

POYGAN LANDING

Term: Poygan Lake, Winnebago Co.

Definition: From Increase Lapham's 1844 *Geographical and Topographical Description of Wisconsin:*

"PEWAUGAN LAKE, is an expansion of Wolf river, about ten miles in length, commencing a short distance above its junction with the Neenah [Fox]."

Term: Poygan [origin of place name]

Definition: "Vincent Roy, an intelligent Chippewa of Superior, Wis., thinks the word a corruption of opwagan, for 'pipe.' Perhaps Lake Poygan may have some resemblance to a pipe, of which the river is, as it were, the stem and the lake the head." "Opwagan" is from the Ojibwe language

POYGAN PAYGROUNDS

In 1836 the Menominee Indians ceded all their lands between the Wolf and Fox Rivers to the United States Government. Payment was made every October in twenty annual installments on these grounds. All their remaining lands were ceded in 1848 and they were offered a reservation in Minnesota which they refused. In 1852 they moved up the Wolf River where in 1854 they were granted eight townships, the present Keshena Reservation.

Text of Historical Marker erected in 1956 by the Winnebago Historical Society

On June 1, 2010 an opening ceremony took place here to mark the beginning of "Ateqnohkew Pemohneaw" which translates to "a walk that tells a sacred story". This 75 mile walk, led by Menominee Tribal member, Richie Plass, was to honor one of the leaders of the historic removal of the Menominee from these lands, Chief Powekonnay. The walk was held to educate Menominee youth, members and citizens of Wisconsin on a phase of the Tribe's history. The route of the walk went from this location, through Winneconne, New London, and Shawano on to the Menominee Reservation at Keshena ending at Wayka Falls, whose original name was Powekonnay Falls, with a traditional Welcoming Ceremony.