

Historical Marker - S11 - Fort Michilimackinac / Michilimackinac State Park (Marker ID#:S11)



Front - Title/Description

Fort Michilimackinac

This fort, built about 1715, put French soldiers at the Straits for the first time since 1701. French authority ceased in 1761 when British troops entered the fort. On June 2, 1763, during Pontiac's uprising, Chippewa Indians seized the fort, killing most of the small force, and held it a year. When the British moved to Mackinac Island in 1781 this old fort soon reverted to the wilderness.

Back - Title/Description

Michilimackinac State Park

The British military abandoned and burned Fort Michilimackinac in 1781. Set aside as part of a village park in 1857, the fort site was placed under the direction of the Mackinac Island State Park Commission in 1909. In 1933 the fort's stockade was rebuilt after the park custodian unearthed the foundations of the palisade. Always popular, especially among campers, the park saw visitation boom after the Mackinac Bridge opened in 1957. In 1959 professional archaeologists began investigating the site. Their findings prompted the dismantling of the stockade and reconstruction of the fort based on archaeological evidence. The excavation of Fort Michilimackinac is one of the longest ongoing archaeological projects in North America.

Significant Date:

Native People and the French (< 1760)

Registry Year: 1956 **Erected Date:** 2009

Marker Location

Address: 102 W. Straits Avenue, Michilimackinac State Park

City: Mackinaw City

State: MI **ZipCode:** 49701

County: Emmet

Township: Wawatam

Lat: 45.78668400 / **Long:** -84.73290200

Web URL: