

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Fox Lake (Additional Information and Boundary Increase)

Other names/site number: Fox Lake Resort; Fox Lake Historic District

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

Street & number: Bounded by W. Fox Lake Road on the south, S. West Fox Lake Road on the west, Lane 250 Fox Lake on the north, and the east shore of Fox Lake on the east

City or town: Angola State: IN County: Steuben

Not For Publication: ☐

Vicinity: ☒ x

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x nomination     request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets     does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

    national     statewide x local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

x A     B     C     D

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

State or Federal agency/bureau  
or Tribal Government

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- \_\_\_ entered in the National Register  
\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register  
\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register  
\_\_\_ removed from the National Register  
\_\_\_ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:

☒

Public – Local

☐

Public – State

☒

Public – Federal

☐

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s) ☐

District ☒

Site ☐

Structure ☐

Object ☐

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>67</u>	<u>35</u>	buildings
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>69</u>	<u>35</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 30

---

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single dwelling

DOMESTIC: Hotel

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Outdoor Recreation

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single dwelling

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Outdoor Recreation

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase  
Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

---

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:

Bungalow/Craftsman

OTHER: Lake Cottage

OTHER: Ranch

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE  
walls: WOOD: Weatherboard  
CONCRETE  
roof: ASPHALT  
other: SYNTHETICS: Vinyl

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

---

### Summary Paragraph

The historic resort community of Fox Lake, in Steuben County, became one of only a few lake resorts in the Midwest developed for African Americans during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The genesis of the community was located near the middle of Fox Lake's south shore, which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2001. However, the resort community grew well into the middle part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, stretching beyond its original south shore boundaries, to the west and north shores of Fox Lake. With its resort amenities often featured in the *Negro Motorists Green Book*, the Fox Lake historic district expansion acknowledges the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century growth and vitality of the historically Black lake resort community. The original nomination included 27 primary buildings. The expansion captures another eighty primary buildings that were built as part of the resort community.



Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase  
Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

## Narrative Description

As nominated, the historic Fox Lake resort district nearly wraps the shorelines of the 140-acre lake southwest of Angola. The original nomination for Fox Lake focused on pre-World War II development along Lane 130 on the lake's south shore (photos 15, 19, 21). While this was the east half of the origin of the resort development, it extended both east and west of Lane 130, encompassing the entire south shore of Fox Lake, and lining each side of West Fox Lake Road with narrow lots for lake cottages, just like those in the current district. The south shore has the largest concentration of lake cottages, totaling about one hundred properties, including a large parcel at the east edge where a bungalow was built in 1917 that would become a guest house known as Pryor's Place, individually listed on the National Register in 2024 (photo 29).

The west side of the lake is bounded by South West Fox Lake Road and the land rises dramatically on the west side of the road where, in the 1950s, the Mar-Fran Motel was constructed. The motel burned in 1966 but was rebuilt as a two-story hotel in 1967 to provide views for guests out over the lake to the east (photo 08). The Fox Lake Land Company purchased the north side of Fox Lake in the 1950s-1960s and subdivided it into small lots for lake cottages into the late part of the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century (photos 01-05). Development of this part of the lake was slow but about a dozen lots were sold, and homes were constructed. It is bounded on the north by Lane 250 (photo 01). The northeast corner of the lake is still owned by the Fox Lake Land Company but was never subdivided and remains wooded (background of photo 27).

Because the east side of the lake was not developed as part of the resort community, it is not included in the nomination, but the boundary follows the edge of the lake around to the southeast corner where the Indiana Department of Natural Resources constructed a boat landing and public access in the 1960s (photo 26-28). This site is just east of Pryor's Place and is included in the nomination. The lake is dotted with small fishing and boat piers (photo 07). Much of the natural forest vegetation remains around the lake, except for portions of the south shore which is lower and where a beach was developed for the resort's residents. This includes the K. T. Thompson Lodge & Beach, developed in 1968, just off Lane 130 (photo 17). Natural topography dictated where cottages were built, some nearer each other and others positioned into hillsides. Because of this, several homesites feature stone retaining walls and steps leading to their entries.

Many of the early lake cottages were built as spec buildings by Emery Boyd in a common pattern of one-story, side-gabled homes with wide, front-gabled porches, many of which were enclosed. This house type is found throughout the south shore development (left side of photo 19). These are marked with an asterisk (\*) in the list of resources. Concrete block was used to construct simple side-gabled and front-gabled cottages, as well as some contemporary designs with shed roofs (right side of photo 18). These are marked with a double asterisk (\*\*). By the 1950s-1960s, compact ranch homes were constructed around the lake for use by resort residents. While some cottages reflect stylistic features, such as log construction or other rustic qualities, and others have contemporary features related to mid-century design, most are basic, compact

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

plans for summer living. There are approximately 110 primary buildings, about sixteen of which are considered non-contributing due to age or modifications.

This nomination is an update and expansion of the 2001 listing that includes secondary buildings not included in the original resource count, the lake itself, and additional land and resources associated with the resort that were not included in the original Fox Lake district listing. Resources included in the district, and in the following inventory, are associated with the development of Fox Lake as a resort community for African Americans. Resources are considered contributing due to this association and if they retain architectural integrity. Resources that are not considered contributing may have association with the development of Fox Lake as a resort community but have been altered to the extent that they have been rendered non-contributing. Examples of this include substantial changes to fenestration (altering locations), roof lines, or additions that mask the original form of the resource. New siding, roof materials, or new windows do not themselves render a building non-contributing.

*The following is a complete list of resources in the Fox Lake district:*

**NORTH SIDE OF FOX LAKE**

**Lane 250, south side (only) going east**

60 Lane 250. House, 2020. Non-contributing

80 Lane 250. Cottage, 2019. Non-contributing

140 Lane 250. Charles Sherril Cottage, Side-gabled, c. 1950/2024. Contributing

160 Lane 250. House, 1991. Non-contributing. Garage, 2023. Non-contributing  
Second to left in photo 03

200 Lane 250. Gaylon Barham House, 1979. Non-contributing  
Garage is partially visible on left side of photo 03

220 Lane 250. C. Thompson Cottage, Shed Style, 1982. Non-contributing  
Photo 02

The split-level home has a concrete foundation and vertical-coursed wood siding. The wood windows are pairs of casements and the roof, which features steeply-pitched, multiple shed-style slopes, is covered with asphalt shingles. The street façade has a wood entry door with three panels west of center. Wood steps lead up to the door. A pair of large windows is in a section west of the entry, but lower on the façade with its own sloped roof. The second story projects over the first story in a section east of the entry. This also has its own sloped roof. Two pairs of casement windows are in its second story.

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

**Lane 206, north side (only)**

155 Lane 206. William & Lillian Warfield Cottage, Ranch, 1974. Contributing  
Garage c. 1985. Non-contributing  
Photo 04

The one story, side-gabled house has a concrete basement and the first story walls composed of tan-colored brick. Metal siding covers the gables. The house has pairs of sliding, wood windows with stone sills. The east gable's peak projects outward and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The front (northeast) façade features a concrete stoop and wood door with a small window in the east half of the façade. A pair of sliding windows is east of the door. A wide chimney projects near the center of the façade and a pair of sliding windows is in the west end of the facade.

**Lane 205, south side (only) going east**

60 Lane 205. Garage, 1966. Contributing

160 Lane 205. Mobile Home, c. 1970. Contributing  
Seen on the left side of photo 06

**WEST SIDE OF FOX LAKE**

**S. West Fox Lake Road, east side going south**

920 S. West Fox Lake Road. Jessie & Elizabeth Tandy House, Ranch, 1968. Contributing  
Photo 05

The one-story house has a foundation composed of concrete blocks and its walls are covered with vinyl siding. The house has 1/1 wood windows with shutters. The low-pitched hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The street façade (west) has a metal garage door in its north end. A metal entry door is north of center on the façade. It has a window in its top half and a concrete stoop is in front of the door. A pair of 1/1 windows is north of the entry. Two short 1/1 windows are in the south half of the façade.

\*1240 S. West Fox Lake Road. Robert & Delores Duncan Cottage, Side-gabled, c. 1935.  
Contributing. Photo 09

**S. West Fox Lake Road, west side**

1045 S. West Fox Lake Road. Mar-Fran Hotel, 1968. Contributing  
Photo 08

The two-story building sits on a hill on the west side of the road. It has a gabled central section with long, side-gabled wings that project out and forward on the façade. The central, gabled section has tall, concrete block fire walls that are between it and the wings. The gabled section is

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

covered with modern vinyl shingles. It has four modern garage doors in the first story and a row of eight pairs of modern casement windows in the second story. A pent roof covered with metal is between the first and second stories. The first story of the wings is composed of concrete block. The second story is covered with clapboards. A balcony extends along the second story of the wings and features ironwork railings and posts that support the wings' side-gabled roof. The wings' first story feature a few metal doors. The second story features several hotel room metal doors and 1/1 wood windows. One story extensions are on the ends of the wings and feature shed roofs and openings that have been filled with concrete block.

## **SOUTH SIDE OF FOX LAKE**

### **Lane 120, north side going west**

60 Lane 120. Luke Jones House, Contemporary, 1976. Contributing  
Shed, c. 1976. Contributing  
Right side of photo 10

The two-story house is sited into the hill. Its walls are composed of concrete blocks, stuccoed, and its front wall is faced with random-coursed brown flagstone. The house has a gable that extends north/south with cross gables in the south half of the roof. The peaks of the gables project outward and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A flagstone chimney rises near the center of the roof. A wood door is centered in the front gable. No windows are located in the front or sides, except for small windows in the cross-gable walls.

100 Lane 120. Gable-front cottage, 1940/1980. Contributing. Garage, 1980. Non-contributing  
Second from right side in photo 10

160 Lane 120. Ranch, 1964. Contributing

200 Lane 120. Robert Bowers Cottage, Gable-front, 1950. Contributing.  
Garage, 2019. Non-contributing  
Right side of photo 11

The one-story, gable-front house is built on piers and features walls that are covered with plywood, scored vertically. The house has pairs of wood awning windows on its sides. The entry is centered on the street (south) façade. The entry is composed of a modern wood door with sidelites. The low-pitched gabled roof has wide overhanging eaves.

220 Lane 120. Ranch, 1953. Contributing  
Second from right side in photo 11

260 Lane 120. House, 1953/c. 2000. Non-contributing  
Third from right side in photo 11

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

This house was substantially expanded, masking the original 1953 cottage. The house includes a second story, modern siding and windows, and stone veneer added c. 2000. These changes render the house non-contributing.

