

SHIPWRECKS OF ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK,
GLENLYON WRECK SITE

Lake Superior near the shores of Isle Royale
Isle Royale
Keweenaw County
Michigan

HAER MI 51-A

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WRITTEN DATA PAGE
MEASURED AND INTERPRETIVE DRAWINGS

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

National Park Service

1849 C Street, NW Rm NC300

Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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SHIPWRECKS OF ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK, GLENLYON WRECK SITE
HAER No. MI-51-A

Location: Lake Superior near the shores of Isle Royale
Isle Royale Keweenaw County Michigan

Date of Construction: 1893 (Built originally as the WILLIAM H. GATWICK)
1924 (wrecked at Isle Royale in Siskiwit Bay)

Type of Structure: Steam-Powered Package Freighter

Use: Cargo (now Archeological and Recreational)

Designer/
Engineer:

Fabricator/
Builder: F.W. Wheller and Company, West Bay City, Michigan

Owner: Federal Government
(Formerly Midland Shipbuilding Company)

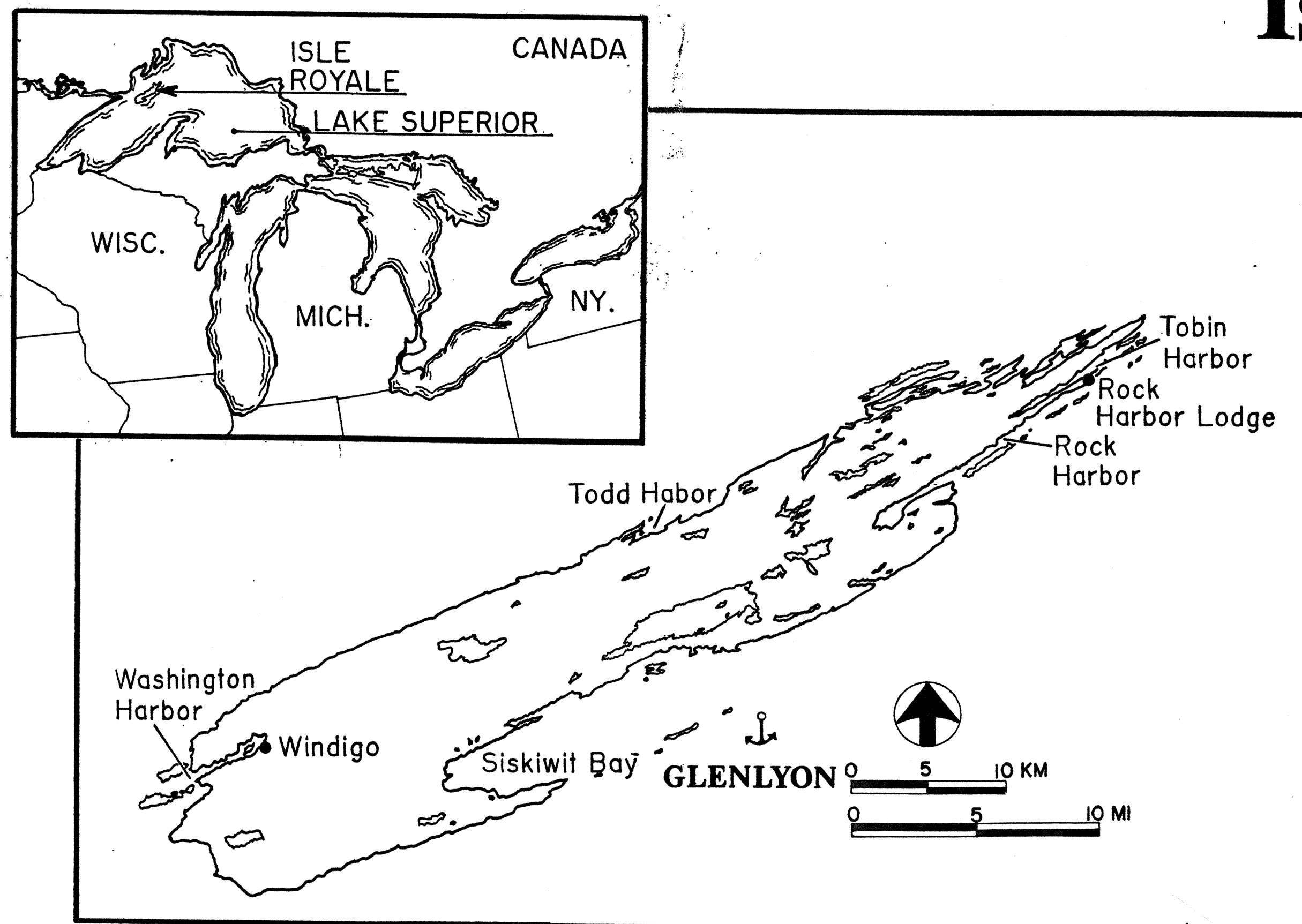
Significance:

The shipwrecks located within the archipelago of Isle Royale represent many types and stages of the development of maritime steam technology. Vessel types include passenger steamers, bulk, and package freighters of both wood and steel hulls. The subarctic environment of Lake Superior has preserved much of the wrecks structure and cargo, which makes for ideal research conditions.

Project Information: Documentation was conducted by the Submerged Cultural Resources Unit (SCRU) of the National Park Service in 1987. This HAER project incorporates the archeological drawings with new interpretive drawings on Mylar in the HAER format. Robbyn L. Jackson served as HAER project leader responsible for the compilation of sheets. See individual sheets for delineators' names.

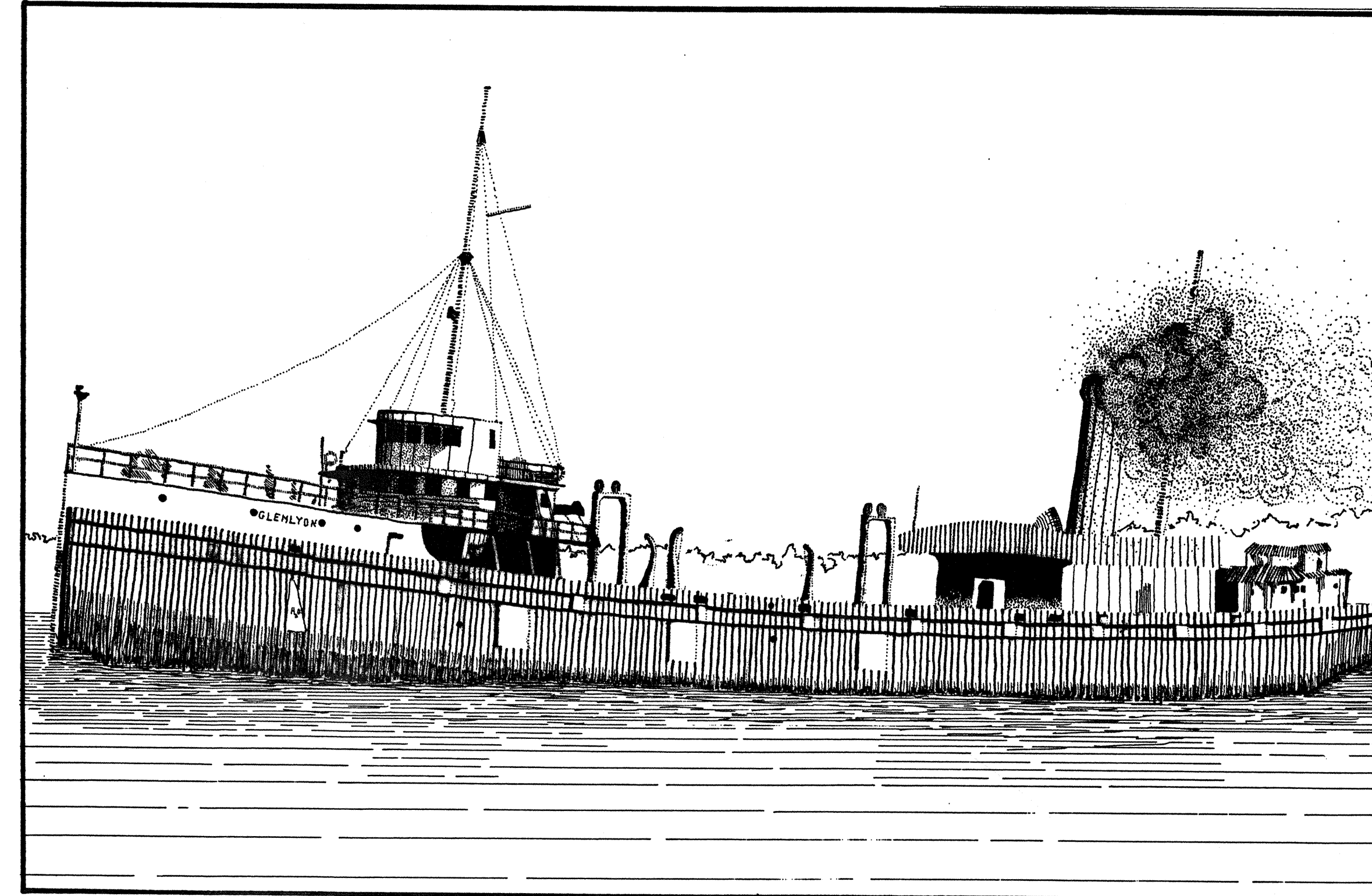
GLENLYON PACKAGE FREIGHTER

