

# LANSING HERITAGE SITE

## HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLANNING



Wendy Shearer/Yukon Government/2016: Aerial photo of Lansing Historic Site

## MANAGEMENT PLAN

### Submitted to:

First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun  
Heritage Department  
[www.nndfn.com](http://www.nndfn.com)

Yukon Government  
Cultural Services Branch  
[www.yukonheritage.com](http://www.yukonheritage.com)

### Submitted by:

NVision Insight Group with  
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*Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan: prepared for Historic Sites, Cultural Services Branch, Tourism and Culture, Yukon Government, in accordance with the requirements of the First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun Final Agreement (NNDFA). The Heritage Management Plan was guided by the Lansing Steering Committee.*

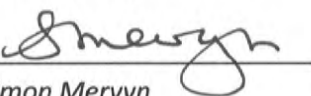
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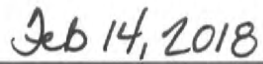
## ***Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan***





Yukon Archives. Mervyn family fonds. Pho 244 99/87 #9. Lonny Johnny and James Bond (hunter). [Lonny Johnny cabin with off centre front door and small window, lap joint corners extend from walls].

*We, the undersigned, accept this Management Plan as a framework for the management of Lansing Heritage Site.*

  
Simon Mervyn  
Chief  
First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun

  
Date

  
Jeannie Dendys  
Minister of Tourism and Culture  
Yukon Government

  
Date





## FOREWORD

This Management Plan represents the best efforts of the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun and Yukon Government to meet the requirements of the ***First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun Final Agreement*** and the ***First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun Final Agreement Implementation Plan (IP)***. These are meant to guide the management of the cultural and natural resources at the Lansing Heritage Site.

The plan respects the principles described in the Final Agreement:

- Protection, conservation and interpretation of the heritage resources at the site;
- Recognition and protection of the traditional and current use of the site by the Nacho Nyak Dun; and
- The encouragement of public awareness of and appreciation for the natural and cultural resources of the Lansing Heritage Site.

**Nothing in this Management Plan will, or is intended to abrogate the rights guaranteed under the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun Final Agreement (Self Government Agreement) or impair the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun's inherent right to practice traditional pursuits.**

This is a living document, it sets a course and should be treated as a dynamic work in progress, open to improvement as new opportunities are discovered and greater experience gained along the path of its implementation.



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## 1 BACKGROUND

This Management Plan was undertaken as per the Na-cho Nyäk Dun Final Agreement (NNDFA) by the Na-cho Nyäk Dun (NND) in partnership with the Yukon Government (YG) through the Lansing Heritage Site Steering Committee, established in December of 2015. The Steering Committee consists of two members of the NND and two members of the YG<sup>1</sup>. The Management Plan is an important step in the conservation of the heritage resources at the Lansing Heritage Site.

Section 1 of the Management Plan includes the context and history of the Lansing Heritage Site, the legal framework for the heritage site, the cultural heritage values, *Statement of Significance*, and summary of character-defining elements.



Photo 1: Aerial view to the north of the Stewart River, Lansing River and Lansing Heritage Site, August 2016.

<sup>1</sup> Lansing Heritage Site Steering Committee (2016-2017): NND Designates - Joella Hogan, Stewart Moses, Stephen Buyck (NND Alternate). Yukon Government Designates - Barbara Hogan, Greg Hare, Rebecca Jansen (YG Alternate). Shannon Van Bibber, Project Manager, YG.

## 1.1 INTRODUCTION

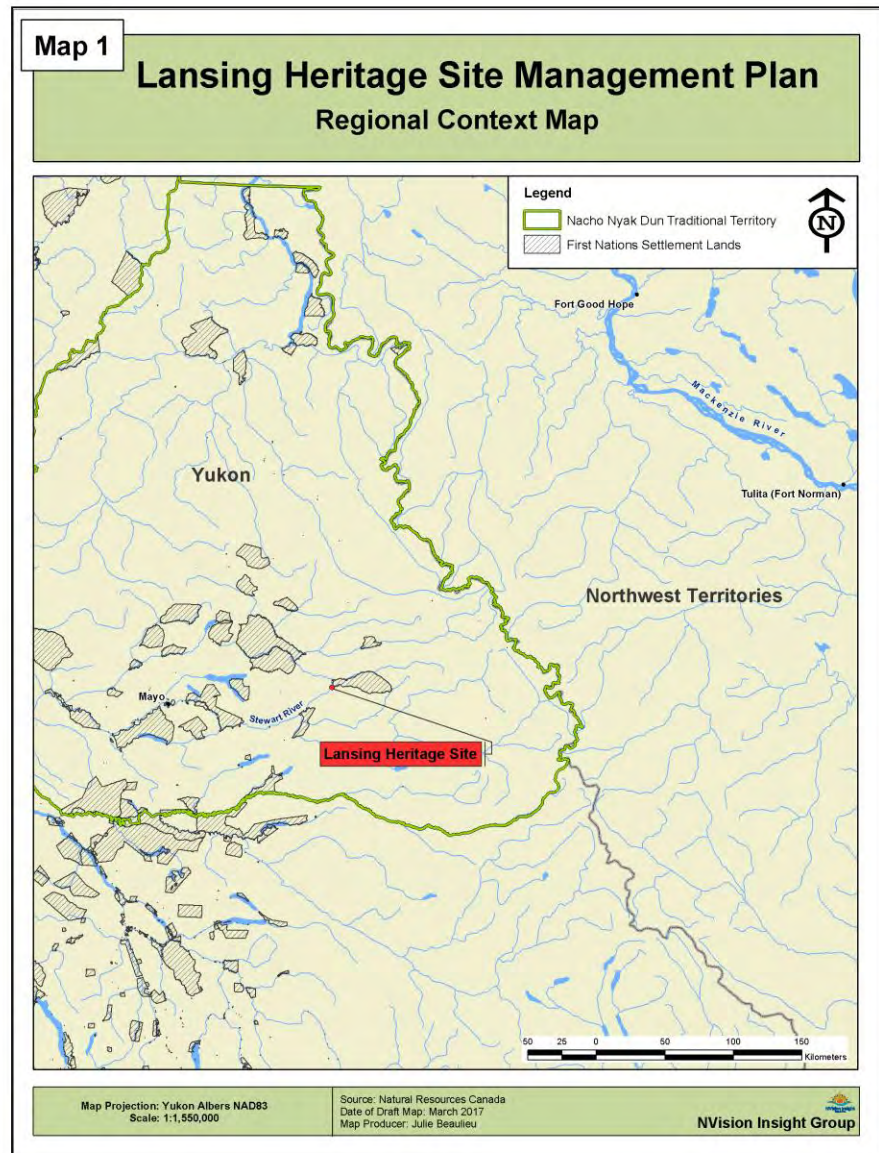
The Lansing Heritage Site (Lansing) Management Plan provides a long term vision to ensure that the site (located on Category B Settlement Land) remains in use for a variety of visitors, particularly for the NND, other First Nations and tourists arriving by river or air. Planning for the Lansing Heritage Site follows the principles expressed in the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*, current best practices for the management of multi-layered cultural heritage landscapes, and requirements of the NNDFA.

The Lansing Management Plan applies to the historic settlement area within the boundary previously identified by NND and YG

(see Map 1: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan – Regional Context; Map 2: Lansing Heritage Site

Management Plan – Site Context Scale<sup>2</sup>). The area is bounded by the east bank of the Stewart River and the north bank of the Lansing River and includes the clearing where all the buildings, structures and landscape features are found. The area is found on Category B Settlement Land.

The Lansing Management Plan is based on the historical research, previously collected Elders' oral history, archival records, a previous archaeological assessment, and an investigation of the various built and landscape resources found on site and consultation with the community to understand the important contribution that the site makes to their cultural identity.



<sup>2</sup> All maps in the document are included in Appendix 4.

The Lansing Management Plan takes into account approaches for the preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, reuse and interpretation of the heritage resources found at Lansing. The Lansing Management Plan also outlines operational requirements and related costs. Recommendations for new additions for visitor amenities and programming are proposed in a manner that protects the significant heritage resources and their values while considering economic opportunities. Recognition of NND history and traditional uses are an integral part of the Lansing Management Plan. The layers of historic values are integral the Lansing Heritage Site significant in the history of the Yukon, such as use of the site as a First Nations gathering area and later as a trading post, and current activities as a cultural place for the NND and trap line.

The Lansing Management Plan process has involved the NND, Yukon Government, the Lansing Steering Committee, and the local community. The following activities were included in the process: Steering Committee meetings and document reviews, three public open houses in Mayo and Whitehorse were advertised in newspapers, radio, in project newsletters, and at the yukonheritage.com website. Recommendations are included in the Lansing Management Plan to assist the NND with the on-going management of the site.

## 1.2 Cultural Heritage Values

Lansing is a significant heritage site and cultural landscape as it exemplifies multiple layers of tangible and intangible heritage. Tangible heritage values are evidenced in the buildings, structures, and landscape remnants on the site. In addition to the tangible heritage, there are the significant historic records and documented traditional knowledge that connects the site to NND culture and key events in the history of the Yukon.

The collection of log buildings with different construction details demonstrates the influence from different builders and eras. The spatial arrangement of the buildings and structures within the clearing at Lansing follows a pattern that provides for each cabin to be surrounded by sufficient exterior space to accommodate social and work activities. The pattern also ensures that the cabins are located close enough to other support structures such as the high cache and storage sheds that there is an efficient connection between all of the buildings. This vernacular layout achieves a cohesive order to the site layout that has continued through the various periods of activity on the site and the changing size of the clearing caused by erosion of the riverbank.

The built and landscape heritage resources together provide evidence of past activities and are a record of how Lansing has continued to evolve as an important place that continues to be valued by the NND community as a whole. The Lansing Management Plan recognizes these heritage layers and recommends that all built features be retained.

In addition to the physical resources and their associated tangible values found on site, there are intangible values associated with Lansing. It is a point of connection as a place where meetings and gatherings occurred between the ancestors of NND and the ancestors who came to the site mainly from Fort Good Hope, Fort McPherson and Tulita (formerly known as Fort Norman.) in the NWT.<sup>3</sup> For many families it was a place where they met others on a seasonal basis and celebrated with drumming, dancing and potlaches.

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<sup>3</sup> Jody Cox, 1999, Pgs. 8 and 9.



Families trapped on the land over the winter and gathered at Lansing in the spring and stayed for the summer. Lansing was also an important trading post and a link with the wider economic history of fur trading in the Yukon. It is a place where non-First Nation and First Nation people met, traded and socialized and is a part of the oral history and memory of the community.



Photo 2: Yukon Archives. Mervyn family fonds. Pho 244 99/87 #14. Fraser Falls picnic.

The timeline for Lansing includes periods of use by several family groups since the trading post period in 1902 up to the present (2017), and several periods of site abandonment due to shifts in the territorial and national economic conditions. The history of use by family groups, gatherings and the traditional practices of hunting, trapping, fishing and harvesting in the area contribute to the intangible values associated with Lansing.

### 1.3 Introduction to Heritage Significance

The *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* provide guidance on planning for recognized heritage properties. The development of an approach that ensures the protection and interpretation of these important sites is based on a three stage process: Understanding, Planning and Intervening. This process ensures that the final management plan looks at ways to preserve, restore or rehabilitate physical resources found on the site that have heritage value and at the same time acknowledge the memories, oral history and traditional practices that have heritage value and are associated with the historic place for which there is little or no physical evidence.

Planning for historic properties is based on understanding the significance of the site, its heritage values and the character-defining elements that require conservation in order to ensure that the significance of the site



is retained. The Lansing Management Plan will provide guidance for the continued evolution of the site and appropriate additions and alterations.



Photo 3: Yukon Archives. Mervyn family fonds. Pho 244 99/87 #2. Norman Nedry's cabin. Lansing Post. [David Moses cabin in its original location].

### 1.3.1 Statement of Significance

A Statement of Significance identifies the description, heritage value, and character-defining elements of an historic place. A Statement of Significance is required in order for an historic place to be listed on the Canadian Register of Historic Places.

In the case of Lansing, it is significant because of its long history of use and its important contribution to the identity and memory of the NND. Lansing is a cultural landmark with a distinctive clearing and an orderly arrangement of buildings and open spaces all set within a well-defined boundary surrounded by extensive forested lands.

Lansing's significance is a result of its many tangible and intangible heritage values including:

- the association with the oral histories of several NND families and their connection with the ancestors in the Yukon and the NWT;
- the physical evidence of human resourcefulness in the sustained use of the natural resources on a seasonal basis found on and around the site;

- the setting provided, and continues to provide, a range of resources that support trapping, fishing, a source of firewood and timber for buildings, berry harvesting and produce gardening in the fertile soil;
- the economic development of the Territory, including the association with the fur trade, one of the historic foundations of the Yukon economy resulting in an intertwining of non-indigenous and Indigenous cultures;
- independence and tenacity of newcomers moving into the area, living working in harmony with Indigenous people;
- the diverse collection of buildings, structures, landscape features and archaeological resources that are evidence of its long period of occupation and effective use of the natural resources surrounding the site; and
- the materials, form and construction details of several of the buildings reveal information about different construction styles and periods and use of local materials.

Lansing is an organically evolved, continuing cultural heritage landscape<sup>4</sup> with a range of heritage resources that make an important contribution to understanding the past. Lansing is located at the intersection of the Stewart and Lansing Rivers within a natural environment with abundant resources to support the activities centered on the site. Lansing is also an intersection between non-indigenous people and First Nations who travelled to Lansing seasonally for trade and social gatherings with other members of the community.

The social value of Lansing is that it is a vital link to the memory of the ancestors from the NWT and is part of the identity of the NND. It was a centre for seasonal gathering of community members and an important part of the memories of many of the community. Lansing represents a time and place and change where seasonal activities occurred, which evolved to permanent living quarters. As well, Lansing has cultural value because of its long association with the fur trade and part of a network linking this region with the broader Yukon economy. Its aesthetic heritage value is found in the form, scale and construction details of the log buildings.

There are layers of activities related to the site dating from the period prior to and including the trading post era that flourished from 1902 to 1936. Later layers, dating from the time after the trading post was abandoned, have continued the earlier patterns of use while adding or refurbishing buildings and structures on the site. Trapline activities have continued since the 1970s.

The oral histories of community members emphasize the significance of the historic site. Stories of the ancestors and their use of the site prior to 1902 as a gathering place along the route to and from the NWT contribute associative heritage value. Seasonal visits to the site that continued during the twentieth century are recalled by several of the current community members confirming a sustained valuing of the site. In the early twentieth century, the Lansing trading post was also a participant in the fur trade industry that is part of the Yukon's economic development history. This illustrates the patterns of newcomer presence and

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<sup>4</sup> The *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*, pg. 253, defines organically evolved cultural landscapes as “developed in response to social, economic, administrative or religious forces interacting with the natural environment”. These fall into two sub-categories including “Continuing landscapes in which the evolutionary process is still in progress. They exhibit significant material evidence of their evolution over time.”

economic development within the traditional territory of the NND, and is representative of small outposts that occurred in the Territory during the late 19th and early 20th century.



Photo 4: Aerial view of heritage site boundary area, looking to the south (Lansing is near the top centre).

### 1.3.2 Summary of Character-defining Elements

The *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* say the “heritage value of an historic place is embodied in its character-defining materials, forms, location, spatial configurations, uses and cultural associations or meanings”.<sup>5</sup>

Lansing has evolved over time with different layers of activity and construction evidenced in the collection of buildings, structures and landscape features found on the site. As an organically evolved cultural landscape every layer is relevant to the character of the site from the pre-trading post use as a traditional gathering area through to the current layer.

The following is a summary of the character-defining elements for Lansing (additional descriptive details are provided in subsequent sections):

- The buildings and structures, which reflect many periods of use and construction techniques;
- the trail and informal path network on the site that connect the buildings and structures with outdoor activity areas;
- The landing on the Stewart River that links the site with the river travel route access point;

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<sup>5</sup> *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*, pg. 254.

- The visual relationships that connect the site with the surrounding area, specifically views down the Stewart River to the distant horizon, views to the far banks of the Stewart and Lansing Rivers from the edge of the settlement area and views within the site across the central open space that terminate at the forested edge of the clearing;
- The spatial organization of the site with an open central area where the majority of the built heritage resources are found surrounded by a defined boundary of the forest and the rivers' edges creating a sheltered setting;
- The vernacular layout of the cabins, storage sheds, privies and other support structures which provides for efficient connection between them while providing outdoor spaces for work and socializing activities around the cabins;
- The relatively flat central area surrounded by the sloped banks of an unnamed creek<sup>6</sup> and the Stewart and Lansing Rivers;
- The vegetation found around and on the site consisting of naturally occurring forest and succession trees and shrubs around the edge, individual shrubs and trees left within the clearing, and deliberately planted plants such as rhubarb;
- The Stewart and Lansing Rivers define the edge of the site and provide access routes to the site;
- An unnamed creek crosses the site providing a source of water for the garden and fire suppression;
- The natural environment in which Lansing is situated provides a source of water, habitat for animals and a source of food and wood for fuel and construction; and
- The fertile soil, sun exposure, soil moisture regime and sheltered conditions support the activities associated with Lansing.

#### ***1.3.2.1 Examples of Organically Evolved Elements***

While some of the early log buildings from the trading post period remain in use there are several newer buildings and structures that have been added since the 1970's by the Wilkinson brothers and Bruce Mitford and Beth Hunt, the current (2017) residents. The historical value of Lansing is evidenced in the names associated with the buildings including the Germaine, Lonny Johnny and David Moses cabins<sup>7</sup> as well as the log remnants of the Mervyn cabin / store added by Bruce Mitford to the Germaine cabin as a bedroom addition. New additions also have heritage value since they represent continued use and occupation of the historic place as a base for a trapline.

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<sup>6</sup> For the purposes of this document the creek at Lansing is unnamed. However, it is acknowledged that at the community meetings it was indicated that some families refer to the creek as Germaine Creek, or other terms.

<sup>7</sup> For the purpose of this document the buildings at Lansing are referred to the names used in archival documents and reports that commonly refer to a building using the male family name. It is acknowledged that these buildings were family homes, and the reference by the male family name in this report is not intended to exclude the importance of any other past residents of Lansing.





Photo 5: Yukon Archives. Mervyn-Wood family fonds. Pho 539 98/87 #432. Lansing Creek. [round and square logs on structure].

Historic photos show that there were outdoor work areas and gardens immediately outside the log structures. It is in these areas where visitors and residents would gather to relax. Firewood was also stored in these areas and outdoor work activities would take place such as boat repair and moosehide preparation. Other structures on the site continue to be used for activities associated with earlier periods. These activities include preparing and storing food and storing tools and equipment.

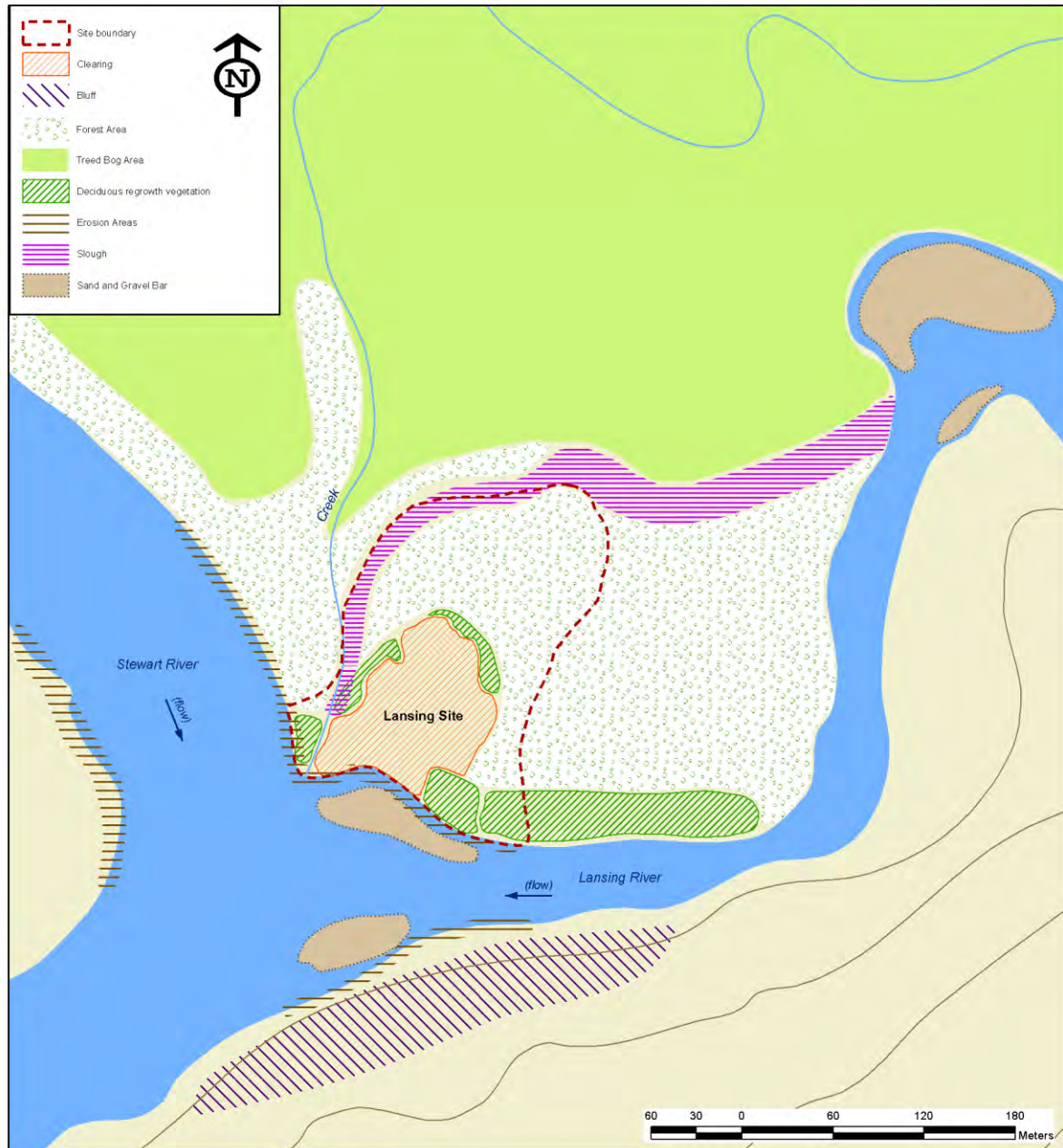
Changes to the site have been necessary by the significant loss of land due to the erosion of the river bank along the Lansing River. The relocation of the David Moses cabin saved it from destruction. It was placed in a safer place within the site. Based on consideration of the orientation of the door sill and original plank floor it appears that the David Moses cabin is in the same alignment as in its original location. In addition to the trapline use, the current collection of buildings, structures and garden adds to the earlier features of the site without detracting from the original orientation and form.



Map 2

# Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan

## Site Context Scale



Map Projection: Yukon Albers NAD83  
Scale: 1: 8,000

Source: Natural Resources Canada  
Date of Draft Map: March 2017  
Map Producer: Julie Beaulieu

NVision Insight Group

## 1.4 The Planning Context of the Lansing Heritage Site

### 1.4.1 Natural Setting

Lansing is located in the central area of the Yukon in the Yukon Plateau- North ecoregion.<sup>8</sup> The characteristics of this ecoregion have directly and indirectly affected the natural resources found at the Lansing site. The area is part of the boreal ecosystem where forest cover is primarily of white and black spruce trees. Wetter lowland areas and river edges are locations where balsam poplars, willows and a variety of deciduous shrubs and herbaceous materials thrive.

The area surrounding Lansing shows evidence of ancient glacial activity in the topography of the mountains, plateaus and valleys. The geology of the area varies but in many locations, there are depths of soils of schist, sandstone and grit, shale and rare limestone which provide the fertile soil conditions for productive gardens.

The central Yukon in general is an area of extreme temperatures, very cold in winter months and frequently very warm in the summer with long days of daylight. As well the area is relatively dry yet with sufficient rain in the summer and snow cover in the winter to sustain an abundant natural vegetation palette and production gardening. The climate although severe at different times of the year is mitigated by variations in elevation, forest cover and slope orientation and exposure.<sup>9</sup>

The surrounding natural environment has created ideal habitat for fur bearing animals. The rivers also provide fishing opportunities and the forest provides a source of fuel and timber for buildings. The historic and continued use of Lansing in this environment demonstrates the integration of cultural practices with natural resources.