340 Lane 120. Morris Davis House, Courtyard Ranch, 1955. Contributing.  
Right side of photo 12

**\*\*360 Lane 120. Roberta Emery House, Ranch, 1955. Contributing**  
Left side of photo 12

The one-story house has walls composed of concrete block and 1/1 wood windows with concrete sills and shutters. The hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The street (south) façade features two 1/1 windows in its west half; the second window from the west is a short, narrow window. The east half of the façade features a wood entry door with window in its top half, divided into multiple panes. A group of windows composed of a large sash flanked by narrow 1/1 windows is east of the door. This half of the façade also features a lower, hipped roof section that juts out over the entry and group of windows. A stuccoed chimney is on the east side of the house.

400 Lane 120. William Hobson Cottage, Gable-front, 1956. Contributing

460 Lane 120. Edward Parks Cottage, Side-gabled, 1959. Contributing  
Right side of photo 13

The one-story, side-gabled house has a concrete block foundation, and its walls are covered with clapboards. The gable walls are covered with metal. The house has 1/1 wood windows, and the roof is covered with metal. The house has a brick chimney on its southwest side as well as a porch with shed roof that is enclosed with large glass patio doors. The front (southeast) façade features a pair of patio doors for the entry in its west end. A window composed of a large middle sash flanked by casements is east of the patio doors in the west half of the façade. The east half of the façade features two 1/1 windows; the second window from the east is short and narrow.

**Lane 120, south side going east**

455 Lane 120. Side-gabled house, 1930/1990. Non-contributing

This house appears to have been composed of concrete block with metal casements (one of which is still visible on the south side). The house also appears to have had a porch that was enclosed on the west side. The house has modern vinyl siding over the concrete block and mostly modern windows, plus a garage addition on the south side of the house. These changes cumulatively render the house non-contributing.

435 Lane 120. Walter Belcher Cottage, Side-gabled, 1940. Contributing  
Photo 14

The one-story house has a raised basement composed of concrete blocks with windows composed of glass blocks. The first story walls are covered with metal siding and the house has 6/6 wood windows. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and features a wood cupola in its

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

center. A front-gabled porch is on the southwest corner of the house. Its walls are composed of concrete blocks and it is enclosed with rows of 1/1 wood windows. The entry to the porch and house is on the southwest side of the home. It is sheltered by a wood carport with a flat roof. A 6/6 window is north of the porch on the street façade. The northeast-facing side gable features two 6/6 windows and a wood door that leads onto a wood deck.

235 Lane 120. Front-gabled house, 1962/2011. Non-contributing.

Garage, 2011. Non-contributing

The house appears to have substantial additions to the original home with modern enclosed porch additions and a modern porch on the front of the house. The house has new windows and siding. These changes render the house non-contributing.

195 Lane 120. George Weaver House, 1953/1977. Contributing

Seen in right side of photo 30

**Lane 130 (also known as Wilson Drive), north side going west**  
***Begin existing National Register district***

60 Lane 130. Front-gabled house, 1930. Contributing

80 Lane 130. Wilbur & Alice Payne Cottage, Side-gabled, 1940. Contributing

Right side in photo 15

100 Lane 130. Front-gabled house, 1928. Contributing

*This was the first cottage built in the resort, by Carl Wilson, Sr.*

120 Lane 130. Bessie Moore Cottage, Front-gabled, c. 1930. Contributing

The cottage is partially visible on the right side of photo 16

*This was the second cottage built by Carl Wilson, Sr.*

The two-story house is sited into the hill with only the first story visible from the street. It has a plank-formed concrete foundation and walls covered with Dutch lap siding with simple corner and trim boards. The house has 1/1 wood windows with storm windows. The roof is covered with metal. The entry door is located on the west side of the house. The street (south) façade features two tall 1/1 windows with storm windows.

140 Lane 130. Alice Middlebrook House, Four-square, 1935. Contributing

Left side of photo 16

The three-story house is sited into the hill with a concrete block first story and aluminum siding on its second and third stories. The house has 1/1 wood windows, and the pyramidal-shaped hipped roof is covered with metal with a brick chimney rising from the top. The street (south) façade has a wood door with window in the top half off centered to the west in the second story; a metal awning is over the top of the entry. Two bays of 1/1 windows are in the second and third stories.

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

160 Lane 130. J. Brooks Cottage, Front-gabled, 1930. Contributing

220 Lane 130. Gore Cottage, Side-gabled, 1933. Contributing

360 Lane 130. Plummer & Levinia Jacobs Cottage, Front-gabled, 1938/c. 1990. Contributing

\*\*420 Lane 130. Cary & Jessie Jacobs Cottage, Side-gabled, c. 1940. Non-contributing

The gabled front porch has been removed, a full-width gable has been added to the street-facing façade, and the windows have been replaced. Due to a loss of integrity since the original Fox Lake district listing, the house has been rendered non-contributing.

\*\*480 Lane 130. Rueben Allen Cottage, Cross-gabled, 1942. Contributing

Right side of photo 18

\*\*500 Lane 130. Edward Burnett House, Compact Ranch, 1940. Contributing

Second from right side of photo 18

The one-story house has walls composed of concrete blocks and metal casement windows divided into three panes. The low-pitched hipped roof is covered with metal. The street (south) façade features a wood door with small windows in the top half off centered to the south. A pair of metal casement windows is west of the door. A window composed of casements and transom is east of the door. A small sliding window is in the façade's east end.

No Address/Lane 130. K. T. Thompson Lodge (building) & Beach (site) 1968.

Contributing (building & site counted separately). Photo 17

The one-story, side-gabled building has walls composed of concrete blocks stacked in vertical coursing. The western two-thirds of the building is a large porch enclosed with screens in wood dividers and a wood screen door on the north and south sides. A wide fireplace/chimney of stacked block is centered in the west end of the porch. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. This building was considered non-contributing in the original Fox Lake district listing. However, due to an expansion of the period of significance and retention of sufficient integrity, the building is considered contributing.

540 Lane 130. "Ly-Metz" Metzger House, Four-square, 1948. Contributing

Partially visible in the background of photo 18

580 Lane 130. Hawkins Cottage, Cross-gabled, 1934. Contributing

The two-story house has side gables and a prominent south/front gable offset to the west. The house has a concrete block first story and its second story walls are covered with vinyl siding. The house has modern 1/1 windows, typically set in groups of two that flank a fixed sash. This is the pattern in the south/front gable's second story. A one-story, south/front gabled section projects toward the street and features two of the same arrangement of windows in its front wall. The wood entry door is on the south wall of the one-story section. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

600 Lane 130. Betty Morris House, Side-gabled, 1956/1990. Non-contributing;  
Garage, c. 1990. Non-contributing

640 Lane 130. Violet Reynolds Cottage, Front-gabled log cottage, c. 1932. Contributing  
Right side of photo 38

The one-story, front-gabled house has a foundation composed of molded concrete block piers between which is later concrete block infill. The walls are composed of round logs, notched to form corners, with mortar chinking between the logs. Clapboards cover the gable walls. The house has wood windows in a variety of sash configurations. Two wood doors with windows in the top half are located in the street (south) façade. A wood deck is in front of the doors. The roof has exposed rafter tails and is covered in metal.

660 Lane 130. Paula Frantz Cottage, Front-gabled, 1930. Contributing

680 Lane 130. Elmer Burch House, Ranch, 1956. Contributing  
Left side of photo 38

This building was considered non-contributing in the original Fox Lake district listing. However, due to an expansion of the period of significance and retention of sufficient integrity, the building is considered contributing.

700 Lane 130. Homer Williams Cottage, Front-gabled, 1930. Contributing  
Shed, 1950. Contributing

This building was considered non-contributing in the original Fox Lake district listing. However, due to an expansion of the period of significance and retention of sufficient integrity, the building is considered contributing.

760 Lane 130. John Watkins Cottage, Front-gabled, 1938. Contributing  
***End existing National Register district***

**\*\*800** Lane 130. Abbe Simons Cottage, Side-gabled, 1930. Contributing

840 Lane 130. William Buford Cottage, Front-gabled, c. 1928. Contributing

860 Lane 130. House, 1992. Non-contributing

**Lane 130 (also known as Wilson Drive), south side going east**  
***Begin existing National Register district***

695 Lane 130. Ella Tyner House, Front-gabled, 1936/1970. Contributing  
Shed, 2023. Non-contributing

**\*635** Lane 130. William & Geraldine Savage Cottage, Side-gabled, 1935. Contributing  
Shed, 1973. Contributing  
Right side of photo 20



Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

595 Lane 130. Ernest Cook House, Contemporary, 1960. Contributing  
Left side of photo 20.

*This house was not part of the original Fox Lake district boundaries.*

The one-story house is positioned some distance back from the street and on a slight hill. It has concrete block retaining walls for its driveway and landscape bed around the north and south sides of the house. The walls are covered with plywood and batten strips. The house has large, wood windows in its northwest corner. These include a pair of casement windows with transom on the street (north) façade. A metal door is in the east end of the street façade. The house has a shed roof, slightly pitched down to the east and south. It is covered with metal.

575 Lane 130. Side-gabled log house, 1955. Contributing  
Right side of photo 21

The one-story, side-gabled house has a raised concrete block foundation and its walls are covered with vertical, split logs and stickwork. The house has pairs of wood casement windows, divided into three panes. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The street (north) façade features an enclosed porch on its west half. The porch has a block foundation and vertical, split-log balustrade. It is enclosed by rows of wood windows and features a storm door on its front wall. A wide window is east of the porch and features a large, fixed middle sash flanked by casements.

555 Lane 130. Front-gabled house, 1932. Contributing  
Second from the right side in photo 21  
Garage, 2021. Non-contributing (faces W. Fox Lake Road)

\*535 Lane 130. Ransom Cottage, Side-gabled, 1932. Contributing  
Third from the right side in photo 21

*This was constructed by Emery Boyd as a spec cottage*

The one-story, side-gabled house features a foundation composed of molded concrete blocks parged with cement. The walls are covered with Dutch lap siding with simple corner and trim boards. The house has wood windows in a variety of sash configurations, mostly casements divided into three or six panes each. The roof features exposed rafter tails and is covered with asphalt shingles. The street (north) façade is dominated by a large, front-gabled enclosed porch that projects from the center of the façade. It has a wood door with diamond-shaped window in the top centered on the porch's front wall. The porch is enclosed with rows of casement windows divided into six panes. The windows are above a low wall covered with car siding. Another enclosed porch forms a side-gabled ell off the southeast corner of the house.

