

Approved

Promulgation authorized
Executive Secretary
Domestic Geographic Names

**UNITED STATES
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES**

CASE BRIEF (Domestic)

Liberty Pond: lake; 0.3 acres, on the University of Florida campus in the City of Gainesville, 0.85 mi. ENE of Lake Alice; named given by University of Florida to honor military veterans; Sec 6, T10S, R20E, Tallahassee Meridian; Alachua County, Florida; 29.6458033, -82.3471212 / 29°38'45"N, 82°20'50"W; USGS map – Gainesville East 1:24,000; Not: Green Pond, Reitz Union Pond

Proposal: to make official a name in recent local use

Map: USGS Gainesville East 1:24,000

Proponent: Shea Noah Dixon; Gainesville, FL

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Liberty Pond (University of Florida, since 2013)

Published: Green Pond (“University of Florida Campus Master Plan, 2005-2015”, 2006; Google Maps, 2022); Liberty Pond (University of Florida campus map, 2022; *The Independent Florida Alligator* [UF student newspaper], 2021); Reitz Union Pond (“University of Florida Campus Master Plan, 2005-2015”, 2006)

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Liberty Pond for a 0.3-acre pond in a sinkhole on the University of Florida (UF) campus in Gainesville in Alachua County. The pond is located within the UF Veteran’s Memorial, which according to the UF Army ROTC website, “was erected to honor fallen UF veterans and Gators of the five Armed Services who served their country.” That site also reports that the pond is 100 years old. The memorial was dedicated in 2009 and at the time had a fountain, flags, and five granite pillars representing the five military branches. (The UF Student Senate recently passed a resolution advocating that the memorial also honor the U.S. Space Force.) The memorial fell into disrepair and the area was renovated around 2019. The memorial was not reconstructed and UF is currently holding a fundraiser to rebuild it.

The proponent states that the name Liberty Pond “is in honor of allied military veterans in general, with a particular focus on veterans with connections to the University of Florida, its staff, faculty, and/or students.”

The pond is currently labeled Green Pond on Google Maps; this was the locally used name for many years and was recorded in the “University of Florida Campus Master Plan, 2005-2015,” which noted that it was also known as Reitz Union Pond because of its location next to the Reitz Union Building. In 2013, the UF Board of Trustees passed a resolution renaming the pond from its unofficial name of Green Pond, a generic reference to the algae growing in the water, to Liberty Pond “to accurately reflect the [veteran] memorial site.”

Proposed by: Shea Noah Dixon; Gainesville, FL

Submitted by: same

Prepared by: M. O’Donnell

Case ID: 5761

Reviewed by: J. Runyon

Date: 2/7/22

Date: same

Date: 2/16/22

Quarterly Review List: 447

Date: 3/14/22

Domestic Geographic Name Proposal Form

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) is responsible for standardizing the names of geographic features within the 50 States and in other areas under the sovereignty of the United States. The BGN retains the legal authority to promulgate all official names and locations of natural features (e.g. mountains, rivers, valleys), as well as canals, channels, reservoirs, and other select feature types.

This form is to propose a new name or name, spelling, or application change for a geographic feature for Federal use. A proponent should carefully review the proposal prior to submission to ensure that it is consistent with the [BGN policies](#). Please note all fields with a red outline are required prior to submitting this form.

The proponent should also be aware that the entire proposal—including personal identifying information and any associated correspondence—is in the public domain and may be made publicly available at any time.

Submit Proposal:

1. Email this form and supporting documentation to: BGNESEC@usgs.gov

i. Save PDF as 'ST_GeographicName' for example 'CO_BearCreek'

ii. Email Subject: ST_GeographicName

OR 2. Send by mail to:

U.S. BGN Executive Secretary, Domestic Names
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS-523
Reston, VA 20192

Contact Us:

BGNESEC@usgs.gov

Please note that anything submitted by mail will be delayed.

Naming Basics

Proposed Name:

Is this name in current local use?

Y N

What is the Feature Class?

Is this to change an existing name?

Y N

If yes, please provide the official name and Feature ID as it appears in [the Geographic Names Information System \(GNIS\)](#).

GNIS Name:

Feature ID:

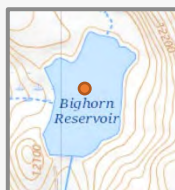
Location Basics



Where is the feature?

Latitude: (38.94741)

Longitude: (-77.36839)

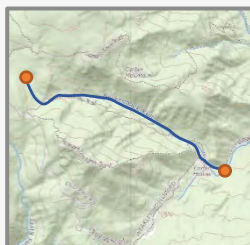


For Linear Features (e.g. stream or valley):

Mouth/Confluence

Latitude: (38.94741)

Longitude: (-77.36839)



Source/Headwater

Latitude: (38.94741)

Longitude: (-77.36839)

General Location:

State:

County:

City/Town/
Township/
Borough:

Public Land Survey System:

Section(s), Township, Range, Meridian

Feature Description

Physical shape, length, width, etc. (Maps can be submitted separately by email)



Name Details

Name information:

Please provide relevant information about the proposed name, such as origin, meaning, how long it has been in current use, as well as current or historical significance. Also include why you believe the feature requires a name or name change and why the proposed name is appropriate. Describe any documents that you will be submitting (separately by email) to support your proposal.



