

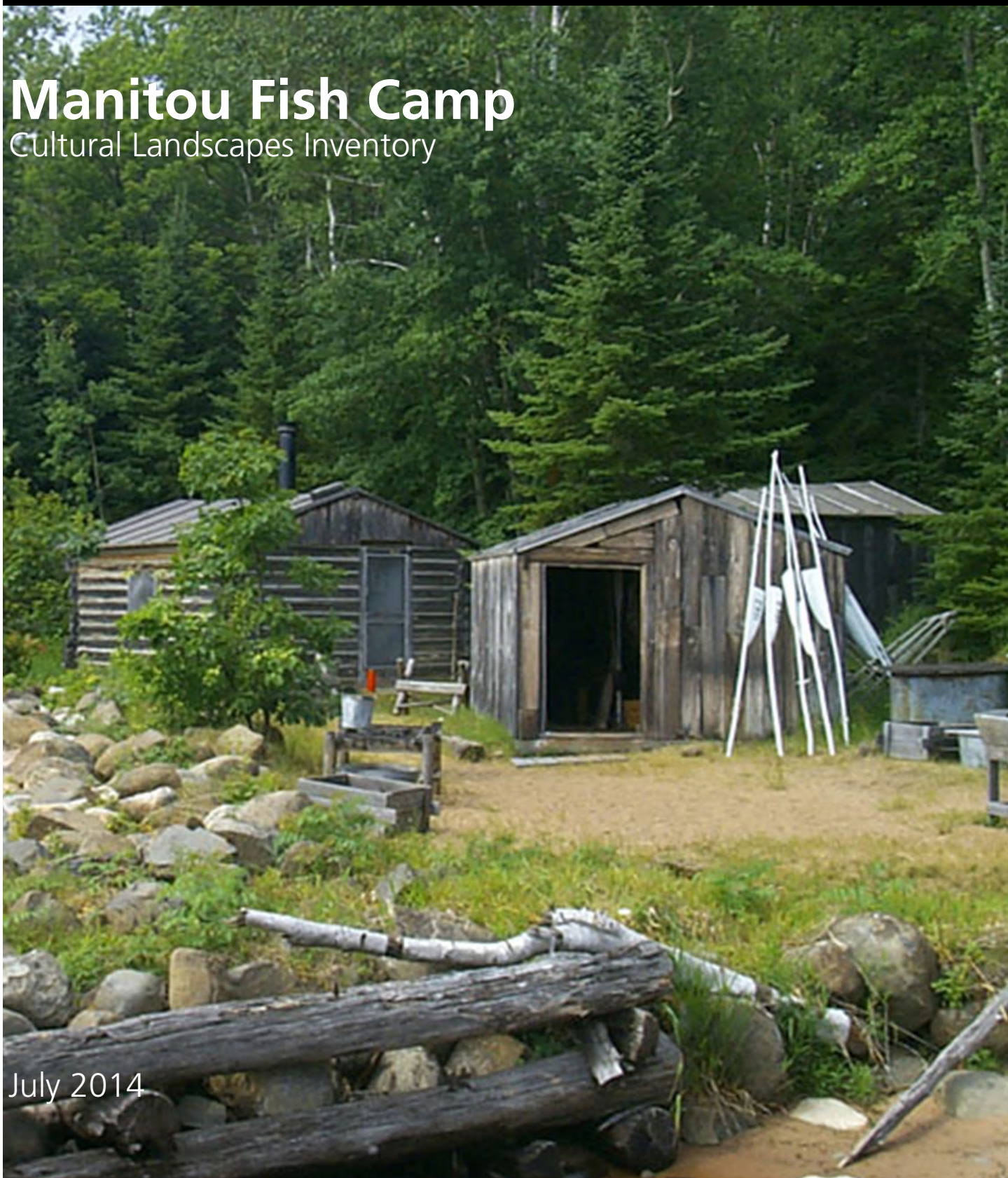
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Apostle Islands National Lakeshore  
Wisconsin



# Manitou Fish Camp

## Cultural Landscapes Inventory



July 2014

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## The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

### CLI General Information

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) is a database containing information on the historically significant landscapes within the National Park System. This evaluated inventory identifies and documents each landscape’s location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics as character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved inventory records when all required data fields are entered, the park superintendent concurs with the information, and the landscape is determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places through a consultation process or is otherwise managed as a cultural resource through a public planning process.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures (LCS), assists the National Park Service (NPS) in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2001), and Director’s Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that responds to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two goals are associated with the CLI: 1) increasing the number of certified cultural landscapes (1b2B) servicewide; and 2) bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (1a7). The CLI is maintained by the Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Program, WASO, and is the official source of cultural landscape information servicewide.

Implementation of the CLI is coordinated and approved at the regional level. Each region annually updates a strategic plan that prioritizes work based on a variety of park and regional needs that include planning and construction projects or associated compliance requirements that lack cultural landscape documentation. When the inventory unit record is complete and concurrence with the findings is obtained from the superintendent and the State Historic Preservation Office, the regional CLI coordinator certifies the record and transmits it to the national CLI Coordinator for approval. Only records approved by the national CLI coordinator are included in the CLI for official reporting purposes.

### Relationship between the CLI and a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR)

The CLI and the CLR are related efforts in the sense that both document the history, significance, and integrity of park cultural landscapes. However, the scope of the CLI is limited by the need to achieve concurrence with the park superintendent, and resolve eligibility questions when a National Register nomination does not exist, or when an existing nomination inadequately addresses the eligibility of landscape characteristics. Ideally, a park’s CLI work (which many include multiple inventory units) precedes a CLR because the baseline information in the CLI not only assists with priority setting when more than one CLR is needed it also assists with determining more accurate scopes of work for the CLR effort.

The CLR is the primary treatment document for significant park landscapes. It therefore requires a more in depth level of research and documentation, both to evaluate the historic and the existing condition of the landscape and to recommend a preservation treatment strategy that meets the Secretary of Interior’s Standards for the treatment of historic properties.

The scope of work for a CLR, when the CLI has not been done, should include production of the CLI record. Depending on its age and scope, existing CLR’s are considered the primary source for the history, statement of significance, and descriptions of contributing resources that are necessary to complete a CLI record.

## Chapter 1: Inventory Unit Summary

### Inventory Unit Description

The Manitou Fish Camp cultural landscape is located on a small sheltered beach on the southwest corner of Manitou Island in the midst of the Apostle Islands chain, about thirteen miles from Bayfield, Wisconsin. The landscape occupies approximately 2.9 acres. The fish camp is an unplanned assortment of rough buildings on the edge of a forested island. The oldest structure, and the first one on the site, was built in the 1890s. The others were added from the early 1900s to the late 1930s. The National Park Service performed extensive restoration work to the structures in 1983 and 1984 as part of preparing the site for use as an interpretive facility.

The Manitou Fish Camp is the best preserved survivor of a series of similar facilities situated on several neighboring islands. Manitou Camp was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on January 1, 1983. The period of significance begins in the 1890s when the first building was erected and ends in the 1930s after the remaining structures were built. The camp is significant because it is the area’s only intact, unaltered site representative of a lifestyle that was basic to the development of the Old Northwest. Furthermore, the structures are significant as representatives of traditions in vernacular architecture which date back to the Middle Ages in northern Europe and which were once common, but are increasingly rarer in upper Wisconsin.

Overall, the Manitou Fish Camp cultural landscape retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The extant buildings, structures, and features retain integrity and are integral components of the cultural landscape. Today, the land use is as Apostle Island National Lakeshore operated by the National Park Service.

### Property Level and CLI Numbers

<b>Inventory Unit Name:</b>	Manitou Fish Camp
<b>Property Level:</b>	Landscape
<b>CLI Identification Number:</b>	500360
<b>Parent Landscape:</b>	Manitou Fish Camp

### Park Information

<b>Park Name and Alpha Code:</b>	Apostle Islands National Lakeshore- APIS
<b>Park Organization Code:</b>	6140
<b>Park Administrative Unit:</b>	Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

### CLI Hierarchy Description

As of September 2006, the Manitou Fish Camp was one of twenty-three potential cultural landscape units that had been identified at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. The Manitou Fish Camp is listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places and qualifies as a landscape in itself rather than being a component of a larger cultural landscape.

## Chapter 2: Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

### Completion Status Explanatory Narrative

Initial research was conducted by seasonals Kathleen Fitzgerald and Richard Radford during FY99 to determine the number of landscapes for the park. Former Cultural Landscapes Program Leader Sherda Williams and Historical Landscape Architect Marla McEnaney reviewed the landscape hierarchy presented in the CLI. Historian Nancy Mannikko performed field work and additional research in July 2004. Final edits to the unit record were completed in fiscal year 2005.

### Concurrence Status:

<b>Park Superintendent Concurrence:</b>	9/1/2005
<b>National Register Concurrence:</b>	Listed to the NRHP - 1/19/1983
<b>Site Visit Conducted:</b>	7/2004



### Chapter 3: Geographic Information & Location Map

State & County:

State:	Wisconsin
County:	Ashland

Size (Acres): 2.90

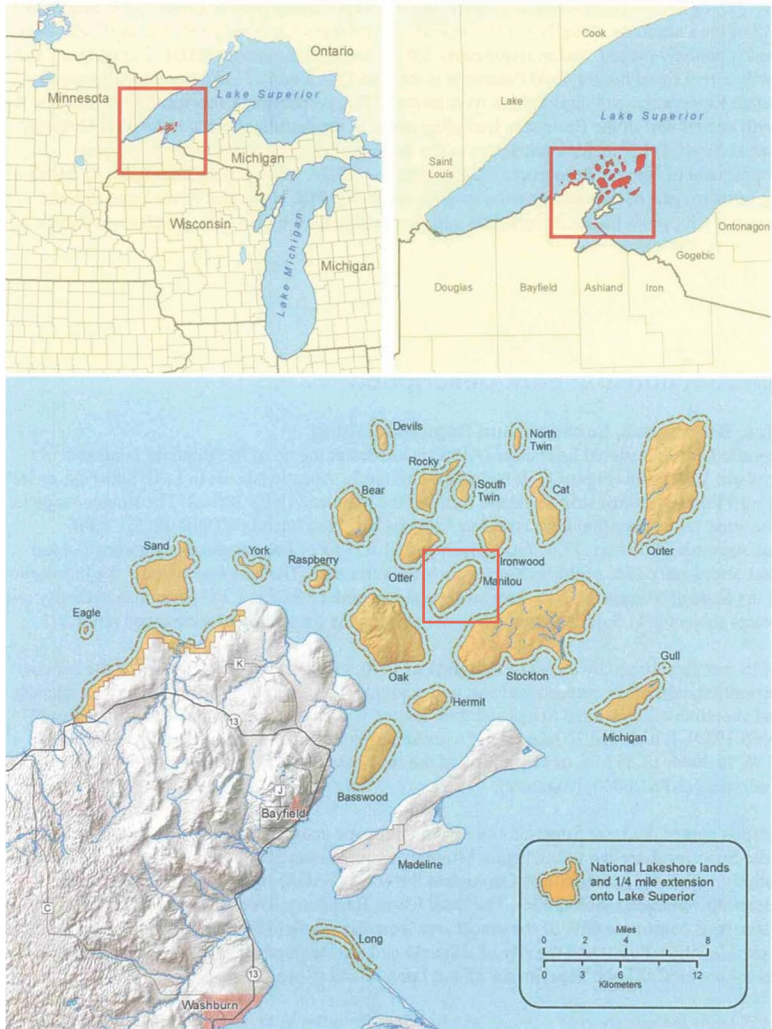
Boundary Description:

Manitou Fish Camp lies on the southwest coast of Manitou Island within Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. It includes 500 feet of shoreline extending 250 feet inward from the water’s edge.It is the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 24 T52N R3W in LaPointe Township of Ashland County, Wisconsin.