507 Lane 130. Front-gabled house, 1930. Contributing  
*This house was not part of the original Fox Lake district boundaries.*

\*495 Lane 130. William Wilmitte Cottage, Side-gabled, 1932. Contributing  
Garage, 2010. Non-contributing  
Left side of photo 19

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

This building was considered non-contributing in the original Fox Lake district listing. However, due to an expansion of the period of significance and retention of sufficient integrity, the building is considered contributing.

\*475 Lane 130. Side-gabled house, 1932. Contributing

455 Lane 130. Courtney-Jackson Cottage, Side-gabled, c. 1935. Contributing

435 Lane 130. Bradshaw Cottage, Side-gabled, c. 1935/2010. Non-contributing

This house has been resided with vinyl siding and window opening sizes have been altered and filled with nonhistoric replacement windows. A large two-story addition is located on the street-facing façade, and a wraparound deck has been constructed. Due to loss of integrity, the house has been rendered non-contributing since its original contributing status in the original Fox Lake district listing.

415 Lane 130. Front-gabled house, 1957. Non-contributing

The house has been resided with vinyl siding, the porch has been fully enclosed, windows have been replaced, and a wraparound deck has been constructed. Due to a loss of integrity, the house has been rendered non-contributing since its original contributing status in the original Fox Lake district listing.

155 Lane 130. Williams-Reynolds Cottage, Front-gabled, 1951. Contributing

This building was considered non-contributing in the original Fox Lake district listing. However, due to an expansion of the period of significance and retention of sufficient integrity, the building is considered contributing.

\*115 Lane 130. Warren Carter Cottage, Side-gabled, 1932. Contributing

Second from left side of photo 15

This house is a two-story version of the one-story side-gabled homes with front-gabled porches. Its first story walls are composed of plank-formed concrete and its second story is covered with vinyl siding. The house has metal and wood windows in a variety of sash patterns including 1/1 and sliding windows. The front-gabled porch is enclosed on the first story with rows of metal awning windows above a low wall of brick. A storm door is centered on the street façade. The second story is a sleeping porch enclosed with pairs of sliding windows. These windows, as well as the door, have c. 1950 metal awnings. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and a chimney composed of random-coursed fieldstone is centered in the west side gabled wall.

\*95 Lane 130. Henry Wilson, Jr. Cottage, Side-gabled, 1932. Contributing

Partially visible on the left side of photo 15

***End existing National Register district***

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

**Lane 130 A (west side only)**

\*\*115 Lane 130 A. Johnese T. Pickens House, Contemporary, 1957. Contributing  
Shed, 1957. Contributing  
Shed, 2018. Non-contributing  
Photo 22

This one-story house is similar in appearance to the house at 595 Lane 130. Its walls are composed of concrete blocks and it features mostly 1/1 wood windows. An entry door is on the northeast and northwest walls of the home and are accessed by a concrete terrace. The house has a low-pitched shed roof that slopes to the south and west and is covered with metal.

**Lane 170, north side going west**

175 Lane 170. Front-gabled house, 1956/1990. Non-contributing

\*\*135 Lane 170. Leroy Torain Cottage, Front-gabled, 1955. Contributing. Garage, 1984. Non-contributing

115 Lane 170. House, 2005. Non-contributing; Shed, 2005. Non-contributing  
Second from left side of photo 23

75 Lane 170. Harry M. Fleming House, Half-Courtyard Ranch, 1977. Non-contributing  
Garage, 1985. Non-contributing  
Photo 23

The one-story, side-gable ranch house has metal siding and a low-pitched roof covered with metal. The street (south) façade has a wainscot of brick and a front-gabled section at its west end for the garage. The garage has a wide, wood door and projects forward. The roof extends forward to create a porch and walkway to the entry east of the garage. The roof is carried by fluted columns. A wide set of patio doors is east of the garage. A wood entry door with a window in the top half is east of the patio doors. A pair of wide sliding windows is in the east end of the facade.

55 Lane 170. Side-gabled house, 1940. Contributing

15 Lane 170. Side-gabled house, c. 1960. Contributing

**Lane 170, south side going east**

\*\*40 Lane 170. Berdia M. Major Cottage, Front-gabled, 1938. Contributing  
Well house, 1938. Contributing  
Right side of photo 24

The two-story, front-gabled house has walls composed of concrete block and modern 1/1 windows with brick sills. The gable walls are covered with vinyl siding and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The street (north) façade has a pair of modern sliding patio doors in the

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

east half of the first story and a pair of sliding windows in its west half. A shed roof supported by modern, turned wood posts is between the first and second stories. The second story features a small 1/1 window in its east half and a large pair of 1/1 windows in its west half.

\*80 Lane 170. Shumake Cottage, Side-gabled, c. 1935. Contributing  
Guest cottage, c. 1935. Contributing  
Second from right side of photo 24

\*120 Lane 170. Stewart-Dillingham Cottage, Side-gabled, c. 1935. Contributing  
Left side of photo 24

This side-gabled house is typical of those on Lane 130 with a broad, front-gabled porch that projects in the center of the façade. The foundation is composed of concrete and the walls are covered with metal siding. The house has 1/1 wood windows with metal canopies. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The porch is enclosed with jalousie style metal windows and a wood entry door is centered on the porch's front wall.

200 Lane 170. Contemporary house, c. 1960. Contributing

**Lane 160, north side going west**

195 Lane 160. Cross-Hassel House, 1940/c. 1990. Non-contributing

155 Lane 160. Paul Burton Cottage, Side-gabled, 1956. Contributing

55 Lane 160. Walter Dulin Cottage, Side-gabled, 1930. Contributing  
Photo 25

The one-story house is built on concrete block piers and has cementuous shingles covering its original, side-gabled portion. The house has 1/1 wood windows with wood shutters. A front-gabled section was added that is covered with clapboards and features a large metal window divided into twelve panes. A wood door with a storm door with jalousie window is east of the front-gabled section. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

**Lane 160, south side going east**

40 Lane 160. Side-gabled house, 1963. Contributing; Garage, 1990. Non-contributing

180 Lane 160. Scott & Katherine Dillingham Cottage, Side-gabled, 1952. Contributing

**Lane 150, north side (only) going west**

115 Lane 150. Side-gabled house, 1965. Contributing

155 Lane 150. Side-gabled house, 1985. Non-contributing

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

**West Fox Lake Road, north side going west**

Public Access/Fox Lake Landing. No address/corner of W. Fox Lake Road & 150 W., c. 1960 Contributing (site). Photos 26-28

The public access site features a large gravel parking area and concrete boat ramp as well as a metal pier. An Indiana Historic Bureau sign for the Fox Lake Resort is at the south end of the landing.

1540 W. Fox Lake Road. *National Register of Historic Places*.

Pryor's Place, Craftsman/Bungalow, 1916. Contributing; Outhouse, c. 1935. Contributing; Site, c. 1955. Contributing. Photo 29

The large, side-gabled bungalow is one-and-a-half stories with its first story walls covered with random-coursed fieldstone and the upper story covered with stucco and half-timbering. The house has 1/1 wood windows with concrete sills. The front façade is technically the east façade, facing away from the road. It features a wraparound porch of stone with stone piers that carry the overhanging roof where a dormer with shed roof is located. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

1610 W. Fox Lake Road. Side-gabled house, 1953. Contributing

1680 W. Fox Lake Road. John & Dorothy Lee House, Side-gabled, 1962. Contributing  
Left side of photo 30

1740 W. Fox Lake Road. Modular house, 1971. Contributing

\*\*1800 W. Fox Lake Road. Side-gabled house, c. 1950. Contributing  
Left side of photo 13

1840 W. Fox Lake Road. Bridgewater-Scott House, Side-gabled, c. 1938. Contributing

1860 W. Fox Lake Road. Leo & Claire Robinson House, Contemporary, 1958. Contributing

1868 W. Fox Lake Road. Paulyne Carter Cottage, Front-gabled, 1935. Contributing

The one-story, front-gabled house has walls covered with car siding and simple corner and trim boards. The house has 1/1 wood windows and a small square window in the gable. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The street (south) façade features a modern metal door in the west end and two 1/1 windows east of the door.

1870 W. Fox Lake Road, Charles Rowan House, Ranch, 1950. Contributing

1890 W. Fox Lake Road. Side-gabled house, 1940/1980. Non-contributing

1950 W. Fox Lake Road. Joseph Casey House, Front-gabled, 1977. Non-contributing; Garage, 1981. Non-contributing

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

1960 W. Fox Lake Road. Joseph Collins House, Contemporary, c. 1965. Contributing  
Partially visible on the right side of photo 31

1970 W. Fox Lake Road. Contemporary, 1962. Contributing  
Left side of photo 31

The one-story, ranch style house has a concrete foundation and clapboard siding. The house features short, sliding wood windows and its side-gabled roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The low-pitched roof has wide overhanging eaves supported at the gables by three long wood beams. The street (south) façade has a wood entry door in its west end. Two pairs of wide, sliding windows are east of the door. The east half of the façade features two pairs of sliding windows.

2110 W. Fox Lake. House, 2019. Non-contributing

2150 W. Fox Lake Road. Davie Tucker House, Side-gabled, 1957. Contributing  
Left side of photo 34

2170 W. Fox Lake Road. Joseph Davis Cottage, Side-gabled, 1940. Contributing  
Well house, c. 1940 Contributing  
Photo 33

The house has a raised concrete block foundation and walls covered with Dutch lap siding featuring simple corner and trim boards. The house has wood awning windows (two wide sashes per window). The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The street (southeast) façade has a front-gabled section that projects on the east half of the façade. It features a wood door with diamond-shaped windows in the top half on the west side of the front-gabled section. An awning window is in the east end. A one-story section with a shed roof is west of the front-gabled section. It features two awning windows on the front wall and one awning window on the west wall.

2190 W. Fox Lake Road. Van Cleave-Perkins Cottage, Side-gabled, c. 1950. Contributing  
Garage, 1940. Contributing

**West Fox Lake Road, south side going east**

2165 W. Fox Lake Road. Ranch, 1962. Contributing

2125 W. Fox Lake Road. Front-gabled house, 1986. Non-contributing

2115 W. Fox Lake Road. Bishop Cottage, Side-gabled, 1976. Contributing

**\*\*2055 W. Fox Lake Road. Dorsey & Hortense Ward Cottage, Front-gabled, c. 1935.  
Contributing. Photo 35**

The one-story, front-gabled house has walls composed of concrete block and the gable walls are covered with clapboards. The house has small metal windows on its sides. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The street (north) façade features a concrete terrace with steps on its west

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

side. This fronts the entry which is composed of a wood door with full window centered on the façade. The door is flanked by pairs of metal casement windows, each divided into three panes, with a transom above (covered with wood).