### 1.4.2 Site Context and Description

Lansing is located at the confluence of the Stewart River and the Lansing River on Settlement Lands of the NND. The site is within a registered trapping concession and the site is currently occupied and maintained by the holders of the trapline.

Recent use of the site by the NND is limited due to its remoteness. There are hunting, fishing and trapping areas closer to the Village of Mayo that are preferred by the NND. There are also few tourists that venture by, or to, Lansing.

At Lansing, the Stewart River is a wide fast flowing river draining a huge watershed area and flowing approximately 125 km south west over rapids and Fraser Falls to the Village of Mayo on its way to joining the Yukon River. The Lansing River also drains a large area, but at the Stewart it narrows and is subject to erosion and deposits of gravel and sand along the edge of the Lansing site (*see Map 2: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan – Site Context Scale*).

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<sup>8</sup> Smith, C.A.S., Meikle, J.C., and Roots, C.F. (editors), 2004. Ecoregions of the Yukon Territory: Biophysical properties of Yukon landscapes. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, PARC Technical Bulletin No. 04-01, Summerland, British Columbia.

<sup>9</sup> Bleiler, Lynette (editor), Christopher Burn, Mark O'Donoghue. Heart of the Yukon: a natural and cultural history of the Mayo area.

An aerial photo shows the winding course of the Lansing River as it approaches the Lansing site. The site is bordered by the Lansing River, along with an unnamed creek and the low lying slough. During flood periods, the Lansing site is virtually encircled by water. In addition, the high volume of water in the Stewart River in the spring, which frequently has ice dam, results in regular flooding. There have been at least three reported occasions when the entire site has been covered with flood water. During the Mervyn period, it is reported that the river rose more than 12 feet (3.65 m) in 45 minutes.

The elevation of the Lansing property is approximately 6 feet (2 m) above the water levels of the adjacent rivers. The core area is generally level with lands sloping away from this central flat area to the north and east behind the existing log structures (*see Map 3: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan – Building Locations and Physical Elements of the Site*).

On the south side of the site, the land drops abruptly to the Lansing River where the original river bank has been eroded. On the west side abutting the Stewart River, there is a narrow sloped beach which acts as a landing area for boats, canoes and float planes. The unnamed creek flows around the north edge of the central area and then to the south to the Lansing River. The trail that links the landing with the central area crosses this creek on a timber plank bridge. The creek is a source of water for the produce garden and can be used for fire suppression.

Within the Lansing site there is a large central open area which contains the actively worked produce garden and informal trails meandering through tall ground cover primarily made up of grasses.

There are several individual shrubs and small tree clusters located throughout the central area but the area is generally devoid of mature trees except for a small group of poplars by the landing at the Stewart River. Surrounding the clearing that contains the buildings, structures and open landscape space, there is a complete vegetation wall on the north and east perimeter of mature spruce and poplar trees with a dense understorey of herbaceous shrubs such as willows and raspberries.

Across from the rivers on the south and west sides, there are sloped banks that rise from the waters' edges. The far west bank is heavily treed with spruce and a dense understorey rising from a gravel beach about 10 feet (3 m) above the water's edge. The far south bank is much steeper and also treed with spruce and a shrub understorey.

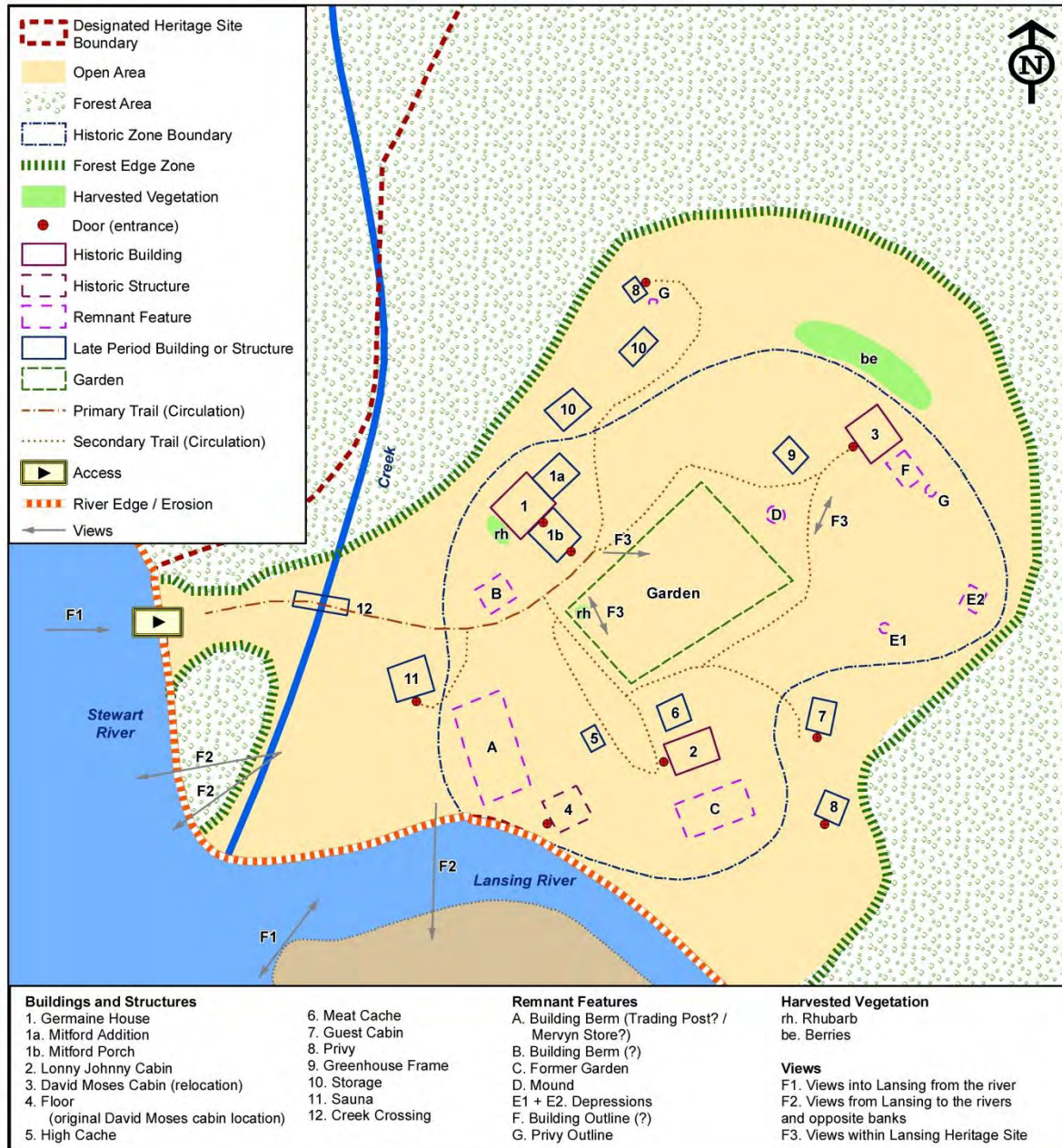
As a result of the site's location and these surrounding conditions, views from the central area of the property are generally blocked by the trees on the north and east side. Views are filtered to the west through the poplars and are open to the south because of the low grasses in the centre of the site. Because of the topography and vegetation, Lansing is a sheltered location with a well-defined edge and an intimate sense of scale and shelter.



## Map 3

## Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan

## Building Locations and Physical Elements of the Site



Map Projection: Yukon Albers NAD83  
Scale: 1: 440

Source: Natural Resources Canada  
Date of Draft Map: March 2017  
Map Producer: Julie Beaulieu

NVision Insight Group

### 1.4.3 Chronology

The reports, *History of Lansing Post, Yukon*<sup>10</sup> and *First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun Trail Documentation Research Project: Lansing Post*,<sup>11</sup> provide an extensive historical record for Lansing Post. These reports are summarized as a chronology with additional information added to the record that has been gathered through the consultation and research process for the management plan. Five key periods in the use and evolution of the physical nature of the site have been identified. A more detailed chronology can be found in Appendix 1.



Photo 6: Yukon Archives. Wilkinson family fonds. #17094. Lansing in the spring, 1979.

The following summary integrates information that is currently available from several sources. There are still several periods when there is little archival or oral history known about the site. And in some cases, there are different dates given for an event. Despite these qualifications, it is possible to trace the ongoing occupation of Lansing over a long period of time.

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<sup>10</sup> Cox, J. (March 1999). *History of Lansing Post, Yukon*. Heritage Branch, Department of Tourism, Government of Yukon.

<sup>11</sup> Winton, A. (March 2016). *First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun Trail Documentation Research Project: Lansing Post*. The First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun.



***Pre-Trading Post Period Prior to 1902***

- History of Lansing Post, Yukon references a NWMP report (October 1900) that speaks to the use of the frozen Stewart River as a travel route used by the ancestors of NND to meet with the First Nations of the Mackenzie River (Sahtu) hunting in the area.
- Oral history connects the site with First Nations and the Sahtu specifically. The First Nation of Nacho Nyäk Dun Trail Documentation Research Project: Lansing Post includes elder Paul Germaine's knowledge of the site use as gathering area and tent village for the First Nation people from Fort Good Hope, on the Mackenzie River. He stated that "people travelled back and forth from Lansing to Fort Good Hope, Fort Good Hope to Lansing, until the border was drawn between the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories [1898], (Gold and Galena, p. 6)". It is described as a trade rendezvous stop on this route.
- Archaeological research conducted by Ruth Gotthardt (1993) and T.J. Hammer (2003) do not document conclusive prehistoric occupation of the site, nor rule out the possibility it was a gathering or habitation area. The archaeological reports cite frequent flooding of the area, as well as the movement of silty and sandy soils from the Stewart and Lansing Rivers, as possible reasons for the loss of archaeological evidence.
- 1883 Samuel Lansing, one of the early prospectors in the Yukon Territory, mined the bars of the Stewart River in 1883. He prospected the Lansing River in 1883 when it received his name.

***Trading Post 1902-1938 (or 1937)***

- 1902 Percival Nash and Frank Braine established the trading post with the help of First Nations people from Fort Good Hope.
- The site is identified as a trading centre and annual meeting place for Northern Tutchone people, as well as their neighbours from the Peel region, Macmillan River, Fort Good Hope, and Fort Norman.
- 1905 (June) Charles Camsell, a government surveyor stayed at Lansing Post, the post of Frank Braine, and mentioned in his records that the post was occupied by a trapper named Frank Williams. Joseph Keele also stopped at the post in 1905 and made notes of the use of Lansing as a seasonal encampment used by the First Nations people of Fort Good Hope. Cox mentioned that there were a half dozen log cabins and gardens at Lansing.
- 1908 Jim and Helen Ferrell took charge of Lansing Trading Post (operated it until 1911, 1912 or 1915 – dates vary in the reports).
- 1911, 1912 or 1915 James Hastings Mervyn, originally from near Stratford Ontario took charge of Lansing Trading Post. Jim Mervyn married Julia Dechilia, from the MacKenzie area, and they raised 11 children at Lansing. The post flourished through until 1920's with at least a dozen permanent cabins.
- References in the Cox report to the Mervyn family; Germaine Family; Lonny Johnny; Ella Moses; David Moses; Cecile David; Et'tsi ts'ò and Mädlin (also known as Myr Lithoon Atsitsaw and Taja).
- 1918 Influenza (Spanish flu) epidemic decimated the indigenous population in many areas of the Yukon. A visiting priest, Father E. LeRay, OMI, describes Lansing as having 100 native residents and a log meeting house for ceremonies. Father LeRay stayed and held ceremonies, mass and instruction. He spent two months there before going to Mayo for four weeks, then to Wernecke.
- 1923 Census lists 110 residents.

- 1924 P. Germaine remembered a potlach or powwow around a fire. The family names associated with Lansing during this time were Nedry, Gateys, Maggie Wood (daughter of Jim Mervyn), Florence (daughter of Jim Mervyn) and husband Pellards, Dowa, Louis Brown and Effie. The cabins in use are Lonny Johnny, Norman Nedry, and 2 used by the Germaine's. Activities included drumming, dancing and stick gambling.
- 1928 Influenza (Spanish flu) – second epidemic in the Yukon.
- 1929 The population is listed as 41 people and many of the residents have returned to Fort Good Hope in the NWT.
- 1936 A devastating flood in June. The Stewart River at Lansing rose 12 feet in 45 minutes. The Post was flooded but nothing was lost, as Jim Mervyn piled his stock high and dry.
- By the late 1930's Jim Mervyn began expanding his business activities in the Mayo area, moving to Mayo via dog team in Jan. 1937. The Mervyn trading post winds down and Mervyn purchases the Binet store in Mayo.
- 1938 Trading post abandoned.

#### ***1939-1976 Informal Visits by community members***

- 1941 The population is listed as 8.<sup>12</sup> Lonny Johnny, Delphinia Allison, and Christine, Helen, Paul, Frank, Joe and Katherine Germaine.

#### ***Wilkinson Period 1976-1979***

- 1976 Jared and Eddie (Edwin) Wilkinson occupy Lansing as part of their trapline.
- 1977 Eddie Wilkinson is killed by a bear near Lansing based on the archival records.<sup>13</sup>

#### ***Mitford/Hunt Period 1979 - present***

- 1979 Bruce Mitford purchased the trapline from Jared Wilkinson. Bruce and Beth Hunt (and two daughters) occupy the site to the present time.

<sup>12</sup> Cox, J. (March 1999). *History of Lansing Post*, Yukon. Heritage Branch, Department of Tourism, Government of Yukon. P.8.

<sup>13</sup> Yukon Archives, (December 1996). *Inventory to the records of the Wilkinson Family Fonds, Accession #86/50*. P. 1.



Photo 7: Yukon Archives. Mervyn-Wood family fonds. Pho 539 98/87 #430. Lansing Creek. [view of Mervyn Trading Post (the building is no longer standing on the site) and exterior activity area]

#### 1.4.4 Current uses and user groups of the Lansing Heritage Site

The current residents of Lansing have lived on the site since 1979 and have raised their two daughters there. They operate the 55 mile (89 km) long trapline with seven cabins on the registered trapping concession, and occupy the Lansing site. Visitors to the site during their time have included family, friends and community members from the Village of Mayo, as well as archaeologists and Yukon government staff who have undertaken field investigations there. A few years ago when a forest fire was only 1.8 miles (3 km) upriver on the Lansing River fire fighters came to Lansing to help.

Tourists from Europe and other places have visited the site during the summer months. Tourists have been assisted by outfitters, flown in upriver and have canoed down the Stewart River. In 2016, no groups of this type stopped at Lansing and in other years, two to three groups have been reported. Visits by tourists are not regulated.

### 1.5 The Planning and Public Consultation Process

This project has been completed in a series of stages.

#### ***August 2016 through January 2017***

*Stage 1: Background Research and Options Report* - The project was initiated by a teleconference hosted by the Lansing Heritage Site Steering Committee. A site visit occurred on August 30, 2016. A community consultation occurred in Mayo on August 30, 2016 and in Whitehorse on August 31, 2016. The site visit, community consultation, and discussions with the Yukon Government and NND staff provided information vital to understanding the history of the site, and its opportunities and challenges. Background research reviewed Lansing's existing reports, books and archival materials, along with a review of Yukon historic site

management plans. The Yukon Government and NND launched a public survey about the site which was open until October 7, 2016. The survey questions were prepared by the project Steering Committee with input from the project consultants. Survey results were analyzed and compiled by the Yukon Government.

A *Lansing Heritage Site Management Planning Draft Options Report* was submitted in January 2017. Project newsletter #1 summarized the purpose of the project, and was circulated to NND and other stakeholders in both print form and available online.

### ***January through May 2017***

*Stage 2: Draft Management Plan* - Following the identification of the preferred option, the project consultants drafted the Heritage Management Plan and submitted it to the Steering Committee on March 29, 2017, along with newsletter #2.

Consultation meetings were held in Mayo and Whitehorse on April 24 and 25, 2017 to provide an overview of the Heritage Management Plan for Lansing. Presentations were made by heritage consultants Wendy Shearer and Chris Grosset of NVision Insight Group regarding the significance of Lansing as a Na-cho Nyäk Dun heritage site, the nature of the resources found there, the challenges facing its future management and a strategy for conserving its character-defining elements and its heritage values in the future. Several members of the community participated in the meetings and raised questions regarding potential changes that may affect the site in the future including resource exploration and continued changes caused by riverbank erosion. A presentation of current and historical images of the site and the key recommendations of the Heritage Management Plan was delivered and newsletter # 2 with a site chronology was provided to those in attendance.

### ***June through November 2017***

*Stage 3: Final Heritage Management Plan* - Based on input from all stakeholders, the project consultants completed the final *Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan*. The final consultation sessions in Mayo and Whitehorse occurred on August 23 and 24, and newsletter #3 was distributed.

The Yukon Heritage Resources Board (YHRB) reviewed the Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan in September as required under the *First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun Final Agreement and First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun Final Agreement Implementation Plan*. The Na-cho Nyäk Dun Council reviewed and approved the Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan on October 17, 2017.

## **1.6 First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun Final Agreement (NNDFA)**

A number of NNDFA provisions are relevant to the planning the Lansing Heritage Site. Chapter 13 of the NNDFA provides general provisions for heritage resources and includes the specific provision that Lansing be designated a Heritage Site at s. 13.4.6.1. Specifically, 13.4.6.1 states:

*The Lansing Heritage Site shall be established as a Designated Heritage Site and the specific provisions in respect of the Lansing Heritage Site are set out in Schedule A - The Lansing Heritage Site attached to this chapter.*

A summary of relevant provisions to management plans from Schedule A is provided at *Appendix 2*.



## 2 Heritage Resources

Section 2 of the Management Plan identifies the opportunities and challenges associated with Lansing. In addition, this section provides details regarding the character-defining elements of the site and conditions as of 2016, as well as referencing the sources of traditional and documentary information for the site.

### 2.1 Identification of Opportunities and Challenges

#### 2.1.1 Opportunities

Lansing Heritage Site has been identified in the NNDFA as a site of heritage value. Lansing has outstanding heritage value because of its long history of traditional and economic use and its contribution to Yukon economic and social history related to the fur trade. During several key periods of time, different residents have left physical evidence of their time on the site. Despite changes over time, including the size and makeup of the building collection, Lansing remains a vital landmark in the region. Its significance requires that best practices be followed in the field of heritage conservation for its care.

The recognition of the Lansing Heritage Site in the NNDFA provides an opportunity for a plan to be prepared with the involvement and support of the community to ensure that the heritage resources on the site are safeguarded and the heritage values associated with these resources are protected and interpreted for the future. Use of Lansing by members of the NND for traditional activities or programs is an opportunity to maintain and increase the cultural and historic significance of the site for this community. Economic opportunities can be developed to benefit NND members, including but not limited to employment and contracting opportunities for the conservation and management of the site, and tourism development options.

#### 2.1.2 Challenges

There are several challenges at the Lansing Heritage Site. Some of the external challenges that may affect the site cannot be controlled through the Management Plan including flooding, forest fires and erosion. However, mitigation measures to lessen the impact of these external conditions form part of the planning approach.

#### ***Flooding***

Significant external conditions that impact the Lansing Heritage Site are the ice dams on the Stewart River and spring thaw conditions that can result in flooding. Flooding is a result of many factors including thaw conditions and snow levels in the watersheds of both the Stewart and Lansing River. The current residents take precautions by flood proofing cabins. Despite this, there have been occasions when floodwaters have impacted the buildings resulting in physical damage and mold that must be dealt with when the flood waters recede.





Photo 8: Yukon Archives. Mervyn family fonds. Pho 244 99/87 #1. [Flood at Lansing. Dinky Mervyn in forefront.]

### **Safe Access**

In the past, Lansing was accessible in the winter via dog sled or skidoo in the winter season. However, the variation in winter ice conditions caused by several factors including changes in the rivers' volume and temperature fluctuations has resulted in the ice being unreliable during the winter season. As a result, the site cannot be accessed in the winter in a safe and reliable manner.

Travel to the site in the summer is challenging because of the rapids and Fraser Falls on the Stewart River. The journey by boat requires knowledge of the safe channels and an experienced boat operator. The journey downriver between Lansing and Mayo typically takes two days with a stop at Fraser Falls. The trip upriver from Mayo may take three days.

Tourists who wish to visit the site on their journey downriver have often been flown in via float plane, dropped above Lansing, and they have been able to canoe down to the site.

The most efficient access method for the NND community and others is via float plane. The use of this method is limited by restrictions on freight weights on each plane and cost.

### **Erosion**

Another condition which impacts on the planning for the site is the nature of the soil and direction of flow at the confluence of the Lansing and Stewart Rivers. The river bank at the south edge of the site has retreated over 98 feet (30 m.) resulting in the disappearance of many building locations and a number of buildings. Adding any new amenities to the site must consider that the erosion of the site is likely to continue and placement of new features and protection of existing structures (such as the Lonny Johnny cabin) may be necessary.

***Forest Fire***

Another condition that affects the planning for the site is the threat of forest fires. In the past, a large fire occurred to the north and close to the site visible in the Wilkinson photo collection. As stated previously, there was a recent fire on the far bank of the Lansing River only 1.5 miles (3 km) upriver. These events are part of the natural regeneration process that ensures the continuation of the forest cover, but they are unpredictable and difficult to prevent.

***Requirements of Managing a Remote Site***

The distance and the difficulty of the travel between Lansing and Mayo in the summer and winter seasons presents a challenge for active management of the site. The current sound condition of the buildings and structures at Lansing is the result of the continual efforts of the onsite residents. As a result of their work, some with the financial support of YG and NND, the buildings are in very good condition. For the next several years the buildings should remain in good condition, with regular maintenance, unless there are unexpected events that impact them. However, eventually the buildings and structures will deteriorate because they are made with natural materials and are exposed to the elements. In addition, the cleared area will become overgrown without active monitoring and concrete actions to safeguard the character-defining elements of the significant cultural landscape.

Deterioration at Lansing occurred after the Mervyn trading post occupation ended and the site was abandoned in 1938. Visitors to the site, after this date and before the Wilkinson brothers arrived to live year-round in the 1970s, noted the steady decline of the site. This type of decline is likely to occur again without ongoing involvement of the NND in managing its future.

***Wildlife Damage***

There is a constant threat of bears and other animals entering Lansing and causing damage to the buildings and structures when the site is unoccupied. Measures to ensure that window and door openings are secured in such a way as to prevent entry are required. Maintaining this protection in both the winter and summer is required. A seasonal on-site care taker will ensure protection from wildlife in the summer and prepare the site for the winter.

***Vandalism or Human Impacts from Over Use***

Increased use of the site may impact the natural and cultural resources of the site. Lansing is located in an environment that is sensitive to disturbance and unmanaged use may result in general deterioration of the site, erosion of trails, and wear and tear to buildings and structures.

## **2.2 Introduction to Lansing Heritage Site's Cultural Landscape and Character-defining Elements**

### **2.2.1 Introduction to Cultural Landscape and Related Resources**

Planning for Lansing is based on its recognition as a significant cultural heritage landscape. The cultural landscape approach involves identifying and evaluating the historic evidence found on the site, as well as considering the values associated with the historic place, which may not be tied to a specific built or

landscape feature. These intangible values recognize Lansing as part of the NND identity and part of the memories of several families who, though they may no longer frequently visit the site, still feel a connection with their ancestors because of the past link to Lansing.

The Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada define a cultural landscape as “a geographical area that has been modified, influenced or given special cultural meaning by people”. Lansing meets this definition. It has a defined geographical boundary established by the rivers and the surrounding forest edge. The site contains many heritage and landscape resources including the structures discussed, as well as the cultivated vegetable garden, an open central area, an informal trail network and outdoor work areas associated with the buildings where activities take place that support daily life in Lansing.

However, Lansing has evolved over time and there is limited documentary evidence of how it was laid out at any particular time. There are two sketches of the site, one prepared by Norman Mervyn in 1999 as he remembered the site from having grown up there (below) and a later field survey plan prepared as part of an archaeological investigation.

