

Douglas Lake, in Cheboygan County of Northern Michigan, is a beloved spot for many, including the author and his family. That connection and the author's passion for history led to this: a well-researched look at lake and region. The author completed this effort of many years near the end of his life, with editing help from his daughter. And there was still more he wished to learn about . . .

A Lake Named Douglas

Its history in brief

By Gordon L. Dolton ©2014

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Edited by Gail Dolton Blaskowski

Introduction

Scan a map of Northern Michigan and it's easy to overlook the oddly shaped blue-filled outline in favor of its better-known watery siblings. Between the town of Pellston and Interstate 75 is where you'll find Douglas Lake. Yes, that's Burt Lake just south and popular Mullett Lake close by.

By the numbers, Douglas Lake is a substantial lake, but it is an obvious third in its neighborhood. It is a disconnected shirttail on the well-known inland waterway between Great Lakes Huron and Michigan. Still, Douglas has significance in the fabric of Northern Michigan as a gathering place, resource and playground. Generations of many -- Native Americans, farmers, entrepreneurs, resorters -- have ties to the lake. Important also is how Douglas Lake has figured prominently in research and education for scientists and students, who still work along its shores to explore and understand the natural world.

One of the most powerful transformative natural forces in Earth's history gave Douglas Lake its start.

Chapter 1: Out of the deep-freeze

Douglas Lake nestles in rolling hills above Burt and Mullett Lakes in westernmost Cheboygan County, which stretches east to Lake Huron and north to the Straits of Mackinac where Huron meets Michigan to cap the Lower Peninsula. Douglas Lake stands above the straits by 130 feet and is the headwater of the east branch of the Maple River of the Cheboygan River watershed. On a clear day, the tops of the two Mackinac Bridge towers are visible from Bonnett Road, which snakes north from Douglas Lake's North Fishtail Bay.

Those hills, the rocky remains of a huge glacier and the sands of a massive prehistoric body of water, are telling birthmarks. Douglas -- like Burt, Mullett and countless other Michigan inland lakes -- is a mere droplet of a long-gone vast freshwater body. Lake Algonquin emerged at the edge of a retreating continental ice sheet some 11,000 to 12,000 years ago during what is called the Valdres Stage of the Pleistocene Era.

The waters of Lake Algonquin ultimately withdrew to a low stand about 6,000 to 10,000 years ago (in the Lake Stanley-Lake Chippewa Phase) to create early versions of what would become the Great Lakes, and carving a gorge to connect Lakes Michigan and Huron beneath the present Straits of Mackinac. The high-water levels of the Nipissing Great Lakes Stage followed, barely 4,000 to 5,000 years ago, and the Great Lakes took on their modern shapes and levels.

Former bluffs and beaches of ancient Lake Algonquin mark the larger landscape of Northern Michigan. Prehistoric wave-built terraces stand about 75 feet above modern Douglas Lake. Some of the area's hills -- to the west at Riggsville and to the east by Pellston -- were once islands that rose out of that giant lake.

Douglas Lake gradually separated as Lake Algonquin shrank, its edges changing over time. It survived as a "kettle lake," a pot that caught water melting from huge blocks of ice trapped in the debris left behind by the retreating glacier. There remains evidence of an early shoreline about 12 feet higher than current Douglas levels, and a prominent wave-built terrace can be detected about 4 to 9 feet above the present shoreline. Both are outlines of earlier versions of the lake. Still visible on the lake bottom are glacially deposited rocks, including a few propeller-eating boulders, looming large and strangely out of place.

Chapter 2: Vital statistics

The distinctive modern footprint of Douglas Lake has been much the same through recorded history. This wee remnant of Algonquin averages about 18 feet in depth, though the lake is pocked with a widely scattered handful of holes that exceed 60 feet; the deepest measures a noteworthy 89 feet. Hooks and spits and shocking spills from shallows to deep water mark the many spots where ancient waves cut or constructed underwater terraces and benches.

The lake's outline is impressively irregular. With the exception of a couple of bays whose names descriptively include the word "fishtail," Douglas sports a figure that is tough to name. The lake is characterized by prominent wooded headlands separated by deep embayments. Notable land

features are a single island, Pells, and East, Sedge, Bentley, Ingleside, Maple, Grapevine and East Points, with intervening bays of North Fishtail, Nutting, Marl, Maple and South Fishtail.

A flying crow would mark the lake at nearly 4 miles at its longest and 2 miles across, comprising about 3,700 acres. Its jagged shape accounts for an exceptionally long shoreline, more than 15 miles including Pells Island.

Douglas is fed by lake-bottom springs, groundwater percolation, flows from Bessey and Beavertail (also called Trout) creeks, and occasional runoff from surrounding marshland. Altogether, the lake's watershed extends about 26 square miles. Multiple ways let water in, but there are few exits. The lake's only surface discharge is through the east branch of the Maple River into Burt Lake. Below ground, however, lake water drains from South Fishtail Bay into the "High Springs" of Little Carp Creek that flows into Burt Lake.

In large measure, Douglas Lake's disconnectedness from an overland water route accounts for its relatively unspoiled nature, or at least for its lesser development than Burt or Mullett. At various points in the lake's history, this isolation brought environmental blessing or economic bust.

Chapter 3: Ancient lake, ancient peoples

Just as Douglas Lake traces its origins to an ancient lake, the first people to fish its waters, take shelter on its shores and hunt in its woods were prehistoric.

More than 100 feet under water in the straits area of Lake Huron, archaeologists have found evidence of what they believe are caribou-hunting structures and camps used by native peoples some 9,000 years ago. A land bridge joined the upper and lower peninsulas back then, in a time of extremely low water during the Lake Stanley-Chippewa Phase of the Great Lakes. At Douglas Lake, archaeological evidence indicates a later prehistoric Archaic and Woodland Indian occupation at South Fishtail Bay in the vicinity of the University of Michigan Biological Station, where a copper spear point about 3,500 years old and a 2,800-year-old limestone adz have been found.

In recent years, UMBS staff and students have been mapping and excavating ancient storage pits – caches -- that dot mostly the south side of Douglas Lake, concentrated on Grapevine Point. A handful of likely caches also are believed to be along North Fishtail Bay.

Undoubtedly, the lake was the site of Indian hunting and fishing parties and camps for thousands of years before white settlers arrived. The lake remained a common resort for Native Americans into early homesteading. An Indian fishing camp at the site of present Ingleside was known to early settlers; native peoples collected sweetgrass from around the lake, and took beaver and otter along its shores.

