

LANSSING HERITAGE SITE

HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLANNING



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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Submitted to:

First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun
Heritage Department
www.nndfn.com

Yukon Government
Cultural Services Branch
www.yukonheritage.com

Submitted by:

NVision Insight Group with
Wendy Shearer, Cultural
Heritage Specialist

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.

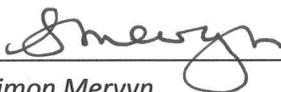
Photo Credits: Archival and historic photographs courtesy of Yukon Archives (where noted). All other photos in the management plan were taken in August 2016 by Wendy Shearer under this contract with the Yukon Government, unless otherwise credited.

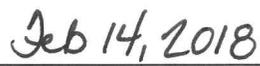
Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan



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

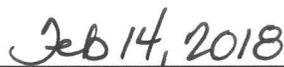

Date



Photo 1: Yukon Archives. Mervyn-Wood family fonds. Pho 539 98/87 #430. [View of Mervyn Trading Post (the building is not longer standing on the site) and exterior activity area]

FOREWORD

This Executive Summary complements the Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan as submitted to the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun and Yukon Government.

This Management Plan represents the best efforts of the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun (NND) and Yukon Government (YG) 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)***. It is 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.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Lansing Heritage Site Steering Committee would like to thank the many people who have taken time to read and comment on the work while in progress or who attended community open houses, public meetings and provided their feedback.

