The Glacial Lakes around Michigan

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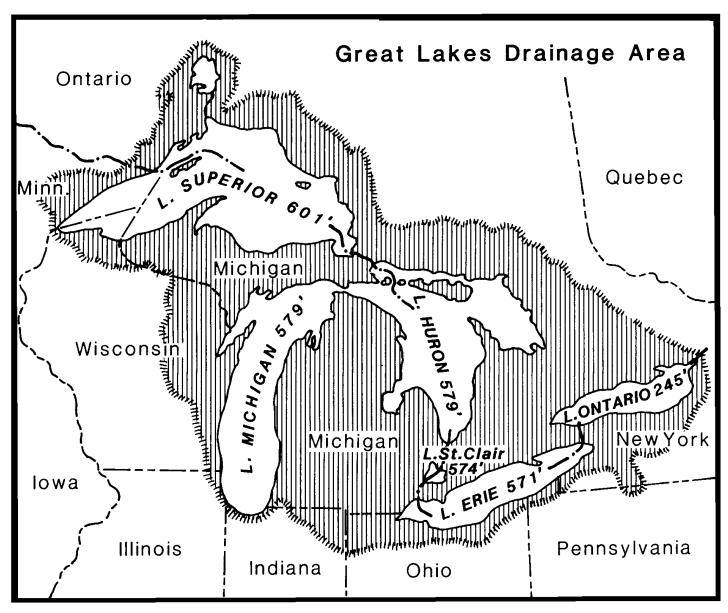


Figure 1: The modem Great Lakes have a water surface area greater than 95,000 square miles, a total drainage area of about 295,000 square miles, and a shore line 8,300 miles long.

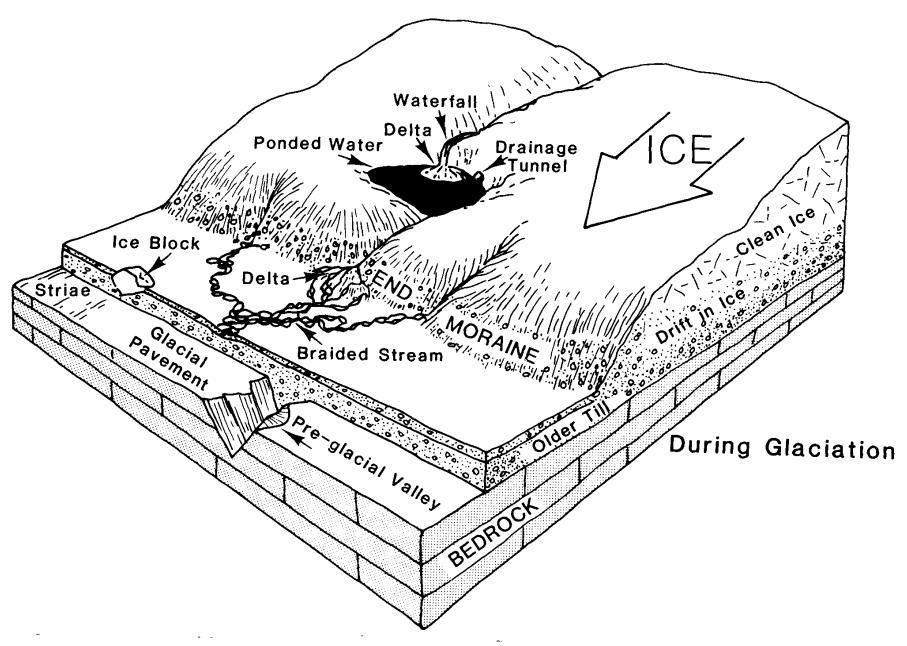


Figure 2: Features originating at a glacier front occur in a definite order.

