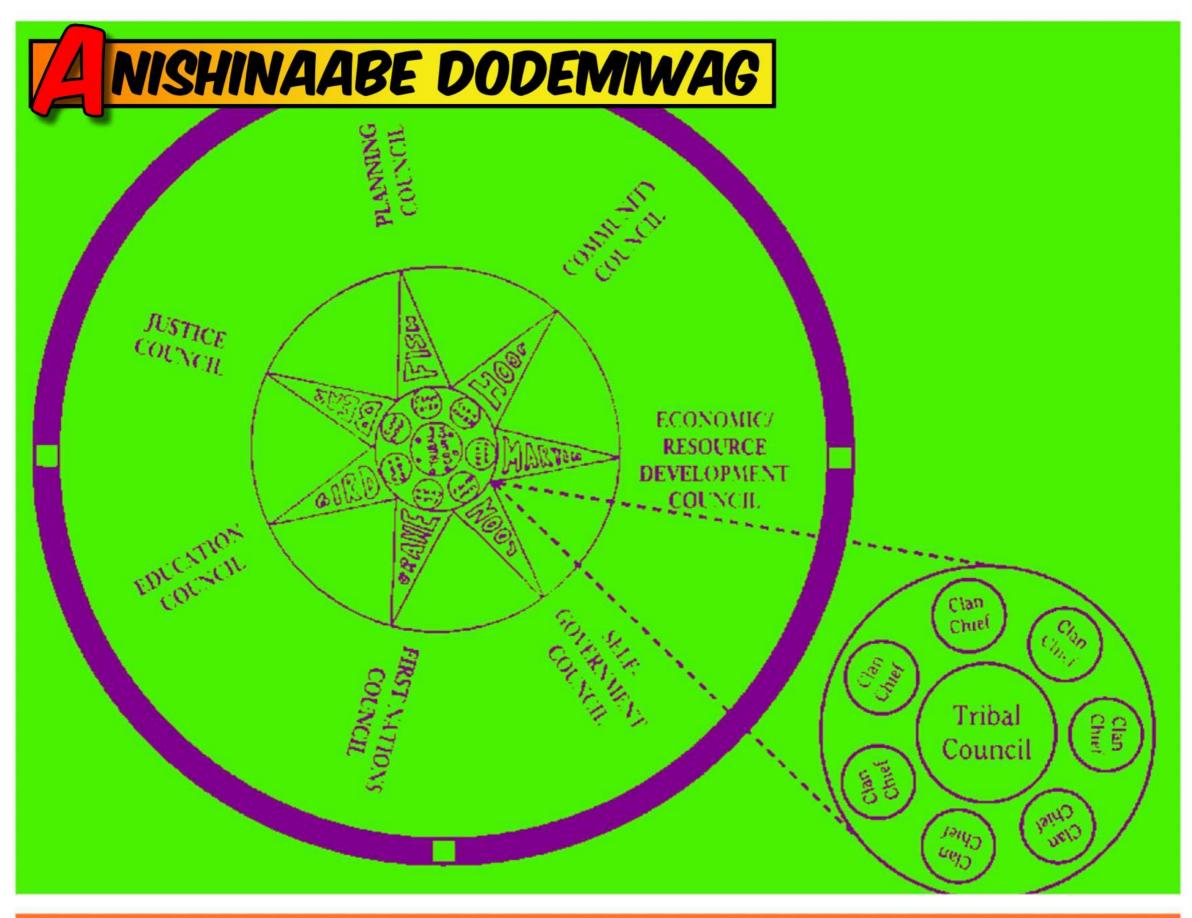
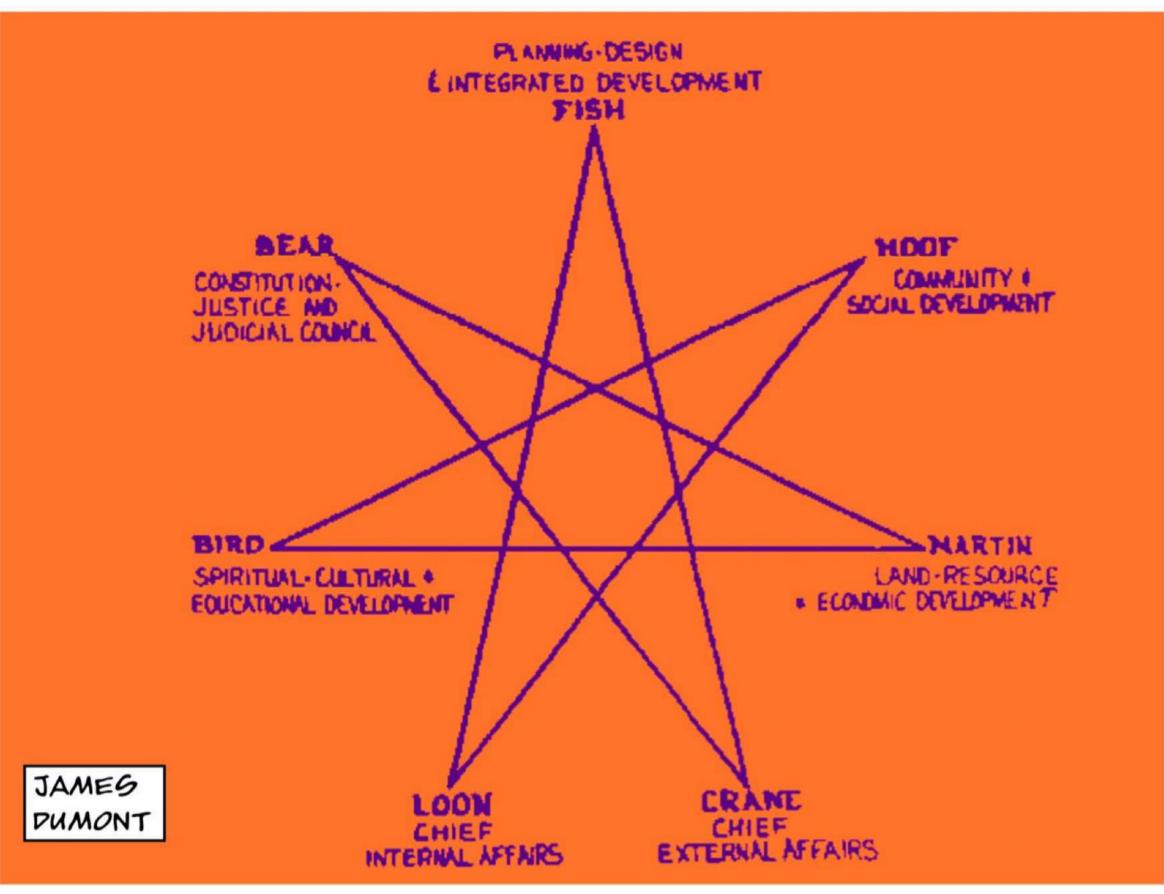


