
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2022

Revised: 3/2022



Munising Range Lights Station
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore

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Introduction

Cultural Landscapes in the Cultural Resources Inventory System:

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources and cultural landscapes. The set of CRIS records for cultural landscapes is referred to as CRIS-CL. CRIS-CL records conform to a standardized data structure known as the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI).

The legislative, regulatory and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CRIS are: Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act, NPS Management Policies (2006), Director's Order 28 (Cultural Resources) and Director's Order 28a (Archeology).

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI)

The CLI is the data structure within CRIS used to document and evaluate all potentially significant cultural landscapes in which NPS has, or plans to acquire any enforceable legal interest.

Each CRIS-CL record is certified complete when the landscape is determined to meet one of the following:

- Landscape individually meets the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation; or,

- Landscape is a contributing element of a property that is eligible for the National Register; or,

- Landscape does not meet the National Register criteria, but is managed as cultural resources because of law, policy or decisions reached through the park planning process.

Cultural landscapes vary from historic sites, historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes to historic ethnographic landscapes, but may also fit within more than one type. Those eligible for the National Register have significance in the nation's history on a national, state or local level, as well as integrity or authenticity.

The legislative, regulatory and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are: *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)). Each Federal agency shall establish...a preservation program for the identification, evaluation, and nomination to the National Register of Historic Places...of historic properties...*

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(a)...Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall prepare an assessment of the current status of its inventory of historic properties required by section 110(a)(2) of the NHPA...No later than September 30, 2004, each covered agency shall complete a report of the assessment and make it available to the Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Secretary of the Interior...

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(c) Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall, by September 30, 2005, and every third year thereafter, prepare a report on its progress in identifying... historic properties in its ownership and make the report available to the Council and the Secretary...

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Standard 2: An agency provides for the timely identification and evaluation of historic properties under agency jurisdiction or control and/or subject to effect by agency actions (Sec. 110 (a)(2)(A) Management Policies 2006. 5.1.3.1 Inventories: The Park Service will (1) maintain and expand the following inventories...about cultural resources in units of the national park system...Cultural Landscape Inventory of historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes,... and historic sites...

Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22 issued pursuant to Director's Order #28. As cultural resources are identified and evaluated, they should also be listed in the appropriate Service-wide inventories of cultural resources.

General Information

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name: Munising Range Lights Station

Resource Classification: Cultural Landscape

CLI Identification Number: 976208

Parent Landscape: 976208

Inventory Status: Complete

Park Information

Park Name: Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore

Alpha Code: PIRO

Park Organization Code: 6320

Park District: PIRO

Region: Midwest

Restricted: Yes

Landscape Description:

The Munising Range Lights Station is part of the extensive maritime history at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore (PIRO). The range lights, along with the supporting buildings and cultural landscape features, represent a long and vibrant maritime history and use of waters now within park boundaries for transportation and harvest. The Station also represents civilian and military lifesaving history (Foundation Document 2016, 8).

Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore (PIRO) was authorized by Congress as America's first national lakeshore in 1966. It hugs the Lake Superior shoreline for more than 40 miles and is bordered by the towns of Munising, Michigan on the west and Grand Marais, Michigan on the east. PIRO features an impressive collection of historic resources, including two former U.S. Coast Guard Stations (the Grand Marais Harbor of Refuge and the Sand Point Life Saving Station), the Munising Range Lights, and the Au Sable Light Station (Foundation Document 2016, 3).

The Munising Range Lights Station is on two separate tracts of land for each light. Located in the town of Munising, Michigan, the rear range light is located on tract 01-213 and is .02 of an acre. It is located at the dead-end of Hemlock Street. It is nestled into the bluffs and forest that surround the town of Munising. The front range light and associated station dwelling (domestic landscape) are located on tract 01-212, which is .28 of an acre. Fronted by W. Munising Avenue, the dwelling has high visibility from the street and passing vehicles. The Munising Range Lights Station cultural landscape boundary includes both of these tracts of land.

The station dwelling is used as an office for the Lakeshore's Science and Natural Resources staff. The entire landscape, including both range lights, are not open to the public (National Park Service 2012). The front range light is still in use and the light and lens are owned by the United States Coast Guard. The National Park Service owns both towers.

The Munising Range Lights Station's cultural landscape is managed and maintained for the park staff that regularly work in the dwelling. This primarily includes weather maintenance such as snow removal and providing accessible circulation around the site as well as enough parking for the staff. The cultural resources include historic structures, circulation patterns, spatial organization, views and vistas, and vegetation.

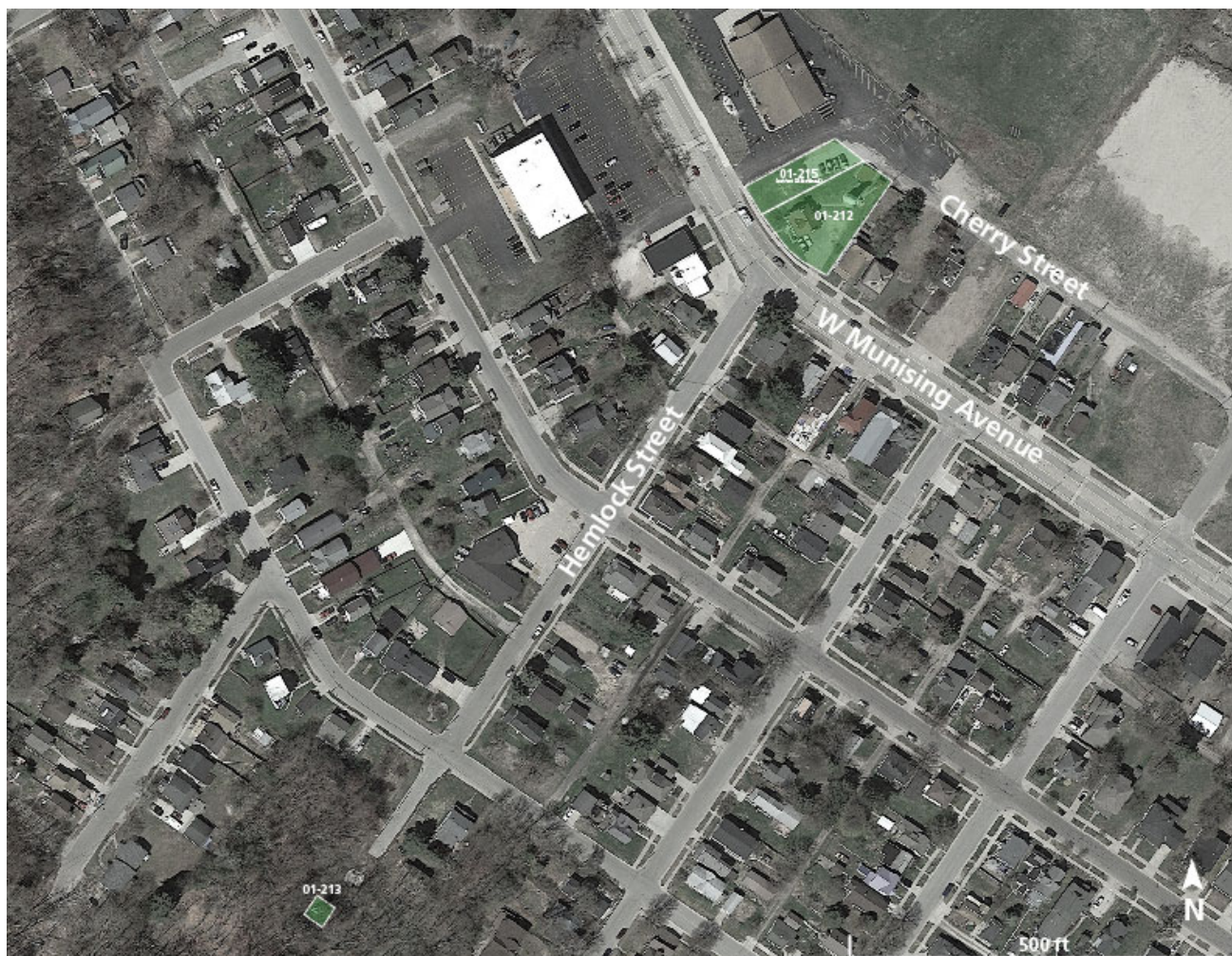
Landscape Hierarchy Description:

