

Michigan House 1905



For most of its history, this site on the corner of Oak and Sixth Streets has been occupied by some kind of hostelry and/or a saloon. In 1884, it was home to a boarding house called the Anglo American Hotel. By 1893, there was a saloon here. In 1898, the saloon was managed by Jacob Petersen. By 1903, it was known as the Michigan House.

Tylers Souvenir of the Copper Country, 1907, architectural rendering by Maas

In 1905, the Bosch brewing company purchased the property, demolished the old wood-frame building, and erected the existing building as an outlet for its lagers and other brews. This building was designed by architect Charles Maas.

The Bosch Brewing Company eventually became one of the largest employers in the Copper Country, second only to the Calumet & Hecla Mining Company. They operated many saloons throughout the area, in addition to their brewery in Lake Linden, and a number of distribution facilities known as beer depots. The Michigan House is now home to another local brewery, the Red Jacket Brewing Company.



NPS, Keweenaw NHP, Foster Album 19, Michigan House postcard, ca. 1906

In 1913, this building was home to the Michigan House saloon, restaurant, and hotel, as it is today. The upper floors of the building were divided into bachelor-flat apartments, each with a sitting room with a fireplace. The apartments were used as both a transient and residential hotel. Residents and guests could take their meals in the dining room downstairs.

RED JACKET 1913 – WINDOWS INTO THE PAST