Nayanno-nibiimaang Gichigamiin (The Great Lakes) in Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe), by Charles Lippert and Jordan Engel







RAND TRAVERSE BAND pd the Jesuite missions made considerable progress there. Both the apple and peach planted by them are now found growing wild, and are flourishing. The fruit, though inferior in quality to the cultivated, is, nevertheless, of considerable value. Since the Indians of Michigan have generally emigrated beyond the Mississippi, an effort has been made to concentrate those who remain around Grand Traverse, and improve their condition. This attempt has entirely failed, as it ever must, while the execution of it is entrusted to persons feeling no particular interest in the fate of the Indians, and receiving office as the reward of political services.

At the present time there are a number of small Indian villages around Grand Traverse, engaged part of the year in agriculture and part in hunting. Their number is not increasing. Pulmonary diseases are very common and fatal. At different villages are stationed school teachers, farmers and mechanics, appointed by the Government of the United States, to instruct the Indians.

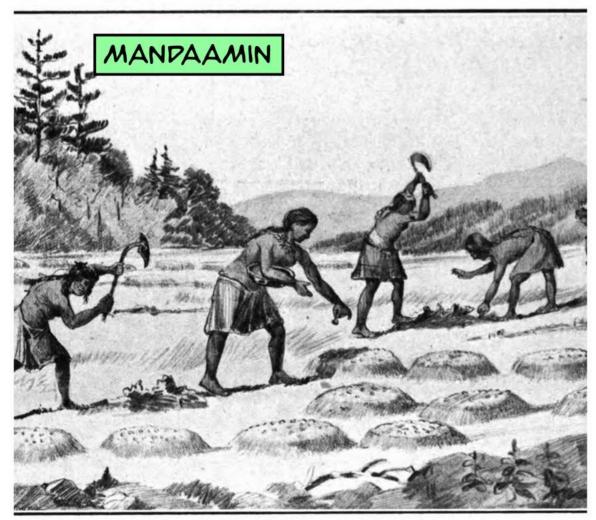
NORTHERN ISLANDER, 2/2/1854

The Indians at Cross Village are considerable farmers, and keep many horses and some cattle. They are respectable workmen at house building, boat building and coopering, and have a saw mill. Changing frequently from well constructed houses to the hunter's camp, pulmonary diseases prevail.

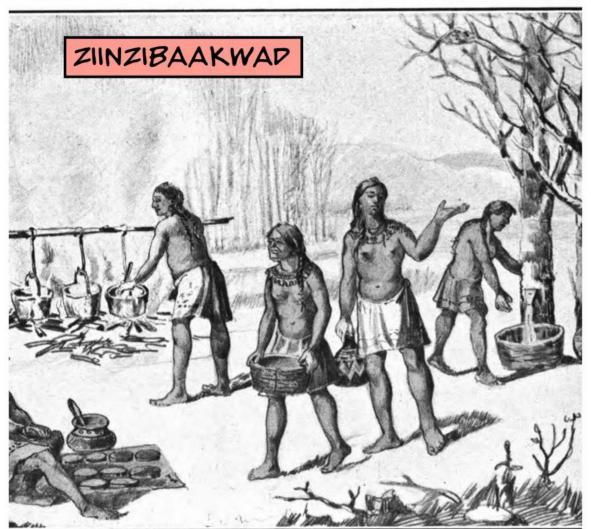
Middle Village is on the bluff back of Isle le Galet (Skillagalee) light house, and is

much such a place as Cross Village.

Near the head of Little Traverse, and upon a splendid harbor that makes up in the North side of the Bay, is Le Arbor Croche, the best located and most thriving of all the Indian towns in the State. All the Indians in the County have lands, which they have purchased of the United States. But these are the most extensive proprietors. They raise considerable quantities of corn and potatoes for sale, and, besides the business and employments common among the Indians, have a well built vessel of thirty or forty tons burthen,