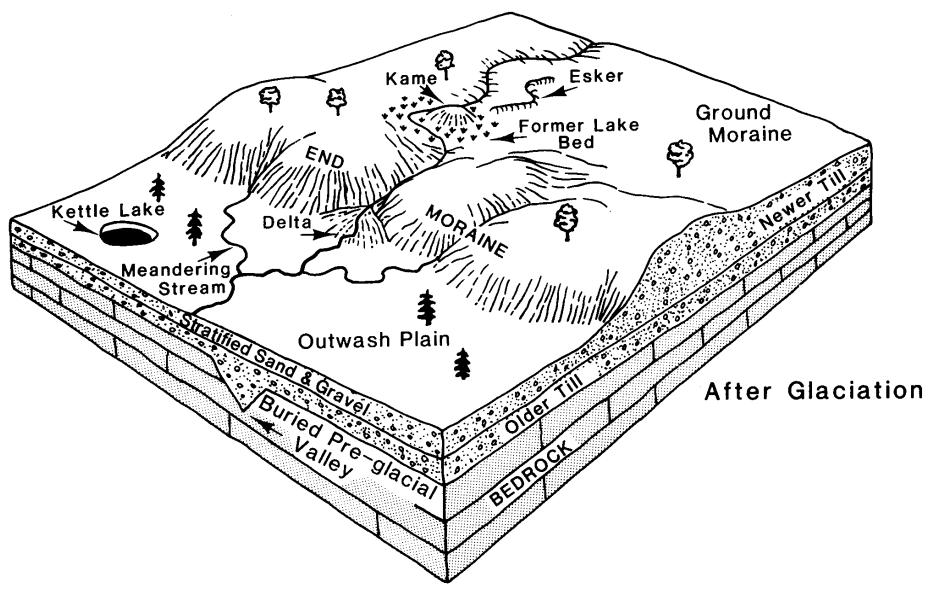


Figure 3: Landforms of continental glaciation are unmistakable. Compare with figure 2

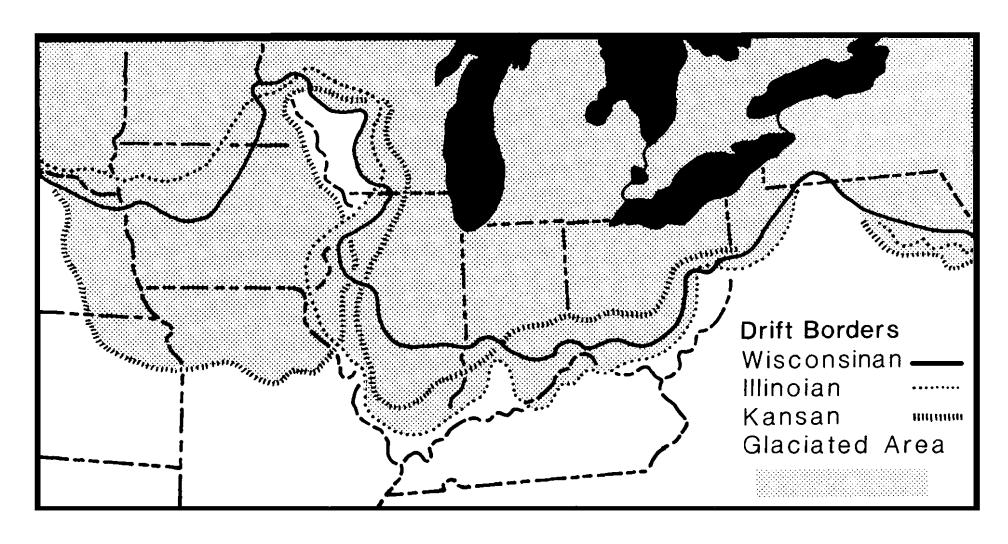


Figure 4: Glaciers of the Wisconsinan Stage did not advance as far south as earlier glaciers.

