

structures begun or completed than Sinclair had reported in July of the year previous. The engineer on the Board estimated that the fort might be put in a condition for defense, on the plan he laid down, by employing 100 men two months. His plan was never carried out. Work was continued each season, but not sufficiently to preserve the timber work from rapid decay.

Skipping over to 1788, Gother Mann, Capt. Royal Engineers, in his report on all the Posts of the lake region, said of the fort on Mackinaw island, "The fort itself has never been completed, the ditches which are in the rock are very little excavated, and the rampart but partly raised, but in order to shut the place up from being surprised by indians or others a picketing has been raised upon it all around which now begins to be very rotten; I had a part of it towards the Bay shored up while I was there, but the bank having slipped from under the wall, there is an opening 40 or 50 feet long into the fort. The soldiers barracks is in indifferent repair. * * * * There is a pile of building of masonry intended for officers barracks, about half finished; the walls