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Copper Country Survey  
Final Report and Historic Preservation Plan



*Mandan*

*Photo by Ryan Holt*

Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission, Sponsor  
Jane C. Busch, Principal Investigator  
June 2013

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The executive summary will be included in the final report.

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CREDITS AND CREDENTIALS

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Alison K. (Kim) Hoagland, project director, provided broad oversight of the survey, participated in the development of survey methodology, wrote district histories, consulted on issues as they arose throughout the project, and reviewed all survey products. Ms. Hoagland is professor emerita at Michigan Technological University, where she taught history and historic preservation for fifteen years. Before that, she was senior historian at the Historic American Buildings Survey of the National Park Service. She has directed cultural resource surveys across the country in her roles as professor, government employee, and volunteer for the D. C. Preservation League (formerly Don't Tear It Down). Ms. Hoagland has been a member of the Michigan State Historic Preservation Review Board, president of the Vernacular Architecture Forum, and a board member of the National Council on Public History. She has authored many books and articles, most recently *Mine Towns: Buildings for Workers in Michigan's Copper Country* from University of Minnesota Press. She chairs the Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission. Ms. Hoagland has a B.A. in American Civilization from Brown University and M.A. in American Studies with a concentration in historic preservation from George Washington University. She meets federal professional qualifications for historian and architectural historian.

Jane C. Busch, principal investigator and project manager, led the development of survey methodology, conducted pre-fieldwork research and planning, conducted fieldwork, wrote district descriptions and histories, created and entered data into the database, and wrote the survey report. She oversaw all other aspects of the survey including database creation, research, writing, mapping, and photography. Dr. Busch is a historic preservation consultant specializing in preservation planning and historic resource identification, evaluation, and designation. Since establishing her consulting business in 1998, Dr. Busch's projects have included historic resource surveys of Mackinac Island and Rochester Hills, Michigan; historic district study committee reports; and National Register nominations. She has worked on several projects in the Keweenaw, most recently directing a survey and writing a National Register nomination for the village of Laurium. From 1994 to 1998, Dr. Busch was the planner in the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office, where she had oversight of planning and local government programs. Prior to that she was assistant professor of material culture studies at the Cooperstown Graduate Program for History Museum Studies where she taught history of American architecture among other courses. Dr. Busch has a B.A. in anthropology and archaeology from Cornell University and M.A. and Ph.D. in American Civilization from the University of Pennsylvania. She meets federal professional qualifications for historian and architectural historian.

Ryan Holt, assistant manager, was responsible for on-site management of survey fieldwork. He took most of the survey photographs, organized and edited all photographs, prepared field maps, and used GPS to assist with navigation in the field. He produced the digital maps for the survey report and assisted in producing the district survey forms. Mr. Holt studied mechanical engineering at Michigan Technological University. He is a professional photographer whose work has been published in *Michigan History* and *Lake Superior* magazines. He uses GIS software to produce trail maps for outdoor sports in Keweenaw County, including ski trail maps for the Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club.

1  
2 Eric Gollanek, historian, conducted most of the survey fieldwork, wrote district descriptions,  
3 and entered data into the database. Dr. Gollanek is an instructor in art history in the Honors  
4 College and Art Department at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He  
5 has also taught art, design, and architectural history at the Kendall College of Art and Design in  
6 Grand Rapids and at the University of Delaware. In 2010–11 he conducted an intensive level  
7 survey of approximately two hundred resources for the City of Mackinac Island. Dr. Gollanek  
8 has a B.A. in history from Marshall University and M.A. and Ph.D. in art and architectural  
9 history from the University of Delaware. He meets federal professional qualifications for  
10 architectural historian.

11  
12 Lynn Bjorkman, historian, conducted fieldwork for eight districts, wrote district descriptions,  
13 entered data into the database, and together with Arnold Alanen wrote most of the phase III  
14 district histories. She also conducted research for the final report and advised on the planning  
15 aspects of the project. Ms. Bjorkman is a historic preservation consultant based in Madison,  
16 Wisconsin. For the past fifteen years, her work has focused on the documentation and  
17 preservation of buildings and landscapes associated with copper mining in the Keweenaw  
18 Peninsula. For the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR),  
19 Ms. Bjorkman conducted the 1995 survey of Calumet Village, Laurium Village, and Calumet  
20 Township’s industrial district, leading to the establishment of two local historic districts. In  
21 2000, while on the staff of Keweenaw National Historical Park, she directed a survey of mine  
22 worker housing within and adjacent to the park’s Calumet Unit. Ms. Bjorkman has a B.A. in art  
23 history from St. Olaf College and a Master of Urban Planning degree from the University of  
24 Michigan. She meets federal professional qualifications for architectural historian.

25  
26 Arnold R. Alanen, senior historian, worked with Lynn Bjorkman on fieldwork, descriptions,  
27 histories, and research for the final report, contributing particularly from his expertise on the  
28 history of Finns in America and on agricultural landscapes. Dr. Alanen is an emeritus professor  
29 in the Department of Landscape Architecture at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he  
30 taught courses in landscape history and cultural resource preservation from 1974 to 2009. He  
31 has written several books and numerous articles on an extensive range of topics including the  
32 history of planned communities and landscape architecture, company towns, rural and immigrant  
33 settlements, and vernacular architecture. His most recent book is *Finns in Minnesota*, published  
34 by the Minnesota Historical Society Press. He meets federal professional qualifications for  
35 historian and architectural historian.

36  
37 Four Keweenaw National Historical Park staff members served as an advisory team for the  
38 survey. Jo Urion, historian, led the team, which includes Steve DeLong, landscape architect,  
39 Jeremiah Mason, archivist, and John Rosemurgy, historical architect. The National Park Service  
40 (NPS) team participated in the development of methodology, assisted with fieldwork, consulted  
41 in their specialty areas, and reviewed survey products. Ms. Urion also wrote district histories.  
42 Collectively, the NPS team has more than thirty-five years experience working at the park,  
43 documenting, rehabilitating, and preserving the Keweenaw Peninsula’s cultural landscapes and  
44 buildings and researching and interpreting copper mining history. Their projects have included  
45 rehabilitating the Calumet and Hecla Mining Company's historic office for use as park  
46 headquarters, cultural landscape reports for the park's Calumet and Quincy units, a long-range

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1 interpretive plan, and rehabilitating the Union Building as the park's first visitor center. Ms.  
2 Urion has a B.A. and M.A. in history from the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta,  
3 Canada. She meets federal professional qualifications for historian.  
4

5 Jessica Montcalm, a graduate student in industrial archaeology at Michigan Technological  
6 University, wrote the majority of the Phase I district histories. John Griebel, a graduate of the  
7 industrial archaeology program at Michigan Technological University, provided research  
8 assistance during the initial planning stage of the project. In Ontonagon County, representatives  
9 of several organizations and agencies assisted in identifying historic resources and provided  
10 historical information: Bruce Johanson, Ontonagon County Historical Society; Brad Livingston,  
11 Bergland Cultural and Heritage Center; Josie Olson, Rockland Historical Museum; Patti  
12 Pattison, Old Victoria Restoration Site; Matt and Vicky Portfleet, Adventure Mining Company;  
13 and Robert Sprague, Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park. Nancy Sanderson of the  
14 Keweenaw County Historical Society and Barb Koski of Stanton Township also provided  
15 historical information. Erik Nordberg, who was then university archivist at the Michigan  
16 Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections, provided  
17 valuable assistance with research for the final report.  
18

19 Kristine M. Kidorf created the survey database. Ms. Kidorf is sole proprietor of Kidorf  
20 Preservation Consulting, which she established in 2005. Prior to that she worked as historic  
21 preservation specialist in the Detroit Planning and Development Department and as  
22 environmental review coordinator in the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office. She  
23 adapted the Copper Country survey database from the database for a survey that she conducted  
24 in Farmington, Michigan. Ms. Kidorf has a B.S. in architecture from The Pennsylvania State  
25 University and an M.S. in historic preservation from the University of Vermont. She meets  
26 federal professional qualifications for architectural historian.  
27

28 The Americana Foundation of Novi, Michigan, the Keweenaw National Historical Park  
29 Advisory Commission, the Midwest Regional Office of the National Park Service, and a Federal  
30 Highway Administration National Scenic Byways grant provided major funding for the survey.  
31 Keweenaw National Historical Park provided additional funds and in-kind support.  
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**PAST PRESERVATION EFFORTS**

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People in the Copper Country expressed an interest in local history at a very early date: one manifestation of this interest was the organization of the Houghton County Historical Society and Mining Institute in 1866. But preserving a record of historical events and preserving the places where they happened is not the same thing, and preserving historic places came much later. The establishment of Fort Wilkins Historic State Park in 1923, accompanied by restoration of the fort’s historic buildings, was an important event in the development of historic preservation in the Copper Country, but it was decades before another preservation effort of comparable magnitude took place. In 1958 the Quincy Mine Hoist Association was established to preserve the Quincy Mining Company’s No. 2 Nordberg steam hoist. Quincy had stopped mining in 1945 and the Nordberg hoist, once the largest steam engine in the world, was in danger of being scrapped. When mines shut down, demolition followed.

The 1968 shutdown of Calumet & Hecla (C&H) was a turning point for the Copper Country in every way, including for historic preservation. The demolition of significant portions of the company’s industrial plant sounded an alarm for preservationists. The Calumet Theatre became a rallying point for locals. The theater was owned by the Village of Calumet, not by Universal Oil Products (UOP), which owned the former C&H properties, but the community could not support its landmark twelve hundred seat theater. In 1971 several organizations provided funds to begin rehabilitation of the theater, which was listed that year in the National Register of Historic Places. The Calumet Theatre was only the third property in the Copper Country to be listed in the National Register; Fort Wilkins and the Central Mine Methodist Church were listed in 1970. The Copper Country’s abundant historic resources also attracted the attention of state and national historic preservation agencies. In 1972 the Michigan History Division of the Michigan Department of State conducted a survey of historic resources in the western Upper Peninsula, and in 1975 the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) conducted a survey in Houghton and Keweenaw counties to identify properties worth recording.

At the same time, local businesses and governments became more interested in promoting the Copper Country’s historic places as tourist attractions. Universal Oil Products developed plans for a twenty-eight acre copper history theme park called Coppertown USA that would encompass the C&H industrial core. A very scaled-down Coppertown USA opened in 1975, consisting of a museum in the former C&H pattern shop. In 1977 the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR) undertook a survey of historic resources in its six-county region and prepared a historic preservation plan that identified the most important historic resources with strategies for preserving them. WUPPDR’s historic preservation plan discussed not only the economic benefits of historic preservation, but also the intangible value of preserving the region’s historic character and how that contributes to quality of life. A number of the historic resources identified in this farsighted historic preservation plan have subsequently been listed in the National Register of Historic Places, but not surprisingly quite a few places that were identified as historic thirty-five years ago have been lost.

Preservation progress continued in the 1980s with more National Register listings. The establishment of a Main Street program in Hancock in 1984 was another step forward. But at the same time there were two major losses in Calumet—the demolition of Calumet and Hecla’s

1 Superior engine house, once a symbol of the company’s preeminence, and Italian Hall, a symbol  
2 of the bitter labor strike of 1913. The demolition of Italian Hall in particular was quite  
3 controversial and widely publicized and helped to generate interest in establishing a national  
4 park to preserve and interpret the history of copper mining. The National Park Service  
5 conducted studies in the area in the late 1980s, resulting in the designation of the Calumet  
6 Historic District and the Quincy Mining Company Historic District as National Historic  
7 Landmarks. In 1990 WUPPDR conducted a survey of historic resources related to copper  
8 mining and prepared a management plan that proposed a Michigan Copper Mining District  
9 Regional Heritage Reserve along the entire Copper Range; this also helped with planning for a  
10 national park. The establishment of Keweenaw National Historical Park in 1992 was clearly a  
11 watershed event for historic preservation in the Keweenaw. But more than an end in itself, the  
12 park was a new beginning that offered more ways to preserve the Copper Country’s historic  
13 places. And while Keweenaw National Historical Park has taken the lead in historic preservation  
14 in the region, the National Park Service does not act alone, as the park is a partnership park—it  
15 works with local partners who undertake much of the work of preserving and interpreting copper  
16 mining history.<sup>1</sup> WUPPDR has continued to do important work that furthers historic  
17 preservation. WUPPDR conducted the planning and prepared the application for the Copper  
18 Country Trail, which was designated a state scenic heritage route in 1995. In 1996 WUPPDR  
19 conducted a survey of historic resources related to mining, logging, agriculture, conservation,  
20 and communities in southern Ontonagon and Houghton counties and parts of Gogebic, Iron, and  
21 Baraga counties. WUPPDR proposed a Forest Interior Heritage Area that would use these  
22 historic resources as a basis for heritage tourism.

23  
24 There has been substantial progress in historic preservation since 2000. Among the highlights—  
25 both Calumet Village and Calumet Township have passed local historic district ordinances that  
26 protect historic resources within designated local historic districts. In Calumet Village, Main  
27 Street Calumet has provided additional tools for preserving and revitalizing Calumet’s historic  
28 business district. The National Park Service has undertaken two award-winning rehabilitations  
29 of important historic buildings: the C&H general office building now serves as park headquarters  
30 and the Union Building is the park’s visitor center. Currently the Keweenaw National Historical  
31 Park Advisory Commission is spearheading an effort to preserve the internationally-significant  
32 Quincy Smelter. The Advisory Commission has also sponsored this Copper Country survey and  
33 historic preservation plan, which aims to guide future preservation efforts in the region.

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<sup>1</sup> More information on the park’s partners is found in the Framework for Preservation section of this report.

**PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY**

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The Copper Country survey was designed to collect information about above-ground historic resources on the Keweenaw Peninsula—the Copper Country—and to produce a survey report and preservation plan based on survey results. The Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission, in consultation with staff members at Keweenaw National Historical Park, initiated the survey project in 2008. Although the park’s boundaries are limited to the former Quincy mine, Calumet Village, and part of Calumet Township, one of the park’s goals is to protect significant copper-mining resources on the entire Keweenaw Peninsula. The survey report and preservation plan supports this goal by identifying historic resources that are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and by identifying preservation needs such as intensive-level survey, physical preservation, and public education. In the long term, the plan will help to direct the activities of the Keweenaw National Historical Park and its Advisory Commission as they develop educational programs and allocate financial and technical assistance. The plan is also designed to provide guidance for preservation organizations, local governments, and others with an interest in preserving the Copper Country’s historic resources.

The Copper Country survey project is intended to update and expand two historic resource surveys and historic preservation plans that were conducted by the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR), the first in 1977 and the second in 1990. WUPPDR’s 1977 survey was a reconnaissance survey of historic resources in the six counties of the western Upper Peninsula: Baraga, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, and Ontonagon counties. The survey used a point system to identify the most important historic resources in those six counties; the historic preservation plan offered strategies for preserving them. WUPPDR’s 1990 survey and historic resources management plan was specifically for the copper mining district: Keweenaw, Houghton, and northern Ontonagon counties. This plan was designed to manage 150 historic resources that were chosen from a field of 260 resources. Both of these surveys and plans still have relevance, but obviously there have been many changes since they were conducted. In addition, the Copper Country survey is more comprehensive than these two surveys, providing information on the entire pre-1970 built environment within the survey area, not just a selection of resources identified as most important.

A few other smaller surveys have been conducted in the Copper Country. In 1994–95 WUPPDR sponsored a survey of historic resources in Calumet Township, Calumet Village, and Laurium Village, and then in 1996 it sponsored a survey of historic resources related to mining, logging, agriculture, conservation, and communities in southern Ontonagon and Houghton counties (and parts of Gogebic, Iron, and Baraga counties). Also in 1996, part of Ontonagon Village was surveyed in conjunction with the M-64 bridge replacement. In 2000 Keweenaw National Historical Park sponsored a survey of mine worker housing in Calumet Township. And in 2011 the Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission sponsored a survey of copper mine waste deposits in Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw, and Ontonagon counties. Some additional survey work has been conducted in various Copper Country locations in conjunction with National Register nominations and cultural landscape reports. All of these previous survey efforts inform the present survey.

1 The Copper Country survey is a comprehensive, reconnaissance-level survey of above-ground  
2 historic resources on the Keweenaw Peninsula. There are different definitions of the Keweenaw  
3 Peninsula; for the Copper Country survey the boundaries encompass all of Keweenaw,  
4 Houghton, and Ontonagon counties and the northwestern part of Baraga County. Above-ground  
5 resources are defined as resources with visible structural remains or landscape features.  
6 Buildings, structures, objects, and sites are the categories of above-ground resources. The cut-  
7 off date for inclusion in the survey is 1970, to the extent that can be determined from a brief  
8 visual inspection. Resources that were visible or readily accessible from improved public roads  
9 were included in the survey. In consideration of the large geographic area of the survey, the  
10 district, rather than the individual resource, was adopted as the survey unit. USGS maps were  
11 used to identify clusters of resources that were the basis for defining survey districts. Historical  
12 relationships were a secondary consideration in defining districts.

13  
14 Phase I of the Copper Country survey took place in 2009 and entailed the development of survey  
15 methodology and database along with fieldwork in Ontonagon County, which was conducted in  
16 May and October. Nineteen survey districts were defined based on geography, and a twentieth  
17 thematic “roads and railroads” district was defined for state and federal highways and extant  
18 railroads in the county. The roads and railroads district was found not to be a useful construct,  
19 and it was discontinued in the next phases. In 2010 time was spent planning and fundraising for  
20 the next survey phases. Phase II fieldwork was conducted from May through August 2011 in  
21 southern Houghton County (south of the Keweenaw Waterway), northwestern Baraga County,  
22 and Keweenaw County. Twelve survey districts were defined for southern Houghton County,  
23 three districts for northwestern Baraga County, and eight districts for Keweenaw County for a  
24 total of twenty-three districts in phase II. One of the Keweenaw County districts is Isle Royale,  
25 consisting of Isle Royale National Park. No fieldwork was conducted in this district, instead, the  
26 survey form was completed using information from the *Isle Royale National Park General*  
27 *Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement*. Phase III fieldwork was conducted  
28 from April through July 2012 in northern Houghton County, which was divided into nineteen  
29 survey districts. Thus the total number of survey districts is sixty-two; a list of all districts is  
30 found in Appendix B of this report.

31  
32 Summary histories were written for each district. The primary repositories of historical  
33 information used in the survey are the Keweenaw National Historical Park Archives in Calumet  
34 and the Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections  
35 in Houghton; a list of sources is included in each survey form. Field worksheets were used to  
36 collect the following information for each district: topography and spatial organization including  
37 natural features; count of buildings, objects, structures, and sites; description, including types of  
38 buildings, structures, objects, and sites, architectural styles, materials, landscape features, typical  
39 and outstanding resources; condition; integrity; and estimated date range. Street worksheets  
40 were used to count resources and record information for streets or road segments within a  
41 district. Streamlined survey area worksheets were used for areas that were already well-  
42 documented, such as National Register historic districts. These worksheets were used to count  
43 resources, note current condition and integrity, and add information on styles, types, materials,  
44 etc. that were not described in the nomination or other source document. District worksheets  
45 were used to record information that applies to the district as a whole. High resolution digital  
46 photographs were taken of representative and outstanding resources, with image size no less than

1 1280 x 960. Field maps recorded actual survey area boundaries. The 2004 Houghton County  
2 road map was used for both southern and northern Houghton County field maps. Although a  
3 new Houghton County road map was published late in 2011, the 2004 map was used during the  
4 2012 season for consistency.

5  
6 As fieldwork for each district was completed, the information collected on the field worksheets  
7 was synthesized and analyzed and entered into the survey database. This Access database was  
8 designed so that it can be used for other surveys in the future, including both reconnaissance and  
9 intensive level surveys. The database record for each district contains boundary description, date  
10 span, historic and current uses, architectural styles, materials, physical description, assessment of  
11 condition, assessment of integrity, historical themes, history, references, and preliminary  
12 National Register evaluation. The database was merged to generate a printed Word survey form  
13 for each district, and representative photos and a map showing the district location were added to  
14 each form. Digital maps were prepared using Delorme XMap 7 GIS Editor software to create  
15 JPEG map images. In addition to the individual district maps, five area maps show all of the  
16 survey districts in northwestern Baraga County, southern Houghton County, northern Houghton  
17 County, Keweenaw County, and Ontonagon County. The color digital maps show a circular  
18 shape representing the general district location overlaid on actual fieldwork boundaries derived  
19 from the field maps. The printed black and white maps used in this report show only the circular  
20 shape representing the survey district location, so as not to give the impression that the fieldwork  
21 boundaries are defined historic district boundaries.

22  
23 In addition to this survey report and historic preservation plan, the survey products are two  
24 interim reports; sixty-two district survey forms; the electronic database, maps, and photo files;  
25 and original field worksheets, field maps, and research materials. For phase I there are 518  
26 photos and a total resource count of 7,875; for phase II there are 592 photos and a total resource  
27 count of 10,032; and for phase III there are 488 photos and a total resource count of 9,739. For  
28 the entire survey there are 1,598 photos and a total resource count of 27,646.

29  
30 **Data Location**

31  
32 Keweenaw National Historical Park has the complete set of survey products including all  
33 reports; district survey forms (included in the reports); electronic database, maps, and photo files;  
34 and original field worksheets, field maps, and research materials. WUPPDR in Houghton has  
35 copies of reports and electronic data. Additional copies of the reports are at the Michigan  
36 Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections in Houghton and  
37 the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office in Lansing.



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Figure 1. Overview map of survey area

**DESCRIPTIVE OVERVIEW**

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At the northwestern end of Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, the Keweenaw Peninsula extends about seventy miles into Lake Superior. The Keweenaw region—known as the Copper Country or simply “the Keweenaw”—is defined by the Keweenaw Peninsula and by the Copper Range, a central highland of copper-bearing rock that runs lengthwise through the peninsula. At the base of the peninsula, the Copper Range continues southwest to the northern end of Lake Gogebic, then turns northward to end in the Porcupine Mountains. Because the Copper Range extends beyond the peninsula proper, definitions of what exactly constitutes the Copper Country vary. For this survey, we have defined the Copper Country as all of Keweenaw County—including Isle Royale National Park—Houghton County, and Ontonagon County. We have also included the northern part of Baraga Township in northwestern Baraga County. Although Baraga County is not usually considered part of the Copper Country, there were two copper stamp mills in Baraga Township that warranted including that area in the survey.

Lake Superior surrounds the Keweenaw Peninsula on the west, north, and east. Approximately fifty-five miles northwest of the tip of the peninsula, Isle Royale National Park is an island archipelago consisting of the large island of Isle Royale surrounded by about four hundred small islands. There are also several small islands near the shore of the Keweenaw Peninsula. Harbors and bays punctuate the lakeshore; the largest is Keweenaw Bay on the southeast. From the lowlands along the lakeshore, the land ascends—sometimes sharply—to the highlands of the Copper Range. Numerous rivers and streams flow from the interior into Lake Superior. There are many inland lakes of a variety of sizes, and swamps and marshes in low-lying areas. The Keweenaw Waterway crosses the peninsula at roughly its mid-section. Consisting of the Portage Lake Ship Canal, Portage Lake, Torch Lake, and the Portage River, the waterway was created in the 1860s and 1870s by dredging existing rivers and digging the Portage Lake Ship Canal to connect Portage Lake to Lake Superior on the north, resulting in an important transportation corridor. In the winter, snow—an average of more than two hundred inches a year—is a defining feature of the Copper Country landscape.

