

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Isle Royale National Park  
Michigan



# Holte Fishery/Wright Island

## 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 Holte Fishery landscape is located on Wright Island, part of the wilderness archipelago forming Isle Royale National Park located in Keweenaw County, Michigan, in the northwestern corner of Lake Superior. The Holte Fishery is located on the southwest side of Wright Island, south of Isle Royale, on a small point of land at the mouth of Hopkins Harbor. The fishery is a vernacular landscape that exhibits Scandinavian traits. It is approximately three-quarters of an acre and consists of the Holte residence, an addition to the non-extant Johnson residence, a privy, the remains of a net house, and some small scale features.

The Holte Fishery landscape reflects the culture and lifestyle of fishermen and their families as well as the changing technology associated with commercial fishing. It has been described as equal to the Edison Fishery in its representation of a Scandinavian-American fishery operation during the prime fishing years on Isle Royale. The extended Johnson family is responsible for the construction of the extant buildings as well as a number that no longer exist. Fishing activity out of Wright Island is known to have occurred as early as the 1850s. Both Mike and Sam Johnson were fishing out of Wright Island in the 1890s. The period of significance begins in 1920 when the extant main residence was constructed and ends in 1980 when Ingeborg Holte discontinued her husband's fishing business which she had continued to run after her husband's death with the help of extended family and hired hands.

Overall, The Holte Fishery cultural landscape retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Despite losses, the buildings and structures at the station generally maintain integrity and are integral components of the cultural landscape. Today, the island's land use is as Isle Royale National Park operated by the National Park Service.

### Property Level and CLI Numbers

<b>Inventory Unit Name:</b>	Holte Fishery/Wright Island
<b>Property Level:</b>	Landscape
<b>CLI Identification Number:</b>	500513
<b>Parent Landscape:</b>	Holte Fishery/Wright Island

### Park Information

<b>Park Name and Alpha Code:</b>	Isle Royale National Park- ISRO
<b>Park Organization Code:</b>	6310
<b>Park Administrative Unit:</b>	Isle Royale National Park

## Chapter 2: Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

### Completion Status Explanatory Narrative

Initial research was conducted by seasonals Kathleen Fitzgerald and Richard Radford in FY1999 to determine the number of potential 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. Research, site work, and data entry was completed by Landscape Historian Alesha Hauser in 2010.

### Concurrence Status:

**Park Superintendent Concurrence:** 9/7/2011

**National Register Concurrence:** Eligible -- SHPO Concensus Determination  
9/7/2000

### National Register Concurrence Narrative:

In a letter dated August 3, 1999, the Michigan SHPO stated the Holte Fishery, "Does not appear to meet NR criteria. Given the deteriorated condition of parts of these complexes and the fact that several far more intact fishery complexes have survived, we do not find any of these complexes NR eligible; nor do we believe any of the buildings and structures appear individually eligible."

However, in a letter dated January 7, 2000, the SHPO stated, "We concur in your recommendation that the Holte and Anderson houses appear national register-eligible as representative examples of log fishery houses."

**Site Visit Conducted:** 9/7/2011

### Chapter 3: Geographic Information & Location Map

State & County:

**State:** Michigan  
**County:** Keweenaw

Size (Acres): 0.75

Boundary Description:

The fishery buildings are located within Township 64 North, Range 36 West, Section 2, Northwest ¼, Southeast ¼, Keweenaw County, Michigan.

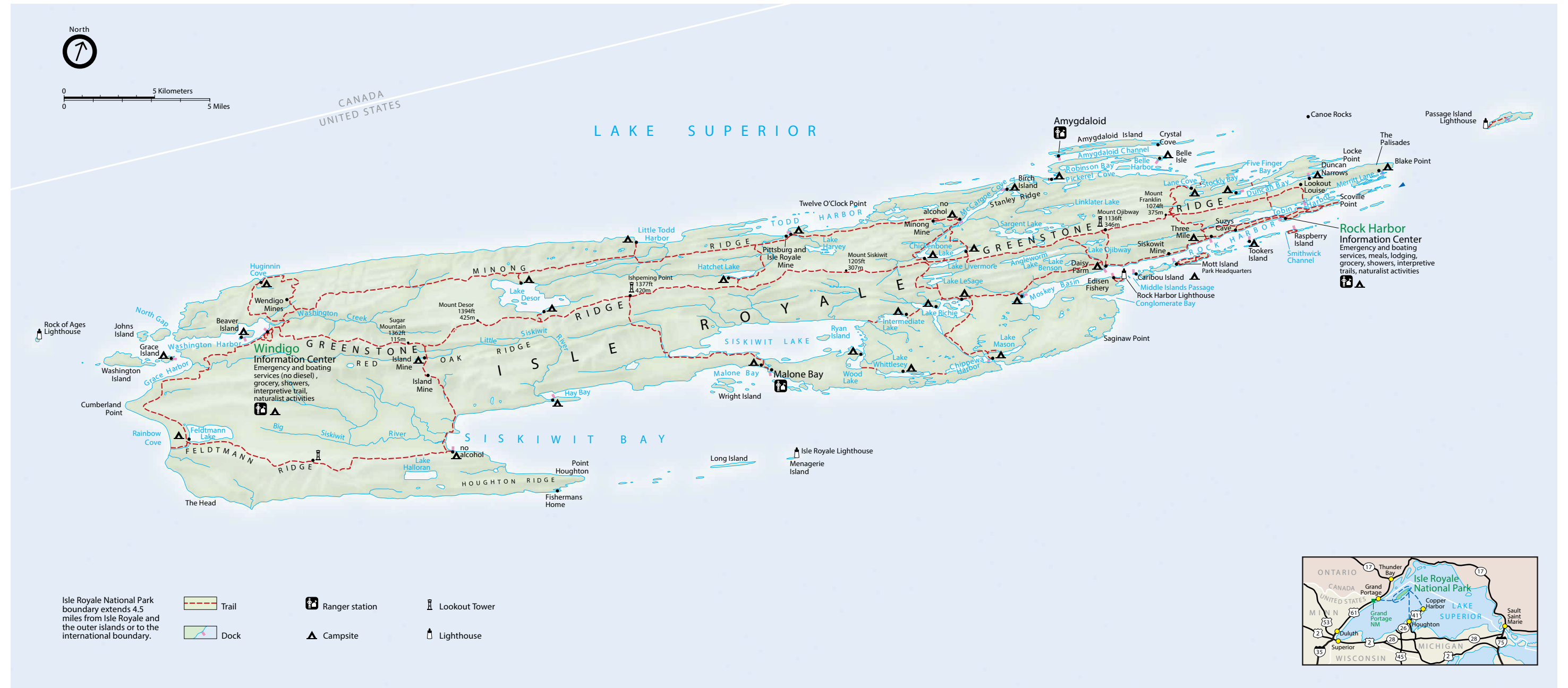
Boundary UTM's

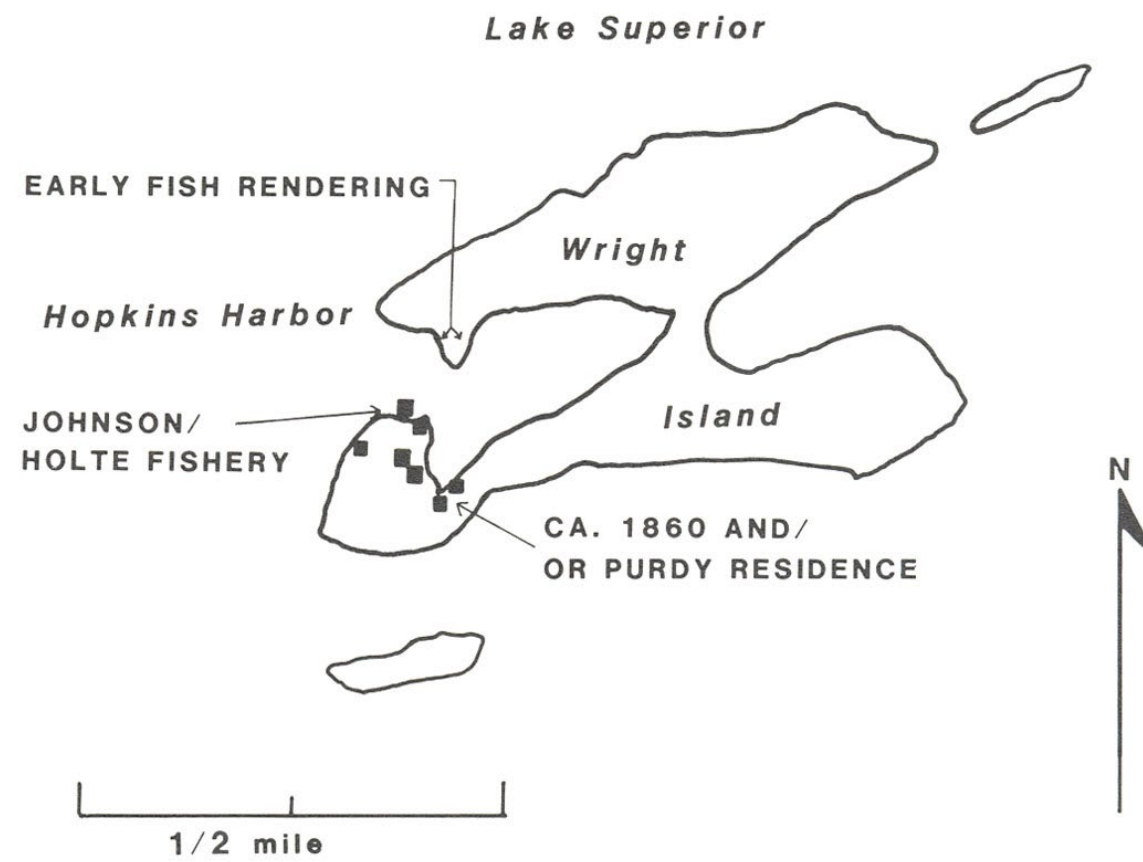
**Source:** GPS- Uncorrected  
**Point Type:** Polygon  
**Datum:** WSG84

Map Point	UTM	Easting	Northing	Long/Lat
1	16	363149	5314528	-88.833516, 47.969427
2	16	363206	5314511	-88.832752, 47.969285
3	16	363166	5314449	-88.833264, 47.968720
4	16	363108	5314474	-88.834047, 47.968932

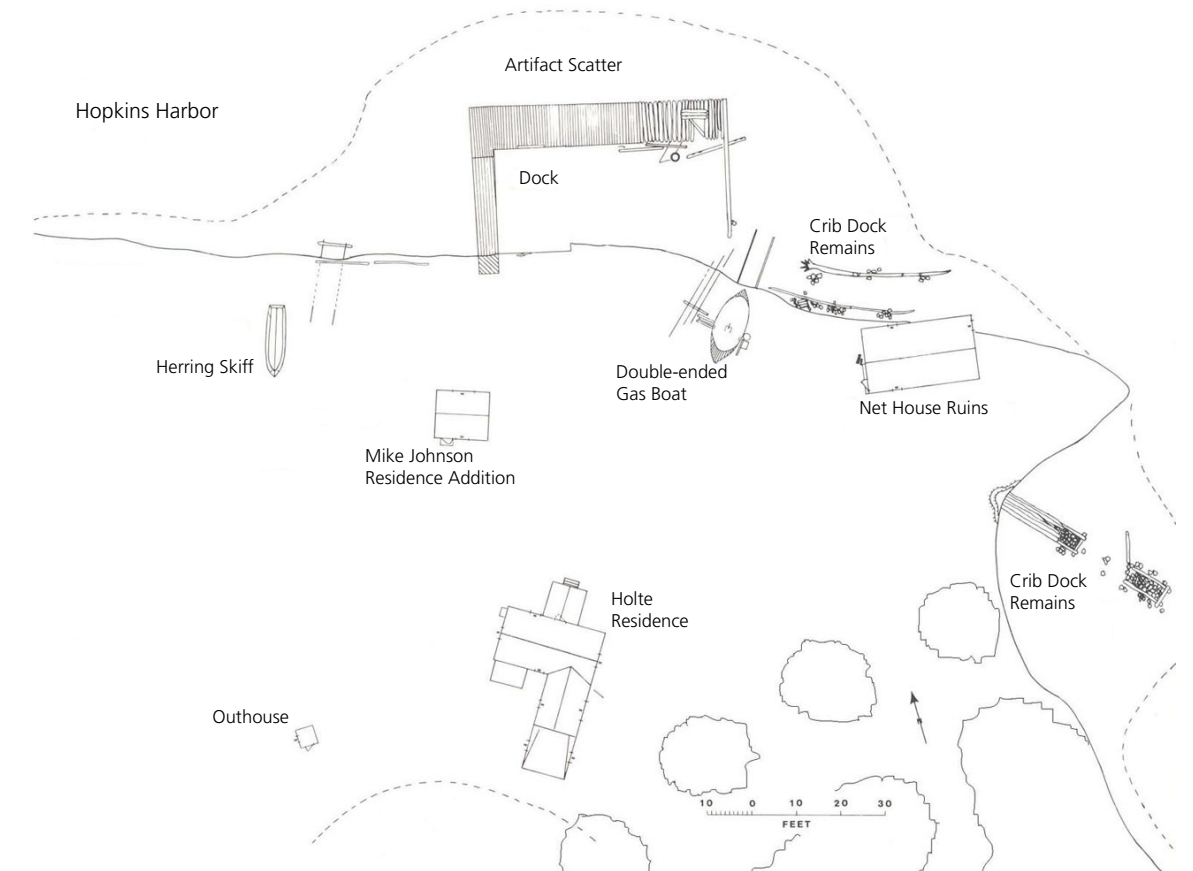


Map on the following page: Isle Royale National Park. Wright Island is located on the south shore in Siskiwit Bay (NPS 2007).





Overview of Wright Island with the locations of the present fishery and historic fishing operations (Carrell 1987, 375).



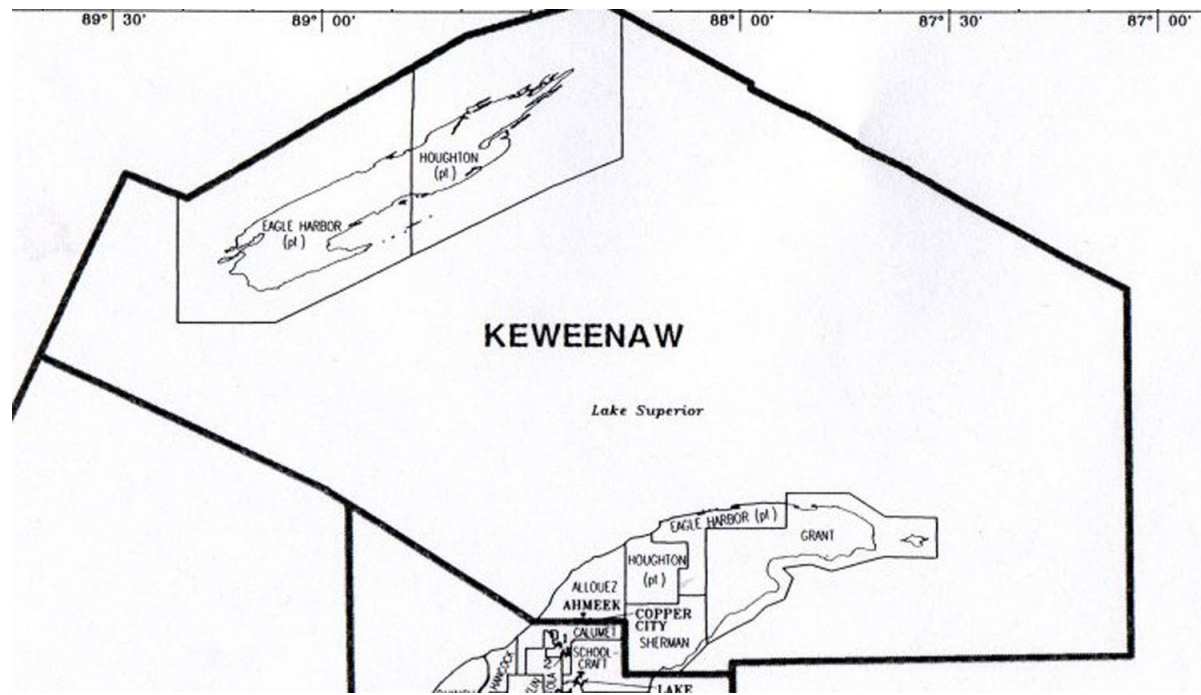
Site plan of existing conditions for the Holte Fishery (drawing by Carrell, altered by Hauser, 2009)



Cultural Context: Regional Context

The Holte Fishery landscape reflects the culture and lifestyle of Scandinavian fishermen and their families as well as the changing technology associated with commercial fishing. Wright Island has been occupied by various fishermen since the 1850s. The Holte Fishery was continuously inhabited until 1980 when Ingeborg Holte discontinued her husband's fishing business.

