MICHIGAN
OCZM GRANT #NA-80-AA-H-CZ157
SUBTASK 4E-9.7

VILLAGE OF MACKINAW CITY
CHEBOYGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

FINAL REPORT, FISCAL YEAR 1982
COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROJECT

SUBGRANT LRP-449

WATERWORKS WAWATAM PARK

INTERPRETIVE PLATFORM, EROSION CONTROL,
TRAIL AND SIGNAGE

SB482.M52M33 FY1982 1982

SB
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1982

This document was prepared in part through financial assistance provided by the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, administered by the Office of Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

YEAR-END CLOSE OUT REPORT
MACKINAW CITY'S WATERWORKS PARK COASTAL INTERPRETIVE
LOW-COST CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

During the implementation period of this project, the Mackinaw City Council offically renamed Waterworks Park to Wawatam Park and redesigned the park entrance sign as specified in the coastal program agreement accordingly. The four interpretive signs, including a flag and stack chart of Great Lakes and ocean vessels commonly passing through the Straits of Mackinac, an informational sign on native Indians, and historical signs on the Straits of Mackinac as well as the Mackinac Coat and Mackinaw Boat have been ordered through the firm of Land Planning and Design Associates of East Lansing, Michigan. These signs have already been finalized and are being embedded with fiberglass at a manufacturing plant located out-of-state. The Village has already received the steel stands which the signs will be mounted on with a special all weather epoxy similiar to the signs which were installed three years ago. The location of the signs will remain at the interpretive observation platform as described in the contract. The fifth sign, a park entrance sign, is currently being manufactured by a local craftsman and will, most likely, not be installed until early spring of 1983. City employees, however, have begun work with a mason from the area to construct a field stone mortared base to which the park entrance sign will be mounted.

The interpretive/observation platform is completed and was constructed in accordance with the provisions of the agreement. It is located in the northeast corner of Wawatam Park and is connected to the bathroom facilities which were also recently completed (under a grant from another federal program) by means of a concrete walkway. The removal of the old Village watertower from the park property allowed for the early completion of the walkway and provides for easy accessibility to the platform for the elderly and handicapped. Installation of viewers which are provided to the Village's park system by the local Lion's Club has been started by the Village DPW crew and will be completed soon. The photographs which accompany this narrative were taken before this work began and will not show. The work completed to date. Large boulders have been placed around the perimeter of the raised platform to serve as a retaining wall. Two metal stands have been placed in the concrete platform, one on which the flag and stack chart will be mounted. The other stand already has a sign mounted on it (a map of the Straits area with descriptive narrative) which had to be relocated before the observation platform was constructed. This sign was originally installed by the Village of Mackinaw City with Coastal Management Program funds awarded three years ago.

The pedestrian access walkway was completely constructed with concrete because of the early dismantling of the old watertower. The direction of fall would have prevented a concrete walkway along 120 feet so as not to be damaged during the scraping of the old tank. The entire length of the walkway, constructed with concrete rather than with limestone chips, was made possible with the removal of the watertower and received prior approval by DNR personnel of the Michigan Coastal Management Program.

The shoreline restoration for the purpose of protecting the various interpretive facilities located in Wawatam Park was undertaken and completed before installation of the other improvements. The Village contracted with the firm of Martin Construction Company to perform this element of the project. After securing all necessary permits (NEMCOG assisted in the permit application process), the contractor removed all existing unsightly and unsafe rubble along the shoreline in the park and installed approximately 150 tons of natural cobble. This cobble was then covered with a filter cloth to allow for the passage of water while preventing the underlying material from being washed away. The shoreline work was completed with the placement of about 250 tons of dolomite rock, averaging between 1-3 tons each.