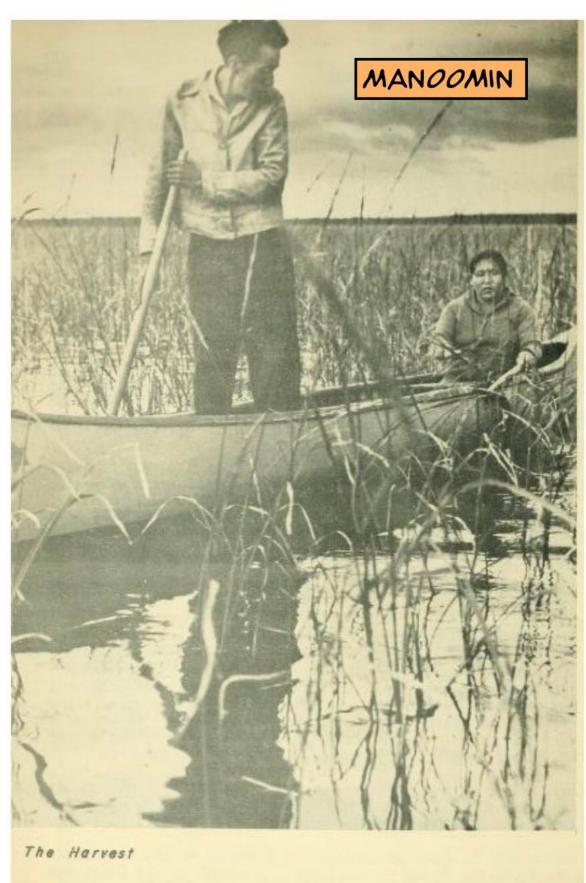


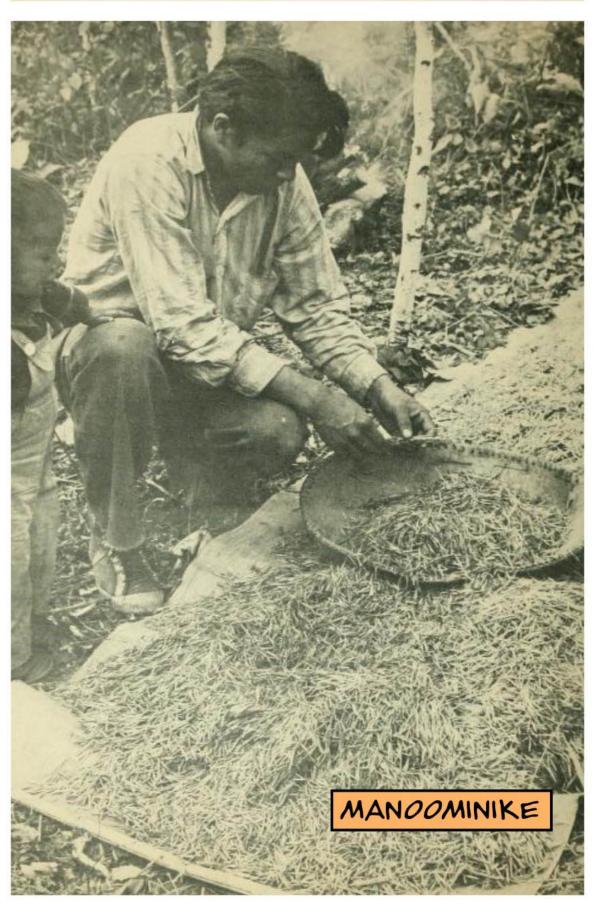
Hoeing Corn-Lafitau.