Please provide a list of supporting documentation, including any web links:

Examples: Published sources showing the proposed name or letters of support (local government, historical society, etc.).



Is the name [commemorative](#)? Does the name honor or refer to a person or persons? Y N

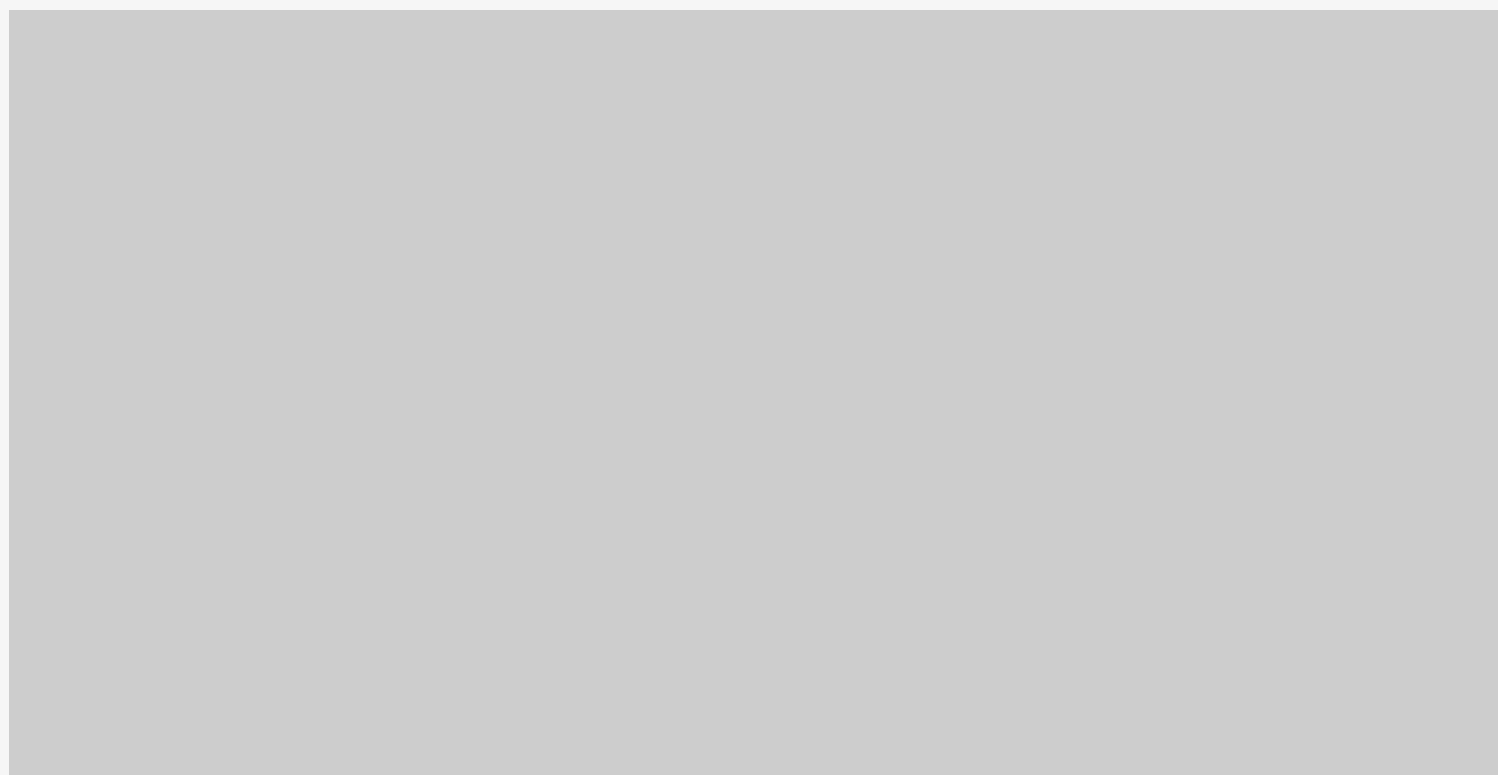
Please note that the BGN will only accept proposals for names that are intended to honor a person or persons deceased at least five years. The BGN will disapprove names that could be construed to honor living persons. The person being honored should have had either (1) some direct or long-term association with the feature, or (2) have made a significant contribution to the area, community, or State in which it is located; or (3) have outstanding national or international recognition. The BGN discourages the use of an individual's full name except to avoid ambiguity.

If yes, please provide the following:

Honoree's Date of Birth:

Honoree's Date of Death:

Short biography and significance or association with the geographic feature: *(list any additional honorees here)*



Is the feature in a Wilderness Area or Wilderness Study Area? Y N Unknown

If yes, please provide your justification for making an exception to [the Wilderness Policy](#):

Please note that the BGN will not approve new names for unnamed features within wilderness areas or wilderness study areas, unless an overriding need can be demonstrated by the proponent.

Additional Information +


Is there any local opposition or conflict with the proposed name? Y N

If yes, please explain and describe any opposition:

Additional notes:

Proponent Information

Please provide one form of contact (email preferred):


 Proponent's Name:

Agency or Organization, if applicable:

 Email:

 Mailing Address:

 Phone:

 Are you completing this form for someone else?

Y N

If yes, please fill out the following:

Completed by:

Full Name:

Email:

Mailing Address:

Phone: