THE GRILL CAFÉ
Aka CITY PARK GRILL

438 LAKE STREET
PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN

THE GRILL CAFÉ
438 LAKE STREET, EAST OF CUSHMAN HOUSE
PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN



The Grill Café was a sister institution during Hemingway's Michigan years. The Palm Garden {where dining and entertainment were available} was the covered courtyard between the Grill Café and Annex.

WHEN IN PETOSKEY, STOP AT

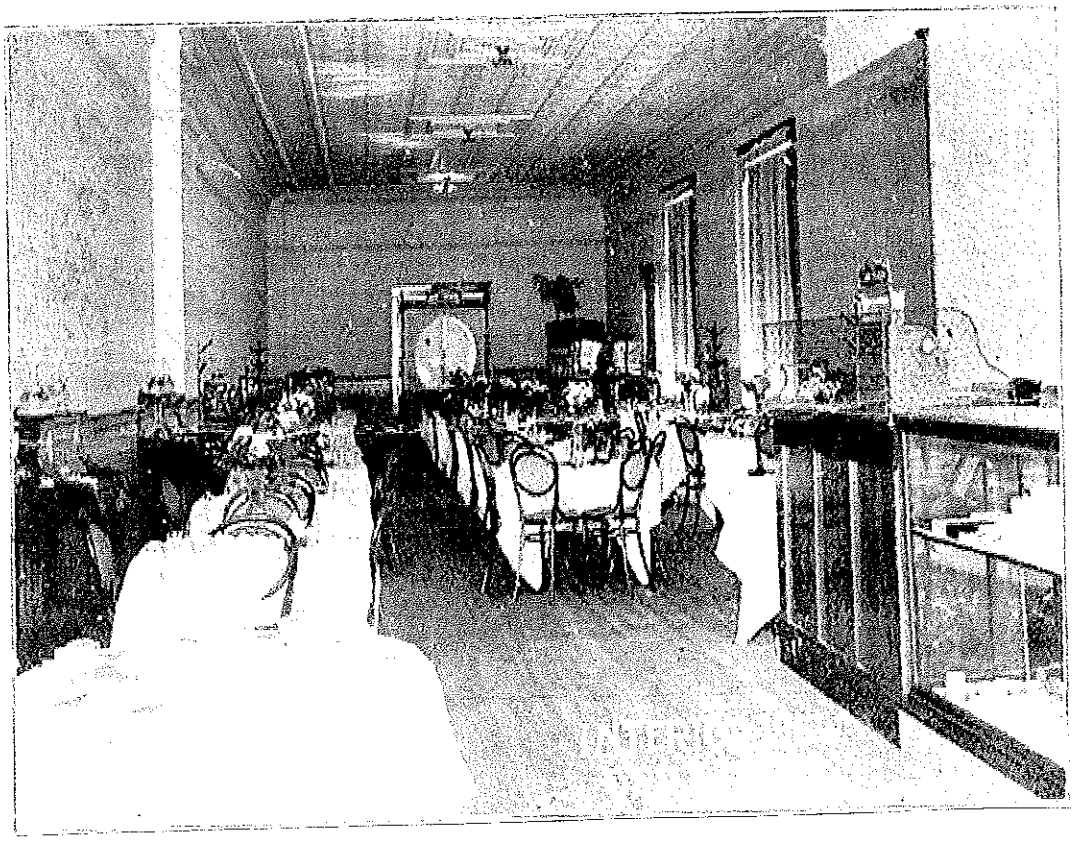
THE GRILL CAFE

438 LAKE STREET
(EAST OF CUSHMAN HOUSE)

Unrivaled Cuisine a la Carte. High Class Service. Music Until Midnight. Equal to Metropolitan Demands. Private Dining Room for Parties