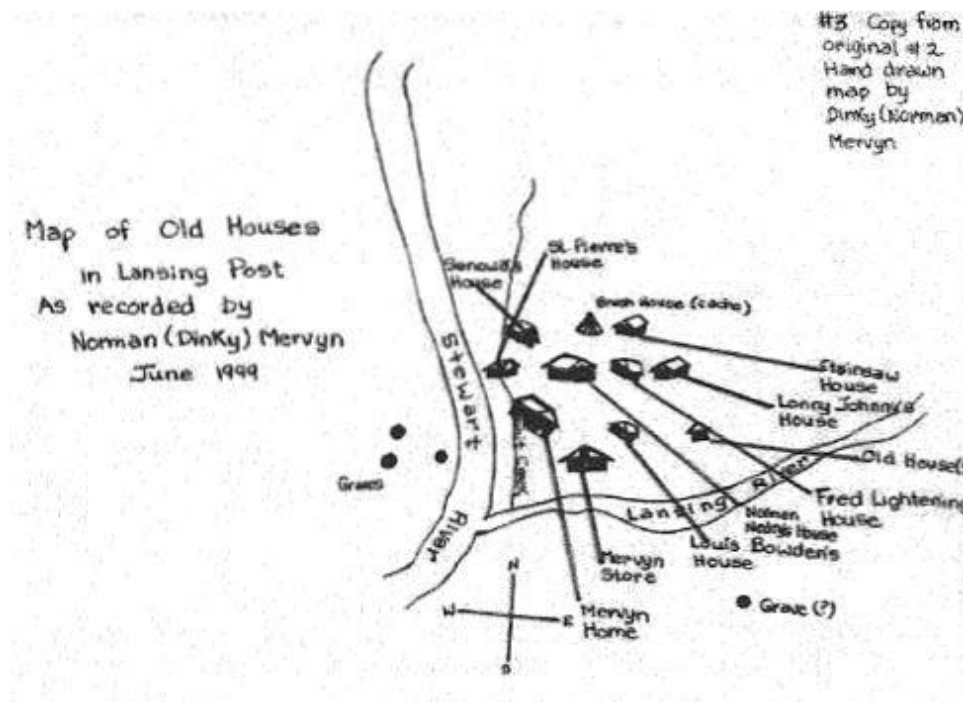


Figure 1: Norman (Dinky) Mervyn sketch map of the old houses in Lansing Post, dated June 1999 <sup>14</sup>

The Cultural Landscape and related resources for Lansing Heritage Site include: Circulation; Visual Relationships; Spatial Organization; Landforms; Vegetation; Water Features; and Ecological Features. These are all related to the character-defining elements, which are discussed more fully in the following section.

<sup>14</sup> Cox, J. (March 1999). *History of Lansing Post, Yukon*. Heritage Branch, Department of Tourism, Government of Yukon. Cover page.



### 2.2.2 Introduction to Character-defining Elements

The *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* define character-defining elements as "the materials, forms location, spatial configurations, uses and cultural associations or meanings that contribute to the heritage value of an historic place, which must be retained in order to preserve its heritage value."<sup>15</sup>

Tangible evidence must be protected, preserved and interpreted in order that the importance of the site is retained. The conservation of the physical resources is also a means to sustain the intangible heritage values associated with the site, namely its important role in the memory and identity of the NND.

As referenced in Section 1.3.2, the following are character-defining elements at Lansing:

- The buildings and structures, which reflect many periods of use and construction techniques;
- The trail and informal path network on the site that connect the buildings and structures with outdoor activity areas;
- The landing on the Stewart River that links the site with the river travel route access point;
- The visual relationships that connect the site with the surrounding area, specifically views down the Stewart River to the distant horizon, views to the far banks of the Stewart and Lansing Rivers from the edge of the settlement area and views within the site across the central open space that terminate at the forested edge of the clearing;
- The spatial organization of the site with an open central area where the majority of the built heritage resources are found surrounded by a defined boundary of the forest and the rivers' edges creating a sheltered setting;
- The vernacular layout of the cabins, storage sheds, privies and other support structures which provides for efficient connection between them while providing outdoor spaces for work and socializing activities around the cabins;
- The relatively flat central area surrounded by the sloped banks of an unnamed creek and the Stewart and Lansing Rivers;
- The vegetation found around and on the site consisting of naturally occurring forest and succession trees and shrubs around the edge, individual shrubs and trees left within the clearing, and deliberately planted plants such as rhubarb;
- The Stewart and Lansing Rivers define the edge of the site and provide access routes to the site;
- An unnamed creek crosses the site;
- The natural environment in which Lansing is situated; and
- The fertile soil, sun exposure, soil moisture regime and sheltered conditions support the activities associated with Lansing.

### 2.3 Character-defining Elements - Buildings and Structures

The buildings and structures are an important character-defining element at Lansing. In spite of changes to the building collection and the physical size of the site over time, there remain many heritage attributes or character-defining elements of the original configuration of Lansing that are of heritage value. The

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<sup>15</sup> *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*, pg. 253.

conservation planning for Lansing Heritage Site is based in part on an understanding of the tangible evidence remaining on the site that has heritage significance and value.

There are several remaining structures onsite that can be seen in the historic photo record of Lansing. They have been cared for and kept in use by means of alterations, additions or repairs during the Mitford/Hunt residency.

Three buildings and one structure are identified as character-defining elements of the Lansing Heritage Site because these contain materials dating from the trading post era of the historic site (*see Map 3: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan – Building Locations and Physical Elements of the Site*): the Germaine cabin, the David Moses cabin (relocated), the Lonny Johnny cabin, and the original floor of the David Moses cabin (located near the present day bank of the Lansing River). The orientation of the extant buildings is generally facing the confluence of the rivers. The door sill of the remaining cabin floor, as well as the front doors of the Lonny Johnny cabin and the David Moses cabin all face towards the south west towards the Stewart River.

The Germaine cabin has a large addition added to its eastern side using salvaged logs from the Mervyn trading post. All the cabins have new roofs added by Bruce Mitford. The relocation and alterations have been undertaken in the period since 1979 (the Mitford/Hunt layer) and have ensured that the original structures have been protected from the inevitable loss caused by erosion along the Lansing River or natural deterioration of organic materials.

The David Moses cabin, which originally sat on the exposed plank floor near the Lansing River bank, has been relocated well away from the bank to the eastern side of the site and had new logs added to replace deteriorated ones.

The materials and detailing of the three remaining log cabins that date from the earlier period of the trading post have heritage importance because they are evidence of traditional log construction.

Other buildings and structures have been added during later periods on the site, including: the sauna, two privies, two storage sheds, the high cache, the meat shed, the greenhouse frame, the plank bridge and the guest cabin.

### 2.3.1 Trading Post Era Buildings and Structures

#### **Germaine Cabin**

This main cabin is the Mitford/Hunt residency. It is composed of three sections: the original Germaine cabin, and two Mitford/Hunt additions, a bedroom and a sunroom. The type of logs and the corner details in two sections of the structure reveal different construction techniques. There has been recent work done on installing a new foundation.

The approximate dimensions of each section are:

- Germaine cabin - kitchen 16'6" x 16'6"
- Bedroom - 12'6" x 21'
- Sunroom - 16' x 15'

The original log cabin, the Germaine cabin, is now used as a kitchen with a stove in the corner and trapdoor accessing a cold storage space and a sand-point for potable ground water. The original door and window openings are not known since several changes have been made to the exterior walls with the addition of a rectangular bedroom on the east side and a sunroom on the south side.



Photo 9: West side of original Germaine Cabin with dovetailed corners.



Photo 10: Germaine Cabin, bedroom and sunroom additions, view from the east.

The original cabin has a gable roof and is of compact size and made of large horizontal logs with dovetailed corners. The logs have been hewn and show a high level of skill in the use of a broadaxe. Dovetails are well formed and remain very tight. The roof of the cabin and the sunroom are covered by polyethylene tarp. The two windows on the west wall have a view to the Stewart River. The corner detail visible at the west, east



and north walls are dovetailed with the ends of the logs flush with the walls. The roof and the roof of the sunroom are covered in a tarp material. The roof over the bedroom extension is sod.



Photo 11: Dovetailed corner, Germaine Cabin, with wood trim covering wall joints.

There is evidence on the original cabin's west log wall above the windows of notches that are now blocked up where the attic floor beams had been inserted. The interior of the main cabin is finished with new board and batten siding and there is a new wood floor. The main entrance to the cabin is from the sunroom by means of an offset door and a large window which provides light into the kitchen in the main cabin from the sunroom. The logs on the west and north wall are hewn flat in contrast to the curved exterior of the logs of the bedroom extension exterior.

The bedroom addition to the Germaine cabin has horizontal log walls with a vertical corner post to support the roof. This detail is seen today in historic log buildings in Mayo and throughout Yukon. The original part of this cabin has dovetailed corners. The older cabins use moss to fill the gap between logs.

The bedroom addition was created by Bruce Mitford reusing logs salvaged from the Mervyn trading post. These logs are approximately 250mm (10 in) in height and have the natural curved exterior or hewn surface exposed. The joints have either moss and/or are covered by thin wooden slats. A corner post is set at each end of the eastern wall. The central section of the east wall is framed and clad with vertical board and batten siding. There are three large windows on the southern wall and two smaller windows on the northern wall. All windows have board protective covers that can be put in place to secure the cabin or hinged shutters. The addition has a shallow pitched sod roof with an overhang on all sides. The interior of the addition has exposed log walls and a board floor and ceiling.

The sunroom addition is a frame structure with a gable roof and board and batten siding below the screened openings that extend around the three sides. The sunroom roof is covered by polyethylene tarp. The gable end is also screened. The interior is unfinished.

The roofs of the three historic buildings at Lansing Post are very similar. All are medium to steep gable roofs consisting of cap logs on the side walls, purlins at the approximate quarter points of the building width and a ridge beam. All three roofs are currently sheathed with rough sawn lumber running from the eave to the peak of the roof. Roof claddings differ from one building to the next. The roof of the David Moses House is extended approximately 8' past the west wall to form a porch or covered space. Otherwise the roofs (structure, sheathing and cladding) extend between 1' and 2' beyond the walls.

The gable ends of all three buildings are logs, likely pinned together with wood dowels as is common in this type of construction.

The bedroom addition to the Germaine cabin has a low pitch gable roof. It consists of cap logs along the side walls and a doubled (stacked) ridge beam. The ridge beam is supported by a log post at the midpoint of its span on the interior of the building. The roof is sheathed with poles sawn in half and placed with their flat sides down, running from the eave to the ridge. This is covered with a thick layer of sod.

The sunroom addition of the Germaine cabin has a medium pitch gable roof. It is lightly framed with rough sawn 2" x 6" rafters.





Photo 12: New bedroom addition to Germaine Cabin, note large logs salvaged from original Mervyn Trading Post.

### ***Lonny Johnny Cabin***

This cabin is in its original location and shows the least amount of repair work. There are indications that modifications have been made over the years in the form of blocking up window openings on the side wall and east walls. The blocked up window opening in the north wall may have previously been a door opening. Generally, the cabin has not had a lot of replacement of the exterior building envelope. The cabin is currently used for storage. The approximate dimensions are 17' x 17'.



Photo 13: Lonny Johnny cabin (right) and screened meat shed (left).

The cabin is compact and made of large squared logs. Many of the logs show tool marks and evidence of being skilfully hewn. The gable roof is covered with corrugated sheet steel roofing material. On the west side, there is an offset door towards the north with a blocked in window above in the gable end. On the north wall is a blocked in window opening that possibly was once a door opening. Another blocked in window opening is found on the south wall. There is a small window on the east wall in the gable end above a lower blocked in opening.

The cabin logs have been set at grade, so that there is constant contact with the soil, which results in deterioration over time. As well, the grade level surrounding this cabin as with the other cabins on the site is generally flush with the bottom log with the soil sloped away from the walls. The grade elevation along the south wall of the Lonny Johnny cabin is considerably higher than the bottom logs.

The corner details of this cabin are half lap joints that extend from the wall surfaces.

The floor is made up of boards laid parallel to the front wall. A broken section in the board reveals that the ground surface is very close to the floor boards with no indication of a cold storage space as is found at the original David Moses cabin location.





Photo 14: Lonny Johnny cabin, east side.



Photo 15: Lonny Johnny cabin with half lap corners extending from the walls, note the soil banked against bottom logs and new logs without appropriate notching below the roof.

### **David Moses Cabin**

The David Moses cabin, currently used as a storage area and workshop, was dismantled from its original location at the river's edge (marked by the remaining timber floor) and reconstructed at the new location on the east edge of the clearing by Bruce Mitford. The approximate dimension of the cabin is 17' x 17', with a 7', 7" cantilevered roof extension.

The historic photos in the archival record contain valuable information about the location and original construction of the David Moses cabin. The location close to the Lansing River bank is still marked by the wood floor. The process used by Bruce Mitford to relocate the David Moses cabin to its new location involved the dismantling of the building and reassembly using the majority of the sound logs in a new location further back in the site.

As part of the reassembly, new timbers were used to replace rotted timbers and new roof decking was added. The cabin is compact with gable ends and roofed in rolled asphalt. An open shed lean-to with a galvanized corrugated metal roof covering was added on the east wall providing covered outdoor storage space.

The cabin roof is cantilevered out from the west wall on 5 round 275mm (10in) diameter roof beams. Historic photos of this frontage show that the cantilevered section was originally supported by vertical posts and a cross beam. This roof extension provided a covered place for the storing of materials and firewood, and a sheltered place for people to socialize. These posts have not been reinstalled in the new location although the sheltered space below the cantilevered roof extension remains.



Photo 16: David Moses cabin, west elevation.



The walls of the cabin are made of large squared logs with moss insulation in the joints between the logs. The corner details vary with dovetailed corners that are flush with the west, north and south side walls and with squared notches that extend from the wall at the south east corner.

There is a central door on the west wall oriented to the clearing with 2 windows, one on either side of the door, and another window on each of the north and south walls. The door and window trim on the north and west walls are un-weathered indicating they are more recent additions to the exterior. On the south side of the roof overhang, a wooden eavestrough is attached.



Photo 17: David Moses cabin south side, with cantilevered roof overhang on the west end and shed lean-to on east end.



Photo 18: David Moses cabin, east end, greenhouse frame and Lonny Johnny cabin in background.





Photo 19: Yukon Archives. Mervyn-Wood family fonds. Pho 538 98/87 #231. [building with outdoor work area and wood pile. Note the original supporting crossbeams for the roof extension].



Photo 20: Dovetailed corner detail.



**Historic Plank Floor**

The historic plank floor with cold storage space access opening is a remnant of the original location of the David Moses cabin that had been disassembled and relocated further from the river bank.

The floor sill contains a notched section on the west side indicating the original location of the entrance door which is oriented to the confluence of the rivers. The floor planks run perpendicular to the front wall. An opening in the south east corner of the floor reveals a cold storage space approximately 1 m. (3 ft.) below the floor.



Photo 21: Berm at former building location. Plank floor of original David Moses house with Lonny Johnny house, meat shed and greenhouse frame against treed backdrop.



Photo 22: Plank floor with access opening to cold storage below.

### 2.3.2 Later Period Buildings and Structures

#### **Guest Cabin**

A guest building was added by Bruce Mitford. It has a small footprint of round logs with notched corners. The upper section of the walls cantilever out from the log foundation. The upper level is clad in vertical boards. Materials used in some of the Mitford additions, including the guest cabin, are composed of salvaged timbers, deadfall trees found adjacent to the site and from further down the Stewart River and transported to Lansing by towing with a boat. The building has a polyethylene tarped roof, windows on both gable ends and a central entrance door on the west end. Removable panels are stored against the foundation for easy installation over the opening.



Photo 23: Guest cabin, west end, David Moses cabin is in the background with vegetation backdrop.



Photo 24: Guest cabin, east end.

#### **Sauna Cabin**

This building was added by Bruce Mitford using poplar logs felled on the site. It is a hexagonal shape with a square sod green roof with a wide overhang. There are no windows and the entrance door is located on the south side oriented to the Lansing River.





Photo 25: Sauna.

### **High Cache**

This structure consists of a frame storage shed mounted on a platform approximately 3.5m (12ft.) tall and accessed by a timber ladder. The high cache is supported on six 300mm (1 ft.) diameter timber posts. A log extension of the ridgeline holds a pulley system for hauling materials to be stored up to the raised platform. The roof structure is covered by a polyethylene tarp. The posts are protected by sheet metal bands made from flattened metal containers about 2.5 m (8ft) from the ground to prevent bears from successfully climbing the structure. The storage of food out of reach of animals and flooding is vital for the survival of the residents.



Photo 26: View to the north across the clearing showing relationships between buildings and structures.

Historic photos from the Wilkinson period show an earlier smaller version of the high cache. The existing high cache has been used by Bruce Mitford as a safe store for the large amount of dog food required for the sled dogs and significantly has been a place of refuge for the family for several days during a spring flood.





Photo 27: Yukon Archives. Wilkinson family fonds. #16743. Lansing 1976. [the high-cache from the 1970s was located beside the remnants of the Mervyn Trading Post].

### ***Screened Meat Shed***

This structure consists of a tarped gable roof, log ridgepole and supported with timber corner posts. At the corner posts, there are angled boards that prevent the structure from leaning. The gable ends are covered with vertical boards and the side walls consist of screen and the lower level is clad with horizontal boards.



Photo 28: Lonny Johnny cabin, meat shed and high cache.





Photo 29: Screened meat shed, Germaine Cabin and fenced garden.

### ***Storage Shed for Firewood***

A storage shed was added by Bruce Mitford and consists of horizontal log slabs on the side and back walls, a tarped shed roof and open frontage with a centre door and widely spaced boards that contain the firewood stored inside and allow air to circulate and dry the firewood. There is a solid board storage shed attached on the eastern side for additional storage of equipment.



Photo 30: Wood storage shed and forest backdrop.



***Storage Shed for Dog Sleds***

This structure was added by Bruce Mitford and consists of round log side walls, sawn log board front wall with a solid board centre door. The steep gable roof is covered with a tarp.



Photo 31: Storage for dog sleds and privy.

***Timber Frame for Greenhouse***

The structure was erected by Bruce Mitford to enhance the productivity of the garden by providing a sheltered environment for growing seeds and plants. The frame itself consists of square timber corner posts and a roof and wall frame of milled lumber. When in operation there is a plastic cover that is installed to cover the roof and walls of the structure.



Photo 32: Greenhouse frame.

**Privies**

The main privy near the Germaine cabin was built by Bruce Mitford and consists of a shed roof and vertical board and batten walls. The centre door has a screened window and is oriented to the east (unlike the other buildings and structures on the site).

Located near the guest cabin, the second privy is built with similar materials and is in the same form as the other privy, but is smaller in size and has a solid board door. It is oriented to the Lansing River.



Photo 33: Privy on north side of site.



Photo 34: South privy by the Lansing river bank.



***Timber Plank Bridge across the Creek***

The bridge consists of two sections. The main bridge section consists of log support beams with sawn board decking placed perpendicular to the direction of the beams. A longer section of a timber structure consists of long planks laid across the stream parallel to the bridge.



Photo 35: Plank bridge over creek.

***Miscellaneous***

Piles of buildings materials, dog shelters, low wood frame and wire fence around the garden and boats stored under covers are stored at various locations onsite.

There are orderly stockpiles of building materials salvaged from earlier buildings found at several locations on the site. As well, there are two dog shelters, metal drums and plastic fuel storage containers, log poles fire hoses and other items stock piled on the site. There are also tools, equipment mounted to the David Moses and Lonny Johnny log cabin walls. Lumber and other equipment are stored below the shed roofs, along the eastern wall of these cabins, or under the lean-to added to the eastern wall of the David Moses cabin. These materials, equipment and tools have been available for reuse in repair and construction projects. All construction work at Lansing relies on bringing the building materials to the site or on the selective harvesting of logs from the surrounding forest environment. Having a store of materials suitable for reuse reduces the amount of material that must be brought to the site.



Photo 36: Central open space with cabins, high cache, garden and outdoor storage, view to the west.

## 2.4 Character-defining Elements - Cultural Landscape Resources

### 2.4.1 Circulation: River Travel Routes and Trail Networks

There are two parts to the circulation systems that affect the cultural landscape at Lansing. One is the river based network of travel routes and the second is the trail network within the site. In the past, the rivers were the only means of accessing the site, by boat in the summer or by dog sled and snowmobile in the winter after freeze-up. This connection with distant lands was not without challenges. In the summer, travelers coming upriver to the site from Mayo encountered first, Fraser Falls and then a series of major rapids, making the journey long and difficult. During the Mervyn years, James Mervyn is reported to have kept two boats, one below Fraser Falls and one above. This removed the work of portaging the boat, in addition to the supplies or trade goods, around the falls. Visitors travelling downriver from the NWT were able to take advantage of the rapid southern flow of the rivers.

As discussed, today the winter conditions are dramatically different than in the past as there is a great deal of variation in the ice conditions. The journey by dog sled or skidoo in the winter months is no longer predictably safe. Travel in the summer months by boat requires an experienced operator knowledgeable about the river channels. Lansing remains most easily accessible by float planes that land on the river during the summer months.



Within the site, there is an informal network of paths that link each of the cabins and structures and connect with a timber bridge to the landing on the Stewart River bank. The paths vary in width with the main routes generally 4 feet (1.2 m) in width with less frequently used routes 2 feet (0.6m). The surface material is compacted soil. The existing paths network continues an earlier pattern evidenced in the archival photos.



Photo 37: Yukon Archives. Wilkinson family fonds. #16757. (ca.1976). [Germaine cabin (far left background), former Mervyn trading post (centre left), David Moses cabin in original location (right), and a garden on the bank of Lansing Creek (no longer cultivated)].



Photo 38: Worn trail from plank-bridge to Germaine cabin.

### 2.4.2 Visual Relationships

Visual relationships describe the connection between a viewer and a landscape or landscape feature (a viewscape), or between the relative dimensions of landscape features (scale). Lansing poses three visual relationships that are significant (*See Map 3: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan – Building Locations and Physical Elements of the Site - Views*):

F1. Views into the site are from the Stewart River at the landing and framed by trees and of the high river bank along the Lansing River.

F2. Views from the site are from the river banks overlooking the Stewart and Lansing River. The focal points of each view are the opposite vegetated river banks and the long view down the Stewart River to the distant horizon.

F3. Views within the site are open and include views to and from each of the buildings and structures.

Views from the site are available from the edges of the settlement area. There are long views south across the Lansing River to the distant shore, southwest down the Stewart River with the distant mountains on the horizon, and west across the Stewart River to the far bank. Views from within the core area all terminate at the vegetation wall that surrounds the site on the north and eastern edges. Unimpeded sightlines within the core area across the settlement area have been maintained to limit unintended interactions with wildlife.

With the erosion of more than 98 feet (30 m) of river bank on the Lansing River side of the site, the visibility and spatial organization of the site have changed significantly from what is evident in the historic photos. Today riverside vegetation and the high river bank block some of the view from the Lansing River on the eastern edge. Views from the Stewart River are similarly filtered by vegetation and a group of poplars on the river bank.

### 2.4.3 Spatial Organization

Lansing is a built environment within a natural setting evident in the collection and placement of buildings and structures around the cleared open space that is its core, with the defined edge of the forest wall and river banks. The use of the site has changed over time as the trading post activity came to an end by 1938. However, the late 20<sup>th</sup> century residents continued the pattern of the original use keeping the buildings and structures in good repair including contemporary storage buildings. (*See Map 3: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan – Building Locations and Physical Elements of the Site*).

The spatial organization component of a cultural landscape looks at the site as a whole in terms of three dimensions, or the volume of spaces found there. In the case of Lansing the location of the high river banks and the green forest wall that surround the settlement area all create a very clear distinction between the boundary of the site and the lower and flatter interior. The cabins are all one storey with a front gable. The tallest structure is the high cache, but even it is lower than the surrounding forest. The organization of the spaces at Lansing takes advantage of its sheltered nature and provides a spacious character in the open core of the site.





Photo 39: High cache trail, garden and Germaine Cabin, against the forest backdrop.