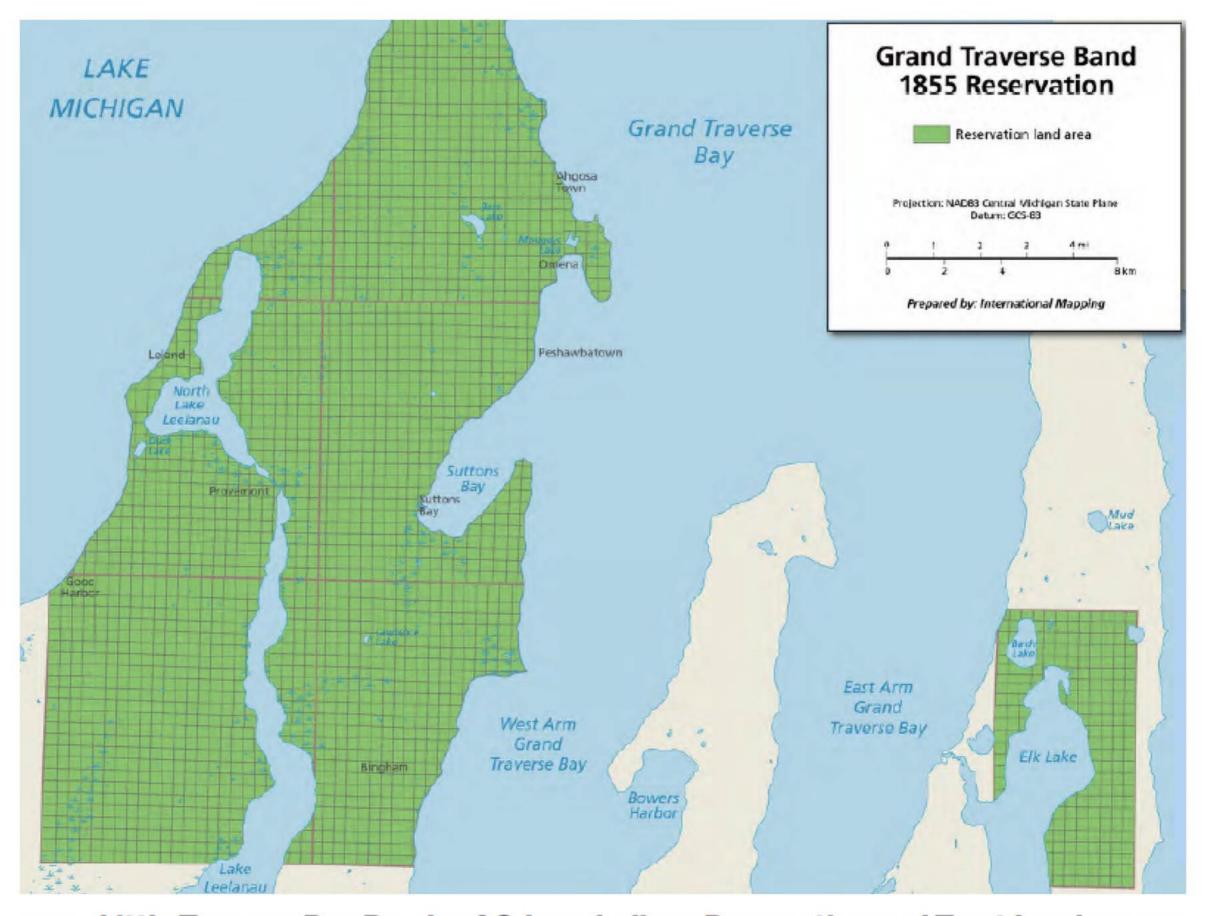


Maple Sugar Indian Camp—Lafitau.

