

'Bonus Point'
Alvera Pierson
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Gert & Alphonse Anderson taking smoked ciscoes from hooks. (From The Landmarks, no.31, February, 1988.

Everyone in our Township knows where Stoney Point is, but do you know where Bonus Point is?

Bonus Point juts out into Lake Superior, and makes up the west side of the Bay of Big Sucker and Little Sucker Rivers as they flow into the lake.

This is how it got its name. Our father, Alphonse Anderson, was born in Larsmo, Finland in 1895, and immigrated to the U.S. and the North Shore when he was 16, becoming a commercial fisherman. When World War I started, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and spent two years fighting in the trenches in France under General Pershing. Upon discharge, he used his war bonus money to buy 10 acres of land on Lake Superior from Jack Croft.

He started building skiffs and a fish house and fished commercially. When the other local Scandinavian fishermen set their nets, they

would use landmarks to locate them, and soon Dad's land became known as Bonus Point.

Kathy Wurzer in her newly published book, "Tales of the Road, Highway 61" interviewed my brother Alvin and me, and wrote of the early days of the highway and commercial fishing, mentioning our family land, Bonus Point. So this is the rest of the story that I wanted to preserve in our local history.