Using an evaluation of the historic photographs and written accounts, it is possible to conclude that its extant, built and landscape resources follow a pattern of historic construction techniques and materials, and a continued occupation by residents who live lightly on the land taking advantage of the natural resources at hand to sustain them and keep the site clear to provide view lines within the site and to reduce unintended interaction with wildlife.



Photo 40: Yukon Archives. Wilkinson family fonds. #16756. Aerial view of Lansing 1976.

The buildings and structures are placed around a central open area with spaces between them for use for work tasks or social activities. Each of the buildings (except the north privy) is oriented to the river or the central area. All of the buildings and structures are visually connected across the central open space and garden. In the historic photos, the central area shows a much lower turf cover, in part a likely result of the tethering of sled dogs and the number of site visitors who carried out daily activities in the outdoor work areas around each cabin. The ground cover today is approximately less than 1 m ensuring that visibility remains generally unimpaired across the interior of the site.



Photo 41: Trail across centre of site towards the east, the edge of the clearing is defined by spruce trees.

It is not possible to determine the exact placement and number of cabins, other structures and features that were found on the site since the viewpoint of each historic photo is not known. However, using the oral histories and the photos as a guide, it is possible to describe a general layout of individual buildings and features. It appears that buildings were surrounded by open areas for work and socializing and all aligned around larger open spaces used for gardens, dogs and larger gatherings. The cabins are generally orientated towards the river.

The historic photos of the site from the period when it was operating as a trading post, as well as during the late twentieth century when the Wilkinson brothers and Bruce Mitford and Beth Hunt lived on the property, show a continuity of uses in the buildings and the many storage, shed and cache structures that are essential in protecting and storing food supplies to ensure they last for months at a time. A produce garden has been a continuous part of the history of Lansing since the Mervyns lived there (1911 to 1937) when a garden was tended by Mrs. Mervyn and the children. Remnants of her rhubarb plants are still found in several locations



on the property. The gardens and the berry harvesting on the nearby lands were essential supplements to the diet of the Lansing residents.

The photos show gardens planted in the cleared areas and alongside some of the buildings. Bruce Mitford recounted that the current garden area showed evidence of being previously cultivated. The historic photos also show work areas adjacent to each cabin where many activities took place, firewood storage, repairs to equipment, relaxing and socializing.



Photo 42: Yukon Archives. Wilkinson family fonds. #17097. Vegetable garden at Lansing, July 1979. [view of garden and David Moses cabin].

The deliberate spatial arrangement of the buildings and structures around a central open space, partially occupied by the garden, is a significant heritage attribute or character-defining element of the site. The oral history references potlatches or gatherings held at Lansing as celebrations with many families at various times of the year. The open space would have likely provided room for a large campfire, dancing, drumming and singing. The orientation of the majority of the remaining log structures suggests that there was an open space with the structures around its perimeter.

The spatial arrangement of the buildings and open space evident in photos from 1976 and from Norman Mervyn's sketch of 1999 shows that a limited number of buildings exist on site today. Many buildings such as the Mervyn post and home have been lost or salvaged for new use. The placement of the buildings in the 1976 photos shows a generous open space between the north of Mervyn's store and also north of the Nedry cabin.





Photo 43: Yukon Archives. Wilkinson family fonds. #17095. Spring 1979. [views at Lansing].

A review of the historic photos from both the Mervyn and Wilkinson periods shows that some of the structures that are on site today, such as the high cache and the screened meat shed, are in similar locations as earlier structures.

#### 2.4.4 Landforms

The landforms or topography of the site includes the central plateau that contains the buildings, structures and garden area. This flat area is surrounded by lower areas, a slough to the north and east and the Lansing River and Stewart River on the south and west sides. These rivers, and the creek that flows through the western section of the site, are considerably lower than the central area. Low glaciated and vegetated mountains surround the site contributing to the sheltered character of its landscape. (*See Map 3: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan – Building Locations and Physical Elements of the Site*).

#### 2.4.5 Vegetation

The varied collection of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plant materials at Lansing form a key part of its cultural landscape. The Lansing site is surrounded by forest and bog.

There is a variety of naturally occurring plants around the Lansing site clearing in the form of spruce and poplar forests and the understorey shrubs with a variety of edible fruits that may be harvested. The vegetation within the site boundary consists of a forested area (primarily coniferous) that are longer lived and slower growing than the deciduous understorey shrubs and trees, creating a vegetation wall that marks

the edge of the clearing. Fast growing deciduous trees and taller shrubs are also integrated in the overall layout of the site, and from archival images this deciduous vegetation appears to be regrowth in the clearing, or succession vegetation. These specimens provide shade and screen or filter views, and provide the vegetation wall that defines the edge of the clearing around Lansing.



Photo 44: Vegetation in low area east of David Moses cabin with a view to the north.

In addition to the intentionally left vegetation, there are also plant materials that have been deliberately cultivated. These are found in the vegetable garden and have included in the past peas and potatoes and currently kale, carrots, beets, chard, lettuce, cabbages and in the green house, tomatoes, cucumbers and zucchini. There are also patches of rhubarb found at the Germaine cabin and in the garden and raspberries along the garden fence.



Photo 45: Garden surrounded by post and wire fence, David Moses cabin and greenhouse frame structure against the forest backdrop.





Photo 46: View south at the creek outlet at Lansing River.

#### **2.4.6 Water Features**

The cultural landscape of Lansing is inherently influenced by its location at the confluence of the Lansing and Stewart Rivers. The landing on the Stewart River is the key link between the site and the surrounding area, which provides a safe harbour for boats and float planes to dock. The photographic record reveals that boats of various kinds are a part of the historic and continuing use of the site, providing for seasonal access.

The small creek that flows through the site provides a water source for use on the site to irrigate gardens and for fire suppression. During the Mitford/Hunt period, potable water has been accessed by a sand point with a cistern and hand pump in the main cabin.





Photo 47: Yukon Archives. Wilkinson family fonds. #17094. Spring 1979. [unnamed creek].

### 2.4.7 Ecological Features

The natural environment at Lansing is a key component of the cultural landscape. The southern exposure of the central core and garden area, the fertile soil and beneficial moisture regime in terms of rain and snow cover, the sheltering effect of the surrounding forest and the ample water supply from the adjacent rivers to the on-site creek that together create a supportive setting for the activities historically to have taken place there and are continuing there today.

The Stewart and Lansing Rivers are constantly impacted by natural erosion and sediment deposit along their banks, and ice movement and annual flooding. (see *Map 1: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan – Regional Context*; *Map 2: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan – Site Context Scale*; *Map 3: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan – Building Locations and Physical Elements of the Site*).



Photo 48: View west of an unnamed creek and far bank of Stewart River.

The site is close to a dependable source of food, water and firewood. The location within the larger landscape allows the trapline to continue to take advantage of the varied habitat around the site and the wildlife that it supports.



Photo 49: Central open space view to the north east from the berm of the former trading post.





Photo 50: Yukon Archives. Wilkinson family fonds. #16769. [Aerial view of Lansing 1977].



Photo 51: Trail to landing area.



## 2.5 Archaeological Resources

Archaeological resources for the Lansing Heritage Site include archaeological sites and archaeological objects, which are fully or partially in the ground (as defined by the Historic Resources Act).

Remnants of original building and structure locations evidenced in the berms and depressions on the site indicate past human activity because of the size, location and form. (These are separate from the natural landform found around the perimeter of the cultural zone.)

It is certain that the erosion of the river banks, loss of land and flooding has impacted the archaeological record at Lansing. Despite these losses, there are remnants of several building and structure locations within the site. These are evidenced in the berms on the land that indicate places where soil was piled against the lowest log of the cabin (such as found at the cabin of Lonny Johnny).

Other land form features include depressions which indicate an earlier location of a cabin, cold storage access space or privy.

## 2.6 Natural Resources adjacent to the Lansing Heritage Site and in the NND Traditional Area

The NND lands in the immediate context of Lansing consist of extensive forested and bog lands that support a wide range of animals that traditionally provided opportunities for hunting and trapping, as well as berries for harvesting and a source of timber and firewood for the residents and visitors to Lansing. Some fishing was also available close to Lansing. The surrounding forests continue to be populated by bear, moose, and to a lesser degree, lynx and marten. These animals have been a traditional source of fur for trade purposes and moose hide preparation has been a traditional activity at Lansing.

In addition to the flora and fauna at Lansing and the surrounding area, there is an ample source of fresh water from the Stewart and Lansing Rivers and an unnamed creek.

## 2.7 Documentary and Other Resources

There are an impressive number of historic photos available in the Yukon Archives primarily from family collections recording daily life during the Mervyn and the Wilkinson occupation of Lansing. These photos provide an illuminating view of the people and the buildings, structures, outdoor spaces and activities that took place there over a long period of time. These photos are catalogued (Lansing Post Historic Site: Bibliography and Chronology compiled by Helene Dobrowolsky [Midnight Arts] for Yukon Government, Dept. of Tourism and Culture, Historic Sites in November 2016) and accessible through the Yukon Archives.

There are also several archaeological reports that have been prepared with the support of the Yukon Government that contain chronological histories of the site. In addition to these primary sources of information, there are several secondary sources of information in the form of local histories.

All documentary and other resources referenced for the Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan are listed in the *Bibliography*.



### 3 CONSERVATION AND DESIGN GUIDELINES

Section 3 of the Management Plan describes the approach to management for Lansing including the conservation zones, proposed site development plan, and requirements for protection of heritage resources, and key consideration for use of the site. The conservation and design guidelines, including management actions and implementation, will be the responsibility of the NND.

In summary, the starting point for the approach is to recognize that NND history and traditional uses of Lansing are an integral part of the Lansing Management Plan. Within this context, other layers of historic and current activity can also be recognized. The main recommendation is that the current heritage resources at Lansing be conserved allowing

for rehabilitation and taking into account that the site will continue to evolve over time. In this vision of Lansing, the site remains in use. Moreover, there are recommendations for the addition of some visitor amenities and programming. It is recommended that these occur in a way that protects the significant heritage resources and values at Lansing.

#### 3.1 Introduction to the Conservation Approach

The *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* contains an orderly summary of conservation principles, definitions and a planning process that is the foundation of best practices in the heritage field today. The document includes accepted definitions of conservation and other terms in common use to convey clear meanings that can guide how significant heritage sites such as Lansing are managed.

Conservation is an overarching term that includes several potential treatment strategies: Preservation, Restoration, and Rehabilitation. Separately or in combination these strategies may be used to safeguard, manage and interpret the significance of the heritage property. (*Refer to Glossary*)

The treatment or combination of treatments that is selected varies based on the site's reasons for significance, its heritage values, and the collection of the character-defining elements that require management in order to safeguard the heritage values and extend the physical life of the site. Determining which treatment is appropriate is based on the integrity of the heritage resources, their condition and the proposed use of the heritage site.

- **Preservation** is a treatment that involves minimal change to the current form and materials of the heritage resources. It protects the resources from further deterioration by creating a stable environment and maintenance activities. It may involve short and long term actions all aimed at safeguarding the heritage property and it generally does not involve adding new features or restoring features previously found on the site. The intention of preservation work is to ensure that

the heritage values of the historic place are protected through the careful treatment of the character-defining elements.

- **Restoration** is a treatment that is appropriate if there is a specific period of activity on the heritage site that embodies its heritage significance. Restoration may involve removing later layers of activity that do not have heritage significance and that detract from the character-defining elements of the significant period. The key actions of restoration are revealing, recovering or representing the site at a particular point in time.
- **Rehabilitation** is a treatment that accommodates continued or compatible new use of the historic place. Any additions or alterations that are considered must be carefully planned to ensure that the heritage value of the resources and the site are respected. Most sites are able to have amenities added to enhance safety, security and barrier free access for a range of visitors when these modifications follow the intention of the Standards and Guidelines for new work to be compatible with, distinguishable from and subordinate to the existing heritage fabric. The same approach is to be used as a guide when other new initiatives are applied to heritage sites such as energy efficiency and sustainability.<sup>16</sup>

As discussed, the Lansing Heritage Site is an organically evolved continuing cultural heritage landscape. This means that all the physical evidence on the site that dates from a continuum of occupation has heritage value. Returning the site to any early period of time would require removal of later layers of activity that have heritage value associated with them.

Based on the nature of the resources at Lansing Heritage Site, it is an appropriate conservation approach to ensure the site continues to evolve over time with compatible new uses that do not detract from its current configuration.

In the case of Lansing, there are some natural forces at work such as annual flooding and river bank erosion that will likely continue. The Management Plan cannot stop these processes, but it can ensure that appropriate measures are planned to safeguard the site as much as possible. In the past, the David Moses cabin has been relocated further into the site in order to save it from the encroaching river bank. In the process of doing this work, repairs were made to the walls and roof and the cabin has been kept in continued use. This work demonstrates a conservation approach that could be considered appropriate in the long term at Lansing if other significant heritage resources are threatened.

Based on the heritage value of Lansing it is appropriate to select rehabilitation as the primary treatment for the site as a whole in order to carefully integrate new features that will aid in interpreting the significant historic activities that took place there. Rehabilitation will allow for the sensitive addition of minor amenities to accommodate visitors from the NND community and others. The form and placement of these amenities such as signage, tent platforms, and possibly an additional privy is to be carefully planned to ensure that they are inserted into the evolved heritage landscape without removing character-defining elements or detracting from Lansing's form and heritage values.

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<sup>16</sup> *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places*, pg. 15-17.



Given the nature of the built, landscape and archaeological resources, the treatment of preservation of specific resources is also appropriate. For example, the berms and depressions that are physical evidence of the locations of earlier buildings should be retained and not disturbed by the placement of new amenities trails or signage.

Conservation approaches summary for Lansing:

- Ensure the character-defining resources are protected, retained and considered in any action that is undertaken on the site. Consider that there are several layers of activity on the site spanning a long period of time. These later layers have followed the spatial pattern already established in the layout and placement of the various buildings and structures at Lansing. All layers have added heritage value to Lansing and evidence from each period form the character-defining elements that are to be protected. Do not remove evidence of later layers of activity.
- Undertake minimal interventions to safeguard the character-defining elements. This may involve regular monitoring and maintenance of the roof coverings rather than undertaking roof replacement to prevent water infiltration into the buildings' interiors.
- Base the maintenance and repair work that is needed to protect the heritage resources on a comprehensive inventory, documentation and evaluation of the condition, materials, and form of the character-defining elements.
- Plan that new additions or alterations to the site improve visitor amenities or accessibility. Ensure that these new works do not impact on any of the existing character-defining elements.
- Plan for work to be undertaken in phases ensuring that short term actions are aimed at public safety and stabilization of the buildings and structures. This may involve ensuring that they are secured from animal or flood damage when the caretaker is not on the site.
- Ensure that work undertaken on the built heritage resources is completed by individuals who are trained with the appropriate expertise in repairing or maintaining historic log structures.

### 3.2 Protection of Lansing's Heritage Values

The Lansing Management Plan identifies actions that are appropriate to ensure that the physical resources are safeguarded, rehabilitated and interpreted for the community and visitors alike. By conserving the evidence of past activity and ensuring that it is properly protected and cared for, the associated heritage values are also protected. (*See Map B: Map 3: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan – Building Locations and Physical Elements of the Site; Map 4: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan – Site Development Plan*).

The overall treatment recommended for Lansing is rehabilitation, which involves a range of preservation and improvements aimed at maintaining and stabilizing the current character-defining elements and at the same time allowing the site to transition from a family base camp to a destination for the NND and visitors from elsewhere.

The goal of the treatment is to ensure that the design and placement of new amenities do not detract from the character-defining elements on the site and are carefully inserted in the site so as to minimize disturbance of the existing heritage fabric.

The approach recognizes that there will continue to be changes over time at Lansing. These changes will be managed so that the heritage values associated with the site are respected in any planning decisions.

The following General Standards for Preservation, Rehabilitation and Restoration<sup>17</sup>, taken from the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*, will be considered for all site development, conservation, rehabilitation or preservation at Lansing Heritage Site. The Standards are not presented in a hierarchical order. All standards for any given type of treatment must be considered, and applied where appropriate, to any project.

1. Conserve the heritage value of an historic place. Do not remove, replace or substantially alter its intact or repairable character-defining elements. Do not move a part of an historic place if its current location is a character-defining element.
2. Conserve changes to an historic place that, over time, has become character-defining elements in their own right.
3. Conserve heritage value by adopting an approach calling for minimal intervention.
4. Recognize each historic place as a physical record of its time, place and use. Do not create a false sense of historical development by adding elements from other historic places or other properties, or by combining features of the same property that never coexisted.
5. Find a use for an historic place that requires minimal or no change to its character-defining elements.
6. Protect and, if necessary, stabilize an historic place until any subsequent intervention is undertaken. Protect and preserve archaeological resources in place. Where there is potential for disturbing archaeological resources, take mitigation measures to limit damage and loss of information.
7. Evaluate the existing condition of character-defining elements to determine the appropriate intervention needed. Use the gentlest means possible for any intervention. Respect heritage value when undertaking an intervention.
8. Maintain character-defining elements on an ongoing basis. Repair character-defining elements by reinforcing their materials using recognized conservation methods. Replace in kind any extensively deteriorated or missing parts of character-defining elements, where there are surviving prototypes.
9. Make any intervention needed to preserve character-defining elements physically and visually compatible with the historic place and identifiable on close inspection. Document any intervention for future reference.

#### ***Additional Standards Relating to Rehabilitation***

10. Repair rather than replace character-defining elements. Where character-defining elements are too severely deteriorated to repair, and where sufficient physical evidence exists, replace them with new elements that match the forms, materials and detailing of sound versions of the same elements.

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<sup>17</sup> Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada, pg. 22-23.

Where there is insufficient physical evidence, make the form, material and detailing of the new elements compatible with the character of the historic place.

11. Conserve the heritage value and character-defining elements when creating any new additions to an historic place or any related new construction. Make the new work physically and visually compatible with, subordinate to and distinguishable from the historic place.

12. Create any new additions or related new construction so that the essential form and integrity of an historic place will not be impaired if the new work is removed in the future.

### 3.3 Levels of Intervention

The definition of conservation that is the foundation of the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* involves a wide range of potential actions and processes that may all be considered conservation activities. There is a range of activities from minimal interventions such as surveying, recording, inventory and documentation, condition assessment, regular maintenance, monitoring and mothballing or stabilizing in anticipation of future works. More involved activities may include active preservation or repair of any damaged or missing parts. They may also include rehabilitating the site by adding new features for accessibility, interpretation or amenities to support visitors. These actions may also be considered conservation activities since they ensure that the historic place remains in use.

To determine which approach to undertake requires understanding the nature of the heritage resources on the site, their condition, and their priority for conservation. Selecting an approach that safeguards the heritage resources from damage or decline with the minimum intervention is highly recommended. Undertaking works that are more involved requires an implementation strategy to ensure that the work is done in manageable phases appropriate to the schedule and budget and ensures that work proceeds in an orderly fashion so that work done in an early phase does not have to be redone to accomplish a subsequent phase.

The conservation work at Lansing requires:

- a detailed work plan;
- recognition of the type of expertise required to complete the work; and
- a logistics plan to make sure that all the equipment and supplies that will be required for the work are transported to the site.

#### Key Action:

- At Lansing, all the character-defining elements should be inventoried and added to a comprehensive site survey. A condition assessment should be undertaken for the buildings and structures in order to identify which will require priority treatment to prevent any further deterioration. This information will form the key foundation of the Conservation Management Plan and as new rehabilitation activities are undertaken the inventory document should be updated to reflect the changes on the site.



### 3.4 Proposed Site Development Plan

The Site Development Plan is a comprehensive plan for Lansing Heritage Site that is based on a foundation of protecting and retaining all the built, cultural landscape and archaeological resources found there. (See Map 4: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan – Site Development Plan).

The Site Development Plan follows several of the *Standards of the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*. For example, there will be minimal intervention on the site and any of the additions will be planned so that they could be removed at some point in the future if desired. The focus in the Site Development Plan is to retain and repair with appropriate materials any of the buildings and structures. Following the standards, it is recommended that new additions or alteration be subordinate, distinguishable and compatible with the original historic fabric.

The Site Development Plan, by retaining and interpreting the long history of Lansing, indirectly protects and interprets Lansing's key contribution to the heritage of the Na-cho Nyäk Dun in terms of their identity and memories.

The Site Development plan has a primary goal to create a site of memory that will follow current best practices in the field of conservation of historic places and at the same time allow and invite visitors from the community and from afar to visit the site.

Map 4

# Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan

## Site Development Plan

Note: same legend as Map. 3 - but with the following additions

Trails to be maintained annually:

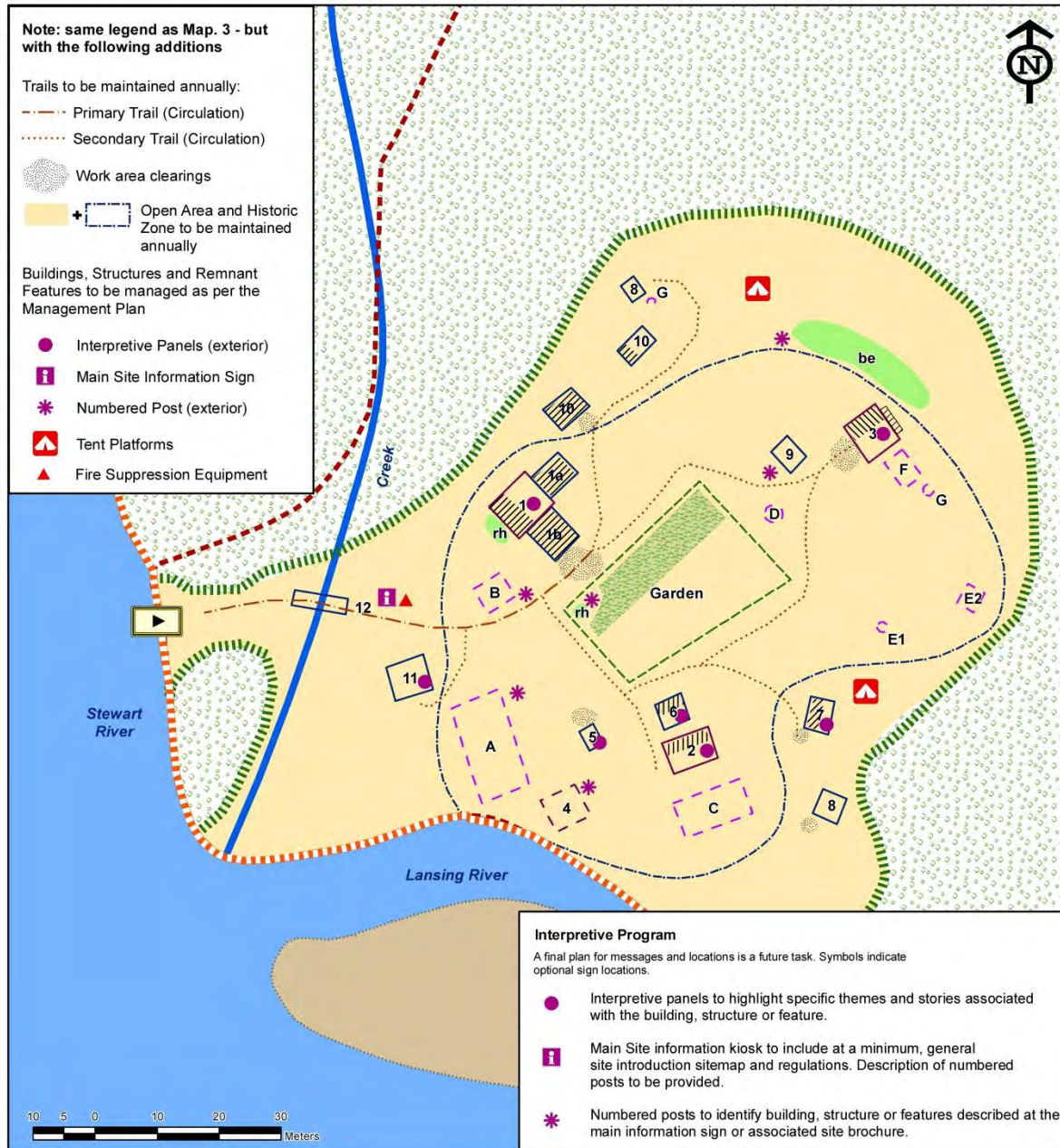
- Primary Trail (Circulation)
- Secondary Trail (Circulation)

Work area clearings

Open Area and Historic Zone to be maintained annually

Buildings, Structures and Remnant Features to be managed as per the Management Plan

- Interpretive Panels (exterior)
- Main Site Information Sign
- Numbered Post (exterior)
- Tent Platforms
- Fire Suppression Equipment



Map Projection: Yukon Albers NAD83  
Scale: 1: 440

Source: Natural Resources Canada  
Date of Draft Map: March 2017  
Map Producer: Julie Beaulieu

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To accomplish this goal, all the buildings and structures currently on the site will be retained and undergo further detailed investigation. The condition of the building and structures will be documented and a detailed inventory of character-defining elements will be undertaken. Recommendations for future work will be made on the detailed investigation and condition assessment (*See “Special Projects” in Section 4 - Planning for the Appreciation of Lansing’s Heritage*).