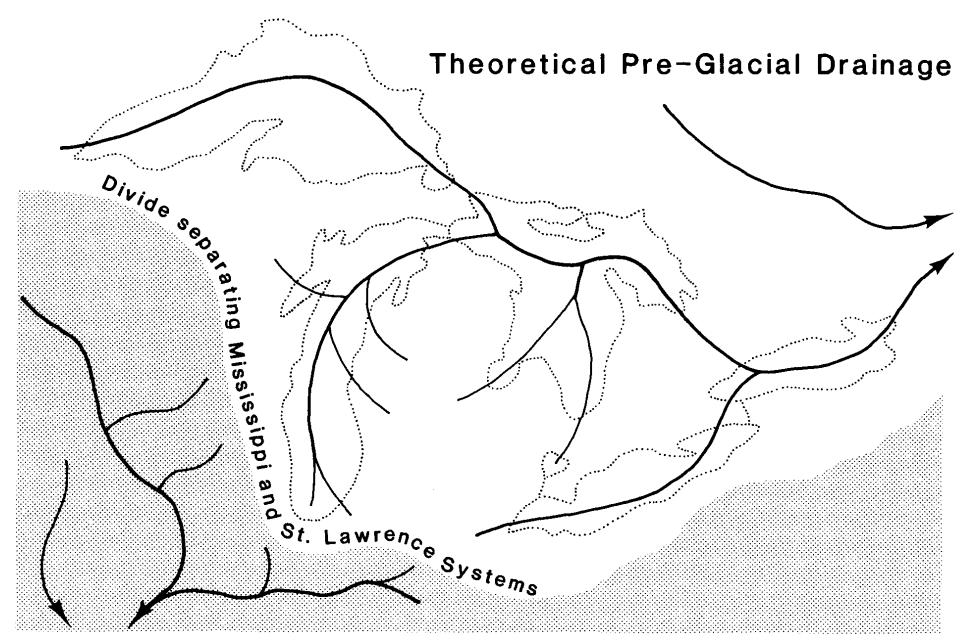


Figure 5: The drain age divide separating the old Mississippi and the preglacial St. Lawrence watersheds was probably situated near its modern counterpart'.

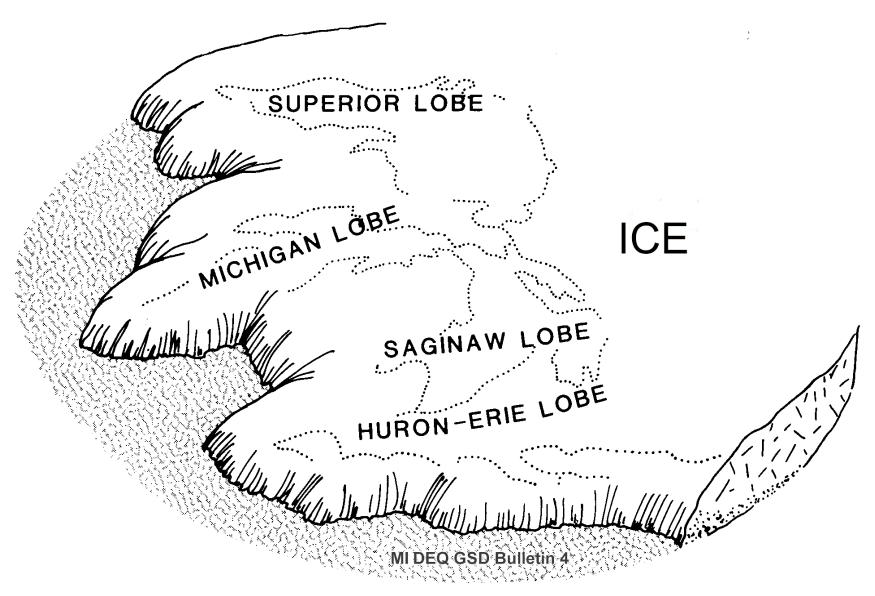


Figure 6: The retreating ice front halted and built the Valparaiso-Charlotte-Ft. Wayne Moraine. As the ice left this position the first known lakes began to form. (about 14,500 years ago)

