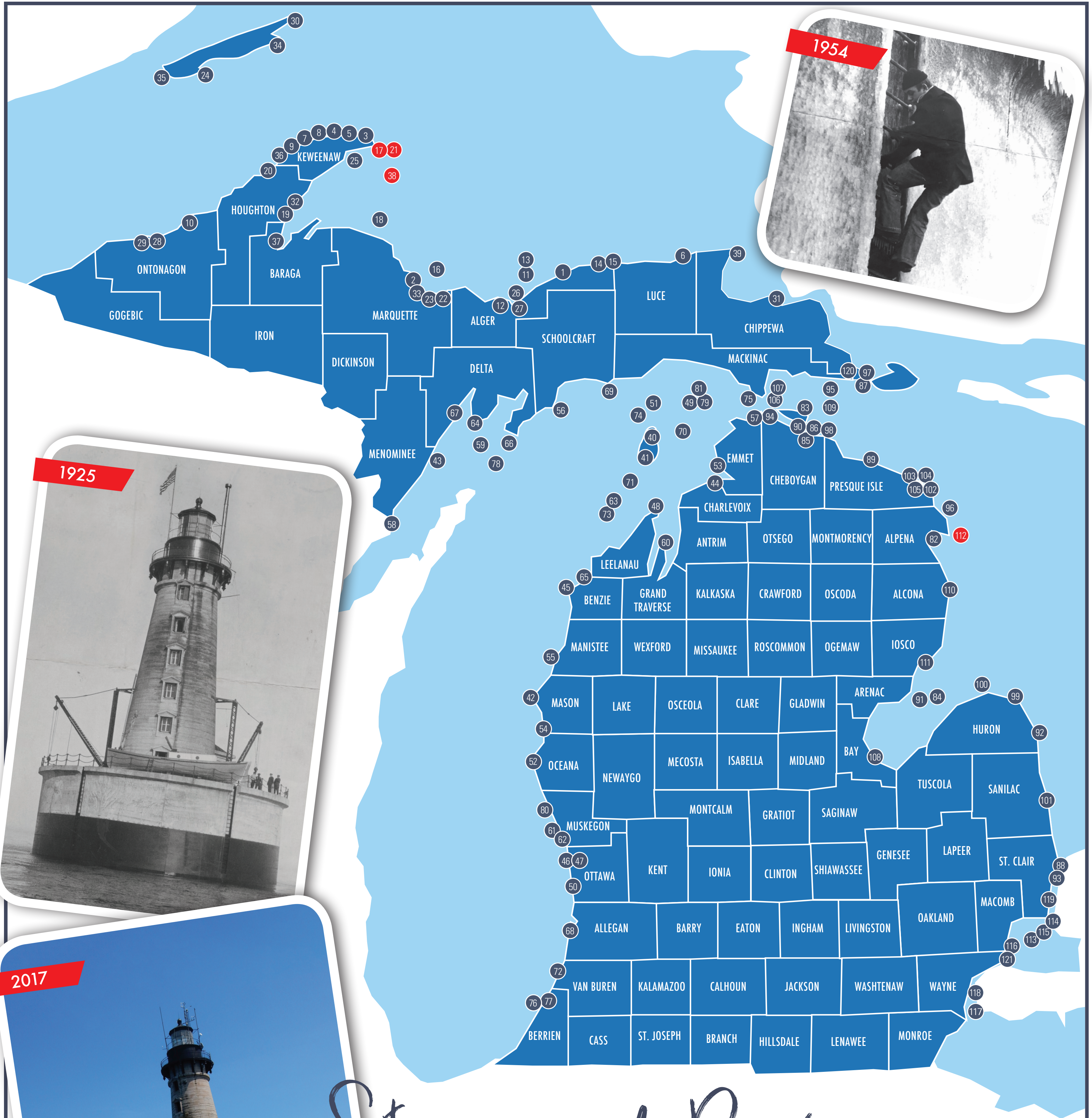




Stannard Rock

LAKE SUPERIOR **38**

On August 26, 1835, while piloting the American Fur Company vessel *John Jacob Astor*, Capt. Charles C. Stannard blew off course during a storm and discovered a previously unrecorded reef about 25 miles from the Keweenaw Peninsula. Thereafter, the reef was known as Stannard's Rock.

The need for a light at the reef became critical after the increase in maritime traffic following the opening of the new State Locks in Sault Ste. Marie in 1855. The light was not completed, however, until 1882. The light earned a reputation for loneliness due to its

remote location. Coastguardsman gave the light station the nickname "Stranded Rock" to underscore the isolation, and it was designated a "stag station," meaning no wives or other family members could be stationed there.

In 1961, almost 80 years after the light station was put into service, a horrific explosion in the Fog Signal Building killed one coastguardsman and left three others stranded on the deck for two days while the fire burned. They were eventually rescued by the Coast Guard Cutter *Woodrush*. This was the same year the light was set to be automated.



Of the more than 120 lighthouses in Michigan, approximately three dozen are considered offshore lights—those constructed on isolated, uninhabited islands, or on shoals or reefs. To help residents and visitors discover these offshore lights, learn their history and understand their important role in Michigan’s maritime past, the State Historic Preservation Office secured funding from the National Park Service National Maritime Heritage Program and the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program for a Historic Structure Report and Public Education Project. The project includes the four offshore light stations featured on this 2018 Michigan’s Historic Lighthouses Map. The reports will guide preservation of these unique structures.

Michigan's Historic Lighthouses

LAKE SUPERIOR

- 1 Au Sable Light Station
- 2 Big Bay Point Light Station
- 3 Copper Harbor Front Range Light Station
- 4 Copper Harbor Light Station
- 5 Copper Harbor Rear Range Light Station
- 6 Crisp Point Light Station
- 7 Eagle Harbor Light Station
- 8 Eagle Harbor Rear Range Light Station
- 9 Eagle River Light Station
- 10 Fourteen Mile Point Light Station
- 11 Grand Island East Channel Light Station
- 12 Grand Island Harbor Rear Range Light Station
- 13 Grand Island North Light Station
- 14 Grand Marais Harbor Inner Range Light Station
- 15 Grand Marais Harbor Outer Range Light Station
- 16 Granite Island Light Station
- 17 Gull Rock Light Station
- 18 Huron Island Light Station
- 19 Keweenaw Waterway Lower Entrance Light Station
- 20 Keweenaw Waterway Upper Entrance Light Station
- 21 Manitou Island Light Station
- 22 Marquette Breakwater Outer Light
- 23 Marquette Harbor Light Station
- 24 Menagerie Island (Isle Royale) Light Station
- 25 Mendota Light Station
- 26 Munising Front Range Light Station
- 27 Munising Rear Range Light Station
- 28 Ontonagon Harbor West Pierhead Light Station
- 29 Ontonagon Light Station
- 30 Passage Island Light Station
- 31 Point Iroquois Light Station
- 32 Portage River Light Station
- 33 Presque Isle Harbor Breakwater Light Station
- 34 Rock Harbor Light Station
- 35 Rock of Ages Light Station
- 36 Sand Hills Light Station
- 37 Sand Point Light Station (Baraga vicinity)
- 38 Stannard Rock Light Station
- 39 Whitefish Point Light Station

LAKE MICHIGAN

- 40 Beaver Island Harbor Light Station (St. James)
- 41 Beaver Island Light Station (Beaver Head)
- 42 Big Sable Point Light Station
- 43 Cedar River Light Station

- 44 Charlevoix South Pier Light Station
- 45 Frankfort North Breakwater Light Station
- 46 Grand Haven South Pierhead Entrance Light Station
- 47 Grand Haven South Pierhead Inner Light Station
- 48 Grand Traverse Light Station
- 49 Gray’s Reef Light Station
- 50 Holland Harbor (South Pierhead) Light Station
- 51 Lansing Shoal Light Station
- 52 Little Sable Point Light Station
- 53 Little Traverse Light Station
- 54 Ludington North Pierhead Light Station
- 55 Manistee North Pierhead Light Station
- 56 Manistique East Breakwater Light Station
- 57 McGulpin’s Point Light Station
- 58 Menominee North Pier Light Station
- 59 Minneapolis Shoal Light Station
- 60 Mission Point Light Station
- 61 Muskegon South Breakwater Light Station
- 62 Muskegon South Pier Light Station
- 63 North Manitou Shoal Light Station
- 64 Peninsula Point Light Station
- 65 Point Betsie Light Station
- 66 Poverty Island Light Station
- 67 Sand Point Light Station (Escanaba)
- 68 Saugatuck Light Station
- 69 Seul Choix Pointe Light Station
- 70 Skillagalee Island Light Station
- 71 South Fox Island Light Station
- 72 South Haven South Pier Light Station
- 73 South Manitou Island Light Station
- 74 Squaw Island Light Station
- 75 St. Helena Island Light Station
- 76 St. Joseph North Pier Inner Light Station
- 77 St. Joseph North Pier Outer Light Station
- 78 St. Martin Island Light Station
- 79 Waugoshance Light Station
- 80 White River Light Station
- 81 White Shoal Light Station

LAKE HURON

- 82 Alpena Light Station
- 83 Bois Blanc Island Light Station
- 84 Charity Island Light Station
- 85 Cheboygan Crib Light Station
- 86 Cheboygan River Front Range Light Station
- 87 DeTour Reef Light Station

- 88 Fort Gratiot Light Station
- 89 Forty Mile Point Light Station
- 90 Fourteen Foot Shoal Light Station
- 91 Gravelly Shoal Light Station
- 92 Harbor Beach (Sand Beach) Light Station
- 93 Lightship Huron
- 94 Mackinac Point Light Station
- 95 Martin Reef Light Station
- 96 Middle Island Light Station
- 97 Pipe Island Light Station
- 98 Poe Reef Light Station
- 99 Point Aux Barques Light Station
- 100 Port Austin Reef Light Station
- 101 Port Sanilac Light Station
- 102 Presque Isle Front Range Light Station
- 103 Presque Isle Light Station (New)
- 104 Presque Isle Light Station (Old)
- 105 Presque Isle Rear Range Light Station
- 106 Round Island Light Station (Straits of Mackinac)
- 107 Round Island Passage Light Station
- 108 Saginaw River Rear Range Light Station
- 109 Spectacle Reef Light Station
- 110 Sturgeon Point Light Station
- 111 Tawas Point Light Station
- 112 Thunder Bay Island Light Station

LAKE ST CLAIR

- 113 Lake St. Clair Light Station
- 114 St. Clair Flats South Channel Front Range Light Station
- 115 St. Clair Flats South Channel Rear Range Light Station
- 116 Windmill Point Light Station

RIVERS

- 117 Detroit River Light Station—Detroit River
- 118 Grosse Ile North Channel Front Range Light Station—Detroit River
- 119 Peche Island Rear Range Light Station—St. Clair River
- 120 Round Island Light Station—St. Mary’s River
- 121 William Livingstone Memorial Light Station—Detroit River

* Light Station is used throughout to refer to either a complex of buildings, or an individual light.

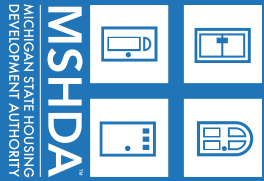
Historic photographs and information are taken from the Historic Structure Report for Stannard Rock Light Station that was completed by OJX Studio and Smay Trombley Architecture with funding from a National Maritime Heritage Program grant from the Department of the Interior, National Park Service and a Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program grant from the State Historic Preservation Office, Michigan State Housing Development Authority.

Cover photo: Thunder Bay Island Light Station, Lake Huron.
All photos courtesy of Bryan Iliewski unless otherwise indicated.

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For more information on the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program, visit www.michigan.gov/saveourlights

Michigan has more lighthouses than any other state and these unique structures are synonymous with the Great Lakes State. You can help preserve these historic places by purchasing a **Save Our Lights** license plate. A portion of the fee funds the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program (MLAP), administered by the State Historic Preservation Office. Since 2001, the MLAP has awarded more than \$2 million in grants to lighthouse stewards for the rehabilitation of these important structures.

Save Our Lights



Historic Lighthouses of Michigan