Chapter 4: Change in the air

In broad perspective, Douglas Lake sits on the fringes of Michigan history. The region's power plays, potent politics and protracted conflicts were centered first at the Straits, and later at the hubs for Northern Michigan's lumber industry.

The French traversed the area during explorations of the vast western interior of New France and during the expansion of the fur trade. Their maps indicate a working knowledge of the upper Great Lakes, and several maps depict the Cheboygan River, though unnamed. During the 17th and early 18th centuries, the French pushed into Michigan's undeveloped interior, building forts at key locations including Fort De Buade on the Straits at St. Ignace, and its successor, Fort Michilimackinac, on the southern shore in what is now Mackinaw City. In the process, the French pursued a thriving fur trade with surrounding tribes and encouraged Jesuit missions at larger Indian towns, including St. Ignace, Gros Cap and Sault Ste. Marie.

During this period, Douglas Lake and surrounding lands were under dominion of the Odawa (Ottawa) native peoples. The Odawa made their principal village at L'Arbor Croche on the Lake Michigan shore after repeated incursions by the hostile Iroquois drove them from the eastern lakes and much of Huron. The western shore of Lake Huron into the Straits of Mackinac and Lake Superior was occupied principally by the Chippewa, allies of the Odawa. The northern Lower Peninsula was effectively divided between the Odawa to the west and the Chippewa to the east, the separation being slightly east of Douglas Lake. The Chippewa had a town at the mouth of the Cheboygan River, as well as settlements upriver and at Sault Ste. Marie, and together with the Hurons and Odawa, established separate villages at St. Ignace.

While a few Indian trails crossed the area, Douglas Lake remained a remote and heavily forested backwater within the expanse of forest and swamp that covered Northern Michigan. Quite possibly, temporary hunting and fishing camps at the lake supplied a nearby village of the Cheboygan band of Odawa on the west side of Burt Lake. This historic settlement, just 5 or 6

miles from Douglas, was known by early white explorers as early as 1720 and may have far older roots. It was located on the Inland Waterway, even then a much-traveled artery.

Chapter 5: Nations clash

As events unfolded at Mackinac, Douglas Lake had little direct role. Like the rest of Northern Michigan, though, the lake's future was shaped by how it all worked out.

French rule at the Straits gave way in 1761 to the British. Under British control, Fort Michilimackinac, with its merchants and traders, dominated the fur trade and commerce of the upper Great Lakes, interrupted only briefly by Pontiac's rebellion.

It was not to last, however. Unruly British colonists sought independence, and in 1780, during the American Revolution, the British moved the fort and its inhabitants from the low-lying mainland to a more defensible location on Mackinac Island. The lofty limestone perch of Fort Mackinac had strategic advantages, but the island was limited in resources, particularly when it came to lumber.

The British had earlier explored up the Cheboygan River to determine the feasibility of a building a lumber mill. Now, they settled on putting a sawmill at what came to be known as Mill Creek on the Lake Huron shore to supply their new fort and village on the island. Initially, the mill was operated by John Askin, a wealthy merchant, trader and fort commissary, who also maintained a small fur trade post with his son-in-law, Captain Samuel Robertson, near the Chippewa village at the mouth of the Cheboygan River.

Britain ultimately would lose its fort and foothold to the upstart rebels. The mill, however, remained active regardless of who held power. At the time of American occupation of the region in 1796, it was called Campbell's Mill, having been operated for several years by Robert Campbell.

The mill was purchased in 1819 by Michael Dousman and took on the name Dousman's Mill. Dousman was a Mackinac Island resident who operated it as a grist and sawmill, and as a trading post for John Astor's American Fur Company until the collapse of the fur trade.

Chapter 6: Treaties and ill treatment

By the time of Michigan statehood in 1837, the isolated European settlements and fur trade posts in Northern Michigan mostly had been abandoned or fallen into neglect. The settlement at the deserted Mackinaw City fort had passed into oblivion decades earlier. The region of present-day Cheboygan County had virtually no white settlers other than at Dousman's Mill and a few individuals scattered about with their Indian families, including John A. Drew, who was granted a tract at the rapids of the Cheboygan River, and Edward Biddle at the fishing grounds, both of whom also had residences on Mackinac Island.

The backcountry, including Douglas Lake, remained virtually unsettled, except for seasonal native hunting, sugaring and fishing camps.

An exception was the Odawa village on the west side of Burt Lake, on what is known now as Colonial Point. Counted at 117 inhabitants in 1836, it was then the area's largest community of any sort -- white or native -- its population augmented by small seasonal camps, including ones at southeastern Burt and western Mullett Lakes. A Catholic mission had been established there in 1829 by Father Pierre DeJean out of L'Arbre Croche, the principal Odawa settlement along Lake Michigan. L'Arbre Croche was comprised of Little Traverse, Middle (Good Heart) and Cross villages.

The Native American population in Northern Michigan had declined significantly during the late 18th and early 19th centuries, ravaged by disease, conflict, emigration to Canada, and continued pressure by the Americans for removal, particularly after the Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794 and the resultant Treaty of Greenville, and the War of 1812. In the Battle of Fallen Timbers near present-day Toledo, Ohio, an American force defeated the Indian alliance to finally gain control of what was then the nation's Northwest Territory, and open the area to white settlement.

As a consequence of the Treaty of Washington, imposed on the Odawa and Chippewa in 1836, resident bands relinquished their land in Northern Michigan to the United States. The original treaty signed by the Indians provided that these were to be permanent reservations, but Congress modified the pact before ratifying it, allowing native peoples to retain only temporary reservations to occupy until being relocated. These reservations included the principal Indian villages and included a 1,000-acre tract for the Cheboygan band of Odawa. The lands for the Cheboygan band were "to be located" on the "Cheboigan" by the band's leader, Chingassanoo, whose name is translated in the treaty as "the Big Sail." A much larger tract was to be given the Little Traverse band of Odawa at L'Arbre Croche. (Chaboiganing, an Algonquin word meaning

through-way, was the Indian name for Burt Lake and is the origin for the city name, Cheboygan.)

Initial surveys of the treaty lands were made by William A. Burt and John Mullett, deputy surveyors for the U.S. government whose names became attached to the area's two biggest inland lakes. They established the town lines around Douglas Lake in the summer of 1840, followed by a sectional subdivision by another government surveyor James H. Mullett, John's brother. James Mullett provides the earliest surviving, though terse, description of Douglas Lake in his survey submitted to the Surveyor General's Office at Cincinnati on February 24, 1841. The lake was not named and was shown without an island:

"The surface of the township is gently rolling; the soil is good but sandy; timber principally beech, sugar, hemlock and some ground hemlock. The shore of the large lake is gravelly with high banks on the south and swampy low banks on the north. ... Water in all clear. Swamps timbered with cedar, balsam, spruce, tamarack, alder, aspen, maple, etc." (J.H. Mullett, general description of township)

Chapter 7: The dawn of development

Early Cheboygan and Wyandot Counties, predecessors of present-day Cheboygan County, were established in 1840 but attached administratively to Michilimackinac County in the Eastern Upper Peninsula (which included both Mackinac Island and St. Ignace) because of lack of population. Dousman's Mill had closed in 1839, leaving Cheboygan County with virtually no white settlers.

Beyond a few Indian trails, the nearest road of any sort was 180 miles to the south at Saginaw. A survey for a territorial or military road from Saginaw to Mackinac was authorized by Congress in 1831 and undertaken by Lt. Benjamin Poole in 1834. Completed in 1835, the survey struck north from Saginaw Bay and went around the foot of Mullett Lake (shown as Long Lake or Tche-Sauguigee), crossing the Cheboygan River and passing 4 or 5 miles northeast of Douglas Lake on its way to Dousman's Mill.

The road was never built, even though Congress authorized a post route from Saginaw to Sault Ste. Marie by way of Mackinac in 1836 and the Michigan legislature repeatedly petitioned Congress for a grant of public lands to fund the road. Overland mails had to be carried for several years over a dangerous and circuitous route along the Lake Huron shore.

In 1836, Mackinac Islander Alexander McLeod had received a license from the territorial government to build a dam on the Cheboygan River, presumably to power a sawmill. And, in 1844 and 1845, permanent white resettlement of Cheboygan County took place when McLeod, Jacob Sammons, John Vincent and a few others came over from Mackinac Island to locate on the banks of the river. They established a cooperage (barrel-making business) for the fishery, a shipyard, and a sawmill -- foundations for present-day Cheboygan. McLeod shipped the first lumber to Chicago in 1846.

Jeremiah W. Duncan, a Chicagoan, purchased the McLeod brothers' holdings in 1850, modified and expanded their mill on the river and, in 1853, built a large steam mill on McLeod Bay, renaming it "Duncan" Bay and laying out an ambitious plat for "Duncan City." The area, ideally located on the Huron shore just south of the mouth of the Cheboygan River, was dependent almost exclusively upon marine transport, and Mackinac Island was the administrative, civil and commercial seat. (Learn more about J.W. Duncan in attached supplemental material.)

Logging of the great white pine stands got under way along the waterways, with the twin villages of Cheboygan and Duncan at the center. Most early activity was along the Cheboygan and Black Rivers, expanding south to Mullett and Burt Lakes in 1849. The first settlement outside of the two villages was made by Donald McDougal at the north end of Mullett Lake, in 1849, followed by Lauren P. Riggs, who established a homestead farther south on a clearing purchased in 1850 from William Fenton at present-day Mullett Lake Village.

In time, outlying Indian trails became roads, including a well-established trail from Little Traverse to Duncan (Cheboygan), which passed Douglas Lake at South Fishtail Bay, and a trail north of the lake running from Cross Village to Duncan. The Little Traverse track carried mail at an early date, being designated a post route in 1856, and probably was part of a route authorized in 1850 from Grand Rapids to Mackinac by way of the Grand and Little Traverse Bays.

A state road from Saginaw to Mackinac by way of Duncan was authorized by the state legislature in 1858, but was not completed for many years. The Saginaw-Mackinac mail, when not able to go by boat, continued to be carried along the Huron shore by horseback or dog sled, a trek that took two weeks.

Chapter 8: Saws along the shoreline

Douglas Lake initially was spared rapacious logging because of its remoteness. The timber cruisers were active, however, and Jeremiah Duncan, Cheboygan's large mill owner and first true lumber baron, acquired more than 1,100 acres of white pine timberland at South Fishtail Bay of Douglas Lake on September 19, 1853, a small part of his extensive holdings. (Find notes about J.W. Duncan at book's end.)

About 16 months later, in January 1855, Duncan died at age 44 while on a trip to Delaware, where he had spent his youth. His company, J.W. Duncan & Co., became embroiled in extended litigation following his death, and its operations were suspended the next year. However, survey records show that logging roads had been cut and pine removed from Duncan's Douglas Lake tracts by the summer of 1855. The logs were skidded to Burt Lake and floated down the Cheboygan waterway with the spring runoff to his mills. Douglas Lake timber found its way to Chicago to the Duncan lumber yards and was used to build that burgeoning city. The Duncan tracts on Douglas Lake eventually were purchased by John R. McArthur and others in 1865.

Congress also granted 750,000 acres of public land to the State of Michigan on August 26, 1852 to support construction of a ship canal around St. Mary's Falls at Sault Ste. Marie. Among the tracts granted to the St. Mary's Falls Ship Canal Company upon completion of the canal were 719.9 acres of timberland at South Fishtail Bay of Douglas Lake. These lands, conveyed on May 25, 1855, were west of the Duncan tracts and were undoubtedly white pine timberlands. The canal company eventually sold the lands to New York investors on Oct. 1, 1863.

Subsequently, the remaining tracts around Douglas Lake appear to have been withdrawn from public sale, although no formal record of this action has been found.

Chapter 9: A dark day

In 1849, the Odawa Indians had pooled their resources to purchase the village lands of the Cheboygan band on Burt Lake and other nearby tracts, including some small camps on southeastern Burt and Mullett Lakes. The lands were placed in trust with the governor of Michigan.

Closure of the area around Burt Lake as an Indian reserve was achieved under terms of the 1855 Treaty of Detroit, ratified April 15, 1856. This treaty provided for land grants to be made to members of the several bands of Odawa and Chippewa from areas originally ceded to the federal government by the Treaty of Washington. As a result, lands were set aside as a temporary reservation for selection by the Cheboygan band of Odawa, including their old village on Burt Lake's present-day Colonial Point (then called Indian Point), which remained the largest settlement outside of Duncan-Cheboygan. The federal census of 1850 counted 61 inhabitants.