In 1946, Isle Royale National Park was established. This is the beginning of the NPS Period that continues until present day. This period opened the island to additional visitors and brought about changes in the landscape that primarily related to island access, recreation, and visitor use.



Map illustrating the area of Keweenaw County and the township division within the county.

Political Context: Regional Context

The Holte Fishery landscape is located in Houghton Township of Keweenaw County in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. It falls within the boundaries of Isle Royale National Park which was dedicated a National Park and a protected wilderness in 1946.

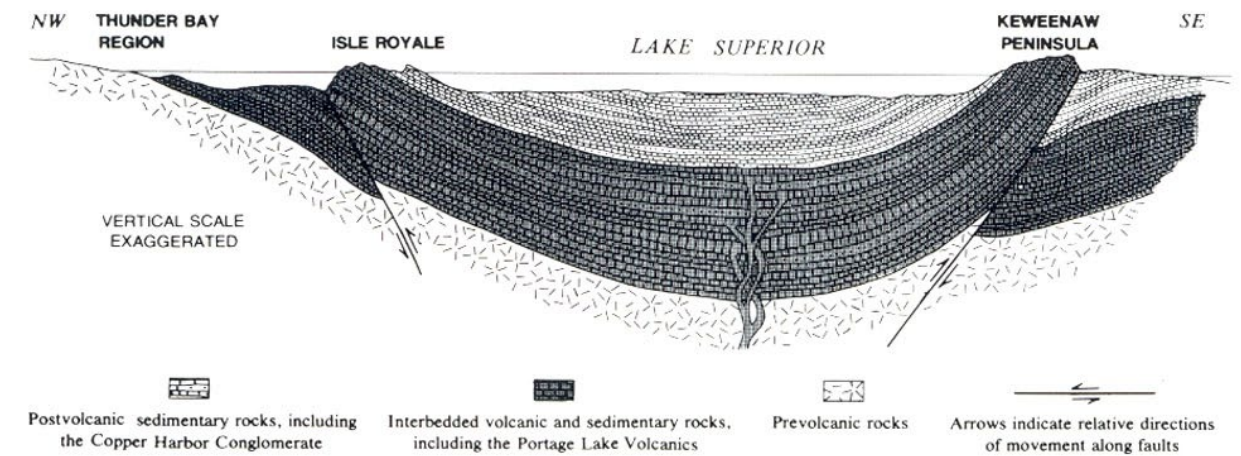
Physiographic Context: Regional Context

The Holte Fishery is located on Wright Island which is a part of the wilderness archipelago in the north-western corner of Lake Superior. Wright Island is one of a chain of small islands that separates Malone and Siskiwit Bays on the south side of Isle Royale National Park which lies in the Superior Upland physical province. Elevations of the archipelago range from 600 feet at Lake Superior to almost 1,400 feet along Greenstone Ridge. The physiography of the park is a product of glaciations modified by bedrock. The dominant features across the landscape are the ridge and valley topography with variable thicknesses of glacial drift deposits left from the last retreat of the continental glaciers about 10,000 years ago. There are many lakes and ponds, and vast areas of swamps cover depressions in the landscape. Numerous low-gradient stream systems drain the interior of the islands into Lake Superior.

Surficial deposits of glacial debris cover the islands, ranging in thickness from over 5 feet near Lake Desor to less than 2 feet near the northeastern end of the main island. Bedrock outcrops are common.

Two major ridges parallel the long axis of Isle Royale, the Minong and Greenstone Ridges. Both ridges have steep escarpments with elevational differences of several hundred feet (GMP 1998, 75).

Wright Island was a desirable fish camp because it had a safe harbor with sufficient water depth and a gently sloping silt and gravel bottom which made it accessible. Two points of land on its western side provided generally level ground upon which to build and lay out nets for drying (Lenihan 1987, 372).



Geology of Lake Superior illustrating the volcanic and sedimentary uplift with formed Isle Royale (Huber 1983, 34)

## Chapter 4: Management Information

### General Management Information

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

### Agreements and Legal Interest

#### Management Agreement:

**Type of Agreement:** Special Use Permit

#### NPS Legal Interest:

**Type of Interest:** Fee Simple

### Public Access

**Type of Access:** Unrestricted

#### Explanatory Narrative:

The site is open to park visitors who can access it via personal boat or concessioner boat.

### Adjacent Lands Information

**Do Adjacent Lands Contribute?** Yes

#### Adjacent Lands Description:

The fishery is one of several within Isle Royal National Park. It is possible that adjacent islands contribute to the significance of the property. Such relationships have not yet been researched.

### FMSS Location Numbers

50954	Holte Fishery- Main Residence
50958	Holte Fishery- Mike Johnson Residence Kitchen Add

## Chapter 5: National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

**National Register Landscape Documentation:**

Undocumented

**National Register Explanatory Narrative:**

The Holte Fishery property is not listed in the National Register of Historic Places

National Register Eligibility

<b>National Register Concurrence:</b>	Not Listed
<b>Contributing/Individual:</b>	Individual
<b>National Register Classification:</b>	Site
<b>Significance Level:</b>	State
<b>Significance Criteria:</b>	A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history  C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values
<b>Area of Significance:</b>	Agriculture Architecture Commerce Ethnic Heritage Industry

National Register Information (cont.)

<b>Period of Significance:</b>	1920-1980
<b>Historic Context Theme:</b>	Developing the American Economy
<b>Subtheme:</b>	Agriculture
<b>Facet:</b>	Fish Farming
<b>Historic Context Theme:</b>	Developing the American Economy
<b>Subtheme:</b>	Shipping and Transportation by Water
<b>Facet:</b>	Ships, Boats, Lighthouses, and Other Structures
<b>Historic Context Theme:</b>	Expressing Cultural Values
<b>Subtheme:</b>	Architecture
<b>Facet:</b>	Vernacular Architecture
<b>Historic Context Theme:</b>	Peopling Places
<b>Subtheme:</b>	Colonial Exploration and Settlement
<b>Facet:</b>	Scandinavian Exploration and Settlement

Statement of Significance:

The Holte Fishery has been described as equal to the Edisen Fishery in its representation of a Scandinavian-American fishery operation during the prime fishing years, the 1920s, on Isle Royale. Even though there are other more intact fishery complexes in the park, Holte and Edison are the only two with log structures specifically built for commercial fishing. The Rude, Mattson, and Sivertson fishery buildings are all of frame construction. There are log structures at the McGath and McPherran complexes, but those buildings were not constructed for commercial fishing purposes. A number of the fishermen built log structures, but few remain. The Holte Main Residence is significant as a representative example of log fishery structures.

## Chapter 6: Chronology and Physical History

### Cultural Landscape Type and Use

**Cultural Landscape type:** Historic Vernacular

**Current and Historic Use/Function:**

**Primary Historic Function:** Fishing Facility (Hatchery)

**Primary Current Use:** Undetermined

**Current and Historic Names:**

**Name:** **Type of Name:**

Holte Fishery Both Current and Historic

Johnson Fishery Historic

Wright Island Fishery Both Current and Historic

### Ethnographic Study

**Ethnographic Associated Groups:** Norwegian Fishermen

**Ethnographic Significance Description:**

The Bureau of Applied Research in Anthropology, University of Arizona, ethnographic team contracted with the National Park Service Midwest Regional Office in 1998 under Solicitation #1443RQ600098025 to conduct an ethnographic and ethnohistoric study of commercial fishing activities at Isle Royale National Park. The team, having no connection with Isle Royale National Park, the commercial fishermen or their families who are the focus of this study, provides this report as an independent study of the ethnography and ethnohistory of commercial fishing at Isle Royale. The result of their efforts is called "The Isle Royale Folkefiskerisamfunn: Familier som Levde av Fiske (Folk Fishing Community: Families who had Fishing as their Livelihood), An Ethnohistory of the Scandinavian Folk Fishermen of Isle Royale National Park."