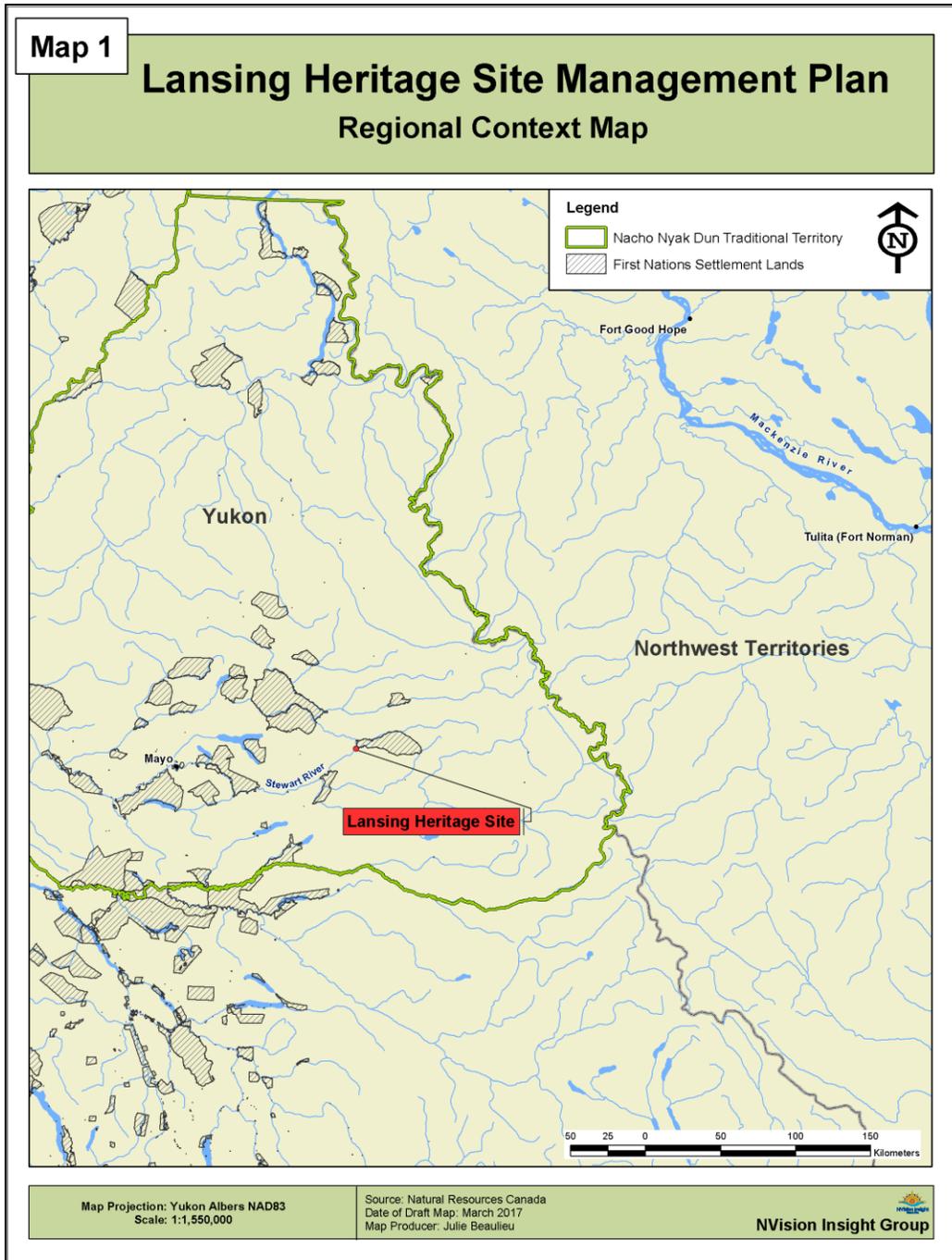
Steering Committee Members

First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun 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.

1.0 BACKGROUND

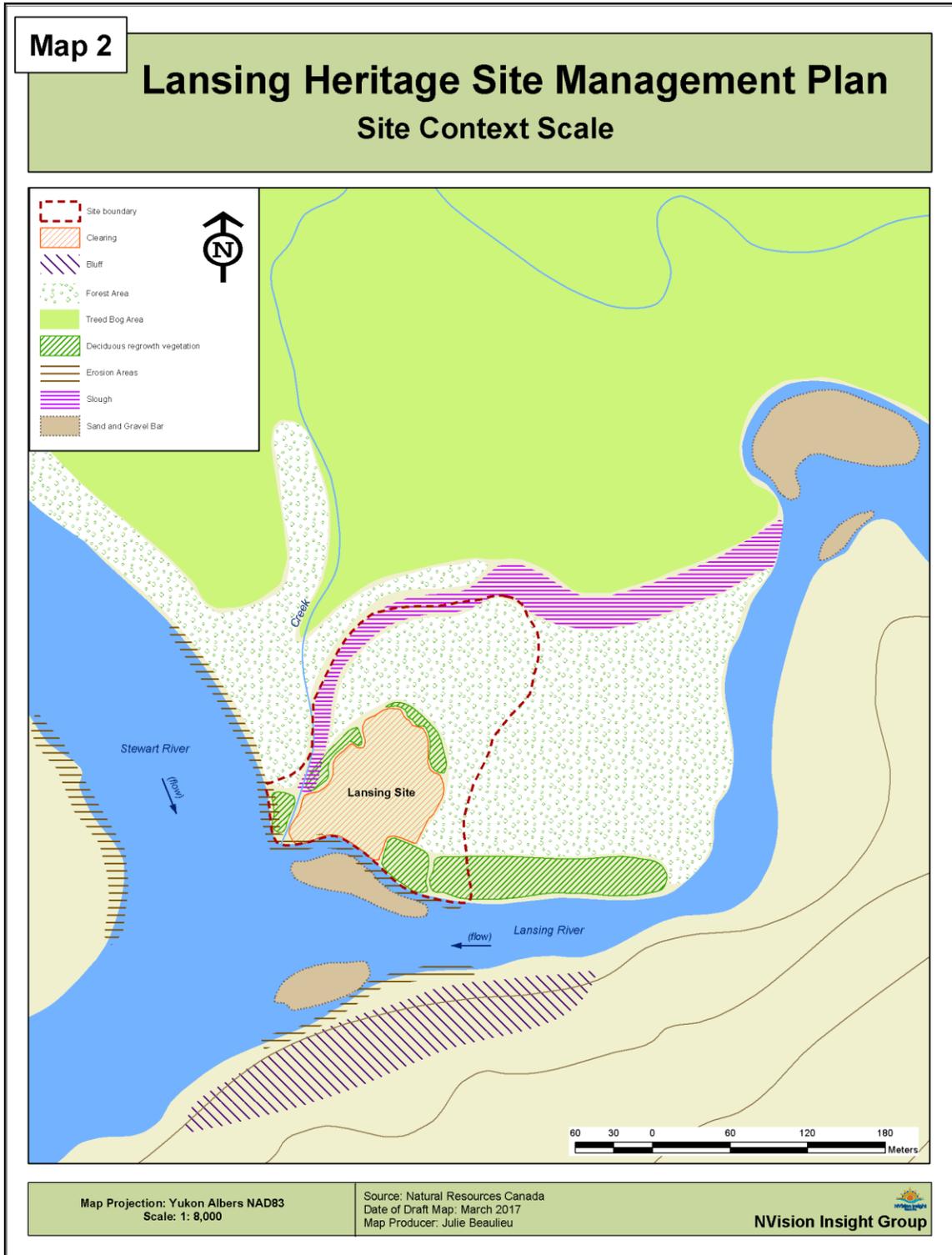
The Lansing Heritage Site (Lansing) Management Plan provides a long term vision to preserve and protect the significant values of the site, and to ensure that the site remains in use for a variety of visitors, particularly for the NND, other First Nations and visitors arriving by river or air. The Lansing 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).