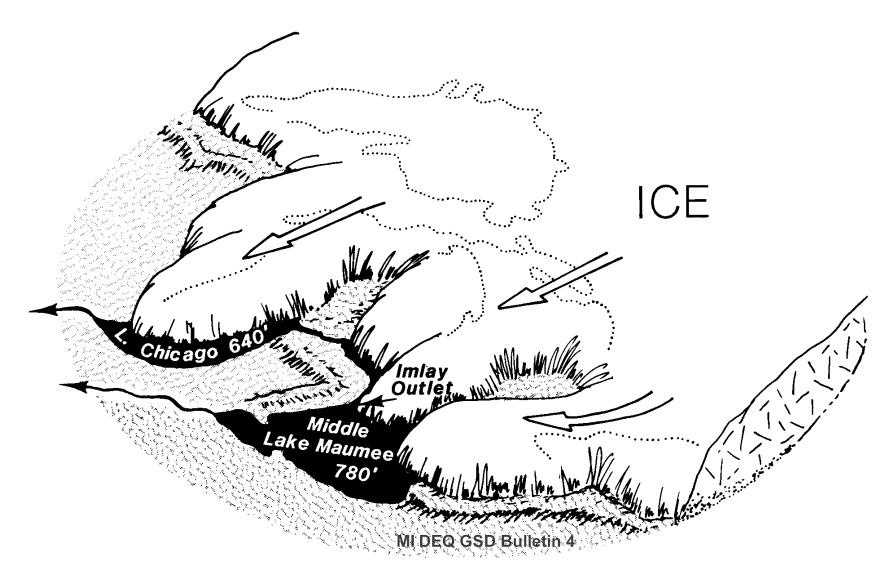


Figure 7: Advancing temporarily, the glacier almost forced Early Lake Chicago out of its basin. The Lake Border Moraine was built at this time. (about 14,000 years ago)

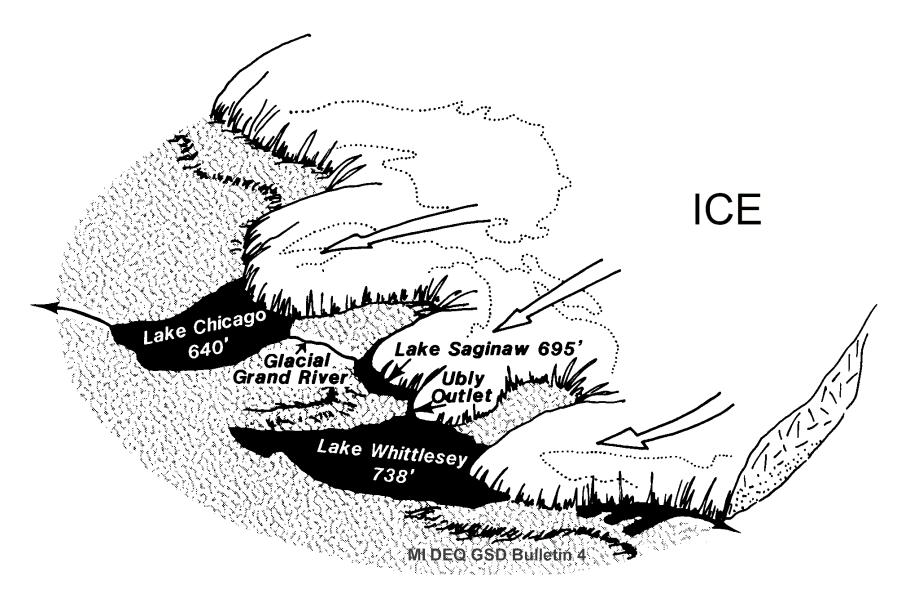


Figure 8: After making one last strong re-advance, the ice front halted and built the most prominent topographic feature in the region, the Port Huron Moraine. (about 13,000 years ago)