1995 W. Fox Lake Road. Robert Neal House, Front-gabled, 1962. Contributing  
Garage, 1934. Contributing  
Right side of photo 36

\*1975 W. Fox Lake Road. Argusta & Marlene Cook Cottage, Side-gabled, c. 1935.  
Contributing; Shed, c. 1945. Contributing

1905 W. Fox Lake Road. Side-gabled house, 1975. Contributing

1855 W. Fox Lake Road. Lucas Trammer House, Ranch, 1947. Contributing  
Right side of photo 37

The one-story house has a concrete foundation and walls that are covered with Dutch lap siding. The house has 1/1 wood windows and its low-pitched hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The street (north) façade features a large window divided into twelve panes centered on the façade. A wood door with a window divided into six panes in the top is west of the large window. A short 1/1 window is in the west end of the façade. Two tall 1/1 windows is in the east end of the façade (this appears to have been a garage that was infilled with living space).

1845 W. Fox Lake Road. Lorenzo Ervin Cottage, Side-gabled, 1946. Contributing;  
Garage, 1999. Non-contributing  
Left side of photo 37

1575 W. Fox Lake Road. Jackson & Collenane Cosey House, Ranch, c. 1955. Contributing  
Garage, 2005. Non-contributing

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase  
Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- ☐ B. Removed from its original location
- ☐ C. A birthplace or grave
- ☐ D. A cemetery
- ☐ E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- ☐ F. A commemorative property
- ☐ G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years



Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

ETHNIC HERITAGE

**Period of Significance**

1928-1976

1940-1949

**Significant Dates**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person (last name, first name)**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder (last name, first name)**

Boyd, Emery

Roberts, John A.

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

### Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1928, after the resort community was first planned and when its first house was built. While Pryor's Place predates this period, being built in 1917, its prominence, as it relates to Fox Lake resort's Black population, rose when it was purchased by the Pryor family and operated as a guest house during the period of significance. All other contributing properties within the district date between 1928 and 1976, the end date of the period of significance. Fox Lake continued to be a summer and vacation destination for African Americans well into the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, with some homes still owned by descendants of the original owners. A second period of significance is 1940 through 1949 when the resort community's accommodations appeared in the *Negro Motorists Green Book* publications.

### Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Fox Lake historic district qualifies for the National Register of Historic Places using criterion A, under the areas of entertainment/recreation and ethnic heritage. Fox Lake became a destination for summer resort residents as it was developed for African Americans beginning in 1928, at a time when discrimination kept Blacks away from other resort communities, just as many were climbing into financial success, permitting many to seek recreational opportunities outside of urban areas. Fox Lake attracted visitors and residents from Detroit, Chicago, and Indianapolis, and was often featured in the *Negro Motorists Green Book* during the 1950s-1960s and expanded its boundaries to include the west and north shores of the lake. Fox Lake developed its own identity and culture, fostered by published newsletters, annual boat parades, and other social functions centering on lake life. This lasted well into the 1970s, as cottages were passed down from generation to generation.

This updated nomination also seeks to raise the significance of the district from local to statewide significance due to its unique development as Indiana's only African American lake resort community. While another attempt was made near Valparaiso, it did not materialize due to opposition. This leaves the Fox Lake historic district as Indiana's only resort developed specifically for African Americans, many of whom were prominent residents of Indianapolis. It is also one of only a few such resorts in the Midwest, most of which were located in Michigan.

Fox Lake meets the registration requirements in the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF), *Green Book Sites in Indiana, 1936-1967*. Fox Lake was listed in the Green Book as a Resort, which is included in the District category under Associated Property Types in the MPDF. Within the Registration Requirements of the MPDF *Green Book Sites in Indiana, 1936-1967*,

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

Fox Lake is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the areas of Ethnic Heritage/Black and Entertainment and Recreation. The Fox Lake resort area was a thriving resort community for African American vacationers during the 1920s through the 1960s and beyond.

The Fox Lake resort community was established by 1927 when the original plat was created by the Fox Lake Land Company. Soon after, vacationers and summer residents were attracted from cities such as Chicago, Toledo, Detroit, and Indianapolis. A property owners' association formed by 1938 to address infrastructure and beach improvements, as well as provide organization of programs and activities for vacationers.

The beginnings of the resort pre-date the first Green Book edition, with a number of houses constructed prior to 1940, the first year the resort was included in the guide. The resort includes land along Fox Lake with areas of beach and access to the water, a collection of cottages, a lodge (public meeting space), and open space for activities. Prior to World War II, the Black American middle class was growing, offering more opportunities for home and automobile ownership and the means to travel for recreation. In addition to offering vacation opportunities, resorts like Fox Lake offered Black Americans the opportunity to own a second home without facing the discrimination that usually came with purchasing property or real estate. In many cases, as happened with Fox Lake, the land was purchased by white businessmen, platted, and sold to Black buyers. In addition to owners utilizing the cottages along the lake, some owners rented their properties for additional income. Fox Lake also became a recreational destination for young African Americans in northeast Indiana who sought out dancing and beach activities where they could socialize with other young people from larger cities summering at the resort.

Fox Lake was last included in the Green Book in 1949, but the resort continued to be a vacation destination for African Americans in northeast Indiana well into the mid- and late 20<sup>th</sup> century. Many of the cottages are owned by descendants of original owners.

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

This Additional Documentation and Boundary Increase to Fox Lake (04/12/2001-NPS#01000360) serves to supersede the original district and list it under the Multiple Property Documentation Form, *Green Book Sites in Indiana, 1936-1967*. The boundary increase incorporates the previously listed Pryor's Country Place (02/19/2025-NPS#10011038) which was listed under Criterion A in the areas of Ethnic Heritage/Black and Entertainment/Recreation and Criterion C in the area of Architecture with a period of significance of 1916-1970.

#### ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION & THE AFRICAN AMERICAN RESORT COMMUNITY OF FOX LAKE

In its current form, original Fox Lake historic district, lining each side of Lane 130 and totaling approximately 30 cottages (photos 15, 19), was listed on the National Register in 2001. The period of significance was established as 1928-1950. The Fox Lake Land Company, however, was not finished developing the resort community with the original plat that is represented by only a portion of the current district. The company expanded its development both east and west of the current district and eventually platted lots on the north side of Fox Lake into the 1970s (photos 01-05). The company continues to own property that went unplatted on the northeast corner of the lake (photo 27).

The story of Fox Lake as a resort community is best understood when taking all its 20<sup>th</sup> century development into consideration. Many of the cottages along the south shore outside of the current district are not unlike other early cottages that are part of the district. These cottages are on similarly scaled lots along Lanes 150-170 to the west and Lane 120 to the east, as well as several that line West Fox Lake Road, the primary east/west route that connects the resort community to Angola. Like those on Lane 130, these cottages were also built by the resort's African American vacationers often referred to as "Fox Lakers" on lots purchased from the Fox Lake Land Company. The approximate number of these extant cottages is about seventy outside of the current district on the south side of the lake.

The area around Fox Lake, situated southwest of Angola in Steuben County, was first settled in 1837 by Daniel Fox. Like many of the lakes that dot Steuben County, Fox Lake began to attract individuals seeking respite and recreation in the early 1900s. Two large tracts of land composed the south shore of Fox Lake in the early 1900s. One was a farm owned by W. H. Ward and consisted of 77 acres along the southwest and west shores of Fox Lake. The other was purchased by (Reverend) Dr. Scott F. and Georgia Hershey from the estate of Elijah Sierer in 1911. It consisted of 50 acres and occupied the south and southeast shores of Fox Lake, wrapping around to the southeast at the outlet for the lake. Nearing retirement, Hershey sought property in Indiana conducive to wellness and development of an orchard.

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

In 1915, it was reported that Hershey would be constructing his home the following summer and it would be 34' x 40' in size and veneered with cobblestone (photo 29). An access lane was built from the county road east of the site into Hershey's property. The property, now referred to as Pryor's Place, was probably the first house constructed on Fox Lake intended to serve as a place for both respite and recreation. They initially called their property "The Orchards" with the intent to construct a large "health home" and set out fruit orchards. Newspaper notices throughout the 1910s and 1920s featured grapes, peaches, and plums for sale at the Hershey Farm on Fox Lake. The property was later nicknamed "Bonnie Loch" by the time Dr. Hershey divided the property and sold most of it to J. W. Balyeat from Goshen, Indiana in 1925. Balyeat's intention was to subdivide his purchase into lots for summer cottages which does not appear to have happened.

Dr. Scott and Georgia Hershey often entertained people at their lake residence and held meetings of various religious organizations including Sunday Schools and ladies' Bible study classes. The Hershey House was also a frequent meeting place of the Women's Christian Temperance Union which advocated for the prohibition of alcohol. Jack and Belle Fox of Angola purchased the property from the Hersheys by May 1930. The Foxes were the first to operate the home as a resort, but it would be short-lived. With the passage of the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution prohibiting sales of alcohol, a number of individuals who attempted to provide alcohol sales found themselves in violation of the law. Gambling, also being prohibited, often found itself in company with the illegal sale of alcohol. Both occurred at the Fox Resort leading to raids by federal officers and the Foxes being sent to prison.

The Ward property, a large farm bounded on the north by the lake, was purchased in 1924 by several businessmen in northern Indiana for a resort development of lake cottages marketed to African Americans. The men who incorporated under the name "Fox Lake Land Company" were C. M. Thieme and O. L. Christman of Fort Wayne, G. G. Eckhart and Paul Moreland of Marion, and Harry Schrader of Kokomo. All three cities represented by the men had large populations of African Americans. The corporate offices were in Marion, the city with the infamous last Black lynching in Indiana that occurred in 1930. Fox Lake's plat was established by 1926 and at least three lots were sold to Alma Alsop, William Crawford, and Carl Wilson, Sr. in the same year. Wilson was a successful Black businessman from Fort Wayne and constructed the first of his three cottages on lots purchased at the lake by 1929 (100 and 120 Lane 130 are two of those cottages, photo 16). Lane 130, the original development road, was named Wilson Drive (photo 15). This drive, which extended east from the north/south county road at the west end of the lake predates the current, east/west Fox Lake Road (photo 34). West Fox Lake Road was not built until the late 1940s to connect the north/south county roads on either end of the lake.

