

A BRIEF HISTORY

Circa 1000

The Odawa tribe settled the area now known as Emmet County after defeating the Mus-co-desh.

Early 1600's

Arrival of the first Europeans to the area.

1671

Founding of St. Ignace.

1760's

Area known as McGulpin Point was inhabited by John McAlpin and his Native American wife.

1776

Start of the Revolutionary War.

1811

Patrick McGulpin, son and heir to John McAlpin, receives the first recorded deed to the McGulpin Point property. The first deed issued by the USA in Emmet County.

1825

Erie Canal opens.

1850's

Vessel traffic through the Straits of Mackinac increases dramatically and spurs the development of lighthouses.

1854

McGulpin Point Lighthouse plan approved by Congress.

1861

Civil War begins, interrupting McGulpin Point Lighthouse construction.

1867

McGulpin Point becomes property of the federal government.

1868

Construction begins on McGulpin Point Lighthouse.

1869

McGulpin Point light shown for the first time.

1906

McGulpin Point Lighthouse decommissioned after being deemed less viable than the Old Mackinac Point Light Station.

1913

McGulpin Point Lighthouse passes into private ownership for the first time.

2008

After successive owners, Emmet County purchased the property from the Peppler family.