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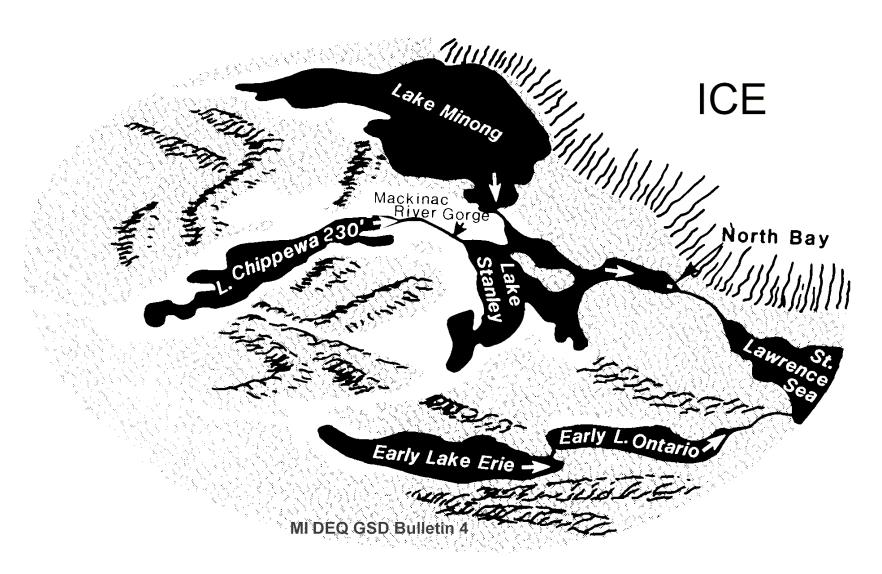


Figure 10: The lakes were drained down to extreme low levels when the retreating ice front uncovered a sea level outlet at North Bay. (about 9,500 years ago)