Fox Lake was well-positioned in Steuben County's tri-state location to attract vacationers. Highway 20 provided easy west-to-east travel from Chicago and, inversely, from Toledo. Highway 27 allowed easy travel north from Fort Wayne, or south from Coldwater, Michigan where routes from Lansing and Detroit converged. Fox Lake was about a mile south of Highway 20 and west of Highway 27. While it proved a more circuitous route from Indianapolis, the state capital provided the majority of summer residents at Fox Lake. Promotions for the development were placed in the city's Black newspaper, *The Indianapolis Recorder*, in 1926, just as a

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

promotional advertisement had been placed for Michigan's similar development, Idlewild, in the newspaper in 1916. The Fox Lake advertisement headlined with "The long looked for Indiana lake resort for Colored people" and "Fox Lake Big Opening Sunday June 20."<sup>1</sup> People could take a bus excursion from Indianapolis to the lake for the grand opening for \$5.00. The advertisement also included a suggested route for drivers from Indianapolis taking Route 1 north to Peru, then Route 7 to Fort Wayne, then Route 13 (Highway 27 today) to the center of Angola, then west for 1 ¼ miles before turning south to Fox Lake (the west side county road today). Development of the east entrance to the lake resort, mentioned previously, was not built until the late 1940s.

One of the earliest events recorded at the lake occurred in 1929. In that year, a few of the incorporators of Fox Lake underwrote a two-week excursion for 58 boys and girls from the Indianapolis Orphans' Home to vacation at Fox Lake. They stayed at two cottages and the clubhouse at the lake for "unleashed fun."<sup>2</sup>

The Fox Lake Land Company sold several lots to John A. Roberts, a Black contractor who would go on to build several cottages around the lake. However, the development of the lake resort was slow, likely impacted by financial disparity during the Great Depression. In 1932, the original incorporators sold Fox Lake Land Company to two brothers, Emery and Lowell Boyd. The Boyds co-owned a farm near Rochester, Indiana. Lowell Boyd was an insurance executive whose offices were in Kokomo, where the land company's offices were relocated. Emery Boyd moved to Fox Lake to farm the acreage that could be farmed, originally intended for a golf course, and he constructed a dozen cottages that he rented until they could be sold. It appears that these are the side-gabled cottages with front-gabled porches marked with an asterisk in section 7, ten of which are identified (photos 19, 21, and 24 show many of these).

Emery Boyd converted the Ward farmhouse into a hotel and the barn was converted to a clubhouse/restaurant and dance hall. These buildings were situated on a hill on the south side of Fox Lake Road but are no longer extant. Soon, vacationers and summer residents were attracted from cities such as Chicago, Toledo, Detroit, and Indianapolis. Indianapolis provided the most summer vacationers at Fox Lake, the most famous among them was Freeman B. Ransom, whose descendants maintain his cottage at 535 Lane 130. Ransom was an Indianapolis attorney, most notably for Madame C. J. Walker's company, and was heavily engaged in civic affairs. Mrs. Ransom took a position on the board of the Fox Lake property owners' association. The Boyds took out a full-page advertisement in the *Indianapolis Recorder* in 1938 promoting the development and their hotel and cottages. A large portion of the advertisement was composed of numerous smaller advertisements by local Angola businesses welcoming vacationers to Fox Lake.<sup>3</sup>

Often confronted with segregation in schools, neighborhoods, and the workplace, Fox Lake offered African Americans a resort place of their own. At Fox Lake, the residents shaped an

<sup>1</sup> *Indianapolis Recorder* 19 June 1926.

<sup>2</sup> "Orphans Get Vacation at Fox Lake" *Indianapolis Recorder*. 10 Aug 1929. Pg. 8. Col. 6

<sup>3</sup> "Fox Lake Summer Resort" *Indianapolis Recorder*. 9 July 1938. Pg. 8

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

entertainment and recreational life centered on the lake as a summer escape from their homes in larger urban areas. As members of the Black population became middle-class with financial means for leisure and travel, they created a place to vacation where they felt welcome and part of a larger community. The lake also became a recreational destination for young African Americans who sought out dancing and beach activities within driving distance of Fort Wayne and Marion, Indiana, where they could socialize with other young people from larger cities summering at the resort. The lake became a resort destination for the functions of Black fraternal organizations and Black churches. The first annual statewide picnic for the Odd Fellows Household of Ruth, the Black chapter of the organization, was held at the Fox Lake resort in 1940 with several thousand Odd Fellows and their wives expected in attendance for the Fourth of July event.<sup>4</sup>

A notable event occurred in July 1938 when The Dukes Club, Inc. of Indianapolis held their first convention at Fox Lake. The Dukes Club had a program with a “rotarian spirit” with people coming from throughout the Midwest’s largest cities. Named the “Duke of the West” Henry Fleming, a cottage owner at Fox Lake, played host for the convention. The club’s national headquarters were located in Indianapolis at that time. The annual convention was planned for Fox Lake again in 1939.<sup>5</sup> The Dukes would return again to Fox Lake for their national conference in 1946. Dudley Storms and his orchestra performed for the convention’s main dance at the clubhouse.<sup>6</sup>

Fox Lake property owners formed an association in 1938 to address infrastructure and beach improvements, as well as provide organization of programs and activities for vacationers. The following purpose was written into their bylaws:

*To provide mutual protection of the financial investment of the property owners of Fox Lake. To serve the general needs of this resort; to provide for wholesome recreation; to encourage persons of good moral character to buy, build and occupy cottages at Fox Lake resort; to guard, supervise and promote all recreational activities at this resort, including a life guard for swimming, and boating, conservation for fishing and hunting.*

Lifeguards were hired and swimming times/rules were posted at the beach. The Butternut Point Addition, near the south shore’s east end, was platted and opened in 1940 by the Fox Lake Land Company (lining Lane 120), though America’s entry into World War II slowed development of this addition. African American troops stationed at Baer Field in Fort Wayne during World War II were welcomed by Fox Lake residents to take part in recreational activities during weekend passes from military service. Fox Lake residents provided tents and refreshments for the servicemen.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>4</sup> “State Oddfellows Plan Gala Picnic” *Indianapolis Recorder*. 29 June 1940. Pg. 9, cols. 7-8

<sup>5</sup> “Popular Dukes sponsor Annual Convention at Fox Lake Resort” *Indianapolis Recorder*. 13 Aug 1938. Pg. 4, cols. 4-5

<sup>6</sup> “Dukes Club Officers Plan Gala National Convention” *Indianapolis Recorder*. 13 July 1946. Pg. 5, cols. 7-8

<sup>7</sup> Greiff, Fox Lake Historic District National Register nomination, 2001. Section 8, page 8.

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

From the beginning of the development leading up to World War II, between two and four dozen cottages were constructed on Wilson Drive (this is composed of Lanes 130 and 170 today). The discrepancy is related to county assessor construction dates and a 1942 United States Geological Section map. The 1942 map shows a long loop road for the development, extending from the north/south county road on the west side of the lake, dotted with about two dozen buildings. At least six of these cottages are outside the boundaries of the current district (left side of photo 24, photos 09, 25). The Butternut Point Addition, east of this, is not yet depicted in the 1942 map and no buildings are depicted on the west or north shores of the lake.

Boyd's hotel and restaurant, in the old Ward farmhouse and barn, were operated by several individuals from the 1930s to the early 1940s. In 1943, operations were turned over to two Black women, Mary Frances Fleming of Indianapolis and Mabel Van Cleave of Franklin (IN). The partnership proved so successful that Harry M. and Frances Fleming constructed a new resort motel "Mar-Fran" on the west bluff overlooking the lake during the 1950s (the 1967 building is shown at the site in photo 08). The Flemings owned Fleming's Grocery in Indianapolis. Their Fox Lake motel was also frequently featured in the *Negro Motorists Green Book*, specifically between 1959-1967.

The former Hershey property also began to play a supportive role in the Fox Lake resort community when it opened as Pryor's Country Place in 1947 (photo 29). As Fox Lake's African American resort community continued to flourish into the 1950s and 1960s, Pryor's Place, at the east end of the resort community's south shore, offered rooms, cabins, and meals for vacationing African Americans, as well as recreational opportunities on the tranquil, wooded bluff. Albert and Hazelene Pryor purchased the former Hershey House and five acres from Ms. Mamie Wilson in 1947. The Pryors were an African American couple who had become acquainted with Fox Lake through a friend who had a cottage there. The couple had one child, a daughter named Joy, who they wished to raise in a less-busy environment than their current home in Chicago and supplement their income with an inn.<sup>8</sup> Joy Pryor married Hal Parker and resides in Angola.

Albert and Hazelene Pryor operated the house as an inn where travelers could rent rooms and have three meals a day cooked by Hazelene Pryor. Advertisements in the Angola newspaper featured a "nice cheerful large room with six new single beds and reception room at Pryor Place."<sup>9</sup> Activities at Pryor's included a small beach for guests for swimming and sunbathing. Small boats were also offered to guests for fishing and rowing on Fox Lake. The wide-open lawn provided a location for lawn bowling, croquet, and archery. Guests could also play ping pong and board games available at the house. The inn, nicknamed "Pryor's Place", or "Pryor's Country Place," was "a place in the country where families would come to relax and enjoy a summer vacation (and) it was a lovely place to grow up."<sup>10</sup> Pryor's Country Place, along with the Mar-Fran Motel, was featured in the *Negro Motorist Green Books* during the 1950s-1960s, which listed locations for lodging, dining, and other amenities for African Americans travelers.

<sup>8</sup> Recollections by Joy (Pryor) Parker, 2022

<sup>9</sup> "For Rent" *Angola Herald*. 3 Oct 1947. Pg. 5

<sup>10</sup> Recollections by Joy (Pryor) Parker, 2022



Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

Pryor's Place, specifically, was listed in the *Green Book* from 1954-1967 under the name Pryor's Country Place (and Pryor's Lodge, 1962-1967) for lodging accommodations at Fox Lake.

After World War II, between 1945 and 1964 when the Civil Rights Act was passed, another three dozen cottages were built at the lake. Development during this period also included construction of the original Mar-Fran Motel, and building roads in Butternut Point subdivision (Lane 120, photos 10-12) and the county road now known as West Fox Lake Road on the south side of the lake (photo 34). The Butternut subdivision contained 96 lots with Lots 72-96 fronting the south side of Fox Lake Road. In 1947, John A. Roberts purchased 1.8 acres from the land company to develop additional homes. Numerous narrow lots were platted for lake cottages along Fox Lake Road when it opened; these were part of the Butternut Addition at the east end, and were added to the original plat at the west end. The 1959 USGS map identifies about seventy-six cottages built on the south side of the lake, as well as the east/west connecting road and the road for Butternut Point. The northwest corner of Fox Lake was also platted by the Boyds by 1951 and was named Tri-State Beach, which contains 66 lots, only a few of which are occupied by dwellings.