Isle Royale National Park, Michigan

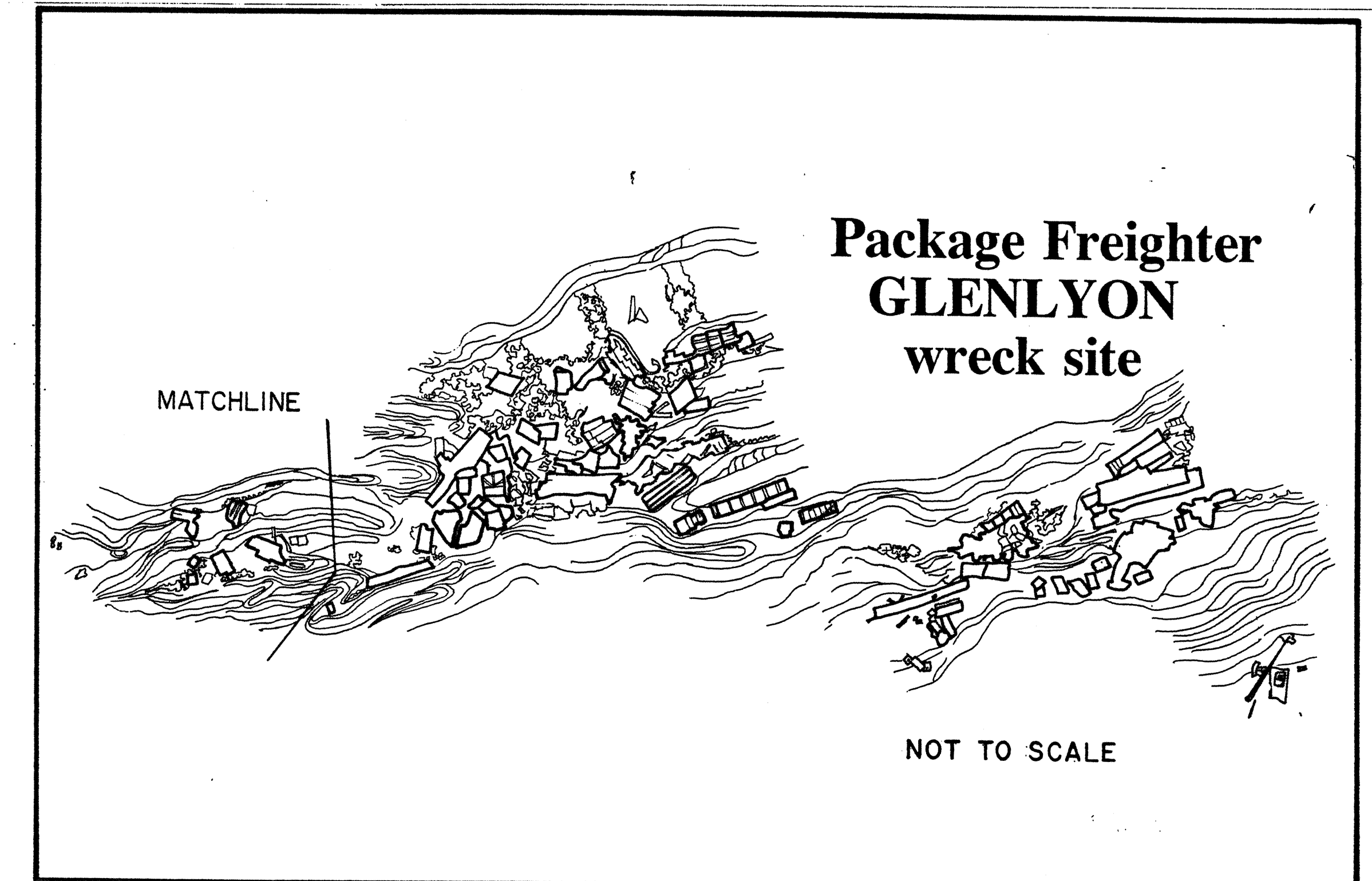


Location Map

The area map of Isle Royale was taken from USGS maps.



The configuration of the GLENLYON before the November 24 wreck. (Photograph is from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Canal Park Marine Museum Collection)



Site Plan

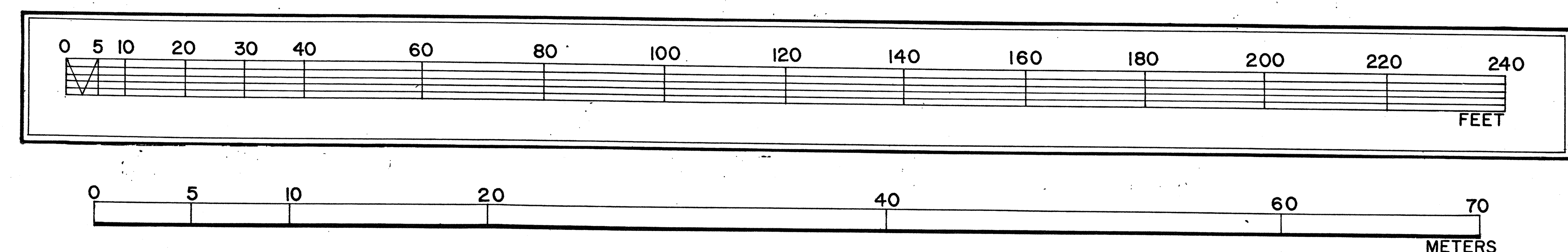
The site map was taken from the Isle Royale Report cited below.