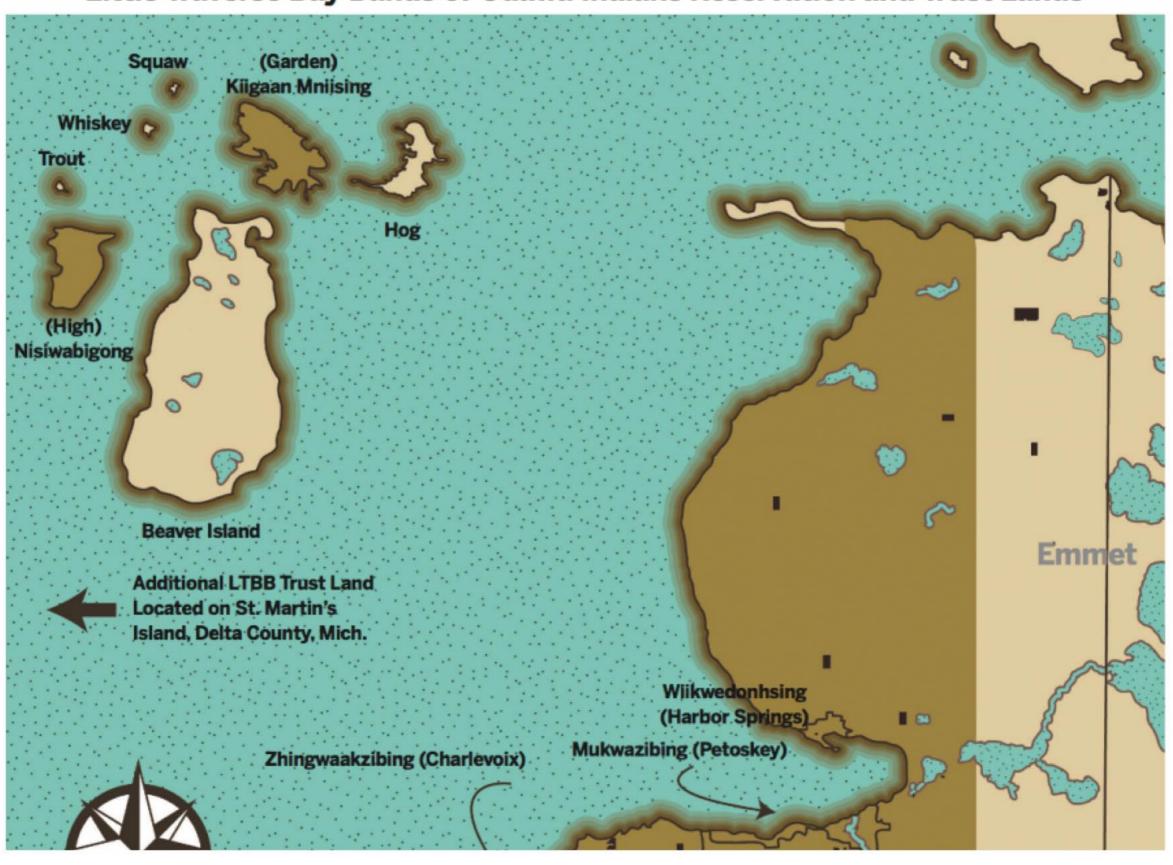


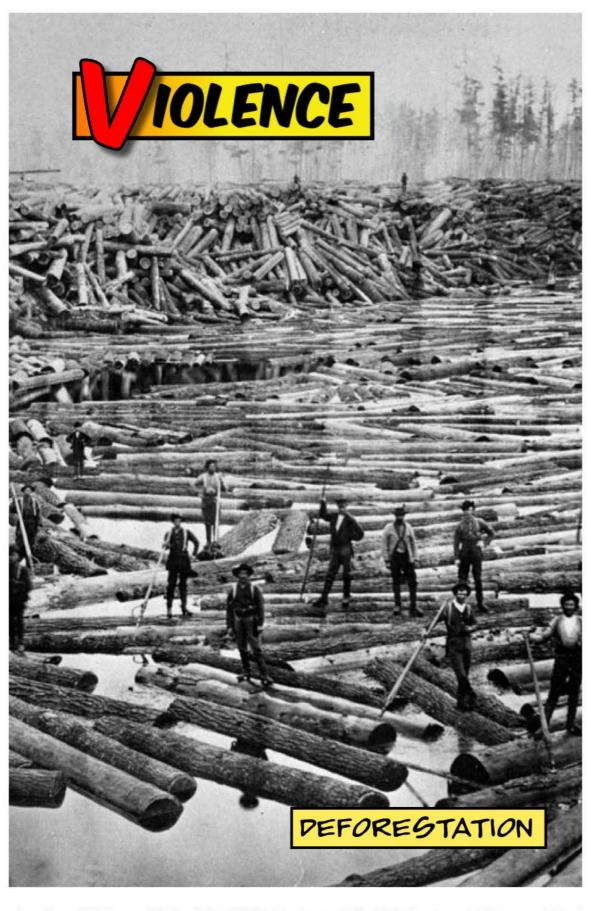


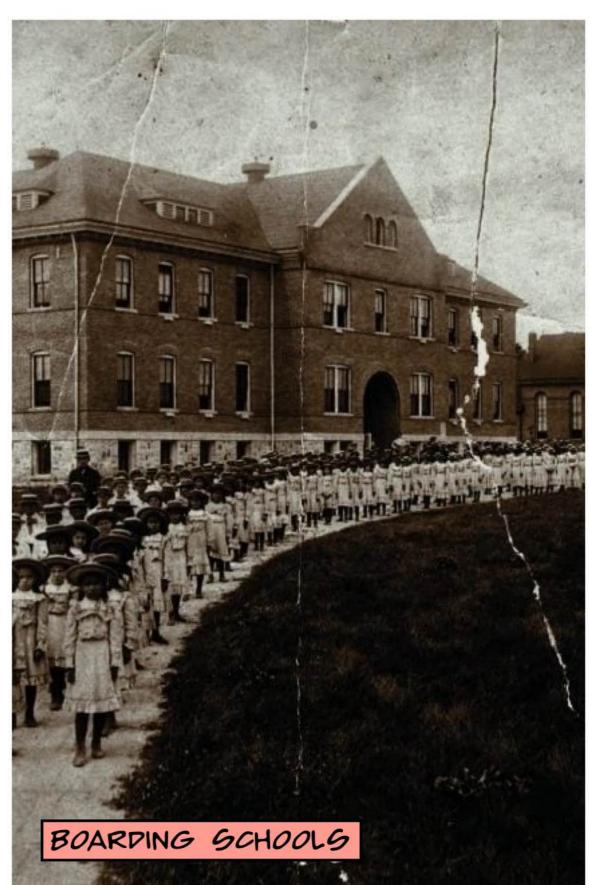




Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Reservation and Trust Lands



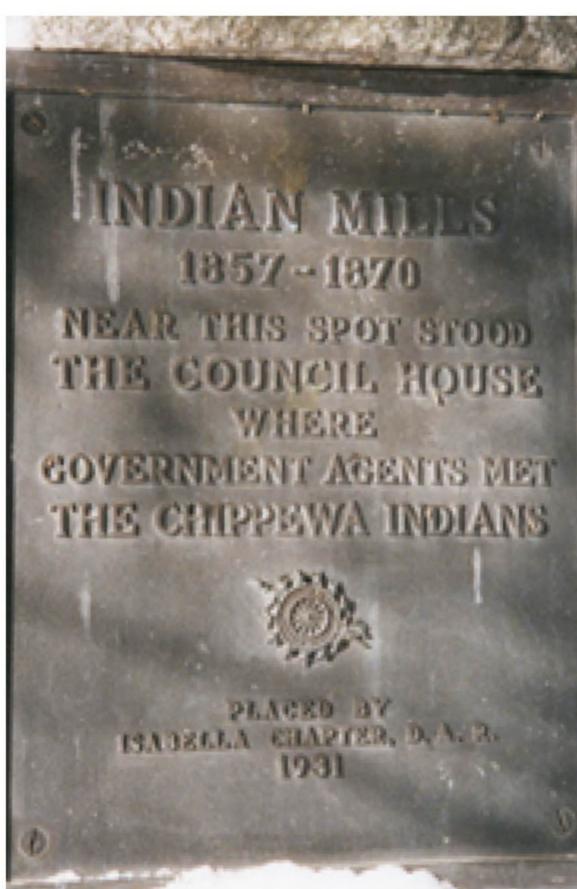














RECOTTERE LOTE OF E MO. 1975 THE STATE OF MICHELIA STATE



# **OPPOSITION TO GRAND TRAVERSE BAND**

#### Judith Danford Tank

A story of an octopus. I remember the first time a saw a baby octopus. The creature was on a rock near the water and in the sunshine it appeared, from a distance, to be transparent. It seemed frail and harmless. Over time the small octopus would grow from the seemingly frail and harmless creature into a full grown adult with eight large "arms" possibly spanning a distance of 28 feet from the tip of one tentacle to the tip of another. On the arms of the tentacles on the underside are round muscles that act like suction cups. These suckers fasten tightly to an object and bring it to the jaws. Did you know that even if the tentacle is severed from the creature the suckers can hold an object for long periods of time. In addition, the octopus can squirt a black fluid which forms a dark cloud behind which the creature hides. In my mind, I liken the situation we currently face to that of an encounter with an octopus.