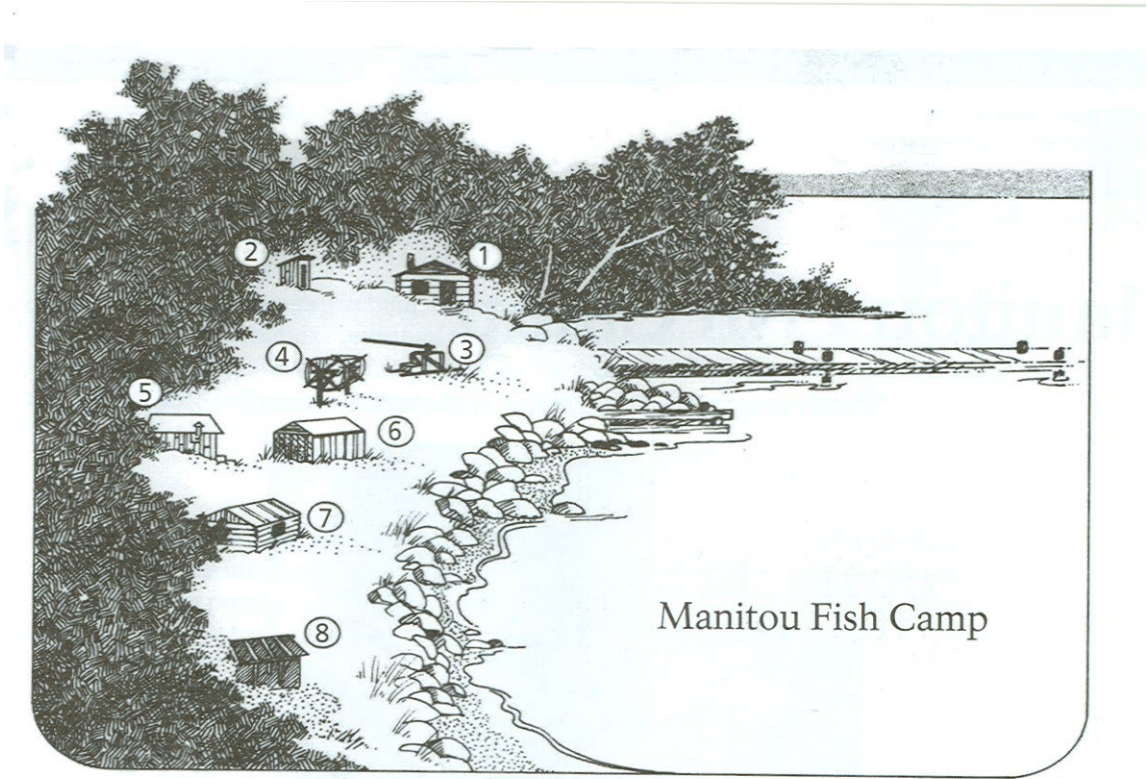
Boundary UTM's

Source:	GPS- Uncorrected
Point Type:	Area
Datum:	WGS84

Map Point	UTM	Easting	Northing	Long/Lat
1	15	676707	5202868	-90.677555, 46.955783
2	15	676777	5202905	-90.676627, 46.956094
3	15	676857	5205784	-90.675624, 46.954991
4	15	676787	5202741	-90.676554, 46.954617



Location of Apostle Islands National Lakeshore in the upper Great Lakes region of the United States, indicating the location of Manitou Island on the lower image. (Kraft et al. 2007, 2)



Site map provided in Apostle Islands National Lakeshore interpretive brochure. Structure 1 is the Governor's Cabin. Structure 2 is the Smokehouse. Structure 3 is the Windlass. Structure 4 is the Net Reel. Structures 5 and 6 are the Twine Sheds. Structure 7 is the Bunkhouse, and Structure 8 is the Ice Fishing Shack. (NPS)

Cultural Context: Regional Context

The Manitou Fish Camp landscape reflects the culture and lifestyle of transient Scandinavian fishermen. Since the 1850s, when European settlement began in the Bayfield/Apostle Islands area, the region’s economy has been largely based on resource-extraction industries. A number of fishing communities populated by Scandinavian fishermen grew up among the islands. Some settlements, like Manitou Camp, were inhabited by single men who had come to the north to draw a living from the undeveloped land and who erected dwellings and cleared garden plots on land owned by a distant timber speculator or development company. Sometime during the 1890s, four Swedes employed in cutting cedar on the island erected a log cabin of typical northern European construction on the sheltered southwest beach. The site became best known as a winter fishing site.

In 1970, the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore was established. This opened the island to additional visitors and brought about changes in the landscape that primarily relate to island access, recreation and visitor use.

Physiographic Context: Regional Context

Manitou Island is one of the twenty-two islands in the Apostle Islands archipelago. The islands range in size from only a few acres in the case of Gull Island to over 10,000 acres on Stockton. Repeated periods of glaciation during the last Ice Age resulted in deposits of glacial till with a high clay content covering most of the islands. The majority of the islands are comparatively flat with sandstone bedrock lying close to the surface. As a result, the islands in general have poor drainage and swampy areas are common. The shorelines for the majority of the islands are characterized by either sandstone cliffs or high clay bluffs.

The Apostle Island archipelago’s sandstones were deposited during the late Precambrian era, about 600 million years ago, and form the basement rock for all the islands. The upper and lower most layers (Chequamegon and Orienta formations) are in the Precambrian Bayfield Group and were deposited by northeastward-flowing braided streams. The Devils Island Formation, between the sandstones, represents deposition across sand-flats that were intermittently covered by shallow ponded water. The Pleistocene ice advances provided an abundance of till, with lesser amounts of glacial outwash, which covers most of the islands. Some glacial drift was streamlined by overriding ice. Terraces, wave-cut benches, and elevated beaches show evidence of higher levels of Lake Superior. High bluffs and glacial drift erode to provide sand for today’s sandspits and beaches such as the narrow sand strip at Manitou Fish Camp.

The islands are heavily forested, with stands of timber tending to be of the mixed hardwood hemlock forest type. Manitou Fish Camp is a small clearing located between the mixed forest that covers most of the island and the waters of Lake Superior. As a park interpretive brochure notes, the site is an “unplanned assortment of rough buildings on the edge of a forested island.”

The natural stands of trees surrounding Manitou Fish Camp include conifers such as white pine and white spruce and deciduous species such as white oak, quaking aspen, and willow. Shrubs include speckled alder and red osier dogwood. Grasses and forbs include goldenrod, clovers, and timothy. Some grasses and forbs are considered exotics, and were most likely transported to the islands as seeds in mixed hay brought in for horses or oxen during the logging era.

Political Context: Regional Context

The Manitou Fish Camp is located within the boundaries of LaPointe Township in Ashland County, Wisconsin. LaPointe Township is part of the 25 District for the Wisconsin State Senate, the 74th District for the Wisconsin State Legislature, and the Wisconsin 7th District for the United States Congress.



## Chapter 4: Management Information

### General Management Information

**Management Category:** Should be Preserved or Maintained

### Agreements, Legal Interest, and Access

#### Management Agreement:

**Type of Agreement:** None

#### Management Category Agreement Narrative:

The 1994 Resource Management Plan for Apostle Islands National Lakeshore calls for preservation of historic resources such as structures and landscapes.