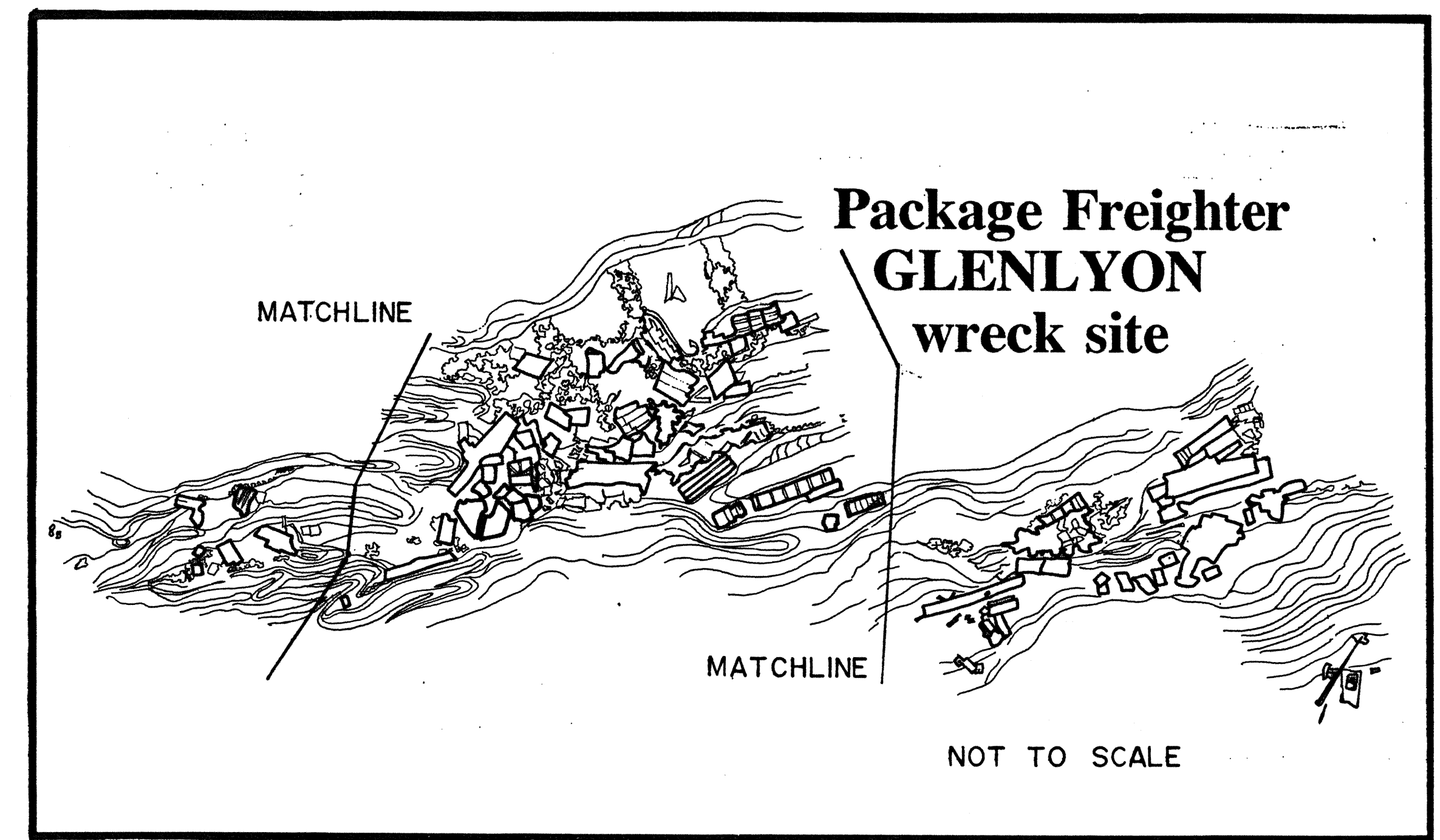
Built as the WILLIAM H. GRATWICK in 1893 at West Bay City, Michigan by F.W. Wheller and Company, the GLENLYON originally served as a package freighter. The steel hull maintained a length of 328 feet, a beam of 42.5 feet and a depth of 20.5 feet. Described as a screw steamer, GRATWICK was launched February 4, 1893 with 2 decks, 3 masts, plain head, and round stern. The Midland Shipbuilding Company later purchased and overhauled the steamer, at which time the name was changed to GLENLYON. The GLENLYON's last navigation season was 1924. On this final trip, the boat left Ft. William Ontario, October 30, for Port Colborne with cargo of 145,000 bushels of wheat. The steamer was delayed by heavy winds and high seas. By the next afternoon the weather had lessened and GLENLYON continued her voyage. The treacherous weather resumed that evening, requiring the GLENLYON to seek shelter in Siskiwit Bay. While entering the bay, the vessel ran hard aground on a submerged reef off Menagerie island. The crew was rescued and the GLENLYON was declared a total loss. By April 1924 the GLENLYON had completely submerged.

This project was undertaken for the joint purpose of incorporating existing SCRUI documentation drawings into the HAER collection at the Library of Congress and to promote the recording and understanding of this nation's underwater cultural resources. For more information on the SCRUI documentation project see Submerged Cultural Resources Study, Isle Royale National Park, Daniel J. Lenihan, Editor, Submerged Cultural Resources Center Professional Papers No. 8 Santa Fe, New Mexico 1987. The work of reproducing the original drawings onto HAER mylar sheets, annotating and creating a title page was carried out in 1991 by J. Shannon Barras, and Craig N. Strong and in 1992 by Natasha Kalinina ICOMOS, Architects, under the direction of Robbyn L. Jackson, HAER Staff Architect.