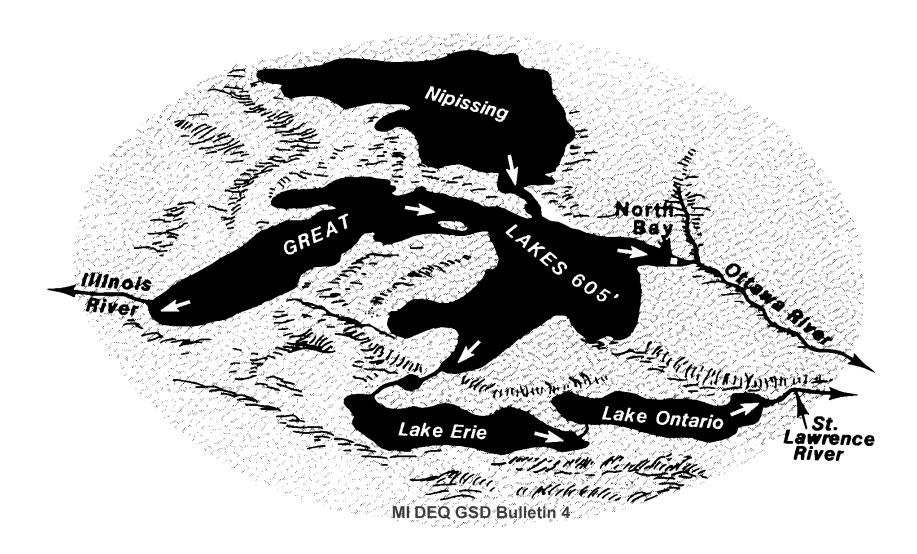
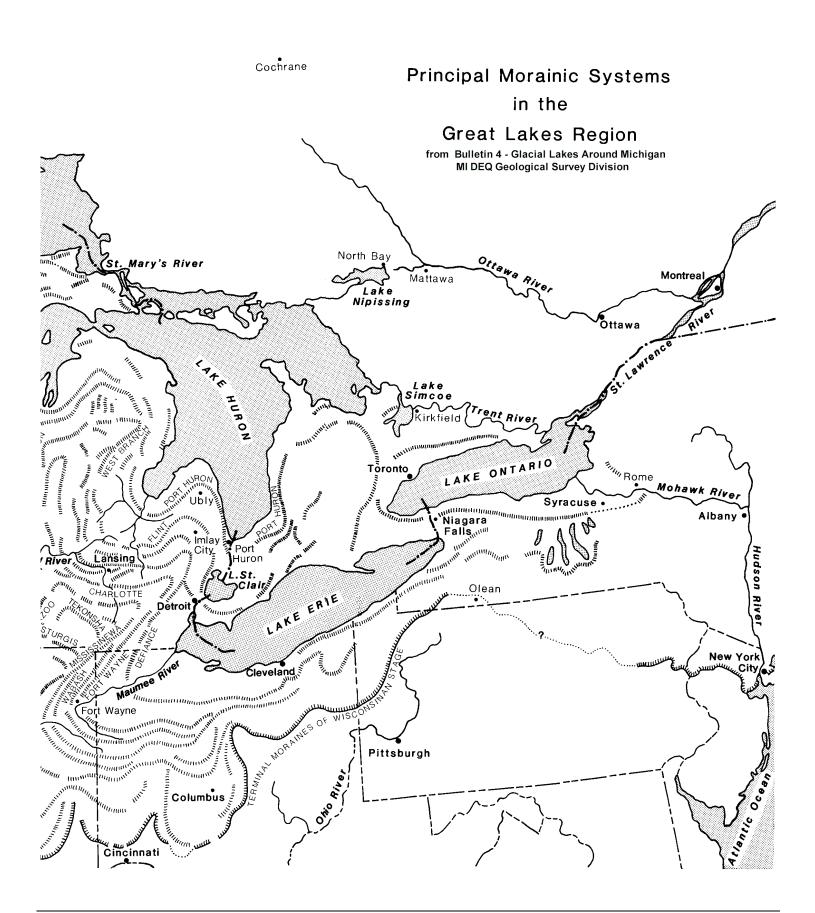
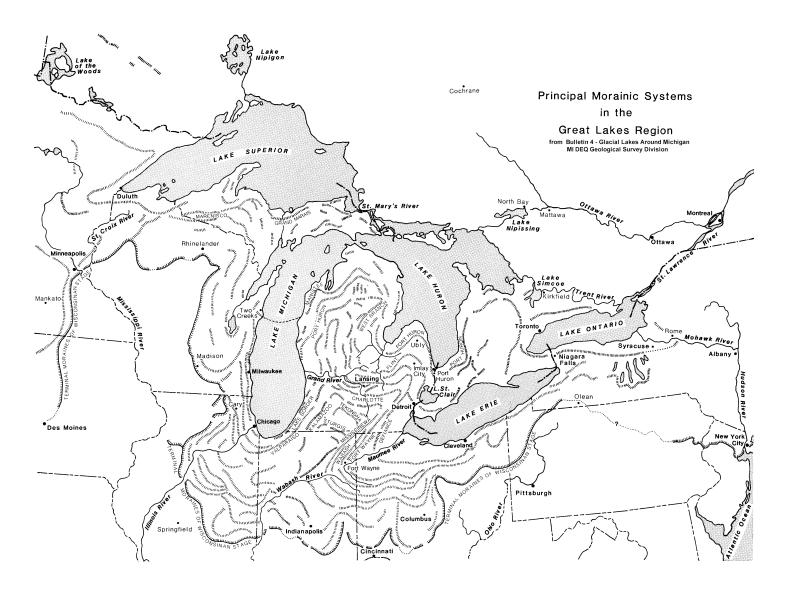


Figure 11: With the ice burden gone, the earth's crust in the northern part of the region began to rise. When the North Bay outlet rose to the same level as the Port Huron and Chicago outlets, the Nipissing Great Lakes were born. (about 6,000 to 4,000 years ago)



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