

At the time of Radisson's visit, the shores of Chequamegon Bay were uninhabited save by a few half-starved Hurons; but soon thereafter it became the center of a considerable Indian population, residents of several tribes having been drawn thither: first, by the fisheries; second, by a fancied security in so isolated a region, against the Iroquois of the East and the wild Sioux of the West. When Allouez arrived in this polyglot village, October 1, he found here

Petun Hurons and a village composed of three bands of Ottawas." That Allouez was stationed upon the mainland, where the Indians now were, is evident from his description of the bay (*Jesuit Relations* for 1666-67): "A beautiful bay, at the bottom of which is situated the great village of the savages, who there plant their fields of Indian corn, and lead a stationary life. They are there, to the number of eight hundred men bearing arms, but collected from seven different nations, who dwell in peace with each other." Verwyst, whose local knowledge is thorough, thinks that Allouez's mission was at the mouth of Vanderverter's Creek, and I have followed him in this regard.

There has always been some confusion among antiquarians as to what particular topographical feature gave name to the region. In christening his mission "La Pointe," he had reference, I think, not to the particular plot of ground on which his chapel lay, but to the neighboring sandy point of Shagawaumikong, hemming in the bay on the east, in which he must have had a poetic interest, for tradition told him that it was the landfall of the Chippewas, and the place where, perhaps a century before, had been fought a great battle between them and the Dakotahs (or Sioux), relics of which were to be found in our own day, in the human bones scattered freely through the shifting soil; doubtless in his time, these were much in evidence.

The map in the *Jesuit Relations* for 1670-71 styles the entire Bayfield peninsula, forming the west shore of the bay, "La Pointe du St. Esprit," which of course was map-making from vague report. Franquelin's map of 1688, more exact in every particular, places a small settlement near the southwestern extremity of the bay. See also Verwyst's *Missionary Labors of Fathers Marquette, Ménard, and Allouez* (Milwaukee, 1886), p. 183.

In 1820, Cass and Schoolcraft visited Chequamegon Bay, and the latter, in his *Narrative*, says: "Passing this [Bad] river, we continued along the sandy formation to its extreme termination, which separates the Bay of St. Charles [Chequamegon] from that remarkable group of islands called the Twelve Apostles by Carver. It is this sandy point which is called La Pointe Chagoimegon by the old French authors, a term now shortened to La Pointe."