#### NPS Legal Interest:

**Type of Interest:** Fee Simple

### Public Access

**Type of Access:** Other Restrictions

#### Explanatory Narrative:

Site is accessible to public without restrictions. Buildings are kept locked except when park staff are available to provide tours and answer questions.

### Adjacent Lands Information

**Do Adjacent Lands Contribute?** Unknown

#### Adjacent Lands Description:

The fish camp is one of several Scandinavian sites located in the Apostle Islands. It is possible that adjacent lands and even islands contribute to the significance of the property—such relationships have not yet been researched.

FMSS Location Numbers

26524	Manitou Camp Bunkhouse
35308	Manitou Camp Dock
26527	Manitou Camp “Governor’s” Cabin
26537	Manitou Camp Ice Fishing Cabin
26541	Manitou Camp Privy
26546	Manitou Camp Smokehouse
26530	Manitou Camp Twine Shed #1
26533	Manitou Camp Twine Shed #2
35228	Manitou Camp Windlass

Chapter 5: National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

Entered - Documented

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence:	1/19/1983
Contributing/Individual:	Individual
National Register Classification:	Site
Significance Level:	Local
Significance Criteria:	A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history  C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values
Period of Significance:	1900-1949
Area of Significance:	Industry Architecture

Existing NRIS Information:

Name in National Register:	APIS Manitou Camp
NRIS Number	83003367
Primary Certification:	Listed to the National Register
Primary Certification Date:	1/19/1983

National Register Information (cont.)

Statement of Significance:

The Manitou Camp is an important historical site because it is the area’s only intact, unaltered site representative of a lifestyle that was basic to the development of the Old Northwest: that of the European male without family ties who lived off the land and whose life was characterized by transiency and seasonal changes. Of the men who occupied the Manitou camp, some logged, some fished, some did both. The camp represents a particularly rugged aspect of commercial fishing as it is practiced in Lake Superior: winter fishing, both open water herring fishing and gill-netting through the ice.

With the exception of the fur trade, the fishing industry is the oldest of the Lake Superior region’s commercial enterprises, and the only one to continue to the present day. Island fish camps have played a major role in the industry since the 1830’s, when the American Fur Company established seasonal encampments, sending a company boat around to pick up the fish and transport the catch to the main port at LaPointe where they would be salted and packed. Although Manitou was also a summer camp, it has been a winter fishing site from its earliest days. It is one of possibly two Apostle Islands camps from which the November-December herring run was harvested. A herring shed at the end of the Manitou dock received the fish directly from the boat for cleaning and salting; the herring were packed in barrels on the premises and then brought to Bayfield. Once the lake froze over, the fishermen would go out on the ice by dogsled, carrying nets and other gear needed to fish through the ice.

The buildings of Manitou Camp, which have not been structurally altered since they were constructed, contain a wealth of objects and implements remaining from the first historic occupants of the site to the most recent. Many objects related to winter fishing as it has been practiced since the nineteenth century remain in situ at the camp. The structures in the camp range from approximately 65 to 110 years old and together comprise the only remaining intact and unaltered example of the working camps which once dotted the landscape in the early period of the region’s development.

Criterion

Manitou Fish Camp is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its representation of one aspect of commercial fishing on Lake Superior. Two buildings at Manitou also qualify under Criterion C as particularly fine examples of vernacular architecture, the Governor’s Cabin, with its close fit logs, double-faced hewing, half dove-tail notches, and moss chinking, and the Bunkhouse, constructed in the Scandinavian round log style.

Chapter 6: Chronology and Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape type:	Historic Vernacular
Current and Historic Use/Function:	
Primary Historic Function:	Industrial/Processing/Extraction-Other
Primary Current Use:	Exhibit
Other Use/Function:	Type:
Agriculture/Subsistence-Other	Historic
Outdoor Recreation	Historic
Interpretive Landscape	Current
Current and Historic Names:	
Name:	Type of Name:
Manitou Fish Camp	Both Current and Historic

Chronology

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1890-1905	Altered	Loggin operations on Manitou Island
CE 1900-1905	Built	Swedish loggers build the first cabin at Manitou
CE 1910-1923	Purchased/Sold	Frenzel Land Company buys island
CE 1918-1930	Altered	Gus Plud and John Hanson build additional structures.
CE 1923-1936	Purchased/Sold	Ashland County acquires land at tax auction.
CE 1925-1935	Altered	Frank Childs builds metal covered ice fishing cabin.
CE 1936-1938	Purchased/Sold	Hjalmer Olson and his brother, Ted Olson, buy the camp and adjoining 47.2 acres for \$600.

Chronology

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1938	Altered	Ted Olson Moves Bunkhouse from Ironwood Island to Manitou.
CE 1959	Purchased/Sold	Ted Olson sells his interest in camp to his brother, Hjalmer “Governor” Olson.
CE 1964	Purchased/Sold	Hjalmer Olson sells land to Manitou Island Outfitters for \$1500 but retains a life estate.
CE 1976	Purchased/Sold	Manitou Island Outfitters sells property to National Park Service.
CE 1983-1984	Reconstructed	National Park Service reconstructs fish camp for use as an interpretive site.

Cultural Landscape Physical History Narrative

Fishing has long been an important component of Apostle Islands history. Native Americans in the Chequamegon Bay area relied heavily on lake trout and whitefish. By the 1840s, the American Fur Company had commenced commercial fishing operations in the Apostles. Fish was salted, packed in barrels, and shipped to the lower lakes. By the end of the nineteenth century, hundreds of commercial fishermen plied the water of Lake Superior.

Fishing activities actually took several forms, with commercial fishermen using stationery pound (“pond”) nets created by driving wooden pilings into the lake bed and fencing the enclosed area, gill nets suspended from buoys, and trawling with hooks and bait, depending on the species of fish sought.

Commercial fishing continued to be an important economic activity until the mid-twentieth century when a combination of overfishing and depredations by the sea lamprey caused the lake trout population to crash. In the 1930s, there were as many as 80 pound net fishing operations in the Apostles and near the Bayfield Peninsula.

Fish camps are places where commercial fishermen built temporary dwellings at remote island sites near productive fishing areas. Apostle Island fish camps began to appear in the 1800s and continued with few changes through the 1950s. Over the years, commercial fishermen developed a seasonal lifestyle. Most fishermen would spend the summer on an island, at a “fish camp,” and the winter on the mainland. However, the Manitou Camp was a winter fishing site from its earliest days. It is one of possibly two island camps from which the November-December herring run was harvested.

