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Michilimackinac at Work: Labor and Trades Weekend September 14-15

MACKINAW CITY, MICH. — Michilimackinac was a hardworking community in the 18th Century. Join the interpretive staff at Colonial Michilimackinac September 14–15 as they demonstrate a variety of tasks that made up the world of work during Michilimackinac at Work: Labor and Trades weekend.

Voyageurs, blacksmiths, laundresses, clerks, and soldiers all plied their trades at the fort, employing both skilled and unskilled labor. Special events, tours and demonstrations for the weekend include 'For want of a Smith:' Blacksmithing at Michilimackinac, Bourgeois and Voyageurs: People of the Fur Trade, Soap and Suds: Laundresses in the Military, and 'Some Tea and Loaf Sugar:' Tea and Domestic Service at Michilimackinac, among other programs. Additionally, demonstrations of the muskets and artillery will still take place.

“At these events we’ll be doing things that are truly special, that guests wouldn’t be able to see otherwise,” said Craig Wilson, Mackinac State Historic Parks Curator of History. “These events give us a chance to highlight certain aspects of Michilimackinac’s history that sometimes get passed over.”

All events are included with regular admission to Colonial Michilimackinac. The site will be open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. both days, with last admission at 4:00 p.m. A complete schedule of events can be found at mackinacparks.com. Pictures available upon request.

Mackinac State Historic Parks, a family of living history museums and parks in northern Michigan’s Straits of Mackinac, is an agency within the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Its sites—which are accredited by the American Alliance of Museums—include Fort

Mackinac, Historic Downtown Mackinac, The Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum, and Mackinac Island State Park on Mackinac Island, and Colonial Michilimackinac, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, and Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park in Mackinaw City. Mackinac State Historic Parks is governed by the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, established in 1895 to protect, preserve and present the parks' rich historic and natural resources for the education and recreation of future generations. Visitor information is available at (231) 436-4100 or on the web at www.mackinacparks.com.

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