The forests that cover most of the land are composed primarily of hardwoods that grew after the original forest cover was logged. There are a few stands of virgin timber, notably in Porcupine Mountains State Park in Ontonagon County and Estivant Pines Nature Sanctuary in Keweenaw County. Most of the forest land is privately owned. Historically, much of this land consisted of large tracts held by the mining companies. When mining ended, these tracts were acquired by forest products companies. Recently these companies have been selling smaller parcels to individual owners. Publicly-owned forests include Porcupine Mountains State Park and Copper Country State Forest, but most is owned by the federal government in Ottawa National Forest, which occupies much of southern Ontonagon and Houghton counties, and Isle Royale National Park. Much of the forest land is managed for timber harvest, although some of the public forest is preserved as wilderness. Recreational activities such as hunting, fishing, and camping are important uses of forest land, especially, though not exclusively, in public forests. After forestry and recreation, agriculture is the most common land use. According to the 2007 USDA Census of Agriculture, there were 104 farms on 30,830 acres in Ontonagon County, 155 farms on 23,643

1 acres in Houghton County, and 8 farms on 1,602 acres in Keweenaw County. Although only a  
2 portion of Baraga County was included in our survey, working farms were evident.  
3

4 Federal highway U.S. 41 and state route M-26 are the main routes through the Copper Country.  
5 U.S. 41 begins near the tip of the peninsula at Copper Harbor, follows the Copper Range  
6 highland across the Portage Lake Lift Bridge, then proceeds along the lakeshore to the village of  
7 Baraga, from where it travels east and south, eventually to Miami, Florida. M-26 also begins in  
8 Copper Harbor from where it follows the northern Lake Superior shore before combining with  
9 U.S. 41 from Phoenix to Laurium, then on to Lake Linden and along the shore of Torch and  
10 Portage lakes before it crosses the lift bridge; below the bridge it follows the Copper Range  
11 highland until the road ends at U.S. 45 near Rockland. U.S. 45 is the only other federal highway  
12 in the region; it starts at the village of Ontonagon and travels south into Wisconsin, eventually to  
13 Mobile, Alabama. M-38 and M-28 are important east-west routes; M-38 connects the villages of  
14 Ontonagon and Baraga, while M-28 crosses the southernmost part of Houghton and Ontonagon  
15 counties. M-203 in northern Houghton County and M-64 in western Ontonagon County are the  
16 remaining state highways in the region. County primary and local roads crisscross the more  
17 populated parts of the Copper Country, and there are seasonal roads in the state and national  
18 forests, yet there are large expanses with no roads at all. Two railroad lines are in use: the  
19 Escanaba & Lake Superior Railroad, connecting the village of Rockland with Escanaba,  
20 Michigan, and Green Bay, Wisconsin, and a branch of the Canadian National Railway  
21 connecting Marengo Junction, Wisconsin, with White Pine. Tracks have been removed from  
22 many miles of abandoned railroad lines that are now used as snowmobile trails.  
23

24 The Copper Country is predominantly rural: in 2010 the combined population of Ontonagon,  
25 Houghton, and Keweenaw counties was 45,564, with an average density of 15.2 people per  
26 square mile.<sup>2</sup> Houghton County is the most populous, with a 2010 population of 36,628,  
27 including 12,342 people in Houghton and Hancock, the region's only two cities. Keweenaw  
28 County is the most sparsely populated county in the state of Michigan, with a 2010 population of  
29 2,156 people and a density of only 4 people per square mile. The Copper Country's population  
30 is concentrated along the central spine of the Copper Range, including the cities of Houghton and  
31 Hancock, villages such as Calumet and South Range, and numerous mine locations—the  
32 communities that the mine companies built to house their employees. Buildings, structures, and  
33 piles of mine waste rock that are left from the copper mines are strung out along this spine; the  
34 large buildings, typically built of brick or stone, loom large on the landscape, even when they are  
35 in ruins. Villages that originated as shipping ports or mill towns dot the shores of Lake Superior  
36 and inland lakes; lighthouses mark the former and the massive ruins of copper stamp mills  
37 remain at the latter. Inland, a smaller number of villages originated as lumber towns along the  
38 railroad lines, especially along M-28, which parallels the former Duluth, South Shore, and  
39 Atlantic Railroad line. Former farming communities are scattered through Ontonagon County,  
40 southern Houghton County, and Baraga Township. The decline of the Copper Country's  
41 population from its peak of more than 100,000 in 1910 has had a decided impact on the  
42 landscape. Many communities are reduced in size from their earlier extent; in some only a house  
43 or two or perhaps a church or cemetery remain, whereas others have disappeared completely.  
44 Vacant and ruined buildings are commonplace.

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<sup>2</sup> Although figures aren't available for the portion of Baraga Township included in the survey, most of the people there live in the incorporated village of Baraga, which had a population of 2,053 in 2010.

1  
2 In communities large and small, single-family houses, usually built of wood, are the most  
3 common building type. The repetitive forms of company housing are particularly evident in the  
4 mine locations. Business districts are found in many of the villages, though few commercial  
5 buildings are found in mine locations. Churches are everywhere, made prominent by their  
6 steeples. Larger schools are found in cities, villages, and locations, and one-room schoolhouses  
7 in rural areas. Other building types include railroad stations, meeting halls, and government  
8 buildings. In rural areas, only a minority of farms are working, but extant farmsteads contain a  
9 variety of buildings and structures, most commonly houses and barns but also milk houses,  
10 poultry houses, silos, grain bins, root cellars, equipment sheds, and others. Finns were numerous  
11 among the Copper Country's farmers, and their saunas and log buildings are distinctive.  
12 Recreational buildings including motels, tourist cabins, and private cottages are common along  
13 the lakeshores; hunting camps are scattered throughout. Most of the built environment in the  
14 Copper Country dates from the late nineteenth to early twentieth centuries. There are clusters of  
15 buildings from the 1840s and 1850s in the early ports of Eagle Harbor and Eagle River in  
16 Keweenaw County. Ranch houses from the early post-World War II years are concentrated in  
17 Houghton and its outskirts, White Pine, Ontonagon Village, and Baraga Village. Modern  
18 commercial strips are notably absent with two exceptions: a large strip on M-26 south of  
19 Houghton and a smaller strip on the outskirts of Calumet Village.

20  
21 Counties are the largest units of government in the Copper Country. County governments  
22 operate the jails and major local courts, maintain rural roads, keep public records, and in some  
23 cases regulate land use, but their authority to pass ordinances is limited. In Michigan, cities,  
24 villages, and townships perform most local government functions including police and fire  
25 protection, tax assessment, providing utilities, and passing ordinances governing land use and  
26 public health and safety. In addition to the cities of Houghton and Hancock, there are eight  
27 incorporated villages in the Copper Country: Ontonagon in Ontonagon County; Calumet, Copper  
28 City, Lake Linden, Laurium, and South Range in Houghton County; Ahmeek in Keweenaw  
29 County; and Baraga in Baraga County. Except for the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, the  
30 remaining unincorporated communities and rural areas are under the jurisdiction of one of the  
31 region's thirty-one townships. The western section of the L'Anse Reservation of the Keweenaw  
32 Bay Indian Community is located in northern Baraga Township. The Keweenaw Bay Indian  
33 Community is a sovereign nation; the tribal government operates independently of local  
34 governments with its own court, police, social services, and public works.

35  
36 Government is the Copper Country's leading economic engine. Federal government employers  
37 include the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, and other federal agencies. At the state  
38 level there are state parks and forests and, most importantly, Michigan Technological University.  
39 Local government is the largest part of the public sector economy. In addition to county, city,  
40 village, and township governments, there are public schools and county road commissions.  
41 Retail and services follow government in their importance to the local economy. The  
42 prominence of accommodations, food, and drinking within the service industry points to the  
43 importance of tourism; much of retail is also tourist-oriented. The health care industry follows  
44 service and retail as a major contributor to the local economy. Other contributing industries  
45 include construction; manufacturing; finance, insurance, and real estate; and forestry and  
46 logging. Statistics on personal and household income indicate a relative lack of wealth in the

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1 region. In 2009 the average per capita income for Ontonagon, Houghton, and Keweenaw  
2 counties combined was \$29,702, compared to \$34,315 for the state of Michigan and a national  
3 average of \$39,635. Median household income for the three counties was \$33,980 for the three  
4 counties, compared to \$48,700 for the state of Michigan. Eighteen percent of individuals were  
5 living below the federal poverty level, compared to 16.8 percent for the state of Michigan. In  
6 2010 the unemployment rate was 13.9 percent, compared to 13.2 percent for Michigan and 9.6  
7 percent for the U.S. These figures reflect the national recession, but—despite areas of growth—  
8 the overall economy of the Copper Country was stagnant before the recession.  
9  
10

**HISTORICAL OVERVIEW**

1  
2  
3 Native Americans lived in the Copper Country for thousands of years before the arrival of the  
4 first Europeans. They were the region's first copper miners, digging shallow pits to mine veins  
5 of copper, which was traded extensively throughout eastern North America. Trading posts at the  
6 mouth of the Ontonagon River and at the southern end of Keweenaw Bay were operated  
7 successively by French, British, and American fur traders. The fur trade was lucrative, yet tales  
8 of copper continued to lure French and British explorers, who found copper but did not succeed  
9 in establishing mines. Beginning in 1820, expeditions led by Lewis Cass, Henry Rowe  
10 Schoolcraft, and Douglass Houghton provided additional information about copper in the  
11 Keweenaw, igniting public and government enthusiasm for copper mining. In 1842 the Ojibwa  
12 and the United States government signed the Treaty of La Pointe—the Copper Treaty—by which  
13 the Ojibwa ceded their lands on the southwestern shore of Lake Superior, including the  
14 Keweenaw Peninsula and Isle Royale.

15  
16 In 1843 the federal government opened a land office at Copper Harbor, at first leasing but soon  
17 selling land to prospectors. Because travelers came by boat, the first communities—little more  
18 than tent camps—were established on the Lake Superior shore. In the northern Keweenaw  
19 Peninsula, Eagle Harbor and Eagle River joined Copper Harbor; in the south, the old Ojibwa  
20 village at the mouth of the Ontonagon River took on new purpose. Near Copper Harbor, the  
21 army built Fort Wilkins in 1844 with the intent to protect the incoming miners from hostile  
22 Ojibwa. This fear proved unfounded, however, and the troops were withdrawn two years later.  
23 Despite all the activity, findings of copper were meager until the 1845 discovery of a large mass  
24 of copper at the Cliff mine not far from Eagle River. The next major copper discovery came at  
25 the Minesota mine near Ontonagon in 1848. In the decade that followed, the Cliff and Minesota  
26 mines led the way in profits, encouraging the opening of more mines and bringing growth to the  
27 region. The mine companies recruited workers from Great Britain and Western Europe,  
28 particularly the Cornish, Irish, and Germans, who joined the Anglo-Americans and French  
29 Canadians. The mine communities, known as locations, were located inland along the Copper  
30 Range and consisted mostly of housing for mine workers, whereas the communities along the  
31 lakeshore developed into busy shipping ports with hotels, saloons, and stores. The population of  
32 the Copper Country grew from about eleven hundred people in 1850 to nearly fourteen thousand  
33 in 1860.<sup>3</sup> The opening of the canal and locks at Sault Ste. Marie in 1855 aided this growth by  
34 making transportation of settlers, supplies, and copper easier and cheaper.

35  
36 Before the Civil War, mines and people were concentrated in the northern and southern ends of  
37 the Copper Country in the vicinity of the successful Cliff and Minesota mines. By the 1850s,  
38 however, there was increasing activity in the center of the peninsula in the area around Portage  
39 Lake. A cluster of mines south of Portage Lake led to the establishment of the village of  
40 Houghton on the south shore in 1854. North of Portage Lake, the Quincy Mining Company  
41 began mining the rich Pewabic Amygdaloid lode in 1856; the company platted the village of  
42 Hancock on the north shore in 1859. About ten miles to the north of the Quincy mine, Edwin  
43 Hulbert discovered the first evidence of the Calumet Conglomerate lode—the richest lode of all.  
44 The Civil War delayed exploration of the Calumet lode, but in 1865 Hulbert and his investors

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<sup>3</sup> Arthur W. Thurner, *Strangers and Sojourners: A History of Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula* (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1994), 64.

1 organized the Calumet Mining Company, followed in 1866 by the Hecla Mining Company. In  
2 1868 the village of Red Jacket (renamed Calumet in 1929) was platted near the Calumet and  
3 Hecla mines. In 1871 the two companies merged to create the Calumet & Hecla Mining  
4 Company (C&H), which soon became the largest and most profitable mine company in the  
5 Copper Country. By then, copper mining in the northern and southern ends of the Copper Range  
6 had declined. The shift in emphasis to central Houghton County and the villages of Houghton  
7 and Hancock was reinforced by the construction of the Portage Lake and Lake Superior Ship  
8 Canal. Completed in 1873, the canal made it possible for large boats to travel from Keweenaw  
9 Bay in the south through Portage Lake to Lake Superior in the north. By the 1880s railroads  
10 connected the Copper Country to Milwaukee and Chicago. Copper production increased from  
11 14 million pounds in 1865 to 101 million pounds in 1890; 60 percent of that came from C&H.<sup>4</sup>  
12 In 1890 the population of the Copper Country exceeded 42,000 people, of whom approximately  
13 35,000 lived in Houghton County.<sup>5</sup> By then most of the immigrant work force came from  
14 eastern and southern Europe, especially Italians, Croatians, and Slovenians; there was also a  
15 large influx of Finns, to the point where they were the largest immigrant group by 1890 and have  
16 remained so ever since.

17  
18 Copper mining was by far the dominant industry in the Copper Country, but it was not the only  
19 industry. Commercial fishing predates the copper rush; it began on Isle Royale in 1837 and  
20 continued at a modest level until it boomed in the 1880s. The Isle Royale fisheries remained  
21 preeminent, but there were also fishing ports on the Keweenaw Peninsula. Logging began in the  
22 1840s to provide lumber and fuel for towns and mines, but large-scale commercial logging began  
23 in the 1880s, when big lumber companies and railroads came to exploit the pine lands in the  
24 southern part of the Copper Country. The villages of Ontonagon and Baraga became bustling  
25 lumber mill towns and shipping ports. Tourists began visiting the Copper Country in the 1850s.  
26 At first they came by boat, typically as part of a Lake Superior tour, but in the 1880s the coming  
27 of the railroads opened the region to railroad tourism. Sandstone quarrying began in the vicinity  
28 of the south Portage Entry to the Keweenaw Waterway in the 1880s. The red Jacobsville  
29 sandstone that was quarried there contributed to the distinctive architecture of the Copper  
30 Country and was used in buildings as far away as New York City, New Orleans, and Omaha.

31  
32 Copper production continued to increase in the 1890s and early 1900s; output for 1910 was 221  
33 million pounds, more than double that of 1890. Three new mines opened in the late 1890s on the  
34 recently-discovered Baltic Amygdaloid lode about six miles south of Portage Lake. By 1903 the  
35 Copper Range Consolidated Copper Company owned all three mines, and it quickly surpassed  
36 Quincy in productivity, becoming second only to C&H. In 1910, Quincy accounted for  
37 approximately 10 percent of copper production, compared to 19 percent for Copper Range and  
38 33 percent from C&H; the remainder came from other, smaller mines.<sup>6</sup> Older, deeper mines  
39 such as those on the Calumet Conglomerate lode were at a disadvantage; it was more expensive  
40 to extract rock from the deep shafts, and the ore was a lower grade. In the meantime, the Copper  
41 Country's secondary industries were changing as well. The big lumber companies had largely  
42 depleted the pine timber by 1900. New companies moved in to log hardwood and hemlock, but

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<sup>4</sup> Larry Lankton, *Hollowed Ground: Copper Mining and Community Building on Lake Superior, 1840s–1990s* (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 2010), 63–64.

<sup>5</sup> Thurner, *Strangers and Sojourners*, 158.

<sup>6</sup> Lankton, *Hollowed Ground*, 125, 137, 151–52.

1 this was not as extensive or as lucrative as pine logging. The removal of the forest cover,  
 2 however, made large areas of land available for farming, which grew substantially. According to  
 3 the U.S. Census of Agriculture, the number of farms in Ontonagon, Houghton, and Keweenaw  
 4 counties combined increased from 191 in 1890 to 1,440 in 1910. Tourism grew, and places like  
 5 Eagle Harbor, Copper Harbor, and Lake Gogebic became tourist destinations. The first  
 6 automobile tourists came, a harbinger of the future. At the sandstone quarries, production  
 7 peaked in the early 1890s, but then it declined, and before World War I all the quarries had  
 8 closed. Yet copper still ruled the day, and the economy and population were still growing; in  
 9 1910 the population of the Copper Country reached its peak of approximately 105,000 people.<sup>7</sup>

10  
 11 The district-wide labor strike that began in July 1913 was a watershed event in Copper Country  
 12 history. The costly and often violent strike ended nine months later in a victory for the mining  
 13 companies, but it ushered in an era of chronic labor shortages and unrest. Three months after the  
 14 strike ended, World War I began in Europe, and copper prices spiked due to wartime demand. In  
 15 response, the region's copper production reached its peak of nearly 267 million pounds in 1916.  
 16 But the market for copper collapsed after the war ended, beginning the long period of decline  
 17 that neither company consolidation nor technological advances could stem. Copper production  
 18 dropped to 92 million pounds in 1921 and then increased to 186 million pounds before the Great  
 19 Depression sent it downward again, to a low of 47 million pounds in 1933. Production leveled  
 20 off at about 90 million pounds in the late 1930s.<sup>8</sup> As copper mining declined, other industries  
 21 assumed greater importance, especially the lumber industry. But by the 1920s the hardwood and  
 22 hemlock forests were diminishing, and the industry was transitioning to pulpwood logging for  
 23 papermaking. A number of lumber companies closed during the Depression. Farming increased  
 24 and was bolstered in the 1930s by the back-to-the-land movement, but it became apparent that  
 25 many of these farms were marginal, providing subsistence but not a living. As a result, public  
 26 policy that had supported farming on cutover lands shifted to reforestation. Government  
 27 agencies created the Copper Country State Forest and Ottawa National Forest and managed them  
 28 for forestry and recreation. The latter supported the growing tourist industry, which after World  
 29 War I shifted decidedly to automobile tourism. Commercial fishing peaked in the late 1930s, but  
 30 it was not a big part of the regional economy. Overall, the economic picture was grim. In 1935,  
 31 36 percent of the population of Ontonagon County, 40 percent of the population of Houghton  
 32 County, and 74 percent of the population of Keweenaw County were on relief.<sup>9</sup> New Deal  
 33 programs helped to a degree—workers built roads, public buildings, and parks and planted trees  
 34 in the new public forests. Nevertheless, the region's distress was evident in its population  
 35 decrease from approximately 92,000 people in 1920 to roughly 64,000 in 1940.

36  
 37 Copper production remained relatively steady during World War II and then dropped again to 43  
 38 million pounds in 1946.<sup>10</sup> Quincy stopped mining and operated only its reclamation plant. C&H  
 39 and Copper Range undertook limited mining while they diversified into other industries. Then in  
 40 1955 Copper Range began production at the White Pine mine in Ontonagon County, using new  
 41 technology to extract copper from copper sulfide ore, which was unlike the native copper mined  
 42 elsewhere in the Copper Country. The White Pine mine produced a yearly average of more than

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<sup>7</sup> Thurner, *Strangers and Sojourners*, 158.

<sup>8</sup> Lankton, *Hollowed Ground*, 208.

<sup>9</sup> Thurner, *Strangers and Sojourners*, 238.

<sup>10</sup> Lankton, *Hollowed Ground*, 208.

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1 70 million pounds of copper in the late 1950s, increasing to about 120 million pounds a year in  
2 the 1960s.<sup>11</sup> White Pine boosted the region's economy, as did automobile tourism, which  
3 boomed in the years after World War II, and the expansion of Michigan Technological  
4 University in Houghton. But these were not enough to reverse the decline. In 1960 the  
5 population of the Copper Country was approximately 50,000 people and still falling. The final  
6 C&H shutdown in 1968 marked the end of native copper mining, a powerful symbol of what had  
7 been lost.

8  
9

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<sup>11</sup> Ibid., 259.

**HISTORICAL THEMES**

1  
2  
3 Historic resources have little meaning when considered in isolation; to make sense they must be  
4 viewed in the context of the history and culture of their time and place. Our time period for the  
5 Copper Country survey is 1840 to 1970; our region is Keweenaw, Houghton, and Ontonagon  
6 counties and northwestern Baraga County, as previously described. Historical themes are the  
7 third component needed to evaluate resources in context. The following seventeen themes have  
8 been identified as significant in Copper Country history and applicable to the extant resources  
9 identified in the survey. The themes are not equally important, however; some are more  
10 prominent in Copper Country history than others. The copper industry is the preeminent theme;  
11 it dominated life in the Copper Country beginning with the copper rush of the early 1840s. Even  
12 as the copper industry declined in the mid-twentieth century, life still revolved around copper  
13 and its legacy. The copper industry is what makes the region nationally significant. All of the  
14 other themes relate to the copper industry to a greater or lesser extent.

15  
16 **Agriculture**

17  
18 Daniel Cash established what may have been the Copper Country’s first farm at the mouth of the  
19 Ontonagon River in 1845. Some of the early mine companies, notably the Cliff and Minesota,  
20 established farms that grew potatoes and other root crops to feed their workers and hay and oats  
21 to feed their livestock. These crops did relatively well in the Keweenaw Peninsula’s poor soils  
22 and short growing season. There was a great need for farmers to grow food for mine workers  
23 and their families in this remote region, yet farming was slow to develop. Except for the few  
24 ports, early settlement was along the mineral range, where mine companies owned most of the  
25 land, and they were reluctant to part with it. Away from the mines, the land was wooded and  
26 difficult to clear, and there were few roads for transporting produce to markets in the mine  
27 communities. Nevertheless, some farms, usually subsistence farms, were established along roads  
28 and rivers on leased or purchased land. The Bammert Farm, established in Keweenaw County in  
29 the 1850s, was an unusual example of an early farm that attained commercial success. Mine  
30 companies made land available to their workers for family gardens, and homes in villages and  
31 mine locations nearly always had a garden. It was not unusual for a family to keep a cow, hog,  
32 and/or poultry. For many years, more food was produced in villages than at rural farms.

33  
34 In the 1870s, French Canadians established two farm communities, one east of Lake Linden and  
35 the other in a settlement called Paradise, west of Chassell; these were the first farm communities  
36 that were not near the mines. The French Canadians came to the area as loggers and stayed to  
37 establish farms on the lands that they had logged. In 1890 the U.S. Census counted 191 farms in  
38 Houghton, Keweenaw, and Ontonagon counties combined, with the largest number in Houghton  
39 County and the smallest in Keweenaw County. At that point agriculture was poised for  
40 expansion due to two factors. One factor was logging: as the timber was depleted, lumber  
41 companies and other owners of cutover lands, especially railroad companies, marketed these  
42 lands for farming. The second factor was the large number of Finnish immigrants, who came to  
43 the Copper Country with a strong tradition of farming in their native land and were eager to  
44 leave their mine jobs and establish farms as soon as they could afford to. Some Finns acquired  
45 farms through homesteading, but most purchased their farms, and they worked part-time as  
46 loggers, fishermen, miners, or common laborers to supplement their farming income. The Finns

1 favored dairy farming, which was part of their tradition and was suited to the climate and soils in  
2 the Copper Country. Root crops continued to be prominent; potatoes were always a staple of  
3 farming in the region. Farms were small, and most of their output was consumed by the farm  
4 family; what was left was taken to local markets. By 1900 there were 571 farms in Houghton,  
5 Keweenaw, and Ontonagon counties; by 1910 the number had increased to 1,440. The vast  
6 majority of these farms were operated by Finns. Farming was relatively minor in Keweenaw  
7 County, where there were only 36 farms in 1910 while there were 371 farms in Ontonagon  
8 County and 1,033 farms in Houghton County.<sup>12</sup>

9  
10 Between 1910 and 1920, more than 1,600 new farms were established in the Copper Country,  
11 bringing the total in the three-county area to 3,094. Houghton County continued to be the leader,  
12 but the biggest gain—more than 900 farms—was in Ontonagon County. This tremendous  
13 growth was due in part to previously-established trends. Lumbering was declining, there were  
14 more cutover lands, and they were marketed aggressively for farming, not only by landowners,  
15 but also by those who saw farming as a way to improve the devastated lands and boost the  
16 flagging economy. This was happening throughout the Lake Superior region, and in 1911 Roger  
17 Andrews, a newspaper publisher in Menominee, established the Upper Peninsula Development  
18 Bureau (UPDB) to promote farming. Andrews coined the name Cloverland to connote the  
19 fruitfulness of lands in the region. The labor strike of 1913–14 had a major impact on farming.  
20 Finns were prominent among the strikers, and a sizable number of them left the Copper Country  
21 altogether or left the mines to establish farms. New Finnish farming communities were  
22 established in southern Ontonagon County where there was better farmland and a somewhat  
23 longer growing season than farther north. Previously-established Finnish farming communities  
24 grew as well. One of the thriving farm communities was around Otter Lake, and it was here that  
25 the John H. Doelle School was built in 1913, the first consolidated rural agricultural school in  
26 Michigan.

27  
28 During the 1920s the number of farms in the Copper Country stayed about the same, with small  
29 gains in Houghton and Keweenaw counties and a slight loss in Ontonagon County. In the early  
30 1930s there was a modest increase in the number of farms, to 3,581 farms in the three-county  
31 area in 1935, as laid-off workers went back to the land. During the Depression, potatoes and  
32 strawberries emerged as important cash crops. Beginning in 1930, Earl Roberts, Cooperative  
33 Extension agent for Keweenaw and Houghton counties, introduced improved potato cultivation  
34 techniques, which combined with farm electrification and mechanization to increase yields  
35 greatly and make Houghton County a major producer of potatoes for Midwest markets.  
36 Strawberries grew so well on some Houghton County farms that strawberry growers established  
37 the Copper Country Strawberry Growers Association in 1936 to ship berries out of the Copper  
38 Country to other Great Lakes markets. Despite the success of these two crops, during the late  
39 1930s farming began a decline that continued through the twentieth century. In 1940 there were  
40 3,203 farms in the three counties. In 1969 there were 473 farms in Houghton and Ontonagon  
41 counties; the census did not give data for Keweenaw County to avoid disclosing data for the  
42 small number of individual farms. Although average farm size increased during this time period,  
43 this was not merely a matter of consolidation; in 1969 the acreage of land in farms was well

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<sup>12</sup> Farming increased in Baraga County as well, from 7 farms in 1890 to 241 farms in 1900, and 412 farms in 1910. Although there is no breakdown for the portion of Baraga Township in the survey area, it is evident that farming there grew dramatically.

1 under half of what it had been in 1935. The climate and soils in the Copper Country had never  
2 been that favorable for farming, but when the mines were flourishing there was a lucrative local  
3 market for farm products that helped to make farming profitable. With the decline of mining  
4 beginning in the 1920s, the population and the local market declined; in addition local farmers  
5 were increasingly in competition with more productive farms outside of the region that shipped  
6 their products to the Keweenaw. Furthermore, farmers often worked other jobs to supplement  
7 their farm income. When the jobs disappeared, many farmers could not make a living by  
8 farming alone. Farmers abandoned their farms and joined the thousands who left the Copper  
9 Country.

10  
11 An array of farm buildings supported agriculture; the most important of these was the barn. The  
12 first barns had gable roofs and were relatively small. Gambrel-roof barns became popular in the  
13 early twentieth century, followed by gothic-roof barns in the 1920s, although not to the exclusion  
14 of earlier types. The Wisconsin dairy barn was a well-lit, well-ventilated type of gambrel-roof  
15 barn, identifiable in part by its large size, rows of windows, and roof-top ventilators. The long  
16 and low potato barn was another specialized barn type. The first generation of Finnish farmers  
17 built their barns and other farm buildings of logs. Later barns are of wood frame construction,  
18 but they may have lower walls of log, stone, stovewood, or concrete block. Other types of  
19 agricultural buildings and structures include milk houses, poultry houses, garages, spring houses,  
20 root cellars, grain bins, windmills, and sheds of various sizes and functions. Finns built  
21 distinctive versions of granaries and hay barns; more information on the construction and types  
22 of Finnish farm buildings can be found in the thematic narrative for Finnish ethnic heritage.  
23 With the exception of a small concentration found near Pelkie, all of the silos identified in the  
24 survey are located in Ontonagon County, presumably because corn was more successfully grown  
25 farther south.

26  
27 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*  
28

29 Farm buildings and landscapes are the most numerous property types related to the agriculture  
30 theme. Agricultural buildings and structures include barns, milk houses, poultry houses, garages,  
31 root cellars, grain bins, granaries, silos, windmills, and sheds; these buildings were grouped  
32 together into farmsteads. Houses, privies, and saunas are associated with the agriculture theme  
33 when they are part of a farmstead. Hay barns are located at a distance from the farmstead. The  
34 remains of numerous farmsteads are evident today, but often with just a fraction of their original  
35 buildings—most often a barn and farmhouse, or just a farmhouse. Farm landscapes are  
36 important agricultural resources. Landscape features include fields, pastures, fences,  
37 windbreaks, hedgerows, ponds, orchards, and the layout of buildings and structures. Farm  
38 communities are composed of multiple farms; some examples are in the vicinity of Otter Lake,  
39 Liminga, Misery Bay, Bruce Crossing, and Ewen. Non-farm buildings associated with  
40 agriculture are two agricultural schools, in Tapiola and Pelkie; a grange hall near Baraga; the  
41 Copper Country Cheese Cooperative in Dollar Bay; and two potato warehouses, one near Boston  
42 location and the other on the outskirts of Lake Linden.

43  
44 The resources that most importantly represent the agriculture theme are farms that retain most or  
45 all of their historic buildings along with historic landscape features. Because the majority of  
46 farms have been abandoned, alterations to farm buildings are less of an issue than their collapse.

1 The best-preserved farms are still in use, but these have typically been updated to some degree.  
2 Houses often have artificial siding, new windows, and sometimes additions; smaller farm  
3 buildings may have artificial siding; and there may be some new buildings. Barns are usually  
4 unaltered except for a new roof. Farms that are National Register eligible will have integrity of  
5 location, design, setting, feeling, and association. They will retain a full complement of farm  
6 buildings in their historic spatial arrangement along with other landscape features. Some  
7 buildings may have minor alterations as long as the majority retains integrity of design and  
8 materials; modern intrusions will be minimal. There may also be historic districts composed of  
9 multiple farms.

10  
11 An agricultural building may be individually eligible under Criterion A in the area of agriculture  
12 or under Criterion C in the area of architecture as an early or rare example of its type. For  
13 example, the two potato warehouses are significant for their role in an important chapter in  
14 Houghton County’s agricultural history and as the only remaining examples of their type. Minor  
15 alterations do not affect eligibility under Criterion A, but buildings that are eligible under  
16 Criterion C must be highly intact. Buildings may also be individually eligible under Criterion C  
17 if they display exceptional qualities of design and/or building technique—there are a number of  
18 barns, for example, that exhibit these qualities. These buildings must retain integrity of design,  
19 materials, and workmanship.

20  
21 (Photo—Davey Farm in Rockland, River St (1-C) Rockland Village, Rockland District)

22  
23  
24 **Architecture**

25  
26 Residential buildings are the most common building type in the Copper Country. The oldest  
27 extant houses date to the 1840s and 1850s and are found primarily in Eagle Harbor and Eagle  
28 River. The toll house on the outskirts of Ontonagon Village and a house in Rockland have also  
29 been dated to the 1850s. The oldest house is the Eagle Harbor House, a side-gabled log house  
30 built in 1845, only its length suggesting its origin as a hotel. A few of the other houses were  
31 used early on as hotels, an important function on the unsettled frontier where many people were  
32 transient. Most of the houses are front- or side-gabled and one-and-one-half or two stories tall.  
33 The houses in Ontonagon and Rockland are upright and wing—a house type with a tall front-  
34 gabled section and a lower side-gabled wing. Some of the houses have rectangular sidelights,  
35 frieze-band windows, a wide band of trim at the eaves, and/or cornice returns, all characteristics  
36 of the Greek Revival style.

37  
38 Once a mine location became more than a camp, mine companies built boardinghouses to house  
39 the predominantly single men in their workforce; none of these boardinghouses survive. As they  
40 became more established, companies began to build single-family log houses in order to attract  
41 workmen with families. The first log houses were roughly built and very small, with one or two  
42 rooms plus sleeping loft. Subsequent log houses were usually more carefully constructed of  
43 hewn logs and set on stone foundations, with three or four small rooms and a sleeping loft. At  
44 least one log house built in the 1860s remains at the C&H Mining Company’s Hecla location.  
45 Log houses at Fulton and Phoenix locations also appear to be early examples. In the 1860s and  
46 1870s, companies switched to frame construction, though smaller numbers of log houses were

1 built into the twentieth century. A few late nineteenth century examples survive at Swedetown,  
2 Tamarack, and Ahmeek locations. The restored log houses at Victoria location were built in  
3 1899.

4  
5 Frame construction made possible larger houses of a wider variety of forms. Company-built  
6 frame houses for mine and mill workers were typically one-and-one-half or two stories with four  
7 to five small rooms. Foundations were usually mine waste rock, siding was clapboard, and there  
8 was no decorative trim. Companies built a limited number of worker house types and grouped  
9 them so that each street consisted of one type, resulting in a repetitive rhythm of identical houses.  
10 Single-family houses were most common, but side-by-side double houses were built in smaller  
11 numbers. In the twentieth century worker houses tended to be larger and have more amenities,  
12 such as indoor plumbing and electricity. At the same time, early types continued to be built as  
13 late as the 1910s. The last company houses were built in 1918.

14  
15 Front-gabled houses are the most common of the single-family house types, followed by T-plan  
16 and saltbox. Examples of front-gabled houses dating to the 1860s survive at Central mine; T-  
17 plan houses dating to the 1860s survive at Quincy mine; and saltbox houses dating to the 1860s  
18 survive at both Central and Quincy. Front-gabled houses are most often two stories, but there are  
19 also many one-and-one-half-story and less frequently one-story examples; one-story rear ells<sup>13</sup>  
20 are common. Usually the entrance is in the front of the house, facing the street. Twentieth  
21 century examples sometimes had small entrance porches with turned posts; often these porches  
22 have been enlarged, and usually they have been enclosed. The side-entry variation has the  
23 entrance on the long side of the house.

24  
25 The T-plan house is a one-and-one-half- or two-story side-gabled house with a one-story ell  
26 centered in the rear, forming a T-plan. In 1864 the Quincy Mining Company built sixty-eight T-  
27 plan houses at Hardscrabble and Limerick locations; a few survive at Limerick. T-plan houses  
28 are widely distributed at mine locations, but seem to have been built most frequently by Quincy.  
29 At Mason, Quincy built a variation on the T-plan with the gable end facing the street, giving it  
30 the appearance of an upright and wing, although with different proportions. Saltbox houses are  
31 side-gabled houses that are one-and-one-half or two stories tall in front and one story in the rear;  
32 thus the roof is asymmetrical, with a longer pitch in the rear. The Martin house at Quincy mine  
33 was probably built by the Pewabic Mining Company in the 1860s; it retains its original  
34 clapboard siding and 2/2 windows. Saltbox houses are widely distributed at different mine  
35 locations; two notable concentrations are at Ahmeek and Tamarack locations.

36  
37 Less common worker houses include the distinctive gambrel-roof house, built beginning in 1899  
38 by C&H only. These were known locally as trunk houses because of their resemblance to  
39 immigrants' travel trunks. The two-story houses have front-facing gambrels. Rows of gambrel-  
40 roof houses are extant at Albion, Hecla, and Red Jacket Shaft locations. Companies built a small  
41 number of side-gabled houses that were neither T-plan nor saltbox; there are a few at Osceola  
42 and possibly other locations. A few L-plan company houses have been identified at Tamarack  
43 and Osceola locations. There may be more, but the L-plan house—in which the wing is the same  
44 height as the front-gabled upright—was a popular type built privately on leased company land,

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<sup>13</sup> An ell is a rear extension, often lower than the front portion of a house. Ells were built both as part of a house's original construction and as later additions.

1 and more research is needed to determine if any are company built.<sup>14</sup> Mine companies built  
 2 several hundred side-by-side double houses. The Pewabic Mining Company built double houses  
 3 as early as the 1860s. Most of the double houses at C&H locations are side-gabled, whereas at  
 4 South Range locations they are front-gabled or saltbox.

5  
 6 In addition to worker housing, companies built houses for upper-level personnel including clerks,  
 7 mechanics, mining captains, bosses, physicians, and—at the top—the general manager, also  
 8 called agent or superintendent. These houses are larger and had more amenities than worker  
 9 houses, and they have Jacobsville sandstone foundations and decorative details reflecting popular  
 10 architectural styles. The house that the Quincy Mining Company built for its agent in 1881 was  
 11 a showplace; the Italianate villa has arched and bay windows, bracketed eaves, and a three-story  
 12 tower in front. Nearby on U.S. 41, the chief mining captain’s house (1899) is a two-and-one-  
 13 half-story side-gabled house with a cross gable in front and bay windows on each end. At C&H,  
 14 the general manager’s large and rambling house is gone, but President Alexander Agassiz’s  
 15 house (ca. 1890) is extant, a two-and-one-half story L-plan house, spacious but modestly  
 16 detailed. Other C&H managers’ houses are located on Calumet Avenue (U.S. 41) and include a  
 17 group of mining captain’s houses built ca. 1900. These are relatively simple two-story front-  
 18 gabled houses, yet they have more and larger rooms than worker houses and decorative details  
 19 such as a Palladian or arched window in the front gable.

20  
 21 In Painesdale, the Copper Range Company built its general manager’s house on Hubbard  
 22 Avenue and homes for other upper-level personnel nearby on Algomah Street; together the two  
 23 streets were known as Snob Hill. The general manager’s house (1903) is a two-and-one-half-  
 24 story side-gabled house with two-story bay windows flanking the front entrance porch. Architect  
 25 Alexander Eschweiler of Milwaukee designed the general manager’s house along with the  
 26 doctor’s house on Algomah Street. Built between 1900 and 1910, the Algomah Street houses are  
 27 broad, two-and-one-half-story side-gabled houses with front porches and Colonial Revival  
 28 details such as corner pilasters and dormer windows. Other examples of houses for upper-level  
 29 personnel can be found at Ahmeek, Tamarack, Osceola, Mason, Baltic, and Mass locations. The  
 30 mining captain’s house at Victoria mine is unusual in its U-shaped form. On U.S. 41 at  
 31 Wolverine, the house that the Wolverine Copper Company built for its superintendent in 1900 is  
 32 an excellent example of the fully-developed Queen Anne style; it was designed by the firm of  
 33 Charlton, Gilbert, and Demar.

34  
 35 In a few places there is company housing built by other types of companies. At Senter in Torch  
 36 Lake Township, the Atlas Powder Company built one-story front-gabled houses for its workers.  
 37 A few of these survive along with a two-story front-gabled teamster’s house. Two streets of one-  
 38 story front-gabled worker houses built by the Hawley Lumber Company survive in Ontonagon  
 39 Village. There are four clusters of lumber mill worker housing in and near the village of Trout  
 40 Creek, consisting mostly of one- and one-and-one-half-story front-gabled houses. On Weidman  
 41 Street in Trout Creek, two rows of five houses apiece face each other across the street. Eight of  
 42 these are one-and-one-half-story front-gabled worker houses. At the end of each row is a

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<sup>14</sup> C&H did not build L-plan houses for workers, but it is not always clear at other company locations. Lynn Bjorkman, “Mine Worker Housing in Calumet, Michigan: 1864-1950” (Calumet: Keweenaw National Historical Park, 2000), 63 and C&H Core District survey form.

1 foursquare manager's house. The mill owner's house (destroyed by fire) once stood on a hill  
2 overlooking the street.

3  
4 The demand for company housing far exceeded the supply. Mine workers who could not obtain  
5 company housing had a few options. They could build a house on leased company land. They  
6 could build, buy, or—most often—rent a house in a nearby village. The Quincy Mining  
7 Company built houses for sale in two subdivisions in Hancock, but this was the only instance of  
8 a mine company building houses for sale. Mine workers could also board with another family,  
9 an exceedingly common practice that helps to explain why people with relatively little income  
10 lived in relatively large houses. Laborers who were not mine workers also built, purchased,  
11 rented, or boarded in the villages. Compared to company housing, there is more variety in  
12 privately-built worker housing. The two-story front-gabled single-family house is the most  
13 common type, and in some places there are entire blocks of front-gabled houses, but—in contrast  
14 to company housing—they are not all identical in size and detail. Even a modest worker's house  
15 may have a front porch, windows with art glass, and decorative shingles or a bargeboard in the  
16 gable end. House types are often mixed on a given street. L-plan houses, usually two stories, are  
17 common. Foursquare houses, usually two stories, were built after 1900. For example, in Dakota  
18 Heights, which was developed for railroad workers beginning in 1906, the two-story foursquare  
19 house is the predominant house type. Other house types include upright and wing, one- and one-  
20 and-one-half-story front-gabled, and side-gabled.

21  
22 Double houses were built to rent to workers, or a homeowner might live in one unit and rent the  
23 other. More than sixty double houses survive in Laurium, most of them side-by-side front-  
24 gabled doubles. Other double house forms are side-gabled and H-plan; a few are up and down  
25 rather than side by side. Other types of multi-family housing appear occasionally; these include  
26 a fourplex in Laurium and two three-story apartment buildings in Hancock. There are also a few  
27 two- or three-story boardinghouses built for that purpose, although usually boarders were  
28 accommodated in single-family and double houses.

29  
30 Upper level mine personnel frequently built homes in the villages. And of course merchants and  
31 professionals who did not work for the mine companies lived in the villages. As with worker  
32 housing, the two-story front-gabled house is the most common type, followed by the L-plan.  
33 Upright and wing, side-gabled, smaller front-gabled, foursquare, and bungalows are other middle  
34 class house types. Bungalows are not as numerous as foursquares, but there are additional small  
35 gable-roof houses with lower-pitched roofs that indicate bungalow influence. In many cases, it is  
36 not appearance that differentiates a laborer's house from a middle class house, but whether the  
37 house is owned or rented. Nevertheless, as houses go up in price, they are more likely to have  
38 front or side extensions, bay windows, and/or cross gables that add complexity to plan and  
39 elevation. There are cross-plan houses and houses with the irregular plan characteristic of the  
40 Queen Anne style. Jacobsville sandstone instead of mine waste rock is used more frequently for  
41 foundations. The vast majority of houses are constructed of wood, but there is a concentration of  
42 brick houses in Hancock and scattered examples elsewhere, some concrete block in houses built  
43 after 1900, and Jacobsville sandstone in some of the more expensive houses.

44  
45 The homes of more affluent families have decorative details that reflect current architectural  
46 styles. In the 1860s and 1870s, the Italianate style was the most popular house style in the U.S.

1 There are a few scattered instances of houses with arched windows and window hoods  
 2 characteristic of the Italianate style, but the Quincy mine agent's house is the only fully-  
 3 developed example of the style. In the older part of Houghton, there are about half a dozen  
 4 Second Empire style houses with mansard roofs. The Queen Anne style was the most popular  
 5 architectural style in the U.S. from the 1880s through the early 1900s, coinciding with the period  
 6 of greatest growth in the Copper Country; not surprisingly, then, it is the most common style.  
 7 Queen Anne style elements include porches with columns or turned posts, railings, and  
 8 spindlework; art glass windows; Palladian windows; fishscale shingles; sunbursts; and  
 9 bargeboards. In addition to these, more expensive houses may have irregular floor plans; varied  
 10 wall surfaces combining sandstone, clapboard, and patterned shingles; wraparound porches;  
 11 corner towers; balconies; combination hipped and gable roofs; and shaped chimneys. Nearly  
 12 every village that was growing in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century has one or more  
 13 large and ornate Queen Anne style houses. Neighborhoods of large Queen Anne style houses are  
 14 found in Linwood and on Lake Street in Dollar Bay. On Victoria Avenue in Rockland they are  
 15 mixed with Colonial Revival style houses, which appear in smaller numbers than the Queen  
 16 Anne style and share some characteristics, such as Palladian windows and classical columns.  
 17 Colonial Revival style houses usually have gambrel or side-gabled roofs; details include  
 18 pediments, corner pilasters, oval windows, and modillion block cornices. Foursquare houses and  
 19 bungalows, built in the 1900s and 1910s, have Arts and Crafts details such as square or canted  
 20 porch columns, stucco or wood shingle walls, bracketed eaves, exposed rafter tails, and shed roof  
 21 dormers. These stylistic details were once much more prominent than they are today, since on a  
 22 great many houses they have been covered by artificial siding.

23  
 24 The upper tier of homes for the wealthy displays the greatest variety of architectural styles and  
 25 the greatest sophistication in their treatment. Many of these houses were built for mining  
 26 captains; it is likely that all of them were designed by architects. The Queen Anne style is well  
 27 represented, but there are also houses in the Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, Shingle, Prairie,  
 28 and Arts and Crafts styles along with eclectic combinations. Hancock and Laurium both have  
 29 highly intact neighborhoods with a large proportion of upper class houses. In Hancock, the  
 30 Quincy Mining Company platted the East Hancock neighborhood in 1891, requiring a minimum  
 31 construction cost of two thousand dollars per house, which ensured that the houses would be  
 32 large and substantial. Today the neighborhood contains more than eighty houses. Architect  
 33 Charles Archibald Pearce designed Queen Anne and Shingle Style houses in the neighborhood.  
 34 Hans T. Liebert designed several houses, including the Kauth House (1907), with a two-story  
 35 columned portico, and his own house (1907), which combines Jacobean and Arts and Crafts style  
 36 elements. In Laurium, mansions and more modest homes are found on the same streets; the  
 37 largest houses are usually located on corner lots. Architect Charles Maass designed a number of  
 38 fine houses in Laurium, either alone or in partnership with his brother Fred. Maass Brothers  
 39 designed the Thomas Hoatson House (1907–08), a Classical Revival mansion with a two-story  
 40 pedimented entrance portico with Corinthian columns, Corinthian corner pilasters, and dentils  
 41 and modillion blocks on the cornices. At thirteen thousand square feet with forty-five rooms, it  
 42 is the largest house in the western Upper Peninsula. Other outstanding houses include the Queen  
 43 Anne style house that stonemason Paul Roehm built for himself entirely of Jacobsville sandstone  
 44 (1896; William Pryor); the Shingle Style Vivian House (1898; Charlton, Gilbert, and Demar),  
 45 with a first story of rusticated Jacobsville sandstone, wood shingle second story, and a corner

1 tower with belvedere; and the Gordon Campbell House (1913), which displays Arts and Crafts  
2 style influence in its horizontal lines, broadly arched entrance porch, and dark textured brick.

3  
4 The population of the Copper Country began to decline after the strike of 1913–14 and new  
5 home construction along with it. In mine towns especially, very few new homes were built in  
6 the 1920s and 1930s. Two-story front-gabled and L-plan houses continued to be built, but the  
7 nationwide trend toward smaller houses was evident. One- and one-and-one-half story houses  
8 became more common. The Tudor cottage was introduced, a small one- or one-and-one-half  
9 story house characterized by a steeply-pitched gable roof in contrast to the low-pitched roof of  
10 the bungalow. Fully-developed examples have an enclosed entrance vestibule with a steeply-  
11 pitched asymmetrical front-gabled roof. More often, a small side-gabled house has a simple  
12 gable-roof entrance vestibule. Some two-story gabled-ell houses with an asymmetrical front  
13 gable show Tudor cottage influence. A few Cape Cod houses date to this period; others were  
14 built after World War II. In Copper Harbor there are a number of rustic log houses. More often  
15 rustic log or log-sided houses were built as recreational homes, but they fit Copper Harbor's  
16 development as a resort community and undoubtedly were influenced by the Keweenaw  
17 Mountain Lodge nearby.

18  
19 Residential architecture includes outbuildings as well as houses. In the earliest decades, all  
20 houses had privies. By the late nineteenth century middle class houses typically had a bathroom,  
21 but worker houses without indoor toilets were built as late as the 1910s. Though they were once  
22 ubiquitous, only a few privies survive in villages or locations. Working class homes also had  
23 sheds and livestock barns in their rear yards so that families could produce their own food. Mine  
24 companies encouraged their workers to keep a cow and tend a garden, and toward that end the  
25 companies often built barns on worker house lots. C&H built some double and quadruple barns  
26 designed to be shared by two or four households. Although the large majority of barns are gone,  
27 there are a number of surviving examples, including some log barns in Mohawk and Ahmeek  
28 Village. Sheds were insubstantial, and relatively few survive. Homes of the more affluent had  
29 horse stables or carriage houses; examples of these survive in Houghton, Hancock, and some of  
30 the villages. At Raymbaultown location, a sandstone carriage house with garage addition  
31 survives at the house site of C&H general manager James McNaughton. A few garages were  
32 built in the 1910s, but most were built in the 1920s and later. Garages built before World War II  
33 are freestanding buildings, usually frame construction with gable or hipped roofs. Stables were  
34 also converted to garages. Numerous garages survive throughout the survey area.

35  
36 In rural areas, most houses fall into two classes: farmhouses and recreational cottages. A large  
37 proportion of farmhouses were built by Finns, so there are quite a few built of logs, although the  
38 vast majority of these have siding covering the logs. Farmhouses are usually one-and-one-half  
39 or two stories. Front-gabled houses are common, although they do not predominate to the extent  
40 that they do in mine towns. In addition, front-gabled farmhouses often have broader proportions  
41 than those built for mine workers. Because most farmhouses were built after 1900, foursquare  
42 houses are more common, both one and two stories. Other house types include upright and  
43 wing, L-plan, side-gabled, and bungalow. Queen Anne style details are rarely seen on  
44 farmhouses, but a number of them have bracketed eaves, exposed rafter tails, and/or 3/1 or 4/1  
45 windows reflecting the Arts and Crafts style. In Ontonagon County, a distinctive one-and-one-  
46 half story house type has the bracketed eaves and shed roof dormers characteristic of bungalows,

1 but the roof pitch is much steeper than on a bungalow. A group of unusual farmhouses on  
 2 Paradise Road in Chassell Township are built of brick or terra cotta block, possibly reflecting the  
 3 building traditions of the French Canadians who settled there. Recreational cottages are small  
 4 gable-roof houses, usually one story and mostly found along lakeshores, although some inland  
 5 examples were built as hunting camps. Some have exposed rafter tails or brackets indicating  
 6 Arts and Crafts influence; others are built of logs or have log siding, indicative of the rustic style.  
 7 Recreational cottages are difficult to date. Most would have been built after World War I, when  
 8 travel by automobile became common.