Although most fish camps could quite accurately be described as collections of temporary “shacks,” fishermen often returned to the same camp year after year. Camps were also moved from island to island when conditions changed so some of the buildings may have been built elsewhere and moved as is the case with the Bunkhouse at Manitou Camp which was moved from Ironwood Island.

Fishermen used these camps because transportation to and from Bayfield in small open boats was time consuming and often dangerous. Every two or three days, one of several large “pick up” boats operated by the major fish companies in Bayfield would stop at each fish camp to pick up fresh lake trout or whitefish and deliver supplies.

Winter provided a different set of opportunities and challenges to fishermen using the camps. The fishermen did not need boats to fish through the ice using hooks or gill nets. They did have to transport their catch to market themselves. At one or two week intervals, they loaded boxes of fish on a sled pulled by dogs, horses, or themselves across the miles of ice back to Bayfield. In later years, old cars were used to transport the fishermen and their catch across the ice.



## Chapter 7: Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity

### Summary:

The Manitou Fish Camp landscape retains integrity due to the presence of essential landscape characteristics and features associated with the period of significance. Extant buildings include the Governor’s Cabin, two twine sheds, bunkhouse, ice fishing cabin, smokehouse, and privy. The site retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association through all the extant landscape characteristics and features that, in total, help to convey the property’s significance and historic character.

The property is situated in its historic location on the shore of Lake Superior on Manitou Island. A majority of the extant structures and features remain in their historic location as well. The property retains its overall sense of design which is reflected in the spatial organization, proportion, scale, and massing. Although portions of the property have evolved from garden clearing to woodlands, in general the property retains the aspect of setting.

The aspects of materials and workmanship are retained due to the presence and exteriors of the contributing buildings. The property possesses the aspect of feeling due to the existence of historic structures and fishing ephemera, adjacent lack of modern intrusions, and the position near the water. Finally, the landscape has retained its association because it is the area’s only intact, unaltered site representative of a lifestyle that was basic to the development of the Old Northwest.

### Aspects of Integrity:

- Location
- Design
- Setting
- Materials
- Workmanship
- Feeling
- Association

### Landscape Characteristics:

- Buildings and Structures
- Circulation
- Cultural Traditions
- Natural Systems and Features
- Small Scale Features
- Spatial Organization
- Topography
- Vegetation
- Views and Vistas

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics

There are seven buildings and two related structures at Manitou Fish Camp. All the buildings are vernacular in design and construction, and many used salvaged materials. The Bunkhouse, for example, was originally constructed on another island, disassembled in the 1930s, and moved to Manitou. The buildings are small, and all consist of only one room each.

The Governor’s Cabin, built in the 1890s, is typical of traditional northern European log construction. The 14 by 18 foot cabin is a one room, one story single gable structure resting on a log foundation. The walls are hand hewn cedar logs, hewn flat on both sides. Half dove tail notching was used for a close fit between logs. Remnants of moss remain from the earliest chinking. The roof is comprised of two purlins and a ridgepole, each approximately six inches in diameter, set into the gable logs. Vertical boards are nailed to these supports and covered with rolled roofing and wooden laths. Window and door openings were cut out of the walls and framed with wood. The windows are six pane hoppers. The interior of the cabin has been plastered and whitewashed. Floor boards are hand planed cedar. There is a small dugout cellar beneath a trapdoor in the floor. Door latches, hinges, and handles are a combination of hand carved wood, hand forged iron, and leather.

Twine Shed #1 is a 17 by 11 foot structure built in the early 1900s by John Hanson, a Swedish logger who stayed on to fish when the logging was over. The simple frame structure utilizes 4 to 6 inch diameter poles as supporting members and a wide plank vertical siding. One use of the building was to stable his horse.

The Bunkhouse is a 14 by 18 foot one room, single gable structure built by Theodore Olson on Ironwood Island in the early 1930s. When the Ironwood Island landowner required that he leave, Olson dismantled the structure and moved it to Manitou Island. The structure serves as a bunkhouse with built in beds. The logs are left in the round, extend at the ends, and are joined with saddle notches. They are closely laid, but not scribed. The gables are covered with vertical boards originally from the Bruder’s farm on Hermit Island. The roofing system provided for overhead storage of running boards and other fishing gear. The roof is covered with tar paper.

Twine Shed #2 was built by Theodore Olson in the mid 1930s. The 9 foot 6 inch by 12 foot 6 inch shed is frame constructed of wood pole supports and wide plank horizontal siding. The building rests on 10 inch square log footings. One use of this building was to hang bait nets.

The Ice Fishing Cabin was built in the late 1920s or early 1930s by Frank Childs, who fished out of the camp in winter. The one room frame constructed cabin is now covered with sheets of corrugated tin. A small shed roof kitchen was once attached to the side of the cabin.

The Smokehouse, built by John Hanson in the early 1930s, is a small wood frame building with a tarpapered shed roof with wood battens. It is sheathed in horizontal board siding and has a wooden sill. The interior is lined with metal and has a wire mesh smoking rack. There is a panel door with iron hardware on the west façade. This structure was used to smoke herring and venison.

The existing Privy is a small wood frame structure clad with corrugated metal. It has a shed roof and a vertical plank door in the south wall. Another privy once existed at the opposite end of the camp, but it has since deteriorated.

The existing Dock used by visitors to the island was constructed by the NPS. The original dock consisted of wood cribs filled with stone and covered by a wooden deck. A small portion of the historic dock remains.

The Net Drying Reels consist of a vertical log and board frame that supports a pole center for the reel and wood board rack members.

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

Feature:	Governors Cabin		
Contributing?	Yes		
LCS Structure Name:	Manitou Camp “Governor’s” Cabin		
LCS ID Number	22606		
LCS Historic Structure Number:	14-104-A		
Locational Data:			
Source:	GPS- Uncorrected		
Point Type:	Area		
Datum:	WGS84		
Zone:	15	Easting: 676785	Northing: 5202799
Longitude:	-90.676558	Latitude: 46.955144	

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Page 21



Governor’s Cabin. (NPS 2004)



Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

Feature:	Twine Shed
Contributing?	Yes
LCS Structure Name:	Manitou Camp Twin Shed #1
LCS ID Number	22607
LCS Historic Structure Number:	14-104-B
Locational Data:	
Source:	GPS- Uncorrected
Point Type:	Area
Datum:	WGS84
Zone: 15	Easting: 676768      Northing: 5202820
Longitude: -90.676779	Latitude: 46.955334
Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Page 22	



Twine Shed #1. (NPS 2004)