Landscape Type:

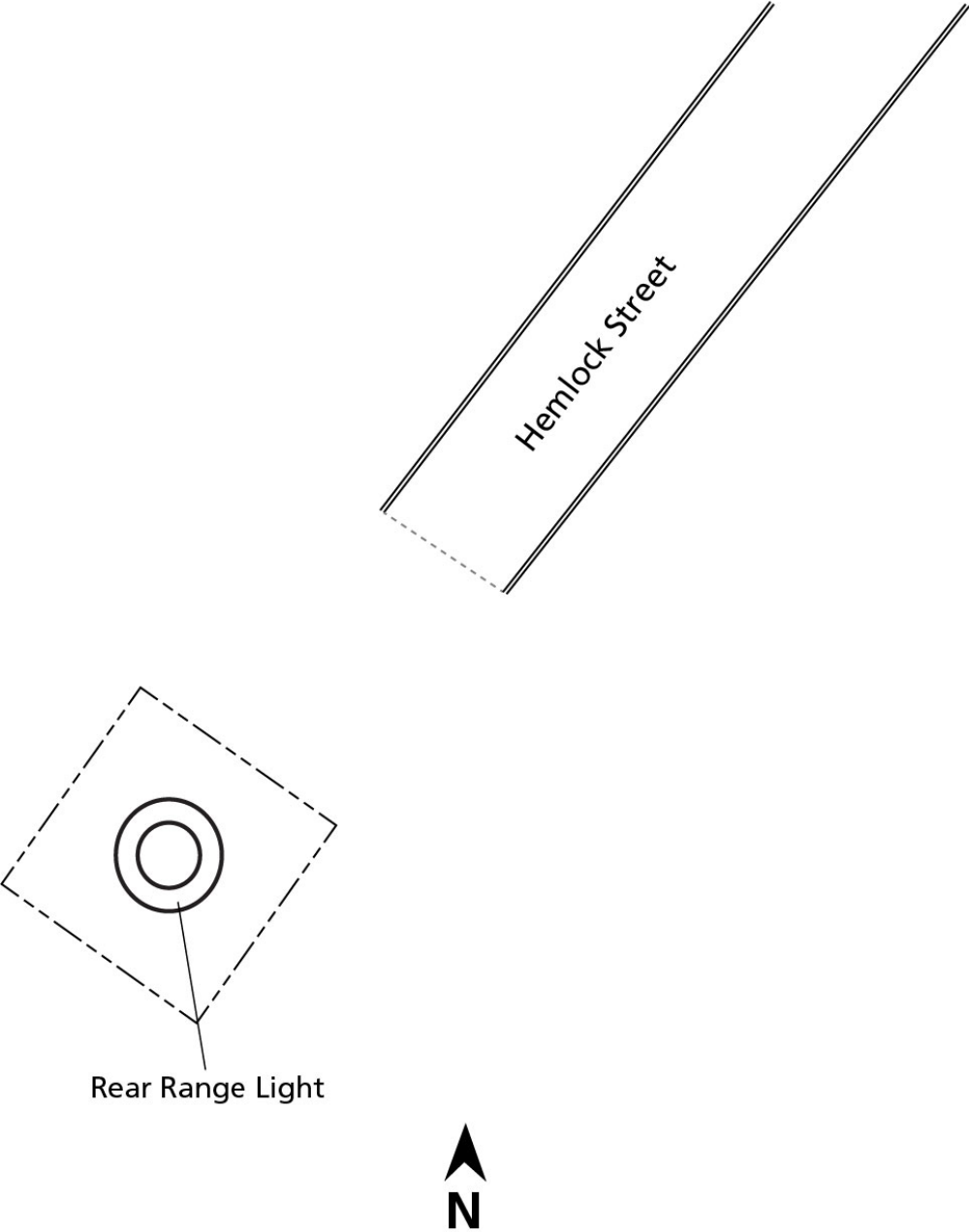
Historic Vernacular Landscape

Other Names:

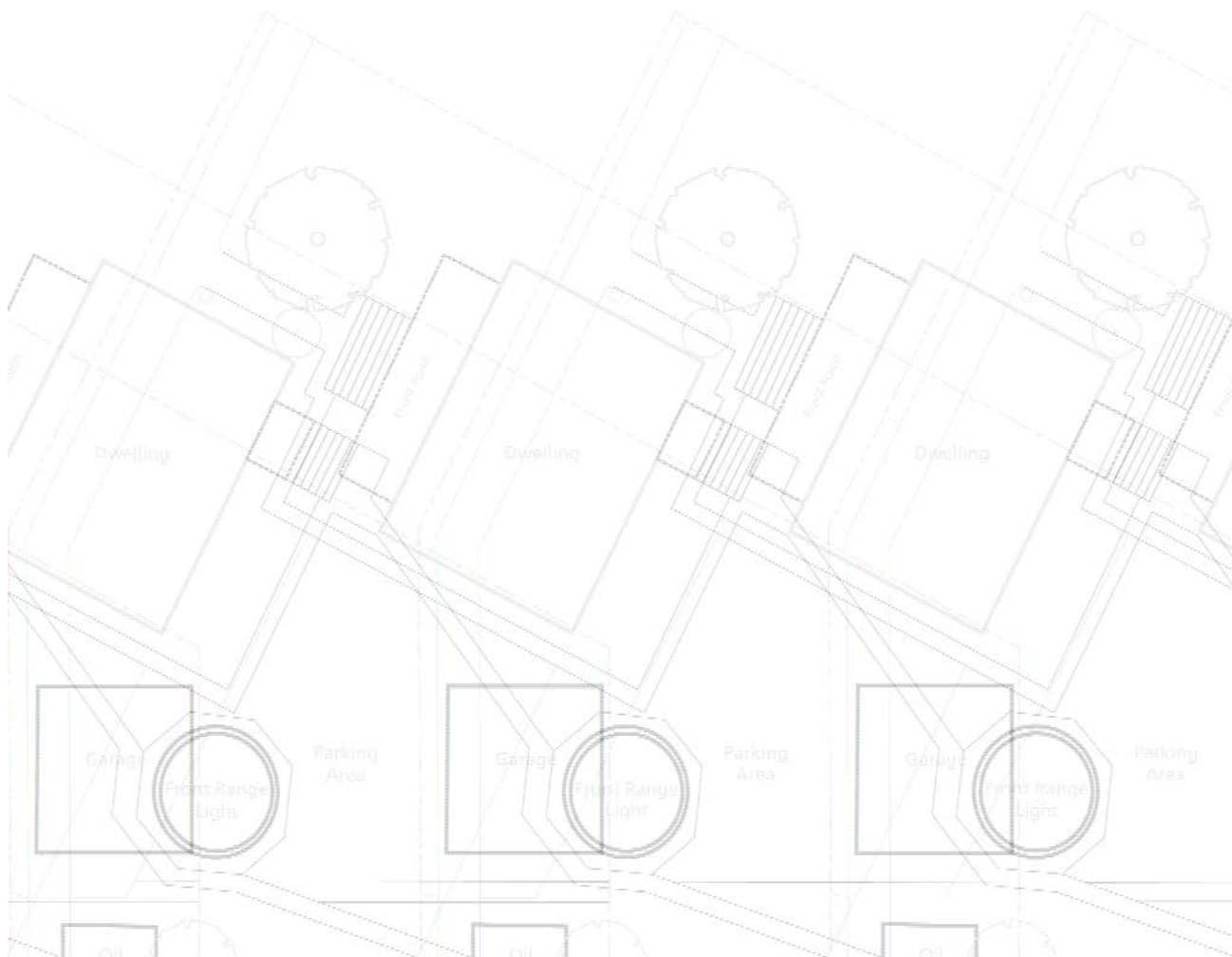
Site Plan



Munising Range Lights Station cultural landscape - tract relationship (DOI Regions 3, 4, 5 Lands Division, edited by L. Edwards 2020)



*Munising Range Lights Station cultural landscape - Rear Range Light Site Plan with 2020 conditions
(NPS/Edwards 2020)*



*Munising Range Lights Station cultural landscape - Front Range Light Site Plan with 2020 conditions
(NPS/Edwards 2020)*

Concurrence Information

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	03/02/2022

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

All research and narratives and data fields were completed by Historical Landscape Architect Leah Edwards between FY20 - FY22. This work also included communication with United States Coast Guard (USCG) Archives staff, Michigan (MI) SHPO, and park Superintendent and resource staff. The MI SHPO reviewed and provided concurrence in November 2021. PIRO Superintendent Dave Horne provided concurrence on CLI, including condition and management category, in March 2022. The CLI was considered complete, accurate, and reliable in March 2022. The existing corresponding CRIS-HS records were updated as part of the process for completing the CLI.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Munising Range Lights Station
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore

Attachment File Path

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RICHARD H. AUSTIN

SECRETARY OF STATE



LANSING

MICHIGAN 48918

BUREAU OF HISTORY

November 15, 1990

MICHIGAN LIBRARY AND
HISTORICAL CENTER
717 W. Allegan Street

Lieutenant Commander B.S. White
Chief, Planning and Management Section
U.S. Coast Guard
1240 E. Ninth St.
Cleveland, OH 44199-2060

Administration
517/373-0510

Publications
517/373-3703

Archaeology
517/373-6356

Historic Preservation
517/373-1630

State Archives
517/373-1408

Michigan Historical Museum
517/373-3559

For the hearing impaired:
TDD 1-800-827-7007

RE: ER-91056 Grand Marais Coast Guard Station, Section 6,
Burt Township, Alger County (USCG)

Dear Lieutenant White:

We have reviewed the information you provided on the Grand Marais Coast Guard Station and have the following comments. We believe that the station meets the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. It is our opinion that all such Coast Guard stations containing intact historic buildings are eligible for the National Register. Please contact us in the event that the Coast Guard wishes to dispose of this property or if any rehabilitation or demolition is to take place on the property.

Should you have any questions please contact Margaret Montfort, Environmental Review Coordinator for the Bureau of History at (517) 335-2720.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,


Kathryn B. Eckert
Acting State Historic Preservation Officer
Bureau of History

KBE:MMM:ROC:JRH:SMP:mm

14-69 (8/86)



ENCLOSURE 19

1990 Letter from MI SHPO to USCG with generalized statement about all U.S. Coast Guard historic buildings being historic at PIRO

Munising Range Lights Station
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

QUENTIN L. MESSER, JR.
PRESIDENT

November 22, 2021

LEAH EDWARDS
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
INTERIOR REGIONS 3, 4, AND 5
601 RIVERFRONT DRIVE
OMAHA NE 68102

RE: ER22-84 Munising Range Lights Station Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) Sec. 110 -
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, Munising, Alger County (NPS)

Dear Ms. Edwards:

We have reviewed the 2021 Cultural Landscape Inventory for the Munising Range Lights Station at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore which was prepared and submitted in accordance with Sec. 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. We concur with the determinations of eligibility made by the NPS in the report.

If you have any questions, please contact Brian Grennell, Cultural Resource Management Coordinator, at (517) 335-2721 or by email at grennellb@michigan.gov. Thank you for this opportunity to review and comment, and for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Brian G. Grennell
Cultural Resource Management Coordinator

BGG:DRT



300 NORTH WASHINGTON SQUARE • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913
michigan.gov/shpo • (517) 335-9840

MI SHPO DOE Concurrence Letter - November 2021

Munising Range Lights Station
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore

Park Code	Resource Type: CL or HS #	CRIS ID	Resource Name	Management Category	Condition Last Reported	Condition Last Reported Date	Condition Current (Filled in by Park)	Standard Assessment Interval	Next Assessment Due FY	NOTES
PIRO	CL	976208	Munising Range Lights Station	Should be Preserved and Maintained				6	2028	New CLI; received SHPO concurrence in November 2021. Aligning all CRIS CL and HS records to be on the same condition assessment and concurrence cycle - 6 years.
PIRO	CM-HS01	463901	Munising Range Lights Front Light	Should be Preserved and Maintained	Good	2018	Fair	6	2028	
PIRO	CM-HS05	463952	Munising Range Lights Rear Light	Should be Preserved and Maintained	Good	2018	Fair	6	2028	
PIRO	CM-HS02	463953	Munising Range Lights Keepers Quarters	Should be Preserved and Maintained	Good	2018	Fair	6	2028	
PIRO	CM-HS04	463956	Munising Range Lights Oil House	Should be Preserved and Maintained	Good	2018	Fair	6	2028	
PIRO	CM-HS03	463958	Munising Range Lights Garage	Should be Preserved and Maintained	Good	2018	Fair	6	2028	
PIRO	CM-HS06	463959	Munising Range Lights Sidewalks	Should be Preserved and Maintained	Good	2018	Fair	6	2028	

I concur with each condition and management category for the landscapes, buildings, and structures listed above as noted/amended.	
DAVID HORNE	Digitally signed by DAVID HORNE Date: 2022.03.02 08:28:38 -05'00'
Superintendent or Acting	Date

2022 Superintendent concurrence for condition and management category for new CLI

Revision:

Revised By	Type of Revision	Revision Date	Revision Narrative
Leah Edwards	Other	03/02/2022	Completed new CLI for PIRO - Munising Range Lights. Received park Superintendent concurrence. CLI will be reviewed, updated, and have condition assessed every 6 years.

