**WI - MLE Site Histories**

**Southern WI MLE- Oregon, WI:**

***This site was likely tilled and put into agricultural production between 1873 and 1880 or shortly thereafter.***

1834: undeveloped with stands of Burr Oak, Hickory and unspecified oak

1873: embedded in 290 acres owned by a Mrs. Vincent, 1870 Agriculture Schedule revealed no farms under Vincent

1880: farm is listed under Robert Vincent, 80 tilled acres, 80 otherwise improved acres (maybe grazing land) 130 wooded acres. It is not known if the current day MLE site was part of the farmed or undeveloped land at this time.

**Recent History:** Site was a dairy farm prior to around 1980 probably with a mix of pasture, alfalfa and corn. Between the 1980's and 2000 the site was most likely rented for cash grain production (corn and soy). The site was taken out of farming in 2000 and abandoned until current site establishment (spring 2013).

**Soils:** Alfisols

- Dodge silt loam: Fine-silty, Mixed, Superactive, Mesic Typic Hapludalfs
- St. Charles silt loam: Fine-silty, Mixed, Superactive, Mesic Typic Hapludalfs

**Central WI MLE- Hancock, WI**

***This site was likely tilled and put into agricultural production shortly after 1851 and almost certainly before 1870.***

1851: undeveloped with Black Oak, Burr Oak, White Oak and undergrowth oak bushes. At this time Hancock consisted of one settlement: Sylvester’s farm and tavern. Subsequent Agriculture schedules reveal an exponential increase in farm establishment.

**Recent History:** From Oct 1991-Nov 1992 site was tilled and planted into corn. A mix of oats, red clover and timothy was planted and harvested in 1993. A Hay crop was harvested once a year in June between 1994-1997. Fertilizer was applied every year between 1991-1997. After 1997 hay was clipped once per year during the summer. No tillage or fertilization occurred from 1997 up to current site establishment (2013).

**Soils:** Mollisols and Entisols

- Sparta loamy sand: Sandy, Mixed, Mesic Enothic Hapludolls
- Plainfield sand: Mixed, Mesic Typic Udipsamments
- Blocks 3 and 4 heavily manipulated (soil removed) in the mid-20th century for road construction purposes
**Northern WI MLE-Rhinelander, WI:**

***This site was certainly tilled and put into agricultural production between 1924 and 1938.***

**1863:** undeveloped with yellow pine, white pine, aspen, birch and tamarack

**1915-1924:** large parcels owned by L. Stark Co.- very likely undeveloped

**1938:** aerial photos reveal cropland

**1957:** land (114 acres) owned by Stark Farms Inc. and neighboring acreage owned by individuals.


**Soils:** Spodosols

- Padus sandy loam: Coarse-loamy, Mixed, Superactive, Frigid Alfic Haplorthods
- Pence sandy loam: Sandy, Isotic, Frigid Typic Haplorthods

**Data sources:**

- Original field notes and plat maps compiled in 1832-1866 from the WI public land survey conducted by the Federal General Land Office organized by township, range and section. Each current day MLE site is embedded in a one square mile section ~640 acres.
- Aerial photos from the Wisconsin Historic Aerial Image Finder, spanning 1937-1941
- Miscellaneous plat maps from the late 1800’s and early 1900’s as found at the Wisconsin State Historical Society
- Agricultural Schedules from the federal censuses of 1850-1880
- Hancock and Rhinelander Ag. Research Station Records

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