The intention of the Site Development Plan is to incorporate new features for visitors such as tent platforms, privies and interpretive signage. The placement, scale, materials and form of all new additions or structures at Lansing Heritage Site will be carefully considered in order to ensure that the visitor is able to understand how this evolved cultural landscape has changed over time.

There will be a requirement for ongoing use of the site by a seasonal caretaker. During visits the caretaker will occupy the Germaine cabin as a shelter and use the existing storage structures for the tools and equipment necessary for the ongoing monitoring, repair and maintenance of the heritage resources.

The central area of the site contains a vegetable garden tended by the current residents. While there are indications that gardens were found at other locations on the site in the past, the Site Development Plan does not include the cultivation and planting of the garden plot. This notion is based on the plan that the caretaker will visit the site throughout the spring, summer and fall to monitor the site and undertake regular chores. These include securing and flood proofing the cabins by installing the window and door covers so that damage by animals and floods will be minimized. The open space that contains the garden is to be retained and interpreted as to its past use. This will involve retaining the post and wire fence and creating a turf cover that is maintained within the fence to prevent the establishment of woody shrubs. Clumps of perennial rhubarb that are located at the Germaine cabin and within the garden are to be retained. This continues the character-defining element of the unimpaired visibility across the Historic Zone, allowing visitors to overlook the central core, an important safety feature. Retaining the garden outline also leaves an area available for people to gather in the centre of the site.

**Key Actions:**

- The seasonal presence of a site caretaker is important to provide a minimal level of heritage resource management and human safety management on the site
  - The caretaker will repair/remove any hazards associated with the buildings in keeping with the conservation approaches outlined in this plan. When a building or structure is identified as a hazard, access will be blocked until the condition is stabilized, the hazard is addressed or rehabilitation is completed.
  - Annual opening and closing of the site, including removing window coverings at the beginning of the season and replacing them before leaving the site at the end of the season.
  - A fire management plan is to be developed and fire protection equipment, such as pails and shovels, should be accessible on site at all times.
  - Prevent vegetation overgrowth and the collection of debris that may provide fuel for wild fires. “Harvestable vegetation” within the Cultural Zone, including berry shrubs and rhubarb patches, must be maintained and should not be cleared unless regrowth is presenting a hazard to the site. If overgrowth of “harvestable vegetation” requires maintenance, the vegetation should be thinned but not completely removed.



- Annually clearing of grass and small shrubs around the built structures is required.
- Annual clearing of the primary and secondary trails through the site, and the “work area clearings” in front of each of the cabins, is required.
- Semi-annual clearing of the open space for regrowth shrubs and small trees is required.
- Current privies should be maintained for basic sanitation. If visitor access is to be increased in the future, an additional privy will be developed for designated camping locations identified in the Site Development Plan.

### 3.5 Proposed Conservation Zones

In order to understand the varied resources on the site, an overall zoning exercise has been undertaken. The purpose of zoning evaluations for a site is to identify resources with similar characteristics and where these resources are located on the site and its adjacent lands. (See Map 5: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan – Conservation Zones).

Through the identification of zones by characteristics it is possible to apply conservation or design guidelines within areas of the site that will maintain character-defining attributes, and guide the management and regulation of uses/activities within each area of the site. Another purpose of zones is to identify which areas on the site are rich in historical evidence and are therefore very sensitive to continued change.

As a result of this evaluation for the Lansing Heritage Site several defined zones have been identified:

- **Natural Zone**
- **Cultural Zone, which includes the Historic Zone and the Access Zone.**

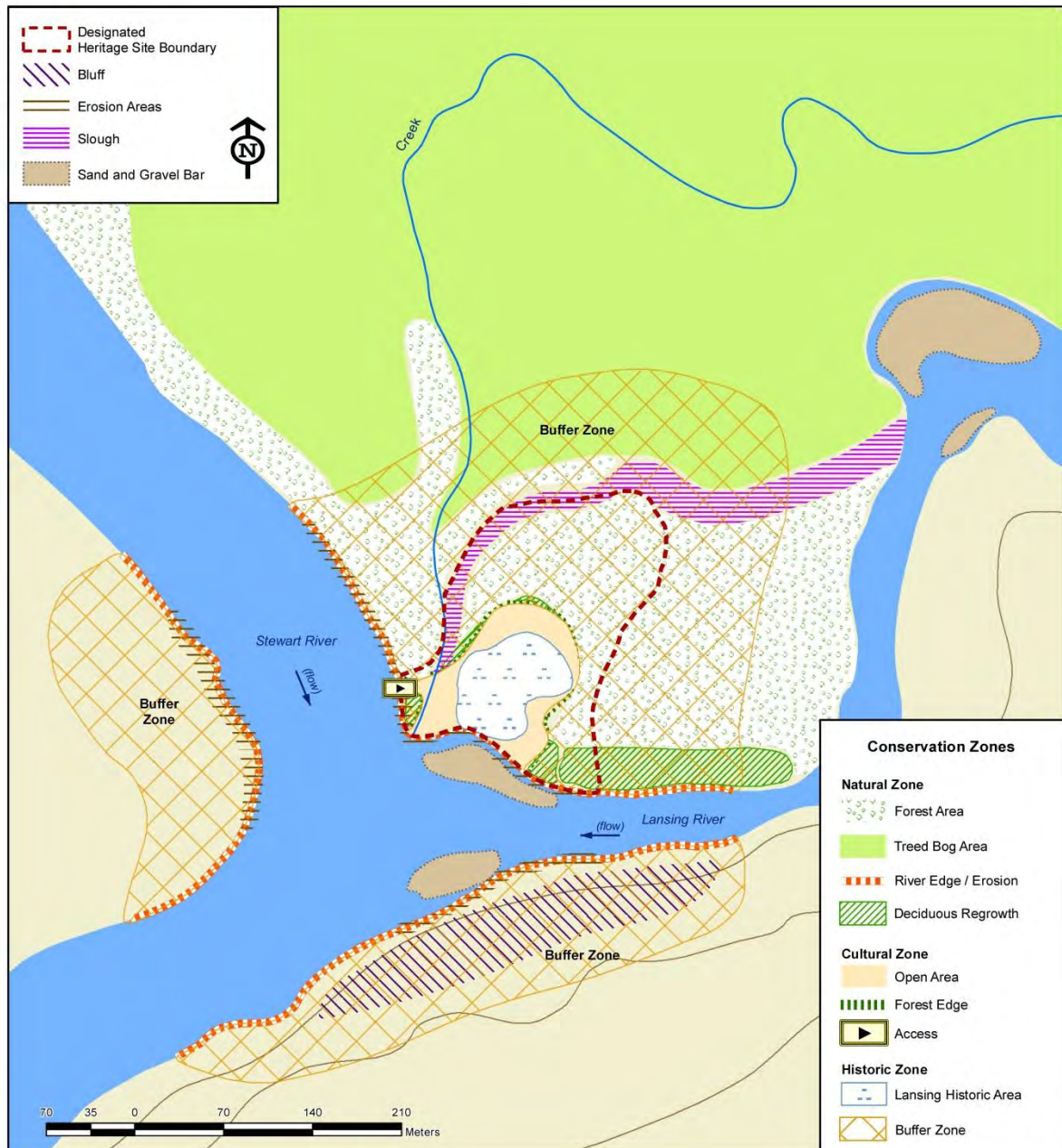


Photo 52: High cache with trail to wood pile and view across the Lansing River.

Map 5

# Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan

## Conservation Zones



### 3.5.1 Natural Zone

This zone includes a large area found within and adjacent to the Lansing Heritage Site boundary. The character of this zone consists of forested lands primarily consisting of spruce trees and deciduous understorey shrubs and small trees particularly at the forest edge. Included in this zone is the extensive forested area that is continuous within the Designated Heritage Site Boundary, and extends for considerable distance around the site. The uninterrupted forest cover that surrounds Lansing is evident from the air when arriving by float plane.

The extent of the natural zone includes the forested river banks on the opposite banks of the Stewart and Lansing Rivers from the Lansing Heritage site, outside of the Designated Heritage Site Boundary. These banks are part of the important views from the site.

The Natural Zone is where the natural processes dominate and the Natural Zone undergoes annual changes caused by ice, flooding and erosion, and deposition of sand and gravel caused by the uncontrolled flows in the rivers. Many of the changes are gradual but the incremental effect of the bank erosion and deposit has had a major impact on the historic place over time. There is little evidence of human intervention within the forest. It is here that trees mature and die or are blown over in wind storms. Some of the deadfall trees have been/may be harvested for use by the residents of Lansing but the overall impression of the Natural Zone is that natural forces are the primary elements of change that take place.

### 3.5.2 Management Approaches within the Natural Zone

Conservation activities within the Natural Zone are intended to allow for the uninterrupted natural processes at work to continue. This means that within the forest area, deadfall trees are left on the ground to allow them to deteriorate enriching the soil and providing habitat for wildlife. The exception to this minimal approach is when the mature tree is a candidate for a cultural use such as being harvested for logs or timber for building repair or construction of new amenities (signage posts, tent platforms, privy), or as a source of firewood.

This minimalist approach to conservation is based on an initial stage of inventory and documentation of the existing conditions. For example, it is important that a baseline of information is prepared about the site. This involves preparing a survey with dimensions and spot elevations of the topography of the site recording items such as the edge of the forest and the top and bottom of the river banks. The information collected is essential in monitoring how quickly the natural forces are impacting on the historic place.

#### Key Actions: Natural Zone

- Regular monitoring of the natural areas is recommended to identify as early as possible any sudden changes in the environmental conditions on and around the historic place. This will allow for planning an appropriate response to ensure the short and long term protection of the character-defining elements.



- The encroachment of the forest can be more easily controlled than the bank erosion. Regular removal of the understorey woody shrubs that grow at the forest edge as the early stage of forest succession will ensure that the limit of the forest vegetation is retained close to the current location.
- Harvesting of trees for construction or firewood should be planned so that the defined edge of the forest that is a character-defining element of the historic place is retained.
- Retaining the existing limit of the river bank is much more problematic and the mitigation strategy that will lessen the impact of the constant erosion of the bank is to relocate further back into the site any character-defining elements that may be threatened. Prior to relocation, each of the elements must be measured, documented in photos and text, and marked on the site survey. A photographic record of the disassembly and relocation process should be created to assist in the reassembly process.
- Trails may be retained through the Natural Zone to access the trapline and the lands beyond Lansing. Where trails enter the Cultural Zone ensure that the opening through the forest edge is minimal in order to retain the visual appearance of the edge.

### 3.5.3 Cultural Zone

The Cultural Zone is made up of the human made clearing that contains the majority of the buildings and structures. It is defined by the forest edge and the banks of the Stewart and Lansing Rivers. Within its boundary are cleared lands that are made up of open grassed areas, pockets of vegetation regrowth, and cultivated land. Archaeological resources in the form of berms and depressions are identifiable in the zone.

#### **Historic Zone**

The central core area of the zone, identified as the Historic Zone, contains the concentration of buildings and structures that have heritage value associated with the evolved cultural heritage landscape. This Zone contains the log buildings and structures from several periods of use on the site and many landscape features such as the garden, the outdoor work areas around the cabins, the trails network and the views or visual relationships with the surrounding lands. The Historic Zone is very sensitive to changes.

#### **Access Zone**

The Access Zone is also part of the Cultural Zone and is a vital link between the river and the site. It is here at the access landing that visitors and residents are connected with the site whether they arrive by boat or float plane. The gradual bank on the Stewart River leads directly across the plank bridge to the heart of the site. There is a primary trail that links the access landing with the main Germaine cabin and a network of secondary trails that connect with the other buildings and structures in the Historic Zone.

### 3.5.4 Management Approaches within the Cultural Zone

The Cultural Zone has been used in the past for many purposes, an area for tethering sled dogs, outdoor work areas associated with the buildings and gardens. The resulting open nature of the Cultural Zone is a character-defining element and one that provides good visibility for the safety of the residents. Since the cultural heritage value of Lansing is evidenced in the physical resources on the site all the current buildings, structures and landscape features are to be rehabilitated to allow for continued use by the community and

visitors from elsewhere. Rehabilitation as a conservation treatment involves retaining the existing built heritage features and allowing for sensitive additions and alterations that may be necessary to accommodate new uses.

The conservation recommendations for the Cultural Zone are based on recognizing that there is a core area, the Historic Zone with the concentration of built and landscape features and that area is surrounded by the open clearing. This open area is an appropriate location for the addition of visitor amenities such as signage, tent platforms and possibly a privy.

The Access Zone is located within the Cultural Zone and consists of the gradual sloped bank on the Stewart River where it is possible to land and unload a float plane or boat. This landing is connected by means of a wide trail to the main cabin in the Historic Zone. The Access Zone is the location where it is appropriate to add signage that introduces the visitor to the site. It is here that a site map may be located and any regulations that apply to visitor behavior should be placed. The identification sign, site map and the regulatory signage should be constructed in durable materials, visible in the landscape setting but not detracting from the special visual character of Lansing.

**Key Actions: Cultural Zone**

- A detailed inventory and documentation of each of the character-defining elements is required as a baseline for planning future work.
- Annual clearing of circulation paths; as required clearing of open space for the removal of regrowth and, reduce potential wildfire fuel sources, and to maintain visual site lines.
- Increased visitation to the site should not be actively encouraged until the buildings are fully documented, safe pathways identified and preliminary decisions made about the extent to which the site will be preserved.
- Informational signage will include standard regulatory and safety messages, permitted and prohibited activities.
- Online information about the site should identify its visitor regulations, potential hazards, and visitor “use at own risk” message.
- In accordance with the NNDFA, 13.8.7.1, “A Person who accidentally discovers a Heritage Resource on Settlement Land of the First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun shall take such steps as are reasonable in all the circumstances to safeguard the Heritage Resource and shall report as soon as practicable that discovery to the First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun”; and under Special Provisions 13.8.7.4 to 13.8.7.6 concerning “documentary heritage resources” discovered by or report to the NND.

**Key Actions: Historic Zone**

- A detailed inventory and documentation of each of the character-defining elements is required as a baseline for planning future work.
- Annual monitoring of built structures will be completed to report on stability and condition.
- This inventory will include for each building an annotated set of drawings showing the materials and construction details and will identify which parts of the building are more recent repairs or additions. The inventory will also assess the condition of the materials with special attention paid to the building envelope, (roof, walls, foundation and door and window openings).

- Using the Condition Assessment as a starting point, it is possible to plan for repairs to address short term and long term issues. A great deal of work has already been done on the Germaine and David Moses cabins so monitoring of their condition is recommended to determine which conservation activities are required.
- The Lonny Johnny cabin has had some repair work undertaken. Some of the side wall logs are showing signs of weathering and rot. This cabin should also be monitored to plan conservation activities. However, because of its condition, it is anticipated that repair work may be required sooner than the other two cabins.
- It is recommended that the Germaine cabin be used by the caretaker while he or she is on site. As well, it is necessary that when the caretaker is not on-site that the buildings be secured against damage by animals or flooding. New door and window covers may be necessary to secure the buildings. Any additions such as these should be undertaken without removing or altering the existing building fabric and the changes should be made so that they are fully reversible without damaging the existing structures.
- Conserving log buildings and structures should be guided by the sections on Buildings and on Materials particularly Section 4.5 2 Wood and Wood Products contained in the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*. As well, work that is done on the buildings and structures at Lansing should be undertaken with the involvement of individuals trained in the appropriate construction and maintenance techniques suitable for designated heritage sites. The type of hands-on training that has been undertaken at Rampart House and at Fort Selkirk provides the type of expertise that is recommended.
- Any new additions in this area are to be designed and constructed so as to not detract with the other character-defining elements in the zone and are to be located with a minimum 6.5m (20ft.) setback from any archaeological resources.
- The size, materials and form of new additions should be compatible with, distinguishable from and subordinate to the other buildings and structures on the site. Recommended building materials include local logs and timber harvested from within the surrounding forest while ensuring that the forest edge remains intact.
- New circulation routes may be added to connect the new amenities with the existing cabins and the river landing. The surface treatment for these routes should be compacted soil with the width to match the secondary paths already on site.

**Key Actions: Access Zone**

- The Access Zone requires monitoring to ensure that there is secure footing for unloading of boats and planes. This may involve installing planks as a walking surface during the spring to fall period. Any permanent installations should not be considered because of the impact of river ice especially during spring break-up.





Photo 53: Group of poplars at landing area.

### 3.6 Recommendations for Adjacent Lands

There are extensive lands that are beyond the boundary of the defined heritage site and therefore not specifically part of the Lansing Management Plan guidance. However, many of these areas are highly visible from Lansing and any significant changes in these areas, particularly on the west side of the Stewart River and the south side of the Lansing River, would change the nature of the visual relationships with the site. There are specific views to these adjacent lands that have been identified as part of the character-defining elements of Lansing.

A buffer zone of approximately 200m (on land only) is identified on *Map 5: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan - Conservation Zones* for adjacent lands including the forest outside the Designated Heritage Site Boundary and the banks on the west side of the Stewart River and south side of the Lansing River.

#### Key Actions:

- It is recommended that the Buffer Zones be managed in keeping with the Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan.
- Communications with agencies responsible for activities within the Buffer Zone be established to ensure that heritage issues within the Buffer Zone are considered.

- It is recommended that any changes in these areas be carefully planned and managed inland up to 200 m from the boundary of the Heritage Site and the opposite banks of the rivers. Any removal of the forest cover or construction of structures within the lands visible from Lansing is not recommended.

### 3.7 Burial Sites

The NND FA requires the management plan to address the issue of burial sites (Chapter 13, Schedule A, section 2.6.5). In order to meet this requirement and reflect the original intent of the FA, while respecting the sensitivity around these sites, the plan does not identify known burial site locations within or adjacent to the Lansing Heritage Site boundary, or in the zones and buffer zone for the site.

#### **Key Action: Burial Sites**

Burial sites known or found within the boundaries of the site or buffer area will be managed according to relevant legislation and NND values.

### 3.8 Archaeological Resources and Historical Artifacts

The assemblage of items from various time periods that are found within the ground, and on and around the site at Lansing, are evidence of the resourcefulness of the residents who have to bring most of their supplies to support their daily activities to the site by boat or float plane. Materials are saved, stockpiled and stored for possible use or reuse at some future date.

#### **Key Action: Archaeological Resources and Historical Artifacts**

- Inventory of archaeological resources and historical artifacts will be conducted if some new resources are discovered:
  - To protect archaeological resources at Lansing as visitation increases requires information management and monitoring. Public marketing and communication tools (including interpretive signage, brochures, and web-based information) should not identify the exact locations or types of archaeological resources at Lansing.
- Public marketing and communication tools (including interpretive signage, brochures, and web-based information) should identify the regulations that protect archaeology, and the best practices or guidelines for visitors if they encounter an archaeological site or artefact at Lansing.
- Ensure that archaeological impact assessments are undertaken in any location that will be disturbed by conservation and development activities. As required, archaeological research will be completed to support conservation and presentation; monitor impacts on the site; support further development and interpretation at the site; or as may be necessary to answer specific questions, such as dimensions and functions of former buildings.

### 3.9 Considerations for the use of the Site

#### 3.9.1 Community Interests

The NNDFA and the Historic Resources Act recognize that the use, awareness and protection of Lansing Heritage Site require management (see section 1.6 *NNDFA and Legal Framework*). The conservation of a special place inevitably attracts use by members of the NND, Yukoners, and visitors who appreciate the character and qualities of heritage sites, and wish to take part in traditional or contemporary activities associated with the location. Any visitor has the potential to impact the sites physical resources and cultural landscape.

The management plan recognizes that even the most respectful and responsible users leave their mark. Less knowledgeable visitors can cause considerable damage. It is important to plan for the full range of uses that will be permitted or encouraged within the conservation priorities identified for the site. Planning for visitors to Lansing Heritage Site considers: community of interests; long term possibility of Lansing as a community gathering place; human safety; and key actions associated with use of the site.

The management plan considers the ongoing use of the Lansing Heritage Site as a destination by various communities of interest including members of the NND, a site caretaker, NND staff responsible for management, and tourists.

#### ***First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun***

The primary community of interest for Lansing are members of the NND. Use of Lansing by NND members is to be encouraged to maintain their traditional connection with this special place. Traditional use of Lansing by the NND that should take place in the future would include trapping, hunting, fishing, and harvesting flora. The site may also be used in the future as a gathering place for heritage programming provided through the NND, maintaining the historical use of the site for gatherings by people from the region (see *Long Term Possibility of Lansing as a Community Gathering Place*).

Potential impacts on the Lansing Heritage Site as a result of use by NND members include:

- overnight camping or multi-day camping by NND members or other groups;
- cultural programs (impacts may vary by types of activities and the size of groups);
- drinking water and waste disposal;
- interpretation (passive); and
- NND members trapping, hunting, fishing, and harvesting flora.

#### ***Trapline***

There is interest among some members of NND in continuing the registered trapping concession after the current third party use ends. This trapline is a significant part of the Lansing Heritage Site.

The NND may be interested in acquiring the registered trapping concession. The option of acquiring the trapline may be an opportunity for the NND to establish further management control of the Lansing Heritage Site and allow for the continuation of an activity with cultural and historic significance that is directly relevant to Lansing Heritage Site.



The NND may wish to consult with the Mayo District Renewable Resources Council regarding the future of the trapline. The Mayo District Renewable Resource Council can make recommendations to the Minister and the NND on the use of traplines and the reassignment of all new, vacant, and under-utilized traplines.<sup>18</sup> The NND may wish to consider involving the Mayo District Renewable Resource Council once the current trapping concession holders indicate that they plan to retire from the Lansing site and discussions regarding the sale of the trapping concession are more advanced.

Given the current status of the registered trapline concession as a third party use of the Lansing Heritage Site, the management plan recommends that the implementation period for the management plan begin once the current trapline concession holders have retired from the site.

Should the trapline be operated in the future, the management plan allows the Lansing Heritage Site to be used independently in the winter as a base camp for a trap line by someone who would reside in the Germaine cabin in accordance with the wishes of the NND. Any proposed modifications of the cabin to suit the trapline concession holder must be reviewed and approved by the NND to ensure that the heritage resources are conserved.

Trapline impacts on the site include:

- seasonal occupation of the site (Germaine cabin);
- drinking water and waste disposal;
- equipment and supply storage; and
- activities associated with trapping.

### ***Caretaker***

The management plan recommends a site caretaker occupy the Germaine cabin seasonally and maintain the site. The management plan also recognizes the need for staff of NND to monitor the site, and as required, manage conservation activities at Lansing.

Heritage site management activities that will impact on the site include:

- site maintenance and caretaker residence (seasonal occupation of the site);
- drinking water and waste disposal;
- site maintenance equipment and supply storage;
- future archaeological investigation and monitoring;
- future research; and,
- activities associated with built feature conservation, rehabilitation, stabilization, maintenance or preservation.

### ***Tourists***

Lansing has the potential to be promoted as a tourist attraction that offers opportunities for commercial activities and economic development. Although the site is remote and difficult to access it is likely that any marketing of the site will result in an increase the number of visitors from the levels that visited the site prior

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<sup>18</sup> See sections 16.6.10.8, 16.11.10 of the NNDFA.

to 2016. The management plan recommends that visitors be permitted to take shelter within the existing guest cabin or tent at designated camping areas on the site. Regulation of permitted activities for visitors to the site is recommended.

