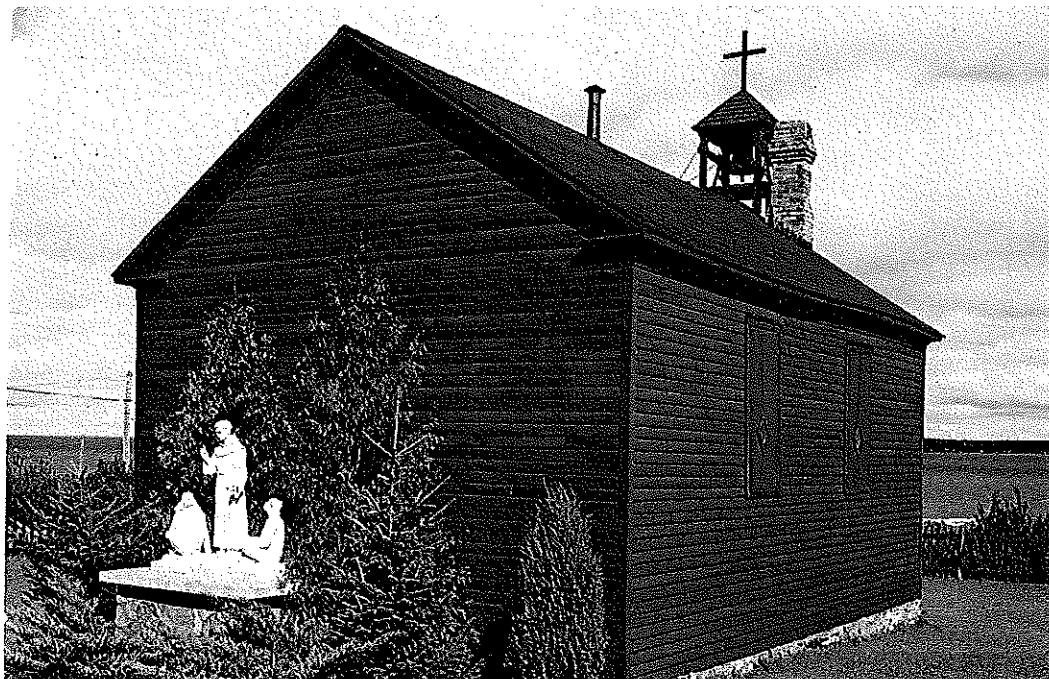
BACK

Unused {No date}

Distributed by Northern News Company, Petoskey, Michigan

Plastichrome by Colourpicture, Boston, Mass.

**St. Francis Solanus Indian Mission
Petoskey, Michigan**



LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS OF ODAWA INDIANS
7500 Odawa Circle
Harbor Springs, MI 49740

TRIBAL RESOLUTION # 022507-01

Donation of \$3000.00 to the Restoration of St. Francis Solanus Indian Mission Church and
Burial Ground

WHEREAS the Waganakising Odawak, known by some as the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, is a nation of citizens with inherent sovereignty and right to self-governance,

WHEREAS the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe under Public Law 103-324, and is a party to numerous Treaties with the United States the most recent of which being the Treaty of Washington of March 28, 1836 (7 Stat. 491) and the Treaty of Detroit of 1855 (11 Stat. 621),

WHEREAS the Waganakising Odawak Tribal Council was provided a presentation by St. Francis Solanus Indian Mission Church and Burial Ground Preservation Committee asking for our financial assistance to help in preserving this unique church and burial ground,

WHEREAS it is recognized that the St. Francis Solanus Indian Mission Church played a role in the lives of some of our ancestors, some of whom may be buried on site,

WHEREAS it is recognized that the St. Francis Catholic Church continues to provide religious services to some of the Waganakising Odawak citizens.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Tribal Council of the Waganakising Odawak authorizes and supports this request for funding assistance for the preservation of the St. Francis Solanus Indian Mission Church and Burial Grounds.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, the Tribal Chairman of the Executive Branch is hereby authorized to make a monetary donation of \$3,000.00 to the preservation committee of the St. Francis Solanus Indian Mission Church and Burial Ground with funds to come from Prior Year Funds for increasing the sponsorship line item for FY 2007 by \$3,000.00.