9  
 10 After World War II, the ranch house was the predominant house type—in villages and cities, on  
 11 farms and at the lakeshore, and at all social levels. Ranch houses are scattered throughout the  
 12 region, but the largest concentrations are found in areas that experienced growth in the late 1940s  
 13 through 1960s: the village of Baraga, city of Houghton and vicinity, village of Ontonagon, and  
 14 especially White Pine. There are more than two hundred ranch houses in White Pine, a planned  
 15 mine town built beginning in 1951. Ranch houses by definition are one story with a low-pitched  
 16 hipped or gable roof or sometimes a flat roof. Small rectangular plan worker houses  
 17 predominate at White Pine, yet even these have attached garages. More expensive ranch houses,  
 18 such as those built by White Pine mine managers in Ontonagon Village, are larger, often L-plan,  
 19 with deep overhanging eaves and large picture windows. Often these larger ranch houses have  
 20 brick or stone veneer at their base with wood siding such as board and batten above. Some of the  
 21 larger ranch houses, particularly in Houghton and vicinity, show the influence of modern design,  
 22 with large expanses of glass and flat roofs. In Baraga and vicinity, a number of ranch houses  
 23 have a distinctive veneer combining brick with irregular pieces of Jacobsville sandstone.

24  
 25 Other post-World War II house types are split levels and bi-level ranch houses. Cape Cods and  
 26 small gable-roof houses continued to be built in the early post-war years. A small number of  
 27 two-story side-gabled houses were likely built in the 1960s. There are occasional A-frame  
 28 houses, usually built as recreational homes. Mobile homes are found both in villages and in rural  
 29 areas, where they are used as both recreational and year-round housing. Mobile homes were  
 30 usually not confined to trailer parks; only three of these were found, in Hancock, Dodgeville, and  
 31 White Pine.

32  
 33 Student housing at Finlandia University and Michigan Technological University consists  
 34 primarily of dormitories. Mannerheim Hall (1965)<sup>15</sup> at Finlandia University and Wadsworth  
 35 Hall (1955) and McNair Hall (1965–1968; Tarapata-MacMahon Associates) at Michigan Tech  
 36 are all large, multi-story brick-veneered buildings in the modern idiom. McNair Hall's ribbon  
 37 bands of windows especially show International Style influence. In contrast, Michigan Tech's  
 38 Daniell Heights housing for married students (1960; Minoru Yamasaki), consists of small two-  
 39 story gable-roof buildings that relate to historic houses in the region.

40  
 41 Commercial buildings are the second most common building type. Occasionally they are found  
 42 in mine locations, but most of them are in Houghton and Hancock and in villages throughout the  
 43 Copper Country. As villages grew, concentrations of commercial buildings developed into  
 44 central business districts. The first commercial buildings were wooden buildings of the shop-  
 45 house type, essentially front-gabled houses with residential space on the upper floors and

---

<sup>15</sup> Mannerheim Hall was later renovated to classrooms and offices.

1 commercial space, marked by display windows, on the first floor. Early examples of shop-house  
2 commercial buildings survive in Eagle Harbor. As commercial buildings evolved, display  
3 windows became larger, and false fronts gave added height. While the first story was devoted to  
4 retail, the second story housed more private functions such as apartments, offices, meeting  
5 rooms, or work space. Bracketed cornices in the Italianate style were the most common  
6 embellishment. This type of two-part commercial building housed most commercial functions,  
7 including retail stores, saloons, banks, and hotels, although some of the latter took the form of  
8 large houses. One-part commercial buildings had no upper story. The blacksmith shop was an  
9 important commercial building type that took other forms. The Bammert blacksmith shop, built  
10 in the 1880s at the Cliff mine and later moved to Phoenix, is a two-story side-gabled frame  
11 building. In Copper Harbor, a sign on a small hewn log building states that it was built in the  
12 1880s as a blacksmith shop.

13  
14 In the 1880s, masonry construction became common for commercial buildings, although more so  
15 in some areas than others. The shift to masonry was in part a response to fires that devastated  
16 many communities. After an 1887 fire destroyed twelve city blocks in Lake Linden, the village  
17 council passed a fire code that required brick or stone construction within a specified section of  
18 the business district. Yet after an 1896 fire leveled nearly the whole village of Ontonagon, the  
19 village, including the business district, was rebuilt almost entirely in wood. Another reason for  
20 the shift to masonry was prosperity—masonry was preferred for larger buildings, and even in  
21 smaller buildings it is more substantial and impressive. Broad commercial blocks were built  
22 with two or three storefronts, and buildings with three stories, occasionally four or five, were  
23 built in Calumet, Laurium, Hancock, and Houghton. Masonry construction allowed commercial  
24 buildings to be constructed with common walls, so that the commercial buildings presented a  
25 continuous front to the street. Masonry construction became predominant in the largest and  
26 more prosperous business districts: Lake Linden, Laurium, Calumet, Hancock, and Houghton. It  
27 was used to various degrees in smaller business districts; in Ontonagon County wood frame  
28 commercial buildings continued to predominate. There were also wood frame buildings with  
29 masonry fronts or brick veneer. Brick was the most common type of masonry used for  
30 commercial buildings. A number of commercial buildings in Houghton County were built of  
31 Jacobsville sandstone, which was also used for trim and for decorative elements on brick  
32 buildings. The red Jacobsville sandstone lends a distinctive character to the business districts  
33 where it is found. It was not used at all in Keweenaw County and in Ontonagon County is found  
34 in only one instance: the trim on a brick hotel in Rockland. Rusticated concrete block was used  
35 for some commercial buildings built after 1900.

36  
37 Cast iron, terra cotta, and pressed metal are other materials that were used for decorative  
38 treatments on commercial buildings. The Italianate style continued to be the most common style  
39 for late nineteenth century commercial buildings, but it is a more ornate version, with window  
40 hoods and elaborate cornices, the latter typically made of pressed metal. Richardsonian  
41 Romanesque and Romanesque Revival styles were favored for buildings constructed of  
42 Jacobsville sandstone. As with houses, the greatest variety of styles and their most exuberant  
43 expressions are found in the largest and most expensive commercial buildings. A few of these  
44 adopt the Renaissance Revival style; in Houghton, the Italian Renaissance style Douglass House  
45 hotel (1899–1900; Henry L. Ottenheimer) with its twin corner towers is an outstanding example.  
46 The Shelden-Dee Block (1899–1900; Henry L. Ottenheimer) in Houghton is a creative

1 interpretation of classical design elements. There are a few examples of later styles, including  
2 Sullivanesque and Art Deco. Banks were often the most substantial buildings in a business  
3 district, designed to inspire confidence. In Ontonagon's business district, the Classical Revival  
4 First National Bank (1921) is the only brick building on a street of wood frame commercial  
5 buildings. Laurium's two bank buildings are the largest and most ornate in the district. The First  
6 National Bank of Laurium (1907; Frank W. Hessenmueller) is a three-story Italian Renaissance  
7 style brick building with lavish terra cotta trim that includes a pedimented corner entrance with  
8 Ionic pilasters, egg and dart moldings, and cornice with acanthus leaf brackets and modillion  
9 blocks. Across the street, the State Savings Bank of Laurium (ca. 1901; Carl E. Nystrom) is a  
10 three-story Romanesque style brick building with marble Ionic columns at its corner entrance  
11 and sandstone piers and trim.

12  
13 By the 1920s, new commercial building types were serving the needs of automobile owners and  
14 travelers. Foremost were gasoline filling stations, commercial garages, and combinations of the  
15 two, known as service stations. These were freestanding buildings built not only in central  
16 business districts, but also out along the highways. The most popular design for early filling  
17 stations was a small hipped roof building with a canopy in front; a brick example survives in  
18 Baraga Village and a wood frame example on Quincy Hill. With the addition of service bays,  
19 stations became larger. The brick service station (ca. 1928) at Fifth and Elm in Calumet, now a  
20 coffee house, is a good example. Examples of pre-World War II filling and service stations are  
21 scattered through the Copper Country; undoubtedly there were once many more than there are  
22 today. Tourist cabins, another new auto-oriented type of commercial building, appeared in the  
23 1920s. Usually the cabins are grouped around a central courtyard, forming a tourist court. There  
24 are a number of tourist courts in Copper Harbor, which by the 1920s had become a resort  
25 community, but more often they are found along the highway, especially on highways that  
26 border lakeshores. Only three tourist courts were found in Houghton County; there are more in  
27 Ontonagon County and in northern Keweenaw County. Like recreational cottages, tourist cabins  
28 often have characteristics of the Arts and Crafts or rustic styles or a combination of both. These  
29 include exposed rafter tails, brackets, shingle siding, and log walls or siding. Taverns are  
30 another type of freestanding building usually found along highways, unlike the saloons that  
31 preceded them, which were located in central business districts. Taverns seem to have appeared  
32 in the 1930s, after Prohibition ended. They are typically one- or two-story frame buildings with  
33 no particular distinguishing characteristics.

34  
35 The number of post-World War II commercial buildings in the Copper Country is relatively  
36 small compared to the number that date to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.  
37 Nevertheless, examples can be found throughout the region. After the war there was a  
38 pronounced change in the appearance of commercial buildings: one-story buildings are  
39 freestanding, long and low, and usually have flat roofs. Some show the influence of modern  
40 design, particularly in the use of large expanses of glass. The Agate Shop in Eagle Harbor is a  
41 good example of a commercial building in the modern idiom, although its pitched roof is  
42 atypical. Some commercial buildings were built as infill in central business districts, but  
43 increasingly they were located at the edge of town, along the highway. In addition to retail  
44 stores, specialized types of commercial buildings include supermarkets, restaurants, bars, and  
45 taverns. One drive-in restaurant, in Baraga Village, was originally built as an A&W. New  
46 designs for gasoline service stations featured streamlining and porcelain enamel panels; there are

1 some examples of these types, but most have been remodeled or replaced. Tourist courts were  
2 built at least into the 1950s, but motels soon outnumbered them. Most motels are one story; a  
3 few have two stories. Near Kearsarge, the Hut Inn restaurant and motel (1952) shows modernist  
4 influence in its sweeping horizontal and diagonal lines.

5  
6 After commercial buildings, industrial buildings are the most prominent building type; however,  
7 their prominence comes not just from numbers, but from their large size and imposing  
8 appearance. Shafthouses are among the tallest structures in the Keweenaw—the Quincy No. 2  
9 shaft-rockhouse on top of Quincy Hill is visible for miles and has become a symbol of the  
10 Copper Country. Extant mine buildings are located along the Copper Range, from the Delaware  
11 mine in the north to the White Pine mine in the south. The first generation of mine buildings,  
12 built before the Civil War, were constructed primarily of wood; none of these survive. The  
13 oldest extant mine building may be the ca. 1860s powder house at the Calumet mine site. The  
14 majority of standing mine buildings were built from the 1880s to the 1910s; the most extensive  
15 complexes are at the Quincy and C&H mine sites. A small number of mine buildings were built  
16 after World War II; these can be found at the Centennial No. 3 and 6, Osceola No. 6 and 13, and  
17 White Pine mine sites.

18  
19 Most of the extant mine buildings are constructed of masonry—brick, mine waste rock,  
20 Jacobsville sandstone, or a combination. Some of the Jacobsville sandstone buildings are built of  
21 squared blocks, but more often they use rubble stone. After 1900 concrete block was used as  
22 well. Mine buildings can be very large: the No. 2 warehouse at the Calumet mine site measures  
23 80 x 440 feet. Some of the buildings have monitor roofs. Design details include arched lintels  
24 framing windows and doors and quoins at building corners; often these are fabricated of  
25 contrasting brick or stone. Quincy’s No. 2 hoist house (1920; J. M. Hoff), a tall front-gabled  
26 building built of reinforced concrete with brick veneer, draws on classical design with its  
27 unusually tall arched windows, keystones, and concrete piers resembling pilasters. After World  
28 War II most mine buildings were built with sheet metal siding over steel frames. All mine  
29 buildings were part of the ore extraction process; they include boilerhouses, dryhouses, powder  
30 houses, hoisthouses, machine shops, drill shops, pattern shops, blacksmith shops, oil houses, and  
31 warehouses. Shafthouses once dotted the length of the Copper Range; five survive today. The  
32 Champion No. 4 shaft-rockhouse (ca. 1904) is the oldest. The Quincy No. 2 shaft-rockhouse  
33 (1908) stands 147 feet tall. Shaft-rockhouses at Osceola No. 13 and Centennial No. 6 and the  
34 small shafthouse at Centennial No. 3 date to the 1950s. The mine companies’ stylish  
35 administrative buildings contrast with the industrial buildings. The Quincy Mining Company’s  
36 general office building (1897; Robert C. Walsh), built of Jacobsville sandstone, combines  
37 classical design with the arched openings and rough-faced masonry of the Richardsonian  
38 Romanesque. The C&H general office building (1889; Shaw & Hunnewell) is one of the most  
39 eye-catching buildings in the Copper Country, with walls that combine dark mine waste rock and  
40 light fieldstone in an intricate design, set off by red brick trim.

41  
42 Stamp mills were built primarily along lakeshores; the biggest concentration was at Torch Lake,  
43 but they were also built on other inland lakes and at several locations on Lake Superior. Only  
44 ruins remain of the stamp mills themselves, but several buildings associated with the mills  
45 survive. These include an office/warehouse building at the Champion mill site in Freda and a  
46 three-story boilerhouse (1906) at the site of the Michigan stamp mill in Baraga Township. At the

1 C&H stamp mill site in Lake Linden, a power plant, research laboratory, fire hall, and office  
2 building (1918) are extant. Two of the seven smelters built in the Copper Country stand today.  
3 The Quincy Smelter, built beginning in 1898, is a relatively intact complex of more than twenty  
4 buildings, among them cupola and reverberatory furnaces, mineral warehouse, briquetting plant,  
5 warehouses, powerhouse, machine shop, laboratory, and assay office. A smelter built in the  
6 1950s remains at the White Pine mine. Although the furnaces are no longer extant at the C&H  
7 smelter in Hubbell, several buildings remain, including the mineral storage building and  
8 electrolytic plant, both constructed in 1913. In Dollar Bay, three brick buildings with monitor  
9 roofs were likely part of a copper wire mill.

10  
11 The Atlas Powder Company produced the explosives that were essential to copper mining. Atlas  
12 built its industrial works and company town at Senter in 1910 and operated there until 1960.  
13 Brick industrial buildings at the Atlas site include a machine shop, warehouse, paint shed, and  
14 pulp house. A hipped roof frame laboratory building has scalloped rafter tails and dormer  
15 windows. A few other industrial buildings are unrelated to the copper industry. On Hancock  
16 Street in Hancock, several light industrial buildings constructed of concrete have brick facades  
17 with stepped gable roofs. In Dollar Bay, the Horner Flooring Company, established in 1930 and  
18 still operating, is a dense complex of industrial buildings built of wood, tile, brick, concrete  
19 block, and metal. Some additional industrial buildings in the villages of Ontonagon and Baraga  
20 are either greatly altered or nondescript.

21  
22 Architects designed a small but prominent selection of buildings in the Copper Country, mainly  
23 public and commercial buildings, mine offices, churches, and large homes. The Red Jacket  
24 (Calumet) Village Hall (1885), designed by John B. Sweatt, is the earliest architect-designed  
25 building that has been identified. Sweatt lived in Marquette at the time; it appears that he was  
26 self-taught. Among the few buildings that he designed in the region is the monumental  
27 Houghton County Courthouse (1887). Mine companies and other affluent clients commissioned  
28 work from well known Midwestern architects such as Holabird & Roche and Henry L.  
29 Ottenheimer of Chicago, Alexander C. Eschweiler of Milwaukee, and John Scott of Detroit.  
30 Mine companies also commissioned buildings from architects in the eastern cities where the  
31 companies were based. Thus, Shaw & Hunnewell of Boston designed the C&H general office  
32 and library buildings. Robert C. Walsh of Morristown, New Jersey, designed Quincy's general  
33 office building; Walsh was the neighbor of the Quincy Mining Company's treasurer. Closer to  
34 the Keweenaw, D. F. Charlton of Marquette designed more than twenty buildings in the Copper  
35 Country. The first professionally trained architect to make a permanent home in the Upper  
36 Peninsula, Charlton established a practice in Marquette in 1890 and worked with various partners  
37 until 1918; for a few years he had a branch office in Hancock. The Vivian Building (1894) in  
38 Laurium, Hancock City Hall (1899), and St. Anne's Church (1901) in Calumet are among his  
39 most notable buildings. Some architects moved to the Copper Country during the boom years  
40 and then moved on. Charles K. Shand was one of them; he made his mark with buildings that  
41 include the Red Jacket Fire Hall (1899) and Lake Linden Village Hall (1902). Charles Maass  
42 had the longest career in the Copper Country, arriving in about 1895 and leaving in about 1920.  
43 Working alone or in partnership with his brother Fred, his designs include the Michigan House  
44 (1905) in Calumet, the Masonic Temple (1910) in Houghton, and many fine homes in Laurium.  
45 After 1920, commissions for architects became scarce as the population, economy, and new  
46 construction all declined. There are, however, three later commissions by prominent architects

1 that deserve mention: Nikander Hall (1939), designed by Eliel and Eero Saarinen with J. R. F.  
2 Swanson; the Sherman Gym (1949, remodeled 1985) at Michigan Technological University by  
3 Alden B. Dow; and Daniell Heights student housing (1960) at Michigan Tech by Minoru  
4 Yamasaki.

5  
6 Builders designed and built most of the buildings in the Copper Country. The region's leading  
7 builders included Norwegian immigrant Edward Ulseth, who started a contracting business soon  
8 after his arrival in 1883; his nephew Nils Ulseth joined the business in the late 1880s. In 1896  
9 Ulseth partnered with Finnish immigrant A. A. Bajari; Ulseth and Bajari reportedly built four  
10 hundred buildings in 1898 and 1899. Bajari died in 1902; Edward Ulseth continued in business  
11 into the early 1930s. Masonry contractor Paul P. Roehm supplied Jacobsville sandstone for  
12 many buildings in the Calumet area. German immigrant Herman Gundlach established a  
13 construction company in Houghton in 1898. His son Herman Gundlach Jr. took over the firm  
14 after World War II and built Herman Gundlach Inc. into the largest contracting firm in the Upper  
15 Peninsula.

16  
17 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*

18  
19 This thematic narrative covers residential, commercial, and industrial buildings, which together  
20 account for a large majority of buildings in the Copper Country. Other property types that are  
21 present in smaller numbers will be discussed in their respective thematic narratives. For example,  
22 church architecture will be discussed under the religion theme.

23  
24 Residential buildings that are significant for their architecture will usually be excellent  
25 representatives of a type, style, period, or method of construction. In order to be individually  
26 eligible for the National Register, a building must retain its character defining features. For  
27 example, a house that is eligible as a representative of the Greek Revival style would retain  
28 sidelights, frieze-band windows, band of trim at the eaves, and/or cornice returns in addition to  
29 clapboard siding and wood windows, preferably original. If there are many examples of a type  
30 or style, an eligible building would be held to a higher standard of integrity than if that type or  
31 style is rare. Worker houses number in the hundreds, yet there may be two dozen or less that  
32 retain their original or restored windows and siding. If the original interior plan is still evident,  
33 any of these would be individually eligible. More often, houses will be part of neighborhoods  
34 that are eligible as historic districts. A house may contribute to a historic district if it has  
35 replacement windows and secondary siding as long as most of the window openings are  
36 unchanged and the form is not overwhelmed by front and side additions. The form of the house  
37 is the most important characteristic in a row of identical company houses. But if there are a  
38 dozen streets of two-story front-gabled houses, the most intact streets would be selected for  
39 listing. Among the architect-designed homes of the wealthy, there are a number of examples that  
40 possess high artistic value; these must be highly intact to be individually listed.

41  
42 As with residential buildings, a commercial building may be individually eligible for the  
43 National Register as an excellent example of a type, style, period, or method of construction. For  
44 example, the few surviving examples of early wood shop-house buildings or the best example of  
45 a Renaissance Revival style bank could be eligible. Compared to houses, a larger proportion of  
46 commercial buildings seem to possess high artistic value; their purpose, after all, is to attract and

1 sell, not merely to contain. For a commercial building to be individually eligible, it must retain  
2 its important character defining features. In the case of the two-part commercial buildings that  
3 make up the large majority of commercial buildings in the Copper Country, the storefront, upper  
4 story windows, decorative elements such as window hoods, and cornice must be restored or  
5 intact. Remodeled storefronts are very common; commercial buildings that have remodeled  
6 storefronts may contribute to a historic business district if the upper stories retain their historic  
7 features. Masonry commercial buildings fare relatively well in this respect because of the  
8 difficulty of altering window openings in brick or stone walls. On the other hand, it is not  
9 unusual to find wooden commercial buildings that have been re-sided and have new window  
10 openings that bear no relation to the originals. A business district need not retain all of its  
11 historic buildings to be National Register eligible, but it must retain most of them along with an  
12 appropriate sense of density. If one section of a business district is gone, the remainder may still  
13 be eligible if it retains its historic qualities.

14  
15 The industrial buildings that stand in the Copper Country today are a fraction of what was there  
16 historically. In 1915 there were seventy-five shaft-rockhouses on the Copper Range; two of  
17 these stand today.<sup>16</sup> Some mine buildings were intentionally removed, while others deteriorated.  
18 Even massive stone buildings built of mine rock are most often found as ruins today. Often there  
19 are just one or two mine buildings standing at a mine site; if they retain integrity, they are  
20 individually eligible just because they are extant. Because most mine buildings were built of  
21 stone, usually they do retain integrity. Beyond their mere survival, many of these buildings  
22 represent excellence in design and construction, from both an aesthetic and engineering  
23 standpoint. The C&H and Quincy mine sites are both part of National Historic Landmark  
24 historic districts, but more than buildings make up these districts and more than architecture  
25 supports their significance. With mine buildings especially, but also with residential,  
26 commercial, and other types of buildings, it is difficult—and perhaps pointless—to separate  
27 architectural and historical significance.

28  
29 (Photo—Saltbox houses, Maple St (1), Tamarack Location)

## 30 31 32 **Commerce**

33  
34 Commerce is the buying and selling of commodities, goods, and services; it is closely linked to  
35 transportation. From the 1840s through the Civil War, people, goods, and copper were  
36 transported to and from the Copper Country via Lake Superior and the other Great Lakes. Thus  
37 the shipping ports of Copper Harbor, Eagle Harbor, Eagle River, and Ontonagon were the  
38 region's first commercial centers. As mines began producing copper and more people began to  
39 settle in the area, a distinctive pattern of community and commerce emerged. Industrial works  
40 and housing were built at the mine locations, which were located inland along the Copper Range,  
41 but there was little commerce at the locations—a company store, if that. Commerce expanded in  
42 the port communities, where the general store was the most important retail establishment,  
43 selling food, cloth, clothing, hardware, furniture, and more. Hotels and saloons offered essential  
44 services, and warehouses along the waterfront stored goods and materials. Rapid population  
45 growth and the 1855 opening of the canal and locks at Sault Ste. Marie fostered commercial

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<sup>16</sup> Lankton, *Hollowed Ground*, 312.

1 growth in the region, although winter—when the Great Lakes were impassable—was a time of  
2 scarcity.

3  
4 After the Civil War, the center of commerce and industry shifted to the Portage Lake area. In  
5 large part this shift was due to the success of the Quincy and C&H mines, but it was augmented  
6 by the construction of the Portage Lake and Lake Superior Ship Canal, completed in 1873. The  
7 villages of Houghton and Hancock were now shipping ports, and they grew to become  
8 commercial centers for the entire Portage Lake area. In the Village of Red Jacket (renamed  
9 Calumet in 1929), a business district that occupied about half of the village served Calumet &  
10 Hecla's numerous mine locations. Smaller business districts grew up in other villages located  
11 near mine and stamp mill locations. Business districts also developed in shipping ports for  
12 lumber, including Chassell, Baraga, and Ontonagon. After railroads arrived in the 1880s,  
13 business districts developed in lumber towns such as Ewen and Bruce Crossing that were located  
14 on the railroad lines.