Geographic Information

State and County:

State

Michigan

County

Alger County

Size (Acres): 0.3

Land Tract Number(s)

01-212; 01-213

Boundary Description:

The Munising Range Lights Station includes two land tracts in Munising, Michigan. Tract 01-212 is .28-acres and includes the front range light, station dwelling, oil house, and garage. The boundary follows W Munising Avenue for approximately 116 feet and then moves northeast for approximately 148 feet. The garage and oil house meet the boundary as it's northeastern segment which is 44 feet. The boundary finally turns southwest to meet back up at W Munising Avenue. This final line segment of tract 01-212 is 150 feet.

Tract 01-213 is where at the dead-end of Hemlock Street and includes the rear range light. The boundary is parallel to Hemlock Street's dead-end and this first segment is 31 feet. It then turns southwest for 31 feet before turning northeast, parallel to the first segment, for another 31 feet. The final segment of the boundary turns northeast and is 32 feet. The tract forms a square that is .02-acres.

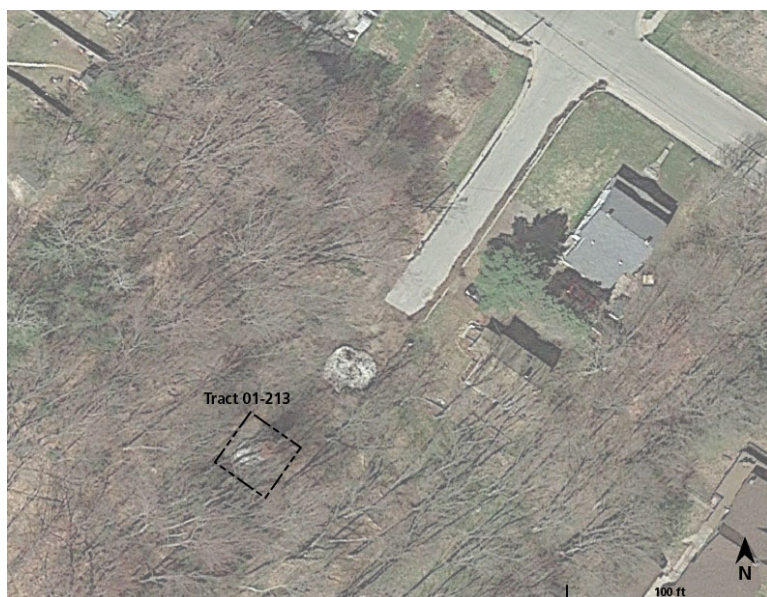
Boundary Coordinates

Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
	Point	46.41473 05	- 86.661463 8	
	Point	46.41495 55	- 86.661777 7	
	Point	46.41513 61	- 86.661275	
	Point	46.41506 11	- 86.661111 1	
	Point	46.41265 27	- 86.663869 4	
	Point	46.41261 94	- 86.663786 1	
	Point	46.41256 94	- 86.663838 8	
	Point	46.4126	- 86.663930 5	

Location Map:



Tract Map - 01-212 and 01-215 (DOI Regions 3, 4, 5 Lands Division, edited by L. Edwards 2020)



Tract Map - 01-213 (DOI Regions 3, 4, 5 Lands Division, edited by L. Edwards 2020)

Regional Landscape Contexts:

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Should be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 12/10/2021

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The management category should be preserved and maintained was selected because the inventory unit meets national register criteria and is compatible with the park's legislated significance.

Management Agreements:

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative:

Located in managed wilderness?: No

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? No

Adjacent Lands Narrative:

National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Documentation Status: SHPO Documented

Documentation Narrative Description:

When CLI was initiated in September 2019, the documentation status was "Undocumented" with an eligibility of "Undetermined".

With the research and work towards a complete, accurate, and reliable CLI , the SHPO concurred that the Munising Range Lights Station is "Eligible" for the National Register of Historic Places. The SHPO concurrence was signed and submitted on November 22, 2021.

Eligibility: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

Concurrence Eligibility Date: 11/22/2021

Concurrence Narrative:

Significance Level: Local

Contributing: Individual

Classification: Site

Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:

The cultural landscape of the Munising Range Lights Station is evident today through the extant features and spaces from a historic period and use. Resources associated with the historic period include those related to the development, construction, and maintenance of the range lights beginning in 1908 and the continued use under the Coast Guard Auxiliary beginning in 1942. The Station cultural landscape represents a historic use of maritime navigation and safety along the Michigan lakeshores. The history of maritime navigation along the Great Lakes shores go as far back as the 16th century with European Fur Trading routes. With the establishment of The United States Coast Guard in 1790 and the Lighthouse Board in 1851, maritime navigation was advanced for its time when the Munising Range Lights were constructed in 1908. The period of significance for the Munising Range Lights Station cultural landscape is 1908 to 2002 when the ownership was transferred from the Coast Guard to the National Park Service.

Remnant cultural resource features are important vestiges of the study area's historical development. These physical remnant features from the U.S. Coast Guard ownership and use include both range lights, the station dwelling, the walkways, the garage, and the oil house. The spatial organization, vegetation, circulation patterns, relatively flat topography, and views and vistas of the range lights also offer historic integrity in how the site was chosen and how significant it was for the physical features to relate to one another.