It was twelve or so years ago that the hearings for the GT Band to open a casino in Whitewater Township were being held. (It didn't seem like it then, but perhaps this was the baby octopus stage?) Before that the Band had made an unsuccessful attempt to purchase the Grand Traverse Resort. Before that, they had been working with the United States government to obtain recognition. With that recognition came

1. into being the GT Band's own government with its own constitution which has at least 28 articles and

The Preamble of this Constitution reads:

"We, the members of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of Michigan, in order to organize for our common good, to govern ourselves under our own laws, to maintain and foster our tribal culture, to protect our homeland, to conserve and develop our natural resources, and to insure our rights guaranteed by treaty with the federal government, do establish and adopt, as an incident of our sovereign powers, this Constitution for the government, protection, and common welfare of the Grand Traverse Band under the authority of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, (48 Stat. 984), as amended."

- 2. then came its own governing body, The Tribal Council, whose members take an oath of office. In that oath the member pledges to "strive to preserve the unique legal status of Indian tribes and be ever vigilant against the erosion of tribal sovereignty."
- 3. then came its own EDC which was chartered in 1984.
- 4. Those are three of the eight tentacles. Enough? Something to think about?

Recognizing that the GT Band has its own government with its own EDC, its own program for funding its own government and can place lands in trust...thus, for all practical intent and purposes, removing them from the jurisdiction of any United States governing body, and with a continuing agenda to have such lands added to their sovereign nation's land mass, I raise the following:

### Reasons People Will Not Like Living On An Indian Reservation

The Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Tribe started the fight in United States Federal Court to establish most of Emmet County and a significant part of Charlevoix County as its Indian Reservation. If the Tribe succeeds, the character, culture, and way of life now enjoyed here will drastically change—for the worse.

As of now, the Tribe is not claiming legal title to land owned by non-Indians. But here are just some reasons why the quality of life and sense of tranquility) currently enjoyed by non-Indians won't continue if a court rules they are living on an Indian reservation.