All tourism activities or programs within the boundaries of Lansing have the potential to impact resources. Tourism use impacts could include:

- overnight camping by river travellers, fly-in guests, or other groups;
- multi-day camping by NND members or other groups;
- drinking water and waste disposal;
- interpretation (passive); and
- sightseeing (commercial tours).

### 3.9.2 Long Term Possibility of Lansing as a Community Gathering Place

Lansing Heritage Site could be used in the future as a gathering destination that offers opportunities for community social or cultural programs offered by the NND, or for commercial activities to provide economic development. The Site Development Plan in the management plan does not include recommendations or facilities associated with these types of gatherings, however in the future the NND may choose to consider the possibility. To determine if this is a long term possibility for Lansing Heritage Site involves planning, programming, development, and an impact assessment. *Map 6: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan – Site Development Plan/Conservation Zone*, provides a visual summary of Lansing that should be referenced for any possible use of the site. Planning, programming or development should be compatible with the zone, conservation actions, and long term plan for Lansing.

#### Key Actions:

- **Impact Assessment:** Lansing is a small site that includes resources that are sensitive to disturbance. An impact assessment will be required for the environment/physical site to determine the maximum size of groups that the site can handle, and an assessment of the impacts on heritage resources based on the types of gatherings, activities and development planned for the site. Because of issues of access and size of the site, the potential impact of gatherings could be substantial and may require limits on the number of people on the site and types of activities and support services/amenities. The impact assessment will determine the feasibility of using Lansing for gatherings, and recommended next steps for planning if this is determined to be a use that is feasible.

Following completion of an impact assessment, these planning steps may also be required:

- **Financial Plan:** To reach this level of development at Lansing will require a consistent financial investment over a number of years to develop the site and prepare programs. A long term resource commitment will be necessary to maintain and operate the site, and market and operate programs.
- **Site Development Plan and Management Plan for Gatherings:** to accommodate community use there is a requirement to accommodate food preparation and storage, shelter, drinking water, and waste disposal. The site plan will identify where to locate these activities on the site, where new development

can occur, where water and waste will be managed, and areas that will require additional protection during gatherings. A site plan must consider at a minimum:

- Water source
  - Waste disposal
  - Fuel source/fuel storage area
  - Power generation
  - Communication
  - Cooking shelter/feeding shelter
  - Food storage
  - Additional shelter
  - Site access (regular and emergency access)
  - Fire suppression
- Programming for social and cultural activities will be required. It is recommended that programming should be directly associated with the significant heritage and history of Lansing Heritage Post. Programs that do not have a link to the Lansing site should be offered at other locations. All programs must be developed based on the principles and guidelines of the Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan.
  - Monitoring: to determine if gatherings impact on the site, every gathering should include monitoring before, during and after the event to document the impacts on the site, provide recommendations on mitigating impacts in the future, or to recommend terminating gatherings or activities should the impacts be detrimental to Lansing.



Map 6

# Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan

## Site Development Plan / Conservation Zone

**Note: See Map 3 for descriptions of the numbered buildings, structures and remnant features**

- Trails to be maintained annually:
- Primary Trail (Circulation)
  - ... Secondary Trail (Circulation)
  - Work area clearings
  - Historic Building
  - Historic Structure
  - Remnant Feature
  - Late Period Building or Structure
  - Garden
  - Interpretive Panels (exterior)
  - Main Site Information Sign
  - Numbered Post (exterior)
  - Tent Platforms
  - Fire Suppression Equipment



Map Projection: Yukon Albers NAD83  
Scale: 1: 440

Source: Natural Resources Canada  
Date of Draft Map: March 2017  
Map Producer: Julie Beaulieu

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### 3.9.3 Human Safety

At all times human safety is a concern at Lansing due to its remote location and the potential for a natural or human cause event that threatens safety.

In the future when the site is no longer occupied year-round there will be a caretaker on site at designated times of the year to monitor the site for unsafe conditions, make repairs, greet visitors, and respond to emergencies. However, there will be times of the year when the site caretaker is not present and people visit Lansing.

Unsafe situations on the site include but are not limited to:

#### ***Naturally Occurring Hazards***

- Potential for wildlife encounters, in particular bear – human encounters; and
- Natural disasters including wildfire, high winds, flooding, unstable ice conditions, and slope erosion.

#### ***Built Heritage or Human-caused Hazards***

- Building failures in both standing and partial structures;
- Potential for building or tent fires;
- Potential for building or site hazards as a result of vandalism, litter, or careless use of the site by visitors; and
- Potential for seasonal structural movement of buildings and other structures as a result of ground heaving, floods or high winds.

To protect human safety and overall care for the site, the annual visits by the caretaker are required to identify and mitigate hazards. If hazards are reported when the caretaker is not onsite, efforts to take action within a reasonable amount of time will be a priority.

The recommendations described below should be undertaken as soon as possible to deal with hazards, human safety or to conform to national standards of heritage conservation.

#### **Key Actions Associated with Use of Lansing**

Prior to any use at Lansing that may impact on heritage resources, the site managers will consult with the NND First Nation on the planned activities and any guidelines to be developed for a permitted activity. The following will be considered:

- Install a fire suppression station at Lansing, located near the main Informational Sign. The station will include basic equipment such as shovels, buckets, and sand bags. The equipment should be accessible throughout the summer season, even when a caretaker is not present. Basic fire suppression information could be included on a sign;
- Develop activity or program specific guidelines that address the conservation, development and management actions required to protect the site and NND interests;
- Ensure NND economic benefits from contracting and/or employment opportunities that exist on projects as per the NNDA; and

- Identify any activity or program that causes ground disturbance or would require an archaeological impact assessment and archaeological permit prior to commencing. This would include the development of new facilities at Lansing Heritage Site.

**Key Actions to manage use of Lansing Heritage Site include (as required):**

Visitor use

- The Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan does not require controls or permits for access to the site (NNDFA 13.8.4), however, the NND may at any time review and amend the management plan to require controlled access if issues arise that will be in the best interest of the site, heritage resources, NND, traditional activities, or otherwise;
  - Research permits will be required for Archaeological Research in accordance with the *Historic Resources Act and Regulations*;
- Add interpretive signage to the site to share the history and key facts about the structures;
- Indicate at the site that visitor use of the Guest cabin as a shelter does not permit smoking, cooking stoves or fires in the building; and
- Maintain the high cache as an accessible emergency shelter in the event of a bear encounter or flood.

Natural Resources

- With higher visitation levels there will be impacts on the site's natural resources and environment. Management of the site seeks to minimize impacts on the natural environment. Monitoring, visitor regulation, and management activities by the caretaker will be required. Ensure that activities do not disturb riparian areas, fish habitat, or areas under forest cover;
- Visitors will be encouraged to remain on designated trails, camp at designated sites, use the existing privies; and
- Visitors will be required to guard against water pollution, manage fire and fuels at all times, and manage and remove garbage from the site.





## 4

## 4 INFORMATION MATERIALS, EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

To encourage the appreciation of heritage, including the cultural significance, history, and resources found at Lansing Heritage Site, planning will be undertaken for interpretation, informational materials available on and off-site, and education programs and materials for use in communities or schools.

Chapter 13 of the NNDFA indicates a heritage objectives “to promote public awareness, appreciation and understanding of all aspects of culture and heritage in the Yukon and, in particular, to respect and foster the culture and heritage of Yukon Indian People” (13.1.1.1), and, “to promote the recording and preservation of traditional languages, beliefs, oral histories including legends, and cultural knowledge of Yukon Indian

People for the benefit of future generations” (13.1.1.2).

Section 4 identifies the objectives for each method of heritage appreciation, followed by potential themes for the Lansing Heritage Site and the planning requirements.



Photo 54: Yukon Archives. Wilkinson family fonds. #17090. Lansing ca. 1976 [image of David Moses cabin, high-cache and Mervyn Trading Post without its roof and exterior work area].

## 4.1 Information Materials

The objectives of information materials for Lansing Heritage Site include increasing awareness of the heritage significance of the site; sharing general information and regulations with the public about Lansing; providing information for people considering a visit to Lansing; and providing contact information. These materials will be used for marketing Lansing Heritage Site.

There are two types of informational materials suggested for Lansing: print materials in the form of either a booklet or brochure, and online content. Information about Lansing in both formats will be aimed at introducing the site to all potential user groups. This could include NND community members, schools, Yukoners, and tourists. The site managers will determine what materials are required with consideration of available budgets.

A booklet would be a multiple page publication used to convey detailed information about the site that can be picked up in communities or visitor/heritage centres. Booklets can describe Lansing Heritage Site including its history, heritage resources, and information on what a visitor can expect if visiting the site. A booklet will also provide general information on site regulations, and links to other sources of information or contacts. Booklets are more expensive to produce and print. Design features of a booklet could include:

- Large photos (archival and contemporary);
- Interpretive, regulatory and general information text organized by theme or chapter;
- Maps of the region and site;
- Map of the site indicating with information about all resources; and,
- Contact information and links.

A brochure would be a single folded page publication available in communities, visitor/heritage centres, or as mail-outs and used to convey summarized highlights about Lansing with links to more detailed information. Brochures are less expensive to produce and print. Design features of a brochure could include:

- Representative photos (archival and contemporary) – limited number of images;
- Summary information text on the site;
- Map of the site with a regional inset map;
- Map of the site indicating the numbered posts with additional interpretive information about these resources; and,
- Contact information and links.

Online content, hosted through an existing website or a dedicated Lansing Heritage Site website, has the potential to reach the broadest audience. The cost of designing and maintain the site will vary depending on the format and service provider. There are very few limitations on the amount and type of content that could be shared through a website for Lansing. At a minimum, online content would describe Lansing Heritage Site including its history, heritage resources, and information on what a visitor can expect if visiting the site, information on site regulations, and links to other sources of information or contacts. It may also be recommended to develop a virtual tour of the site for people that cannot access Lansing.



Design features could include:

- Large photos (archival and contemporary);
- Video or audio files;
- Interpretive, regulatory and general information text organized by theme or web page;
- Maps of the region and site;
- Feedback tools such as interactive mapping to share data, blogs and comments; and,
- Contact information and links.

## 4.2 Education

Education programs for Lansing Heritage Site can be developed for delivery in schools, at visitor/heritage centres, or on-site should there be programs offered in the future at Lansing.

Specific objectives for education should enable and encourage people to:

- Become aware of Lansing Heritage Site and its unique place in the history and culture of the NND and Yukon;
- Understand and appreciate the historical, cultural and natural heritage found at Lansing;
- Gain a foundation of knowledge and understanding of Lansing's heritage, resources, and the requirements to manage the site;
- Understand and be able to comply with the regulations that govern Lansing; and,
- Develop a sense of stewardship and personal responsibility for Lansing.

### 4.2.1 Schools

The responsibility to develop and deliver materials through the education system would require consultation with the Department of Education to understand and comply with curriculum development standards. Schools provide an opportunity to introduce students to both the general principles and concepts of heritage appreciation, and to the unique heritage features and elements of Historic Sites in the Yukon. Stories associated with the children that lived at Lansing, such as the Mervyn children, could describe growing up at Lansing – topics could explore fishing, tending the garden, daily chores, and play time (such as floating in washtubs in the river).

### 4.2.2 Public Education Programs

Outside of the school system, the development and delivery of educational materials for the general public provides the opportunity to introduce people to the unique heritage features and elements of Historic Sites in the Yukon. Educational activities such as “fun facts”, “did you know”, or interactive story telling about Lansing can be developed to engage and inform the public.

In the future, should Lansing be used as a gathering place, the opportunity exists to develop social and cultural programs that are educational and directly relate to the significant heritage of Lansing. This could include, but is not limited to, harvesting and trapping methods; survival techniques; story telling; research techniques at historic sites in the Yukon; and studying and understanding building techniques.

### 4.3 Interpretation

Interpretation is a combination of communication, education, and inspiration to help people learn about and understand a place, an event, a culture or a perspective. Effective interpretation can increase tourism and improve visitor attitudes toward the resource.

Interpretation for the Lansing Heritage Site should:

- Share the unique story of the site and its resources.
- Show residents and visitors the value of heritage.
- Encourage residents and visitors to care about heritage, and inspire the desire to understand, protect and respect the resource.
- Stimulate people to consider new perspectives or participate in new experiences during their visit to Lansing.
- Enhance visitors' experience during site visits.
- Be carefully integrated into the site to have minimum visual impact and site disturbance.

When visitors to a site understand the significance of the resources they are more likely contribute to the sustainability through careful actions. Interpretation can be accomplished through signage and development of interpretive scripts for guides and the site caretaker.

#### 4.3.1 Signage

Signs allow for the unique heritage to be highlighted by interpreting the cultural and natural resources using visuals (photographs or graphics; maps) and text (scientific and traditional knowledge data; first-person quotes; historical facts and timelines, etc.).

Design guidelines for interpretive signage are recommended for Lansing Heritage Site to provide a consistent format to signage elements and minimize the visual impact that these elements will have. Design guidelines would address the consistent placement of NND logo, consistent use of language (if multiple languages are required), and consistent use of colour and design elements that complement the site and do not visually detract from the heritage resources. Signs should be placed on the site without disturbing heritage resources. Support posts should be made of logs/split posts harvested near Lansing, and sign panels should be fabricated in materials designed to withstand the environmental conditions of the site (temperature, UV exposure, and moisture) and transported to the site.

The Site Development Plan for Lansing Heritage Site identifies the recommended locations for signs (see *Map 4: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan - Site Development Plan*) as suggested sites for each sign type. The interpretation plan will identify the final locations, number of signs, and size/style, and the information to be included on each sign.

- **Main Information Sign** – the largest sign to be used at Lansing will consist of a structure located near the main access point. This structure would be a larger sign hung between log posts and comprised of panels with information on both the front and back of the sign structure. The informational signage will at a minimum welcome visitors, provide general messaging about Lansing and site-specific regulations, a site map with symbols or numbers to indicate the location of interpretive panels and posts, and

important information (such as emergency contacts). A “key” for all numbered posts next to the map will identify the feature that is present at the location.

- **Interpretative panels** – the purpose of each interpretive panel is to communicate important information about a resource or location. References to numbered posts located throughout the Lansing site can be described in interpretive text. In some cases, an interpretive panel will also include regulatory messages (e.g. regulations for the protection of archaeological resources).
  - All signage should be small in scale so as not to intrude on the visual character of the site.
  - The number of signs of signs should be determined once the detailed interpretive plan is completed.
  - Potential locations for signage is indicated on the site development plan (see *Map 4: Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan- Site Development Plan*).
- **Posts** – numbered posts, designed low to the ground, will be placed near features in the cultural landscape to indicate resources.

The Site Development Plan does not include an interpretive walking trail or designated walking route due to the small size of the site. The primary and secondary trails identified on the Site Development Plan will be cleared of vegetation annually. All interpretive signage locations are located along these trails or beside buildings. There should be no “order” in which to view the interpretive signage – each sign should be written with a stand-alone content – to allow a visitor to explore the site.

### **Temporary Signs**

There may be requirements to use temporary signage at Lansing. Temporary signage could be printed and laminated posters and affixed appropriately. It is anticipated that temporary signage could be required under the following circumstances:

- As a short term solution to provide signage at Lansing while permanent signs are developed. The focus of temporary signage in the short term would be to indicate site regulations and the locations that are designated for visitor use, such as the cabin to be used for shelter; and
- To indicate closures where there is a human safety issues, such as buildings or structures that are deemed to be unsafe or undergoing rehabilitation.

The use of temporary signage should be limited. Planning for the use of temporary signage should include the timeframe for display, and the actions to replace temporary signs with permanent signs if a long term solution is required.

### **4.3.2 Interpretative Scripts**

In addition to signage, interpretative presentations on-site could be offered by the caretaker or outfitters/guides that bring groups to the site. The development of interpretive scripts could be completed while signs are being developed so that the information in the script enhances and builds upon the stories told through the signage program. Interpretation of history, a cultural resource or natural feature through an interpretative script is an opportunity to bring greater understanding of Lansing for visitors.

Interpretive scripts are a resource for the caretaker and local outfitters/guides. Scripts would be made available through the NND site manager upon request. Scripts should be prepared in plain language with supporting documentation to allow the individual to understand the site and add their own interpretation.



#### 4.4 Themes and Stories

Information, education and interpretive materials should reflect the significance of Lansing Heritage Site to the NND and the Yukon. The significance of the site is tied to its human history (cultural, social, historic and economic importance) and how the geographic location and natural resources contributed to this significance.

It is recommended that themes be used to convey the sites significance, and wherever possible, first person narratives (archival or contemporary traditional knowledge) be used in the materials developed for Lansing.



Photo 55: Yukon Archives. Mervyn family fonds. Pho 244 99/87#4. Mrs. Julie Mervyn and children at Lansing. [winter view of life at Lansing].

The recommended themes are:

**Lansing as a Memory:** emphasis on the First Nations and personal history of families and individuals that developed and occupied the site. Stories may consider:

- **Timeline for Lansing Heritage Site** – the site has layers of history from various periods that could develop the storyline for the site based on key events and the cultural history.
- **If these walls could talk** – from the first person perspective of a former occupants of the site and NND members with traditional knowledge, these stories would focus on the heritage resources (remaining buildings or remnant sites) to tell the story of Lansing. Interpretation could explore how the site was developed and how it has changed over the years; describe the buildings and building techniques; and talk about the personal histories of the past occupants of the site.
- **Life at Lansing** – this story would describe daily life for the families that have occupied the site at different times, focusing on the activities required to survive at Lansing and the challenges and

innovations of the occupants. This story should identify all of the families that have occupied the site (wherever possible identify all individuals).

**Lansing as a Destination:** emphasis on the location of Lansing and its historic associations. Stories may consider:

- **Lansing is a Gathering Place** – this story would use the human history of gatherings and the people that lived at the site as the narrative theme to identify Lansing’s place as a cultural landscape within the broad context of the region and show how it was a stopping point on traditional travel routes. This story could include the traditional link with Lansing, the NND, and First Nations in the current NWT.
- **Lansing and the Economy** – this story would highlight Lansing’s trading post period and its link to the traplines. This history can be linked to the broader economic history of the NND and development of the Yukon.

**Lansing at a Natural Junction:** emphasis on the environment and natural resources associated with Lansing. Stories may consider:

- **From the Land and Rivers** - stories from the archives and NND community members associated with the site that illustrates the natural environment around Lansing and the Stewart and Lansing River corridors. Stories would identify how natural resources were used traditionally (food, medicine, buildings and tools, fuel, etc.) and link to the trading history of Lansing.
- **Natural Wonders** – the story of the natural history of the site and its connection to the natural environment of the Yukon. Through traditional knowledge and scientific data the stories will examine the natural environment of Lansing and has changed over time due to both natural and man-made change. The stories can consider the vegetation [black spruce, local vegetation, introduced vegetation like rhubarb, and the links to the uses of vegetation on the site]; geomorphology and hydrology (rivers, erosion); the growing conditions (soils and climate as a link to gardening opportunity); and the wildlife and the local fauna [moose, bears, martens as the tie to trapping line history and NND culture].



Photo 56: View of the confluence of the Stewart and Lansing River with distant mountains in the horizon.

#### 4.5 Planning for the Appreciation of Lansing's Heritage

To develop appreciation of Lansing's heritage and the materials (informational, educational, and interpretive) will require the following actions:

- Develop an interpretive plan and education plan and commit the required funding;
- Understand the message(s) and audience;
- Complete research, design and drafting; and
- Implementation.

The planning will identify what materials are being developed, whether these are on-site or off-site, and it must consider the scope of information for each material (type of materials and content of each material).

Planning must also consider the resources that are available for use in the heritage appreciation materials. It is recommended that a first step would be to develop a framework of the available content and gaps in content that will require additional research or consultation. The framework should identify all graphics that are available (e.g. archival images) and the graphics that are to be developed (e.g. site maps, contemporary photos, and illustrations).

Development of a comprehensive heritage appreciation program takes time and resources. Once completed, informational materials will be distributed to market Lansing Heritage Site in Mayo and Whitehorse at key locations (e.g. visitor or heritage centres), to tourism operators or associations, and made



available online; educational materials will be distributed to schools and public locations in Mayo and Whitehorse; and interpretive signage will be developed and installed at Lansing.

#### 4.5.1 Audiences

To achieve the outcomes of heritage appreciation requires an understanding of the people the program is seeking to engage, or the “audience”. There are many different audiences, with different needs and literacy levels, so it may be useful to distinguish between primary audiences and secondary audiences when planning the heritage appreciation materials.

Primary audiences are those groups that will benefit directly from heritage appreciation. Planning is always for the primary audience, and the implementation of programs must ensure materials and activities are delivered in a way that is accessible to the primary audience. These can include:

- Schools, including: students and educators;
- Residents; and
- Visitors to Lansing Heritage Site.

Secondary audiences are partners or stakeholder groups that may support or benefit indirectly from heritage appreciation. Planning or implementation actions for a secondary audience will consider how to provide materials with relevant key messages to this audience. These can include:

- Businesses, including tourism providers;
- Management by NND;
- Non-government agencies and organizations; and
- Media.

#### 4.5.2 Research

Chapter 13 of the NNDFA encourages research related to Heritage, specifically the following actions that should be included for all future research related to the Lansing Heritage Site and the development of materials or programs for information, education and interpretation.

- To facilitate research into, and the management of, Heritage Resources of special interest to Yukon First Nations (13.1.1.9);
- To incorporate, where practicable, the related traditional knowledge of a Yukon First Nation in Government research reports and displays which concern Heritage Resources of that Yukon First Nation (13.1.1.10);
- To recognize that oral history is a valid and relevant form of research for establishing the historical significance of Heritage Sites and Moveable Heritage Resources directly related to the history of Yukon Indian People (13.1.1.11); and
- To recognize the interest of Yukon Indian People in the interpretation of aboriginal Place Names and Heritage Resources directly related to the culture of Yukon Indian People (13.1.1.12).

### 4.5.3 Special Projects

Research should consider “special projects” that are planned investigations to document the resources or oral history associated with Lansing. Special Projects may include:

- Condition Assessment of buildings, structures and non-moveable resources (including archaeology) to document the condition and the details of the character-defining elements and recent additions/changes, and making recommendations for future management;
- Inventory of movable resources and archaeological resources, and making recommendations for future management; and
- Oral history and traditional knowledge documentation. There are a number of stories that have been collected and can continue to be researched and documented, such as continuing discussions between the NND and the NWT First Nations to collect additional information about the ancestral ties and stories about Lansing that are held by First Nations in NWT.



Photo 57: Yukon Archives. Mervyn-Wood family fonds. Pho 538 98/87 #232. Building canoe at Lansing Creek. [use of open space at Lansing for work activities. Same view of distant mountains on the horizon as Photo 56].

## 5 ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Section 5 identifies the economic opportunities and benefits associated with Lansing, in accordance with the NNDFA, that may be realized through the management, development and future use.

### 5.1 Short and Long Term Opportunities

There are a number of short and long term opportunities related to the management plan for the Lansing Heritage Site for the NND. In the short term, there are opportunities related to training of individuals in log structure restoration or rehabilitation that may lead to contract work for the log structures at the Lansing Heritage Site. This training occurs occasionally at Rampart House, Forty Mile and Fort Selkirk Historic Sites. Other short term activities may include involving NND members in advisory capacity for the development of cultural interpretation and education materials.

In the long term, the management plan envisions a caretaker position at the Lansing Heritage Site. It should be noted that the NNDFA requires that the NND be given the opportunity to obtain contracts related to the management of a Heritage Site, which are related to the history and culture of the NND.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> See section 13.12.1.2 of the NNDFA.





## 6 IMPLEMENTATION

The Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan is living document which can be adapted to changes within the heritage site, to take advantage of new opportunities, and to accommodate the availability of resources required for its implementation.

Implementation of the management plan must be undertaken within the financial resources and capacity of the NND. The pace of implementation must fit within other demands on resources. Training may be necessary to develop skills in the local work force for the employment opportunities. The management plan implementation schedule and budget should be adjusted as required to adapt to the realities of available resources within the NND, and adjusted to meet the needs of Lansing Heritage Site.

Section 6 considers the management structure, capital and operating costs, and schedule for implementation of the Lansing Management Plan.