15  
16 As commerce matured, both the number and variety of businesses increased. In 1863, just four  
17 years after Hancock was established, the village had six saloons; three apiece of general stores,  
18 grocers, and hotels; a jeweler, hardware store, harness maker, carpenter, shoemaker, physician,  
19 lawyer, and insurance agent.<sup>17</sup> By 1890 the business district had undergone significant  
20 expansion: there were three banks, five hotels, five doctors, three dentists, three bakeries, three  
21 carriage dealers, six confectioners, four druggists, three dry-goods merchants, nine general  
22 merchants, nine grocers, six hardware stores, four meat markets, three millineries, eight  
23 tobacconists, four barbers, three laundries, two jewelers, one florist, one photographer, and  
24 numerous saloons and billiard halls.<sup>18</sup> One of the merchants was Jacob Gartner, who in 1900  
25 built a new three-story department store on Quincy Street; it was reputed to be the largest  
26 department store north of Milwaukee. Gartner's Department Store was downtown Hancock's  
27 anchor store through the twentieth century. Other leading department stores were Vertin's in  
28 Calumet and Vivian's in Laurium. In counterpoint to these privately-owned businesses,  
29 cooperative stores were "owned" by members, who joined the co-op and were then able to buy  
30 goods at reduced prices. The Tamarack Co-operative Association was the first, opened in 1890  
31 as a joint venture of officers and workers at the Tamarack Mining Company. The Tamarack Co-  
32 op was extremely successful and influential; private businesses had to keep their prices at a  
33 reasonable level in order to compete with Tamarack and the other cooperative stores that  
34 followed. The first chain stores appeared in the early 1900s. F. M. Kirby & Co., based in  
35 Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, opened one of its 5¢ and 10¢ stores in Calumet in 1907. Within ten  
36 years Kirby became part of the F. W. Woolworth Company, which continued to operate the  
37 Calumet store.

38  
39 Commercial expansion ended with the strike of 1913, when people began leaving the Copper  
40 Country. When the copper industry began its long decline in 1920, population loss accelerated,  
41 and commerce declined along with everything else. Perhaps the only area of commercial growth  
42 was related to the automobile and automobile tourism. The first tourist courts appeared in the  
43 1920s, and automobile filling stations, service stations, and commercial garages multiplied.

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<sup>17</sup> Charles F. Clark, *Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1863-4* (Detroit: Charles F. Clark, 1863), 336.

<sup>18</sup> Lankton, *Hollowed Ground*, 71.

1 Businessmen formed organizations such as the Copper Country Vacationist League to promote  
2 automobile tourism. This was a meager offering in the face of the Great Depression, when so  
3 many businesses closed, yet it offered hope for the future. Tourism increased after World War  
4 II, and motels and other businesses were built along highways, but the Copper Country did not  
5 develop the extensive roadside commercial landscapes that appeared elsewhere in the U.S.  
6 There were no shopping malls or shopping centers until the 1970s. Meanwhile, central business  
7 districts were full of vacant commercial buildings and vacant lots where buildings once stood.  
8

9 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*

10  
11 Commercial buildings associated with retail and services are discussed in the architecture  
12 thematic narrative along with standards for evaluating their architectural significance under  
13 National Register Criterion C. Warehouses are another building type associated with commerce.  
14 Aside from any architectural significance, buildings may be National Register eligible under  
15 Criterion A for the theme of commerce if they housed a business that was important to the  
16 community, such as a general store in a small village, a department store in a large village, a  
17 cooperative store, or the local bank. Buildings that housed long-term businesses may also be  
18 eligible. To be eligible under Criterion A, buildings need not be as intact as required for  
19 Criterion C, but they do need to retain major character defining features. For example, the Foley  
20 Brothers general store (1859) in Eagle Harbor has asbestos siding and replacement windows, but  
21 it retains its display windows and would be eligible under the commerce theme but not for its  
22 architecture. In other cases, the storefront may be remodeled if the upper story windows and  
23 cornice are intact. All business districts were important to their communities and would be  
24 eligible under the theme of commerce if they retain most of their historic buildings and those  
25 buildings as a group retain most of their historic features. The home of a prominent businessman  
26 may be eligible, for example, the National Register-listed Ransom B. Shelden house in Houghton  
27 is significant for its architecture and as the home of businessmen Ransom B. Shelden and John  
28 H. Rice, who purchased the house from Shelden.  
29

30 (Photo—Sixth Street, Calumet)

31  
32  
33 **Conservation**

34  
35 The movement to protect America’s natural resources began in the nineteenth century. The 1872  
36 creation of Yellowstone National Park—the first national park in the world—was an early  
37 milestone. In 1891 Congress passed the Forest Reserve Act, which enabled federally-owned  
38 forest lands to be set aside as forest reserves. In 1905 Congress established the U.S. Forest  
39 Service, and the forest reserves became national forests. The National Park Service was created  
40 in 1916 to manage the growing number of national parks. Both national forests and national  
41 parks were intended to be used for recreation, but whereas national forests were managed for  
42 sustained yield, the resources in national parks were protected. In Michigan, the first state  
43 conservation laws pre-dated federal legislation. The first state fisheries regulations were passed  
44 in 1859, and a state forestry commission was established in 1888, though it was abolished the  
45 following year because of opposition to its conservation proposals. In 1909 the Michigan  
46 Legislature created the Public Domain Commission to manage forests, fish, and game; the

1 Michigan Department of Conservation (renamed the Department of Natural Resources in 1969)  
2 replaced the Public Domain Commission in 1921. Michigan’s state park system was created in  
3 1919.

4  
5 In the Lake Superior region, the conservation movement began as a response to the devastation  
6 that following commercial logging, which reduced forests to acres of stumps and piles of slash—  
7 the branches cut off from the logs. Cutover lands were susceptible to forest fires, which  
8 destroyed Ewen and Matchwood in 1893 and Ontonagon in 1896. At first government policy  
9 supported farming to regenerate cutover lands, but the marginal nature of many farms in the  
10 region led to a shift in policy toward reforestation. During the 1920s and 1930s large areas of  
11 cutover land in the Lake Superior region reverted to county governments as the result of tax  
12 delinquency. Government agencies used some of this land to create county, state, and national  
13 forests that were managed for forestry and recreation; one of these was the Copper Country State  
14 Forest. Ottawa National Forest was established in 1931 with 255,551 acres. Kenton was the  
15 original headquarters for the national forest; a stone obelisk in Kenton commemorates the 1931  
16 dedication. By 1938, Ottawa National Forest contained 1,744,898 acres in Houghton,  
17 Ontonagon, Iron, and Gogebic counties.

18  
19 In the meantime, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was created in 1933 as part of President  
20 Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal. Between 1933 and the end of the program in 1942, eighteen  
21 full CCC camps—typically two hundred men—and additional side camps, which were smaller  
22 and more temporary, operated in the Copper Country, including Isle Royale. The Civilian  
23 Conservation Corps replanted cutover areas, fought forest fires, constructed facilities in public  
24 parks and forests, and built roads. In Ottawa National Forest, the CCC built the Bergland Ranger  
25 Station in 1936. Although the rustic style was usual for such facilities at that time, the buildings  
26 at the Bergland station are colonial revival style. A ranger station built in the modern idiom at  
27 Kenton ca. 1960 illustrates the continued evolution of ranger station design.

28  
29 Efforts to establish a national park on Isle Royale began in the early 1920s in response to plans to  
30 begin large-scale pulpwood logging on the island. Keweenaw Point was also considered as the  
31 location for a national park. Advocates for a national park on Isle Royale prevailed: Congress  
32 authorized Isle Royale National Park in 1931, and the National Park Service began acquiring  
33 property. The CCC arrived on the island in 1935 and began building the park’s infrastructure  
34 including campgrounds, trails, and the park headquarters on Mott Island. A rustic-style house  
35 and pump house built by the CCC on Mott Island are extant today. The National Park Service  
36 adopted the rustic style for its buildings so that they would harmonize with the natural  
37 environment; the style became so prevalent in state and national parks that it has been called  
38 “parkitecture.” The CCC’s greatest legacy on Isle Royale was fighting the forest fire of 1936,  
39 which burned from late July to mid-September and destroyed more than 27,000 acres of forest—  
40 about one-fifth of Isle Royale. Eighteen hundred fire fighters, most of them from the CCC, are  
41 credited with preventing even more damage. By 1940 sufficient land had been acquired to  
42 establish Isle Royale National Park.

43  
44 The Copper Country’s first state park was established in 1923 to preserve historic Fort Wilkins.  
45 McLain State Park was established in 1931. But from a conservation perspective, the most  
46 important state park in the Copper Country—indeed in the state of Michigan—is Porcupine

1 Mountains Wilderness State Park, one of the largest wilderness areas remaining in the Midwest.  
2 As on Isle Royale, the movement for public ownership of the Porcupine Mountains began in the  
3 1920s. Logging in the Porcupine Mountains had been limited in scope, leaving the largest stand  
4 of old-growth hardwood and hemlock in Michigan. When this area was newly threatened by  
5 logging in the 1930s, efforts toward public ownership gained momentum. Land acquisition  
6 began in 1944, and in 1945 the Michigan Legislature established the Porcupine Mountains State  
7 Park with forty-six thousand acres. The five buildings in the park's administrative complex,  
8 built in the late 1940s and 1950s, are another example of rustic park architecture. Twin Lakes  
9 was originally a county park; it was added to the state park system in the 1960s.

10  
11 Conservation includes wildlife management, particularly fish and game. Wildlife management  
12 increased during the 1930s and included stocking fish in rivers and lakes. The Michigan  
13 Department of Conservation built the Otter River fish hatchery in southern Portage Township in  
14 1932. Metal structures remain on the river banks, and the main building is a well-preserved  
15 example of the rustic style executed in log and stone.

16  
17 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*

18  
19 Administrative buildings at state and national parks and forests are the most numerous property  
20 types associated with the conservation theme. Even these are not present in large numbers,  
21 however, so that all of them are potentially National Register-eligible under the conservation  
22 theme if they retain their major character-defining features, particularly when there is a group of  
23 buildings as at the Bergland Ranger Station, which is National Register-listed, and at Porcupine  
24 Mountains State Park. Administrative buildings that are highly intact may also be significant for  
25 their architecture. This is true of the buildings at the Bergland Ranger Station, but some of the  
26 administrative buildings at Porcupine Mountains State Park have had alterations such as vinyl  
27 windows. The commemorative obelisk at the Kenton Ranger Station may be eligible,  
28 particularly in association with the adjacent building, which appears to be a well-preserved  
29 example of modern ranger station design. Trails, cabins, campgrounds, picnic areas, and scenic  
30 overlooks are also associated with state and national parks and forests, however, these property  
31 types represent recreation rather than conservation and are discussed under the recreation theme.

32  
33 CCC camp sites were identified at Kenton, Sidnaw, and Pori, but there are no standing buildings  
34 at these sites; only a few ruins remain. One fire lookout tower was identified during the  
35 survey—a steel tower on Tower Road in Baraga Township; research is needed to determine its  
36 age. There may be additional fire towers in remote areas that were not accessible for survey.  
37 The Otter River fish hatchery is the only fish hatchery identified during the survey and is eligible  
38 as a representative of its type and for its rustic-style architecture.

39  
40 (Photo—Otter River Fish Hatchery, Tapiola District)

41  
42  
43 **Education**

44  
45 Schools were established in villages and mine locations once the mines started producing copper;  
46 mine companies supported schools as a way to encourage workers to immigrate with their

1 families. The public school that opened at the Cliff mine in the late 1840s may have been the  
 2 first, but by the 1850s there were public and private schools in Copper Harbor, Eagle Harbor,  
 3 Eagle River, Houghton, Ontonagon, and Rockland (the Minesota mine); there was also a  
 4 Catholic school in Ontonagon. Schools might meet in any space that was available, but one-  
 5 room schoolhouses appeared early on. The Copper Harbor School, built in 1850, is still in use,  
 6 although the building has been altered. The 1853 Eagle Harbor School retains its original  
 7 appearance—a one-story front-gabled frame building with 6/9 windows and bell cupola. The  
 8 schools were ungraded, primary schools. At the Clifton school by 1863, two teachers taught an  
 9 average of eighty students—on some days there were more than one hundred. In that year a  
 10 second room was added to the school. In 1872 the overcrowded Eagle Harbor School was  
 11 replaced with a new two-story school. Front-gabled like the older school, the new school retains  
 12 its original windows with window hoods and bell cupola with pointed-arch openings. The first  
 13 graded school was built in Houghton in 1866; the three-and-one-half-story school built of mine  
 14 waste rock was called the Rock School (not extant) and taught grade school through high school.

15  
 16 By 1875 there were about thirty public schools with 5,500 students in Keweenaw, Houghton, and  
 17 Ontonagon counties combined.<sup>19</sup> One of the distinguishing features of the Copper Country’s  
 18 public schools was the degree to which they were controlled by the mine companies, even  
 19 though on paper the system of school districts governed by school boards was the same as in the  
 20 rest of the state. Mine companies controlled schools in the locations, of course, but even in  
 21 “independent” villages such as Lake Linden or Dollar Bay, mine companies exerted great  
 22 influence. C&H in particular frequently built schools and then leased them to the school district.  
 23 School boards were often populated with mine company officials. Thus the quality of a school  
 24 was related to the success of the sponsoring mine company. Not surprisingly, Calumet schools  
 25 came out at the top. In 1875 C&H built the Central School, reputed to be the largest and best  
 26 school in the state. Its thirty-eight rooms included a high school assembly room, four recitation  
 27 rooms, a laboratory, and a library. In contrast, the Keweenaw County schools superintendent  
 28 reported two years earlier that only four of the county’s twelve schools had a wall map, three had  
 29 a dictionary, and one had a globe. Poor facilities were one problem; too few teachers, especially  
 30 trained teachers, was another. As for the students, attendance was poor and often erratic—bad  
 31 weather and work kept students away, and when fathers moved from one mine to another, the  
 32 children moved from one school to another. Students usually left school at a young age. And as  
 33 more families came from Europe instead of Great Britain, the number of different languages  
 34 spoken at school multiplied. All of these factors made teaching and learning a challenge.

35  
 36 As the mines matured and prospered and the population increased, so did the number of students.  
 37 Between 1895 and 1915, the number of students in Keweenaw County schools increased from  
 38 536 to 1,672, in Houghton County from 9,000 to 20,000, and in Ontonagon County from 1,185  
 39 to 3,266. In Houghton County there were 127 schools in 1910.<sup>20</sup> More and larger schools were  
 40 built in villages, but in addition new one-room schools were built in rural areas as agriculture  
 41 increased and the rural population grew. In the villages, Calumet schools continued to lead the  
 42 way. In 1898, C&H built a new high school and a manual training school for high school-age  
 43 students. The manual training school is indicative of the emphasis on preparing students for jobs  
 44 in the mining industry. When the two schools were destroyed by fire, they were replaced by the

<sup>19</sup> Lankton, *Beyond the Boundaries*, 124, 144.

<sup>20</sup> Turner, *Strangers and Sojourners*, 169–70; Lankton, *Cradle to Grave*, 169.

1 current high school, which opened in 1907 and incorporated both curricula. Designed by  
 2 Charlton, Gilbert & Demar, the three-story brick school has classical design elements. The  
 3 Calumet School District included Calumet Township and the villages of Calumet and Laurium.  
 4 At its peak in 1908, the district had 8,300 students in twenty-one school buildings.<sup>21</sup> There were  
 5 also two parochial schools in Laurium: Sacred Heart School, the largest Catholic school in the  
 6 region, and the German Lutheran School. The only schools that came close to rivaling Calumet  
 7 were the Copper Range schools, especially the high school (1909; Alexander Eschweiler) that  
 8 the company built in Painesdale. The large Jacobean Revival school built of Jacobsville  
 9 sandstone had a gymnasium, auditorium, laboratories, manual training facilities for boys,  
 10 domestic science laboratory for girls, and separate bathrooms for boys and girls. From 1909 to  
 11 the early 1940s, a Copper Range Railroad train brought students to the high school from the  
 12 company's mill towns and those mine locations that were not within walking distance.

13  
 14 Schools were important to their communities and were often used for meetings and social  
 15 activities, especially in small towns and rural areas where the school might be the only public  
 16 space available. By the early twentieth century most schools were built of masonry, usually  
 17 brick, although some two-story wood frame schools were built in smaller communities. Schools  
 18 were often designed by architects; styles included Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, Arts and  
 19 Crafts, and variants of the Gothic Revival. The Ripley School (ca. 1910; Charlton & Kuenzli),  
 20 built by the Quincy Mining Company, is one of the most ornate. The Classical Revival style  
 21 school built of Jacobsville sandstone features a central pediment supported by pilasters, arched  
 22 windows with keystones, cornice with modillion blocks and dentils, and a cupola with engaged  
 23 Ionic columns.

24  
 25 School consolidation was underway by the 1920s and accelerated in the 1930s; the introduction  
 26 of school buses was a key factor. Consolidation was a nationwide trend, but in the Copper  
 27 Country it was necessitated by population loss as well. As one-room schools closed, two-story  
 28 brick schools were built in the villages. Two of these—in Pelkie and Tapiola—were agricultural  
 29 schools, offering vocational training. During the 1930s federal relief funds were used to build  
 30 schools. The school buildings of this generation are almost always in the Collegiate Gothic or  
 31 Colonial Revival styles. As both population loss and school consolidation proceeded after World  
 32 War II, larger schools were closed in addition to one-room schools. For the most part students  
 33 were consolidated into existing schools, yet a few new schools were built in the 1950s and  
 34 1960s; examples include schools in Mohawk, Ontonagon Village, and White Pine. The long,  
 35 low, flat-roofed one-story schools show the influence of the International Style and of new ideas  
 36 about education and school architecture.

37  
 38 Two institutions of higher learning were established in the Copper Country in the late nineteenth  
 39 century. The first was the Michigan Mining School in Houghton in 1885; in 1897 the name was  
 40 changed to Michigan College of Mines. Construction of a campus began in 1889, and by 1908  
 41 there were seven buildings. Two of these buildings remain today: the Tudor Revival style  
 42 gymnasium and clubhouse (1906; Charlton & Kuenzli) and the Classical Revival style  
 43 administration and library building (1908; Charlton & Kuenzli). In 1927 the name was changed  
 44 to the Michigan College of Mining and Technology, indicating that mining was not the sole

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<sup>21</sup> Lynn Bjorkman, Calumet Village, Laurium Village, Calumet Township, Historical and Architectural Survey: Phase I (Houghton: WUPPDR, 1995), 25–26,

1 focus. As at colleges nationwide, the G. I. Bill brought growth to the Michigan College of  
2 Mining and Technology, and new buildings were built in the International Style. With a broader  
3 curriculum and graduate degree programs, the college became Michigan Technological  
4 University in 1964. In 1966 the student population was more than 3,500 and still growing.<sup>22</sup> By  
5 then the university had become an important part of the local economy.

6  
7 Suomi College and Theological Seminary was established in Hancock in 1896 with classes  
8 designed to preserve Finnish culture, train Lutheran ministers, and teach English. The first  
9 permanent building at the college, now known as Old Main, was built in 1899 (Charles  
10 Archibald Pearce, architect). The imposing two-and-one-half story building of rough-faced  
11 Jacobsville sandstone with a square tower in front has the Gothic feeling characteristic of college  
12 buildings at the time. During the 1920s Suomi College became a two-year liberal arts college.  
13 In 1939 the college built Nikander Hall, designed by Eero and Eliel Saarinen with J. R. F.  
14 Swanson. The horizontal lines of the brick building show the influence of the International  
15 Style, but the texture and decorative brickwork depart from that style. Three new buildings  
16 constructed in the 1960s are typical of modern college architecture of that time period.<sup>23</sup>

17  
18 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*

19  
20 The survey identified approximately sixty primary and secondary school buildings including  
21 one-room schoolhouses, two-story wood frame schools, two- to three-story masonry schools, and  
22 one-story schools built after World War II. There is one two-room one-story school: the  
23 Heikkinen School built in 1919 in Stanton Township. Given that in 1910 there were 127 schools  
24 in Houghton County alone, it is obvious that many school buildings have been lost; in Laurium  
25 Village only one out of six public elementary schools is extant. Nevertheless, examples remain  
26 of all of the types of school buildings. In addition there are the college buildings at Finlandia  
27 University (Suomi College) and Michigan Technological University. School and college  
28 buildings may be National Register eligible under Criterion A in the area of education if they  
29 played an important role in education in their communities. Most of the school buildings in the  
30 survey are significant under Criterion A in the area of education because they were historically  
31 or are currently the only school in a village or rural community. These same schools may also be  
32 eligible under Criterion A in the area of social history because of their importance as centers for  
33 community life. School and college buildings may be significant under Criterion C because they  
34 embody the distinctive characteristics of a type or style of school building, represent the work of  
35 a master architect, or possess high artistic value. Approximately twenty one-room schoolhouses  
36 were identified in the survey. While most, perhaps all, of these are individually significant under  
37 Criterion A, as a group they may be eligible as a non-contiguous district that shows how the one-  
38 room schoolhouse evolved over time. A number of the architect-designed schools have high  
39 artistic value. Nikander Hall, the only building in the Copper Country designed by Eliel and  
40 Eero Saarinen, represents the work of a master.

41  
42 Eligible school buildings must retain integrity. Schools that are eligible under Criterion A may  
43 have some alterations such as secondary siding or replacement windows as long as the school

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<sup>22</sup> Johnson, Johnson & Roy. *Michigan Technological University: A Guide to Future Physical Development* (Ann Arbor: Johnson, Johnson & Roy, [1966]), 9.

<sup>23</sup> Suomi College became a four-year college in 1996, and in 2000 the name was changed to Finlandia University.

1 retains the better part of its historic appearance. The 1850 Copper Harbor School is significant  
2 as the oldest school building in the Copper Country, but its bell cupola is gone and it has a large  
3 side addition, newer windows, and vinyl siding. Its historic appearance is so altered that it is not  
4 eligible. Schools that are significant under Criterion C must be highly intact. For a one-room  
5 school, original siding and windows are key character defining features and must be present or  
6 replaced in kind. However, highly decorated masonry schools built in the early twentieth  
7 century often have smaller windows within the original window openings. In this case the  
8 windows are relatively less important in the context of the whole, and this reversible change is  
9 acceptable if the other character defining features are intact.

10  
11 (Photo—Pelkie one-room school, Pelkie Rd (1) Pelkie District)  
12  
13

#### 14 **Entertainment/Recreation**

15  
16 The entertainment and recreation theme covers a wide variety of topics including sports, games,  
17 performing arts, parks, tourism, and social activities such as picnics and dancing. In the early  
18 years of settlement, recreational activities were limited and generally informal, including such  
19 pastimes as visiting, walking, playing cards, and drinking. As communities grew, a variety of  
20 organized entertainments became available along with dedicated recreational facilities. Some  
21 forms of recreation and entertainment were specifically for residents, others were designed for  
22 tourists, and many were enjoyed by both residents and tourists.

23  
24 Social gatherings typically featured dancing, music, and food. Holidays were celebrated  
25 throughout the year, with the biggest celebrations on Christmas, Washington’s birthday, and the  
26 Fourth of July. Parades, band concerts, speeches, cannon firing, picnics, and a reading of the  
27 Declaration of Independence marked the Fourth of July. As early as the 1850s dances and balls  
28 were organized purely for entertainment, in lieu of a holiday or charitable cause. Halls were  
29 built to house social activities; larger hotels such as the Bigelow House in Ontonagon and the  
30 Douglass House in Houghton also included space for this purpose. The social tempo increased  
31 as ethnic and fraternal organizations were established and organized their own social events,  
32 often in their own halls; annual picnics were also a tradition. In Calumet (known as Red Jacket  
33 until 1929), the Union Building (1888; Byron H. Pierce) served as a meeting place for more than  
34 twenty different fraternal organizations and benevolent societies. The spacious Union Building  
35 had commercial space on the first floor and meeting space on the second and third floors,  
36 including a stage on the third floor. In Houghton, the Masonic Temple (1910; Maass Brothers) is  
37 a four-story building faced with Jacobsville sandstone. The third and fourth floors contained  
38 meeting rooms, a theater, and a large dining room. The Calumet Colosseum and the Houghton  
39 Amphidrome had space for very large events.

40  
41 Festivals, fairs, and carnivals offered more opportunities for entertainment and recreation.  
42 Traveling circuses visited the Copper Country as early as the 1870s. In 1903 the Houghton  
43 County Agricultural Society held the first Houghton County Agricultural Fair at the  
44 Amphidrome in Houghton. The Keweenaw Agricultural Society was organized in 1912 and held  
45 its first annual fair in Mohawk that year. The Houghton County Fair continued into the 1930s  
46 and then, after a hiatus, was revived in 1951 by the Houghton County Fair Association. In the

1 interim, agriculture was celebrated at the Houghton County Potato Show during the 1930s and  
2 the Chassell Strawberry Festival beginning in 1949, the latter still taking place every July. In  
3 1922 the Michigan College of Mines held its first winter carnival, now a major event not only for  
4 Michigan Technological University but for the community and visitors.

