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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Historic Downtown Mackinac, British Landing Nature Center, Milliken Nature Center Exhibit to Open June 1

MACKINAC ISLAND, MICH. — The American Fur Co. Store & Dr. Beaumont Museum, McGulpin House, and British Landing Nature Center all open for the 2024 season Saturday, June 1. In addition, the new exhibit at the Milliken Nature Center, *Arch Rock: Unsurpassed in Nature's Beauty*, will open to guests as well.

The American Fur Co. Store & Dr. Beaumont Museum tells the story of how Fort Mackinac's Dr. William Beaumont, with his sometimes unwilling subject Alexis St. Martin, was able to make strides in medical science, specifically within the study of the digestive system. The American Fur Co. Store is set up to look as it did in 1822, when the fateful accident to St. Martin happened, and features an interpreter daily.

The McGulpin House is a residential structure located on the corner of Fort and Market Streets and is a rare example of French-Canadian architecture that has been partially restored. New exhibits were installed in the site for the 2023 season.

The McGulpin House and American Fur Co. Store & Dr. Beaumont Museum are both open 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily beginning June 1 through August 17. Admission is included with either a Fort Mackinac or Historic Downtown Mackinac ticket.

The British Landing Nature Center, located where British Landing Road meets M-185, also opens for the season June 1. The nature center has information on the plants and wildlife that call Mackinac Island home. The center is open 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily. Restrooms at British Landing are open from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Up at Arch Rock, Mackinac State Historic Parks' newest exhibit, *Arch Rock: Unsurpassed in Nature's Beauty*, will also open for the 2024 season on June 1. The exhibit will celebrate what was known as the "Jewel of the Mackinac National Park" and is still today known as a "Star Attraction of Mackinac Island State Park." It features dozens of stunning historic images of Arch Rock as well as a timeline on how the arch was formed. In addition, the center will highlight geology on Mackinac Island as a whole, from the formation of the island itself and how stunning features such as Sugarloaf Rock and Skull Cave came to be. A highlight of the center will be an interactive 3D map of the island. The Milliken Nature Center exhibit is open 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily, while restrooms at the site are open 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Mackinac Associates, the friends group to Mackinac State Historic Parks, helped fund exhibits at all of the above sites. More information is available by clicking this link.

Additional pictures and high-res pictures are available upon request. More information can be found at mackinacparks.com. A downloadable version of this release can be found by clicking here.

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, the Biddle House, featuring the Mackinac Island Native American Museum, The Richard & Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum, American Fur Co. Store & Dr. Beaumont Museum, McGulpin House, and Mackinac Island State Park on Mackinac Island, and Colonial Michilimackinac, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, Historic Mill Creek, and Michilimackinac State 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 online at www.mackinacparks.com.