Chronology

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1830	Established	In 1830, William McCullough established a fish rendering station on Wright Island. Following the demise of the American Fur Company operations in the area, McCullough bought out and reopened their facilities.
CE 1843-1855	Mined	First mining boom on Isle Royale.
CE 1850-1860	Inhabited	First known activity of fishermen operating from Wright Island.
CE 1888	Moved	Sam Johnson immigrated from Sweden to Isle Royale.
CE 1900-1903	Purchased/Sold	Leonidas Merritts purchased Wright Island.
CE 1903-1904	Moved	Sam Johnson family moved to Wright Island.
CE 1903-19010	Built	The Little House was constructed by Mike Johnson.
CE 1920-1925	Built	Main residence constructed by E.T. Steve Johnson.
CE 1920-1930	Altered	Addition to Little House was constructed.
CE 1925-1929	Altered	Addition added to Main Residence by Ed Holte and Charlie Purdy.
CE 1935	Altered	Porch added to Main Residence by Ed Holte.
CE 1945-1949	Built	Fish House constructed.
	Built	Net House constructed.
CE 1946	Established	Isle Royale officially dedicated as a National Park.
CE 1971	Abandoned	Little House was abandoned by Ed Nolte.
CE 1980	Maintained	Dock repaired.
CE 1984	Abandoned	Main Residence abandoned by Ingeborg Holte.

Cultural Landscape Physical History Narrative

Commercial fishing at Isle Royale began in the aftermath of the fur trade. The depletion of fur bearing animals in the Lake Superior region during the 1820s and 30s prompted fur traders to search for other revenue sources. In 1833, the American Fur Company, the nation's first transcontinental business, started a large-scale commercial fishing venture for trout and whitefish on Lake Superior. Expansion of the company's fishing operations was encouraged by high fish prices in 1836, and rumors of excellent fishing at Isle Royale. In October 1837, the company founded its main depot at Checker Point in Siskiwit Bay on Isle Royale (Franks 1999, 42-43). The Siskiwit Bay region was a highly sought after fishing location. Within Siskiwit Bay, Wright Island was a very desirable fish camp.

Several problems plagued the success of the American Fur Company's Isle Royale fisheries such as the economic panic of 1837 which caused fish prices to plummet and some markets could not absorb the supply of fish produced. The company failed completely in 1842, but Isle Royale maintained its reputation for good fishery resources. As the Lake Superior country was being inundated with miners and settlers in the mid-1840s, seasonal, small-scale fishing operations continued on or around Isle Royale. Small mining outposts on the mainland created a new localized market for Isle Royale fishermen.

During this period, Isle Royale was promoted as an important location for commercial fishing in guide books, government reports, and other exploration literature. An influx of miners caused an increase in Lake Superior shipping traffic which provided better opportunities for commercial fishermen to market their goods. The expansion of the western frontier in the 1850s opened a new, larger market for Isle Royale whitefish, trout, and siscowet. Technological advances during the 1850s, such as the construction of the canal that joined Lake Superior with the lower Great Lakes at Sault Sainte Marie, benefited Isle Royale fisheries by providing new markets (Franks 1999, 42-45).

Commercial fishing on Isle Royale continued to develop between the 1850s and the fishing boom of the 1880s. Fishing activity out of Wright Island is known to have occurred as early as the 1850s, with seasonal residency occurring by the 1870s. Godfrey Vodrey came to Isle Royale during early mining operations and by 1879 was fishing out of Siskiwit Bay. During the summer he fished out of Wright Island and continued this seasonal basis during the 1880s. Around this same time, a small group of fishermen were catching siskowit and possibly sturgeon on the point of land directly north of the existing fishery. Frank Vodrey and Rassmuss Loening also fished from the island during the 1880s (Lenihan 1987, 372-373).

The fisheries operated seasonally, during which fishermen worked long, hard hours, and lived simple lives. Structures were created with a "make-do" ethic and were simple, built out of inexpensive and found materials, such as logs, salvaged lumber from shipwrecks, or buildings and materials salvaged from other sites and structures. Essential structures to the fishery operation included a fish house and dock, net house, and storage building. Related equipment included Mackinaw boats, gill and pond nets, and net drying reels.

During the mid-1880s, the Lake Superior fishing industry experienced an unprecedented expansion. The growth of commerce between 1880 and late 1920s on Lake Superior ushered in a "golden age" for Isle Royale commercial fisherman. This boom happened along with several other regional occurrences. The post-Civil War expansion of railroad lines connected the remote north country with larger areas of commerce. Technological advances in refrigeration, boat and engine technology, power-driven net lifters, and netting materials all improved the ability of commercial fishermen to bring in large catches. Changes in market preferences for fish, lack of government regulation, as well as a general increase in Lake Superior shipping opportunities were also important factors in the growth of the fishing industry on Lake Superior, and Isle Royale.

The involvement of large-scale companies such as the A. Booth Company, which began fishery operations on Isle Royale, and the influx of Scandinavian immigrants to the island also boosted the Isle Royale fishing

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## Cultural Landscape Physical History Narrative, continued

industry. The Booth Company established a fishery in Washington Harbor in 1886, and provided consistent shipping on the large-capacity, company-owned America vessel, creating a broader and more consistent market for the isolated Isle Royale fishermen. Additionally, the influx of Scandinavian immigrants to the island in the mid-1880s brought new fishing technologies to Isle Royale fishermen—technologies that lengthened the fishing season—and also served to help populate the island (Franks 1999, 45, 54).

The influx of Scandinavians changed the ethnic makeup of Isle Royale fishermen and settlers. Norwegians, some Swedes, and Finns flocked to Isle Royale fisheries. Between 1886 and 1894, there was a significant increase in fishermen which corresponded with the tide of Scandinavian immigration, regular boat service to Isle Royale, Booth credit, and the opening of large markets in the Midwest by railroads (Cochrane 1983, 5). By 1894, there were approximately 100 men operating 40 boats on Isle Royale. The majority were Scandinavian (Franks 1999, 54).

In the 1890s, both Mike and Sam Johnson were fishing out of Wright Island. Sam Johnson was born in 1863 in Nordersund, Sweden on the Baltic Sea. In 1888, he came from Sweden directly to Isle Royale to be joined later by his wife and children. The Merritts of Rock Harbor purchased Wright Island in the early 1900s. Instead of living on the island they arranged to lease it to Sam Johnson. The terms of the lease provided that Sam Johnson would have sole use of the island for fishing operations. Residences and associated buildings were left abandoned when the other fishermen were forced to move. Sam Johnson fished from Little Boat Harbor, Green Isle in Todd Harbor, Rock Harbor, and Chippewa Harbor before moving to Wright Island with his family in 1903 or 1904 (Cochrane 1983, 8).

Several of Sam's relatives joined him in fishing from Wright Island. His brother, Mike, fished from the island until the 1920s. Sam's sons, Steve and John S., fished with him from various locations. Steve worked with his father until the late 1920s or early 1930s, when he joined his brother, John, in Duluth to run their father's fish business, Sam Johnson and Sons. Sam Johnson also had daughters; Alice married Charlie Purdy and Ingeborg married Ed Holte. When Ed Holte arrived in 1929, he joined Sam, Steve, and Charlie Purdy who fished off the island until the late 1930s. Ed Holte fished with Sam until Sam passed away in 1941 (Lenihan 1987, 373).

The fishing boom on Isle Royale peaked between 1915 and 1925, when there were about 75 families—more than 200 people—running seasonal commercial fisheries on the island. As technology improved commercial fishing operations, Isle Royale fishermen experienced many more productive years. However, the Great Depression precipitated the decline of the commercial fishing industry on Lake Superior. Fish prices fluctuated drastically, creating uneven market conditions. Competition increased and many fishermen left the business. Advances in technology during the 1930s also increased fishing efficiency, and new techniques and equipment hastened the depletion of lake fish. Other factors worked against Isle Royale fishermen during this period such as the introduction of smelt into the lake, National Park Service regulations, and finally the sea lamprey in 1946. Within five years the lamprey had killed 90 percent of the trout in certain parts of the lake and by 1960 the lamprey had virtually wiped out the entire Lake Superior fishing industry (Franks 1999, 54, 64-65).

Ed Holte continued to fish off the island until he passed away in 1971. His wife Ingeborg continued the business with help until 1980. She even stayed on the island during the summer months until 1984 (Lenihan 1987, 373). The 1980s were the end of a long and rich fishing history on Wright Island during which there were several notable fishermen such as George Vodrey, Sam Johnson, Charlie Purdy, Otto Olson, "Peg Leg" Gilbertson, John Running, Pete Edisen, and Ed Holte (Cochrane 1983, 8).

