

*Please Connect
DOLANS CREEK TO*

RESOLUTION NO. 24-96

GEOGRAPHIC NAME PROPOSAL - GEISEL CREEK
(REPLACING RESOLUTION 5-95)

TO THE DOOR COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

- 1 WHEREAS, A 5½ mile creek runs through approximately three miles of
- 2 Geisel land, some of which dates back to 1884; and
- 3
- 4 WHEREAS, Over the years, the Creek has been known as Maples
- 5 Creek and more recently Donlans Creek; and
- 6
- 7 WHEREAS, There is no documentation indicating County Board officially
- 8 approved of the Donlan name; and
- 9
- 10 WHEREAS, Because the Geisel family has owned property through
- 11 which the Creek has flowed, for over 100 years, and in honor of the Geisel
- 12 Ancestry, should be renamed Geisel Creek.
- 13
- 14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Door County Board of
- 15 Supervisors does hereby support a geographic name proposal to the State
- 16 of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Geographic Names Council
- 17 to change the name of Maples Creek A/K/A Donlans Creek, to Geisel Creek.
- 18
- 19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Door County Board of
- 20 Supervisors recognizes that the Donlan name is inaccurate and not
- 21 considering the Geisel name in 1977 was an oversight.
- 22
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- 24
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- 27

SUBMITTED BY:

Charles Jarman
Charles Jarman, Supervisor
District XV

| BOARD MEMBERS | AYE | NAYE | EXC |
|-------------------|-----|------|-----|
| ANSCHUTZ | | | |
| AUSTAD | | | |
| BOCKHOP | | | |
| CROCKER-MacMILLIN | | | |
| ENGLEBERT | | | |
| GULLEY | | | |
| GUNNLAUGSSON | | | |
| HILL | | | |
| JARMAN | | | |
| KRUSWICK | | | |
| LEIST | | | |
| LIEBE | | | |
| MAGGLE | | | |
| OSTRAM | | | |
| SACOTTE | | | |
| SARGENT | | | |
| SCHACHTNER | | | |
| WAGNER | | | |
| WILLIAMS | | | |
| ZIPPERER | | | |
| TOTAL | | | |

Certification:

I, Nancy A. Bemmann, Clerk of Door County, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution that was adopted on the 25th day of March, 1996, by the Door County Board of Supervisors.

Nancy A. Bemmann
Nancy A. Bemmann
County Clerk, Door County



State of Wisconsin \
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Tommy G. Thompson, Governor
George E. Meyer, Secretary

PO Box 7921
101 South Webster Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7921
TELEPHONE 608-266-2621
FAX 608-267-3579
TDD 608-267-6897

March 11, 1996

Mr. Bernard Geisel
5094 Brauer Road
Sturgeon Bay, WI. 54235

Dear Mr. Geisel:

I am writing in response to your request for the Geographic Names Council to reevaluate your proposal to rename Donlans Creek to Geisel Creek. I am sorry I was not able to respond to you sooner. As you may recall the Geographic Names Council did not approve this proposal at their 1995 meeting since they already had approved the Donlan name in 1977, and there seems to be some confusion over what the longstanding name has been for this creek.

The Council is required to recognize both local history and local usage of a creek name when they make determinations. Since this was apparently done with the name Donlan upon approval of the County Board and the Geographic Names Council in 1977, the Council needs to know why the name Geisel was not considered at that time.

I think the best way to resolve this would be if the County Board is willing to act on a resolution that recognizes the Donlan name as inaccurate, and not considering the Geisel name in 1977 was an oversight. If this happens then the Geographic Names Council would be able to reconsider your proposal. I would also suggest that if you are able to find any other connection with the Geisel name to the creek, such as most locals have commonly referred to this as Geisel Creek, that would help the Council in their review.

The next Geographic Names Council meeting will be in late April or May. Your proposal could be reconsidered by the Council at that time if the County approves a new resolution. Thank you for your patience and please call me if you have questions at (608)266-9275.

Sincerely,

Dave O'Malley
Bureau of Property Management
Department of Natural Resources

cc: Paul Klose - Door County Soil and Water Conservation
Nancy Beaman - Door County Clerk, Sturgeon Bay

| | |
|--------------|------|
| COUNTY CLERK | |
| Door Co., WI | |
| MAR 13 1996 | |
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| RECEIVED | |
| COPY TO | DATE |

Quality Natural Resources Management
Through Excellent Customer Service



RESOLUTION NO. 5-95

GEOGRAPHIC NAME PROPOSAL - GEISEL CREEK

TO THE DOOR COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

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WHEREAS, A 5/4 mile creek runs through approximately three miles of Geisel land, some of which dates back to 1884; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, the creek has been known as Maples Creek and more recently Donlans Creek; and

WHEREAS, It is unclear where the names came from or whether the names have gone through proper channels and are legal; and

WHEREAS, Because the Geisel family has owned property through which the Creek has flowed, for over 100 years, and in honor of the Geisel Ancestry, should be renamed Geisel Creek.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Door County Board of Supervisors does hereby support a geographic name proposal to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Geographic Names Council to change the name of Maples Creek A/K/A Donlans Creek to Geisel Creek.