5  
6 Among numerous clubs organized for a variety of purposes, two social clubs were established  
7 exclusively for the affluent elite. In 1903, C&H converted a house near its headquarters to the  
8 Miscowaubik Club, an elite club with an elected membership consisting of company officers and  
9 other professionals connected to C&H. The club was furnished with billiard, dining, reception,  
10 and card rooms along with a bowling alley, indoor golf, and lawn tennis. The Miscowaubik  
11 Club remains in its historic clubhouse today. In 1906 businessmen in the Houghton area  
12 organized their own elite club, the Houghton Club, and built a Renaissance Revival style brick  
13 clubhouse in 1910 (Alexander C. Eschweiler). The main floor of the club had a parlor, grille  
14 room, and billiard room while the second floor had a library, private dining rooms, bedrooms,  
15 and card rooms.

16  
17 Musical and theatrical performances, especially the former, were popular entertainments in the  
18 Copper Country. There were many bands, orchestras, and choral groups, some sponsored by  
19 communities or mining companies and others affiliated with different nationalities. Popular  
20 bands had busy schedules playing at dances, celebrations, and outdoor summer concerts.  
21 Amateur theatrical groups staged productions. The Copper Country was also served by national  
22 theatrical and musical touring companies, which usually gave performances in both Hancock and  
23 Calumet. Minstrel shows came during the Civil War years; vaudeville shows came later along  
24 with dramas, musicals, opera, and concerts. Sarah Bernhardt, Lillian Russell, Maude Adams,  
25 and John Philip Sousa were among the famous performers who came to the Copper Country.  
26 Venues were not difficult to come by; by the late nineteenth century halls, schools, and churches  
27 all hosted performances. There were also dedicated theater buildings—more than twenty in  
28 Houghton County before 1910. The two grandest were the Calumet Theatre in Calumet and the  
29 Kerredge Theatre in Hancock. The village-owned Calumet Theatre (1900; Charles K. Shand) is  
30 a Renaissance Revival style theater built to seat twelve hundred people; its lavishly ornamented  
31 interior has been partially restored. The Kerredge Theatre (1902; destroyed by fire 1959) in  
32 Hancock was the region's largest theater, with seating for about fifteen hundred people. By the  
33 1920s, older theaters added equipment for showing motion pictures, while new theaters were  
34 built specifically for that purpose. In Houghton, The Lode movie theater (1941) retains its  
35 original red and cream Art Moderne exterior with marquee.

36  
37 Parks offered places for recreation and relaxation. Municipal parks were usually modest in size  
38 and amenities. The exception was Agassiz Park (1923), located on approximately twenty-five  
39 acres between the C&H mines and village of Calumet. Sponsored by C&H and designed by  
40 noted landscape architect Warren H. Manning, Agassiz Park contained tree-lined paths leading to  
41 a statue of Alexander Agassiz; athletic fields; and planting beds with trees, shrubs, and flowering  
42 plants. Larger parks could be found outside of the villages and mine locations. One of the oldest  
43 was Section Sixteen Park (ca. 1890) west of Calumet near Lakeview Cemetery. The popular  
44 park had one drawback—it was difficult to get there before automobiles were introduced. The  
45 Houghton County Traction Company offered a solution that benefitted both residents and the  
46 traction company: in 1902 it built Electric Park at the end of its streetcar line, near Boston.

1 Electric Park was one of dozens of “Electric Parks” that streetcar companies built around the  
2 country. Houghton County’s Electric Park had picnic tables, play areas, a merry-go-round, and a  
3 pavilion for band concerts and dances; it proved extremely popular for group and family outings.  
4 Railroad companies built similar parks to boost their ridership. Soon after Electric Park opened,  
5 the Copper Range Railroad Company built Freda Park on Lake Superior. The railroad ran  
6 special Sunday excursion trains to the park, which had horseshoe and tennis courts, a bathing  
7 beach, dance pavilion, and beer garden.  
8

9 In 1909 the Keweenaw Central Railroad built the Crestview Pavilion on a bluff overlooking  
10 Lake Superior and the village of Eagle River. During the summer, the Keweenaw Central  
11 Railroad ran five trains a day to Crestview from Calumet. The huge pavilion could  
12 accommodate hundreds of visitors and was the largest gathering place in Keweenaw County. At  
13 the Portage Entry near Jacobsville, White City was another park, only it was reached by  
14 steamboat rather than railroad. Between 1907 and 1919, steamers took passengers from  
15 Houghton, Hancock, and other communities on Portage and Torch lakes to White City. In  
16 addition to a dance pavilion, merry-go-round, roller coaster, and boardwalk, White City had a  
17 hotel and cottages. Even with overnight accommodations available, many people went to White  
18 City on day trips. The trip from Houghton took up to an hour and a half. On Sundays, boats  
19 made two trips, one leaving early in the morning and returning late afternoon and the other  
20 leaving after evening supper and returning close to midnight. Railroad and steamboat excursions  
21 took people to other destinations as well. On Sundays and holidays, day-long train excursions  
22 might go south to L’Anse for picnics on Keweenaw Bay or north to Eagle Harbor for agate  
23 collecting on the Lake Superior shore, with bands providing musical entertainment on the train.  
24 One could make similar trips by steamer, or a combination of steamer and railroad. Steamers  
25 made excursions to Isle Royale, where the Siskowit mine site and the Rock Harbor Lighthouse  
26 were popular picnic spots. Once a year, the Worcester Lumber Company took virtually the  
27 whole village of Chassell by barge to a picnic on the Portage Lake shore. Other companies and  
28 organizations organized similar outings by barge or steamer.  
29

30 During the twentieth century, all of these destinations save Isle Royale became accessible by  
31 automobile. The Copper Range Railroad closed Freda Park in the late 1910s because people  
32 were traveling there by automobile, which did not benefit the railroad. The Keweenaw Central  
33 Railroad went out of business in 1917, but Crestview was still attracting crowds when it was  
34 destroyed by fire in 1925. Electric Park stayed open into World War II, outliving the Houghton  
35 County Traction Company by some ten years. Automobiles made it practical for townships and  
36 counties to build parks in more remote areas that were not served by railroad or steamboat lines.  
37 One example was Stanton Park in an isolated spot on Misery Bay. The park was a favorite  
38 gathering place for Finns from southern Stanton Township and the Toivola area. In 1947 Finns  
39 built a pavilion at the park. Beginning in the 1920s, state parks were established in the Copper  
40 Country with the dual purpose of protecting natural and historic resources and providing  
41 recreational opportunities for both locals and tourists. Fort Wilkins had long been a popular  
42 place for picnics and camping, and in 1923 it was established as the Copper Country’s first state  
43 park. In addition to restoring the buildings at the fort, the state built a picnic area and  
44 campground. McLain State Park was established in 1931 and Porcupine Mountains State Park in  
45 1945; Twin Lakes was established as a county park and added to the state park system in the  
46 1960s. In addition to campgrounds, picnic areas, and hiking trails, the region’s first ski hill was

1 constructed in Porcupines Mountain State Park in the late 1940s. Established in 1940, Isle  
2 Royale National Park also had the dual purpose of conservation and recreation.

3  
4 People in the Copper Country partook of all of the sports and games that were popular in their  
5 day, including (but not limited to) boxing, wrestling, baseball, football, basketball, skiing,  
6 skating, snowshoeing, hockey, bowling, billiards, and golf, but with greater emphasis on some  
7 than others. Wrestling, for example, was a favorite sport of Cornish immigrants, and wrestling  
8 matches were a common entertainment. Baseball teams were organized in the 1860s, when  
9 baseball was a relatively new game that was expanding across the country. Before long every  
10 village and mine location had a baseball team, establishing a pattern of team competition  
11 between villages that would prevail in other sports. The Fourth of July and Labor Day holidays  
12 were marked by baseball games: on Labor Day in 1906, twenty-five hundred fans attended a  
13 game between Houghton and Calumet. Community teams played against others in the Copper  
14 Country and then competed for the Upper Peninsula championship.

15  
16 People made the best of long, snowy winters by enjoying winter sports, especially ice skating.  
17 By the 1860s there were commercial and community ice rinks that were flooded with water and  
18 kept smooth for skating. Skating parties were festive events, much like balls. Ice hockey was  
19 introduced to the Copper Country in 1898, when the first game was played at the Palace, an  
20 indoor ice rink in a former foundry building in Ripley. Although the game originated in Canada,  
21 the Copper Country was an early center for ice hockey in the U.S. The Portage Lake ice hockey  
22 team, organized in 1899, competed at the national level, winning the U.S. amateur hockey  
23 championship in 1903. By then there were numerous local teams representing various high  
24 schools, villages, and the Michigan College of Mines. Several monumental indoor ice rinks  
25 were constructed, beginning in 1902 with Houghton’s Amphidrome, the first structure in the  
26 U.S. built specifically for ice hockey. The Palestra (1904) was built in Laurium, the Glacia  
27 Dome (1908) in Mohawk, and the Colosseum (1913) in Calumet. The Amphidrome burned in  
28 1927 and was replaced that year with the New Amphidrome, later renamed Dee Stadium. The  
29 Palestra was dismantled and moved to Marquette in 1921, and the roof of the Glacia Dome  
30 collapsed in 1938. For many years the Colosseum served a dual purpose as ice rink and armory.  
31 Ice hockey has continued to have great popularity among youth and adults, players and  
32 spectators. During the 1930–31 season, thirty-five hundred spectators came to watch two games  
33 between the Calumet Blackhawks and the Hancock Eagles.

34  
35 Outdoor recreation—hunting, fishing, and camping—is particularly well suited to the  
36 environment of the Copper Country. The Upper Peninsula was recognized early on for excellent  
37 trout fishing on Lake Superior and on inland lakes and streams. A *New York Times* writer who  
38 visited the Copper Country in 1866 described the attractiveness of the region for sportsmen, both  
39 for fishing and “gunning,” noting the presence of pigeons, deer, and other wild animals.<sup>24</sup> In the  
40 late nineteenth century people became more interested in active vacations during which they  
41 could camp, hunt, and fish. At the same time, railroads reached the Lake Superior region,  
42 making inland lakes and forests more accessible. The Copper Range Railroad actively promoted  
43 hunting and fishing and offered fishing excursions for both men and women. Booster  
44 organizations such as the Upper Peninsula Development Bureau promoted hunting and fishing as  
45 attractions for tourists. All of this was tied in with the growing conservation movement.

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<sup>24</sup> “Lake Superior, The Keweenaw Copper-mining District,” *New York Times*, 20 August 1866.

1 Reforestation was designed not only for timber harvest but also for recreation, especially hunting  
2 and fishing. Wildlife management included stocking fish and feeding deer. Campgrounds were  
3 built in county, state, and national parks and forests as well as at places such as Bond Falls  
4 Flowage. By the 1930s hunting and fishing were mainstays of the Upper Peninsula's growing  
5 tourist industry, yet locals participated in these sports as well. The Lake Linden-Hubbell  
6 Sportsmen's Association was organized in 1921, and other local sportsmen's clubs were  
7 organized in the decades that followed. In the first annual Lake Trout Trolling Derby held in  
8 Copper Harbor in 1941, a Waukegan, Illinois, man won the tourist first prize, while Jack Foster  
9 of Calumet won the local first prize.<sup>25</sup> Outdoor recreation boomed in popularity after World War  
10 II. Hunting has become practically synonymous with the Upper Peninsula and hunting camps a  
11 fixture of the landscape. Hundreds of hunting camps can be found in the Copper Country,  
12 ranging from shacks to mobile homes to tidy log or frame buildings.

13  
14 In the mid-nineteenth century, tourism was limited to affluent people who had the money and  
15 leisure time to travel exclusively for pleasure. Even before the opening of the Sault Canal, a  
16 small number of tourists toured Lake Superior by steamboat. These tours usually included stops  
17 on the Keweenaw Peninsula. Some of these early tourists were health seekers looking for  
18 healthy lake breezes; others were sightseers who enjoyed the beautiful scenery and visits to the  
19 copper mines. Juliette Starr Dana of New York City kept a journal of her Lake Superior tour in  
20 1852. She stopped at Copper Harbor, Eagle Harbor, Eagle River, and Ontonagon, staying a  
21 week at hotels in Eagle River and Eagle Harbor. Her activities included walks in the woods,  
22 collecting agates, and visiting several copper mines and the Eagle Harbor Lighthouse. Following  
23 the opening of the Sault Canal in 1855, steamboat companies offered regular service between  
24 Buffalo or Chicago and Duluth, Minnesota, with stops in between including ports on the  
25 Keweenaw Peninsula. Steamboat tours of Lake Superior grew in popularity, and guidebooks  
26 were published to serve both tourists and immigrants. In his 1872 *Lake Superior Guide*, John  
27 Disturnell described the Keweenaw copper mines as the wonder of the world, noting that the  
28 mines were accessible and well deserving of a visit. Disturnell remarked on the beautiful  
29 scenery in Keweenaw County, including Mount Bohemia and Mount Houghton, Lac La Belle  
30 and Bete Grise Bay, and Lake Fanny Hooe. He predicted that Isle Royale would become a  
31 favorite summer resort. Although Disturnell did not mention Carp Lake (now Lake of the  
32 Clouds), that was another early attraction.

33  
34 Hotels offered accommodations for business travelers and tourists alike. Early hotels were little  
35 more than large houses. In contrast, the Bigelow House in Ontonagon claimed to be the largest  
36 U.S. hotel north of Detroit when it opened in 1855. The four-story hotel had sixty guest rooms, a  
37 ballroom with crystal chandeliers and velvet drapes, a billiard room, a bar, and a dining room.  
38 When the Douglass House opened in Houghton in 1861, it replaced the Bigelow House as the  
39 finest hotel in the Upper Peninsula. Tourists continued to come to the Copper Country by  
40 steamboat after railroads reached the region in the 1880s. For one thing, there was no railroad  
41 passenger service to northern Keweenaw County until 1906, and even then it did not extend to  
42 Eagle Harbor or Copper Harbor. Isle Royale, of course, could only be reached by boat. In  
43 addition, for those who had the time and money, steamships were a more comfortable mode of  
44 travel than railroads. The construction of larger locks on the Sault Canal in 1881 and 1896 made

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<sup>25</sup> Newspaper clippings in Wesley Williams scrapbook, Upper Peninsula Regional Digitization Center,  
<http://updigit.uproc.lib.mi.us/cdm/singleitem/collection/WWilliams/id/98/rec/19>.

1 it possible for larger ships to enter Lake Superior, and the market for passenger travel on the  
 2 lakes made feasible steamships that were larger, faster, and truly luxurious. During the 1890s the  
 3 Northern Steamship Company launched the *North West* and the *North Land* on the Buffalo to  
 4 Duluth route. The twin steamers were each 385 feet long, carried a crew of 147, and had the  
 5 capacity for more than 400 passengers. Staircases between the passenger decks were built of  
 6 white mahogany, the lounges were furnished in the Louis XV style, and electric lights were used  
 7 throughout. For the next twenty years the *North West* and the *North Land* set the standard for  
 8 luxury travel on the Great Lakes. Passenger steamship travel on the Great Lakes declined after  
 9 World War I. Nevertheless, the Georgian Bay Line's *SS South American* made weekly stops in  
 10 Houghton until 1966.

11  
 12 Railroads made travel to the Lake Superior region cheaper and faster, so that Lake Superior  
 13 vacations became affordable to more people. Houghton, Hancock, and Calumet were connected  
 14 to midwestern cities by rail in 1883; Ontonagon was connected in 1889. Railroads went to  
 15 interior locations away from the lakeshore and encouraged outdoor recreation by making inland  
 16 lakes and forests more accessible. This was the beginning of the Northwoods vacation, which  
 17 railroads promoted throughout the Lake Superior region. Railroads reached southern Ontonagon  
 18 County in the 1880s, and Lake Gogebic quickly became a popular spot for hunting, fishing, and  
 19 camping. Beginning in 1899 the Copper Range Railroad gave access to the interior of southern  
 20 Houghton County, and between 1906 and 1917 the Keweenaw Central Railroad provided  
 21 passenger service to north-central Keweenaw County as far as Lac La Belle. In 1907 the *Detroit*  
 22 *News Tribune* published an article about the completion of the Keweenaw Central Railroad and  
 23 how it would bring tourists to Keweenaw County. The writer commented: "Previous to the  
 24 building of this road, long and tedious stage rides were necessary from Calumet and for this  
 25 reason the great majority of the travelers who came to the copper country missed the prettiest  
 26 scenery." The writer listed bathing beaches, fishing, hunting, mine ruins, and the romantic  
 27 village of Eagle River as among the county's charms.<sup>26</sup>

28  
 29 Although railroads undoubtedly boosted tourism in the Copper Country, they do not seem to  
 30 have made as big an impact as in other parts of the Lake Superior region. The railroads did not  
 31 build big resort hotels such as the Island View Hotel in Bayfield, Wisconsin, or the Hotel  
 32 Chequamegon in Ashland, the latter accommodating four hundred guests. In addition, the Lake  
 33 Superior shore was still the Copper Country's biggest tourist attraction, and much of it was better  
 34 served by steamers than by railroads. By the 1890s, tourists were coming to Isle Royale to hunt  
 35 and fish, often finding transportation on the boats that collected fish from the island's  
 36 commercial fishermen. One of these fishermen, John Johns, built Isle Royale's first hotel along  
 37 with several guest cottages in 1892. In 1902 Captain Walter Singer built the Island House Hotel,  
 38 a much larger hotel with twenty-two bedrooms and a poolroom, ten guest cottages, and a  
 39 pavilion with a bowling alley and dance floor. Additional hotels followed. Steamers stopped at  
 40 Isle Royale, and railroads offered rail/boat excursions. Meanwhile, visitors began to buy lots and  
 41 build private summer cottages on Isle Royale; wealthier visitors purchased small islands and  
 42 built private resorts. People also began building lakeshore cottages on the mainland. A few  
 43 lakeshore hotels were built for people traveling by steamer, including the White City hotel (not  
 44 extant) at Portage Entry and the Dreamland Hotel (1913) farther north on Portage Lake.

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<sup>26</sup> "Michigan's 'Land's End,' 'Way up in Lake Superior, Will Soon Resound to the Clatter of Tourist Invasion,'" *Detroit News Tribune*, 24 March 1907, Vertical File--Keweenaw County History, Calumet Public Library.

1  
2 By the 1920s, railroad travel was declining in competition with the automobile. Railroads added  
3 new equipment and improved service to try to maintain ridership. In 1935 the Milwaukee Road  
4 introduced its fast, streamlined Hiawatha trains, which it added to its routes from Chicago to  
5 Ontonagon and Calumet. In 1958 the company introduced the new Super Sleeper Pullman car  
6 on the Copper Country Limited from Chicago to Calumet. When the Copper Country Limited  
7 ended in 1968, it marked the end of railroad passenger travel in the Copper Country.

8  
9 The automobile transformed tourism just as it transformed every aspect of American life. In the  
10 early 1900s automobiles were expensive and relatively primitive, roads were poor, and  
11 automobile touring was a pastime for the wealthy who could afford to take long and costly trips.  
12 But by the 1920s autos cost less and performed better, and road building and improvement were  
13 proceeding rapidly. Automobiles gave tourists more freedom and flexibility than they had when  
14 traveling by railroad. Travelers were not limited to fixed timetables and could go virtually  
15 anywhere there was a road. Automobile tourists tended to be more transient—visiting more  
16 places and spending less time at each one. Automobile travel was not necessarily cheaper than  
17 railroad travel, but it was preferred. Automobile tourism superseded railroad tourism after  
18 World War I, and by 1935, 85 percent of vacation travel was by automobile.<sup>27</sup> Meanwhile,  
19 tourism in general increased through the 1920s, as people had greater personal income and more  
20 leisure time, including paid vacations. A growing number of affluent vacationers bought second  
21 homes, providing a counterpoint to the transient auto tourist.

22  
23 When the *Detroit News Tribune* writer described how the new Keweenaw Central Railroad  
24 would open Keweenaw County to tourists, he also foreshadowed the coming of automobile  
25 tourism, noting that the county had excellent macadamized roads and was a paradise for  
26 automobilists. After World War I, local organizations promoted automobile tourism  
27 aggressively as they sought to offset economic decline. The Upper Peninsula Development  
28 Bureau (UPDB) led this campaign. Established in 1911, the UPDB promoted farming at first,  
29 but by the 1920s had shifted its focus to tourism. By the 1930s the Copper Country Vacationist  
30 League was organized specifically to promote tourism on the Keweenaw Peninsula and Isle  
31 Royale. Tourists came to the Upper Peninsula primarily from Michigan's Lower Peninsula,  
32 Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. In addition, Keweenaw County was a popular vacation destination  
33 for people in Houghton County. And while the healthy lake breezes had not been forgotten,  
34 vacations were primarily about recreation. The automobile increased the popularity of the  
35 Northwoods vacation with its emphasis on hunting, fishing, and camping. Since much of the fun  
36 of an automobile trip was in the journey, scenic drives held much appeal. Moreover, the copper  
37 mines that had proven such exciting attractions when they were young now offered the romance  
38 of ghost towns and ruins.

39  
40 The Lake Superior shore and inland lakes continued to be the major draws on the Keweenaw  
41 Peninsula. Automobiles and improved roads made inland lakes much more accessible than they  
42 were before. Gogebic Lake in Ontonagon County, Twin Lakes in Houghton County, and Gratiot  
43 Lake and Lac La Belle in Keweenaw County were among the larger and more popular lakes, but  
44 there were many more. Isle Royale continued as an important tourist destination, although the

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<sup>27</sup> Jane C. Busch, *People and Places: A Human History of the Apostle Islands* (Omaha: Midwest Regional Office, National Park Service, 2008), 321.

1 character of an Isle Royale vacation changed when the national park was established in 1940.  
2 Fort Wilkins State Park, McLain State Park, and Ottawa National Forest offered new recreational  
3 opportunities. During the 1930s the Keweenaw County Road Commission made important  
4 contributions to the tourist infrastructure with its road improvements, scenic drives, and roadside  
5 parks. The commission's scenic overlooks, parks, and roads were marked by rustic directional  
6 and interpretive signs geared to tourists. Its biggest projects were Lakeshore Drive, Brockway  
7 Mountain Drive, and the Keweenaw Park and Golf Course, all begun in 1933. The Keweenaw  
8 Park and Golf Course, today known as the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge, is the closest thing in the  
9 Copper Country to a full-scale resort.

10  
11 New types of accommodations were built for automobile travelers, distinctly different in design  
12 and location than the hotels built in villages near the railroad lines. At first automobile tourists  
13 camped virtually anywhere along the roadside, then municipal and private auto camps were built.  
14 By the 1920s tourist courts appeared, with clusters of small cabins grouped around a central  
15 courtyard. One of the earliest was the Pontiac Resort (not extant) in Copper Harbor. Tourist  
16 courts proliferated in the 1920s and 1930s, most of them along highways in Ontonagon County  
17 and northern Keweenaw County. Although it is not a tourist court, the Lake Breeze Hotel in  
18 Eagle Harbor was an early resort hotel that contributed to Eagle Harbor's growth as a resort  
19 town. Located on the lakeshore, the Lake Breeze Hotel was built as a warehouse in 1859 and  
20 converted to a hotel in 1923. Automobiles also made it possible for people to build private  
21 summer cottages all along the Lake Superior and inland lakeshores. Only a small number of  
22 private summer homes were built before automobile travel became common.

23  
24 Efforts to promote tourism and build infrastructure in the Copper Country paid off. Despite the  
25 Depression, staff at the Keweenaw County Information Booth at Ahmeek counted 9,802  
26 automobiles entering Keweenaw County in the last two weeks of June 1939, with travelers  
27 coming from thirty-five states and Canada.<sup>28</sup> Tourism was limited during World War II, but  
28 after the war it came back stronger than ever. The Copper Country benefitted from the postwar  
29 outdoor recreation boom. After the Porcupine Mountains State Park was established in 1945 it  
30 quickly became one of the Copper Country's leading tourist destinations, offering winter skiing  
31 as well as hunting, fishing, and camping. Visitation to Porcupine Mountains State Park grew  
32 from 73,350 in 1946 to 225,000 in 1957.<sup>29</sup> On November 1, 1957, the Mackinac Bridge opened,  
33 boosting automobile tourism to the Upper Peninsula much as the Sault Canal boosted steamboat  
34 tourism a century earlier. After World War II, motels superseded tourist courts as the most  
35 modern accommodations for automobile tourists.