Fox Lake summer residents advocated for stocking the lake with fingerlings. In 1949, the Indiana Director of Conservation committed to stocking the lake with bluegill after meeting with a group of anglers from the lake. A photograph showing resort cottage owners/fishermen and Indianapolis residents, Cary D. Jacobs and Lawrence Van Cleave (Mabel Van Cleave's husband), with Clyde Stewart of the Indiana Conservation Department is in the November 1949, issue of the *Indianapolis Recorder*.<sup>11</sup> Cary Jacobs was the brother of Plummer Jacobs, and co-founder with his brother of Jacobs Funeral Home in Indianapolis in 1933, as well as an attorney. Both brothers were ministers; Cary was pastor at Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church while Plummer was pastor at Mt. Paran Baptist Church, both in Indianapolis.

The Fox Lake Property Owner's Association incorporated in 1952 and improved beach and bathhouse accommodations central on the south shore. This area had been known as "the island" because it was surrounded by lower wetlands but was later improved by cutting a channel around higher ground. The area became the hub for social activities for vacationers where a beach and piers were maintained. This was vastly improved in 1968 (photo 17). The year 1952 was also a big year for Fox Lake as it played host to the 16<sup>th</sup> annual convention of the Dukes Club of America. Approximately 200 Dukes came from Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana to the resort community in August that year.<sup>12</sup> The following year, the Indiana State Chapter of the NAACP held its annual picnic at Fox Lake. Mrs. Jessie Jacobs, who was a summer resident with her husband, Cary, at 420 Lane 130, was the state president.<sup>13</sup> Jessie Jacobs was elected to the Indianapolis School Board and was the first Black woman to run for state legislature.

<sup>11</sup> "Fox Lake, Ind. Gets New Finny Tribe" *Indianapolis Recorder*. 12 Nov 1949. Pg. 1, cols. 3-5

<sup>12</sup> "Dukes Trek to Fox Lake Resort for 1952 National Convention" *Indianapolis Recorder*. 2 Aug 1952. Pg. 4 Col. 1

<sup>13</sup> "State NAACP Stages Picnic at Fox Lake" *Indianapolis Recorder*. 8 Aug 1953. Pg. 5, cols. 2-3

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

By 1954, Fox Lake resort's amenities, specifically Pryor's Place and the Mar-Fran Hotel, were being promoted in the *Negro Motorist Green Book*, a national publication, and in the *Indianapolis Recorder*, a newspaper published for the Black community. The *Negro Motorist Green Book* was the creation of Victor Green, a Harlem, New York postman. Green felt that a national guide that listed locations of African American-owned facilities would allow safer travel for African Americans during the time of segregation and racial tensions. Green's first publication was made in 1936. The yearly publications not only proved valuable for travel, but also financially beneficial to the Black-owned businesses featured in the guide.<sup>14</sup>

Throughout the 1950s and into the 1960s, social events, including pageants and boat parades at Fox Lake were written about in the *Indianapolis Record*. These included the comings and goings of residents from Indianapolis and other cities. Reverend Plummer D. Jacobs, president of the property owners' association, opened the summer season on Memorial Day, 1953, with a meeting at the clubroom. It was mentioned at the meeting that John A. Roberts, who lived at the resort year-round, and had built several cottages there including his last named "Lake View" had died since the previous meeting in 1952. The meeting attendees dismissed and visited construction of the new hotel being built by the Flemings that would become known as the Mar-Fran.<sup>15</sup> Plummer Jacobs, a central figure at the lake from the 1930s-1950s was a prominent Indianapolis funeral director and had won a cottage on the lake in a promotional venture by the Fox Lake Land Company on Labor Day 1937. Over 1,000 people entered the drawing for the cottage.<sup>16</sup> In 1938, the Fox Lake Land Company transferred a three-room cottage that included a partial basement on Lot 42 (now 360 Lane 130) to Jacobs and his wife, Levinia, for \$1.00. He also received a log cottage on Lot 118 (no longer extant). Plummer D. Jacobs officiated Lawrence and Mabel (Beason) Van Cleave's wedding in Indianapolis in 1934.

In 1964, Fox Lake played host to the Midwest Alumni Association of Talladega College. It was the 17<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the association and drew over 180 people who attended, mostly staying at the Mar-Fran Motel. A group photo of attendees is found in the August 29<sup>th</sup> issue of the *Indianapolis Recorder*.<sup>17</sup>

Between 1967 and 1969 the Boyd family of Fox Lake Land Company deeded 3.3 acres of lakefront land, located centrally on the south shore of the lake, for construction of a new recreation center with a lagoon surrounding it. An architect (unknown) was commissioned to draw a contemporary design to compliment the lakeview site and funds were raised. The island created by the lagoon was named Emery Boyd Park, and the new community building was named the K. T. Thompson Lodge in honor of Dr. Ketous Thomas Thompson (photo 34). Thompson's widow, Mary Lue (Jones) donated the last \$2,000 needed for its construction.

<sup>14</sup> The Green Book: <https://negromotoristgreenbook.si.edu/about/>

<sup>15</sup> "Fox Lake Resort Opens for Summer Season" *Indianapolis Recorder*. 20 June 1953. Pg. 5, cols. 5-6

<sup>16</sup> "Wins House at Fox Lake" *Indianapolis Recorder* 11 Sept 1937. Pg. 2 col. 2

<sup>17</sup> "Talladegans Fox Lake Reunion Draws Crowd" *Indianapolis Recorder*. 29 Aug 1964. Pg. 4, cols. 1-2

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

Ketous Thompson was born in Kimberly, South Africa about 1891, and came to the United States as a British citizen in 1902, aboard the ship *St. Paul*. He arrived at Ellis Island and became the ward of Dr. Parks in New York. He became a student at Meharry College in Nashville, Tennessee during the 1910s. By the late 1910s, he was in Chicago, working as a Pullman porter while finishing his medical training.<sup>18</sup> He started a private physician's practice in Alliance, Ohio, after marrying his wife in 1928; the couple began vacationing at Fox Lake soon afterward. He died in 1963 in Alliance, Ohio. The K. T. Thompson Lodge was dedicated on September 1, 1968.<sup>19</sup> The lodge has been in continuous use by residents, members, and guests of Fox Lake to this present day. Activities at the lodge include speakers and presentations, community suppers, ice cream socials, children's camps, game nights, and Sunday School sessions. The lodge hosts weddings, reunions, anniversaries, and other memorial events.

The success of and patronage to the resort community continued well into the 1960s. The 40-room Mar-Fran Motel was destroyed by fire in 1966 but was rebuilt to its current configuration in 1967 (photo 08). The two-story, winged building has a commanding view of the lake from its perch on the west bluff. The Golden Fox Motel was also constructed during this time on the northwest side of the lake; it is no longer extant, though the site remains cleared. Recognizing the recreational value of Fox Lake in the mid-1960s, the State of Indiana purchased an acre of ground from the Pryors for use as a public access site just east of the small inlet or loch, east of Pryor's Place. This had previously been a location for a lake level gage at the outlet of the lake. The access site offered a boat launch and fishing pier for those without direct shoreline access and remains a public access site today. See photos 26-28.

Because of the resort's continued success, the living Boyd brother, Emery, created a continuation of the Fox Lake Land Company, platting the north shore of Fox Lake in 1966 into Lots 1-31. A small peninsula juts out from the north shore between this development and the Tri-State Beach development; it remains an open, undeveloped area. Lowell Boyd died in 1946 while Emery carried on with the development until his death in 1969. Additional cottages were constructed on the north shore of the lake, as part of the company's development of the Southview Addition (photos 01-05). The same land company had purchased, and still owns under different officers, the northeast corner of the lake's undeveloped land with the intention of developing it, but this went unrealized (background of photo 27). This wooded corner was a location for swimmers to reach when crossing the lake and trails into the woods were used by vacationers who docked their boats on the northeast shore. This area, as well as a sizable tract on the northwest corner, remains largely undeveloped due in part to its steep or low terrain.

There are ten cottages constructed on the north side of the lake, built between 1966-1982 by African American vacationers like those cottages built on the south side (photos 02-06). About fifteen homes in total were built around the lake after 1964 to the end of the period of significance in 1982. In 1982, the last lake lot was sold and developed by an African American family (photo 02). Most of these later period houses were built by 1977. An edited version of the

<sup>18</sup> K. T. Thompson WWI Draft Card

<sup>19</sup> Compiled information on Thompson Lodge provided by Carol Karst-Wasson

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

1959 USGS map (1981) indicates about a dozen more homes were built on the south side of the lake and Lane 130 A had been added (photo 22 shows the one house on this lane). The 1960 USGS map of the north side of the lake shows only three cottages built in the northeast corner at that time, however, Lane 250 was shown.

Fox Lake was not alone in the concept of building a resort community for African Americans. A few of these lake resort communities that catered to African American families developed around lakes in Michigan, the best-known being Idlewild at Baldwin Lake north of Grand Rapids.<sup>20</sup> That development began earlier than Fox Lake, during the 1910s, and capitalized on vacationers who visited for prominent entertainers. Fox Lake was the first and would be the only such resort developed in Indiana.

There was an attempt by middle class Black families from Chicago to purchase Sager Lake near Valparaiso for a similar resort development. The idea drew local opposition, and the plan was scrapped in the early 1920s.<sup>21</sup> Within ten years, the same property was leased by a naturalists' club from Chicago, who later purchased and named their resort the Lake of the Woods Club. The club practiced nudism and also raised objections by local residents, but a judge ruled in favor of club members. That club remains active at Sager Lake today.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 altered the course of Black resorts that had developed due to discrimination. With freedoms gained from legislation, African Americans were able to purchase property within any resort communities. By this time, though, Fox Lakers had already developed a sense of community, and an identity associated with Indiana's Black resort. The lake resort community continued its social activities, and made further investments in its infrastructure, of particular note, Thompson Lodge built in 1968 (photo 17). The Boyd family also continued in its development of lots on the north shore in 1966, and more than a dozen new lake homes were built during the late 1960s-1970s. While Fox Lake no longer has a restaurant or hotel, the property owners' association remains strong, the lodge is the hub for vacationer activities, and many of the cottages have been passed down in families, sometimes now in their third generation of ownership.

---

**Developmental History/Additional historic context information**

---

<sup>20</sup> Greiff, Fox Lake Historic District National Register nomination, 2001. Section 8, page 5.

<sup>21</sup> "Ten Years Ago" *Vidette-Messenger of Porter County*. 01 July 1932. Pg. 2, col. 4

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase  
Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

“Bootlegger Belle Fox to Prison” *Angola Herald*. 13 Nov 1931, pg. 1.