Villagers raised livestock and farmed the land, reportedly producing oats, beans, peas, maple sugar, melons, butter, hogs, beef and horses. The Catholic church there was enlarged in 1853 and Harvey Mellen, a U.S. deputy surveyor who mapped in the area in 1855, briefly described the setting:

"The soil of Indian Point though formerly of good quality is at this time poor being nearly worn out by the Indian mode of cultivation, and the old fields have lately been suffered by them to become covered with bushes. The Indian village is located on Section 29 and contains about 20 dwellings. They have a church and missionary preaching a part of the time." (Mellen, 1855, general description, survey field notes, p. 151).

This village remained second in size only to Duncan (Cheboygan) into the 1860s. Its inhabitants subsisted largely on fishing, hunting and farming, although some were tradesmen. In addition to the Catholic church, the village supported a government school and, from 1860 to 1867, a post office named "Burt," the only post office between Duncan and Little Traverse (Harbor Springs).

At the start of the 20th century, this Odawa village would be the site of one of the most shameful episodes in Cheboygan County history.

In October 1900, the Cheboygan County sheriff and others came to the village and burned down virtually every structure, part of a fraudulent seizure of Native American lands for back taxes. A court order authorized the violent eviction, even though the Indians had placed their lands in trust with the governor of Michigan in 1849 and had deeded the church to the Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit in 1853. Ste. Mary's Catholic Church (Kitchiwamarie) was rebuilt at nearby Indianville in 1905 and stands today with its adjoining cemetery, but the original church is gone and only its disused cemetery survives.

Chapter 10: Douglas Lake by any other name

The original survey of Douglas Lake and surrounding area in 1840 was inaccurate and a resurvey was ordered. Deputy surveyor Mellen completed it in 1855 (swearing to it on October 5 that year), and the remapping was accepted by the U.S. Surveyor General at Detroit on January 25, 1856. It is the official survey still in use.

The lake was recorded as "Turtle Lake," accompanied by the following description:

"The surface of this township is gently rolling, is mostly dry land and may be considered as good for agricultural purposes; soil being a deep sandy loam. The soil varies in different parts of the Township. The north 1/2 and the east tier of the south 1/2 being more rich than the ballance (sic) of the Township. The timber on the dry land of the north 1/2 is Sugar, Beech, Hemlock, Elm, Lynn, Ironwood etc. The timber of the South 1/2 is Beech, Hemlock, W. Pine, generally of 2nd rate quality: Sugar, Y. Pine (Norway), Beech etc. The timber in the swamps in the eastern part of the Township is mostly Cedar. The swamp as well as the dry land in Sections 5, 6 & 7 has been mostly burnt over and the timber mostly dead and fallen. Land grown up with small Aspen and Birch.

The large lake in this township is a beautiful lake of deep clear water mostly surrounded with good farming land, and is the head of Maple River which empties itself into Burts Lake." (Mellen, H., 1855, general description T37N, R3W; U.S. Government Land Survey)

Whether "Turtle Lake" represents the Indian name for the lake is unknown, and an intriguing designation of what would become Pells Island as "General's Island" in Mellen's field notes also remains a mystery.

The "Douglas Lake" name first appears on maps compiled in 1855 by J. H. Colton, a New York atlas publisher. Previous maps, as late as 1854, show the lake unnamed. "Douglas" soon was used in other references, including detailed sectional maps beginning in 1857 by the authoritative Detroit mapmaker, J.W. Farmer, one-time surveyor general of the old Michigan Territory. Farmer identifies the lake jointly as "Turtle or Douglass Lake," spelling the latter with a double "s."

The lake is cited as "Douglas Lake" in Clark's Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1863-64 (p. 88), which describes Cheboygan County with "... several beautiful lakes; among

them are Mullett's, Burt's, Douglas, and Cheboygan lakes," and in Ware's 1876 Cheboygan County history.

Use of the name "Turtle Lake" continued intermittently into the late 19th century when "Douglas Lake" prevailed.

Why Douglas? The origin is uncertain. According to Kelsie Harder, a scholar of names and author of "International Dictionary of Place Names: United States and Canada" (1976), the lake drew its name from a local settler, not further identified. However, no settler named Douglas is known to have homesteaded near the lake. Very likely the lake took its name from James S. Douglas, Cheboygan's first county clerk (1855-57), county surveyor, treasurer, circuit court commissioner, and assessor for the unorganized parts of Cheboygan County -- that is, those areas outside of Duncan and Inverness Townships. Prior to organization of Cheboygan County, Douglas was supervisor for Duncan Township as administered by Michilimackinac County and also was clerk of the U.S. land office in Duncan.

Douglas was born in New York in 1826, moved to Northern Michigan and settled in present Cheboygan County in the early 1850s. He was one of the most educated men in the area. The exact date of his death is unknown, but it was sometime prior to 1900. (Learn a bit more about Douglas in attached supplemental material.)

Chapter 11: Settling in

After the Civil War, settlers began to move into Cheboygan County's back-country clearings to establish farms. The first to put roots in these remote areas came mostly from Duncan and Cheboygan, where they had been drawn by the lumbering and fishing industries. Those purchasing outlying lands in western Inverness Township -- which at that time included Douglas Lake -- were George Wheelock (1865), Francis Stead (1867), William H. Kitchen (1868) and the Riggs brothers: Cyrus, Edward S. and Albert B. (1868-69).

The Riggses founded "Riggsville," about 2 1/2 miles due east of Douglas Lake. Starting with a scattering of homesteads, a sawmill and blacksmith shop, the sparsely settled Riggsville soon added a school, general store, cemetery, and a Methodist Episcopal Church. The church was organized at Richardson's School House on July 26, 1873, with Edw. S. Riggs, Samuel Embury, Henry V. Massey, D. Riggs and A. B. Riggs as trustees. In 1874, a wood-frame sanctuary was built on the southeast corner of Riggsville and Extension Roads. The first marriages in the community, that of William Kitchen and Mary A. Stead on February 1, 1868, and of John Riggs

and Ann Woodard on November 27, 1869, were performed by Edwin R. Dodge, a justice of the peace living on nearby Mullett Lake.

The Riggsville community aspired to real growth with completion of the Cheboygan & Little Traverse Bay State Road. Authorized by a legislative act in 1871, the road was begun in the autumn of 1872 and completed in 1874. It ran from Cheboygan along the present Riggsville Road to the narrow strip of high ground between Douglas and Burt Lakes before turning south along the west side of Burt Lake to Petoskey, providing Cheboygan's nearest access to a railhead.