The Munising Range Lights Station is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with maritime heritage of the Great Lakes and the activities of the United States Coast Guard. As a note, in 1990 a letter was sent to the U.S. Coast Guard from the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) stating, "It is in our opinion that all such Coast Guard stations containing intact historic buildings are eligible for the National Register." This letter supports the need to address the Station's National Register eligibility. A consensus determination from the SHPO is needed for the Munising Range Lights Station cultural landscape. The PIRO General Management Plan provides additional support stating, "The buildings [Station buildings] are thought by national lakeshore staff to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, although no formal assessment has been conducted." (GMP 2004, 129)

National Register Significance Criteria:

A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

National Register Criteria Consideration:

National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes):

Time Period: CE 1908 - CE 2002

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Maritime History

Area of Significance Category: Transportation

NRIS Information:

State Register Documentation:

National Historic Landmarks:

Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:

World Heritage Site:

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape: No

Chronology and Physical History

Chronology:

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1905	Planned	Due to increasing vessel size and navigating a narrow east passage, the United States Lighthouse Board (established in 1852) makes its first request for funding construction of new range lights in Munising, Michigan
CE 1907	Planned	The Lighthouse Board makes a third request for funds, after Congress declined the two previous requests, and it is approved. Congress awards the Board \$15,000 on March 4, 1907 to build two range lights; a front range light close to the shore of Munising (South) Bay and a rear range light on the hills that overlook the town of Munising.
CE 1908	Built	The range light towers, dwelling, and oil house are constructed. The range lights are lit for the first time on October 30, 1908
CE 1936	Built	A steel garage was constructed behind dwelling and next to oil house (U.S. Coast Guard Archive drawing 2010)
CE 1940	Established	Capt. Thomas Robinson is the last lighthouse keeper of the Munising Range Lights under the Lighthouse Service (Lighthouse Board was disestablished in 1910). The United States Coast Guard (merged with the Lighthouse Service in 1939) begins its occupation, management, and service of the Munising Range Lights.
CE 1942	Retained	A Coast Guard Auxiliary in Munising is organized under the director of the Coast Guard Reserve and Auxiliary of the Ninth District. The Auxiliary utilizes the Munising Range Lights Station (The Mining Journal 1942)
CE 1994	Maintained	U.S. Coast Guard (ANT ESCANABA) inspected the Rear Range Light. It was cleaned, painted, and lantern glazing was replaced.
CE 1999	Maintained	U.S. Coast Guard (ANT Sault Ste. Marie) inspected the Front Range Light. The structure had been last painted in 1995.
CE 2002	Land Transfer	In July 2002, ownership of the properties are transferred to Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore through the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act. The United States Coast Guard continues ownership and maintenance of the lights and lenses. The Lakeshore uses the dwelling as office space for the Science and Natural Resources staff.
CE 2010 - 2012	Repaired	PIRO undertook a renovation project on the dwelling and front light tower. The work included repair of the foundation of the front light tower, replacement of siding on the dwelling, structural repairs and accessibility work on the rear porch/steps, chimney repair and brick repointing, and replacement of the sidewalks around the landscape (Andrews & Anderson Architects 2010).

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 2020	Land Transfer	Through a GSA purchase and property transfer, a small land lot to the north of the Front Range Light was put under park ownership. The park plans to construct a formal parking area for staff working in the offices of the station dwelling.

Physical History:

1908 - 2002

The Munising Range Lights Station's setting and location along the lakeshore of Lake Superior in Munising, Michigan was determined to be a good place for a new pair of range lights on the mainland in the early 1900s. Grand Island is located in Munising (South) Bay. The Island's south shore long served as a natural harbor of refuge to vessels seeking shelter from storms. Grand Island and the harbor were so critical that the area's first lighthouse, the Grand Island North Light, was built in 1856 on the north tip of the island atop the steep cliffs. It signaled the northern point of the island and the safe harbor located to the south. There were no additional aids built at the time of the construction of the Grand Island North Light to navigate the narrow passage to the east and west of the island to the harbor (Pepper 2003).

In 1868, the Lighthouse Board constructed a pair of lights at either end of Grand Island. The Grand Island Harbor Range Lights were located on the west edge of Munising Bay on the mainland. The Grand Island East Channel Light was located on the southeast end of Grand Island (Pepper 2003).

By 1905, vessels were increasing in size making the narrow east passage even harder to navigate (Anderson). The Grand Island East Channel Light was deteriorating, and the maritime community determined it was no longer serving the shipping industry and its users, especially because its location on the southernmost point of the Island caused it to be almost invisible to vessels entering the passage from the east. The Lighthouse Board determined that a set of range lights located at the foot of the east channel in the town of Munising would serve best as a guide to captains making their way through the east passage. In 1905, the Board requested money in Congress's annual report for these range lights to be built. Congress ignored the initial request and the Board continued to request the money the following two years.

Congress appropriated \$15,000 for the construction of the Range Lights on March 4, 1907. The plans called for two steel towers, the front range light to be located on low land close to the shore and the rear range light on the hills that overlook Munising Bay. By June of 1908, the excavation for the towers and the dwelling foundation were complete. The metal work for the towers was erected by the Champion Iron Company of Kenton, Ohio. The dwelling was constructed by a local builder. The 35-foot by 20-foot frame brick dwelling was the first such dwelling built that was subsequently replicated down the shore at Grand Marais and at Point Aux Barques on the west coast of Lake Huron. Work continued on the entire station, including light towers, dwelling, and oil house into the fall of 1908. The lights were put into use for the first time on October 30, 1908 (Anderson).

In 1910, the Lighthouse Board was disestablished and the U.S. Lighthouse Service was created as a replacement. The Lighthouse Service merged with the U.S. Coast Guard in 1939. The Munising Range Lights Station saw the last lighthouse keeper in 1940 when the Coast Guard took over operation and management of the range lights and properties. In 1942, a Coast Guard Auxiliary was established in Munising and was given use of the Station. The Coast Guard continued this ownership until 2002 when it was transferred to the National Park Service through the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act.

The front range light tower stands at 58-feet and the rear range light at 33-feet, their locations

providing focal planes of 79-feet and 107-feet above the lake respectively. Historically, both lanterns were outfitted with 23 inch Adams and Westlake red reflector lights and were powered by incandescent electric bulbs. Today, 300 mm red acrylic lenses provide lights shining out over Munising (South) Bay (National Park Service 2012).