Compiled information on Thompson Lodge provided by Carol Karst-Wasson

“Dukes Club Officers Plan Gala National Convention” *Indianapolis Recorder*. 13 July 1946. Pg. 5, cols. 7-8

“Dukes Trek to Fox Lake Resort for 1952 National Convention” *Indianapolis Recorder*. 2 Aug 1952. Pg. 4 Col. 1

“For Rent” *Angola Herald*. 3 Oct 1947. Pg. 5.

“Fox Lake, Ind. Gets New Finny Tribe” *Indianapolis Recorder*. 12 Nov 1949. Pg. 1, cols. 3-5

“Fox Lake Resort Opens for Summer Season” *Indianapolis Recorder*. 20 June 1953. Pg. 5, cols. 5-6

“Fox Lake Summer Resort” *Indianapolis Recorder*. 9 July 1938. Pg. 8

“Foxy Foxes Are Caught Nip Napping” *Angola Herald*. 10 July 1931. Page 1.

Greiff, Glory-June. *Fox Lake Historic District, National Register of Historic Places nomination form*. 2001.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology  
SHAARD survey site accessed May 2, 2022.

Indiana Department of Transportation Map: 1932

*Indianapolis Recorder* 19 June 1926

K. T. Thompson WWI Draft Card

(The) Negro Motorist Green-Book. New York: Victor H. Green, publisher, 1959. This issue mentions Pryor’s Country Place specifically.

“Orphans Get Vacation at Fox Lake” *Indianapolis Recorder*. 10 Aug 1929. Pg. 8. Col. 6

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN

County and State

Parker, Joy (Pryor). *Recollections of Pryor's Country Place*, 2022. Joy Parker is the daughter of Albert and Hazelene Pryor.

Plat Book of Steuben Co. (Pleasant Twp., IN), 1930. Rockford, IL: W.W. Hixson & Co., 1930.

"Popular Dukes sponsor Annual Convention at Fox Lake Resort" *Indianapolis Recorder*. 13 Aug 1938. Pg. 4, cols. 4-5

*Pryor's Place National Register of Historic Places nomination*, 2024. Kurt West Garner.

"Slot Machines Again Occupy Spotlight" *Angola Herald*. 22 July 1931. Pg. 1.

"State NAACP Stages Picnic at Fox Lake" *Indianapolis Recorder*. 8 Aug 1953. Pg. 5, cols. 2-3

"State Oddfellows Plan Gala Picnic" *Indianapolis Recorder*. 29 June 1940. Pg. 9, cols. 7-8

Steuben County Atlas (Pleasant Twp., IN), 1912. Angola, IN: H. W. Morley, 1912.

Steuben County, Indiana GIS Beacon Portal, accessed February 25, 2025.

"Ten Years Ago" *Vidette-Messenger of Porter County*. 01 July 1932. Pg. 2, col. 4

The Green Book. Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition Service website, accessed January 25, 2024:  
<https://negromotoristgreenbook.si.edu/about/>

"Talladegans Fox Lake Reunion Draws Crowd" *Indianapolis Recorder*. 29 Aug 1964. Pg. 4, cols. 1-2

USGS Maps (Ashley and West Angola): 1942, 1959, 1960

"Wins House at Fox Lake" *Indianapolis Recorder* 11 Sept 1937. Pg. 2 col. 2

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested  
☒ previously listed in the National Register  
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register  
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark  
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

☐ State Historic Preservation Office  
☐ Other State agency  
☐ Federal agency  
☐ Local government  
☐ University  
☐ Other  
Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** 151-024-27001 - 27033 (NR), 151-018-25132,  
151-024-25145 (NR)

---

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acres of Property** Approximately 240 acres

Use the UTM system

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☒ NAD 1983

1. Zone: 16	Easting: 665275	Northing: 4610758
2. Zone: 16	Easting: 665378	Northing: 4609653
3. Zone: 16	Easting: 663898	Northing: 4609669
4. Zone: 16	Easting: 663867	Northing: 4610667

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning at the intersection of Lane 250 and S West Fox Lake Road, on the north side of Lane 250's right-of-way (which aligns with the north property line of Fox Lake Land Company's parcel on the northeast corner of the lake), face east and follow a line with the right-of-way, continuing onto the north property line of Fox Lake Land Company's parcel, a distance of approximately 600' east. Follow the boundaries of the land company's parcel south 90', then east 100', then south approximately 1000', then west to the east shore of Fox Lake 150'. Follow the east shore and southeast shore of Fox Lake to the east property line of the public access site on West Fox Lake Road. Face south/southwest and follow the public access property line approximately 400' to the north side of West Fox Lake Road at its intersection with County Road S 150 W.

On the north side of West Fox Lake Road, face west and follow the north side of the road to a line extended north from the east property line of 1575 West Fox Lake Road. Turn south and follow the east property line of 1575 West Fox Lake Road to its south property line. Turn west and follow the south property lines of all parcels fronting West Fox Lake Road (on the south side of the road) to the east side of S West Fox Lake Road. Turn north and follow the east side of S West Fox Lake Road to a line extended east from the south property line of 1045 S West Fox Lake Road. Turn west and follow a line with the south property line approximately 290' to the west property line of 1045 S West Fox Lake Road, then turn north and follow its west property line a distance of approximately 780' to its north property line, then turn east and follow its north property line a distance of approximately 500' to the east side of S West Fox Lake Road.

On the east side of S West Fox Lake Road, turn north/northeast and follow the east side of the road to its intersection with Lane 250 and the north side of the lane's right-of-way. This is the place of beginning.

The original Fox Lake district boundaries and boundaries for Pryor's Country Place, both previously listed in the National Register of Historic Places, are fully within the boundary increase.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The historically African American lake resort community at Fox Lake expanded well beyond its original boundaries on the south shore, only partially represented by the current National Register district, into the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. The new boundaries include the remaining portion of the original development in the southwest corner of the lake, its expansion to the east, including Pryor's Place (NR), and the landing. It also expands around the west side of the lake where the Mar-Fran Motel was built, and around the north shore of the lake where the Fox Lake Land Company owned (and still owns) and developed property from the 1950s into the 1970s.



Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

---

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kurt West Garner  
organization: Fox Lake Preservation Foundation  
street & number: 12954 6<sup>th</sup> Road  
city or town: Plymouth state: IN zip code: 46563  
e-mail: kwgarner@kwgarner.com  
telephone: 574-780-1423  
date: February 28, 2025

---

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

## Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

## Photo Log

Name of Property: Fox Lake Additional Documentation and Boundary Increase

City or Vicinity: Angola

County: Steuben State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: February 3, 2025

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking east on Lane 250 from near its intersection with Lane 230

1 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast at 220 Lane 250, at east end of lane.

2 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking west on Lane 250, past 200 Lane 250.

3 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at 155 Lane 206

4 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking south at 920 S. West Fox Lake Road

5 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast across the lake to the north shore from S. West Fox Lake Road

6 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast across the lake to the south shore from S. West Fox Lake Road

7 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking north on S. Fox Lake Road, past the Mar-Fran Hotel

8 of 38.

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at 1240 S. West Fox Lake Road (intersection with Lane 150)

9 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking west on Lane 120 past 60 and 100 Lane 120

10 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking west on Lane 120 past 200 and 220 Lane 120

11 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast on Lane 120 toward the lake and 340 and 360 Lane 120

12 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest on Lane 120 toward West Fox Lake Road

13 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at 435 Lane 120

14 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking west on Lane 130 near its east end

15 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest, down toward the lake at 120 and 140 Lane 130

16 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking north down toward the lake and the K. T. Thompson Lodge & Beach

17 of 38.

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at 480 and 500 Lane 130

18 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking west on Lane 130 just east of its intersection with Thompson Drive

19 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast from Lane 130 at 635 and 595 Lane 130

20 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking east on Lane 130 past 575, 555, and 535 Lane 130

21 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at 115 Lane 130 A

22 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at 75 Lane 170

23 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast at 40, 80, and 120 Lane 170

24 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at 55 Lane 160

25 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at public access site from West Fox Lake Road

26 of 38.

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest across lake from public access site

27 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking west/up toward Pryor's Place from public access site

28 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at Pryor's Place, 1540 West Fox Lake Road

29 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest down toward lake from West Fox Lake Road, west of Lane 120's east intersection with the road

30 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at 1960 and 1970 West Fox Lake Road

31 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast down toward lake from West Fox Lake Road, west of its intersection with West Outlet Road

32 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at 2170 W. Fox Lake Road

33 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking east on West Fox Lake Road west of its intersection with West Outlet Road

34 of 38.

Fox Lake Additional Documentation and  
Boundary Increase

Steuben County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast toward 2055 West Fox Lake Road

35 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast on West Fox Lake Road toward 2015 W. Fox Lake Road

36 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast toward 1855 West Fox Lake Road

37 of 38.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest toward 640 and 680 Lane 130

38 of 38.