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## Chapter 7: Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity

### Summary:

The Holte Fishery on Wright Island retains a moderate degree of integrity. Surviving features include two residences, a privy, net house ruin, a dock, two boats and other small scale features which convey the utilitarian design typical of the Isle Royale commercial fishery working structures. Most are gabled, one-story buildings, and have walls of board siding. However, the main house was built in the 1920s of log construction, has interlocking notching, and a low-pitched roof. The Holte Fishery has been described as equal to the Edisen Fishery in its representation of a Scandinavian-American fishery operation during the prime fishing years on Isle Royale. The Holte Fishery integrity suffers due to the deteriorating condition of many of the work-related structures (Franks 1999, 89).

### Aspects of Integrity:

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

### Landscape Characteristics:

- Buildings and Structures
- Circulation
- Land Use
- Cluster Arrangement
- Natural Systems and Features
- Wildlife
- Cultural Traditions
- Small Scale Features
- Topography
- Vegetation



## Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics

The extant vernacular buildings at the Holte Fishery are representative of a small-scale commercial fishing operation operated by independent fishermen or families. They were built for expediency and need using a variety of readily available and inexpensive materials for seasonal occupation and utilitarian use. The collection of buildings usually included at a minimum a residence, privy, fish house, dock, and net house. The dock, fish house, and net house were vital to fishing operations.

The extant buildings making up the Holte Fishery were all constructed by the extended Johnson family. The Johnson family also constructed other buildings that were torn down, burned or recycled into existing structures. The main residence (HS 212) was built in three stages. The first section, a twenty-five foot by twelve foot log pen, was built between 1920 and 1925 by E.T. (Steve) Johnson for himself and his wife to reside. Steve's father, Sam Johnson, also moved into the house which was partitioned into three rooms. The saddle-notched logs used in its construction were made from nearby white spruce and balsam fir trees. The side-gable ends are finished with studs and cut lumber.

Steve and his wife did not live in the building for very long. Just after they moved, Ed Holte and probably Charlie Purdy, his brother-in-law, built the first addition, a twelve foot by twelve foot ell, onto the residence between 1925 and 1929. The addition was an open ended, three sided log structure placed against the outside walls of the original log residence. The addition was fastened to the residence by toenailing the logs of the addition to the existing log walls. A ridgepole flanked by two purlins connected to the existing roof. Horizontal logs were put up on the other gable end until they met the set of purlins. A small king post from the top most gable log held the ridgepole. Rafters running over the purlins and ridgepole and resting on the plate logs completed the roof superstructure.

The final addition was constructed using a different method between 1930 and 1935. Again, a three sided addition was built, but it consisted of three separate log walls framed on either end with two inch by ten inch planks. Then, two of the log walls were taken and their ends were toenailed to the protruding log ends of the first addition. The south wall then attached to the other two using hog-trough corner construction. This addition was capped by a hipped lean-to roof.

All of the logs used in the fishery buildings are peeled and generally small in diameter, averaging nine inches to twelve inches. They were chinked with old rags or moss. On the interior, small branches or wooden strips were tacked between the logs to close off gaps. The original residence was constructed with a cedar post foundation system which provides an air space underneath. However, the two additions were virtually built into the conglomerate pebble and were warmer. The whole roofing system is covered with asphalt roll roofing.

In 1935, a pole porch was added to the front façade of the original residence by Ed Holte. He built it with a crib-like railing for his daughter, Karen, in which to safely play. This was apparently replaced circa 1990-2000 by a porch made of frame construction with three inch or four inch diameter logs that rest on a cedar post foundation. This modification is thought to have been undertaken by one of Ingeborg's relatives and is considered to be noncontributing.

The original portion of the smaller residence is non-extant. It was constructed between 1903 and 1910 by Sam's brother, Mike Johnson. This building also had saddle-notched corners and tarpaper roofing. Sam Johnson's original residence was to the west of this building, towards the swampy meadow. By the time the balloon frame addition was added to the smaller residence, between 1920 and 1930, the original Sam Johnson residence was abandoned. This extant addition created an L-shaped dwelling and was constructed with milled lumber. The addition changed the direction the residence faced toward the inner harbor. At some point after the addition was constructed, this building became the cold weather house and guest cabin. Charlie and Alice Purdy wintered on Isle Royale in this house (Cochrane 1983, 9-18).

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## Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

The net house, now in ruins, was built between 1945 and 1949. The fish house, non-extant, was also constructed during this time. The net house was constructed of vertically-laid logs up to the tops of the windows and doorways. Above that, vertically-laid flat boards were used.

There is also a privy on the site. Its construction date is unknown. The frame structure has a shed roof and is sheathed in horizontally-laid flat boards. There is a door made of vertically-laid boards and a window.

The existing dock was built by the National Park Service. These extant buildings and structures contribute to the integrity of the fishery landscape.

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

**Feature:** Main Residence  
**Contributing?** Yes  
**LCS Structure Name:** Holte Fishery-Main Residence  
**LCS ID Number** 73104  
**LCS Historic Structure Number:** HS212

**Locational Data:**

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Polygon

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 16 Easting: 363160 Northing: 5314479

Longitude: -88.833348 Latitude: 47.968981

**Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI:** Pages 25 and 26

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued



Main Residence front elevation, facing south (NPS 2008)



Main Residence rear elevation, facing northeast (NPS 2008)



Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued



Mike Johnson Residence, facing west (NPS 2008)



Mike Johnson Residence Addition with Main Residence in background, facing south (NPS 2008).

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

<b>Feature:</b>	Mike Johnson Residence
<b>Contributing?</b>	Yes
<b>LCS Structure Name:</b>	Holte Fishery-Mike Johnson Residence
<b>LCS ID Number</b>	73105
<b>LCS Historic Structure Number:</b>	HS211
<b>Locational Data:</b>	
Source:	GPS- Uncorrected
Point Type:	Polygon
Datum:	WSG84
Zone:	16
Easting:	363160
Northing:	5314498
Longitude:	-88.833366
Latitude:	47.969152
<b>Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI:</b>	Pages 26 and 27



Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

**Feature:** Net House Ruin  
**Contributing?** Yes  
**LCS Structure Name:** Not Currently Listed  
**LCS ID Number**  
**LCS Historic Structure Number:**  
**Locational Data:**  
Source: GPS- Uncorrected  
Point Type: Point  
Datum: WSG84  
Zone: 16 Easting: 363177 Northing: 5314497  
Longitude: -88.8333838 Latitude: 47.969147  
**Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI:** Pages 28 and 29

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued



View of the Net House (now in ruins) from the inner harbor, ca. 1985 (Bradford for NPS).



Net House ruins, facing south (NPS 2008)

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

**Feature:** Privy  
**Contributing?** Yes  
**LCS Structure Name:** Holte Fishery- Privy  
**LCS ID Number** 73244  
**LCS Historic Structure Number:** HS212B

**Locational Data:**

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Polygon

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 16 Easting: 363143 Northing: 5314472

Longitude: -88.833583 Latitude: 47.968921

**Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI:** Page 29



Privy, facing north (NPS 2008)

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

**Feature:** Dock  
**Contributing?** Yes  
**LCS Structure Name:** Not Currently Listed  
**LCS ID Number**  
**LCS Historic Structure Number:**

**Locational Data:**

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Polygon

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 16 Easting: 363173 Northing: 5314513

Longitude: -88.833192 Latitude: 47.969298

**Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI:** Page



View from the net house to the dock (Cook/CLI Slide Collection/NPS 2000)

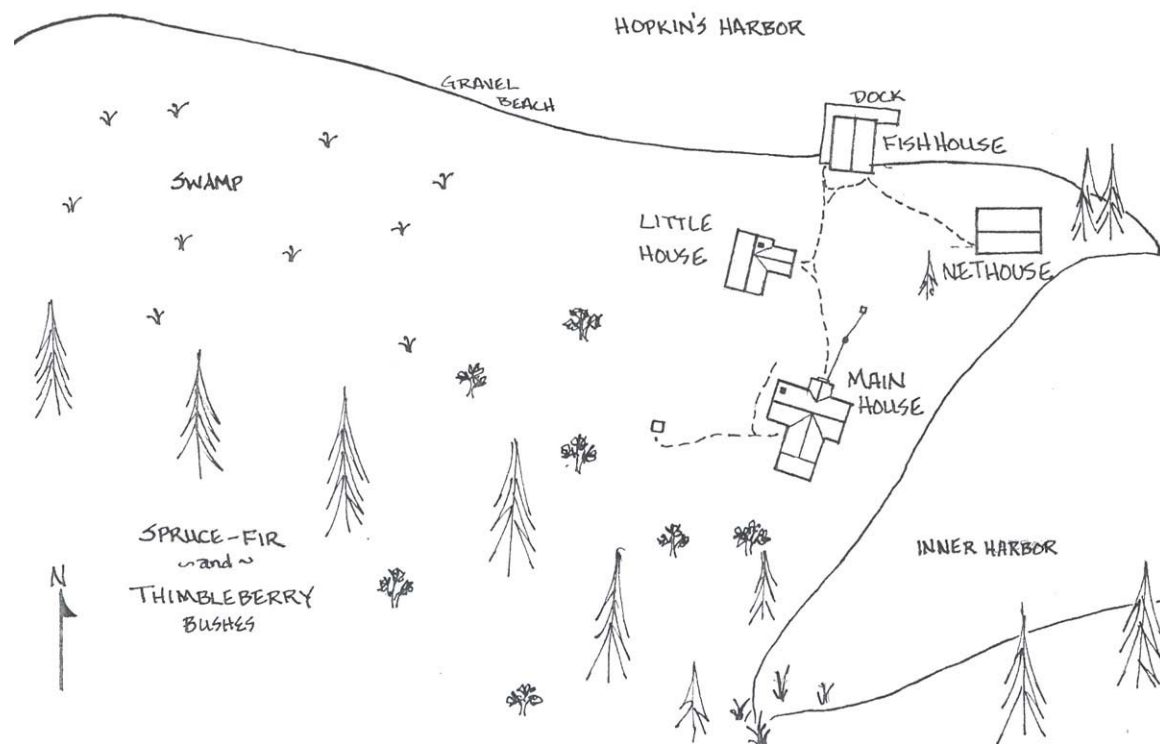


### Circulation: Landscape Characteristics

The waters of Lake Superior are considered some of the most dangerous in the world because of the sudden changes in weather and the hidden shoals that lay off the shore. Therefore, all circulation is often at the whim of the conditions of the lake. Regular tours are not conducted to this site. For close-up views of the fishery, a private boat or charter boat such as the Voyageur II out of Grand Portage would likely provide the best opportunities.

Once there, the compact inner harbor of Wright Island provides protection and has excellent water depth creating easy access to the existing dock. Historically, the fishery was accessible by two other docks. One of these crib docks was located in front of the existing net house remains and the other was located in the inner harbor around the point southeast of the net house.

Tim Cochrane identified naturally worn pathways between the fishery buildings. These paths relate the flow of traffic within the cluster of buildings. The natural flow evolved over time with the addition, alteration, and loss of buildings. For instance, the original placement of the doorway on the little house was the northwest corner because travel was to the first Johnson residence which was to the west. The Johnson's responded to a change in foot traffic to and from the little house by changing the location of the main door (Cochrane 1983, 15-16).



Paths between structures as noted by Cochrane, 1983

### Land Use: Landscape Characteristics

Settlement of the area dates from the last four thousand years predominately for the harvesting of copper and fish. Later, during the 1600s and 1700s, explorers came for the fur trade. Historically, settlement was of a seasonal nature and involved visits to gather the abundance of natural resources that were accessible.

Modern fishing activity out of Wright Island occurred as early as the 1830s with William McCullough's fish rendering station. Seasonal residency took place by the 1870s. Fishermen highly valued Wright Island for its compact inner harbor with excellent water depth and protection from storms. This favorable location was crucial to the establishment of a successful commercial fishery. The sites were kept divided among fishermen so that they did not encroach on each other's grounds. When the Johnson's started leasing the island they had sole use.

Godfrey Vodrey, who came to Isle Royale in his teens as a part of the early mining operations at McCargoe Cove, fished out of Wright Island on a seasonal basis during the 1880s before moving permanently to Chipewewa Harbor. Mike and Sam Johnson were fishing off of the island in the 1890s. In the early 1900s, the island was purchased by the Merritts of Rock Harbor and leased to Sam Johnson. Johnson and his extended family are responsible for the changes in the fishery landscape that have occurred over time. They built all of the extant structures as well as some non-extant due to deterioration or their dismantling to be recycled into other structures which was often the case at Isle Royale fisheries.

The fishing business continued at the site until 1980 and was in use during the summers until 1984. It has not had regular use since this time.

During the 2002 study, informants indicated that the core of the fishery began with the main fish camp and extended to the harbor, the edge of the woods, and the south point of the island. They then went on to include the entire island, the waters to Schooner Island on the northeast, the waters to Little Siskiwit Island on the southwest, to the main shore of Isle Royale, and to the chain of small islands to the southeast. Informants noted that use of the site also included hunting, gathering food, and celebrations such as the Fourth of July.

### Cluster Arrangement: Landscape Characteristics

Isle Royale fisheries consisted of a cluster of buildings and small scale features sited in a clearing near the water's edge of a sheltered bay. The one-story buildings were modest in size with gable roofs and included a residence and privy, fish house, dock, net house, and related small scale features. The Holte fishery is no exception.

The buildings and landscape features are clustered in a clearing on a small point of land at the mouth of Hopkins Harbor on the southwest side of Wright Island. The buildings are located and arranged according to the function and needs of a fishery. The main house, about eighty feet from the shoreline, sits on a small hill in the center of the fishery. This location provided the Holtes a commanding view of the fishery and Hopkins Harbor.

The extant addition of the Johnson-built family structure is thirty-five feet northwest of the main house or Holte residence. About twenty feet east of this building, lying on the shore upside down, is the herring skiff. The last existing fish house at the site was located at the water's edge about thirty feet in front of the Johnson addition and next to the dock. The double-ended gas boat is about thirty-eight feet east of this location. Twenty-eight feet beyond this boat is the location of the net house ruins.



## Natural Systems and Features: Landscape Characteristics

Isle Royale National Park lies in the Superior Upland physical province. Elevation ranges from 600 feet at Lake Superior to almost 1,400 feet along Greenstone Ridge. The physiography of the park is a product of glaciations modified by bedrock. The dominant features across the landscape are the ridge and valley topography with variable thicknesses of glacial drift deposits left from the last retreat of the continental glaciers about 10,000 years ago. Surficial deposits of glacial debris range from less than two feet to five feet. Bedrock outcrops are common.

Precambrian rock layers over one billion years old, the result of successive volcanism, sedimentation, uplift, and erosion, form the Isle Royale archipelago. The bedrock sequence consists of thick layers of lava and sedimentary rocks that have been tilted toward the southeast and the linear ridges are the eroded edges of individual layers of the sequence.

Keweenaw volcanic dominate the geology with interbedded sediments exposed in the upwarping of the deposits that tilt toward the southeast and mirror the formations in the Keweenaw Peninsula that tilt toward the northwest. Many transverse faults cut across the rock beds.

Glacial activity is visible throughout Isle Royale and includes abrasions on bedrock, quarrying of rocks by plucking, striations across the bedrock, deposits of glacial till, and landscape features such as drumlins and moraines.

The soils of Isle Royale are derived from the deposits and outwash left by retreating glaciers and meltwater. Glacial deposits vary in thickness and are much deeper toward the southwest. Soils in the northeastern section are thin and highly organic; those of the southwestern section are deeper, better developed, and less organic (GMP 1998, 75-76).

The climate of Isle Royale is similar to that of the rest of the Upper Great Lakes Region with some significant differences caused by the surrounding influences of Lake Superior. Temperatures are greatly moderated by the lake with daily lows in the winter commonly being six degrees Fahrenheit warmer than those of the mainland, while in the summer, the archipelago is much cooler than the mainland.

Wright Island largely consists of a mix of evergreen trees and grassy clearings. There is also a low, swampy area to the west of the Holte Fishery. Most of the island is relatively level with a generous amount of soil to support a variety of vegetation. The natural systems and features that lead to the selection of Wright Island as a successful fishery site remain intact today and contribute to the historical significance of the property.

## Natural Systems and Features: Landscape Characteristics, continued



Aerial view of Wright Island. The Holte Fishery is located on the top of the lower of the two points on the west, where a large sandy cleared area is present (2009 ISRO aerial).



## Wildlife: Landscape Characteristics

The mammals of Isle Royale are reflective of an island ecosystem isolated from the mainland. There are at least fourteen mammal species found on Isle Royale. Species common on the mainland are not found on the island because they cannot swim, do not cross the ice, or have not been introduced by humans. Some species have disappeared since post-European humans arrived on the island, such as the caribou, coyote, and the lynx. However, during the twentieth century the timber wolf and the moose arrived on Isle Royale. Other mammals on the island include the red fox, snowshoe hare, mink, short-tailed weasel, beaver, deer mouse, red squirrel, bat, muskrat, and river otter.

