



ALGER COUNTY TOWNSHIPS & MUNISING

## AN INTRODUCTION TO ALGER COUNTY

The history of European visitation to Alger County goes back to the seventeenth century, possibly back to the 1620s when Etienne Brule visited Lake Superior and probably camped and rested in Alger County. In subsequent years various locations were stopping points for the French explorers, Jesuit missionaries, and fur traders. Pictured Rocks were described by many of these early expeditions.

At first settlement in the county developed around a non-Native cluster of homes on Grand Island. Later a furnace was constructed and operated at Christmas. In the 1880s the Detroit and Marquette Railroad was completed through the county and it along with its successors would be the means to give immigrants access to the county. The county was created in 1885 and consists of 913 square miles. The timber and related industries like bowl and paper manufacturing attracted immigrants. Fishing especially out of Grand Marais was an important industry. Good farmland in the area of Chatham area brought more immigrants especially Finns. Around 1907 the Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company actively sought immigrants to purchase it's cut-over lands in the county. The results of this activity are inconclusive. A sizeable Slovenian community attracted by the timber industry settled at Traunik.

Today descendants of these immigrants continue to reside in the county. The Polish community has a special “polka Mass” and ethnic banquet at Sacred Heart Catholic church in Munising.

<b>REGULAR &amp; ETHNIC POPULATION OF ALGER COUNTY – 1910</b>			
<b>Political Sub-division</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Ethnic Population</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Au Train Township	409	202	49%
Burt Township (Grand Marais)	1,373	403	29%
Grand Island Township	52	14	27%
Limestone Township	413	204	49%
Mathias Township	528	171	32%
Munising Township	3,547	261	7%
Munising Village	2,952	1,077	36%
Onota Township	147	65	46%
Rock River Township	1,706	761	32%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,627</b>	<b>3,158</b>	<b>30%</b>

## MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, AU TRAIN TOWNSHIP, 1910

Occupation	Belgian Flemish	Canadian English	Canadian French	Croatian	English	Finn	German	Irish	Norwegian	Polish	Scot	Swede	TOTAL
Boarding House Keeper	1		1	1		1							4
Brickyard Laborer		1				1							2
Carpenter			1										1
Clerk General Merchandise						1							1
Farm Laborer			1					1	1				3
Farmer		1	2		1		3	1		1	1	4	14
Fishermen			3										3
Housekeeper		1											1
Laborer		2	1										3
<b>Lumber Camp</b>													
Blacksmith						1						1	2
Cook		1										1	2
Cutter				16		36							52
Foreman			1									1	2
Jobber			1										1
Laborer	1	1	3		1	24		1				9	40
None	1	8	2	1	1	28	1		2			9	53
Post Mistress		1											1
<b>Railroad</b>													
Laborer		1	1					1				4	7
Round House Laborer		1											1
Section Foreman		1							1			3	5
Telegrapher									1				1
Saloon Keeper			1										1
Superintendent Public Works			1										1
Teamster		1											1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>202</b>

MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, BURT TOWNSHIP, GRAND MARAIS, 1910

Occupations	Canadian English	Canadian French	Canadian Irish/Scot	Danish	English	Finn	French	German	Irish	Italian	Polish	Russian	Scot	Swede	Swiss	TOTAL
Accountant					1											1
Baker													1			1
Blacksmith											1					1
Boarding-House Manager		3														3
Carpenter						1										1
Clerk		1										1				2
Cook	1	1	1			2										5
Contractor	2															2
Dealer	3		1						1							5
Dressmaker		1														1
Engineer	3													1		4
Farmer	3	7	2		3	10		2				1				28
Fireman	2	1	1			1					5	1		2		13
Fisherman		2								1						3
Gardener	2	1														3
<b>Hotel</b>																
Keeper					1											1
Manager					1											1
Laborer	8	17				17					1	2		1		46
Lawyer		3	2			2							1	1		9
Lighthouse Assistant Kpr	1															1
<b>Lumber Mill</b>																
Brokerman	2															2
Driver, River	1	1														2
Edgerman			1								1					2
Inspector	1															1
Loader						1										1
Laborer					1	2										3
Lumberman		2														2
Millwright	1															1
Packer	1			1				1								3
Piler			2			10						2		3		17
Sorter		2														2
Trimmer		1														1
Machinist											1					1
Manager	1		1													2
Merchant, Retail												1			1	2
Milker, Dairy	1															1
Minister													1			1
Moulder							1									1
No Job			3								1		1	1		6
None	28	44	11		1	48		3		1	15	8	1	6		166

MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, BURT TOWNSHIP, GRAND MARAIS, 1910  
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Occupations	Canadian English	Canadian French	Canadian Irish/Scot	Danish	English	Finn	French	German	Irish	Italian	Polish	Russian	Scot	Swede	Swiss	TOTAL
Nurse		1														1
Odd Jobs		1														1
Own Income	3		2											1		6
Post Master			1													1
Priest (RC)							1									1
Printer	1															1
Proprietor	2	3			1	2			1							9
<b>Railroad</b>																
Baggageman		1														1
Conductor					1											1
Section Man	2		1			2					5					10
Real Estate	1															1
Salesman		1	1													2
Servant			1			4										5
Shoemaker					1	1										2
Tailor								1								1
Trapper, Furs	1	3														4
Teacher						1										1
Unknown	1															1
Waitress	1															1
Watchman											1		1			2
Weaver	1	1														2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>403</b>

MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, GRAND ISLAND TOWNSHIP, 1910

Occupation	Canadian English	English	Finn	Norwegian	Swede	TOTAL
Carpenter (House)	1		1			<b>2</b>
Farmer (Truck)	1					<b>1</b>
Game Reserve Foreman	1					<b>1</b>
Inn Keeper					1	<b>1</b>
Laborer	1		2		1	<b>4</b>
Light House Keeper		1		1		<b>2</b>
None	1	1			1	<b>3</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>

## MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, LIMESTONE TOWNSHIP, 1910

Occupation	African	Belgian	Canadian English	Canadian French	Croatian	Dutch	English	Finn	Finn Swede	German	Norwegian	Scot	Slovenian	Swede	TOTAL
Boarding House Keeper								2							2
Dressmaker (At Home)				1											1
Farm Laborer														1	1
Farmer	1	1	3	2				2	1		1			13	24
<b>Lumber Camp</b>															
Cook								1							1
Foreman							1	1							2
Saw filer														1	1
Shaper, wood					1			50					8		59
Woodsman			7	3	4			12	2	1	2		6	5	42
None			4	6	1	2		18	3	1			3	9	47
Odd Jobs			2	4				4	2			1	1	3	17
<b>Railroad</b>															
Foreman				1											1
Laborer								1							1
Salesman (General Store)			1												1
Servant								4							4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>204</b>

## MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, MATHIAS TOWNSHIP, 1910

Occupation	Canadian English	Canadian French	Croatian	Dutch	English	Finn	Finn Swede	German	Irish	Polish	Russian	Scot	Slovenian	Swede	TOTAL
Blacksmith	1	1													2
<b>Boarding House</b>															
Cook			1										1	1	3
Keeper													2		2
Butcher								1							1
<b>Farm</b>															
Farmer	10	2		1		8								1	22
Laborer						2									2
Fur Trapper	1								1						2
Hotel Keeper	1														1
Laborer						1									1
<b>Lumber Camp</b>															
Bookkeeper	1														1
Carpenter															
Cutter			1			3					1		56		61
Laborer	1														1
Log Loader	1									1				1	3
Nurse	1														1
Physician	1														1
Saw Filer												1			1
Scaler			1												1
Unknown	1														1
Mason								1							1
Merchant (Flour & Feed)	1														1
Merchant (General Store)	1									1					2
None	21	2			1	14	1	1	4				2		46
Odd Jobs	4					1				1				1	7
Pastor	1														1
Railroad Laborer														1	1
Salesman (Clothing Store)										1					1
Saw Mill Laborer								1							1
Servant													1		1
Teamster		1												1	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>171</b>



# MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, MUNISING TOWNSHIP, 1910

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Occupation	Belgian (Walloon)	Canadian English	Canadian French	Canadian	Croatian	Czech (Bohemian)	English	Finn	Finn Swede
Blacksmith								1	
Boarding House Keeper		1							
Cedar Maker					1				
Clerk (General Store)									
Club House Keeper			1						
Dressmaker		1							
<b>Farm</b>									
Farm Laborer			1	2					
Farmer		4	2	3					
Manager									
Fish Culturist (Hatchery)				1					
Laborer		1	1				1		
<b>Lumber Camp</b>									
Barn Boss								1	
Chore Boy			1						
Cook									
Foreman	1		1						
Jobber				1					
Lumberjack		2	3	1	4	1		8	1
Teamster				1					
Water Carrier								2	
Wood Chopper					28	1		25	
Wood Cutter					1				
Wood Loader		1	1						
Woodsman			1						
None		7	4	12	1		2	11	
Own Income			1						
Paper Mill Laborer									
<b>Railroad</b>									
Railway Foreman									
Section Foreman			1					1	
Section Hand			3	1				3	
Station Agent		1							
Saloonkeeper			2						
Shingle Weaver		1							
Store Keeper									
Tannery Laborer									
Teamster									
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1</b>

MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, MUNISING TOWNSHIP, 1910

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Occupation	German	Irish	Norwegian	Polish	Slovenian	Swede	Yiddish	TOTAL
Blacksmith								1
Boarding House Keeper					3			4
Cedar Maker								1
Clerk (General Store)								1
Club House Keeper					1			1
Dressmaker								1
<b>Farm</b>								
Farm Laborer						1		4
Farmer	3	1						13
Manager		1						1
Fish Culturist (Hatchery)								1
Laborer			1		2	2		8
<b>Lumber Camp</b>								
Barn Boss								1
Chore Boy								1
Cook			1			1		2
Foreman								2
Jobber								1
Lumberjack		2	1			1	1	25
Teamster								1
Water Carrier								2
Wood Chopper					53			107
Wood Cutter								1
Wood Loader								2
Woodsman								1
None	2		1	4	11			55
Own Income								1
Paper Mill Laborer				1				1
<b>Railroad</b>								
Railway Foreman		1						1
Section Foreman	1							3
Section Hand		1				3		11
Station Agent								1
Saloonkeeper								2
Shingle Weaver								1
Store Keeper					1			1
Tannery Laborer				1				1
Teamster					1			1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>261</b>



# MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, MUNISING VILLAGE, 1910

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Occupation	Arabic	Belgian (Flemish)	Canadian English	Canadian French	Chinese	Danish	Dutch	English	Finn	Finn Swede	French	German
Agent			1									
Baker												
Barber			5									
Barn Boss			1									
Bartender			2	1					2			1
Blacksmith			1	2								
Bookkeeper			1									
Bookkeeper (Bank)									1			
Bookkeeper (Grocery)												
Bricklayer		1	1									
Builder & Contractor				1								
Butcher			1	1								
Candy Maker												
Carpenter			4	4					1			
Census Enumerator			1									
Cigar Maker			2					1				2
Choreboy				1								
Clothing Merchant												
Contractor			2									
Cook							1				1	
Delivery Clerk (Grocery)									1			
Dressmaker			2	1								
Engineer			1	3								
Farm Laborer									1			
Farmer			3									
Fisherman			4								1	
Foundry Machinist												
Freight Clerk												1
Grocer			1					1				
Hardware Bookkeeper			1									
Hardware Salesman									1			
Hoop Cutter				1								
Hotel Keeper			1	1		1						
Housekeeper			1			1						1
Janitor			1	2								
Jeweler	1											
Jobber												
Jointer			1									1
Laborer (Stone Mill)									1			
Laborer	2		16	16			1	1	4	4		2
Laundress				7						1		2
Laundryman					2							

# MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, MUNISING VILLAGE, 1910

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Occupation	Arabic	Belgian (Flemish)	Canadian English	Canadian French	Chinese	Danish	Dutch	English	Finn	Finn Swede	French	German
Lighthouse Keeper			1									
Liquor Dealer												
Longshoreman				3								
<b>Lumber Camp</b>												
Cook			2									
Foreman			3									
Laborer			2	5					12	3		
Lumberman			1									
Piler									1	1		
Scaler										1		
Tie Maker								1				
Maid				1								
Manager of Business												
Manufacturer				1								
Marshall			1									
Mason				1				1				1
Merchant			3									
Merchant (Dry Goods)												1
Merchant (General Store)			1									
Millwright			2	2				1				
Minister (Baptist)												
Minister (Protestant)												1
Music Teacher								1				
Newspaper Printer			1									
None	2		119	65				9	17	9		17
Nurse			2									
Own Income			3	1		3						
Painter (House)			1									
<b>Paper Mill</b>												
Barn Boss												
Blacksmith				1								
Bookkeeper			1									1
Dispersing Clerk			1									
Engineer												
Finisher												
Fireman				1								
Foreman			1									
Laborer			19	8		1			5			



# MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, MUNISING VILLAGE, 1910

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Occupation	Arabic	Belgian (Flemish)	Canadian English	Canadian French	Chinese	Danish	Dutch	English	Finn	Finn Swede	French	German
Teamster				1								
<b>Shingle Mill</b>												
Laborer												
Shingle Weaver												1
Shoemaker			2									1
Stone Mason												
Store Keeper			1									
Superintendent								1				
<b>Tannery</b>												
Beam Man											1	
Blacksmith				1								
Bookkeeper												
"Broom Hand"												
Laborer			3									
Millwright												
Tanner												
Teamster			1									
Tailor												1
Teacher			2									
Teamster			2	3					1			
Telephone Clerk			1									
Telephone Operator			1									
Treasurer (Alger Co)			1									
Unknown												
<b>Veneer Mill</b>												
Cutter				1								
Laborer			1									1
Millwright											1	
Waitress				1								
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>39</b>









MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, MUNISING VILLAGE, 1910

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Occupation	Greek	Irish	Norwegian	Paraguayan	Polish	Scot	Slovak	Swede	Swede Russian	Yiddish	TOTAL
Laborer	1				1			11			52
Setter											1
Teamster											1
<b>Shingle Mill</b>											
Laborer								1			1
Shingle Weaver								1			2
Shoemaker			1								4
Stone Mason								1			1
Store Keeper											1
Superintendent											1
<b>Tannery</b>											
Beam Man		1			1			1			4
Blacksmith											1
Bookkeeper			1								1
"Broom Hand"		1									1
Laborer			2		38		2	2			47
Millwright								2			2
Tanner		1									1
Teamster								1			2
Tailor								1			1
Teacher											2
Teamster											6
Telephone Clerk											1
Telephone Operator											1
Treasurer (Alger Co)											1
Unknown											12
<b>Veneer Mill</b>											
Cutter											1
Laborer					1			2			5
Millwright											1
Waitress											1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1077</b>



MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, ONOTA TOWNSHIP, 1910

Occupation	Canadian English	Canadian French	Danish	Finn	Lithuanian	Swede	TOTAL
<b>Farm</b>							
Farmer				5		1	6
Laborer				3			3
Manager	1				1		2
Housekeeper						1	1
Laborer				3		1	4
<b>Lumber Camp</b>							
Chopper, Wood				1			1
Cook				1			1
Laborer	1			9			10
Lumberman				1			1
Sawyer				2			2
Teamster				2			2
None	1	1		19			21
Odd Jobs		1		4			5
<b>Railroad</b>							
Laborer				1		2	3
Section Foreman			1				1
Servant	1			1			2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>65</b>

MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, ROCK RIVER TOWNSHIP, 1910

Page 1

Occupation	Austrian	Belgian (Flemish)	Canadian English	Canadian French	Dutch	English (Welsh)	Finn	Finn-Swede	French	German	Irish	Norwegian	Polish	Slovenian	Swede	TOTAL
Athlete, Traveling Company							2									2
Blacksmith Helper							1									1
<b>Boarding House</b>																
Cook							1									1
Keeper							28							1	1	30
Bookkeeper (Grocery)				1												1
Carpenter				2			2									4
Dressmaker															1	1
Engineer, Rock Crusher															1	1
<b>Farm</b>																
Farmer		2		3	5		49	6			1	3			14	83
Farmer (Chatham Experimental Station)									1							1
Laborer		2		1			4	2							2	11
<b>Hotel</b>																
Janitor						1										1
Keeper			1													1
Laundress							1									1
<b>Lumber Camp</b>																
Blacksmith				3												3
Chopper, Wood				2			282						1		2	287
Cook				1						1						2
Foreman				1			1									2
Laborer				3			41	1			1				2	48
Scaler				1												1
Teamster				2			6	1								9
Timekeeper				1												1
Merchant							1						1			2
None		2	5	7	3		168	8				2		1	10	206
Odd Jobs							1									1
<b>Railroad - DSSA</b>																
Inspector										1						1

MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, ROCK RIVER TOWNSHIP,  
Page 2

Occupation	Austrian	Belgian (Flemish)	Canadian English	Canadian French	Dutch	English (Welsh)	Finn	Finn-Swede	French	German	Irish	Norwegian	Polish	Slovenian	Swede	TOTAL
<b>Railroad - Munising &amp; Southeastern</b>																
Laborer	1					3		3								7
<b>Road Work</b>																8
Laborer	1					8										1
Teamster							1									1
Salesman (General Store)							3									3
Saloon Employee							1									1
Saw Mill Laborer							1									1
Servant (Private Family)				1			30	1								32
Teamster							2									2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>761</b>