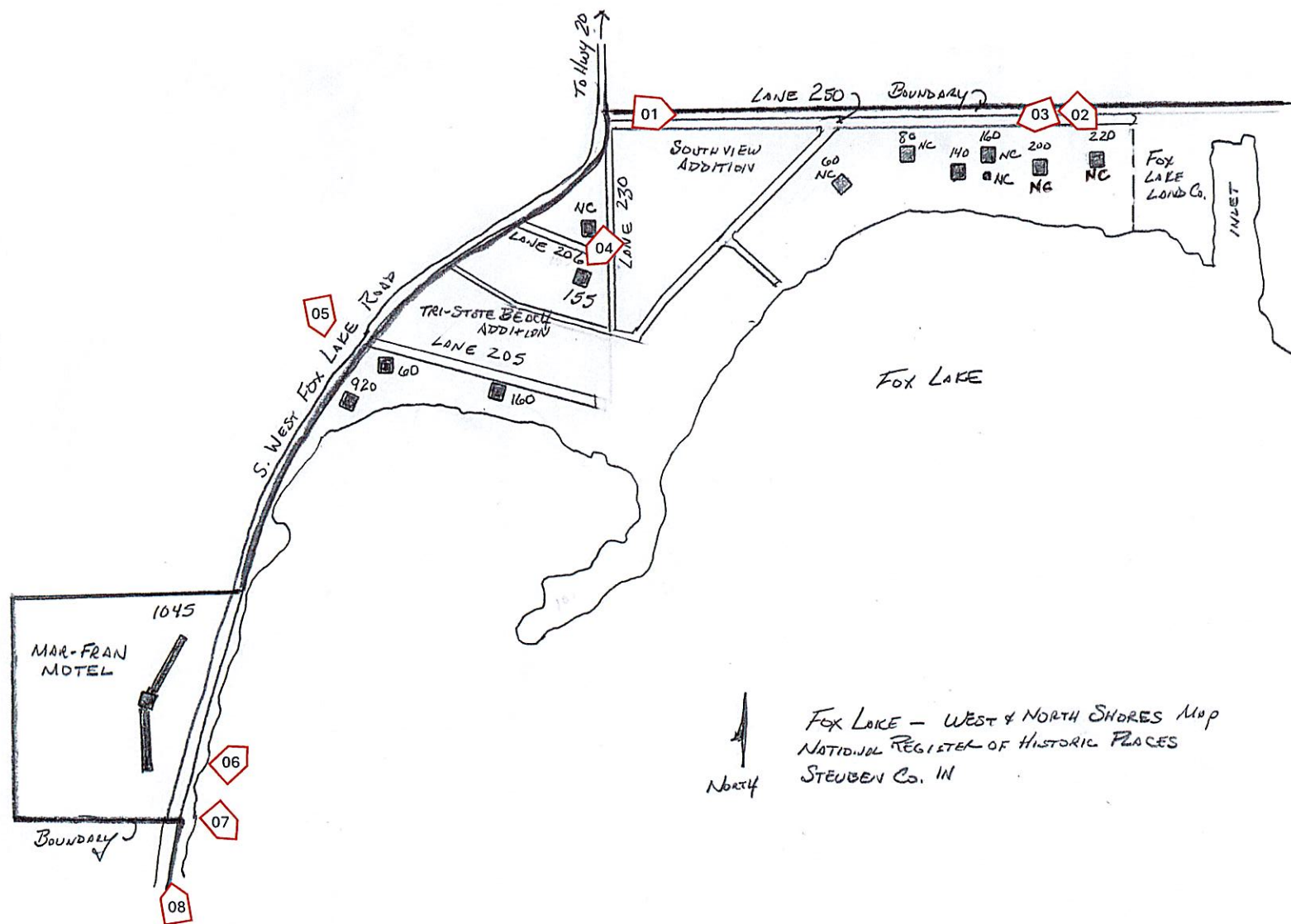
**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



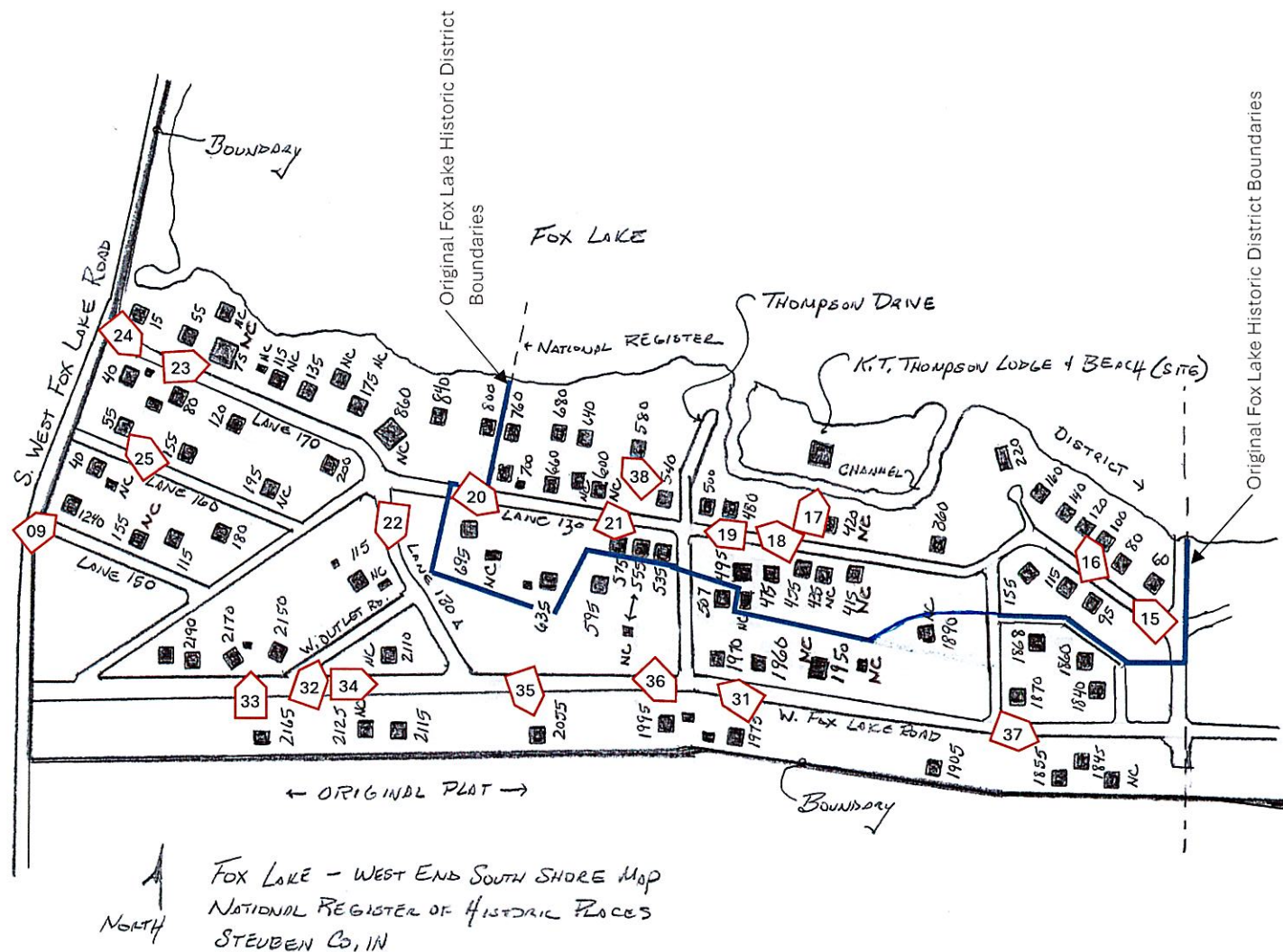










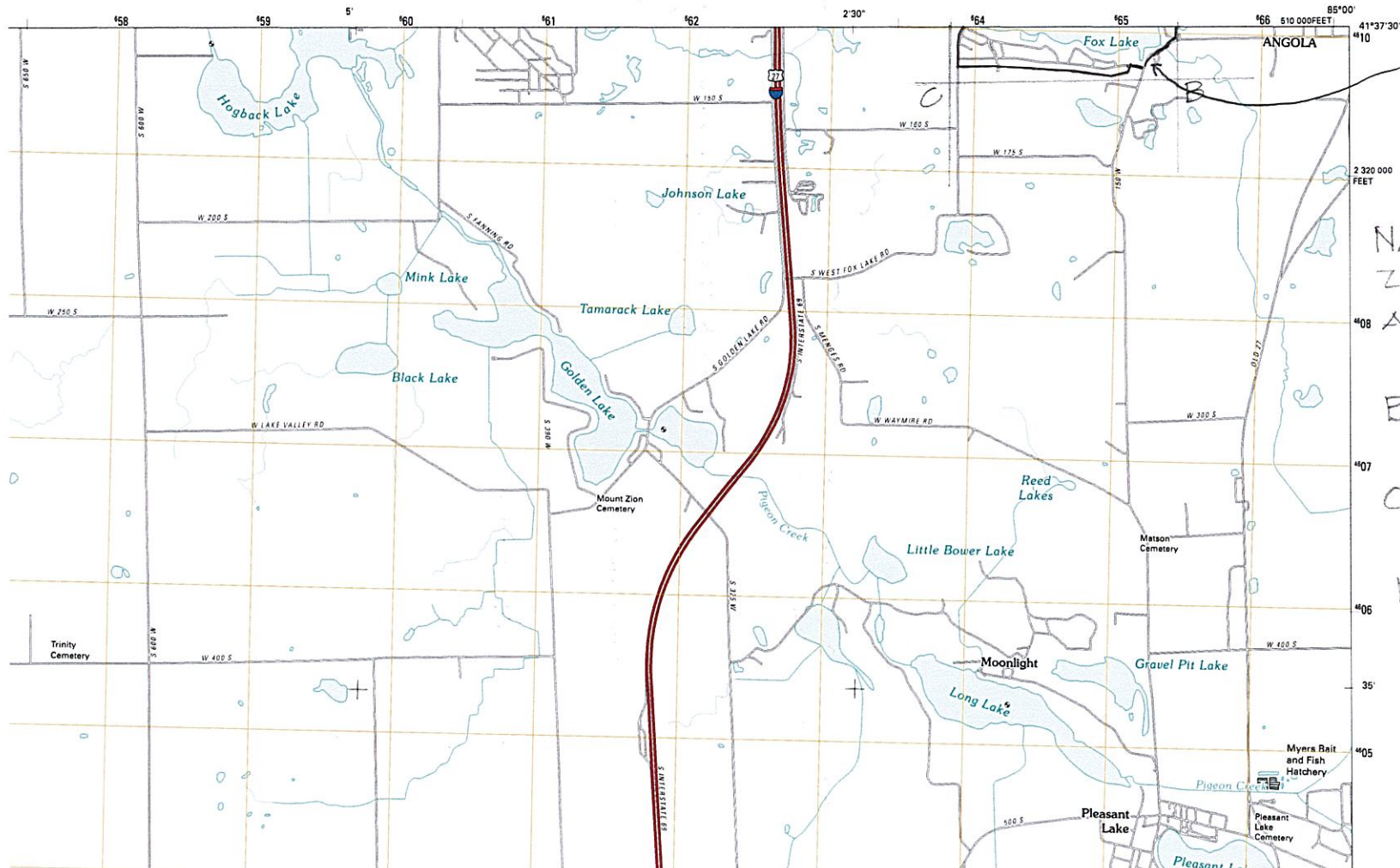


• See original nomination boundaries on next page

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



ASHLEY QUADRANGLE  
INDIANA  
7.5-MINUTE SERIES



FOX LAKE  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF  
HISTORIC PLACES  
STUBEN CO., IN

NAD 83  
ZONE 16

A 665275  
4610758

B 665378  
4609653

C 663898  
4609669

D 663867  
4610667









IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0004



IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0006





IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0007



IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0008





IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0010



IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0011





IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0012



IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0013





IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0016



IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0017





IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0018



IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0020





IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0021



IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0024





IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0028



IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0029





IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0031



IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0033





IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0036



IN\_FoxLakeAdditionalDocumentationandBoundaryIncrease0038