Moose arrived in the early 1900s and with no significant predator to influence population growth, quickly reached population levels that outstripped the natural carrying capacity. After a significant population crash in 1934, the moose population slowly began to increase again. Before the 1940s, moose were occasionally used for food. In the late 1940s, the arrival of wolves brought stabilization to the moose population. Since 1958, the two species have been the subject of perhaps the longest running predator-prey research and monitoring program in the world.

Less affected by the isolation are the avian species which overall mirror those found on the mainland. Birds found on the island include the bald eagle, osprey, loon, and a variety of forest songbirds and colonial waterbirds. Isle Royale has the only known common loon nesting activity on Lake Superior.

Little is known about the reptiles and amphibians of Isle Royale. There are currently only three reptile and seven amphibian species known (GMP 1998, 72-74).

Herring, lake trout, and whitefish were used for food and economic livelihood. Lake trout, also known as salmon trout or Mackinaw trout, were caught almost exclusively by gill nets. They had cyclical fluctuations in numbers, but had few natural enemies besides humans until the arrival of the sea lamprey in 1946.

Isle Royale fishermen classified lake trout into many sub-species according to their color, depth at which they feed, and spawning ground. Included in the sub-species were Redfin, Channel or Silver Salmon, Silver Grey, Smoky, Grey Salmon, Paperfin, Rock of Ages Trout, Siskiwit, and Mooneyes. Siskiwit is an extremely fat trout and is not found in the other lakes, only Lake Superior. It is unpalatable when eaten fresh, but was considered a delicacy when salted. Fat trout contributed historically to fishermen's economic livelihood as lamp oil. By 1866 a fishery was established on Wright Island for commercial production of fish oil. Here siskiwit were caught, boiled down in iron vats, and the oil extracted.

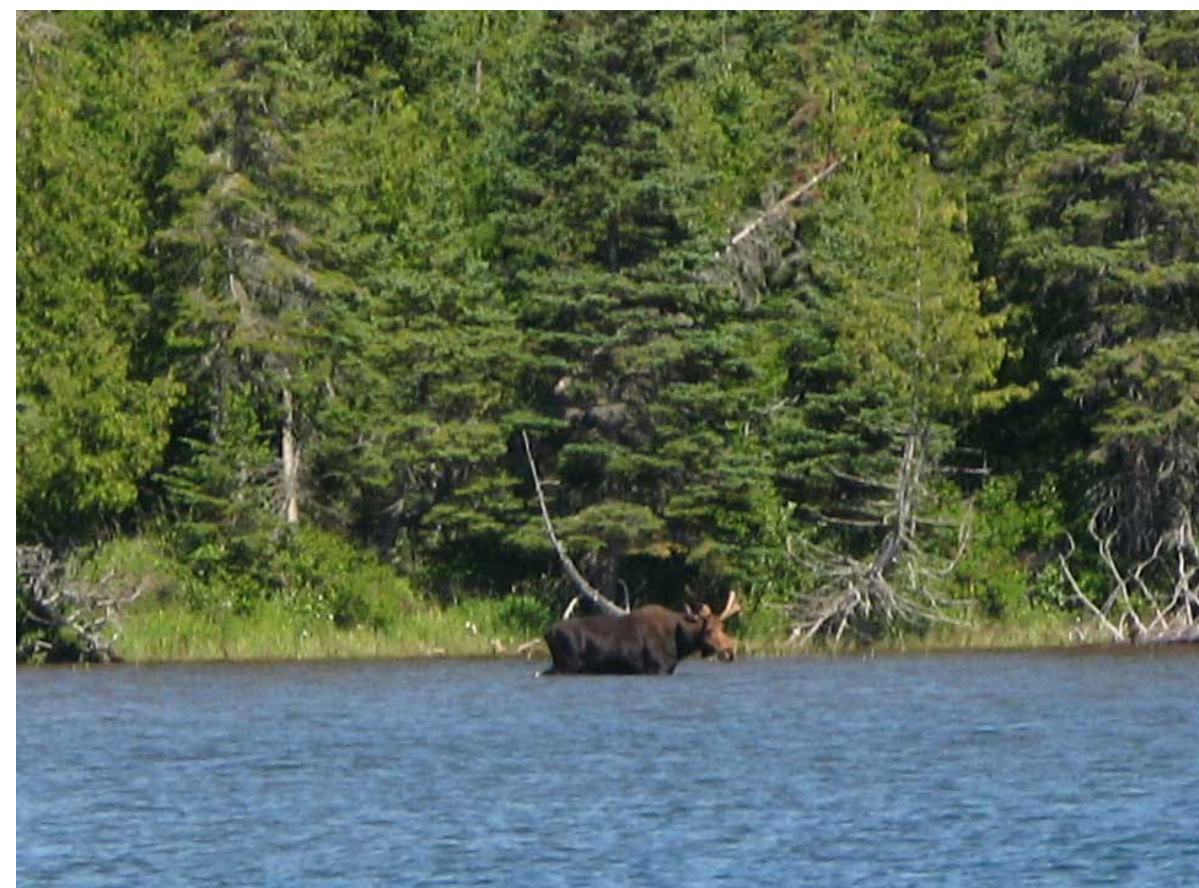
The whitefish, found in all the Great Lakes, has been known from the time of the earliest explorers as a fine table fish. It ranked with the trout as the most important commercial fish in the lake. During the early 1870s, the Bureau of Fisheries conducted many experiments in the artificial propagation of whitefish.

Herring were not sought to a large extent during the early period, since they were of less commercial value than the trout or whitefish. The profit for fishermen was less because of the low price on the market and the cost of dressing and packing them was greater because of their small size. However, herring became the mainstay of fishermen on Isle Royale when the lamprey decimated the lake trout (Rakestraw 1968).

By the early 1950s, the lamprey had killed ninety percent of the trout in certain parts of the lake creating an "economic disaster" for the Lake Superior fishing industry. Anti-lamprey programs were implemented and fish stocking increased along the mainland shores. In 1991, scientists concurred that both the lake trout and herring populations showed signs of recovery. By this time, however, the commercial fishing industry had virtually ended on Isle Royale (Franks 1999, 65-66).

## Wildlife: Landscape Characteristics

Today, the diverse fishery of the Lake Superior and inland waters of Isle Royale represent the most nationally significant natural resources in the park. The lake trout is recognized as the best example of a rehabilitated lake trout population in Lake Superior and they are the most genetically diverse population in the lake. Herring populations have rebounded in the park as elsewhere, enabling predators to improve. The fishery of Isle Royale provides an outstanding opportunity for recreational fishing for many park visitors (GMP 1998, 74).



Moose off of Wright Island in Hopkins Harbor (NPS 2008).



## Cultural Traditions: Landscape Characteristics

The fishery structures exhibit Swedish traits which are evident in the methods of construction and the division of interior spaces. The little house, which is non-extant except for the addition, and the main residence share some traits which have Scandinavian origins such as the tendency to place the stove in the corner. The division of the interior space is also Scandinavian in that Scandinavians tend to place the stove and beds in opposite corners of a house which was the case in both of these residences.

Another Scandinavian characteristic is the use of notching. However, the buildings lack the elaborate corner-notching typical of Norwegian, Swedish, and Finnish folk housing. A simple saddle notch was used instead which is characterized by a round or saddle-shaped depression on one side and a round and often more shallow depression on the other side. However, this type of notch was easier and faster to construct which was ideal for fishermen whose living depended on their catch.

Different generations of Scandinavian builders constructed the buildings which resulted in structural differences. The little house was built by a first generation Swedish-American while the main residence and additions were built by a second generation Scandinavian-American. The key to understanding the difference lies in the rooflines. Swedish and Norwegian folk housing usually had a shallow or flatly pitched roof such as the one that was found on the non-extant little house and the demolished fish and net houses. This type of roof was usually made of birch bark covered with sod which held the winter snow and created an insulating effect.



Saddle notching detail (NPS 2008)

The gently pitched roof has purlins to stabilize the log gables and to act as roof support unlike the steeply pitched roof on the main house which has two king posts on each gable end to lift the roof higher than is practical or possible with purlins. The first generation Swedish-American builders were unfamiliar or unimpressed with king post construction. An advantage of this construction technique is that it shed snow which was important to second generation Scandinavian fishermen who did not winter on the island.