Telephone F. FOCHTMAN, Proprietor

THE GRILL CAFÉ
438 Lake Street, Petoskey, Michigan
East of Cushman House Hotel

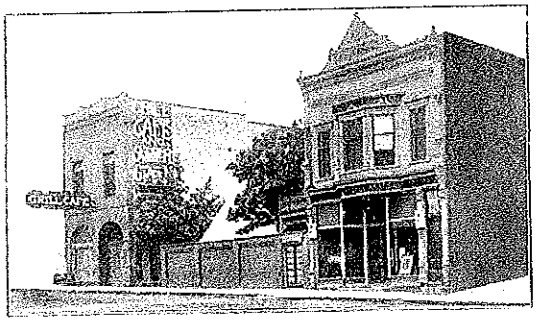


Interior of Grill Café

Frank Foster
Built the Grill Café in 1910
With a bowling alley
In the basement

GRILL CAFE

SERVICE EUROPEAN PLAN



PRIVATE DINING ROOMS FOR PARTIES

Fresh Fish and Live Lobsters a Specialty

CAFE OPEN ALL DAY AND EVENING

PALM GARDEN IN CONNECTION

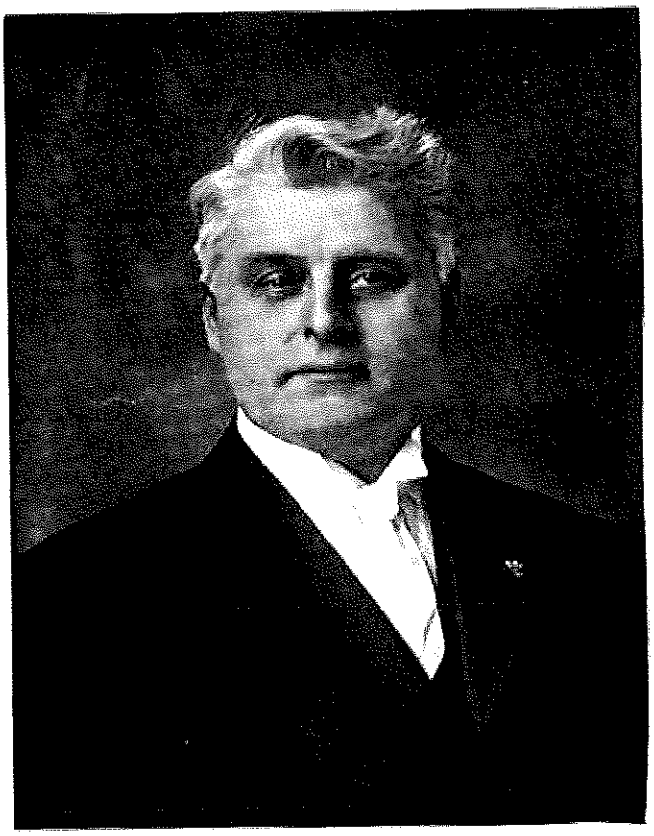
STRICTLY FIRST CLASS TRADE ONLY

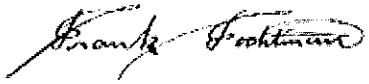
FRANK FOCHTMAN

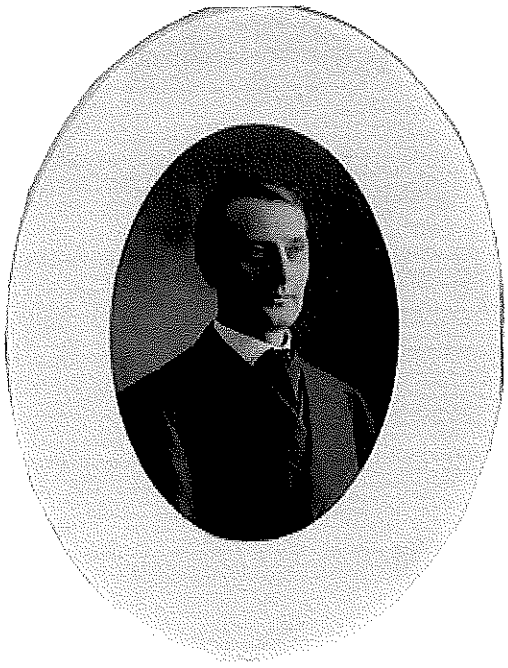
438 LAKE STREET
OPPOSITE SUBURBAN STATION
NEXT TO CUSHMAN HOUSE

PETOSKEY, MICH.

Frank Fochtman
Proprietor "The Grill Café" and "The Palm Garden"







Frank Fochtman restauranteur, is known all over northern Michigan as proprietor of the finest **Grill Café** in this part of the state. His establishment in **Petoskey** is by no means one of the least of the attractions which have given that city a reputation. In this age of travel when a large proportion of the population spend part of their time away from the home kitchen. The man who furnishes wholesome food to the public contributes as great a service to society as any other individual.

Mr. Fochtman has been in business at **438 Lake Street** since 1897. **The Palm Garden** which is a part of his establishment is one of its most popular features.

Mr. Fochtman was born in **Pennsylvania**, April 24, 1871 and comes of good old German stock. His parents were **Henry** and **Elizabeth {Tegler} Fochtman**, both natives of **Pennsylvania**. Of their 12 children, nine are living and **Frank** is the fourth in order of birth. His father, who for a number of years followed blacksmithing and carriage making at St. Mary's Pennsylvania, in 1881 moved to **Emmet County, Michigan** were he went into farming. A few years later locating in **Petoskey**, he conducted **a saloon** until his son **Frank** bought him out and since then he has more or less actively engaged in real estate, though he is now practically retired. While farming he was honored with township offices and has been a progressive citizen. He is a member of the **Catholic Church** and in politics, a **Democrat.**

Frank Fochtman received his education in the public and parochial schools of **Petoskey** and his first work was as an expressman. He was in the saloon business with his father until he bought out the business in 1897, since then he has developed the café to its present attractive reputation, and now caters to the best class of trade.

His fraternal affiliations are with the **Petoskey Lodge No. 529, B. P. O. E.,** and in politics he is a **Democrat.** In 1896 he was married to **Miss Mary Sexton** and they have no children.

Extracted, History of Northern Michigan and Its People
Volume II, Page 774-775, published before 1823

Article re-typed exactly as written. {No changes in spelling or wording}

TUNNEL CONNECTING CITY PARK GRILL aka THE ANNEX TO THE CUSHMAN HOUSE HOTEL

Extracted from The Graphic
October 13, 2011

This tunnel connected **City Park Grill** to the old **Cushman House Hotel** where the building that housed **Arlington Jewelers** is now located.

The jewelry store used to be located next door to **City Park Grill** and originated as part of a restaurant complex that included **City Park, nee The Grill Café**. Tunnels connected the system, and in the courtyard the complex used to have famously bare-knuckled boxing.

It connected building at **438 E. Lake Street** to **City Park Grill** in **Petoskey**. Equally famously, the former owner of the restaurant complex, **Frank Fochtman**, was alleged to have been found hanging in the basement of **City Park**, folklore which has given rise to years of reports of haunting.

Thus we are told, however, curious things still happen in the building, which is located where **City Park's** original kitchen once was.