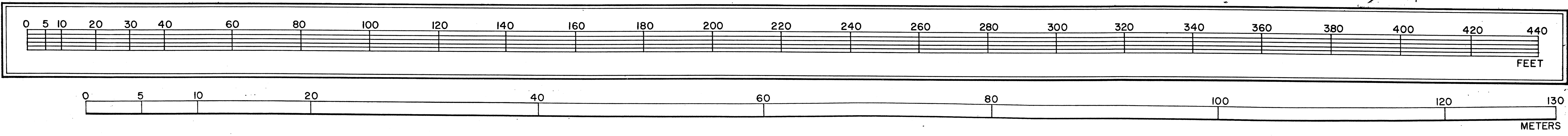
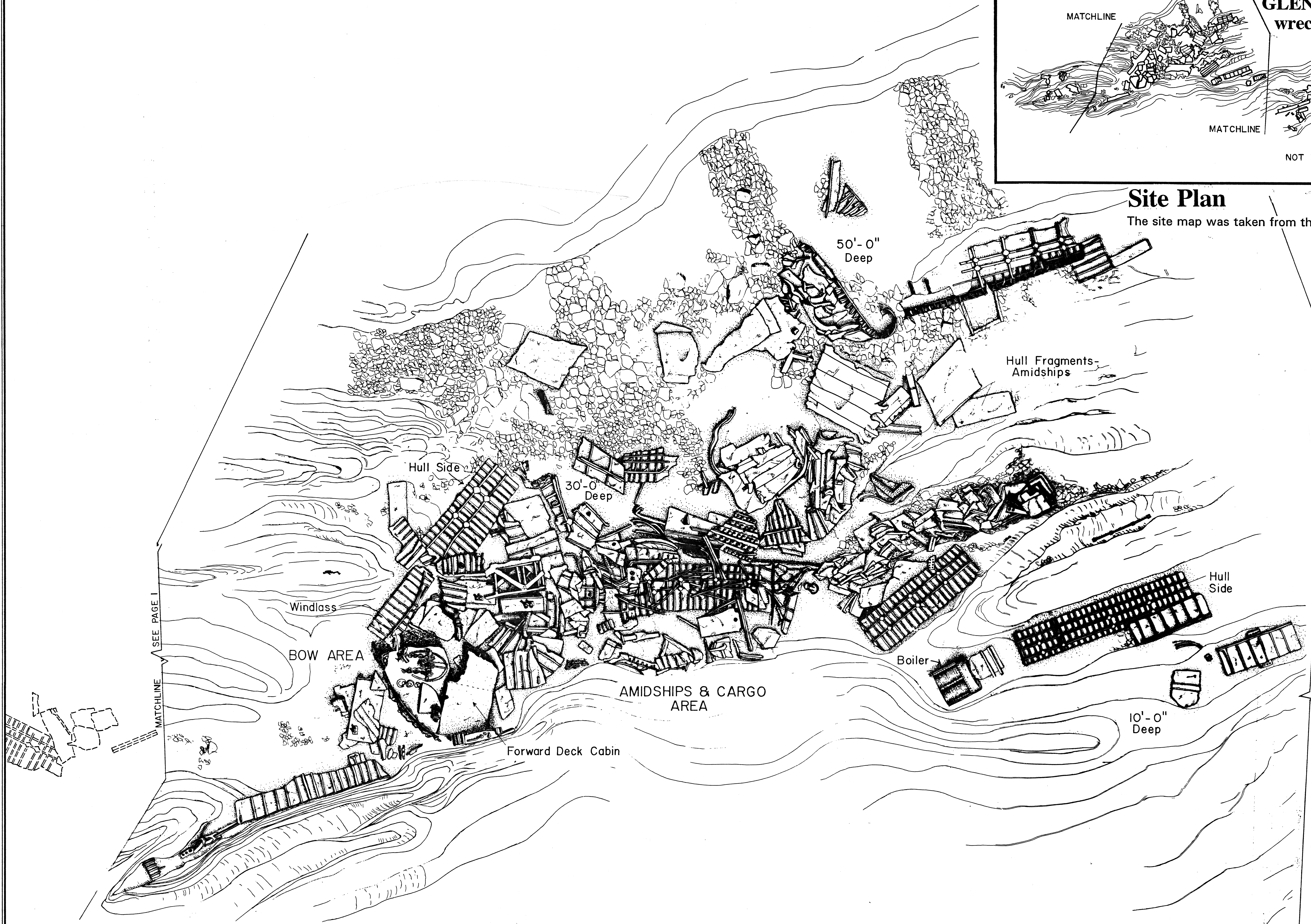
Partial Plan Glenlyon Wreck Site