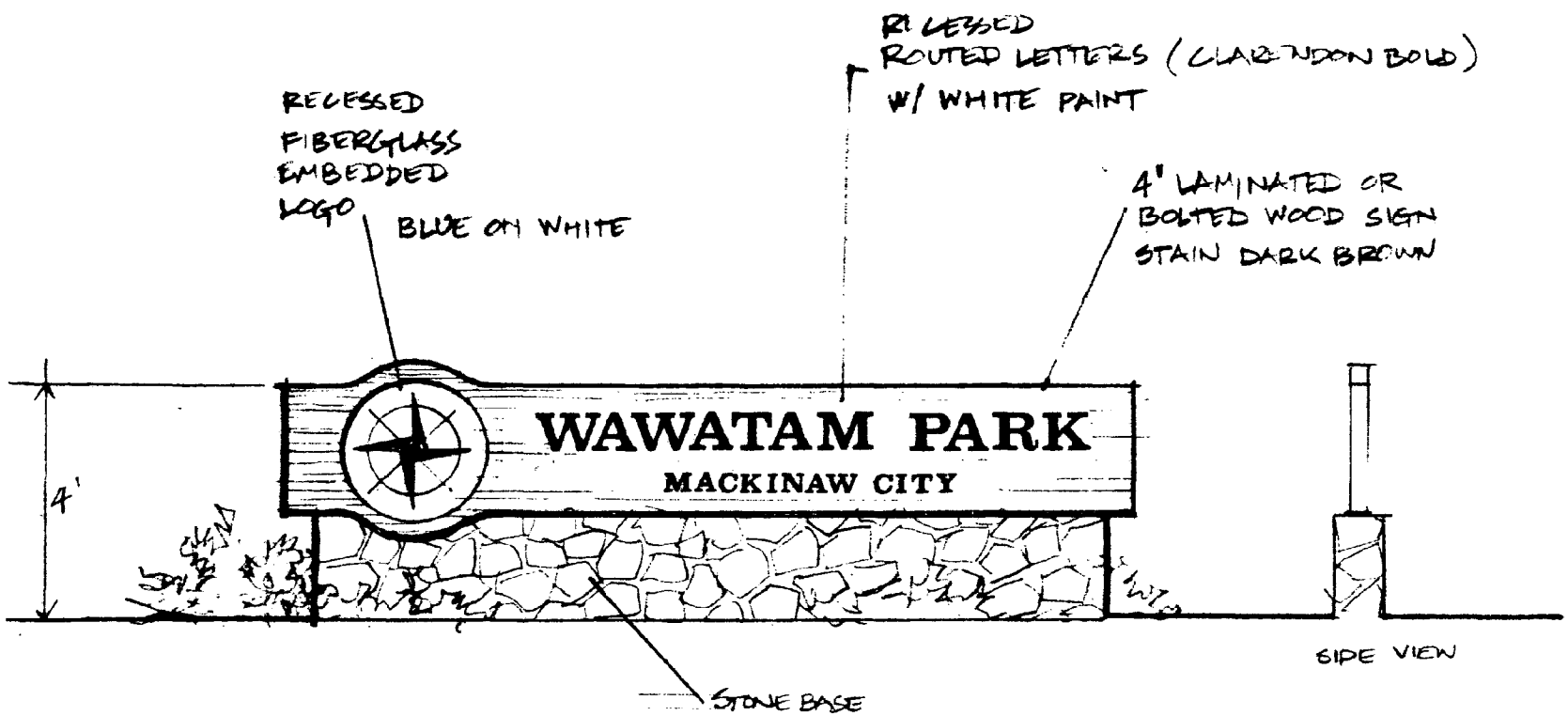
In summary, the Village of Mackinaw City has completed approximately 99% of this coastal interpretive project. The only uncompleted task which remains is the delivery of the interpretive signs from Land Planning and Design Associates. It is too late in the season to adequately or safely mount these signs for 1982 because of the cold weather to use the epoxy. The Village will mount the signs during spring of 1983, prior to the Memorial-holiday weekend which signals the offical start of the annual tourist season. Sketches of all five signs provided for in this agreement have been attached to this report to illustrate the design and information of the sign contents which could not be provided in the black and white photographs.

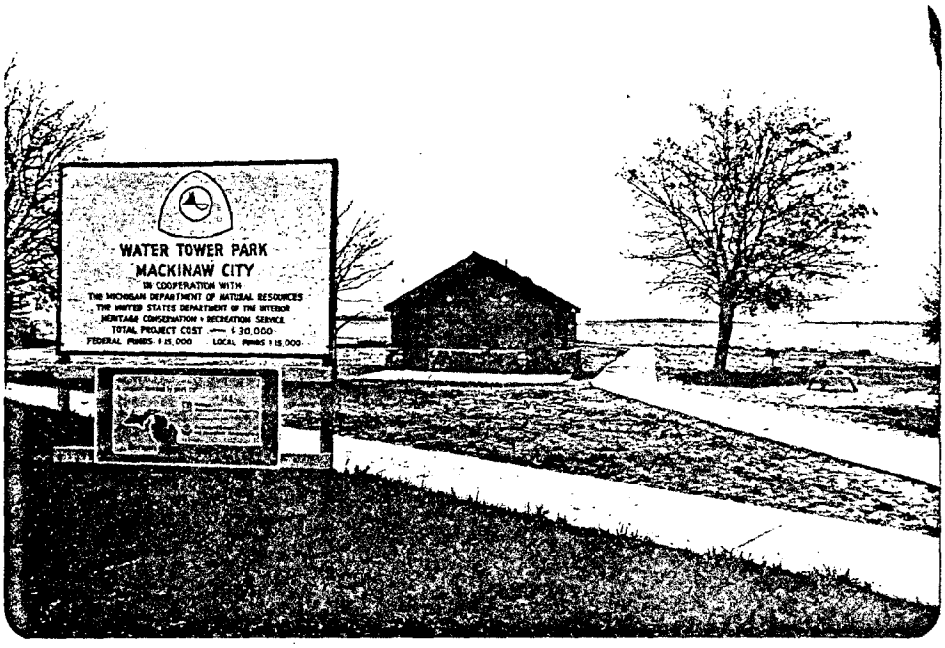
The Village will maintain Wawatam Park with regular appropriations from our general fund monies.

Sincerely,

Ron

Ronald E. Wallin
Village President


RECESSED
ROUTED LETTERS (CLARENDON BOLD)
W/ WHITE PAINT
RECESSED
FIBERGLASS
EMBEDDED
LOGO
BLUE ON WHITE
4' LAMINATED OR
BOLTED WOOD SIGN
STAIN DARK BROWN
4'
WAWATAM PARK
MACKINAW CITY
SIDE VIEW
STONE BASE