In the mid-1870s, stages left Cheboygan at 6 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, carrying mail and passengers to Petoskey, and returned every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, stopping for a change of horses and meals at the Brutus House, a tavern at the Maple River crossing east of present-day Brutus. The tavern was established by Abner S. Lee in 1874 and later run by George V. Brill, who eventually settled on Douglas Lake.

Principal access to Douglas Lake was off the Cheboygan & Little Traverse Bay State Road at South Fishtail Bay. A post route already was established over parts of this track, passing through the Hogback area (between Burt and Douglas Lakes), extending east along Indian Trail Road to Mullet Lake Village and on to Cheboygan, as shown by postal department maps of 1873.

Riggsville saw an influx of families in the early 1870s, including Henry, Peter, Christopher and Hiram Tallman, Henry V. Massey, and Julius and Andrew Bohn. The community grew further in 1877 with the arrival of the families of Andrew Naski, J. Budjinski, J. Socolovich, John Nowacrenski and Andrew Jankoviak, who established the Polish Line.

The community rapidly became an uneven ethnic mix of Germans, Poles, New Yorkers, New Englanders, Canadians, English and others. With an influx of German settlers, St. John's German Lutheran congregation was organized in 1880, building a church in 1882 at the northwest corner of Church and Riggsville Roads. And as their numbers grew, the area's Polish families built Sacred Heart Catholic Church on the southeast corner of Church and Polish Line Roads in 1889.

A KOTM (Maccabee) Hall was built in 1895; a sugar evaporator was added prior to 1902, as was a Gleaner's Hall and a creamery. The present St. John's Lutheran Church was built in 1904 on the site of the original church, and the Douglas Lake Dairy, adjoining the North Fishtail Bay of Douglas Lake, was established in 1912 by Charles Jarman.

Agricultural produce -- notably apples, hay, oats, corn, potatoes and livestock -- sustained the area, while local men often worked in nearby lumber camps during winter.

Chapter 12: Douglas rediscovered

As Riggsville was growing and taking shape, Douglas Lake was attracting renewed interest from loggers and settlers, the first serious attention since the acquisitions of J.W. Duncan & Co. and St. Mary's Canal Company 20 years earlier. The treaty-seized government lands at Burt Lake were released by an act of Congress of June 10, 1872, and restored to market following a six-month selection period for the Cheboygan band of Odawa. At Douglas Lake, the first renewed sales of government land were recorded on March 10, 1872 to a pair of Canadians, John and Thomas Charlton. Timber company agents, land speculators and settlers quickly made additional filings.

In 1873 and 1874, the first homesteaders arrived, virtually all settling in lands on the northern and eastern sides of Douglas Lake. These early arrivals included Edmund Barker, Henry Brandenburg, David E. Clark, Philip Embury, J. S. Jones, A.E. Lang, Hiram Miller, John Vanderburg, James Ward and William Wilson. In 1875 came Henry Cupper, Henry Davis, Olive Dyer, Ezra A. Faunce, August Gelner, John Haffner, Ezra Harger, William Laing, John B. McArthur, John W. Miller, Peris C. Munro, Joseph Sill and Lawrence Stroup.

In 1878, the county board of supervisors carved off Munro Township (which contains all of Douglas Lake) from Inverness Township and appointed Thomas Bentley, David E. Clark and Peris C. Munro electors. A meeting was held at the house of P.C. Munro, April 7, 1879, and the first township officers were elected, including George Heilman, supervisor; Martin Horan, clerk; and Joseph Blank, treasurer. The 1880 U.S. census counted 139 residents in about 30 households in the township. Of these, lands owned by Clark Judson, William Wilson, Thomas Bentley, John C. Young, John G. Schermerhorn and David E. Clark either abutted the lake or came just shy of its shoreline.

As the nearest market town, the hamlet of Riggsville served the entire Douglas Lake area. The first post office in the vicinity was "Geyersville," located on the Riggsville Road east of Extension Road, which operated from 1877 to 1878. The Riggsville post office was established in 1880 at the Riggs general store on Extension Road, with Robert K. Horning as its first postmaster.

Chapter 13: Railroads and mill towns

Dredging of the Inland Waterway in 1876 opened regular tug traffic into Cheboygan and greatly eased the transport of logs and lumber downstream from Mullett and Burt Lakes and surrounding areas. Also in 1876, William H. Pells, an Illinois land speculator born in Poughkeepsie, New York, purchased the first of more 27,000 acres in adjoining Emmet County, including 1,300 acres on what would become Pellston.

In 1877-78, Pells purchased about 3,000 acres around Douglas Lake, mostly along the south shore, including the canal and Duncan tracts at South Fishtail Bay. In 1879-80, he harvested the pine. From the south and west sides of Douglas Lake, Pells skidded and hauled logs the short distance to Burt Lake. From the northern and eastern shores, logs were hauled into Cheboygan and to small local mills.

By the summer of 1880, the U.S. Census Bureau classified the forest around Douglas Lake as "hardwood and cut pine," excepting a small uncut area at North Fishtail Bay. Slash was everywhere, but whether the large Cheboygan County fire of November 10, 1880 swept through the area is not recorded. Fires were an ever-present danger and, even in 1855, several sections north of Douglas Lake were reported as burned over with much fallen and dead timber. Charred white pine stumps up to 4 feet in diameter still can be seen.

The improved Inland Waterway carried more timber, but the arrival of railroads accelerated the logging, particularly around Douglas Lake and other more remote areas. East of Douglas Lake, the Michigan Central Railroad extended in 1881 along the shore of Mullett Lake to the Straits of Mackinac, spawning the villages of Indian River and Topinabee, among others.

West of Douglas Lake, an advance party for the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad was surveying rights-of-way in June 1880, as reported by the Cheboygan Democrat newspaper. That road reached the Straits in 1882, spawning the mill towns of Pellston, Egleston (also called Van), Lyonstown and Levering.

Platted in 1882, Pellston began simply as a rail station, post office and handful of houses, but soon grew to become a center of lumbering operations and a market town for Douglas Lake and surrounds. By 1885, it had added a Methodist minister, two sawmills, a general store, school, hotel, farm implement store, real estate office, blacksmith, constable, and boasted a population of 50.

Several small local mills served logging operations on other sides of Douglas Lake, including ones at Ingleside (north) and Riggsville. A post office called "Buckhorn" opened in 1885 at the

south end of Munro Lake with Stillman Wixson as its postmaster. With Levering, it handled mail duties for the northern parts of lake until a post office opened in the tiny mill town of Weadock and operated there from 1895 to 1931.