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

Feature:	Bunkhouse
Contributing?	Yes
LCS Structure Name:	Manitou Camp Bunkhouse
LCS ID Number	22608
LCS Historic Structure Number:	14-104-C
Locational Data:	
Source:	GPS- Uncorrected
Point Type:	Area
Datum:	WGS84
Zone: 15	Easting: 676762      Northing: 5202830
Longitude: -90.676843	Latitude: 46.955427
Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Page 23	



Bunkhouse. (NPS 2004)



Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

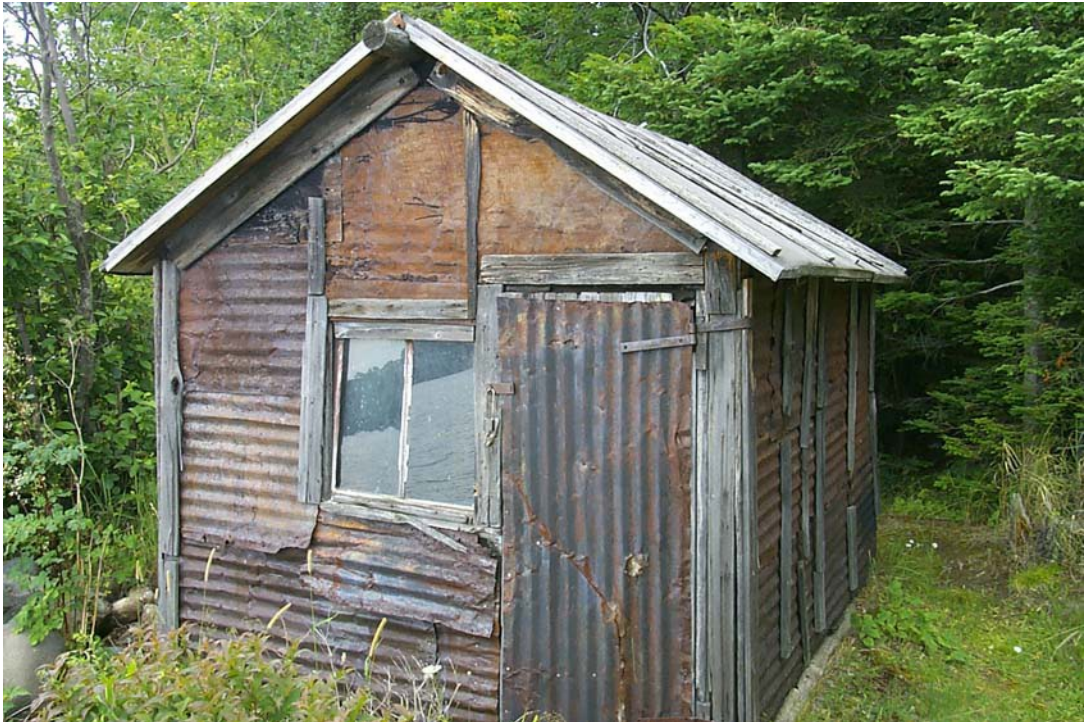
Feature:	Twine Shed #2
Contributing?	Yes
LCS Structure Name:	Manitou Camp Twin Shed #2
LCS ID Number	22609
LCS Historic Structure Number:	14-104-D
Locational Data:	
Source: GPS- Uncorrected	
Point Type: Area	
Datum: WGS84	
Zone: 15	Easting: 676770      Northing: 5202828
Longitude: -90.676747	Latitude: 46.955411
Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI:	Page 24



Twine Shed #2, west facade. (NPS 2004)

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

Feature:	Ice Fishing Cabin
Contributing?	Yes
LCS Structure Name:	Manitou Camp Ice Fishing Cabin
LCS ID Number	22610
LCS Historic Structure Number:	14-104-E
Locational Data:	
Source: GPS- Uncorrected	
Point Type: Area	
Datum: WGS84	
Zone: 15	Easting: 676751      Northing: 5202838
Longitude: -90.676990	Latitude: 49.955506
Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI:	Page 25



Ice Fishing Cabin. (NPS 2004)



Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

Feature:	Smokehouse	
Contributing?	Yes	
LCS Structure Name:	Manitou Camp Smokehouse	
LCS ID Number	22612	
LCS Historic Structure Number:	14-104-H	
Locational Data:		
Source: GPS- Uncorrected		
Point Type: Point		
Datum: WGS84		
Zone: 15	Easting: 676789	Northing: 5202806
Longitude: -90.676507	Latitude: 46.955200	
Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Page 26		



Skiff and Smokehouse. (NPS 2004)

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

Feature:	Privy	
Contributing?	Yes	
LCS Structure Name:	Manitou Camp Privy	
LCS ID Number	22611	
LCS Historic Structure Number:	14-104-F	
Locational Data:		
Source: GPS- Uncorrected		
Point Type: Point		
Datum: WGS84		
Zone: 15	Easting: 676807	Northing: 5202790
Longitude: -60.676268	Latitude: 46.955054	
Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Page 27		



Privy. (NPS 2004)



Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

Feature:	Dock
Contributing?	Yes
LCS Structure Name:	Manitou Camp Dock
LCS ID Number	22613
LCS Historic Structure Number:	14-104-I
Locational Data:	
Source: GPS- Uncorrected	
Point Type: Area	
Datum: WGS84	
Zone: 15	Easting: 676765      Northing: 5202803
Longitude: -90.676823	Latitude: 46.955184
Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI:	Page 27



Remains of Crib Dock with no decking. (NPS 2004)

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

Feature:	Net reel
Contributing?	Yes
LCS Structure Name:	Manitou Camp Net Drying Reel
LCS ID Number	101560
LCS Historic Structure Number:	14-104-K
Locational Data:	
Source: GPS- Uncorrected	
Point Type: Point	
Datum: WGS84	
Zone: 15	Easting: 676772      Northing: 5202813
Longitude: -90.676724	Latitude: 46.955273
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Net reels. (NPS 2004)



## Circulation: Landscape Characteristics

Circulation patterns at Manitou Camp are linear, with a distinct path paralleling the lakefront from the dock to the buildings at the northwest end of the camp.



Manitou Camp looking north from the end of the dock. (NPS 2004)

## Cultural Traditions: Landscape Characteristics

The Governor's Cabin, built ca. 1890, is typical of northern European construction in the double-faced hewing, half dove-tail notches, close fit of the logs, chamfered edges and moss chinking, as well as earthen cellar beneath the plank floor. There is a major Finnish settlement in the area, and a number of Swede-Finns are known to have worked in the logging camps and fisheries. There was also a large influx of Norwegian fishermen in the late 1800s. This style of log building was common to the area, especially among the Finns, and some examples remain on the Bayfield Peninsula, although most have been considerably altered. The Manitou cabin is the only example of this style on the Apostle Islands or within the National Lakeshore.