- 1. **Property Values Drop.** Given the many attractive options in northern Michigan, why would anyone build a new home or buy an existing home on an Indian Reservation? Buyers can go elsewhere. Property values will fall.
- 2. Property Tax Revenue Drops. At the same time as property values fall, the Tribe and its members can assert that their property is exempt from local or state taxation—just as happened in the Upper Peninsula with members of the Keweenaw Bay Tribe, who no longer pay taxes. Schools and other public services will suffer and diminish.
- 3. Residents Lose Protections. Residents in historic communities, resort associations, golf and retirement communities, and condominium associations think they have land use protection via deed restrictions and association documents. Not necessarily so. If the Tribe or any of its members is involved in a dispute, they can take it to Tribal Court. Guess who wins?
- 4. No Zoning Laws Apply. Zoning and land use regulations will not apply to the Tribe or its members. So, how will you feel about a wind farm, a fast food restaurant, or an auto body repair shop going in next door to your residence? Regarding land use, there is no stopping the Tribe or any of its members from doing whatever they want, wherever they want it.
- in grocery stores, gas stations, convenience stores, hotels, motels, etc.) and fast food stores will explode all over Emmet County. The Tribe and each of its members are exempt from State and local zoning, health or other regulations. Federal requirements for the State to agree to tribal gambling apply only to some types of gambling—which is why the Tribe could open its newest slots-only casino in Mackinaw City even though the City voted against it. Tribes in other states have put slots in gas stations while tribal members opened smoke shops selling tax-free cigarettes. Think about how all this will affect the local character, culture, and lifestyles.

- **6. Michigan Law Not Applicable.** State and local law does not apply to the behavior and activities of the Tribe of its members. Our police will have no authority over the Tror its members. This condition leads to social instability, jurisdictional nightmares, and potential chaos.
- 7. Tribal Control of Development. The Tribe will direc control non-Indian businesses and development through it power to control federal environmental permits regarding quality, water quality, water usage, water discharge, wetla etc. Nothing significant in this area will happen without To control. New investment by non-Indian businesses will be d
- **8. Tribal Laws Apply.** Non-Indian businesses, and even public institutions such as schools and hospitals, can be dragged into Tribal Court for perceived violations of Tribal laws. For example, if your business employs a Tribal mem (even without knowing he or she is a Tribal member), that member can make a claim in Tribal Court for violation of Tribal employment and discrimination laws. What a mess. What a nightmare.
- **9. Business Values Drop.** Non-Indian business values v fall. Non-Indians won't be able to compete with Tribe or Tribal member owned businesses that don't pay taxes and not subject to the multitude of state and local regulations such as parking, signage, taxes and the like. If your busine includes selling liquor, the Tribe may well control who gets future permits and licenses, and impose taxes on these businesses. Why would a non-Indian want to do business he Existing non-Indian businesses may be driven out of town

Make no mistake, if the Tribe succeeds, it will dominate everyday life in Emmet County. In fact, the Tribe's Constitu demands it. Unless the Tribe allows it, as a non-Indian, yo have no vote on Tribal laws or on the election of officials; cannot attend meetings of the Tribe, and your lawyer canreven appear in Tribal Court.

This historically premium resort and retirement home are will lose its national appeal as a coveted destination due to the negative aura of being under the jurisdiction of Odawa Tribal leaders within an Indian Reservation. Given other premium choices, who would choose to come here?

The Tribe says none of this will happen. Don't be fooled. Just Google what is happening on Indian Reservations all across America. Furthermore, ask this question: why is th Tribe asking the Federal Court for the power to make all happen if it doesn't plan to use that power?

We need your help to fight back. You can help by making a tax deductible contribution to the Protection of Rights Alliance Foundation, P.O. Box 28, Harbor Springs, MI 497

# H. R. 3133

Relating to certain Indian land-related takings claims of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of Michigan and its individual members.

#### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 21, 2015

Mr. Benishek introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

## A BILL

Relating to certain Indian land-related takings claims of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of Michigan and its individual members.

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### IN THE

## Supreme Court of the United States

LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS OF ODAWA INDIANS,

Petitioner,

V.

GRETCHEN WHITMER, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN, ET AL.,

Respondents.

On Petition for a Writ of Certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI