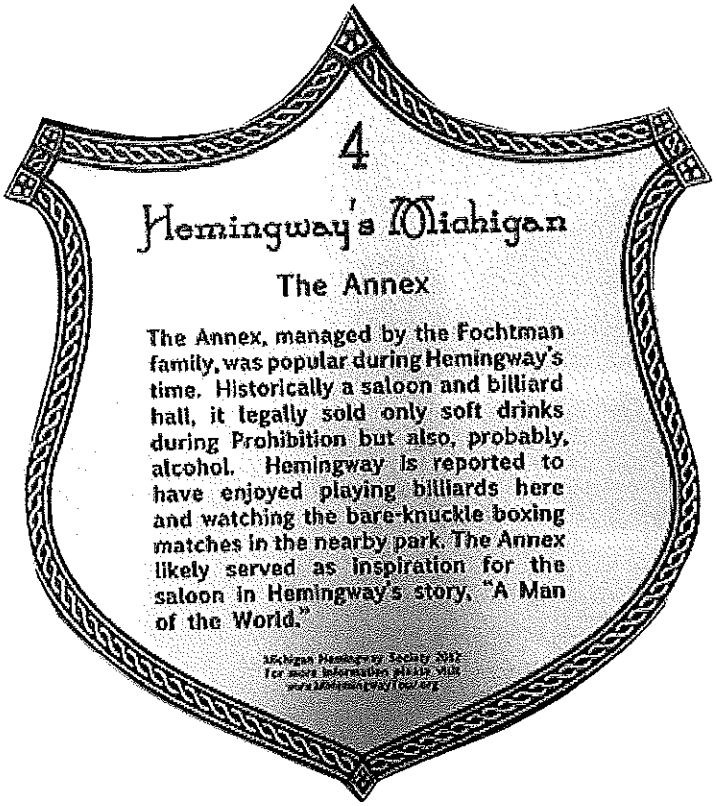


Extracted Petoskey Evening News, March 1, 1832

FRANK FOCHTMAN, EARLY RESIDENT OF PETOSKEY PASSES AWAY THIS A. M.

Frank Fochtman, resident of **Petoskey** about 50 years, passed away shortly before noon today, following an illness extending over several years. He had been seriously ill for a number of days. Arrangements for the funeral are awaiting word from the father, **Henry Fochtman, Anaheim, Calif.**

Surviving besides the father are three brothers and three sisters, **John Fochtman**, Anaheim; **A. H. Fochtman, Louis Fochtman**, Petoskey; **Mrs. M. Peterwitz,** Petoskey, and **Mrs. John Curley** and **Mrs. Smith** of Grand Rapids.



CITY PARK GRILL
432 EAST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, MICHIGAN
HISTORY

Originally called **McCarthy Hall,** the building was constructed by Alanso McCarthy in 1875. It was a billiard hall that served "intoxicating beverages." As a male-only establishment, the **Sampling Room** offered enticing items such as cigars, wines, and liquors to customers.

1888: The building was purchased by **Frank J. Gruclich** who changed the name to **The Annex**. At this time, food was incorporated into the business. It provided dining and entertainment to the adjacent **Cushman Hotel**. A garden patio was added to the east side of the building and referred to as the **Palm Garden.** On the interior, a 32 foot solid mahogany bar was installed. At the time, there were no windows so gas lighting was used to brighten the dark interior.

1897: **Gruckich** passed away and **Frank Fotchtman** took over the business. He decided to expand and bought the land just east of the **Palm Garden.** He built the **Grill Café** which opened in July 1910 with a bowling alley in the basement.

1917: Prohibition was established in Michigan. However, **Fotchtman** did not abide by it and illegally served alcohol. He went as far as to build secret underground tunnels to the **Cushman Hotel** and the **Grill Café** to export alcohol. These tunnels are no longer in existence because of sewers and other city infrastructure, but the doors and openings are still visible.

1918-1919: The establishment was raided by the sheriff and the owner was fined and sentenced to jail for violating the liquor law.

1810s-1920s: **Ernest Hemingway** made **Northern Michigan** his home in the summer. **The Annex** was one of his favorite places. He would sit at the second seat from the end of the bar and write his ideas down for short stories and books. The short story ***"Gentleman of the World"*** makes mention of the **Annex.**

1932: **Fotchman** died and his nephew **Ralph Fotchman** took over the business. The name was changed to **The Park Garden Café.** The name derived from the **Pennsylvania Park** just west of the restaurant and the **Palm Garden** to the east.

1854: **Robert and Lodema Shier** purchased the business. An addition was added to the east, now referred to as the **Peacock Room.** It serves as an additional dining room and allows more guests to enjoy the restaurant. The current kitchen was added to the rear of the dining room. The façade was changed to **English Tudor**. The door was moved to the side and a bay window was added to the first floor. Bricks were installed and gas lights were attached to the front. In 1974, a stained glass picture with the **Park Garden Café** name within the design was installed in the front window.

1985: The building was sold to **Larry Rellinger,** a real estate broker. His office is now on the second floor. The Victorian façade and interior were restored to the original character. Since then, several proprietors have tried their luck.