The Bunkhouse, built by Theodore Olson, represents the Scandinavian round log style with closely laid logs that extend beyond the notches, gables covered with vertical boards, and door and window openings cut out of the walls, then framed. Although this style, too, was common at one time, very few structures remain within the area. This is the only example within the National Lakeshore (Lidfors 1983, 8.3-4).



Detail of Governor's Cabin, west corner, facing east. (APIS Staff/ NPS 1979)



### Natural Systems and Features: Landscape Characteristics

Manitou Island is located in Lake Superior which has the greatest surface area of any freshwater lake in the world measuring 563 km (350 mi) long and 257 km (158 mi) wide at its longest and widest points, respectively. The Apostle Islands ecoregion is characterized by relatively shallow water, sandy substrates, considerable habitat complexity due to the numerous islands, reefs, and sandbars, and relatively diffuse anthropogenic influences. The islands are separated by pre-glacial valleys that are now submerged (Kraft et al. 2007, 23).

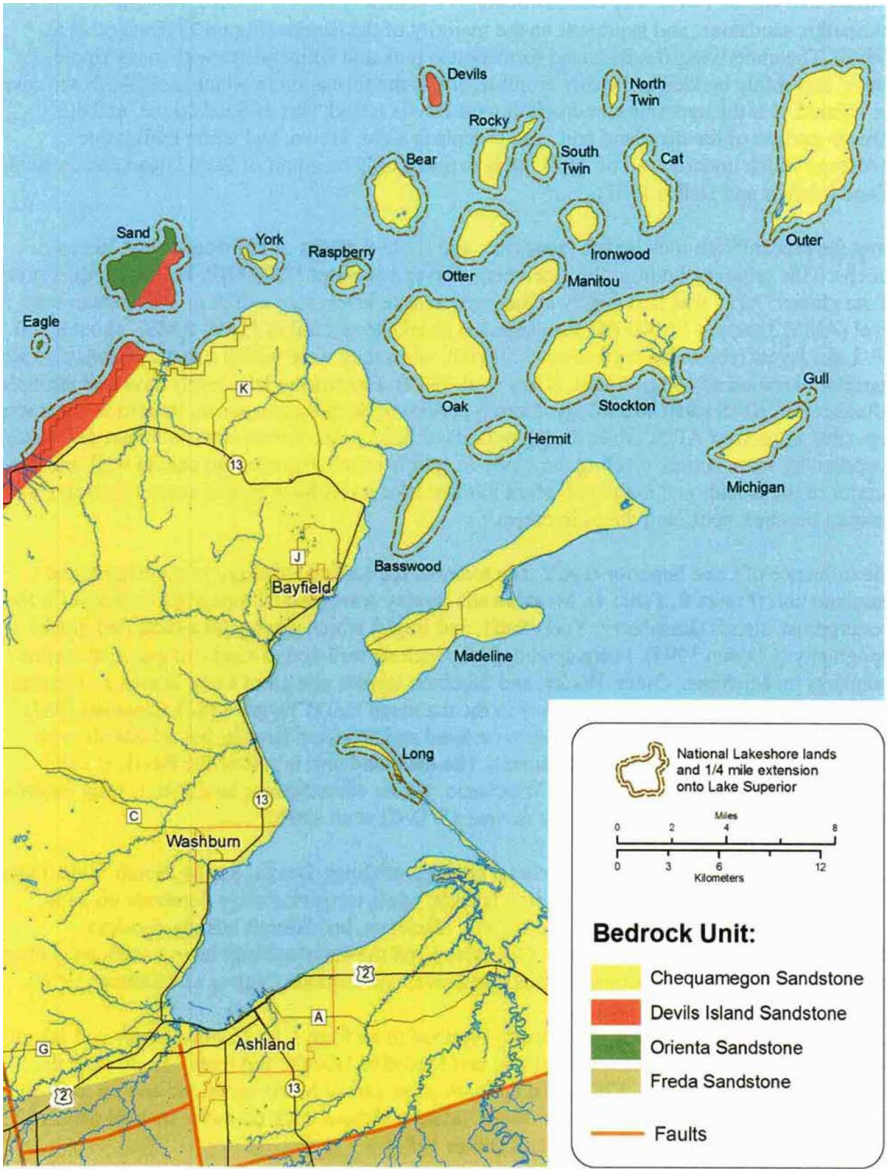
The climate of the region is characterized by long, cold winters and rather short, moderately warm summers. Bayfield County has an average temperature of 5°C/41°F, and on average receives 71 cm (28 in) of precipitation, which includes 127-191 cm (50-75 in) of snow. However, the climate of the islands, and to some extent the mainland unit of Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, is moderated by Lake Superior and is therefore more maritime. In comparison to the mainland, the islands experience warmer winters, a later spring arrival, cooler summers, and a longer fall.

In Bayfield County, prevailing winds are westerly from early fall through early spring and easterly the remainder of the year. When storms occur in the lakeshore, the prevailing winds blow from the northwest, north, and northeast.

Even in a severe winter, the ice coverage on Lake Superior is normally limited to 40-50%, although it may briefly reach 80-90%. In the west end of the lake, 10-15 cm (4-6in) of fast ice builds northeast from Duluth as far as the lakeshore. Rafting and ridging may make ice as thick as 1.2 m (4 ft) in navigation areas (Kraft et al. 2007, 6).

The geology and soils of Manitou Island consist of Precambrian sandstone of the Bayfield Group of the Keweenaw Supergroup. At approximately 600 million years old, it is the youngest Precambrian sedimentary rock in the Lake Superior region. The Bayfield Group includes the Chequamegon, Devils Island, and Orienta Formations which have thicknesses of up to 150 m (492 ft), 90 m (295 ft), and 550 m (1,804 ft) respectively. The Devils Island formation is pink and white quartz with many ripple marks. It is thinly bedded and easily erodible and is the formation in which most Apostle Islands sea caves are formed. It is the uppermost bedrock unit on part of Sand Island. The Orienta is a red, brown, and white feldspathic sandstone which underlies all of the lakeshore, but is exposed only on a part of Sand Island and on Eagle Island.