### 36 37 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*

38  
39 Entertainment and recreation is a multifaceted theme represented by a wide variety of property  
40 types. Building types that represent entertainment and recreation include ethnic, fraternal, and  
41 other types of social halls; clubhouses; theaters; indoor ice rinks; recreational cottages; and  
42 hunting camps. Overnight lodgings represent tourism specifically. Urban hotels served both

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<sup>28</sup> Thurner, *Strangers and Sojourners*, 235.

<sup>29</sup> Aaron Shapiro, "'Air Conditioned by the Cool Breezes of Lake Superior': Vacationing in Michigan's Copper Country after World War Two," in *New Perspectives on Michigan's Copper Country*, edited by Alison K. Hoagland, Erik C. Nordberg, and Terry S. Reynolds (Hancock, MI: Quincy Mine Hoist Association, 2007), 146.

1 travelers and tourists and do not represent tourism as strongly as resort hotels, tourist courts, and  
2 motels. Sites that represent entertainment and recreation include campgrounds, picnic areas, trail  
3 systems, scenic overlooks, baseball fields, golf courses, parks, the Porcupine Mountains ski hill,  
4 and the Baraga County fairgrounds in Pelkie. Whereas the Ontonagon County and Houghton  
5 County fairgrounds were developed after 1970, the Baraga County fairgrounds date from at least  
6 the 1940s; however, the buildings there are new. None of the amusement parks are extant, but  
7 there are a number of municipal parks. State parks and Isle Royale National Park are most  
8 appropriately considered in terms of components such as campgrounds or picnic areas, which  
9 may be combined into districts, rather than as one whole unit.

10  
11 These property types may be significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of  
12 entertainment and recreation if they are early or rare examples of that type or if they made an  
13 important contribution to the history of entertainment and recreation in the region. A number of  
14 properties that are significant under this criterion have already been listed either individually or  
15 as part of districts, such as the Miscowaubik Club in Calumet Township, the Masonic Hall in  
16 Houghton, and the Johns Hotel on Isle Royale. Others that are significant under this criterion  
17 include the Lake Breeze Hotel in Eagle Harbor and, on Rice Lake, the Lake Linden-Hubbell  
18 Sportsmen’s Association Clubhouse (1940), which was built as a Boy Scout clubhouse and is the  
19 only sportsmen’s clubhouse identified in the survey. A building may also be significant under  
20 Criterion C in the area of architecture as an early, rare, or excellent example of a type, period, or  
21 method of construction; as the work of a master; or for high artistic value. The Calumet Theatre  
22 is National Register-listed as the only surviving live performance theater in the Copper Country  
23 in addition to its high artistic value. Yet other, more modest buildings may be eligible, such as  
24 the earliest example or an outstanding example of a tourist court. A designed recreational  
25 landscape may be significant under Criterion C in the area of landscape architecture as an early,  
26 rare, or excellent example of a landscape type; for its high artistic value; or as the work of a  
27 master designer. There may also be districts that represent the entertainment and recreation  
28 theme, such as the cottages that surround an inland lake, or a cluster of motels, tourist courts, and  
29 cottages on a highway bordering Lake Superior.

30  
31 To be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, properties must have  
32 integrity as well as significance. Buildings that are significant under Criterion C must be highly  
33 intact with integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Buildings that are significant under  
34 Criterion A may have some alterations as long as they retain the better part of their historic  
35 appearance. Features that contribute to the historic character of a site such as a park or  
36 fairgrounds include spatial relationships, vegetation, original property boundary, topography, site  
37 furnishings, design intent, architectural features, and circulation system. A site need not retain  
38 all of these features, but it must retain enough so that its historic character is recognizable. To be  
39 eligible under Criterion C in the area of landscape architecture, design intent must be evident.  
40 The Porcupine Mountains ski hill is significant as the only example of its type in the Copper  
41 Country, but it is ineligible because of alterations to one of the two original ski slopes as well as  
42 major changes to the warming house.

43  
44 (Photo—Hebard Park, M26(3), Copper Harbor District)

1 **Ethnic Heritage**

2  
3 Ethnic diversity is one of the important defining features of Copper Country history, perhaps as  
4 important as copper itself. The predominance of European immigrants and their descendants  
5 affected every aspect of life in the Copper Country. Houghton County’s foreign-born population  
6 was one of the largest in the U.S., larger than in Michigan’s iron mining communities and  
7 sharply different than the state’s Lower Peninsula, where settlers came primarily from New  
8 England and New York. It did not begin that way, of course. When the French first visited the  
9 Keweenaw Peninsula in the mid-seventeenth century, they encountered bands of Ojibwa, an  
10 Algonquian-speaking people who migrated to the Lake Superior region from the east. The  
11 Ojibwa followed a seasonal round of hunting, fishing, and gathering, but following the arrival of  
12 the French they were increasingly drawn into the international fur trade. In 1842 the Ojibwa and  
13 the United States government signed the Treaty of La Pointe by which the Ojibwa ceded their  
14 lands on the southwestern shore of Lake Superior, including the Keweenaw Peninsula and Isle  
15 Royale. The Treaty of 1854 established the reservation at Keweenaw Bay.

16  
17 When the copper rush began, Cornish, Irish, German, and French Canadian immigrants arrived  
18 quickly, along with a smaller number of other English (not Cornish), Scots, and Scandinavians.  
19 The notable exception was Father (later Bishop) Frederic Baraga, the Slovenian priest who  
20 established a Catholic mission on Keweenaw Bay in 1843; later Slovenian immigrants to the  
21 Copper Country came in part because of his legacy. The Cornish were highly skilled miners  
22 who brought important mining techniques and technology to the Copper Country. They worked  
23 as miners, bosses, and captains, the most skilled and highly paid jobs in the mines. Some rose  
24 through the ranks to become agents; these included Johnson Vivian, Samuel Harris, and John  
25 Daniell. It appears that many Irish and German immigrants also had experience in mining; they  
26 worked both skilled and unskilled jobs at the mines. French Canadians did not work  
27 underground, but rather on the surface, at stamp mills, and in the woods as loggers. Lake Linden  
28 was a lumber town before C&H built its stamp mill there. Known as Frenchtown for its  
29 predominantly French Canadian population, Lake Linden became a center for French Canadian  
30 culture in the Copper Country. French Canadians, Germans, Irish, and Cornish had their own  
31 churches and their own saloons. They established fraternal, benevolent, cultural, and social  
32 organizations that organized social activities, provided support in times of need, and kept cultural  
33 traditions alive. The Sons of St. George (Cornish), St. Patrick’s Benevolent Society, the  
34 Germania Society, and the Soci  t   St-Jean-Baptiste are just a few examples. The larger and  
35 more prosperous organizations built their own halls.

36  
37 Many businesses in the Copper Country were owned by immigrants, some of whom started off  
38 working in the mines while others immediately established themselves in other trades. After  
39 rising to the rank of agent at the Minesota mine, Cornish immigrant William Harris went into the  
40 mercantile business; his general store in the Harris Block was the leading retail establishment in  
41 Lake Linden. Harris was also the first village president of Lake Linden. After he retired from  
42 mining, Johnson Vivian was involved in several business enterprises including a soap company  
43 and a safety fuse factory, but he was best known for the J. Vivian Jr. & Company Department  
44 Store, the anchor of Laurium’s business district. Edward Ryan, known as “the merchant prince  
45 of the Copper Country,” came to the U.S. from Ireland at the age of four; in 1854 he came to  
46 Houghton and entered the mercantile business. With the profits from his successful stores in

1 Hancock and Calumet (known as Red Jacket until 1929), Ryan organized and became president  
 2 of the Hancock Copper Mining Company. Joseph Grégoire, from Quebec, made his career in the  
 3 lumber industry. In 1867 he established a sawmill across Torch Lake from Lake Linden, which  
 4 employed eighty men at its peak and became the nucleus of the community of Gregoryville.  
 5 German immigrant Joseph Bosch established the most successful business in the Copper Country  
 6 that was not part of the mining industry. After working as a miner, Bosch established a brewery  
 7 in Lake Linden in 1874. The Bosch Brewing Company grew to become the largest brewery in  
 8 the Upper Peninsula and one of the largest in Michigan, with branches, storehouses, and saloons  
 9 throughout Houghton County and some beyond. In Calumet, Bosch built the Michigan House  
 10 hotel. The Bosch Brewing Company remained in business until 1973.

11  
 12 In 1880 the Cornish were the largest immigrant group in Houghton County, followed by the  
 13 French Canadians, Irish, and Germans. By then, their Michigan-born children and grandchildren  
 14 were also a sizable part of the population. Immigrants were coming from other countries by the  
 15 1860s, but it was not until the 1880s that large numbers of Finns came, so that by 1890 they were  
 16 the largest immigrant group in Houghton County, followed by the French Canadians and then the  
 17 Cornish.<sup>30</sup> Slovenes Peter Ruppe and Jozef Vertin and their families are credited as the first  
 18 Slovenes to come to the Copper Country since Bishop Baraga. In 1864, Ruppe and Vertin  
 19 opened a general store together in Hancock. Two years later they separated, each of them  
 20 opening successful stores in both Hancock and Calumet. Vertin's Department Store in Calumet  
 21 grew to become a Copper Country landmark. Large-scale immigration of Slovenians began in  
 22 the 1890s, the same decade when large numbers of Italians began to come. Whereas most Italian  
 23 immigrants to the U.S. came from southern Italy, the large majority of Italians who came to the  
 24 Copper Country came from northern Italy. Most of them settled in Calumet or South Range.  
 25 Croatians are closely related to Slovenians; until 1920 the census identified both nationalities as  
 26 Austrian, since both homelands had been incorporated into the Austro-Hungarian Empire (1867).  
 27 The majority of the Copper Country's Croatian immigrants came in the early 1900s. By 1910  
 28 the largest immigrant group in Houghton County was the Finns, followed by the Cornish,  
 29 "Austrians," and Italians. Other ethnic groups who came in smaller numbers included English-  
 30 speaking Canadians, Poles, Hungarians, Bulgarians, and Chinese.

31  
 32 Finns, Slovenians, Croatians, and Italians had a much different experience in the Copper Country  
 33 than the Cornish, Irish, French Canadians, and Germans. With no mining experience, they were  
 34 relegated to work as trammers and other poorly-paid, unskilled jobs in the mines. They did not  
 35 speak English, and their cultures seemed more foreign to the predominantly Anglo-American  
 36 mine owners. Mine companies and earlier immigrants discriminated against them. Like other  
 37 immigrant groups, they established their own churches; saloons and taverns; and fraternal,  
 38 benevolent, cultural, and social organizations. They also published newspapers in their native  
 39 language, some of which had a national distribution. After 1890 they also established  
 40 cooperatives. The labor strike of 1913–14 divided mine workers along ethnic lines. Finns and  
 41 immigrants from eastern and southern Europe were most likely to support the strike, while  
 42 immigrants from Great Britain and western Europe were least likely to support the strike. As  
 43 late as February 1914, when most strikers had returned to work, 84% of Croatians continued to

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<sup>30</sup> For more information on Finns in the Copper Country, see the Ethnic Heritage: Finnish theme.

1 strike, followed by 24% of Finns.<sup>31</sup> During and after the strike, a significant number of  
 2 immigrant workers went to Detroit to work in the automobile industry. That was the beginning  
 3 of the great outmigration that reduced the population of the Copper Country from approximately  
 4 105,000 people in 1910 to 50,000 in 1960. Despite this, the imprint of many cultures continues  
 5 to define the Copper Country.

### 7 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*

9 The most important property types representing the ethnic heritage theme are those that most  
 10 closely represent an ethnic group's cultural identity. Churches are the most prominent and  
 11 numerous resources that remain to represent the different ethnic groups.<sup>32</sup> Nearly every  
 12 immigrant group in a community built a church as soon as it had enough people and money,  
 13 although some shared with another nationality. For example, in Calumet and adjoining locations  
 14 there were five Catholic churches serving French Canadian, Slovenian, Croatian, Polish, and  
 15 Italian congregations, and a sixth, Sacred Heart Church, that served both the Irish and Germans.  
 16 Four of these churches are standing today. Ethnic halls are important, as they represent a group's  
 17 efforts to support community and maintain cultural identity and traditions. Ethnic organizations  
 18 often met in church halls or multi-purpose community halls, but some built their own halls.  
 19 Unfortunately most of these have been lost. One that remains is St. George's Hall in the Dunstan  
 20 Block (now Artis Books) in Calumet. The most famous ethnic hall was the Italian Hall in  
 21 Calumet, site of the Christmas Eve disaster in 1913 and demolished in 1984. Cooperative stores  
 22 are also significant for their role in supporting the community. The Croatian Cooperative Store  
 23 (1907; Maass Brothers) in Calumet operated for only five years, but its building is still extant.  
 24 Cemeteries may also be associated with a specific ethnic group. Irish Hollow Cemetery near  
 25 Rockland is an obvious example, but there are other cemeteries that were used exclusively by a  
 26 single ethnic group.

28 Saloons and taverns were often gathering places for a specific nationality. Marco Curto's saloon,  
 29 built in Calumet in the 1890s, served an Italian clientele and had an upstairs hall that was used by  
 30 Italian clubs. Later the Croatian Shute family purchased Curto's saloon; though no longer in the  
 31 family, it operates today as Shute's Bar. In Ontonagon Village, Johnny's Bar served a Polish  
 32 clientele. These are just two of many examples. In Calumet, the Lisa Block, built by Italian  
 33 immigrant James Lisa, also served as Lisa's office when he served as deputy consul for Italy,  
 34 strengthening its association with ethnic heritage. The Bosch Brewing Company represents  
 35 German ethnic traditions, as brewing and drinking beer were German traditions that German  
 36 immigrants brought to the U.S. Extant buildings associated with the Bosch brewery include the  
 37 Joseph Bosch Building and Bosch Bottling Works in Lake Linden; a beer depot in Laurium; and  
 38 the Michigan House in Calumet. Otherwise, so many businesses were owned by immigrants that  
 39 in most cases they have relatively little significance under the theme of ethnic heritage. The  
 40 Harris, Ryan, and Ruppe commercial blocks and Vivian and Vertin department stores are among  
 41 the most prominent retail establishments built by immigrants, but there are many more. The  
 42 house of a person who was a leader in his or her ethnic community would be significant, for

<sup>31</sup> *An Interior Ellis Island: Ethnic Diversity and the Peopling of Michigan's Copper Country*. Houghton, MI: MTU Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections, 2004–2007. <http://ethnicity.lib.mtu.edu/index.html>.

<sup>32</sup> This discussion does not apply to Finns; Finnish property types are discussed in the Ethnic Heritage: Finnish theme.

1 example, the home of Joseph Grégoire (if it exists), who mentored French Canadian immigrants  
2 and was active in preserving French Canadian culture. But the home of a prominent  
3 businessman whose ethnicity is incidental to his historical importance would not be significant  
4 under the ethnic heritage theme.

5  
6 Few of the buildings associated with ethnic groups display styles, types, or construction  
7 techniques brought from the homeland. The crenellations at the top of the Central Mine  
8 Methodist Church tower are a unique feature drawn from churches in Cornwall. Other than  
9 Finnish farm buildings (discussed separately), the only buildings identified that may incorporate  
10 ethnic building techniques are barns and farmhouses on Paradise Road in Chassell and Portage  
11 townships. This area was settled by French Canadian farmers, and the buildings have some  
12 unusual and distinctive characteristics, but more research is needed.

13  
14 With the possible exception of the Paradise Road buildings, all of these property types are  
15 significant under the ethnic heritage theme because of their *association* with ethnic heritage.  
16 Their appearance is no different than any other church or commercial building. Therefore the  
17 standards for integrity described for Criterion A under the religion and commerce themes apply  
18 here.

19  
20 (Photo—Johnny’s Bar, N. 7<sup>th</sup> St (1)—Ontonagon Village)

### 21 22 23 **Ethnic Heritage: Finnish**

24  
25 There are more distinctively Finnish resources on the Copper Country landscape today than are  
26 associated with any other ethnic group. The first Finnish immigrants came in 1864 and 1865,  
27 recruited by the Quincy Mining Company. For the next twenty years they came steadily,  
28 propelled by poverty and oppression and attracted by jobs in the copper mines, hoping to save  
29 enough money to buy land and start farms. They came primarily to Houghton County, to mine  
30 and stamp mill villages and locations, soon becoming concentrated in the Village of Calumet  
31 (then known as Red Jacket) and locations nearby. In the mines they were usually relegated to the  
32 laborious and poorly-paid role of trammers, pushing the ore cars. By 1880 there were nearly  
33 fifteen hundred Finnish immigrants in the Copper Country.<sup>33</sup> In the 1880s Finnish immigration  
34 accelerated; by 1890 Finns had become the dominant ethnic group. Finnish immigration peaked  
35 in the early 1900s. The vast majority of Finns came from Finland; a smaller number came from  
36 Norway or Sweden. Finland Swedes were a minority who came from Finland but spoke  
37 Swedish; most of them settled in Dollar Bay.

38  
39 In addition to the copper mines and mills, Finns worked at the sandstone quarries at Jacobsville,  
40 where they formed a majority of the workforce. The quarries were short-lived, however; in the  
41 long run, the movement of Finns to rural areas where they established farms was more important.  
42 The first Finnish homesteaders settled on the east side of Otter Lake, southwest of Chassell, in

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<sup>33</sup> Arnold R. Alanen and Suzanna E. Raker, “From Phoenix to Pelkie: Finnish Farm Buildings in the Copper Country,” in *New Perspectives on Michigan’s Copper Country*, edited by Alison K. Hoagland, Erik C. Nordberg, and Terry S. Reynolds (Hancock, MI: Quincy Mine Hoist Association, 2007), 56.

1 1890. In the decades that followed, Finns established farm communities throughout much of  
2 southern Houghton County, northwestern Baraga County, and Ontonagon County, soon coming  
3 to dominate farming in the Copper Country. Much smaller numbers farmed in Keweenaw  
4 County. Their rural villages included Pelkie and Arnheim in Baraga County; Tapiola, Toivola,  
5 Elo, Askel, Nisula, Liminga, and Oskar in Houghton County; and Bruce Crossing, Wasas, and  
6 Wainola in Ontonagon County. Some Finns acquired their farms through homesteading, most  
7 through purchase. J. H. Jasberg of Hancock was a Finnish immigrant who worked as a land  
8 agent for the Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic Railroad (DSS&A), selling land to many of his  
9 countrymen. Farmers typically worked part-time as loggers, fishermen, miners, or common  
10 laborers to supplement their farming income. Although only a minority of Finns worked full-  
11 time as commercial fishermen, they became the majority in that trade. Finnish fishermen worked  
12 from more than a dozen ports on the Keweenaw Peninsula and Isle Royale; fishing villages at  
13 Portage Entry and Big Traverse were composed of Finnish fishermen exclusively.

14  
15 At the turn of the twentieth century, most Finns still worked in the mines, where they had  
16 become the largest ethnic group in the workforce. Finns were present in mine towns from  
17 Rockland in Ontonagon County to Mohawk in Keweenaw County. The largest population of  
18 Finns was still in Calumet and vicinity, followed closely by Hancock. A number of the earlier  
19 Finnish immigrants had worked their way up to become miners, who were more skilled and  
20 better paid than trammers. More recent Finnish immigrants continued to work as unskilled labor,  
21 and compared to earlier Finnish immigrants, a larger proportion of them were radicals versed in  
22 socialism and unionism. This radical contingent contributed to growing labor unrest in the  
23 mines, including a 1906 strike at the Michigan mine in Rockland, organized by Finnish  
24 trammers. In response, the mine companies began an active policy of reducing the number of  
25 Finnish employees. Finns were prominent among the strikers in the 1913–14 strike, and were  
26 prominent among the holdouts who were the last to return to work. As they were pushed out of  
27 mining, more Finns established farms, a trend that continued into the Depression. Finns also left  
28 the Copper Country, during the strike and after, as mining and the overall economy declined.  
29 Their farms became increasingly marginalized due to shrinking local markets and increasing  
30 competition from farms outside of the region. Nevertheless, compared to other ethnic groups, a  
31 larger proportion of Finns stayed in the Copper Country. Today, approximately one third of the  
32 population of the Copper Country is of Finnish descent.

33  
34 All immigrant groups tended to associate with their own countrymen, but the Finns were more  
35 insular than most, establishing their own institutions, continuing to speak Finnish, and generally  
36 resisting assimilation. This fueled misunderstanding of Finns and Finnish culture and was part  
37 of the reason for discrimination against them. In 1880 the still-small Finnish community in  
38 Calumet had its own newspaper, two churches, a mutual aid society, a literary society, a printing  
39 company, a book-publishing company, a lending library, and nine public saunas. A number of  
40 these institutions relate to the unusually high literacy rate among Finns compared to other ethnic  
41 groups. Finns built social halls to house benevolent organizations, temperance societies, and  
42 other groups. Most halls were long, narrow front-gabled frame buildings. The Kaleva Temple  
43 (1910) in South Range was different—owned by the Knights of Kaleva, a fraternal organization  
44 devoted to preserving Finnish culture, the Jacobsville sandstone commercial block contained a  
45 social hall on the second floor and rented commercial space on the ground floor. Finns  
46 established cooperatives for different purposes; stores were most common, but other types

1 included dairies, sawmills, and fish processing plants. The building most closely associated with  
 2 Finns was the sauna, and the practice of taking a sauna was perhaps most peculiar to Anglo-  
 3 Americans and other European immigrants in the mining communities. Although there were  
 4 public saunas in villages, a private sauna in the yard was preferred.

5  
 6 Religion was important, and events that took place in the Copper Country impacted Finns  
 7 nationwide. The Laestadian (Apostolic) Lutheran Church, a pietistic sect that relied upon a lay  
 8 ministry, predominated at first; this group was established as a distinct denomination in the  
 9 Copper Country during the 1870s. The more traditional Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church  
 10 was somewhat similar to the Finnish State Church. In 1890 representatives from several  
 11 Midwestern churches met in Hancock to form and support an association of Finnish  
 12 congregations, the Suomi Synod; Suomi College and Theological Seminary was organized in  
 13 1896. Two years later a group of congregations that disagreed with the hierarchical organization  
 14 of the Suomi Synod formed the Finnish National Evangelical Lutheran Church; one of its first  
 15 and largest churches was established in Calumet. Despite their differences, all three church  
 16 groups espoused temperance. By 1917 there were twenty-two Finnish churches in Houghton  
 17 County alone.<sup>34</sup> A large group of radical Finns, who tended not to be church goers, were another  
 18 faction.

19  
 20 The majority of Finns who came to the Copper Country were farmers in their native land, and it  
 21 was on farms that traditional Finnish construction techniques and building types were displayed  
 22 most fully. The smallest Finnish farms in the Copper Country usually had five buildings; larger  
 23 farms could have as many as fifteen. The exceptional Johnson farm on Kyro Road near Pelkie  
 24 retains all of its original eighteen buildings. Many farms had buildings arranged around an open  
 25 courtyard. Most of the first generation of houses, barns, and saunas were built of logs. Not only  
 26 Finns constructed buildings of logs, but Finnish log buildings were very well crafted of closely-  
 27 fitted hewn logs. Early houses were small, usually two rooms in plan with one or one-and-one-  
 28 half stories. The first livestock barns were also relatively small and had gable roofs. Gambrel-  
 29 roof barns became common in the early twentieth century, while a number of gothic-roof barns  
 30 appeared later. The first saunas were smoke saunas, built of logs with no chimneys or dressing  
 31 rooms. Beginning in the 1920s, houses, barns, and saunas became larger and were more likely to  
 32 be built of frame and board. Newer saunas also included chimneys and dressing rooms. During  
 33 the 1930s Finns used stovewood (also known as cordwood) construction, a more unusual  
 34 technique in which short logs were stacked perpendicular to the plane of the wall so that the cut  
 35 ends faced outward.<sup>35</sup> Stovewood construction was most frequently used for building poultry  
 36 houses, but it was also used for barns and other farm buildings. Hay barns were another  
 37 distinctive Finnish building type; unlike cattle barns, hay barns were built of unhewn logs with  
 38 spaces between them. The granary (*aitta*), also used occasionally to store seasonal items and  
 39 clothing, was an unheated storage building, typically front-gabled with one-and-one-half stories  
 40 and square in plan.

41  
 42 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*  
 43

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<sup>34</sup> Thurner, *Strangers and Sojourners*, 145.

<sup>35</sup> Finns constructed the vast majority of stovewood buildings in the Copper Country, but it is possible that a few were built by Swedes, Norwegians, or Poles, who used stovewood construction in Wisconsin.