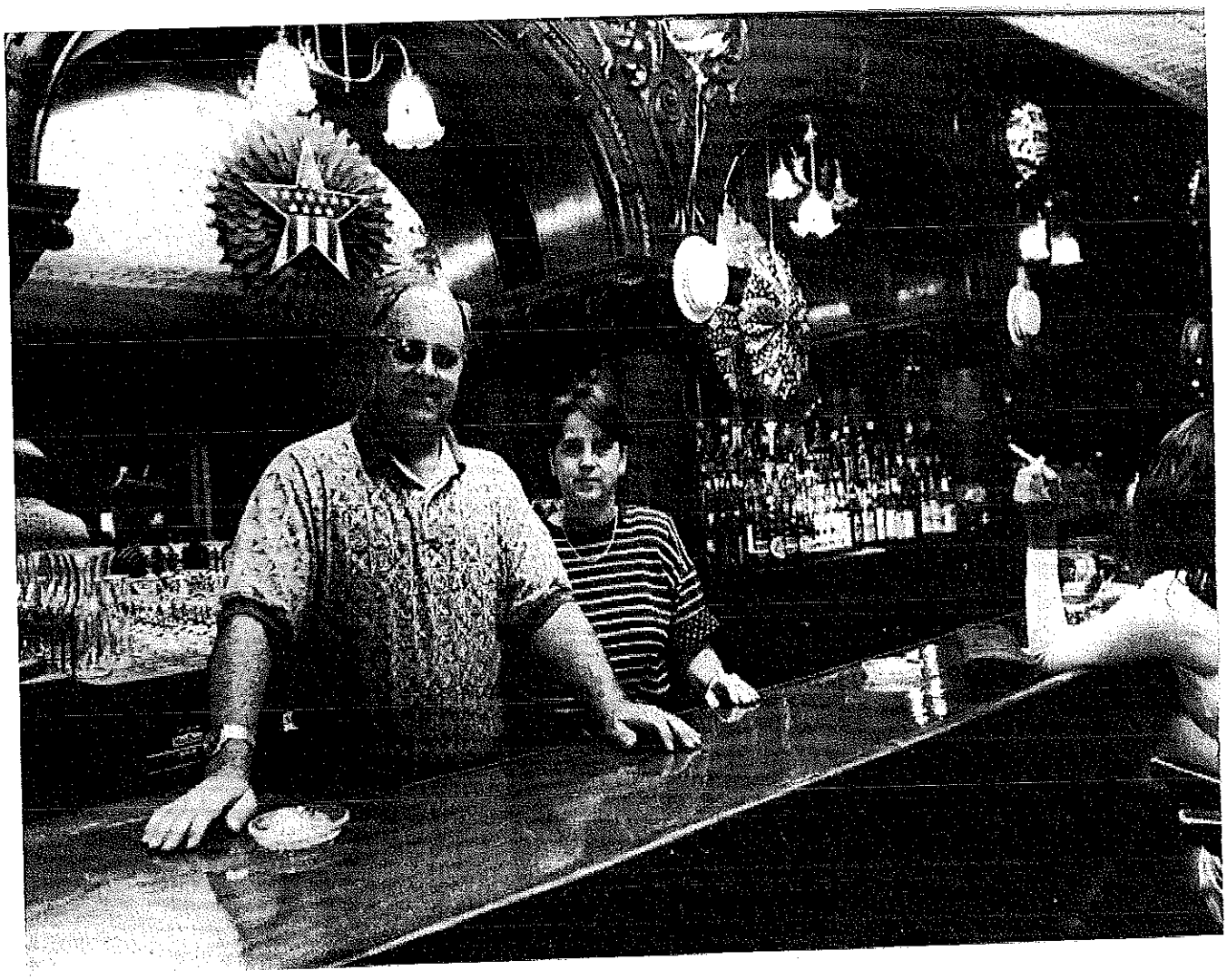
1997: **Bob & Mary Keedy, Dick & Laura Dinon,** chef **John Norman**, and **Patrick Faylor** purchased the **Park Garden Café** and changed the name to **City Park Grill**. The menu was changed as well to reflect their scratch kitchen and daily/seasonal specials. Since then, the restaurant has been restored to the glory days of the past, serving a wide array of guests from around the world.