The Lansing Heritage Site is located at the confluence of the Lansing and Stewart Rivers; the area is found on Category B Settlement Land of the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun. The site includes a clearing where buildings, structures and landscape features are located (see Map 2: Site Context Scale). The Lansing Management Plan is based on 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.



Photo 2: Yukon Archives. Mervyn family fonds. Pho 244 99/87 #1. Flood at Lansing. Dinky Mervyn in forefront.



Planning for the Lansing Heritage Site follows the principles expressed in the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* as current best practices for the management of multi-layered cultural heritage landscapes, and requirements of the Na-cho Nyäk Dun Final Agreement (NNDFA).

2.0 HERITAGE RESOURCES

The Lansing Heritage Site 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 and contains layers of tangible and intangible heritage. Tangible heritage values include the buildings, structures, and landscape remnants on the site. In addition to the tangible heritage, there are significant intangible values such as the traditional knowledge that connects the site with NND, as well as the historic and archival records.

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 NND community members emphasize the significance of the historic site. There are stories regarding the use of the site prior to 1902 as a gathering place along the route to and from the Northwest Territories. Seasonal visits to the site continued during the twentieth century, which 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 also played a role in the fur trade and is part of the Yukon's economic development history.



Photo 3: Aerial view to the north of the Stewart River, Lansing River and Lansing Heritage Site, August 2016.

2.1 Statement of Significance

A Statement of Significance identifies the description, heritage value, and character-defining elements of a 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 Northwest Territories;
- 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.



Photo 4: Lonny Johnny cabin (right) and screened meat shed (left).



Photo 5: David Moses cabin, west elevation.

Lansing is an organically evolved, continuing cultural heritage landscape¹ 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 it remains an important part of the memories of many members of the community. Lansing represents a time and place where traditional gathering and seasonal harvesting activities took place. The site then evolved to a permanent settlement that is tied to the economic development of the Yukon, represented by trading, trapping, and homesteading. 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.

2.2 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”.²

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:

- The buildings and structures, which reflect many periods of use and construction techniques;
- The trail and informal path network that connects 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;

¹ 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.”

² *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*, pg. 254.

