

COMMENTS ON THE EXPLANATIONS FOR THE Doreen (Simmon) Pavlik COLLECTION

[On the Manitou Islands Archive website]

Contributed by Susan Wasserman-July 2022

- **Hotel, North Manitou Island:** ca. 1910s. The former residence of U.S. Life-saving Service keeper Daniel Buss was **moved from the farm yard complex and** remodeled to function as a hotel and dining room. The hotel (**it was always called The Lodge” by island residents**) occupied a site on the beach ridge north of Cottage Row. Although not part of the Cottage Row plat, this structure served a vital function in the communal resort development scheme. The building continued to function as a lodging facility for island visitors until it was **hit by lightning and** destroyed by fire in **in spring of 1953**.
- **The U.S. Life Saving Service Station:** and 'Cottage Row' **resort** cottages on North Manitou Island **c. 1910** Photo taken from the “Big Dock.” The “Little Dock” was built for Coast Guard boat launching and much later (in the ‘40’s and ‘50’s rebuilt and maintained to load cherries for shipment to the mainland).
- **Loading logs:** probably the south-end dock on North Manitou Island

I would guess this is at the main east side dock. For years, there was a distinctive shed building close to the shore end of the “Big Dock.” Information in the Leelanau Historical Society archives confirms this—see photo and explanation accession #1962.35

- **North Manitou Island Mailboat:** 'Manitou,' possibly John Swenson's boat on its maiden voyage. John Swenson owned his own boat, which he used for fishing, and for transporting freight between the island and Leland. In 1901, Swenson took the contract to carry mail between Leland and North Manitou Island.

According to Jack Hobe, these Beebe postcards were all taken about 1909-1910. This conforms to the beginning (1908) of the lumbering years in Crescent. (NMI West Side) He says lumber barons were very eager to document their operations, so Smith & White may have paid Beebe to come to North Manitou (see: Edward Beebe: Historic Leelanau Photographs: 2016). This is a bit confusing because there were several boats named “Manitou.” The photos from the LHS depict a very different boat. See attached image below from LHS and LHS photo accession 1958.04 of the “Manitou” where they write, “The Manitou mail boat was operated by John Patschow,” Leland, Michigan. LHS photo accession 2007.17 shows the mail boat “Manitou” and says, “Built the mail boat in 1935 ‘Manitou’ owner Tracy Grosvenor...”

- **The Edward Buckley:** hand-loading logs, probably the south-end dock on North Manitou Island - another view.

I compared this postcard with the one above (“Loading Logs”). I think this is the same boat, same dock, different day. Here the little Coast Guard dock is clearly visible. This dock is most likely on the east side. As far as I know, there wasn’t a long dock and smaller dock down in the bay near the Stormer’s operation, the cemetery and Bourniques. One set of pilings at this Stormer’s location, is visible when the water in Lake Michigan is low. See LHS photo accession #

- **The Crescent dock:** on North Manitou Island's west side.

At the time it was built in 1908, this was the longest dock on Lake Michigan—600’. It was built to accommodate the arrival of the steam trains and track that would haul logs from the west side woods to the saw mill in the village.

- **The Smith & Hull saw mill:** at Crescent, with **the hotel and** part of the village in the background.

- **One of the "pot holes"**: North Manitou Island has prominent areas of dune activity along its southwest coast, the dunes being superposed on bluffs of clay or gravel.

If this is actually one of the pot holes or if it is a picture of the clay bluffs on the west side, the caption needs to read: "Northwest". The southwestern shore features perched sand dunes and not clay cliffs.

- **'Good Morning' from North Manitou Island**: - one of the island's infamous 'micro-bears.'

Interesting that Jack Hobey says (ibid. page 143-144), "Wild animals are elusive and don't stand still when asked... This is perhaps the only Edward Beebe example of such a card. Beebe introduced this chipmunk postcard in the pagoda store and in the Crescent general store. He produced versions indicating that this particular chipmunk lived in every one of the towns where he sold postcards. The chipmunk post card became his most popular card." I have no idea how Hobey verified this assertion.

Susan Wasserman-July 2022

From the Leelanau Historical Society archives"

"Grandpa Swenson carrying mail between Leland and North Manitou Island for 4 years," is written on the back of the photograph dated 1903. John Swenson used his boat for fishing and transporting freight, and in 1901, took the contract to carry mail between Leland and the island.

Swenson's daughter, Augusta, married lighthouse keeper Fred Samuelson, who is credited with taking this photograph."