Photo 58: Looking south across the site from the northern-most storage shed.

## 6.1 Establishment of the Lansing Historic Site and Management Structure

In accordance with the NNDFA, the Yukon Government shall establish the Lansing Historic Site pursuant to the Historic Resources Act, S.Y. 1991 (Chapter 13 Schedule A, 1.0 Establishment). In addition, the NNDFA specifies that the “First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun shall manage the Site in accordance with the Historic Resources Act, S.Y. 1991, c. 8 and the management plan for the Site that is approved by the Minister and the First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun” (Chapter 13 Schedule A, 4.0 Implementation).

- Under FNNND FA: The Yukon Government shall establish a portion of the Parcel R-13 of Settlement Land known as the Lansing townsite as a historic site pursuant to the Historic Resources Act, S.Y. 1991, c. 8, as soon as practicable (section 1.1).
- Under the Historic Resources Act (HRA): Lansing Heritage Site will be established as a Historic Site. The purpose of the Historic Resources Act is “to promote appreciation of the Yukon’s historic resources and to provide for the protection and preservation, the orderly development, and the study and interpretation of those resources”; to be realized through this management plan. The HRA provides protection to designated heritage sites. Subsection 25(1) states that: No person shall carry out an activity that will alter the historic character of a site that is subject to a notice of intended designation as an historic site or that is a historic site or that is a site for which the Minister has made and served an order under section 26, unless the activity is carried out in accordance with a historic resources permit issued under section 28. This permitting includes research related to the Lansing Heritage Site. The Minister may also require an owner of a historic site to take measures for the repair, maintenance, preservation, protection, or restoration of the site subject to the Minister providing grants, loans, professional or technical or other services to assist the owner of a historic site pay for those improvements. (Historic Resources Act (RSY 2002, c.109) at subsection 1(1); section 29.)

In keeping with the Historic Resources Act, the Yukon Historic Resources Board has provided a report in support of designating the site as a historic site, and reviewed this management for Lansing for consistency with Chapter 13 of the NNDFA. Specific considerations for the Lansing Heritage Site from Chapter 13 include but are not limited to all of Schedule A, and the following articles:

13.3.1 Each Yukon First Nation shall own and manage Moveable Heritage Resources and non-Moveable Heritage Resources and Non-Public Records, other than records which are the private property of any Person, found on its Settlement Land and on those beds of waterbodies owned by that Yukon First Nation.

13.3.2 Subject to 13.3.5 to 13.3.7, each Yukon First Nation shall own and manage ethnographic Moveable Heritage Resources and Documentary Heritage Resources that are not Public Records and that are not the private property of any Person, that are found in its respective Traditional Territory and that are directly related to the culture and history of Yukon Indian People.

13.3.8 Agreements may be entered into by Government and Yukon First Nations with respect to the ownership, custody or management of Heritage Resources.

The management structure for the Lansing Heritage Site, under the NND, may include the following administrative activities:



- NND staff member(s) responsible for implementation will develop annual (detailed) implementation plan actions and budgets, staffing and contracting plan principles and schedule.
- NND council holds the responsibility for review and approving all actions.
- Lansing Site Caretaker will work with NND staff member(s) on the monitoring of the site required as ongoing, and report annually to council on the site condition, activities, and future resources required to monitor, maintain, and manage Lansing Heritage Site.
- Yukon Government is advisory to the NND (resource people for training, programs, funding, etc.) and will support the Lansing Heritage Site management by the NND.
- Yukon Heritage Resources Board (13.5.1) will make recommendations respecting the management of Moveable Heritage Resources and Heritage Sites (to the Minister and to Yukon First Nations).
- Mayo Renewable Resource Council may make recommendations to the Minister and the NND on the use of traplines and the reassignment of all new, vacant, and under-utilized traplines<sup>20</sup>.

### 6.1.1 Management Plan Review

In accordance with the NNDA, Chapter 13 Schedule A -3.3, the “Government and First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun shall review the management plan no later than five years after its initial approval and no later than every 10 years thereafter. Any issues that pose a risk to the Lansing Heritage Site can be brought to the attention of the NND and Yukon Government at any time. Chapter 13 Schedule A -3.4 states that the “Government and the First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun shall refer any proposed amendments to the management plan to the Yukon Heritage Resources Board for its review and recommendations.”

The budget and implementation schedule in the management plan includes the annual tasks by the caretaker related to site maintenance (annual vegetation management; monitoring) and the capital required over ten years for the actions required for building or structure interventions to restore or rehabilitate buildings. Future management plans (year ten to twenty, and beyond) must consider capital costs associated with the buildings and structures based on the condition monitoring and recommendations that come from implementation of this management plan.

## 6.2 Capital and Operating Costs

Lansing Heritage Site, under the Historic Resources Act and the NNDA, will be managed by the NND including the primary financial and human resource responsibilities associated with management plan implementation. The NND may apply to Yukon Government for project funding for the Lansing Heritage Site conservation and management under the criteria for government funded programs.

As the NND citizens will be prime beneficiaries of training, employment and economic opportunities associated with Lansing Heritage Site, it is expected that the NND will invest to realize the success of these opportunities. The following table summarizes the key management plan actions in terms of priorities, type of activity and projected costs.

<sup>20</sup> <http://www.eco.gov.yk.ca/mayo-district-renewable-resources-council.html> [Mandate of the Mayo District Renewable Resources Council].

<b>O&amp;M (ongoing)</b>				
<b>Description</b>	<b>Year 1-2</b>	<b>Year 3-4</b>	<b>Year 5-7</b>	<b>Year 8-10</b>
Salary: Caretaker/Manager remuneration (based on \$7,500 per season)	15,000	15,000	22,500	22,500
Annual Maintenance: Site maintenance general materials and supplies (\$500 per year)	1,000	1,000	1,500	1,500
Annual operations: fuel supply and storage, waste disposal/treatment, waste removal from site (non-burnable, toxic, etc.), maintenance of privies (\$2,500 per year)	5,000	5,000	7,500	7,500
Annual operations: caretaker residence supplies for the Germaine cabin including personal fuel and food (\$1,500 per year)	3,000	3,000	4,500	4,500
Annual Monitoring and reporting: site, buildings and structures (\$1,500 per year)	3,000	3,000	4,500	4,500
Caretaker Airfare (Mayo to Lansing return approximately \$4,000 in 2016 dollars for caretaker and supplies)	16,000 (based on 4 trips)	16,000 (based on 4 trips)	24,000 (based on 6 trips)	24,000 (based on 6 trips)
<b>O&amp;M SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$43,000</b>	<b>\$43,000</b>	<b>\$64,500</b>	<b>\$64,500</b>

<b>Capital (one-time)</b>				
<b>Description</b>	<b>Year 1-2</b>	<b>Year 3-4</b>	<b>Year 5-7</b>	<b>Year 8-10</b>
As required Conservation: Building and structure renovation / rehabilitation / stabilization	5,000	5,000	10,000	10,000
Archaeological and remnant stabilization and protection		10,000	5,000	
Tent platforms (2 new)				5,000
<b>CAPITAL SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>

<b>Special Projects</b>				
<b>Description</b>	<b>Year 1-2</b>	<b>Year 3-4</b>	<b>Year 5-7</b>	<b>Year 8-10</b>
Conservation Plan	35,000	15,000		5,000
Oral history and traditional knowledge documentation	7,500	7,500	7,500	
<b>SPECIAL PROJECT SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$42,500</b>	<b>\$47,500</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>

<b>Information, Education and Interpretation (on and off site)</b>				
<b>Description</b>	<b>Year 1-2</b>	<b>Year 3-4</b>	<b>Year 5-7</b>	<b>Year 8-10</b>
Interpretation Plan		15,000		
Marketing of Lansing Heritage Site			5,000	5,000
Educational Materials Planning, Development, and Implementation			25,000	5,000
Interpretive Program Planning and Development		25,000		
Interpretive Signage Fabrication and Installation at Lansing (including airfare)		30,000		
<b>INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>

<b>Other</b>				
<b>Description</b>	<b>Year 1-2</b>	<b>Year 3-4</b>	<b>Year 5-7</b>	<b>Year 8-10</b>
NND and researcher or conservationist airfare (Mayo to Lansing return approximately \$4,000 in 2016 dollars)	4,000 (based on 1 trip)	4,000 (based on 1 trip)	4,000 (based on 1 trip)	4,000 (based on 1 trip)
<b>OTHER SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>

<b>Total Budget Estimates</b>	<b>Year 1-2: \$94,500</b>	<b>Year 3-4: \$154,500</b>	<b>Year 5-7: \$121,000</b>	<b>Year 8-10: \$98,500</b>
<b>Annual Inflation Factor Estimate*</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>

\* Inflation factors are estimates based on the 2016-202 Economic Outlook for Canada, Treasury Board of Canada. Note: Air travel cost is based on the cost of a float plane in August 2016 of \$4000 (return). The plane capacity is eight people and/or 2400 lbs in weight.

Cost estimates are a projection of the future financial requirements for management implementation. These cost estimates are organized as multi-year estimates to allow the NND budget planning flexibility.

Cost estimating is typically based on a specific "class" of estimate. The cost estimates used are defined by the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat as "Class D Estimates (Preliminary)". Class D is a low order of magnitude estimate based on a conceptual description for a treatment that is considered accurate within plus/minus 30% of the actual costs for the recommended treatment. The cost estimates required to implement the Management Plan at the time of contracting or detailed planning should be based on the actual cost/quotes received from contractors.





## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

### Glossary of Terms from the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada, Parks Canada

**Accessibility:** The degree to which an historic place is easy to access by as many people as possible, including people with disabilities.

**Character-defining elements:** the materials, forms, location, spatial configurations, uses and cultural associations or meanings that contribute to the heritage value of an historic place, which must be retained in order to preserve its heritage value.

**Conservation:** all actions or processes that are aimed at safeguarding the character-defining elements of an historic place so as to retain its heritage value and extend its physical life. This may involve Preservation, Rehabilitation, Restoration, or a combination of these actions or processes.

**Cultural landscape:** Any geographical area that has been modified, influenced, or given special cultural meaning by people.

- i. *Associative* cultural landscapes are distinguished by the power of their spiritual, artistic or cultural associations, rather than their surviving material evidence.
- ii. *Designed* cultural landscapes were intentionally created by human beings;
- iii. *Organically evolved* cultural landscapes developed in response to social, economic, administrative or religious forces interacting with the natural environment.

These fall into two sub-categories:

*Relict* landscapes in which an evolutionary process came to an end. Its significant distinguishing features are, however, still visible in material form.

*Continuing* landscapes in which the evolutionary process is still in progress. They exhibit significant material evidence of their evolution over time.

**Heritage value:** The aesthetic, historic, scientific, cultural, social or spiritual importance or significance for past, present or future generations. The heritage value of an historic place is embodied in its character-defining materials, forms, location, spatial configurations, uses and cultural associations or meanings.

**Historic place:** A structure, building, group of buildings, district, landscape, archaeological site or other place in Canada that has been formally recognized for its heritage value.

**In kind:** with the same form, material, and detailing as the existing.

**In situ:** This term means 'in place' and as used in this document, it refers to the action of protecting, maintaining and/or stabilizing the existing materials in the location where they were found.

**Inspecting:** Carrying out a survey or review of the condition of an historic place and its elements to determine if they are functioning properly; to identify signs of weakness, deterioration or hazardous

conditions; and to identify necessary repairs. Inspections should be carried out on a regular basis as part of a maintenance plan.

**Intervention:** Any action, other than demolition or destruction, that results in a physical change to an element of a historic place.

**Maintenance:** Routine, cyclical, non-destructive actions necessary to slow the deterioration of an historic place. It entails periodic inspection; routine, cyclical, non-destructive cleaning; minor repair and refinishing operations; replacement of damaged or deteriorated materials that are impractical to save.

**Minimal intervention:** The approach that allows functional goals to be met with the least physical intervention.

**Monitoring:** The systematic and regular inspection or measurement of the condition of the materials and elements of an historic place to determine their behavior, performance, and rate of deterioration over time.

**Mothballing:** To temporarily close up a building or other structure to protect it from the weather as well as to secure it from vandalism.

**Preservation:** The action or process of protecting, maintaining, and/or stabilizing the existing materials, form, and integrity of a historic place or of an individual component, while protecting its heritage value.

**Rehabilitation:** The action or process of making possible a continuing or compatible contemporary use of a historic place or an individual component, while protecting its heritage value.

**Restoration:** The action or process of accurately revealing, recovering or representing the state of a historic place or of an individual component, as it appeared at a particular period in its history, while protecting its heritage value.

**Statement of Significance (SoS):** A statement that identifies the description, heritage value, and character-defining elements of an historic place. A Statement of Significance is required in order for an historic place to be listed on the Canadian Register of Historic Places.

**Sustainability:** A group of objectives (economic, social and environmental) that must be coordinated and addressed to ensure the long term viability of communities and the planet.

**Vernacular:** Indigenous, made locally by inhabitants; made using local materials and traditional methods of construction and ornament; specific to a region or location.



## **Glossary of Terms from the Historic Resources Act, Yukon Government**

“Archaeological site” means a site where an archaeological object is found.

“Archaeological object” means an object that is the product of human art, workmanship, or use, and it includes plant and animal remains that have been modified by or deposited in consequence of human activities, is of value for its archaeological significance, and is or has been discovered on or beneath land in the Yukon, or is or has been submerged or partially submerged beneath the surface of any watercourse or permanent body of water in the Yukon.

“Ethnographic object” means an item of material culture relating to the history and traditional culture of an ethnic group.

“Historic object” - each of the following is a historic object:

- an archaeological object that has been abandoned,
- a palaeontological object that has been abandoned,
- an abandoned object that is designated under subsection (2) as a historic object.





## APPENDIX 1: HISTORIC SUMMARY

### *Lansing Heritage Site Timelines:*

#### ***Pre-Trading Post Period prior to 1902***

- *History of Lansing Post, Yukon* references a NWMP report (October 1900) that speaks to the use of the frozen Stewart River as a travel route used by the ancestors of NND to meet with the First Nations of the Mackenzie River (Sahtu) hunting in the area.<sup>21</sup>

- Oral history connects the site with First Nations and the Sahtu specifically. The *First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun Trail Documentation Research Project: Lansing Post* includes elder Paul Germaine's knowledge of the site use as gathering area and tent village for the First Nation people from Fort Good Hope, on the Mackenzie River. He stated that "people travelled back and forth from Lansing to Fort Good Hope, Fort Good Hope to Lansing, until the border was drawn

between the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories [1898], (Gold and Galena, p. 6)"<sup>22</sup>. It is described as a trade rendezvous stop on this route.

- Archaeological research conducted by Ruth Gotthardt (1993) and T.J. Hammer (2003) do not document conclusive prehistoric occupation of the site, nor rule out the possibility it was a gathering or habitation area. The archaeological reports cite frequent flooding of the area, as well as the movement of silty and sandy soils from the Stewart and Lansing Rivers, as possible reasons for the loss of archaeological evidence.
- 1883 Samuel Lansing, one of the early prospectors in the Yukon Territory, mined the bars of the Stewart River in 1883. He prospected the Lansing River in 1883 when it received his name.

#### ***Trading Post 1902-1938 (or 1937)***

- 1902 Percival Nash and Frank Braine established the trading post with the help of First Nations people from Fort Good Hope.<sup>23</sup>
- The site is identified as a trading centre and annual meeting place for Northern Tutchone people, as well as their neighbours from the Peel region, Macmillan River, Fort Good Hope, and Fort Norman.
- 1905 (June) Charles Camsell, a government surveyor stayed at Lansing Post, the post of Frank Braine, and mentioned in his records that the post was occupied by a trapper named Frank Williams. Joseph Keele also stopped at the post in 1905 and made notes of the use of Lansing as a seasonal encampment used by the First Nations people of Fort Good Hope.<sup>24</sup> Cox mentioned that there were a half dozen log cabins and gardens at Lansing between 1905-1938.

<sup>21</sup> Cox, J. (March 1999). *History of Lansing Post, Yukon*. Heritage Branch, Department of Tourism, Government of Yukon. Pg. 9.

<sup>22</sup> Winton, A. (March 2016). *First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun Trail Documentation Research Project: Lansing Post*. The First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun. Pg. 8.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid. Pg. 8.

<sup>24</sup> Cox, J. (March 1999). *History of Lansing Post, Yukon*. Heritage Branch, Department of Tourism, Government of Yukon. Pg. 4.



- 1908 Jim and Helen Ferrell took charge of Lansing Trading Post (operated it until 1911, 1912 or 1915 – dates vary in the reports).<sup>25</sup>
- 1911, 1912 or 1915 James Hastings Mervyn, originally from near Stratford Ontario took charge of Lansing Trading Post. Jim Mervyn married Julia Dechilia, who is originally from MacKenzie, and they raised 11 children at Lansing. The post flourished through until 1920's with at least a dozen permanent cabins.<sup>26</sup>
- References in the Cox report to the Mervyn family; Germaine Family; Lonny Johnny; Ella Moses; David Moses; Cecile David; Et'tsi ts'ò and Mädlin (also known as Myr Lithoon Atsitsaw and Taja).
- 1918 Influenza (Spanish flu) epidemic decimated the indigenous population in many areas of the Yukon. A visiting priest, Father E. LeRay, OMI, describes Lansing as having 100 native residents and a log meeting house for ceremonies. Father LeRay stayed and held ceremonies, mass and instruction. He spent two months there before going to Mayo for four weeks, then to Wernecke.
- 1923 Census lists 110 residents.
- 1924 P. Germaine remembered a potlach or powwow around a fire. The family names associated with Lansing during this time were Nedry, Gateys, Maggie Wood (daughter of Jim Mervyn), Florence (daughter of Jim Mervyn) and husband Pellards, Dowa, Louis Brown and Effie. The cabins in use are Lonny Johnny, Norman Nedry, and 2 used by the Germaine's. Activities included drumming, dancing and stick gambling.
- 1928 Influenza (Spanish flu) – second epidemic in the Yukon.
- 1929 The population is listed as 41 people and many of the residents have returned to Fort Good Hope in the NWT.<sup>27</sup>
- 1936 A devastating flood in June. The Stewart River at Lansing rose 12 feet in 45 minutes. The Post was flooded but nothing was lost, as Jim Mervyn piled his stock high and dry.
- By the late 1930's Jim Mervyn began expanding his business activities in the Mayo area, moving to Mayo via dog team in Jan. 1937. The Mervyn trading post winds down and Mervyn purchases the Binet store in Mayo.
- 1938 Trading post abandoned.

### **1939-1976 Informal Visits by community members**

- 1941 The population is listed as 8.<sup>28</sup> Lonny Johnny, Delphinia Allison, and Christine, Helen, Paul, Frank, Joe and Katherine Germaine.
- 1947 Lansing is visited by James Bond, a hunter who described it as a desolate place, having gone from a population of 300 to none. He described two cabins as being "in good shape" and used by Norman Mervyn and Lonny Johnny as part of their trapline. He observed that, "The finest vegetation I have seen anywhere in the Yukon grows at Lansing." He also described five kinds of berries that can

<sup>25</sup> Winton, A. (March 2016). *First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun Trail Documentation Research Project: Lansing Post*. The First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun, Pg. 9.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid. Pg. 9.

<sup>27</sup> Cox, J. (March 1999). *History of Lansing Post, Yukon*. Heritage Branch, Department of Tourism, Government of Yukon. Pg. 8.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

be readily harvested nearby. During this time the area is described as being “trapped out” although there are still lynx, wolves, fox and marten around.<sup>29</sup>

- Late 1940s Fur prices fall to low levels, discouraging trappers from going on the line.

### ***Wilkinson Period 1976-1979***

- 1976 Jared and Eddie (Edwin) Wilkinson occupy Lansing Post as part of their trapline. The Wilkinson's worked with the buildings on the site and with the garden. Photos from this period show much of the site is clear of tall vegetation and there are large areas where dogs are tethered or housed contributing to keeping the tall vegetation low. During this period there are several buildings and structures evident in photos of the property which do not appear to continue in the same form into the Mitford/Hunt period (such as the high cache). The archival record for this period documents visits to the site by Wilkinson family and friends.
- 1977 Eddie Wilkinson is killed by a bear at Lansing Post.<sup>30</sup>
- A large forest fire is visible close to Lansing on the north western horizon (archival record shows that the forest fires occurred the summer of 1978).

### ***Mitford/Hunt Period 1979 - present***

- 1979 Bruce Mitford purchased the trapline from Eddie Wilkinson. Bruce and Beth Hunt (and two daughters) lived in the buildings on the site, gardened, trapped, and maintained dog teams. They continue to operate a trapline during the winter. According to Bruce Mitford the trapline is approximately 55 miles long with 7 line cabins. As part of their residency they have taken responsibility for the care and repair of the buildings and structures such as new roofing and replacing rotted logs, and they relocated the David Moses cabin further into the site for its protection from river bank erosion. They repaired the Lonny Johnny cabin in situ adding new top logs to the walls and a new roof. They used salvaged logs from the Mervyn post to add a new room to the Germaine cabin. They also added a screened sun room to the original cabin and added a new waterproof footing with financial support from YG and NND.
- On two separate occasions the entire site was flooded causing the family to take refuge on the main cabin roof or in the high cache. When leaving the site for extended periods of time extensive preparations are undertaken to prevent damage in their absence by animals or flooding.
- The garden is approximately 36 by 57 feet (12m by 19 m) and was fenced, a “greenhouse” timber frame, a log guest cabin (1986), a log sauna cabin (1982), a fire wood storage shed, a dogsled storage shed, a high cache, a screened meat shed and a second privy were added. Piles of lumber and building materials are located near the south privy and beside the log sauna. This pile is on the location of the original Mervyn post that had collapsed by 1979. Each of the buildings except the main cabin and the guest cabin are used for storage. Additional items are mounted on the outside of the David Moses and Jonny Johnny cabins, or are piled along the east ends of these two cabins.
- 2016 Commencement of management planning process for the Lansing Post heritage site.

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<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid. Pg. 9. According to the oral history Eddie Wilkinson was killed by a bear. Archival photos show a bear being removed from the site.

## APPENDIX 2: First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun Final Agreement, Schedule A

### Summary of Schedule A Provisions Relevant to Lansing Heritage Site

- The Yukon shall establish a portion of the Parcel R-13 of Settlement Land known as the Lansing townsite as a historic site pursuant to the Historic Resources Act, S.Y. 1991, c. 8, as soon as practicable (section 1.1).
- The Government and NND shall establish the boundaries of the Site based on information provided by the historic resources assessment carried out pursuant to 2.1 (section 1.2).
- The Government and NND shall carry out a historic resources assessment of the site as the initial stage of preparing a management plan for the Site (section 2.1).
- The Government and NND shall prepare jointly a management plan for the Site which shall be reviewed by the Yukon Heritage Resources Board. The Yukon Heritage Resources Board may make recommendations respecting the management plan to Government and NND (section 2.2).
- The preparation of the management plan shall be guided by the following principles:
  - the protection, conservation and interpretation of the Heritage Resources at the Site in accordance with national and international standards;
  - the recognition and protection of the traditional and current use of the Site by the NND; and
  - the encouragement of public awareness of and appreciation for the natural and cultural resources of the Site (section 2.3).
- The development of the management plan shall include a process for public Consultation (section 2.5).
- The management plan shall address: i) the traditional and current use by the NND; ii) the nature and status of resources at the Site; iii) historic buildings; iv) archaeological resources; v) burial sites; vi) standards of maintenance; vii) public access; viii) land use impacts; ix) the conditions of third-party use of the Site; and x) such other matters as Government and the NND may agree (section 2.6).
- In developing the management plan, Government and the NND will give equal consideration to the oral history and historic research available on the Site (section 2.7).
- Government and NND shall jointly approve the management plan (section 3.1).
- If Government and NND are unable to agree on the terms of the management plan, Government or the NND may refer the dispute to the dispute resolution process under 26.3.0 of the NNDFA (section 3.2).
- The NND shall manage the Site in accordance with the *Historic Resources Act*, S.Y. 1991, c. 8 and the management plan for the Site approved by the Minister and the NND.