Weadock, established in 1894 about 2 1/2 miles north of the lake, had more than a post office. It briefly boasted a sawmill, bank, insurance agency, store, school and an adjoining town hall and cemetery. Its setting was described as...

"... the center of a good fruit and farming country. It has banking facilities and a small sawmill in operation." (Powers, 1912, p. 458).

Weadock is long gone, but the Munro Cemetery (established in the late 1890s) and Munro Township Hall (current building erected in 1925), at the corner of Bonnett and Brandau Roads, are both still used.

As a footnote in these heady days of expansion: A proposed railroad, the Cheboygan & East Michigan Railroad, was incorporated in 1891 to run from Brutus to Cheboygan, skirting the south shore of Douglas Lake, but was an unfulfilled scheme.

In 1899, the extensive Pells' holdings came into the hands of his daughter, Hannah Bogardus, as his surviving heir. She was the wife of Col. Charles Bogardus, a major figure in the early days of Douglas Lake. Bogardus was a well-connected Illinois state legislator (1885-98) from Paxton, Illinois, a developer of no mean scale who had been involved in land speculation in Illinois. In 1901, he moved to Pellston to manage the Pells' holdings and realize a vision of Pellston as a vibrant city.

Bogardus pursued an ambitious scheme of creating a "little Chicago of the north" at Pellston, promoting mills, industry and business, an electric power system and various other civic improvements. He built the East Mill on present Robinson Road (C-64) at the Maple River to handle the hardwood harvested from tracts between Burt and Douglas Lakes. He also promoted the construction of the Cheboygan & Southern Railroad to connect the mill with Pellston and Cheboygan. The railroad was incorporated on September 10, 1903, reached the lake from the west, but ultimately foundered at South Fishtail Bay.

Chapter 14: Vacation-land

By the turn of the century, with the pine virtually depleted and logging shifted increasingly to hardwoods, cedar, hemlock and secondary trees, clear-cutting was the preferred way to harvest. Local mills produced large quantities of hardwood lumber, railroad ties, cedar posts and hemlock bark. Within a few years, little commercial timber remained around Douglas Lake.

Meantime, the area's better farmlands were under cultivation or in pasture. Apples were an important crop, as were hay, oats, corn and potatoes.

"... in Wilmot, Benton, Munro, and Nunda townships the apple is king."
(Powers, 1912, p. 441).

Another economic force was gaining strength as well.

The northern Great Lakes had, for some time, attracted tourists and residents of Midwestern cities who were trying to escape the heat and respiratory ailments. As lumbering declined, resorting became increasingly important. Douglas Lake, known for bass and pike fishing, was frequented by locals and tourists alike. It was described in an 1898 Cheboygan souvenir pamphlet as ...

"... a lovely body of water and a favorite resort for Indiana people and visitors to Petoskey and Harbor Springs. It is about nine miles from Cheboygan with good roads, and is surrounded by fine farm country. Any of the farmers will furnish you with the needed entertainment."

Parcels on the lake began to be purchased and leased as cabin and camping sites. As early as 1891, land on Pells Island was acquired by Warren B. Stimson from the Pells family. Stimson was a land agent and chief civil engineer for the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad who later became the railroad's vice president. In 1893, Pells' son, Edgar Z. Pells, sold an island tract to William Fitzgerald of Grand Rapids and another in 1896 to Mary C. Fitzgerald. Family cabins were built on the island before the turn of the century.

The first resort on the lake, Ingleside Village (later spelled as Ingleside), was platted as a hotel with cottage lots on the northwest shore in 1895 by the Rev. James G. Inglis. Lambert Wilson, who managed the resort, later purchased it. In 1905, a short-lived post office was added. Here's how Ingleside was advertised:

"... located on the northwest shore of Douglas Lake, Cheboygan county, Mich., and is reached by the GR&I Ry from Levering. It is an ideal resort for those

(seeking) rest and recuperation and those who love the beauties of nature as found in the primeval forest and placid waters of beautiful lakes. The hotel has accommodations for forty guests." (Myers, 1902, p. 51).

The Douglas Lake Resort on Bentley Point on the north shore started with a hotel and cottage subdivision in 1899, and was run by James R. Bryant. The resort was recorded with the county in 1900.

The ever-ambitious Charles Bogardus had ideas for his own "Douglas Lake Resort." After he moved north to manage the Pells' holdings in 1901, Bogardus built a large Victorian summer home on the lake's west side, south of Pells Island on a small point known as Cayuga. Between the Bogardus cottage and Pells Island stood Bryant's Hotel, another of the earliest resorts, welcoming guests before 1900 and operated by John Bryant. (The two resort-owning Bryants, James and John, likely were related; some refer to the hotel at Douglas Lake Resort on Bentley Point as the "first" Bryant's Hotel.)

Bogardus soon had plans for an expansive development consisting of more than 100 lots, parks and streets, as shown by maps and legal instruments. The Stimson and Fitzgerald cottages on Pells Island, along with Bryant's Hotel and the Bogardus home, were to be the initial buildings of the envisioned grand Douglas Lake Resort. The plat, however, was never recorded with the county and the elaborate community was unrealized.

Several of the area's early resort hotels also found life in the winter, serving as boarding houses for lumbermen.

Chapter 15: Out with the old

The last significant logging at Douglas Lake was along its northeast shore. The era ended rather spectacularly with an explosion and fire at a sawmill of unknown name near North Fishtail Bay in the early 1900s. Small-scale operations, including pulp wood harvesting, followed, but lumbering generally collapsed and surrounding small mill towns declined, some surviving as agricultural or resort villages.

The Bogardus ambitions were not to last, either. The entrepreneur had organized the Bogardus Land and Lumber Company in 1905 to exploit the Pells' holdings, including those at Douglas Lake, but the depletion of lumber deflated the plans. Finally, overextended, with the lumber

trade collapsing and failing in grandiose schemes at Pellston, the Bogardus Land and Lumber Company went into receivership in 1912.

The University of Michigan acquired the Hannah W. Bogardus tracts around Douglas Lake, and set up operations at the site of Camp Bogardus, a one-time base for railroading and lumbering. Renamed as Camp Davis, the U-M engineering summer camp at South Fishtail Bay began in 1908. A year later, the university added a companion Biological Station.