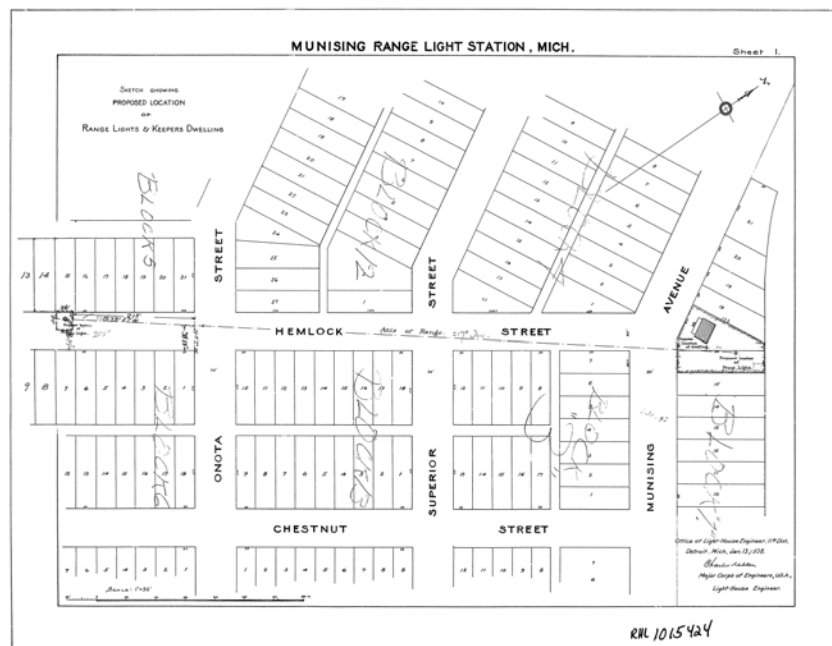
The Munising Range Lights Station is an example of a light station located in the heart of a town, sitting adjacent to a state highway in a primarily residential neighborhood. As a supporting structure to the station to store vehicles and equipment, a garage was built in the 1950s. The landscape included walkways around the dwelling and to the front range light, garage, and oil house. Due to the proximity to the shoreline, the utilitarian use of the landscape, the rotation of lightkeepers and their families, and the eventual use by the U.S. Coast Guard and Auxiliary, the landscape was open and barren with little to no formal or domestic vegetation. Historically, it was an exposed landscape to the shoreline and the yard consisted of sparse grass and sand. While it was a more exposed landscape, the setting of the Munising Range Lights Station was unique in that it was located in an existing community. Many light stations built in the early 20th century were remote and their landscape needed to provide a level of domestication for sustenance between shipments of provisions from the mainland, as well as provide a sense of normalcy and place. The domestication needed at the Munising Range Lights Station, a more urban setting, was more simple and included a lawn, foundation plantings, fencing, and sidewalks.

Since receiving the property, PIRO has invested in renovations to bring the exterior of the towers and building to their original appearance. Between 2010 and 2012, an extensive renovation project was completed on the dwelling and front light tower. The work included repair of the foundation of the front light tower, replacement of siding on the dwelling, structural repairs and accessibility work on the rear porch/steps, chimney repair and brick repointing, and replacement of the sidewalks around the landscape (Andrews & Anderson Architects 2010). Both light towers are on a cycle for repair and repainting with the most recent occurring in 2020.



Historic Map of Munising, MI / Munising (South) Bay (U.S. Coast Guard Archives date unknown)

Munising Range Lights Station
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore



Historic Tract Map with the Range Lights relationship shown (U.S. Coast Guard Archives date unknown)



Munising Range Light Station in 1908 (U.S. Coast Guard Archives)

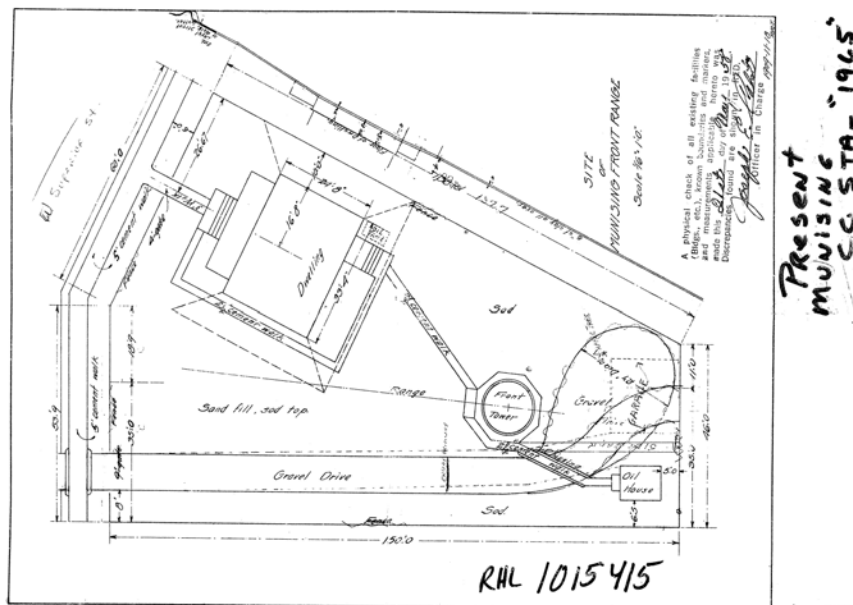


Munising Range Light Station in 1920 (U.S. Coast Guard Archives)

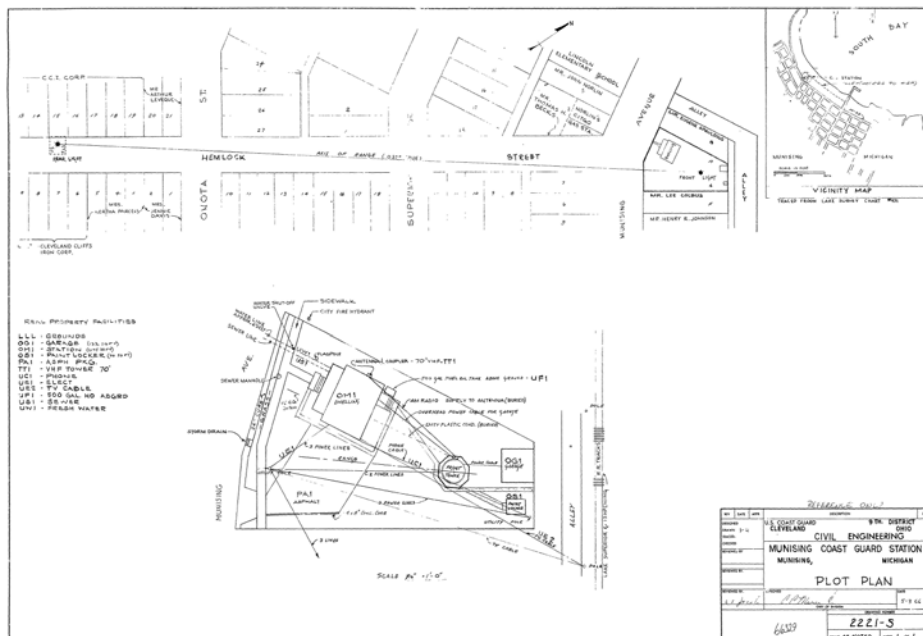


Munising Range Light Station in 1937 (U.S. Coast Guard Archives)

Munising Range Lights Station
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore

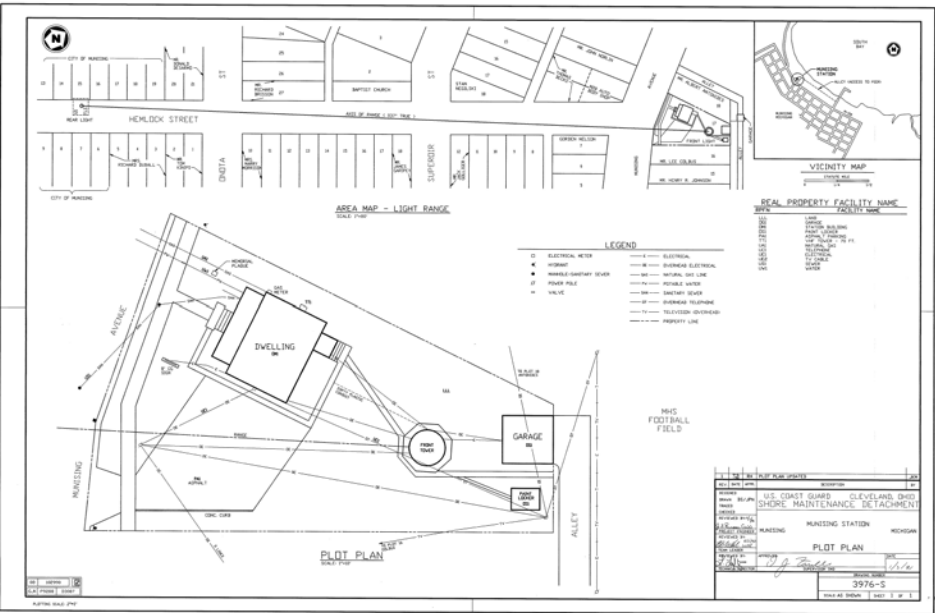


Munising Front Range Light property in 1958 (U.S. Coast Guard Archives)



Munising Front Range Light property in 1966 (U.S. Coast Guard Archives)

Munising Range Lights Station
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore



Munising Front Range Light property in 1991 (U.S. Coast Guard Archives)

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Transportation	Water-Related	Navigational	Yes	No	Yes
Domestic (Residential)	Small Residential Landscape		Yes	Yes	Yes

Public Access:

Public Access: With Permission

Public Access Narrative:

The landscape is open for the public to access. However, the inside of the buildings and structures is off-limits to the public entering unless special permission is granted.

Associated Ethnographic Group

Ethnographic Study Status:

Ethnographic Narrative:

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

This section presents the assessment of analysis of the landscape characteristics for the Munising Range Lights Station cultural landscape. The assessment is presented through a brief narrative and identification of individual features for each characteristic. These cultural resource features that are identified are significant to the historical development of the Station landscape. Each cultural resource feature is described with a brief narrative and photograph.

A site visit was conducted in September 2019 to document known cultural resources and discuss with park staff how the site is being used and managed. It focused on identifying readily visible features.

The analysis and evaluation of features for Munising Range lights is presented through 5 landscape characteristics, presented in this order:

- Spatial Organization and Topography
- Buildings and Structures
- Circulation
- Views and Vistas
- Vegetation

Landscape Characteristic: Spatial Organization;Topography

The natural topography of Munising, Michigan was well utilized in locating the range light towers and creating a supporting domestic landscape. The positioning of the front and rear range light towers allowed visibility for incoming vessels for a distance of 19 miles. The front range light sits on a flat, historically open city lot, not far from the Lake Superior shoreline. The rear range light is slightly higher in the hills overlooking Munising approximately 1,150 feet southwest of the front tower (Lighthouse Friends 2003).

This layout and organization of the two towers allowed their lights to match up for vessels and indicated proximity to the shore. The location of the dwelling, garage, and oil house allowed the ease of a Keeper to attend to the front range light with the rear light in walking distance. The arrangement of the front tower and supporting buildings with the dwelling created a typical domestic living area for a Keeper and his family including a yard and proximity to a primary street for connection to downtown Munising.

The historical integrity of the organization and topography at the Station is high.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Relationship and location of front and rear range lights	193991	Contributing					No
Domestic yard space and street frontage	193992	Contributing					No
Spatial relationship between dwelling and front range light	193993	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

All primary historic structures associated with the Munising Range Lights Station cultural landscape remain intact. These includes the two light towers, the dwelling, the oil house, and the garage. The towers, dwelling, and oil house were all built and began being used at the beginning of the period of significance in 1908. Based on detail drawings, the garage was constructed in 1936. Each detail drawing or site plan depicts the garage differently and includes a gravel driveway and park area at various points in time (see Circulation below). The oil house and garage are currently used as storage for the National Park Service.

In site plans from 1966, there is an antenna and coupler on the west side of the dwelling. It is also depicted in plans from 1991. Presently there is not antenna on site. However, the concrete foundation for it remains on the west side of the dwelling.

The historical integrity of the buildings are high. While repairs like repainting and replacing material is needed, especially on the dwelling and garage, overall the condition of the features is good.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Front Range Light	193994	Contributing	463901		Location	29811	Yes
Rear Range Light	193995	Contributing	463952		Location	29813	Yes
Dwelling	193996	Contributing	463953		Location	29810	Yes
Oil House	193997	Contributing	463956		Location	29818	Yes
Garage	193998	Contributing	463958		Location	29815	Yes
VHF antenna foundation remnants	193999	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Front range light (NPS/Edwards 2019)



Rear range light (NPS/Edwards 2019)



Dwelling (NPS/Edwards 2019)



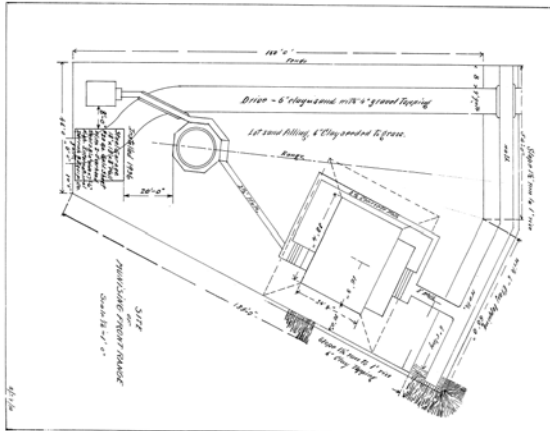
Garage (NPS/Edwards 2019)



Oil house (NPS/Edwards 2019)



VHF antenna foundation remnants (NPS/Edwards 2019)



RHL 1015416

Site Plan of Front Munising Range Light - Drawn in 2010 (USCG Archives)

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

Munising Range Lights Station cultural landscape includes varying types of circulation features including walkways around the dwelling and to the front light tower. It also includes a parking area to the east of the dwelling. The front range light site of the cultural landscape is bounded by W Munising Avenue to the south and Cherry Street to the west. Hemlock Street is the primary access street between the front range light landscape to the rear range light. Currently there is a gravel and turf buffer between the west boundary of the front range light landscape and Cherry Street. The park hopes to acquire this buffer area in the future but it is currently owned by General Services Administration (GSA) of the Federal Government. National Park Service employees work or performing maintenance at the Station cultural landscape are allowed to park in the gravel area of the GSA buffer area. W Munising Avenue, Cherry Street, and Hemlock Street are all city-owned and maintained streets.

The walkways are concrete and wrap around the dwelling on the south, east, and north sides of the house. They lead from the house to the front range light. From the range light they lead along the east side of the garage and, also, directly to the oil house. The present-day concrete walkways follow the same alignment and layout that was used historically. As indicated in a site drawing from May 1950, there was a gravel driveway that led from W Munising Avenue between the light tower and oil house to the garage. It is hard to determine if there was a gravel parking area next to the garage in these drawings or if it led directly into the garage and in what year this was changed.

