

Ohio Historic Preservation Office
1985 Varma Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43211
614-466-1500



SEE ADDENDUM FOR ADDITIONAL/CORRECTED INFORMATION
OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

No. ERI-1562 County ERIE Location of Negatives O.H.S.	4. Present Name(s) Matso's Place 5. Other Name(s) "The Lodge"	ERI-1562 Erie Matso's Place
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Specific Location On the north west corner of Water St & Division St, fronting on Water St. City or Town If Rural, Township & Vicinity Kelleys Island, Ohio Site Plan with North Arrow 	16. Thematic Category Commerce	28. No. of Stories 1 1/2
	17. Date(s) or Period 1850	29. Basement? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
U.T.M. Reference Easting 517360 Northing 46105910 Site Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure Object <input type="checkbox"/> On National Register? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12. Is It Eligible? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Part of Estab. Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 14. District Hist. Dist.? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Potent? No <input type="checkbox"/> Name of Established District KI South Shore Hist Dist	18. Style or Design Vernacular	30. Foundation Material Rubble limestone
	19. Architect or Engineer -	31. Wall Construction Wood frame
20. Contractor or Builder -	21. Original Use, if apparent General Store	32. Roof Type & Material Gable/asph shingle
	22. Present Use Bar	33. No. of Bays Front Side
23. Ownership Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	24. Owner's Name & Address, if known Russell Matso Kelleys Island Ohio, 43438	34. Wall Treatment Shingle siding
	25. Open to Public? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	26. Local Contact Person or Organization Kevin Pape: KI Hist Survey
27. Other Surveys in Which Included N/A	28. Condition Interior good Exterior good	36. Changes (Explain in #42) Addition <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input type="checkbox"/>
	29. Preservation Underway? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	37. Endangered? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> By What?
30. Visible from Public Road? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	31. Distance from and Frontage on Road 4'	38. Preservation Underway? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Further Description of Important Features (Continue on reverse if necessary)
 Originally, this 1 1/2 story, front gabled building sat isolated on the corner of Division and Water Streets. At some point prior to 1874 its roofline was extended north a distance twice its original length. Today, the central 1/3 of that addition has been deleted and the building retains its original N-S dimension. Historic photos show the building once had a typical 19th century store-front



History and Significance
 This building is the oldest retail establishment still standing on the island. It was built in 1850 by George Kelley to combine the functions of a store/post office having its original quarters on the Steam Boat Dock (ERI-1618) and that of his small home operated canteen (ERI-1565). George, son of Isaac Kelley, was then living in his uncle Datus' former home, and owned

Description of Environment and Outbuildings
 The building stands at the crossroads of the two main streets on the island, Water St. and Division St., and is just above the former Steam Boat Dock that was the island's center of commerce and transportation for over

Sources of Information
 Kelleys, History of Kelleys Island Ohio
 Nichols: Guide to Put-In-Bay, Middle Bass & K.I., 1888
 S.W.R. Aug 19, 1885: News clipp, Hayes Pres. Center
 1910 Grand List Erie Co. Tax Rec (Cont'd)

46. Prepared by **Kevin Pape & Betty Pape**
 47. Organization
KI Planning Commiss

0. House Type No.

Code No. Name

1. Historic Outbuildings and Dependencies

Barn Type(s)

Code No. Type

Corn Crib or Shed Smoke House Privy
 Silo Spring House Cattle House
 Summer Kitchen or Ice House

Other _____

52. Archaeological Site on Property?

Yes
No

Basis for Information

Owner Collection
 Above Ground Earthworks or Mound
 Cultural Materials Noted OAI No. _____

53. Farmstead Plan



54. Photo

Roll No. 29 Picture No(s). 33

42. (Cont'd)

with recessed central doorway/stoop flanked by large display windows. Historically, the front facade was protected by a shed-roof porch set on turned columns and decorated by spindled frieze panels. This porch also protected a one story, 3 bay, flat-roofed annex built on the west wall (still extant). The contemporary facade has been altered by the removal of the arch columns, the inclusion of replacement windows and redesign of the entranceway which makes it flush with the wall. Other alterations include the addition of windows and shed-roofed awning on the eastern eave wall, and modified wall treatments. Other original features include wide frieze board in the gable end and an interior brick chimney on the rear gable end.

43. (Cont'd.)

the large 55 acre tract west of Division St. on which this store was built. Here he sold both groceries and dry goods and hardware. The store soon became, in the words of an 1888 Guide, "the headquarters for the whole island, rich and poor alike" where they could get their mail, send telegrams, and exchange tales. Because of its popularity as a meeting place, it became known as "The Independent Order of Island Loafers" and eventually just "The Lodge". Trade and barter were accepted the first 40 years. The post office was also located here until 1884, after being formally organized in 1854.

In 1854 William S. Webb exchanged his quarry for the store business with George Kelley retaining ownership of the building. Alfred S. Kelley, second son of Datus Kelley, soon bought out Webb and ran the "Lodge" for many years, being known to his cronies as "the fat man on the corner". He was helped first by Jerry Dean (ERI-1566), then Erastus Huntington (ERI-1545 & 1698) with the latter gradually taking over management by c.1880. Erastus, in turn, took Titus Hamilton (ERI-1527) as partner, then in 1899 selling him his share of the business and leaving the island.

(Cont'd., Pg. 2)

John Reinheimer succeeded Hamilton in 1904. By this time two other stores, The General Store (ERI-1559) and Elfer's Store (ERI-1564), were competing for the island business with more modern facilities, and trade at the Lodge had fallen off. By the time the business was bought by Patrick Murphy and brother in 1915, stock was limited, and by 1927 when the building was acquired by Joseph Matso, it was put to another use.

Up until this time the building remained in the hands of the George Kelley family. Some time before 1874 a warehouse, boot and shoe repair store, and meat market were all built along Division St. by the Kelleys with a contiguous roof line from the north wall of the Lodge. However, the dates and order in which they were built is not known and will require additional research. The Lodge itself remained essentially the same for the first 30 years. Then in 1885, at the same time that August Schaedler was building his new general store on Division St., Henry Kelley (son of George) made extensive repairs and improvements, adding a new front, raising the ceiling and installing new shelving, and enlarging the office. In 1890 Titus Hamilton next added a new arcaded porch to match that of the new Post Office building being erected next door (See ERI-1682).

When the building was purchased by Joseph Matso, he converted it to a confectionery, later using it as a real estate office, and briefly, as a barber shop. Finally, after prohibition c. 1932, he acquired a liquor license and operated it as a bar. Mr. Matso had come to the island in 1916 to work in the quarry, but receiving a severe leg injury there he sought this new source of livelihood. His son, Russell, continues operation to this date.

44 (Cont'd.)

100 years. Across Division St to the east, once stood the most important hotel of the island, "The Island House". The site is now the village park. Across Water St. is a small parking strip for patrons. There are no outbuildings.

45. (Cont'd.)

Hamilton Collection, Hayes Presidential Center, Fremont, Oh
1887 Grand List, Erie Co.
Jeanette Hamilton Cleary