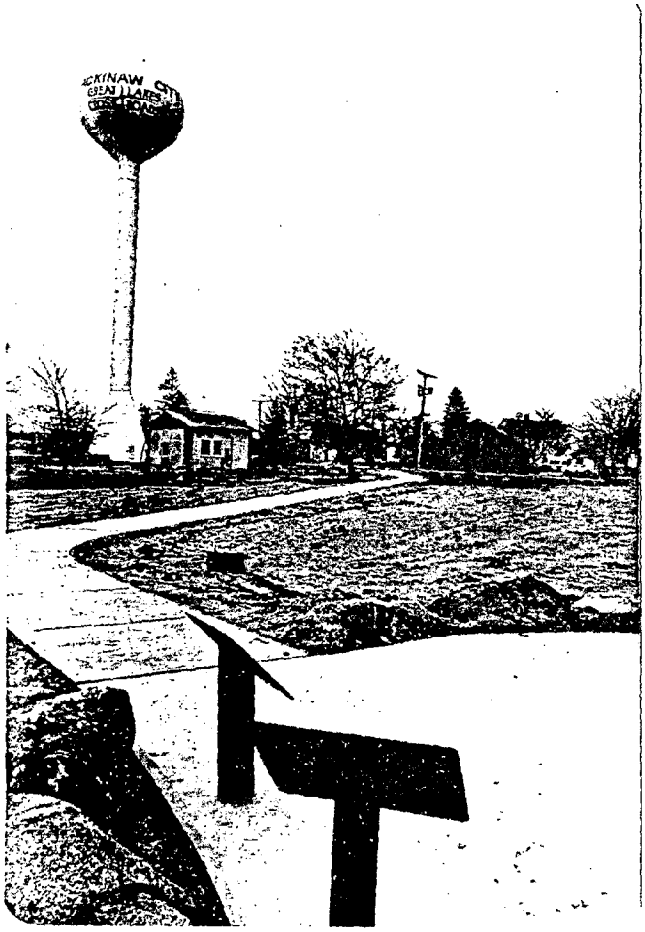


CZM PROJECT SIGN AT "WAWATUM PARK
TRAIL TO INTERPRETIVE VIEWING PLATFORM

WALK TO PLATFORM AND VIEWING AREA

MACKINAW CITY 10/28/82

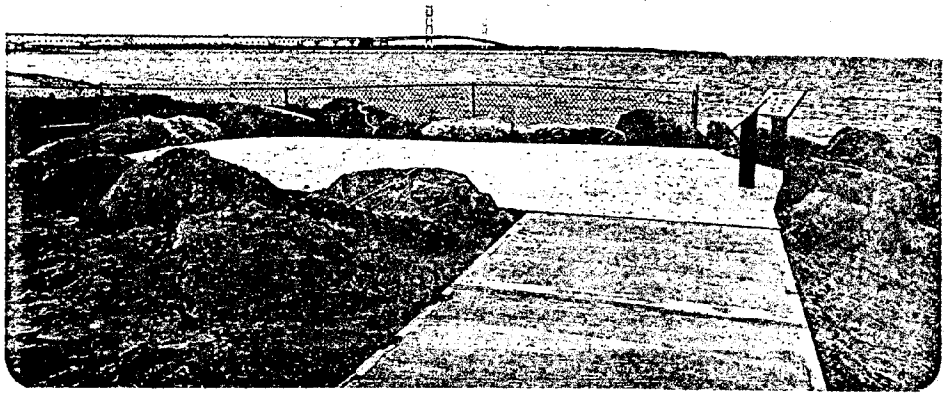
SIGN MOUNTS AND VIEWING PLATFORM



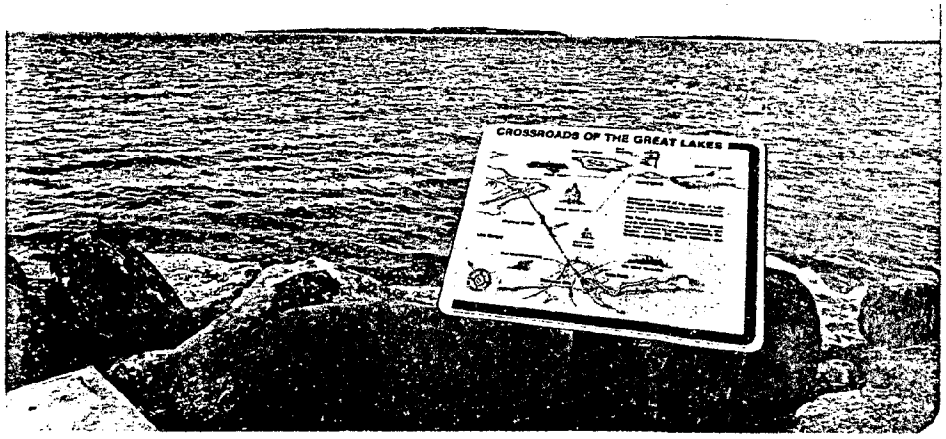
SIGN MOUNTS AND VIEWING PLATFORM

MACKINAW CITY
10/20/82

INTERPRETIVE
VIEWING PLATFORM



VIEW OF
STRAITS FROM
PLATFORM



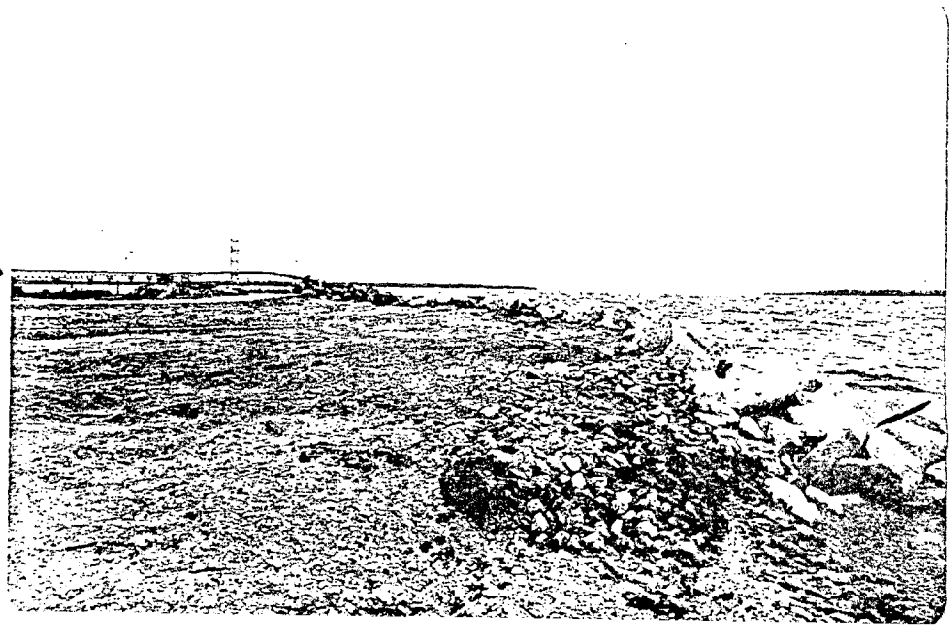
MACKINAW BRIDGE
FROM WAWATUM
PARK

MACKINAW CITY 10/20/82

EROSION CONTROL
STONE

EROSION
CONTROL

PLATFORM AND
EROSION CONTROL
ARMOR STONE



MACKINAW CITY 10/20/82

HISTORIC EVENTS AT THE STRAITS

