

FHBRO HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT
BATTERMAN'S POINT COMPLEX
ST. LAWRENCE ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK, ONTARIO

FHBRO number: 93-030
DFRP number: 09431
Resource name: Batterman's Point Complex
Address: Hill Island, St. Lawrence Islands National Park, Ontario
FHBRO status: "Recognized" Complex
Construction: 1920
Designer: unidentified
Original function: vacation community
Current function: vacant site
Modifications:
Custodian: Parks Canada Agency

Description of Historic Place

Batterman's Point Complex is situated on a small island in the St. Lawrence Islands National Park. The complex is composed of four small buildings set in a spacious natural setting along the river's edge. The buildings, which were once part of a larger estate, are constructed of peeled logs, rubble-stone foundations and shingled roofs. The designation is confined to the boundaries of the property.

Heritage Value

The Batterman's Point Complex is a Recognized complex because of its historical associations, and its architectural and environmental values.

Historical value:

The Batterman's Point Complex is a good illustration of the 'cottage movement', which originated in Canada in the 1870s, when wealthy Canadians began to country estates in the mountains or by the water. These vacation communities were facilitated by the development of the railway. They increased in number as roads were improved and, in the 20th century, with the arrival of the automobile. The Batterman's Point Complex is associated with Mr. Grant Mitchell, Chairman of the Thousand Islands Bridge Authority, who owned Batterman's Point from 1964 to 1982.

Architectural value:

The complex is valued for the very good quality of the buildings' Rustic design. Small, picturesque and united by a single aesthetic, the buildings are distinguished by their rubble-stone foundations, peeled-log posts and brackets and shingled roofs. All the woodwork and masonry exhibit signs of good craftsmanship.

Environmental value:

The picturesque relationship of the buildings and their natural setting combines with their Rustic appearance to create the true character of the complex. The complex, in turn, establishes the character of the waterfront setting, and is a well-known landmark on this stretch of the St. Lawrence River.

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Sources:

Kate MacFarlane, Twenty Eight Buildings, St. Lawrence Islands National Park, Ontario, Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office, Reports 93-023 through 93-038

Character-Defining Elements

The following character-defining elements of the Batterman's Point Complex should be respected:

- The picturesque qualities of the Complex, as expressed through its small scale, Rustic design and use of local materials. Significant design features include its octagonal, shingled roof, its rubble-stone piers, and its peeled-log posts and brackets.
- The picturesque relationship between the buildings and their natural setting, as expressed through its small scale, Rustic features and use of local materials. Significant features include a rubble-stone breakwall and an arched footbridge.

For further guidance, please refer to the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*.