The parking area to the east of the dwelling may be historic. During the U.S. Lighthouse Board (subsequently Lighthouse Service) occupation of the site, the parking area was part of the yard with sod and sandy soil. A plan from the U.S. Coast Guard from 1991 (see page 23) shows a parking area. It is unknown if the parking area existed before 2002.

The historical integrity of the circulation features is moderate to high. Overall the walkways and parking area are in fair condition.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Walkways	194000	Contributing	463959				No
City Owned Streets (W. Munising Ave., Cherry St., Hemlock St.)	194001	Contributing					No
Parking Area	194002	Contributing			Location	29805	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Walkway from front range light to oil house and garage (NPS/Edwards 2019)



Walkway around rear of dwelling (NPS/Edwards 2019)



Walkway around front of dwelling (NPS/Edwards 2019)



Walkway along parking area east of dwelling (NPS/Edwards 2019)



Parking area east of dwelling (NPS/Edwards 2019)

Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas

The purpose of the location and spatial organization of the Munising Range Lights was so that incoming vessels could view and navigate using the lights. The vista from the east channel passage and Munising (South) Bay was a significant feature of the historic landscape. The openness of the vista to the bay and passage allowed the captain and crew to navigate the vessel to determine its location and distance to the shoreline. The view between the two range lights is also significant because they had to align at various points in order to guide vessels. This view was also kept open along Hemlock Street with little to no obstructions between the lights.

The front range light is still in use and the vista out to the bay and passage exists as it did historically with openness and the location along the shorelines and uninterrupted views out into the water. The rear range light is currently not used as a navigational aid with no light inside and has some vegetation overgrowth around it. Aside from the minor overgrowth, the view between the two is open and is similar to how it looked historically.

The inventory assessment did not include an assessment from the perspective of the ships, since it was not possible or prudent to get that far out in the water. It can be assumed that the openness from the lights to the passage is nearly identical from the water to the station and lights. The view from the front to rear range light retains high integrity, especially in its historical purpose. The condition of that view is good.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Vista from front range light to passage and bay	194003	Contributing					No
View between two range lights	194004	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



View down Hemlock Street to rear range light (from dwelling) (NPS/Edwards 2019)

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

The Munising Range Lights Station cultural landscape historically had very little vegetation diversity. The proximity of the landscape to the shoreline meant the soil was sandy and a simple grass yard surrounded the dwelling and front tower. Historic photos from 1908 and 1920 show the simple grass yard with sandy patches throughout. Residential planting is seen in a historic photo from 1938 showing shrubs around the front of the dwelling. Due to the primary function of the landscape as navigation for vessels in the channels and bay between Munising and Grand Island, most vegetation around the Front Range Light landscape was kept low and away from the range light itself. The Rear Range Light is surrounded by the edge of an upland mixed forest. Historically, the area around the light would be kept cleared in order for the light to be lined up properly.

Vegetation around the domestic area and the rear range light is slightly changed from what historically would have been seen. There is a linden tree in the front of the dwelling and a plum shrub in place at the northwest corner of the dwelling. There are lilac and plum shrubs along the fence line of the domestic yard. None of these plantings, shrubs, and tree, date to the period of significance. The lawn is contributing and extant. The rear range light is still inset to a upland mixed forest. While there is overgrowth around the light, the vegetation composition is still a contributing feature to the light.

With such a long period of significance, and small amount of supporting documentation for the Station, the vegetation may have changed many times. Therefore, it is difficult to accurately assess historic integrity. The lawn and upland forest were consistent over time. Overall, the level of historic vegetation integrity is retained. The non-contributing features with the lawn and forest create a fair condition.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Linden Tree	194005	Non contributing					No
Lilac and Plum Shrubs	194006	Non contributing					No
Grass lawn	194007	Contributing			Asset	1186364	Yes
Upland Mixed Forest	194008	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Tree in front of dwelling (NPS/Edwards 2019)



Shrubs along neighbor's fence (NPS/Edwards 2019)



Plum shrub at northwest corner of Dwelling (NPS/Edwards 2019)



Lawn with patchy sandy soil exposed (NPS/Edwards 2019)



Forest vegetation surrounding rear range light (NPS/Edwards 2019)

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 6

Next Assessment Due Date: 03/02/2028

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/11/2019

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Condition noted during site visit when CLI was initiated.

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 03/02/2022

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Condition assessed when completing CLI and receiving Superintendent concurrence.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Exposure to Elements

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Impact Narrative:

Date Identified: 09/11/2019

Type of Impact: Climate change effects

Other Impact:

External or Internal: External

Impact Narrative:

Date Identified: 09/11/2019

Type of Impact: Adjacent Lands

Other Impact:

External or Internal: External

Impact Narrative:

Date Identified: 09/11/2019

Type of Impact: Impending Development

Other Impact:

External or Internal: External

Impact Narrative: The City of Munising completed a road expansion project on W Munising Avenue. This caused the road and sidewalk to be expanded into Tract 01-212.

Date Identified: 09/11/2019

Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Approved Treatment

Treatment Type: Rehabilitation
Completed: No
Approved Treatment Document: Other Document
Document Date: 2010-12-10
Narrative:

Munising Range Light Station & Grand Marais Harbor of Refuge Keeper's Dwelling Rehabilitation: Pre-Design Report

The focus of the project is to rehabilitate critically-deteriorated elements of the buildings' exteriors, while reconstructing lost features/materials of the buildings' original construction. The purpose of the pre-design report is to record field investigations, explore design options (to assure historic accuracy in the context of maintainability) and to guide subsequent steps in the design process.

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Munising Range Light Station & Grand Marais Harbor of Refuge Keeper's Dwelling Rehabilitation: Pre-Design Report

The focus of the project is to rehabilitate critically-deteriorated elements of the buildings' exteriors, while reconstructing lost features/materials of the buildings' original construction. The purpose of the pre-design report is to record field investigations, explore design options (to assure historic accuracy in the context of maintainability) and to guide subsequent steps in the design process.

Treatment Type: Rehabilitation
Completed: No
Approved Treatment Document: Other Document
Document Date: 2004-11-23
Narrative:

Long-Range Interpretive Plan

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Long-Range Interpretive Plan

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography:

Citation Author	Citation Title	Year of Publication	Citation Publisher	Citation Type	Citation Location	Citation Number
Kraig Anderson	Munising Range Light		Lighthouse Friends website	Website	Website	
National Park Service	Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore Foundation Document	2016	National Park Service	NPS Document		
National Park Service	Munising Range Lights: Park Brochure	2012	Harper's Ferry	Brochure		
National Park Service	Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore General Management Plan	2004	National Park Service	NPS Document	IRMA	
Terry Pepper	"Munising Range Lights."	2003	Terry Pepper	Website	Website	
United State Coast Guard Archives	United State Coast Guard Archives		United State Coast Guard Archives	Graphic	MWRO - Cultural Resources	