Extracted from internet, City Park Grill
Article re-copied as written



HISTORIC PETOSKEY SALOON BOASTS 100 YEAR OLD BAR
PARK GARDEN CAFÉ
432 EAST LAKE STREET, PETOSKEY, EMMET COUNTY, MICHIGAN

LET'S ALL GO TO THE PARK!



Celebrating 100 years of Cherry Wood beauty in the Park Garden Café
Are owners Ross and Lynn Bell
{Petoskey News-Review photo by Rachael Farkas}

HISTORIC PETOSKEY SALOON BOASTS 100 YEAR OLD BAR PARK GARDEN CAFÉ

By Rachel Farkas
Petoskey News-Review
staff writer

Local tales say **Earnest Hemingway** sat on the second stool at the bar when he wasn't sitting in the corner writing. Others say during the prohibition days there were tunnels under the street leading to the hotel next door to hide the booze before the cops raided.

The walls and especially the original, solid wood bar could tell volumes of incredible historical tales of the **Park Garden Café** on **Lake Street** in **Petoskey.**

Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 32 foot, cherry back bar and French plate glass still in the establishment today, the **Café** has a rich history behind it, said owners **Ross and Lynn Bell.**

The daughter of one owners, **Sandy Fochtman Loyer,** put her memories to paper for the **Bells** recently and recalled fondly living above the bar in the 1940's and 1950's. The past of what is currently the **Park Garden Café** is varied and interesting, to say the least.

The man who constructed what is currently the **Café** was **Alonzo Nash McCarty**, who moved to **Petoskey** from **Cadillac** between 1874-1875. He built **"The Palace Billiard Rooms,"** and his establishment became known as an important dance hall.

Continued from page 29

Around 1888, **Frank Greulich** bought the bar, added the garden to the east of the building and renamed the establishment **"The Annex."** In 1895, **Greulich** redesigned the interior of the bar and installed the marbled black walnut with a cherry finish bar back and the French plate glass windows that are still present today.

Upon his death, the establishment was bought by **Frank Fochtman,** owner of **The Grill Café**, two doors down on the east. The two eateries were connected by an enclosed garden eating space, complete with skylights and palm trees, hence the name

When **Emmet County** voted in prohibition in 1909, **Fochtman** apparently didn't agree, and subsequently spent four months in a **Detroit Prison** in 1912 for violating liquor laws.

The **Café** was named for the **{Pennsylvania} Park** on the west, and the **enclosed garden on the east,** said **Lynn Bell**. She is unsure as to exactly when the establishment took the name, but it has stuck.

The tin ceilings, fieldstone basement, sculpted walls and the massive cherry wood bar back, 32 linear feet of two inch-thick wood, built by **Brunswick** in June of 1895 are the setting for the centennial celebration. The silver seal of authenticity is still intact, and the bar is looking surprisingly perfect for having to deal with 100 years of barroom antics.

The mirrors are of original too, she said. *"Some people say the mirrors are dirty, but it really is just the silver coming off the back."*

Earnest Hemingway frequented the establishment after **World War I,** and it is suggested that his short story, ***"The Killers,"*** was set in the **Café,** the layout of the bar and the description given in the book.

"It was one of his Nick **Adams** *pieces,"* **Lynn Bell** said, *"He mentions that it used to be a saloon and it had a lunchroom."*

The progression of history is documented in the **Café,** with the large foyer as you enter off East Lake Street.

Originally called the sampler, vendors would set up displays and try to pedal cigars and other goods to bar goers. The women and children were also not allowed to enter the bar, **Lynn Bell** said, so they were required to wait in the sample room for the men.

"They had spittoons on the floor, stuff like that," she said. *"The women and children were not allowed to enter."*

Gone is the sawdust on the floor, the spittoons and pre-PC entrance policies. What is still intact is the massive reddish bar that consumes the left hand wall of the bar area.

During the celebration, the **Café** will be having pub specials in celebration. The **Park Garden Café** is located at **432 E. Lake Street, Petoskey.** The dining room is open every day at 11:30 a.m. The pub is open Monday – Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 11:30 to midnight, and Sunday noon to 10:00 p.m. For more information, call 347-0101.

Extracted Petoskey News-Review
June 30, 1995, pate 29 & 32