PROJECT PARTNER: Hiawatha National Forest

PROJECT SITE DESCRIPTION:

The Mather-Klauer Lodge is located on Grand Island in Lake Superior, a half-mile offshore from Munising, Michigan. The island has been inhabited for 4,000 years and is replete with archaeological sites. Much of the island was purchased in the early 1900s by William Gwinn Mather to use as his personal game preserve. He built Mather-Klauer Lodge as his retreat, and fenced off the northern portion of the island for imported animals like elk and caribou. Later additions doubled the size of the Lodge. It was privately owned until 2012, when the owners offered to sell it to the Hiawatha National Forest. It is now a museum and hosts summer archaeological field schools. The building needed work to maintain its condition in the harsh Great Lakes winters.

WHAT: In order to rehabilitate the Mather-Klauer Lodge roof, volunteers worked closely with HistoriCorps field staff to be trained in new skills, including:

- Removing existing asphalt shingles, and installing new shingles
- Repairing plywood roof elements
- Rehabilitating chimney faces

WHERE: Mather-Klauer Lodge, Grand Island, MI.

GPS Coordinates: 46.49986, -86.68493

Nearest town: Munising, MI.

HistoriCorps is a service learning partner of the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture committed to the preservation and stewardship of significant resources on public lands.

A view of the preservation work in-progress on the Mather-Klauer Lodge in 2017.

By hook or by crook, the HistoriCorps trucks always get to the project site! This image was taken during our 2015 project at Mather-Klauer Lodge.