1620 Pilgrims settle at Plymouth.

French

1634 Jean Nicolet (French) passes through Straits in search of route to India.

1650 Huron Indians are forced from Georgian Bay by Iroquois. Group known as Tobacco nation migrates to Mackinac Island.

1671 Father Marquette establishes mission and first settlement on Pt. St. Ignace with Hurons and Ottawas.

1679 LaSalle's 'Griffin', first ship to sail the Lakes, passes through Straits.

1690 Gov. Frontenac establishes Fort de Buade at St. Ignace - abandoned 1701.

1715 French construct Fort Michilimackinac.

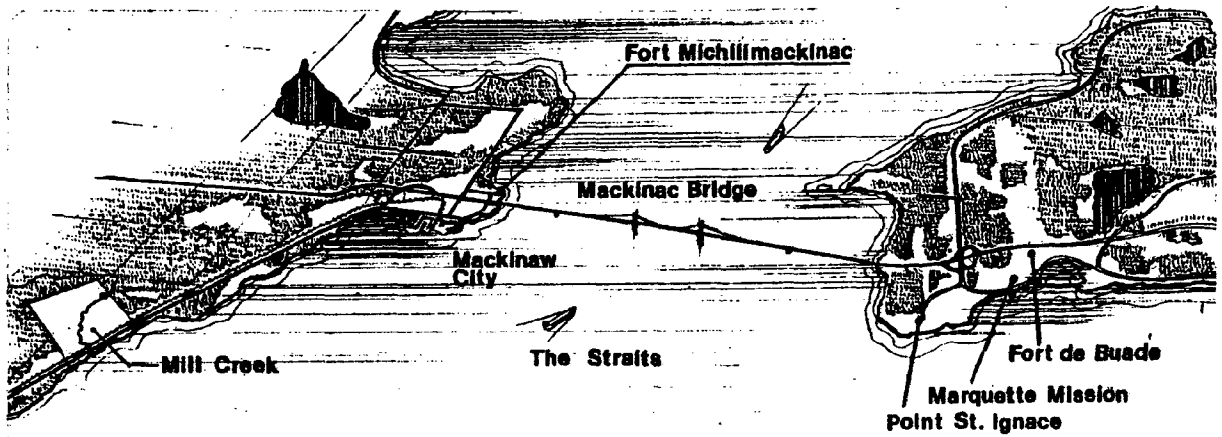
1751 Montreal and French Canada fall to British, ending French and Indian War.

