

Farms with no extant features

The following section includes properties that were originally obtained through the Homestead Act, but have no extant features.

Andrew and Ulrica Erickson Homestead

Andrew Erickson filed a homestead claim on 23 August 1890 for 129.7 acres of land located on the northern tip of the island (T31N, R15W, S28, Lots 1, 2, and 3). The final proof for this property was filed on 8 September 1897.¹⁰²

According to Linda Henry, Andrew Erickson was a fisherman. The Ericksons, both of whom were born in Sweden, arrived on the island around 1882.¹⁰³ The 1900 census lists Andrew (70) and Ulrica (74) as residents of South Manitou Island. Henry states that two of their children, Selma and Leonard, lived on the island.¹⁰⁴ When his father died, Leonard inherited the homestead property. He retained title to this property until 14 July 1911, when he sold it to Allen Kent.¹⁰⁵ Currently, the property consists of forest but it is still possible to find old fruit trees and lilac bushes growing in the area.¹⁰⁶

Richard and Sarah Kitchen Homestead

The 1860 Federal Population Census enumerates Richard Kitchen (21), his wife, Sarah (19), and their son, Henry (8 months), as residents of South Manitou Island. Sometime in 1863, Richard Kitchen filed a homestead claim for the southwest quarter of T31N, R15W, S34. His proof was filed on 26 August 1868.¹⁰⁷

The Kitchens did not operate an extensive farm. The property includes soils that are sub-marginal for agriculture, and the 1870 Agricultural Census does not include the Kitchens. The 1870 Federal Population Census indicates that Richard was a retail grocer.

¹⁰²Homestead application list compiled by Susan O. Haswell from information in the archives of the Michigan History Division (Lansing, Michigan). The National Archives and Records Administration was unable to locate the Homestead Application for this property.

¹⁰³Henry, "The Andrew and Ulrica Erickson Property."

¹⁰⁴*Ibid.*; manuscript schedules for the 1900 and 1910 Federal Population Census. In 1900, Selma was already married to George Hutzler, and had six children.

¹⁰⁵Henry, "The Andrew and Ulrica Erickson Property."

¹⁰⁶*Ibid.*

¹⁰⁷Manuscript schedules, Federal Population Census, 1860; Homestead application list compiled by Susan O. Haswell. The National Archives and Records Administration was unable to locate the Homestead application for this property.