## **APPENDIX 3: Relevant Legislation**

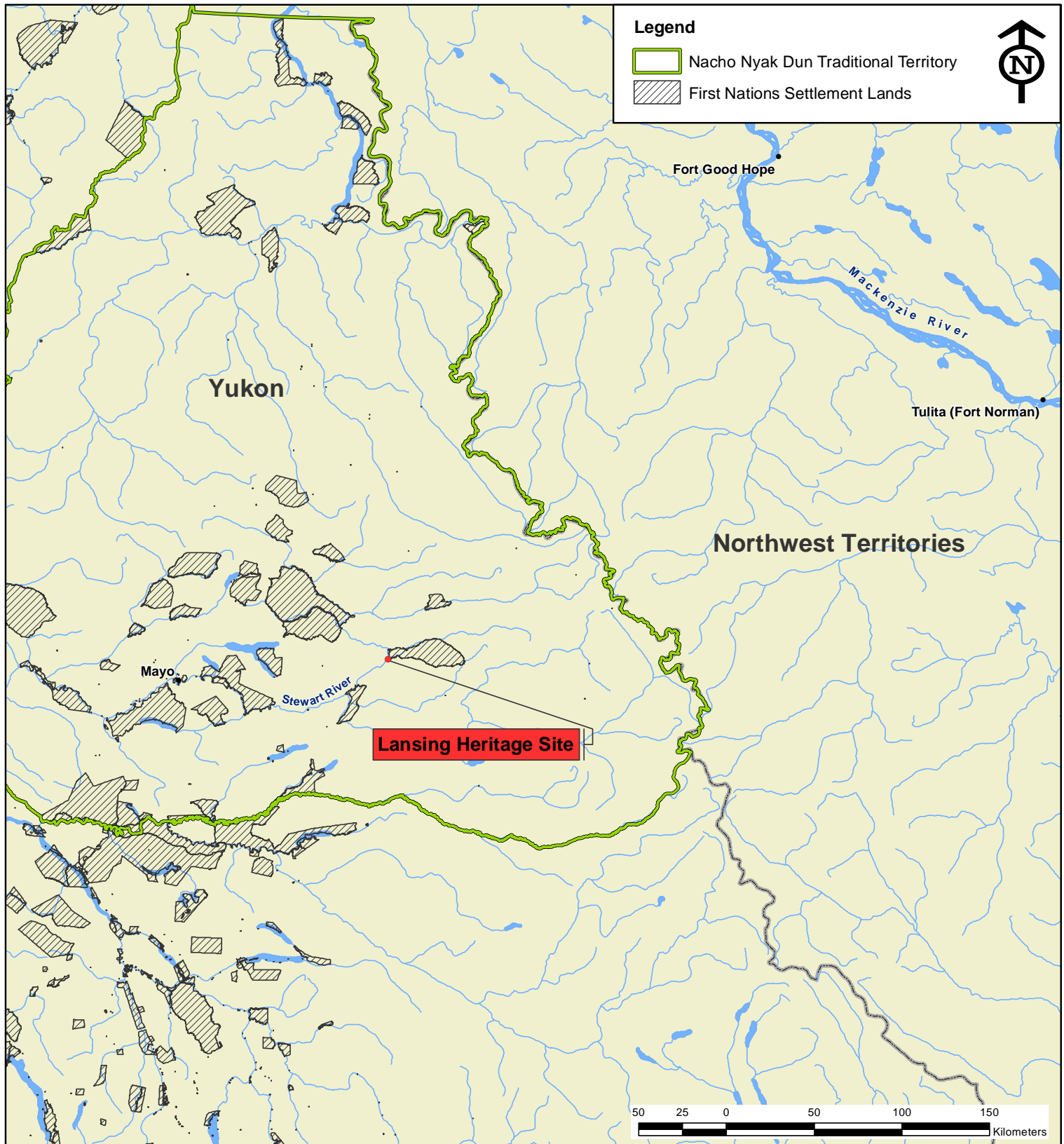
- Na-Cho Nyäk Dun Final Agreement, and Implementation Plan
- FNNND Heritage Act
- Lands Act
- Historic Resources Act



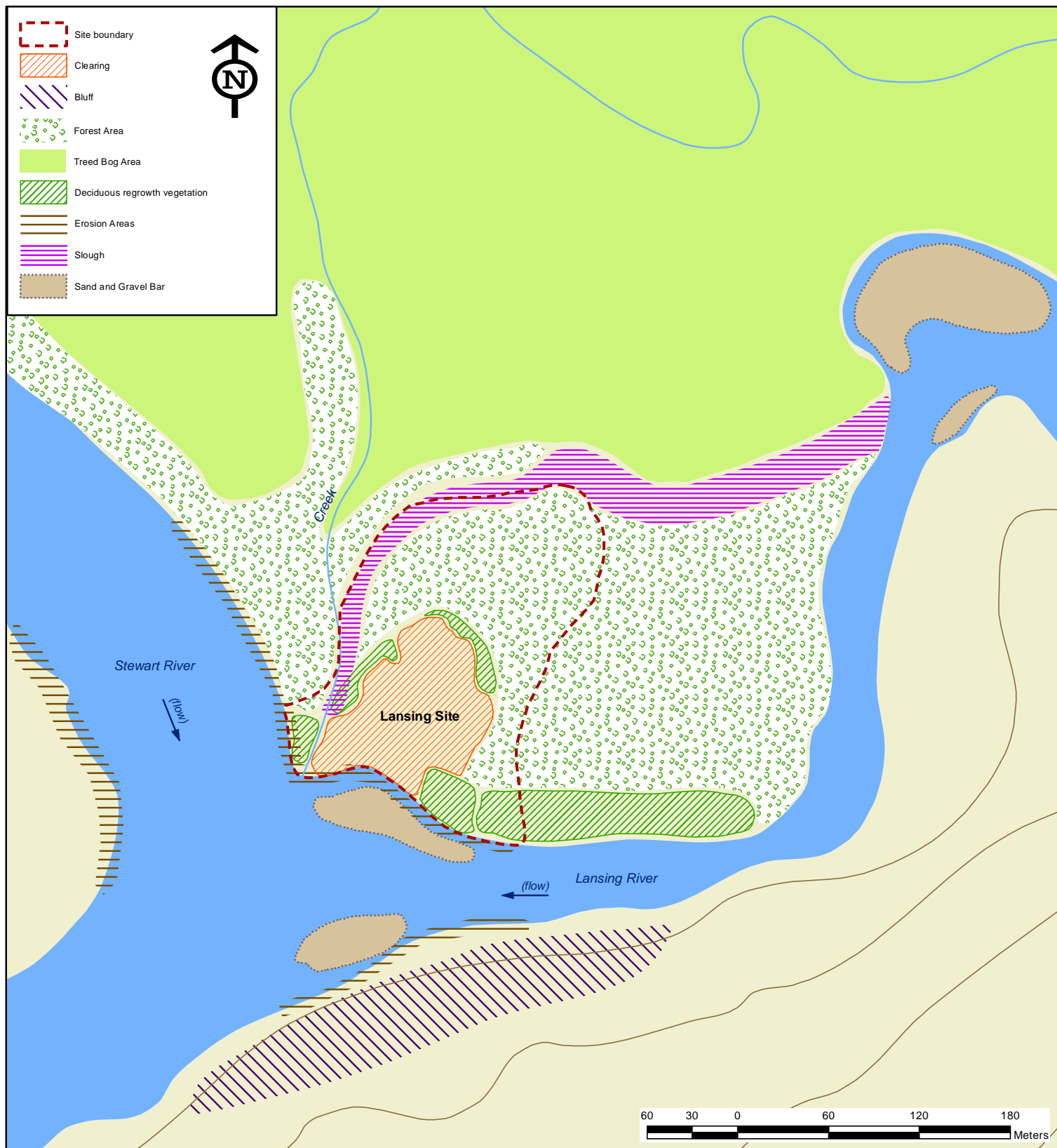
## **APPENDIX 4: MAPS**

# Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan

## Regional Context Map



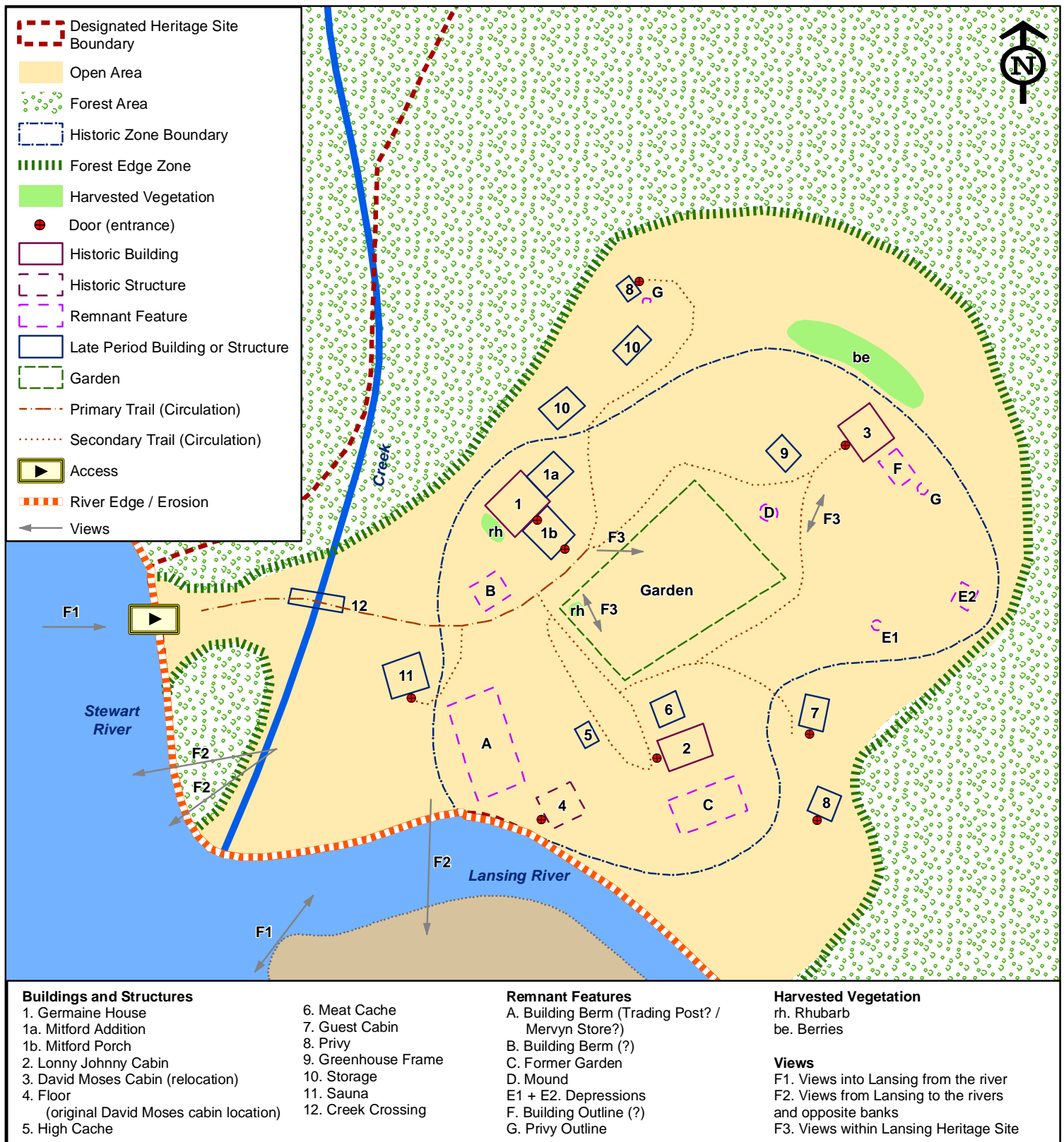
## Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan Site Context Scale



# Map 3

## Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan

### Building Locations and Physical Elements of the Site






## Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan Site Development Plan

**Note: same legend as Map. 3 - but with the following additions**

Trails to be maintained annually:

--- Primary Trail (Circulation)


--- Secondary Trail (Circulation)

 Work area clearings

 +  Open Area and Historic Zone to be maintained annually

Buildings, Structures and Remnant Features to be managed as per the Management Plan

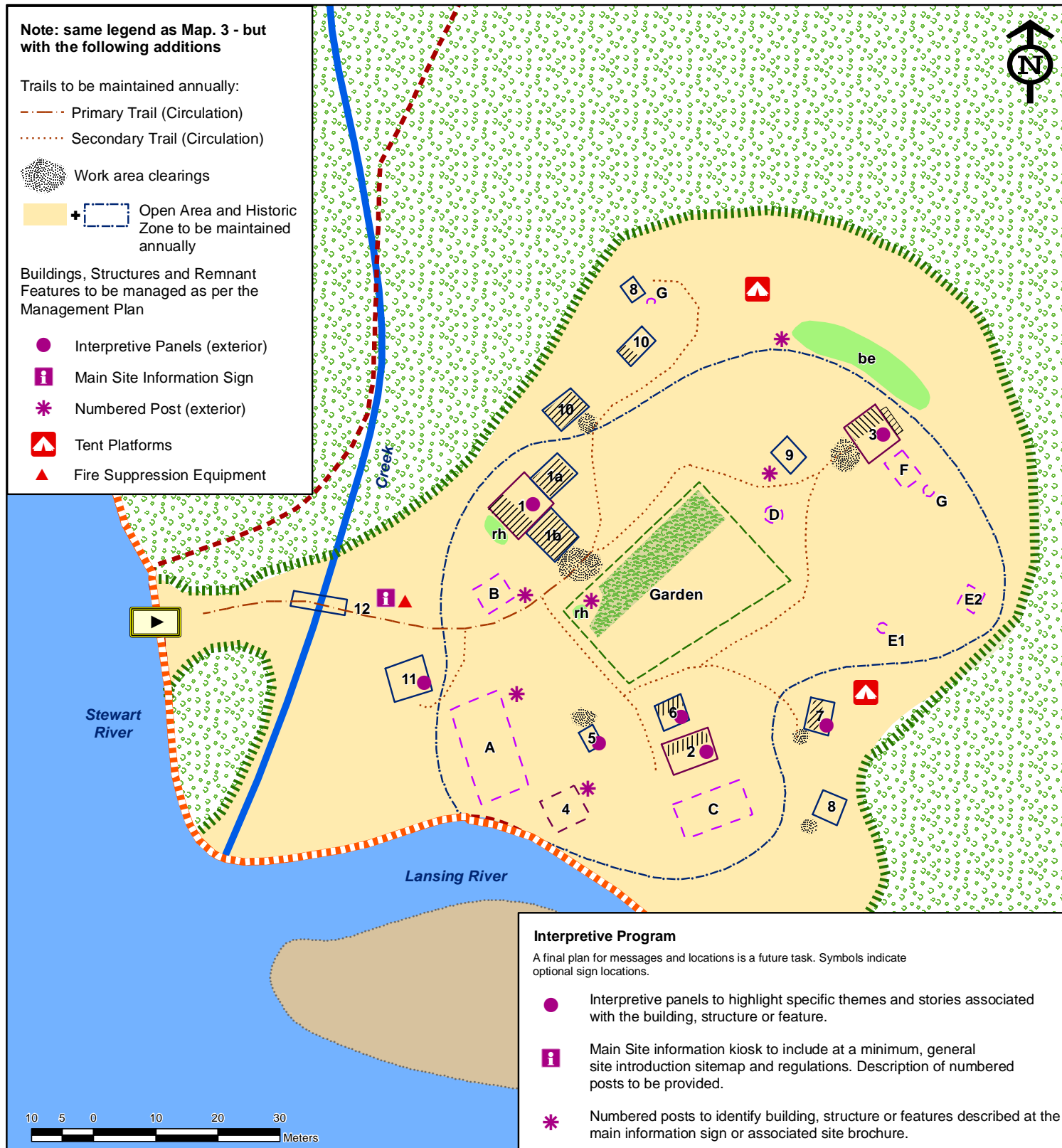
 Interpretive Panels (exterior)

 Main Site Information Sign

 Numbered Post (exterior)

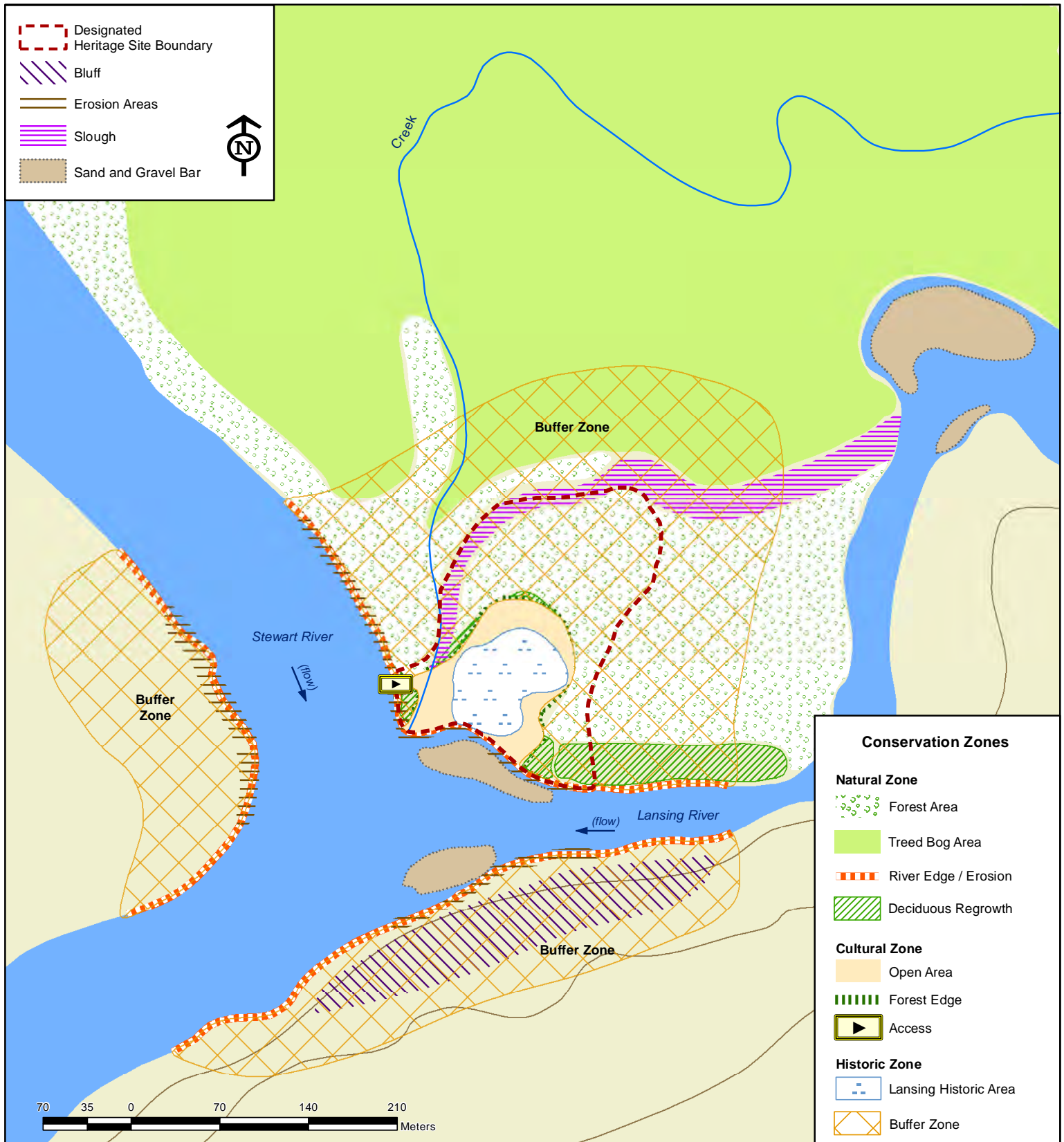
 Tent Platforms

 Fire Suppression Equipment



# Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan

## Conservation Zones



# Map 6

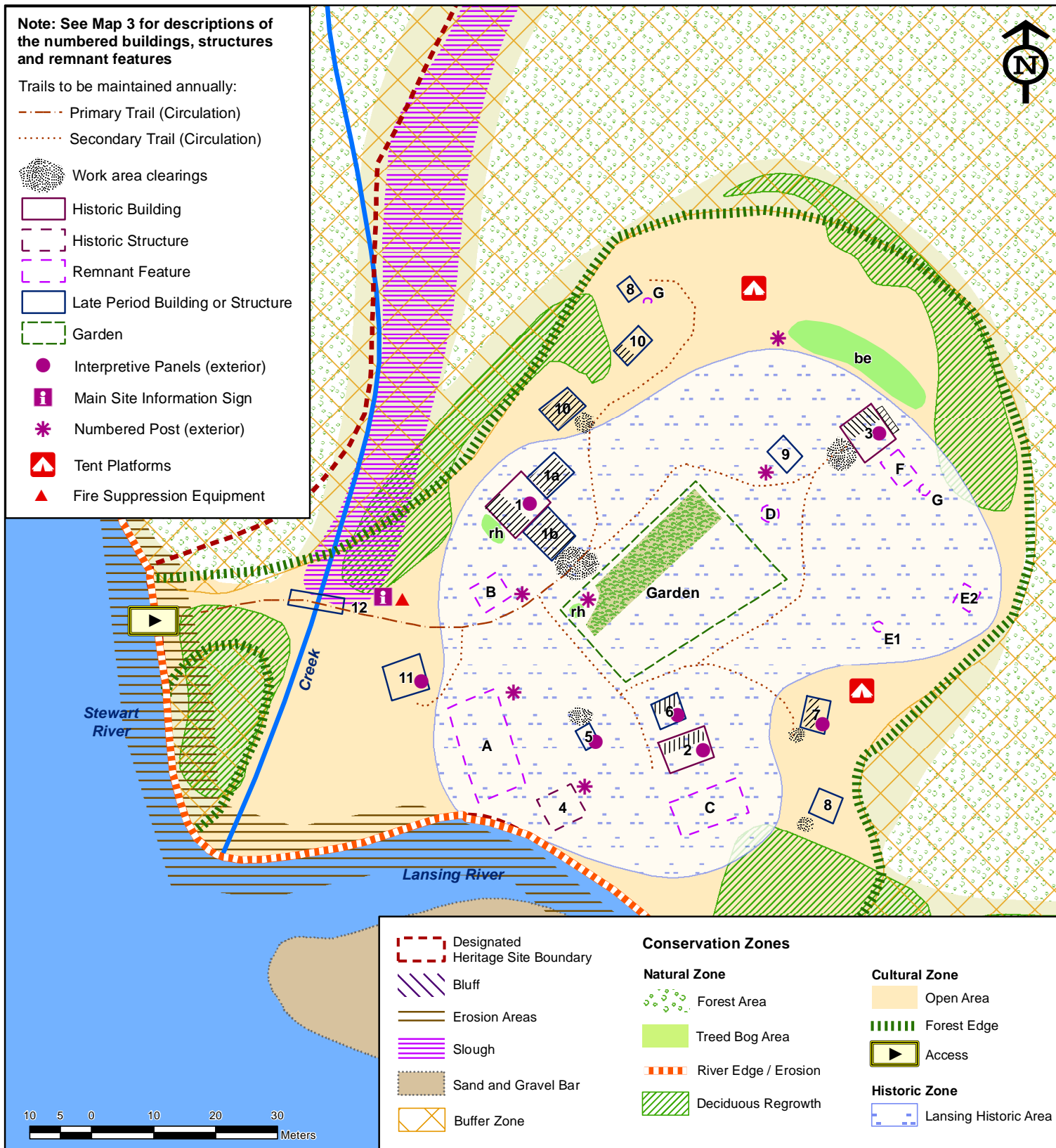
## Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan Site Development Plan / Conservation Zone

**Note: See Map 3 for descriptions of the numbered buildings, structures and remnant features**

Trails to be maintained annually:

- Primary Trail (Circulation)
- Secondary Trail (Circulation)

- Work area clearings
- Historic Building
- Historic Structure
- Remnant Feature
- Late Period Building or Structure
- Garden
- Interpretive Panels (exterior)
- Main Site Information Sign
- Numbered Post (exterior)
- Tent Platforms
- Fire Suppression Equipment



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# LANISING HERITAGE SITE

## HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLANNING



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Management Plan prepared by:



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