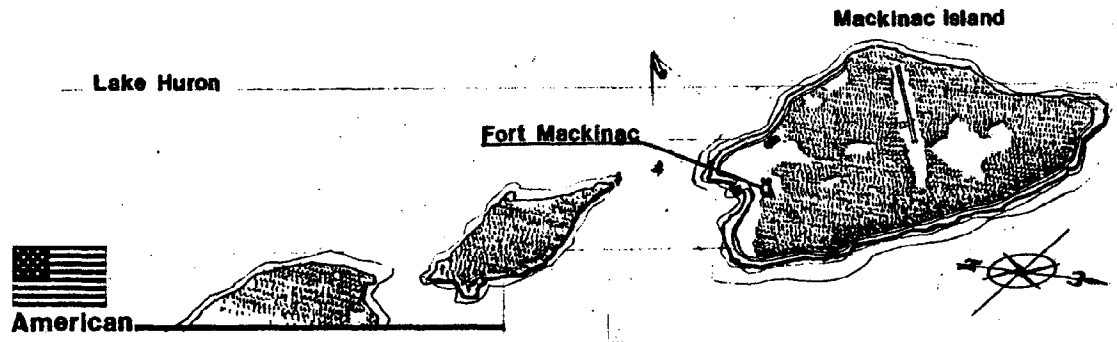
British

1761 British take over Michilimackinac.

1763 British garrison at Michilimackinac massacred as part of Pontiac Conspiracy.

1779 British move to Mackinac Island, establish Fort Mackinac.





American

1783 American Revolution ends.

1796 American forces take control of Fort Mackinac & Straits, under Jay Treaty.

1805 Michigan becomes a territory.

1812 War of 1812. British retake Fort Mackinac. War ends 1815 and Americans return.

1837 Michigan becomes a state.

1857 Mackinaw City is platted.

1861 Railroads arrive at Mackinaw.

1882 Ferry service across Straits begins on the 'Algomah'

1911 Ship 'Chief Wawatam' constructed.

1957 Mackinac Bridge completed.

Prepared under a grant from: Michigan Coastal Zone Management Program, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Land Resource Programs
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INDIANS AT THE STRAITS

ANCESTRY & LANGUAGE

The Woodland Indians of the Northern Midwest are believed to be remnants of the prehistoric Middle Mississippian people. The common ancestry of various tribes is evident in their similar languages. The Huron tribe spoke an Iroquois language. The Ottawa & Ojibwa tribes spoke an Algonquin language.

TRIBAL ORGANIZATION

Tribes were composed of limited numbers, typically 2,000 to 3,000 people, although perhaps as many as 10,000. They were poorly organized. Chiefs as tribal leaders were an invention of the white man.

OTTAWA TRIBE

Pursued Agriculture . . . . . Moved with seasons to find food . . . . . Characterized as brave, suspicious, treacherous, generous friends and fierce enemies . . . . . Migrated to Straits from Ottawa River area . . . . . Frequently traveled west to war with the Sioux.