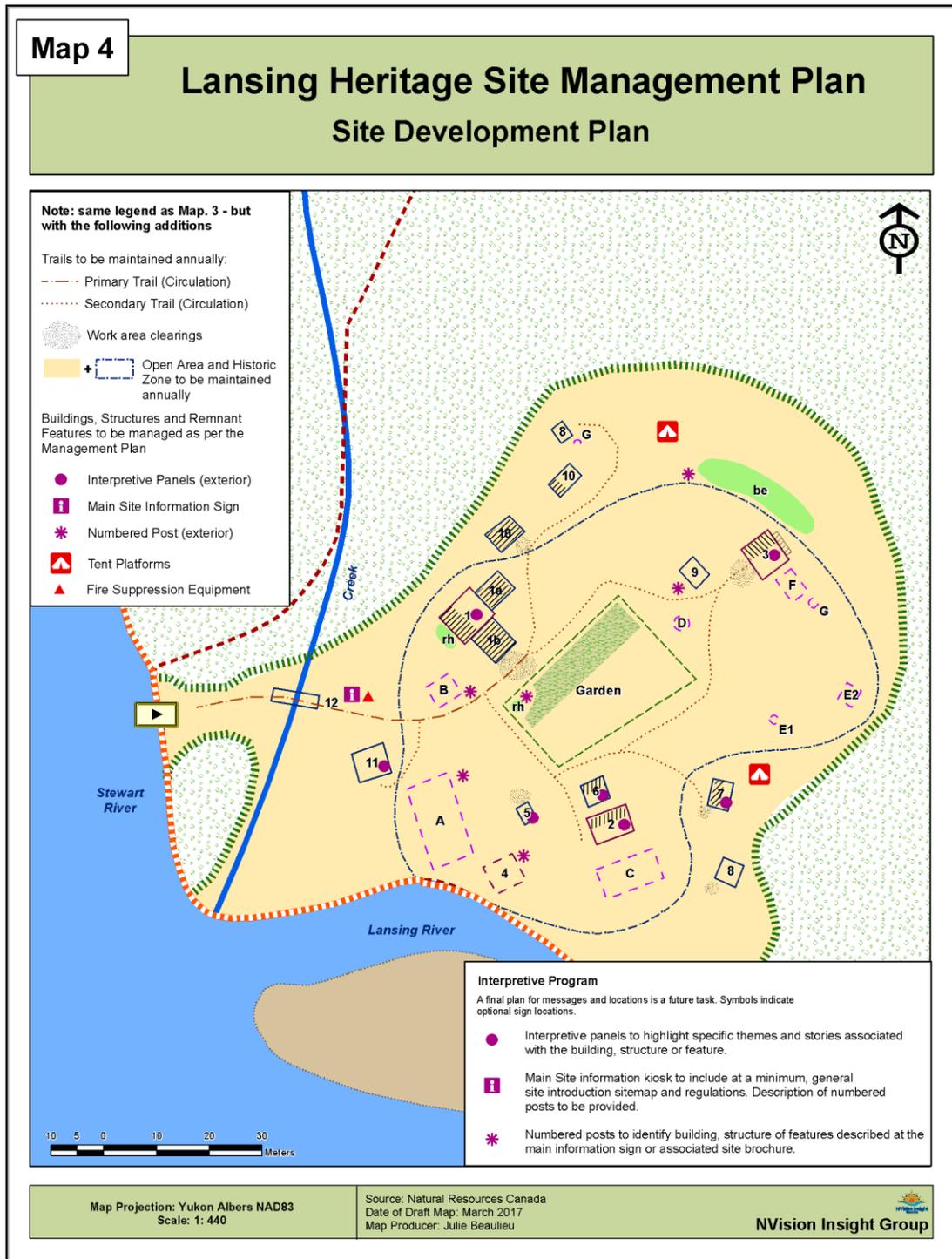
- The vernacular layout of the cabins, storage sheds, privies and other support structures which provides for efficient connection between them while providing outdoor spaces for work and socializing activities around the cabins;
- The relatively flat central area surrounded by the sloped banks of an 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 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.



Photo 6: Germaine Cabin, bedroom and sunroom additions, view from the east.

3.0 CONSERVATION AND DESIGN GUIDELINES

The management approach outlined in the Lansing Management Plan recognizes that NND history and traditional uses of Lansing must be an integral part of any management actions taken. Using NND history and traditional uses as a foundation, other layers of historic and current activities are also recognized.



The main management recommendation in the Lansing Management Plan is that the current heritage resources at Lansing be conserved, allowing for rehabilitation, taking into account that the site will continue to evolve over time. In this vision of Lansing, the site remains in use with some visitor amenities added and programming. In all cases, additions and programming should be approached in a way that protects the significant heritage resources and values at Lansing.