Atop the Precambrian rock lie till, lacustrine, and shore deposits of Pleistocene and recent epochs. Tills originated during the glaciations that ended about 12,000 BP. Following glacial retreat, the Apostle Islands were first deeply submerged as lake levels rose and then exposed as lake levels fell. Fluctuating lake levels have had multiple influences on the surficial geology. During periods of submergence, lacustrine clays were deposited in parts of the lakeshore, while during periods of falling lake levels, surficial materials were reworked. Lacustrine clay deposits dominate on Sand Island from thicknesses between 1.5 – 30 m (4.5-98 ft). The influence of Lake Superior can still be seen today in the surficial geology. Most islands display wave-planed topography. Sandy shore deposits dominate the surficial geology of Manitou Island (Kraft et al. 2007, 12-13).



Bedrock geology of the Apostle Islands area (Kraft et al. 2007, 14).



Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics

Small scale features include a handmade wooden windlass, made by Hjalmer Olson. The windlass, a device for raising or hauling objects, consists of a vertical pole frame with board bracing and a centered vertical log with a cable. There is a wood crib with rock “weights” and pole handles to turn the center log. There are also numerous fishing ephemera including boat skids, wooden net and fish boxes, a netfork table, tarring tank, gutting board, salt barrels, etc. These objects, together with the structures, give valuable insight into the lifestyle of camp residents during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Feature:	Manitou Camp Windlass
Contributing?	Yes
LCS Structure Name:	Manitou Camp Windlass
LCS ID Number	22614
LCS Historic Structure Number:	14-104-J

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected		
Point Type: Point		
Datum: WGS84		
Zone: 15	Easting: 676772	Northing: 5205802
Longitude: -90.676730	Latitude: 46955175	

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Manitou Camp Windlass. (NPS 2004)

Spatial Organization: Landscape Characteristics

Manitou Fish Camp is organized in a roughly linear fashion with structures at the site strung out along the waterfront from northwest to southeast, with the privy being at the extreme southeast end of the camp. The Governor’s Cabin is located closest to the dock with the privy to its rear.

The historic garden clearing is located up hill from the Bunkhouse and Twine Shed #2. It is not visible from the fish camp itself, but is accessible via the hiking trail. The clearing was used as a garden space by various fishermen staying on the island.

Topography: Landscape Characteristics

The Manitou Camp site is located along a bench that slopes slightly from east to west, with a total difference in elevation to the Lake Superior shoreline to the level of the garden clearing of in the woods of approximately twenty feet.

Vegetation: Landscape Characteristics

Overall, the flora of Manitou Island is not very diverse. Parts of the island’s shore consist of low clay bluffs and narrow sand and gravel beaches. The latter are especially well-developed midway up the north-west-facing coast and near the southern and western tips.

The pre-settlement forest of Manitou Island was dominated by hemlock, with lesser amounts of white cedar, red and white pine, white birch, and red and sugar maple. Logging began before 1895, peaked in the first decade of this century, and occurred sporadically until the early 1970’s. The current forest is dominated by white cedar, yellow birch, white birch, sugar maple, balsam-fir, hemlock, and red maple. Mature second-growth stands of hemlock-hardwoods occur in the southwestern half of the island.

The dominant shrubs are mountain maple and beaked hazelnut. The herb layer is well-represented by clubmosses: the most common species in 1991 was wood ferns, shining clubmoss, starflower, Canada mayflower, rosy twisted-stalk, corn-lily, round-branched ground-pine, Carex arctata, and bristly clubmoss. There are also occasions of wild oats, false Solomon’s-seal, and dwarf ginseng (Judziewicz and Kock 1993, 92-93).

Vegetation at Manitou Camp consists of mixed native and exotic species including the showy hedge-bind-weed. Although it is known camp residents planted vegetable gardens in the summer and may even have tried to establish a small orchard, no traces remain of artificial plantings other than the historic garden clearing. Existing vegetation at or near the camp includes feral apple trees, goldenrod, mixed grasses and sedges, and white oak. Along the camp shore are quack grass (Agropyron repens), Canada goldenrod (Solidago canadensis), and reed canary-grass (Phalaris arundinacea).

Views and Vistas: Landscape Characteristics

The views from Manitou Fish Camp consist of an unobstructed view of the waters of Lake Superior to the southwest and west, with Oak Island and Otter Island visible. The view to the east is abbreviated as the woods are both close and dense.



View from Manitou Camp of lake and other Islands. (NPS 2004)



View of Manitou Camp from lake. (NPS 2010)

Chapter 8: Condition Assessment

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 8/31/2005

Although there is an on-going problem with encroaching vegetation, it is manageable through routine maintenance.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 7/7/2011

Impacts

Impact Type: Vegetation/Invasive Plants

Internal/External: Internal

Impact Type: Visitation

Internal/External: External

## Chapter 9: Treatment

**Approved Treatment:** Preservation  
**Approved Treatment Document:** Other Document  
**Document Date:** 5/2/1994

**Approved Treament Document Explanatory Narrative**

Resource Management Plan calls for preservation of historic structures and sites.

**Approved Treatment Completed:** No

## Bibliography

Judziewicz, Emmet J. and Rudy G. Koch. “Flora of the Apostle Islands.” *The Michigan Botanist* March 1993

Kraft, George J., et al. Assessment of Coastal Water Resources and Watershed Conditions at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, Wisconsin. National Resource Technical Report NPS/NRWRD/NRTR-2006/361. National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Mannikko, Nancy Farm. Apostle Islands National Lakeshore Cultural Landscapes and Historic Stuctures: A Summary (Draft). Omaha, NPS, 2003

National Register of Historic Places, Manitou Fish Camp, La Pointe vacinity, Ashland County, Wisconsin, National Register # 83003367

U.S. Department of the Interior. National Park Service. *The Manitou Island Fishing Camp: A Special Study*. By Ronald W. Johnson. Special Study. Denver: Denver Service Center/NPS, 1984

GPS Data provided by the CR-GIS Program, 2014



Supplemental Information  
Images of Manitou Fish Camp from 1979



Governor's Cabin, facing east. (APIS Staff, NPS 1979)



Twine Shed #1, facing southeast. (APIS Staff, NPS 1979)

Images of Manitou Fish Camp from 1979, continued



Bunkhouse, facing north. (APIS Staff, NPS 1979)



Twine Shed #2, facing northwest. (APIS Staff, NPS 1979)

Images of Manitou Fish Camp from 1979, continued



Ice Fishing Cabin, facing north. (APIS Staff, NPS 1979)