OJIBWA (CHIPPEWA) TRIBE

First Straits Region inhabitants . . . . . Hunters and Fishermen . . . . . Joined by Ottawas at Sault Ste. Marie.

HURON TRIBE (TOBACCO NATION)

Originally from Southeastern Georgian Bay . . . . . Enemies of the Iroquois . . . . . Settled at Straits about 1650 . . . . . Removed to Mississippi River, fought with the Sioux . . . . . Returned in 1671 . . . . . Joined in Marquette Mission at St. Ignace, with the Ottawa.

LATER MOVEMENTS

About 1763, at the time of the Pontiac Uprising, the Huron tribe left the Straits and settled at Detroit and Sandusky, to be called the 'Wyandot'. The Ottawa eventually headquartered at Cross Village and occupied the Northwest Lower Peninsula. The Chippewas occupied the Northeast Lower Peninsula with a major village on Mackinac Island.

Ojibwa Indian
Early 1700's

Ottawa
With Tatoos, Beaver-skin mantle

Drawings after Dirk Gringhuis / Mackinac Island State Park Commission

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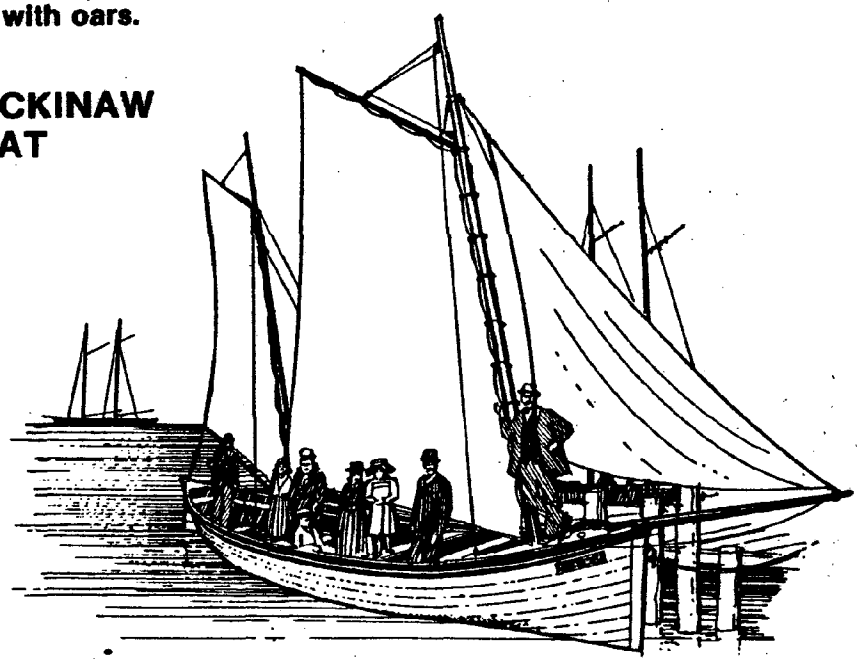
MACKINAW BOAT • MACKINAW COAT

The term "Mackinaw boat" refers to the small (18' to 35') sailing craft commonly built in the straits region during the 1800's. Generally used for fishing, these boats were unique to the Upper Great Lakes. Although there were many variations, they were all double-ended with a round bottom, center-board, full-frame and planked hull. Smaller Mackinaw boats (such as the Dagwell boat on display at the Marine Museum) were rowed with oars.

MACKINAW BOAT



The Mackinaw boat evolved from the double-ended, flat-bottomed "bateaux", used by the French in the Upper Lakes throughout the 1700's, and the round-bottomed canoe.

During the War of 1812, British soldiers stationed at the Straits invented the "Mackinaw coat." To ward off cold winters, they adapted heavy woolen "trade blankets" by adding sleeves and hoods. The Mackinaw coat was widely used by trappers, traders and Indians. Called a "capot" by the French, it bore the distinctive black stripes found on the blankets themselves.