The Lansing Management Plan includes a Site Development Plan, as well as Conservation Zones. The Site Development Plan (See Map 4: Site Development Plan) is based on a foundation of protecting and retaining all the built, cultural landscape and archaeological resources at the site. The Site Development Plan has a primary goal to create a place 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.

In comparison, the Conservation Zones (See Map 5: Conservation Zones) identify areas with similar resources and the level of sensitivity of these resources to disturbances. In areas where resources are sensitive, more care can be taken to protect them. As a result of this evaluation for the Lansing Heritage Site several defined zones have been identified: **Natural Zone** and **Cultural Zone, which includes the Historic Zone and the Access Zone.**

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. Conservation activities within the Natural Zone are intended to allow for the uninterrupted natural processes at work to continue.

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.

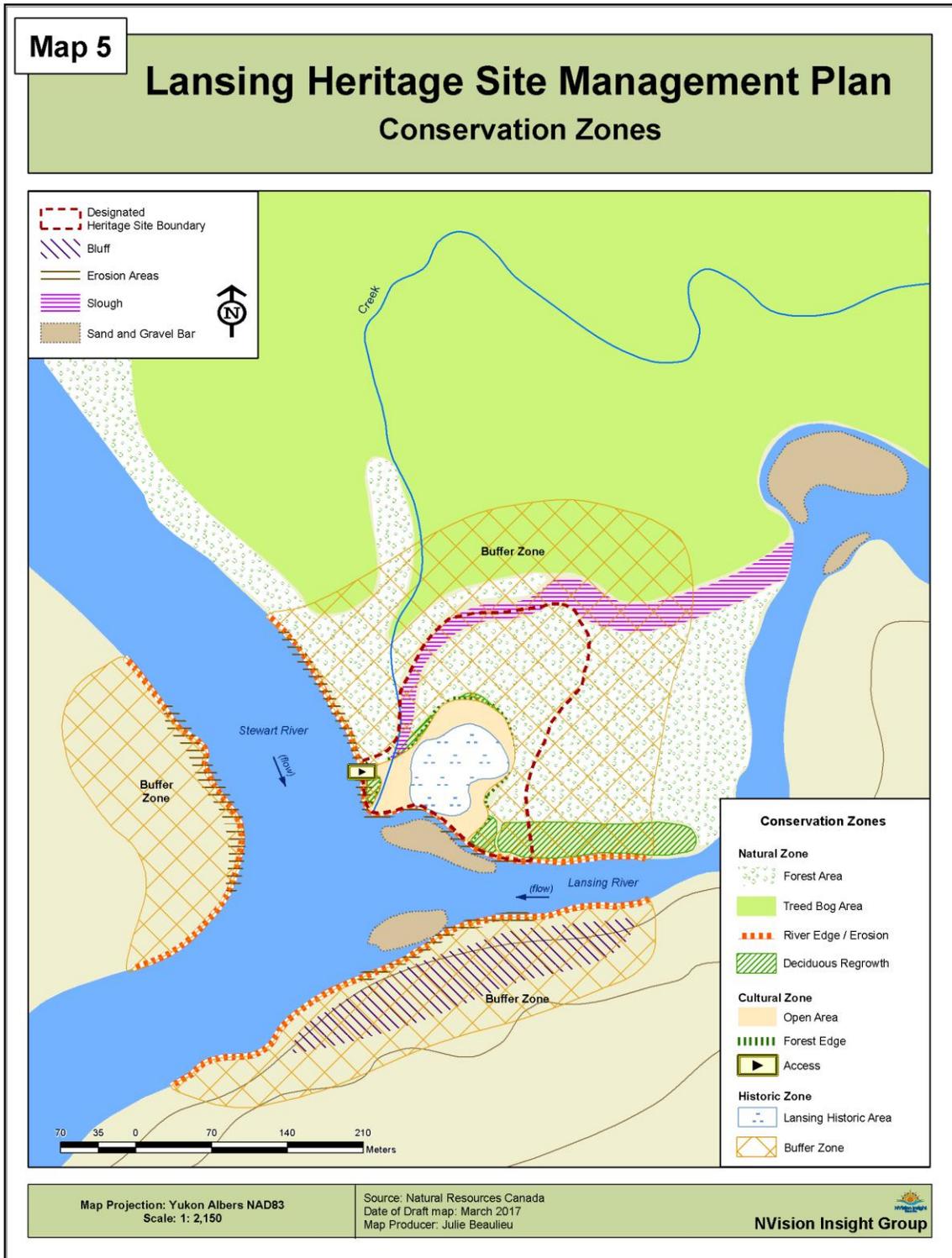




Photo 7: Yukon Archives. Mervyn-Wood family fonds. Pho 538 98/87 #231. [building with outdoor work area and wood pile. Note the original supporting crossbeams for the roof extension].

3.1 Approaches and Recommended Key Actions

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.

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.



Photo 8: View to the north across the clearing showing relationships between buildings and structures.

General Key Actions:

- At Lansing, as per the conservation approaches of the management plan, 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.
- 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.



Photo 9: Yukon Archives. Wilkinson family fonds. #16756. Aerial view of Lansing 1976.

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.



Photo 10: Central open space with cabins, high cache, garden and outdoor storage, view to the west.

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.



Photo 11: 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)].

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.



Photo 12: View south at unnamed outlet at Lansing River.

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.

Key Actions for Adjacent Lands:

- It is recommended that the Buffer Zones be managed in keeping with the Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan irrespective of land ownership.
- 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 Lansing 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.



Photo 13: Central open space view to the north east from the berm of the former trading post.

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.

Key Action for 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.



Photo 14: Yukon Archives. Wilkinson family fonds. #16769. Aerial view of Lansing 1977.

Key Actions for Lansing as a Gathering Place (long-term option):

- **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.
- **Financial Plan:** To reach this level of development at Lansing will require 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:** 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.