By then, resorting had a firm foothold on the shores of Douglas Lake. Among the early developments were Lake Ridge on the north shore in 1915 and Silver Strand on the west in 1926. More summer homes would follow.

Other than a few cottages from the early developments and surrounding farms, though, most early landmarks of Douglas Lake have disappeared through fire or age. Those that survive are much changed. Gone is the stately old Bogardus cottage, which found a second life for many years as Camp Northwood, a private girls' camp (est. 1924). In 1987, the then-unused structure was taken down when a new row of lakeside homes went up.

Bryant's Hotel and most of its cottages have disappeared from the scene, though that part of the lakeshore continues to be known as Bryant's by a good many longtime lake residents. The Douglas Lake Bar & Steakhouse stands on the hotel site today, an upscale dining spot in a log building that previously rocked late into the night as a rowdy northwoods tavern.

A west-side post office is no more. John Bryant petitioned for, and got, a post office in his hotel, where it ran from 1898 to 1903. ("Douglas Lake" was proposed as the name, but postal authorities opted for "Bryants," after the applicant). Some will remember a much later post office that operated in a small store on that side of the lake, though it, and the store, are now just footnotes in history.

Also gone are the north-shore Ingleside Hotel, Douglas Lake Resort on Bentley Point, and the Douglas Lake Dairy of the early 1900s, which operated near North Fishtail Bay. Camp Manitou, a private boys' camp that ran for many years on a site between Bentley and Sedge Points, closed in 1962. Camp Knight of the Pines, owned by the Methodist Children's Home Society in Detroit, began operations at the old "Righter's Landing" on North Fishtail Bay in 1938, but suspended operations in the 1980s. The lake residents' group, the Douglas Lake Improvement Association, mounted a successful fundraising effort to help buy camp lands for the University of Michigan, and the camp's several cabins and large log lodge were removed.

Not all changes have been losses. While its Camp Davis relocated to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, the University of Michigan's Biological Station in South Fishtail Bay has grown from modest beginnings to become a world-class teaching and research institution.

Epilogue

Turtle Lake. Douglas Lake. Choose the name, but the charms of the place remain. Born of an ancient age, this body of water long has nourished life, whether for native peoples who found food in its waters, lumbermen who eked out a living from its forests or for cottagers who draw on beautiful sunsets to refresh their souls.

None of which is to say that Douglas Lake is changeless. It is anything but.

Before extensive clear-cut logging, Northern Michigan was described in 1883 as containing "... several beautiful lakes, with warm soil surrounding them, covered with a very heavy growth of wood, especially the sugar-maple, which has attained a gigantic growth. Fish of different varieties abound in these lakes. Turtles nearly one and one-half feet in diameter have been taken in some of them. Black bears are killed in the interior, and often near the shores of the inland lakes, raccoons, marten and foxes are numerous; partridges and pigeons are plenty in their season, and ducks are found in the small lakes and rivers."

The pigeons are gone, the trees are hardly of "gigantic growth," and Douglas Lake's western and northern shores, while wooded, show the effects of extensive resort development. In just the past handful of years, the ecology of the lake has changed dramatically thanks to the zebra mussel. That small, prolific marine hitchhiker finally made it into Douglas Lake, delayed only a bit by the lake's relative isolation. Other invasive species threaten.

Ongoing research at UMBS speaks to even broader changes afoot, with its examinations of how rising carbon dioxide levels are affecting the natural world around us.

And, just as lumbering forever altered Michigan's landscape, other economic pressures will no doubt shape the area's future. Tough times and the rising cost of lake frontage have seen rustic hunting camps and seasonal every-man cottages give way to year-round homes. Newer drilling techniques have opened discussions about expanding oil and gas exploration in Northern Michigan.

For Douglas -- a lake born in great upheaval, a great many years ago -- change is a constant.

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Footnote

Notes on Farmer map: Copyright renewal 29 Sept 1858 and has some features appearing only in the 1850's, viz.: Mackinaw City (1857); Michigan Central Railroad to Chicago (1852); Ainsworth, III [S. Chicago] (18); Cheboygan Co. land survey of 1855, including island in Douglas Lake; Duncan City (ca 1853); J.W. Duncan mill on Cheboygan River (ca 1851)

Supplemental Material

James S. Douglas. Probable namesake for Douglas Lake. A native New Yorker, born about 1826, he moved to Northern Michigan and settled in present Cheboygan County in the early 1850s. He was supervisor of Cheboygan Township, Michilimackinac County, before organization of Cheboygan County, and was first clerk of Duncan Township when it was established in 1854. He became first clerk of Cheboygan County when it was formally organized, serving from 1855 to December of 1857. He was also county surveyor, appointed county treasurer in 1858, and assessor for the "unorganized territory" of the county. He was appointed commissioner of the Circuit Court in Cheboygan County in 1857 and was clerk of the U.S. land office at Duncan.

Douglas was an educated man and a member of the Michigan Historical Society, admitted in 1859. One of the prominent early figures of Cheboygan County, he lived in Duncan Township, where he may have been employed by J.W. Duncan & Co., the major lumber mill and holder of acreage at Turtle (Douglas) Lake. In late 1859, he moved to the Upper Peninsula to Moran Township, Michilimackinac (present Mackinac) County, where he was township supervisor and continued as Circuit Court commissioner. During this period, he also worked as a bookkeeper and general merchant. By 1880, he returned to Cheboygan where he was proprietor of the Douglas House hotel.

He married Ellen Emerrich of Inverness Township, Cheboygan County, May 1, 1857, daughter of George Emerrich. The couple had three known children, two of whom died young. His eldest son, who died in November of 1873 in Mackinac County, was buried at Pine Hill Cemetery, Cheboygan. The elder Douglas evidently died prior to 1900 and was survived by his widow and married son, George Douglas. Ellen Douglas, who was born about 1835 in Canada, died January 9, 1916, in Cheboygan. Both he and his wife are probably buried, unmarked, at Pine Hill Cemetery.

Jeremiah W. Duncan. Entrepreneur and early sawmill owner at Cheboygan, Michigan. First true lumber baron in the vicinity. A native of Baltimore, Maryland, he was born July 21, 1810, the son of John Duncan and Elizabeth Woolston. As a child he moved with his family to Wilmington, Delaware, where he married Elizabeth S. Woolston (nee Brinton), widow of Samuel Woolston, November 7, 1833.