MACKINAW COAT

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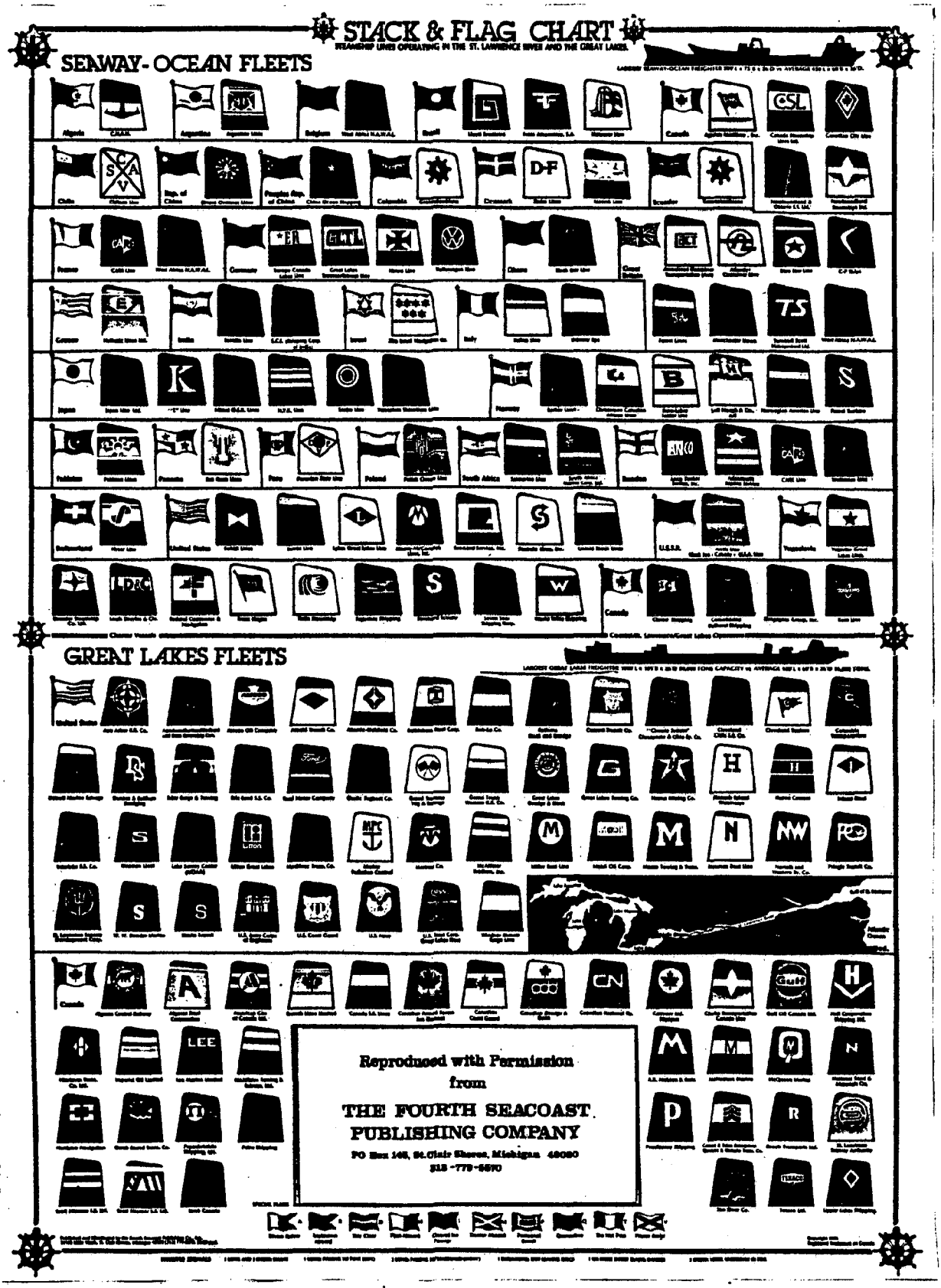
SHIPS STACKS & FLAGS



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