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 (NNDA 13.8.4; Special Provisions 13.8.7.2 to 13.8.7.2 and the NND Final Agreement Implementation Plan), 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.



Photo 15: Trail to landing area.

4.0 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 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).

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.

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.

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: 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 should be determined once the detailed interpretive plan is completed.
 - Potential locations for signage is indicated on the site development plan (see Map 4- 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.



Photo 16: High cache with trail to wood pile and view across the Lansing River.

5.0 ECONOMIC 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 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 NNDFR 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.

6.0 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 (See Map 6: Site Development Plan/Conservation Zones) 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.



Photo 17: Yukon Archives. Mervyn family fonds. Pho 244 99/87 #2. Norman Nedry's cabin. Lansing Post. [David Moses cabin in its original location].

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; and 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).

Management Structure

In accordance with the NNDFA, Chapter 13 Schedule A -4.0 Implementation, “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 approved by the Minister and the First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun”(4.1).

The management for Lansing must be consistent 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 programs such as the Historic Properties Assistance grants, 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.

Management Plan Review

In accordance with the NNDFA, 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 the Lansing Heritage Site can be brought to the attention of the NND 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.

Capital and Operating Costs

Lansing Heritage Site, under the Historic Resources Act and the NNDFA, 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.



Photo 18: Yukon Archives. Mervyn-Wood family fonds. Pho 539 98/87 #432. Lansing Creek. [round and square logs on structure].

Map 6

Lansing Heritage Site Management Plan

Site Development Plan / Conservation Zone



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

LANSING HERITAGE SITE

HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLANNING



First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun

Heritage Department
101 Future Rd.
Box 220
Mayo, YT Y0B1M0
heritagemgr@nndfn.com

www.nndfn.com



Yukon Government

Cultural Services Branch
204 Lambert Street, 3rd Floor
Box 2703 (L-2)
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6
heritage.planning@gov.yk.ca

www.yukonheritage.com

Management Plan prepared by:



Nvision Insight
Group Inc.
YOUR VISION, OUR INSIGHT

CONTACT

- wendyshearer@rogers.com
- cgrosset@nvisiongroup.ca

NVISION INSIGHT GROUP WITH WENDY SHEARER, CULTURAL HERITAGE SPECIALIST