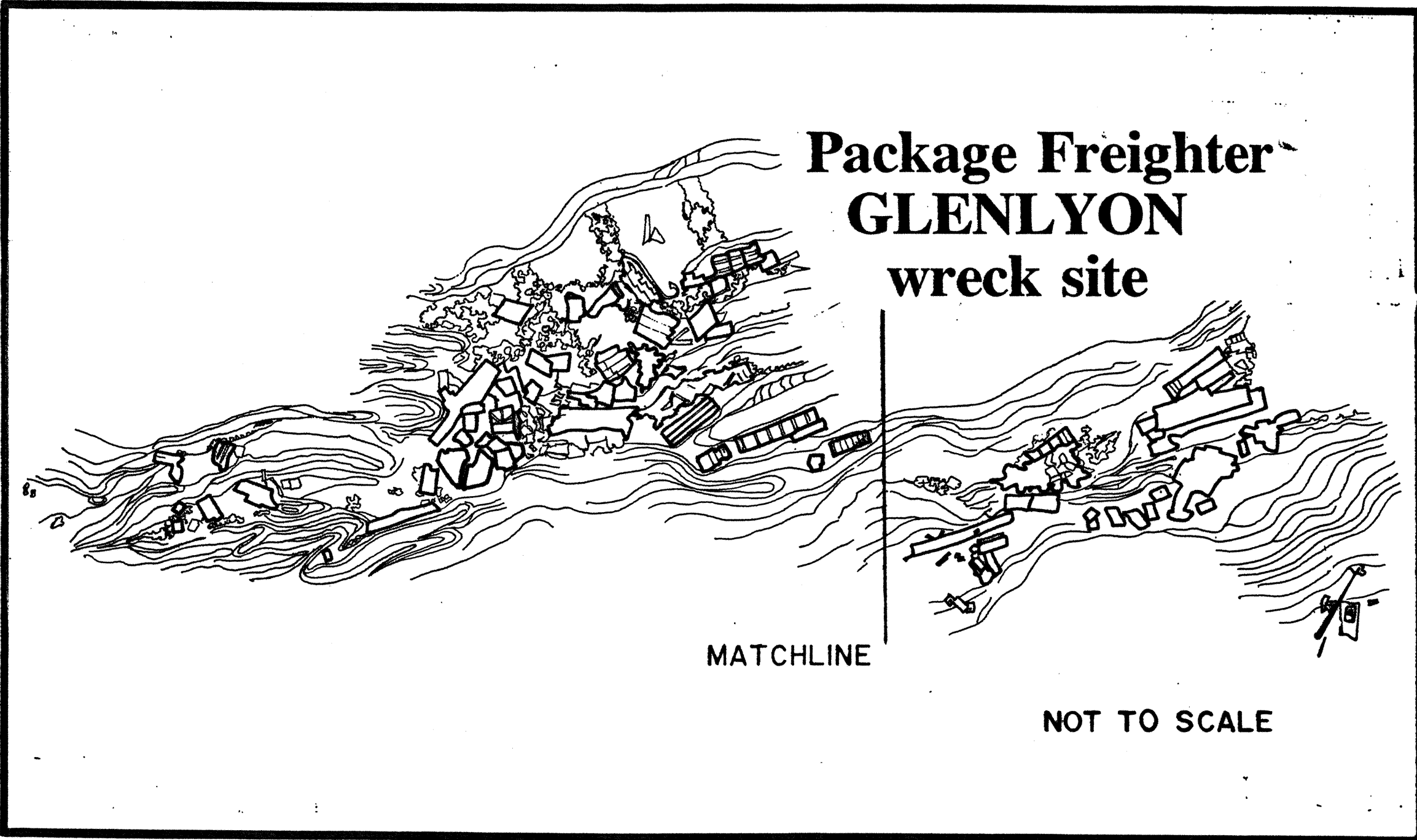
See site plan for placement





Site Plan
The site map was taken from the SCRU Isle Royale Report.





Site Plan

The site map was taken from the SCRUI Isle Royale Report.