SUBMITTED BY:

Charles Jarman
Charles Jarman, Supervisor
District XV

| BOARD MEMBERS | AYE | NAYE | EXC |
|-------------------|-----|------|-----|
| ANSCHUTZ | | | |
| AUSTAD | | | |
| BOCKHOP | | | |
| CROCKER-MacMILLIN | | | |
| ENGLEBERT | | | |
| GULLEY | | | |
| GUNNLAUGSSON | | | |
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| JARMAN | | | |
| KRUSWICK | | | |
| LEIST | | | |
| LUEBE | | | |
| MAGGLE | | | |
| OSTRAM | | | |
| SACOTTE | | | |
| SARGENT | | | |
| SCHACHTNER | | | |
| WAGNER | | | |
| WILLIAMS | | | |
| ZIPPERER | | | |
| TOTAL | | | |

Certification:

I, Nancy A. Bemmann, Clerk of Door County, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution that was adopted on the 20th day of February, 1995 by the Door County Board of Supervisors.

Nancy A. Bemmann
Nancy A. Bemmann
County Clerk, Door County

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Resolution 5-95 Geographical Name Proposal-Geisel Creek - 5 1/2 miles of creek runs through approximately three miles of Geisel land, some of which dates back to 1804. Over the years, the creek has been known as Maples Creek and more recently Donlans Creek.

The Geisel family has owned property through which the Creek has flowed for over 100 years, and in honor of the Geisel Ancestry, should be renamed Geisel Creek.

Bernard Geisel spoke on behalf of his proposal and Edward Rowell spoke against the proposal.

Planning Director Robert Florence gave some background on the Creek. He had always known it as Maple Creek (at some point in time the "s" was dropped). In 1979 a woman had stopped to see him about some maps and she noticed the name Maple Creek which upset her. As long as she had lived in the area, it had been known as Donlon's Creek and she remembered old man Donlon having lived in the area.

She went through the Geographic Council to have the name officially changed and on the 6th of February, 1979, the Geographic Names Council officially changed the name of Maple Creek to Donlon's Creek.

The Plat Book Company made a mistake and dropped the 'n' so that it was spelled Dolon's Creek which didn't help the research.

In the Real Property Office, there are maps from 1899 which indicate justification for the names that were given the creek. Maples was a family name and the Donlon family name also shows up along with the Geisel name, which was spelled differently then compared to now. All of the names have a certain amount of claim.

There is no documentation indicating County Board officially approved of the Donlon name. If there is no County Board Resolution, the Geographic Names Council, will go ahead and make a decision and then will contact the County Clerk, let that person know what happened and does the County have any objection or input. If there is none, the Council assumes the name change is o.k. with the County and go ahead with the final change.

Motion by Jarman seconded by Ostram to strike lines 7 & 8 of the resolution, indicating that it's unclear where the names came from. Motion carried.

Motion by Anschutz seconded by Sargent to call for the question. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Resolution 5-95 as amended carried.

To the County Board Members:

First I regret for having to return to the board with another resolution in my attempts to have the officially named Donlan Creek be renamed to Seiril Creek, however this issue is very important to me.

I felt that with the resolution you passed unanimously a year ago along with all the other material I'd researched and testimonials from Larry Swoboda & Dana Hutchinson that I had enough convincing material to get the job done - not so.

So I'm back with another resolution using their suggestion, hopefully to get this matter resolved.

As you know by now I feel very strongly about this issue as no one knows my ancestry as well as I. I feel that no one has lived on or near the banks of that creek who were well known or respected around the Valmy - Institut area or the whole township of Sevastopol for that matter. My Uncle Bill started learning and working as a beam builder in the area at a very young age - he built his own barn when he was only 26 yrs old. In 1926 my Dad Emil along with his brothers Herman and Bill purchased a threshing rig and threshed through out the area, from County I in Jacksonport down to Lily Bay. They were good threshermen and threshed for over twenty years and were depended upon by area residents to harvest their crops. Everyone knew the Seiril Bros and the Donlan name? whose Donlan. I've talked to people

over 90 years old and the Donlan name don't ring a bell. As far as a fine name Donlan may or may not be it had not made an impression on the community.

In 1977, year after my ancestors were deceased the Geographical naming committee in Madison, I feel, made a mistake, and placed a virtually unknown Donlan name on a creek that runs lengthwise through nearly all the Heisel land, some of which has been owned by Heisels for well over 100 years. I feel this is nothing short of an insult to my Heisel ancestors and most certainly was a mistake on their part and has to be corrected. The Heisel ancestry has earned and is entitled to that honor of the creek name.

I am pleading with the county board at this time to send a clear cut message to Madison informing them that you back my efforts and understandings 100%. I ask you for a unanimous approval of this resolution.

Thank you.
Bernard Heisel