Intending to capitalize on the rapid growth and investment opportunities in the upper Midwest and Great Lakes, he settled in Chicago about 1849. He was attracted by the site of future Cheboygan, located at the mouth of the only sizable river in the vicinity, which drained a large timbered area. Recognizing the locale as a potentially important lumber production and shipment point, he bought controlling interest in a small mill near the mouth of the river owned by Alex. McLeod, and about 1850, organized the J.W. Duncan & Co., in partnership with Jeremiah and Alfred D. Woolston, to operate in Cheboygan and Chicago to make and market lumber. In 1850, he bought out the Alexander and Ronald McLeod properties, including the wharves around Duncan Bay and, in 1851, modified and expanded their mill, and was also a partner of William Rogerson & Co.

In 1853, he built a large steam mill on Duncan Bay, platted a village of "Duncan City" on the site, and proceeded to acquire quantities of pine timberland in the back country. By the summer of 1855, Duncan, as a distinct from Cheboygan, was described as "a small village of about 15 buildings. The U.S. land office is located there, also Duncan's large steam sawmill which does a large lumbering business. The bay forms a good harbor for shipping and is a good mooring place for steamers engaged in the upper lake trade." The mill produced large quantities of lumber and was, by far, the largest mill in the region. Briefly county seat, Duncan City got a post office, "Duncan," in 1856.

J.W. Duncan lived some time in Chicago. However, in land transactions of 1854 and in his will of December that year, he declared himself to be a resident of Cheboygan County and Duncan (although his executor stated him to be a resident of Chicago). He apparently died while visiting in New Castle County, Delaware, in early January of 1855. His brother, John A. Duncan of Wilmington, executor, was left to wind up the affairs of the partnership. The estate was probated in Wilmington, and J.W. Duncan's six surviving children remained with his brother. His partners, who were his wife's elder sons, assumed active management of the company as J. & A.D. Woolston & Co. Alfred Woolston was at Chicago and Jeremiah at Cheboygan. In 1856, however, the mill was shut down and, soon thereafter, the yards closed in Chicago.

J.W. Duncan's mill was the first major lumber operation at Cheboygan, and only many years later were the mills to regain this prominence. After his mill closed in 1856, growth in the area virtually halted, the county offices and Duncan post office were transferred across the river to the rival village of Cheboygan, which eventually absorbed the village of Duncan.

LAST WILL and testament for J.W . Duncan

Mackinac County Deed Book I, p. 5 Received for Record June 4th at seven O'clock AM 1855 Henry Guilbault Register. [also recorded in Cheboygan County Deed Book A-1, p. 11-17]

I Jeremiah W. Duncan, of Duncan, Cheboygan County and State of Michigan being of infirm health, but of sound mind memory and discretion do hereby make this my last will and testament. 1st. I give dispose and bequeath unto my Brother John A. Duncan of the City of Wilmington and State of Delaware, and to his heirs, all my property real, personal and mixed of whatever Kind and nature, and wherever situate for and upon the following trusts, purposes and intents, and I do hereby appoint him the sole Executor of this my last will and testament, and I do hereby authorize him to appoint and name, under this hand and seal to transact the business of his Executorship and Trusteeship Such Suitable attorney or attorneys as he may deem it convenient and proper. 2nd I desire that my Executor named in this will should proceed at once upon my decease to wind up the affairs of the Partnership of J.W. Duncan and Co, doing business as a firm in Chicago, Illinois, and in Duncan, Michigan, and composed of those individuals, to wit: Jeremiah W. Duncan, Jeremiah Woolston, and Alfred D. Woolston and to effect that object that the personal property of the concern, except that attached to and connected with the mill for the manufacture of lumber at Duncan should be first sold by my sawwing partners and my Executor and applied to the payment of the debts and liabilities of the concern. 3rd. I desire that the real estate purchased in my name in the Counties of Cheboygan, Emmet, and Charlevois or elsewhere in Michigan the legal title of and to which was taken by me but which was purchased with the joint and equal funds of the said Partnership, together and connected with the personal property used upon the same, in the manufacture of Lumber and transaction of other business, Should in case the personal property not mentioned in this section shall not be sufficient to pay the just debts of the concern, be sold by my surviving partners and my Executor for that purpose, in Such manner and at Such time or times as they may deem best for the interest of the concern and of my estate. But in case the aforementioned personal estate of the said Partnership should prove sufficient to pay all the just debts and liabilities of the firm, I then give devise and bequeath all my interest in the said Real estate situate in the State of Michigan as aforesaid unto the said John A. Duncan and his heirs in trust, nevertheless, for the purposes aforementioned with the desire that he should at once proceed to have the same divided or sold as may seem to him most advantageous for my estate. 4th. all my estate real personal and mixed wherever situated after the payment of all my just debts I give devise and bequeath to John A. Duncan and his heirs in trust for the following intents and purposes to sell and dispose of the same at public or private sale at Such time or times and on Such conditions as he may deem best for the interest of my estate, and the Proceeds of such sales to invest as he may deem advisable and safe for the benefit of my wife Elizabeth S. Duncan and my six children to wit: Richard B. Duncan, Charles Duncan, Henry Duncan, Elizabeth Duncan, John A. Duncan, and William Duncan. The interest monies arising from said Investments the said John A. Duncan Shall pay over to wife Elizabeth S. Duncan during the period of her natural life, or so long as she shall be my widow, for the purpose of keeping my said children together

while they are small & rearing Educating and maintaining them; if said interest monies are not sufficient, as part sufficient for that purpose or the whole of the principal if necessary to be paid over to my said wife, and at her decease or when she ceases to be my widow whatever remains of the said principal Sum or Sums invested as aforesaid Shall be paid over by the said John A. Duncan, my Executor and trustee under this will, to my six children Share and Share alike for their absolute use and benefit and then and not till then this trust to be determined and ended. 5th. It is my will that the provision herein made for my wife is to be taken in lieu of all claim for Dower 6th It is my will that all reasonable expenses incurred by my Executor and Trustee under this will in settling and winding up the affairs relating to my estate shall be allowed and paid out of the same. In witness whereof I have hereunto on this thirtieth day of December Eighteen Hundred and fifty four affixed my name and seal to this page and the preceeding four pages as my last will and testament

Jeremiah W. Duncan

Signed, Sealed published and declared by the said Jeremiah W. Duncan as and for his last will and testament, in our presence who in his presence, in the presence of each other and at his request have subscribed our names as witnesses

Stephen Bonsall

Eliza M. Duncan

Edward G. Bradford

NewCastle County ss