

A large, brown feathered headdress is shown against a dark sky filled with stars. The headdress has a wide, flat top and a long, curved tail of feathers. The background is a gradient from light blue to dark grey, with numerous small white dots representing stars.

# ENI'AANKESHKAAADJIK GENERATION'S OF CONNECTION:

AMERICAN INDIAN VIEWS OF TRADITIONAL  
CULTURAL PLACES AND LANDSCAPES

# ENI'AANKESHKAADJIK GENERATIONS OF CONNECTION:

## AMERICAN INDIAN VIEWS OF TRADITIONAL CULTURAL PLACES AND LANDSCAPES

Societies have special relationships with the places and spaces in which they dwell. Over generations, places gain meaning and often become part of our social identity and sense of belonging. Significant places where communities define their history, identity, and lifeways are called Traditional Cultural Places or Landscapes (TCPs or TCLs). TCPs may include both natural places and culturally built spaces that serve as a focal point for cultural practices and to reinforce community identity. Traditional Cultural Places are largely associated with American Indians and their respective nations, but the use of TCPs as category of historic places is not limited to Native Americans. Michigan has 13 recognized TCPs, including Anaem Omot, the homeland of the Menominee Tribe, most recently designated in 2023. The Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) asked Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs) with TCPs in Michigan about what they mean to them:

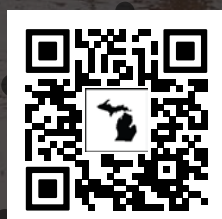
ANISHINAABEMOWIN

*Anishinaabek kchi piitendaanaa'aan Enji-mnidookeng zaam shpendaanaa'aa Mnidooaadziwin etek endaa'aad. Kchi nshinaabebaaniik genwaamdaanaa'aan ninda Enji-mnidookeng wiitemigak jiiskiikaan, enji kinomaadeng, gii'iwseng, enji aansokeng, enji minominakeng maage enji zisbaakdokeng. Mshikiin nangkwadnoong gtigaadenoon noo'oonch gwachi waanenakaaswad wii-mnomaadziwad. Jidaa ezhnaakwak Aki daa'aan kchi gete kendaaswin. Giishpin ninda Enji-mnidookeng nzhe-naadchigaadek, mii jingwashkaamgak ezhi-debwenjigewad. Gete ngokaanan, Kchi nshinaabebaaniik ganji nwebwad, geye gwa kchi piitendaakdoon. Kina gwaya naasaab zhignowaabmigaasaa. Kina gego naasaab zhignowaamjigaade. Kaa gwaya ooshme shpigaabwisii.*

ENGLISH

For American Indian Tribes, TCPs are significant because they hold a special and spiritual connection to our communities and shared histories. These places were identified by our ancestors, and we continue to utilize them for a variety of reasons such as ceremonies, teachings, storytelling, harvesting, hunting, or processing traditional indigenous food such a wild rice or maple syrup. Traditional herbs for medicinal purposes are grown in certain places and are culturally relied upon for good health and wellbeing. Natural sites and landscapes may hold deep ancestral knowledge. Shared value, histories, and significant traditional lifeways are lost when these places are destroyed or polluted. Historic cemeteries and burial mounds, where our ancestors rest, are also sacred sites. Native Americans understand our place in this world as being grounded within the natural world and not as separate or superior to all other beings that make up our world. (English translation of Anishinaabemowin is approximate, some concepts do not translate exactly.)

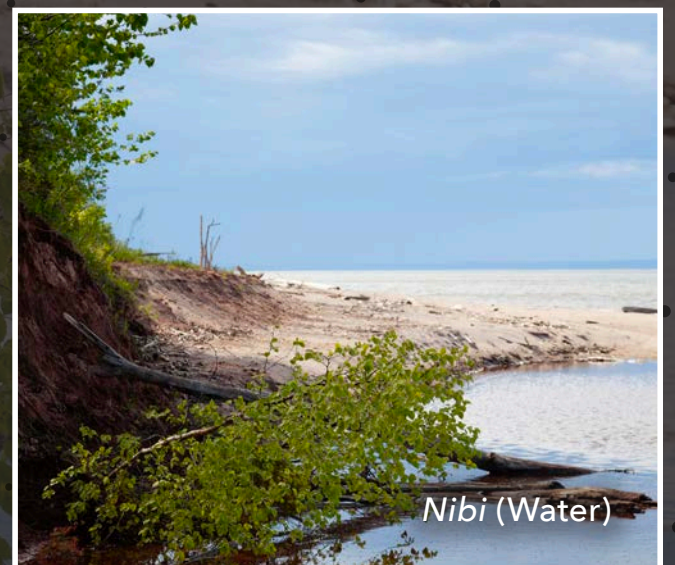
The Michigan SHPO honors and celebrates the history of everyone who has called this land home. The spirit of some of these special places are represented by images on this poster. You can help us document these significant places to protect them for future generations. We invite you to scan the QR code or visit [Michigan.gov/archaeology](https://Michigan.gov/archaeology) to learn more.



Photography provided by Niibing Giizis (Summer Moon) Photography Studio, Artist Marcella Hadden. Anishinaabemowin translation provided by Isabelle Osawamick and Howard Webkamigad of the Anishinaabe Language Revitalization Department, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.



Mshiikenh (Turtle)



Nibi (Water)



Mandamin (Corn)



Bineshii (Bird)