Island fishermen shared many building traditions such as the proclivity for one story buildings, saddle-notch cornering, unhewn logs, room partitions, stove placement, crib docks, and inexpensively and quickly constructed buildings. From the beginning of their settlement of Isle Royale, Scandinavians used frame construction in their work buildings if they could find or recycle the needed lumber. Old world construction techniques that were designed for year round occupancy and comfort were adapted for seasonal habitation which could be confidently left in the winter without fear of the roof caving (Cochrane 1983, 20-24).

## Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics

Small-scale features include elements that provide detail and diversity, combined with function and aesthetics. They include items associated with the operation of the fishery and the domestic life of the fishery's inhabitants. The extant small-scale features include fishing boats, bed frames, wooden tools, and other objects scattered around the fishery and hidden in the vegetation.

Two small fishing boats remain onshore at the site, a herring skiff and a double-ended gas boat. The herring skiff is lying on shore upside down about twenty feet east of the remains of the Johnson residence. This small fishing vessel is mostly covered by vegetation, but is in fair condition overall. It is sixteen feet long by five feet wide and has a flat transom and pointed bow. Originally, a marine railway was used in conjunction with a small winch to haul this boat up onto the shore.

The double-ended gas boat, named Skipper Sam, is located about twenty-eight feet from the ruins of the net house. This vessel is seventeen feet six inches long by seven feet wide and was equipped with a motor amidships; the propeller drive shaft is still articulated with the motor mount. The boat was built for Sam Johnson in the late 1920s or early 1930s by Charles J. Hill of Larsmont, Minnesota. By the time of its construction, double-enders had lost out in favor of vessels with a flat transom to more readily accommodate outboard motors, making this boat unusual (Lenihan 1987, 379).

Two bed frames can still be seen among the vegetation and ruins of the net house. There are also some wooden tools leaning against the main residence and a small winch near the Johnson residence addition. Originally, miscellaneous items were scattered around the fishery such as net floats, an engine block, benches, lumber, tables, a grill, 55-gallon drums, a bird house, a net reel, fish boxes, and canning jars. Evidence of these items may be hidden by vegetation. All of the previously mentioned extant small-scale features contribute to the integrity of feeling. At some point, the NPS placed a modern picnic table and modern privy between the Johnson residence addition and the water where historically there were located a couple of tables. However, this modern picnic table is considered non-contributing.

Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics, continued

**Feature:** Herring Skiff  
**Contributing?** Yes  
**LCS Structure Name:** Not Currently Listed

**LCS ID Number**

**LCS Historic Structure Number:**

**Locational Data:**

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Polygon

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 16 Easting: 363150 Northing: 5314506

Longitude: -88.833490 Latitude: 47.969228

**Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI:** Page 40



Herring Skiff, facing north(NPS 2008).

Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics, continued

**Feature:** Double-ended gas boat  
**Contributing?** Yes  
**LCS Structure Name:** Not Currently Listed

**LCS ID Number**

**LCS Historic Structure Number:**

**Locational Data:**

Source:

Point Type:

Datum:

Zone: Easting: Northing:

Longitude: Latitude:

**Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI:** Page 41



Double-ended gas boat, named Skipper Sam , facing north (NPS 2008).



Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics, continued

**Feature:** Wooden Tools  
**Contributing?** Yes  
**LCS Structure Name:** Not Currently Listed

**LCS ID Number**

**LCS Historic Structure Number:**

**Locational Data:**

Source:

Point Type:

Datum:

Zone: Easting: Northing:

Longitude: Latitude:

**Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI:** Page 42



Wooden tools leaning against main residence (NPS 2008).

Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics, continued

**Feature:** Winch  
**Contributing?** Yes  
**LCS Structure Name:** Not Currently Listed

**LCS ID Number**

**LCS Historic Structure Number:**

**Locational Data:**

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Point

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 16 Easting: 363157 Northing: 5314499

Longitude: -88.833397 Latitude: 47.969167

**Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI:** Page



Boat winch (Cook/CLI Slide Collection/NPS 2000).

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Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics, continued

**Feature:** Fishing Ephemera  
**Contributing?** Yes  
**LCS Structure Name:** Not Currently Listed  
**LCS ID Number**  
**LCS Historic Structure Number:**  
**Locational Data:**  
Source:  
Point Type:  
Datum:  
Zone: Easting: Northing:  
Longitude: Latitude:  
**Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI:** No Image

**Feature:** Bed Frames  
**Contributing?** Yes  
**LCS Structure Name:** Not Currently Listed  
**LCS ID Number**  
**LCS Historic Structure Number:**  
**Locational Data:**  
Source: GPS- Uncorrected  
Point Type: Point  
Datum: WSG84  
Zone: 16 Easting: 363175 Northing: 5314496  
Longitude: -88.833153 Latitude: 47.969146  
**Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI:** No Image

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Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics, continued

**Feature:** Picnic Table  
**Contributing?** No  
**LCS Structure Name:**  
**LCS ID Number**  
**LCS Historic Structure Number:**  
**Locational Data:**  
Source: GPS- Uncorrected  
Point Type: Point  
Datum: WSG84  
Zone: 16 Easting: 363160 Northing: 5314502  
Longitude: -88.833361 Latitude: 47.969196  
**Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI:** No Image



### Topography: Landscape Characteristics

Wright Island is part of an island archipelago. This rock and reef studded island chain creates an ideal habitat for a variety of fish species. It's deeply scored ridge-and-valley topography form numerous bays, harbors, and shoals which serve as excellent spawning grounds. The topography of Wright Island played a major role in the selection of the island as the site for a fishery. The sheltered location and compactness of the harbor allowed fishermen to see the weather approaching while being protected from the elements.

Since there is quite a bit of soil and the land making up the two points on its west side is relatively level, the construction of buildings upon the island was easily done. Hopkins Harbor provides excellent water depth and its gently sloping silt and gravel bottom made it easy to beach small water craft and to build and maintain crib docks. The surrounding fishing grounds have deep waters, shallow reefs, and a rocky shoreline.

The archipelago supports a variety of wetland habitats such as bogs, swamps, beaver ponds, streams, and lakes. A low and swampy area lies to the west of a higher portion of land containing the fishery.

There is no evidence that suggests the topography of the island has changed much since the period of significance due to erosion or other factors.

### Vegetation: Landscape Characteristics

Isle Royale is representative of two major forest biomes—the boreal coniferous forest and the northern hardwoods forest. Lake Superior strongly influences the island climate; this influence in turn largely determines the forest vegetation patterns on the island (GMP 1998, 70).

In 1983, Cochrane noted spruce and fir trees in the Holte fishery landscape on Wright Island as well as thimbleberry bushes. He also indicated a swamp to the west of the fishery. In a 2002 study, informants noted that patches of various berries could be found on the island. This same study notes that blueberries and horseradish were used for food while various woods provided construction materials and spruce pitch was used medicinally.

The informants indicated the plant life of the island to be in good condition, but identified natural processes as changing the make-up. This is because Wright Island has not been burned for decades and the construction of beaver housing and moose browsing has affected the health and composition of the vegetation. They also identified brush as an issue around the main residence that should be cleared. A 2008 site visit confirmed this.

Fisherman's wives often planted flower and vegetable gardens, but there is no clear evidence of ornamental vegetation or domestic garden plots at the fishery.



## Chapter 8: Condition Assessment

### Condition Assessment and Impacts

**Condition Assessment:** Poor

**Assessment Date:** 9/7/2011

The structures are in an advanced state of decay. Most of the maintenance deficiencies are related to lack of annual maintenance, storm damage repair, and general upkeep. Most logs are rotten and flooring systems are on the verge of collapse. Historic fabric will continue to be lost and extant structures may incur significantly more damage if basic maintenance and repair tasks are not completed in a timely manner.

### Impacts

**Impact Type:** Deferred Maintenance

**Internal/External:** Both Internal and External

**Explanatory Narrative:** Due to climatic extremes and a remote location, structures and landscape suffer from deferred maintenance.

**Impact Type:** Exposure to Elements

**Internal/External:** External

**Explanatory Narrative:** The harsh winters and wet summers of Isle Royale increase the deterioration rate of structures and storms result in damage that require repairs.

**Impact Type:** Vegetation/Invasive Plants

**Internal/External:** External

**Explanatory Narrative:** As a result of deferred maintenance, vegetation has become an impact and is largely overgrown. The overgrowth of vegetation needs to be removed from several small scale features.

## Chapter 9: Treatment

Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative:

**Approved Treatment:** Undetermined

**Approved Treatment Document:** None

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GPS Data provided by the CR-GIS Program, 2014.