1 Resources associated with Finns are virtually everywhere in the Copper Country. Churches,  
2 social halls, cooperatives, saunas, commercial buildings, homes, farms, cemeteries, summer  
3 cottages, even entire villages represent the Finns who lived, worked, and socialized there. In  
4 cities and villages, churches, social halls, and cooperatives most strongly represent Finnish  
5 culture. Although they are not distinctive in their form, they are associated with Finnish cultural  
6 practices that played a prominent role in community life. The sauna is Finnish in both form and  
7 function, and until recent years when it became more widely popular, it was a sure sign of  
8 Finnish heritage. There are no extant public saunas in the Copper Country; the last one—  
9 Jukuri’s sauna in Laurium—was demolished several years ago. There are a small number of  
10 home saunas in villages, but most of them are found on former farms in rural areas—there they  
11 number in the hundreds. Farms are the most numerous, recognizable remnants of Finnish  
12 settlement in the Copper Country. Farms contain Finnish building types—saunas, granaries, and  
13 hay barns—and buildings constructed using log and stovewood building techniques. In some  
14 areas Finnish farm communities extend for many miles. In their recent study, Arnold Alanen  
15 and Suzanna Raker wrote that the Copper Country probably retains more Finnish farm buildings  
16 than anywhere else in the U.S.

17  
18 Because of their wide and sometimes scattered distribution and their significance in the larger  
19 context of Finnish America, a thematic multiple property submission to nominate “Finnish-  
20 American Resources in the Copper Country” to the National Register of Historic Places is  
21 recommended. Both districts and individual resources may be nominated as part of the multiple  
22 property submission. Districts may be non-contiguous, for example, a thematic district  
23 consisting of buildings of stovewood construction would be appropriate. In order to contribute  
24 to this district, buildings would require integrity of design, materials, and workmanship; artificial  
25 siding would not be acceptable. Most districts would be contiguous, consisting of villages, rural  
26 agricultural areas, enclaves of Finnish summer cottages, or a combination of these. Districts  
27 would require a concentration of resources historically associated with Finns. The National  
28 Register-listed Big Traverse Bay Historic District was a Finnish fishing village. Other than some  
29 saunas, the buildings speak more to fishing than to ethnicity, but the district gains a large part of  
30 its significance from its association with Finns. Most districts would be rural agricultural  
31 districts, for example, encompassing the large Finnish farming communities around Pelkie or  
32 Tapiola. In these districts the landscape would need to retain its rural character with relatively  
33 few modern intrusions. Buildings with alterations such as secondary siding or replacement  
34 windows would contribute to such a district, but a building with altered window openings and  
35 front additions that obscure its original form would be non-contributing.

36  
37 Buildings of outstanding significance to the history of Finns in the Copper Country are  
38 individually eligible if they retain the better part of their historic appearance. Old Main, the first  
39 building constructed at Suomi College (1900), is listed in the National Register. The house of a  
40 prominent Finn or a commercial building that housed a long-term Finnish business could be  
41 eligible. Social halls and cooperative stores were not built in large numbers—perhaps one or two  
42 of each in a village—and their numbers have diminished over time. Seven Finnish cooperative  
43 stores and eight Finnish social halls were identified in the survey. The Copper Country Cheese  
44 Cooperative in Dollar Bay is the only extant cooperative dairy. Because of their small number  
45 and prominent role in community life, any of these would be National Register eligible if it  
46 retains integrity; only the Kaleva Temple is currently listed. Artificial siding is a relatively

1 minor, and reversible, change. But a hall that has been converted to a house would not be  
2 eligible, nor would a store with additions and other alterations that obscure its historic  
3 appearance. Because there are a larger number of churches, some will be more significant than  
4 others. For example, if there are three Finnish churches in a village, the one that is most intact  
5 may be preferred for National Register listing. But when a church is all that remains of a Finnish  
6 community, as is the case at Wainola, then vinyl siding is acceptable.

7  
8 Saunas are numerous, but early log smoke saunas are not; therefore these early examples, some  
9 with later frame and board dressing rooms, may be individually eligible. Other saunas, along  
10 with granaries, hay barns, and other farm buildings, may be individually eligible if they display  
11 exceptional qualities of design and/or building technique. More frequently, farm buildings will  
12 contribute to an eligible farm, one that retains a full complement of farm buildings and its  
13 historic spatial arrangement along with other landscape features. Some buildings may have  
14 minor alterations as long as the majority retains integrity of design and materials. The National  
15 Register-listed Hanka Homestead, now a museum, is unusually intact, with more than a dozen  
16 log buildings built beginning in 1896. The aforementioned Johnson Farm near Pelkie is an  
17 outstanding example, but there appear to be several other Finnish farmsteads that meet these  
18 criteria.

19  
20 (Photo—Settlers Co-op farm store and hall, Bruce Crossing)

21  
22  
23 **Industry: Copper Industry**

24  
25 The Keweenaw Peninsula was the first major copper mining district developed in the U.S.; it  
26 dominated U.S. copper production until the 1880s. The Copper Range, the central highland of  
27 copper-bearing rock that runs lengthwise through the Keweenaw Peninsula, is unique among the  
28 world's copper mining districts in its abundance of elemental or native copper, unalloyed with  
29 other elements. Seven thousand years ago, Native Americans mined copper on the Keweenaw  
30 Peninsula and Isle Royale, digging shallow pits to mine veins of copper, which was traded  
31 extensively throughout eastern North America. When the French first visited the Keweenaw  
32 Peninsula in the mid-seventeenth century, they learned of copper from the Ojibwa. Reports of  
33 copper continued to lure French and British explorers, who made some unsuccessful attempts at  
34 mining. Beginning in 1820, expeditions led by Lewis Cass, Henry Rowe Schoolcraft, and  
35 Douglass Houghton provided additional information about copper in the Keweenaw, igniting  
36 public and government enthusiasm for copper mining. In 1842 the Ojibwa and the United States  
37 government signed the Treaty of La Pointe—the Copper Treaty—by which the Ojibwa ceded  
38 their lands on the southwestern shore of Lake Superior, including the Keweenaw Peninsula and  
39 Isle Royale.

40  
41 In 1843 the federal government opened a land office at Copper Harbor, at first leasing but soon  
42 selling land to prospectors. There was much prospecting but little copper until 1845, when a  
43 large mass of copper was discovered at the Cliff mine, not far from Eagle River. The next major  
44 copper discovery came at the Minesota mine near Ontonagon in 1848. In that year Michigan  
45 (Keweenaw Peninsula and Isle Royale) copper mines produced one million pounds of copper, 92

1 percent of U.S. copper production.<sup>36</sup> In the decade that followed, the Cliff and Minesota mines  
 2 led the way in profits, encouraging the opening of more mines and bringing growth to the region.  
 3 Ontonagon County was the industry leader in the 1850s, with mines in the Rockland district that  
 4 grew up around the Minesota mine, in the Porcupine Mountains district, in the Norwich district,  
 5 and in the Greenland hills. In Keweenaw County,<sup>37</sup> the Central mine was second to the Cliff in  
 6 profitability; other mines included the Phoenix, Copper Falls, and Delaware. In 1847 there were  
 7 at least a dozen mines on Isle Royale, but all of them closed by 1855. Mining companies built  
 8 housing for their employees on company land, the start of a system of paternalism that would  
 9 define labor relations and employees' lives through the life of the industry.

10  
 11 The first generation of mines worked deposits of mass copper that formed in cracks or fissures in  
 12 the rock. In the long term, however, amygdaloid and conglomerate deposits would be more  
 13 productive. Amygdaloid copper was deposited in almond-shaped voids in rock formed by lava  
 14 flows. Conglomerate copper was created when copper filled the spaces in beds of sedimentary  
 15 rock. With amygdaloid and conglomerate deposits, stamp mills were used to separate the copper  
 16 from the surrounding rock. During the 1850s, a cluster of mines opened south of Portage Lake  
 17 to work amygdaloid lodes. North of Portage Lake, the Pewabic Mining Company discovered the  
 18 rich Pewabic Amygdaloid lode in 1856; the Quincy Mining Company began mining the Pewabic  
 19 lode that same year. About ten miles to the north of the Quincy mine, Edwin Hulbert discovered  
 20 the first evidence of the Calumet Conglomerate lode, which would prove the richest lode of all.  
 21 In 1850 Michigan copper mines produced 1.3 million pounds of copper, 88 percent of the U.S.  
 22 total; by 1860 this had increased dramatically, to 12 million pounds of copper, 75 percent of the  
 23 U.S. total. High copper prices during the Civil War led new mines to open, but many of these  
 24 were marginal producers, and labor shortages limited overall production. In 1865, 14 million  
 25 pounds of copper were produced, only slightly more than in 1860.<sup>38</sup> Many mines managed to  
 26 produce some copper, but not profits. Between 1843 and 1865 approximately three hundred  
 27 mining companies were created. Ninety-four of these were incorporated, but only eight of the  
 28 ninety-four paid dividends by 1865.<sup>39</sup>

29  
 30 The drop in copper prices when the Civil War ended brought mine closings: the number of  
 31 Michigan copper mines decreased from thirty-six in 1865 to twenty-four in 1870; by 1890 there  
 32 were fifteen mines.<sup>40</sup> Some new mines opened as well, including a few on Isle Royale. But for  
 33 Keweenaw and Ontonagon counties, the overall picture was one of decline. In contrast, copper  
 34 mining in Houghton County, specifically the Portage Lake area, experienced phenomenal  
 35 growth, with the Calumet & Hecla Mining Company (C&H) leading the way. In 1865 Edwin  
 36 Hulbert and his investors organized the Calumet Mining Company, followed in 1866 by the  
 37 Hecla Mining Company. In 1867 Alexander Agassiz took over management of the two  
 38 companies, and in 1871 they merged to create the Calumet & Hecla Mining Company with  
 39 Agassiz as president. Agassiz remained president until his death in 1910, wielding great  
 40 influence in the Michigan copper industry. From 14 million pounds of copper in 1870 (as much

<sup>36</sup> William B. Gates, Jr., *Michigan Copper and Boston Dollars: An Economic History of the Michigan Copper Mining Industry* (Boston: Harvard University Press, 1951), 197.

<sup>37</sup> Keweenaw County was separated from Houghton County in 1861.

<sup>38</sup> Gates, *Michigan Copper and Boston Dollars*, 197.

<sup>39</sup> Larry Lankton, *Hollowed Ground: Copper Mining and Community Building on Lake Superior, 1840s–1990s* (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 2010), 18.

<sup>40</sup> *Ibid.*, 64.

1 as the whole district produced five years earlier), C&H production grew to 32 million in 1880  
 2 and 60 million in 1890, 60 percent of the Michigan total of 101 million pounds. The number of  
 3 C&H employees nearly tripled, from 1,201 in 1870 to 3,496 in 1890.<sup>41</sup> C&H was renowned for  
 4 the capacity of its surface plant. The Quincy Mining Company was second to C&H, producing 8  
 5 million pounds of copper in 1890—8 percent of the Michigan total. The Osceola, Allouez,  
 6 Atlantic, and Tamarack mining companies were also prominent. Improved technology, notably  
 7 power rock drills, dynamite, and bigger and better steam engines, increased productivity at the  
 8 mines. Stamp mills and a few smelters lined the shores of Portage and Torch lakes. The 1880s  
 9 saw the beginnings of the electrical industry and with it an important new market for copper.  
 10 That decade also saw the rapid growth of copper mining in Montana. Because of the western  
 11 mines, Michigan's share of U.S. copper production decreased from 82 percent in 1880 to 44  
 12 percent in 1885 and 39 percent in 1890.<sup>42</sup>

13  
 14 Beginning in the 1890s there was a pronounced trend toward company reorganization and  
 15 consolidation. The Quincy Mining Company purchased the neighboring Pewabic, Mesnard, and  
 16 Pontiac mines. In 1897 the Iroquois, Kearsarge, Tamarack Junior, and Osceola mining  
 17 companies were consolidated as the Osceola Consolidated Copper Company. Then in 1899  
 18 copper prices rose sharply, largely in response to a substantial increase in demand from the  
 19 electrical and related industries. This led to the opening of new mines and reopening of old  
 20 mines. In Ontonagon County, the Adventure Consolidated Mining Company at Greenland, the  
 21 Michigan Copper Company at Rockland, the Mass Consolidated Mining Company, and the  
 22 Victoria Copper Mining Company became minor producers. In southern Keweenaw County, the  
 23 Mohawk Mining Company, Ahmeek Mining Company, and Allouez Mining Company all  
 24 opened productive new mines. In northern Houghton County, the reorganized Wolverine Mining  
 25 Company became an important producer along with the Isle Royale Copper Company south of  
 26 Portage Lake. These were overshadowed, however, by the opening of the Baltic, Trimountain,  
 27 and Champion mines on the recently-discovered Baltic Amygdaloid lode about six miles south  
 28 of Portage Lake. By 1903 the Copper Range Consolidated Copper Company owned all three  
 29 mines, and it quickly surpassed other companies in productivity, becoming second only to C&H.  
 30 In 1910 Quincy accounted for approximately 10 percent, Copper Range 19 percent, and C&H 33  
 31 percent of the total production of 221 million pounds from Michigan mines, a 20 percent share of  
 32 the national market. The new Copper Range mines had a distinct advantage over the older,  
 33 deeper mines—rock was more difficult and expensive to extract from the deeper mines, and the  
 34 ore was a lower grade. In 1906 C&H copper production reached a high of 100 million pounds;  
 35 by 1910 this had dropped back to 72 million pounds. C&H countered declining yields by  
 36 opening new mines and, once permitted by Michigan law,<sup>43</sup> purchasing controlling interest in  
 37 other mining companies.<sup>44</sup>

38  
 39 The district-wide labor strike that began in July 1913 was a watershed event in Copper Country  
 40 history. The costly and often violent strike ended nine months later in a victory for the mining

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<sup>41</sup> This includes mines, mill, and after 1888, smelter. Gates, *Michigan Copper and Boston Dollars*, 208–09.

<sup>42</sup> Production statistics from Gates, *Michigan Copper and Boston Dollars*, 198, 230 and Lankton, *Hollowed Ground*, 125.

<sup>43</sup> In 1905 Michigan law was changed to allow mining companies to own stock in other mining companies.

<sup>44</sup> Production statistics from Gates, *Michigan Copper and Boston Dollars*, 198, 230 and Lankton, *Hollowed Ground*, 125, 137, 151–52.

1 companies, but it ushered in an era of chronic labor shortages and unrest. Three months after the  
 2 strike ended, World War I began in Europe, and copper prices spiked due to wartime demand. In  
 3 response, the region's copper production reached its peak of nearly 267 million pounds in 1916.  
 4 But the market for copper collapsed after the war ended, and Michigan copper production  
 5 dropped to 92 million pounds in 1921, beginning the long period of decline. Neither company  
 6 consolidation nor technological advances could stem the decline, but they did slow it down. The  
 7 most important new technology was for copper reclamation from the stamp sands, or tailings, in  
 8 Torch Lake. C&H opened the first reclamation plant in 1915; by 1925 the plant had produced  
 9 121 million pounds of copper at about half the cost of mining new copper. Meanwhile, C&H  
 10 had been buying stock in other mining companies. In 1917 it acquired the remaining stock of the  
 11 Tamarack Mining Company, and in 1923 it merged with the Ahmeek, Allouez, Osceola, and  
 12 Centennial mining companies to create the Calumet and Hecla Consolidated Copper Company.  
 13 Following the merger, the company's share of Michigan copper production increased from about  
 14 30 percent to at least 50 percent and often more. Copper Range took an option to work the  
 15 Globe mine; in 1929 it acquired the White Pine and Victoria mines and took control of the  
 16 National mine, the last three in Ontonagon County. Copper production increased to 186 million  
 17 pounds before the Great Depression sent it downward again, to a low of 47 million pounds in  
 18 1933. Production leveled off at about 90 million pounds in the late 1930s, accounting for 8  
 19 percent or less of the U.S. total.<sup>45</sup>

20  
 21 Copper production remained relatively steady during World War II and then dropped again to 43  
 22 million pounds in 1946. Quincy stopped mining in 1945; it operated its reclamation plant until  
 23 1967. C&H and Copper Range undertook limited mining while they diversified into other  
 24 industries. Then in 1955 Copper Range began production at the White Pine mine, using new  
 25 technology to extract copper from copper sulfide ore, which was unlike the native copper mined  
 26 elsewhere in the Copper Country. The White Pine mine produced an average of 77 million  
 27 pounds of copper a year in the late 1950s, increasing to about 122 million pounds a year in the  
 28 1960s. The final C&H shutdown in 1968 marked the end of native copper mining. Between  
 29 1843 and 1968, the Lake Superior mines produced about 11 billion pounds of native copper. By  
 30 the time it closed in 1995, the White Pine mine had produced 4.4 billion pounds of sulfide  
 31 copper.<sup>46</sup>

### 32 33 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*

34  
 35 Mine, mill, and smelter sites represent the theme of copper mining. The most significant sites  
 36 are those that retain the greatest percentage of their historic buildings, structures, and site  
 37 features such as shaft openings and piles of mine waste rock. Buildings that are early, rare, or  
 38 exceptional examples of their type may be individually eligible for the National Register. The  
 39 eligibility of industrial buildings and structures and employee housing under National Register  
 40 Criterion C has been discussed under the architecture theme. Buildings and structures may also  
 41 be individually eligible under Criterion A in the area of industry. Under Criterion A, industrial  
 42 buildings and structures have greater significance than employee houses, which contribute to the

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<sup>45</sup> Lankton, *Hollowed Ground*, 208, 229; Larry Lankton, *Cradle to Grave: Life, Work, and Death at the Lake Superior Copper Mines* (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1991), 250; Gates, *Michigan Copper and Boston Dollars*, 199, 230.

<sup>46</sup> Lankton, *Hollowed Ground*, 2, 208, 259.

1 larger whole but are not likely to be individually eligible for industry. Buildings and structures  
2 that are significant under Criterion A need not be as intact as for Criterion C. Among the most  
3 significant buildings in the area of industry is the Quincy Smelter (1898), one of the most intact  
4 surviving reverberatory furnace smelters in the world and the centerpiece of a complex of more  
5 than twenty buildings including cupola and reverberatory furnaces, mineral warehouse,  
6 briquetting plant, warehouses, powerhouse, machine shop, laboratory, and assay office. The  
7 smelter complex is part of the Quincy Mining Company Historic District. The Quincy Mine No.  
8 2 Shaft Hoist House, individually listed in the National Register, housed the Nordberg steam  
9 hoist, the largest mine hoist in the world when it was built in 1918.

10  
11 A mine, mill, or smelter site may be a historic district by itself or it may be part of a larger  
12 industrial district. At mine locations, houses typically outnumber industrial buildings; this is the  
13 case, for example, at the National Register-listed Painesdale Historic District. At the Central  
14 Mine Historic District there are nineteen houses and a church, but ruins of industrial buildings  
15 and piles of mine waste rock help to identify the community as a mine location and contribute to  
16 its significance. On Isle Royale, the Minong Mine Historic District contains prehistoric mining  
17 pits as well as shaft openings, ruins, and rock piles from a late nineteenth century mine; although  
18 it has above-ground remains, it is significant as an archaeological site. The most extensive  
19 industrial districts in the Copper Country are the Calumet Historic District and the Quincy  
20 Mining Company Historic District, both National Historic Landmarks. Both retain multiple  
21 industrial buildings and structures along with building ruins and piles of waste rock; in addition,  
22 both encompass multiple mine locations, some of which would not be individually eligible but  
23 contribute to the larger district. The Calumet and Quincy historic districts could be expanded  
24 with the addition of adjoining locations that were associated with them historically.

25  
26 The Quincy Mining Company Stamp Mills Historic District encompasses the community of  
27 Mason, with employee housing and the ruins of Quincy’s stamp mill and reclamation plant.  
28 There are no extant stamp mills in the Copper Country, only ruins—some quite large—with  
29 auxiliary buildings and expanses of stamp sands, or tailings. Mason could be part of a larger  
30 Torch Lake and Portage Lake Historic Industrial District that includes stamp mill and smelter  
31 sites in Lake Linden, Hubbell, Tamarack City, Dollar Bay, and Point Mills.

32  
33 Tailings (stamp sands), slag heaps, and piles of mine waste rock are important—and  
34 disappearing—elements of the historic industrial landscape. Tailings and waste rock are being  
35 removed for new uses such as road construction, and tailings are being covered to mitigate their  
36 negative effects on the environment. Sean Gohman conducted a survey to identify and evaluate  
37 tailings, rock piles, and slag heaps; his report includes recommendations for National Register  
38 listing.<sup>47</sup>

39  
40 (Photo—Lake Mine South Shaft (1-C) Greenland District)

41  
42  
43 **Industry: Lumber Industry**

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<sup>47</sup> Sean M. Gohman, “Identification and Evaluation of Copper Country Mine Waste Deposits Including Tailings, Waste Rock, and Slag in Parts of Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw, and Ontonagon Counties, Michigan,” Draft (Calumet: Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission, 2012).

1  
2 Logging transformed the landscape of the Copper Country, removing nearly all of its original  
3 forest cover. Today there are only two stands of virgin timber on the Keweenaw Peninsula—an  
4 extensive stand in the Porcupine Mountains and a smaller stand at Estivant Pines in Keweenaw  
5 County; there is also virgin timber on Isle Royale. Copper mines and mining communities  
6 provided a substantial market for lumber into the early twentieth century. Once railroads  
7 connected the Copper Country to Chicago and other Great Lakes cities, lumber exports gained  
8 importance. During the waning years of the copper industry, lumber and wood products  
9 increasingly replaced copper in the local economy, but the lumber industry was declining as well  
10 and could not stem the region's decline.

11  
12 Logging began as soon as the first mines passed the exploration stage. Logs were used for  
13 constructing buildings, for mine timbers, and for fuel for both home and industry. Sawmills,  
14 which produced sawn lumber, were a sign of progress from frontier to settlement. A sawmill  
15 built at Eagle Harbor in 1845 was likely the first in the region. By the 1850s there were sawmills  
16 in the villages of Ontonagon and Houghton and at a number of mining locations; by the 1860s  
17 there were more. Town building and copper mining consumed a large amount of timber. Pine  
18 was preferred for building lumber and mine timbers. Sections of tree trunks called stulls were  
19 used to hold up the roofs of mine tunnels and shafts. Until C&H came on the scene, however,  
20 mining companies timbered sparingly. The greater demand was for cordwood to fuel steam  
21 engine boilers. Wood for fuel was sold by the cord—a stack measuring four by four by eight  
22 feet—hence the name cordwood. Hardwood was preferred for cordwood. At first logging took  
23 place in the vicinity of the mines and villages, but as timber in those areas was depleted, the  
24 mining and lumber companies expanded their reach. By the 1860s logging was taking place  
25 along the northern shores of Portage and Torch lakes and into the Bootjack area.

26  
27 Sawmills and lumber companies were typically owned and managed by Anglo-Americans, while  
28 most of the loggers and mill workers were French Canadians. The exception, in many ways, was  
29 Joseph Grégoire (Gregory) and his sawmill near Lake Linden. Born in Quebec, Grégoire came  
30 to Portage Lake in 1859, purchased timberlands, and began supplying wood to mining  
31 companies and other customers. In 1867 Grégoire and two associates built a sawmill on Torch  
32 Lake, a short distance from Lake Linden. Five years later, Grégoire bought out his associates,  
33 expanded the sawmill, and built a factory to manufacture flooring, windows, doors, and altar  
34 railings. The community of Gregoryville grew up around the mill. Grégoire rebuilt the sawmill  
35 after it burned in 1876; the new mill had a capacity of forty thousand feet of lumber per day.  
36 While Grégoire supplied lumber to C&H and other mining companies in the Portage Lake area,  
37 he also shipped his products as far away as Chicago. By the early 1880s Grégoire owned 6,500  
38 acres of timberlands, both pine and hardwood,<sup>48</sup> and he employed eighty men at his mills, many  
39 of them French Canadian immigrants who came to the area because Grégoire promised them  
40 jobs. Grégoire was a leader in local politics and in the French Canadian community. He retired  
41 from work in the late 1880s and died in 1895. The sawmill closed in 1910 after operating almost  
42 forty years, an unusually long span for a sawmill.

43

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<sup>48</sup> In his *History of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan* (Chicago: Western Historical Society, 1883), A. T. Andreas gives two different figures for Grégoire's timberland holdings: 6,500 (p. 11) and 65,000 (p. 313); the former is more likely the correct figure.

1 The Sturgeon River Lumber Company was the second of Houghton County's leading lumber  
 2 companies. A group of six investors organized the company in 1872 to log the rich pine lands of  
 3 the Sturgeon River Valley; Orrin Robinson was superintendent. In 1873 the company built a  
 4 sawmill in Hancock. In 1875 the same investors organized the Sturgeon River Boom Company,  
 5 which cut a canal from the Sturgeon River across marshland to Pike's Bay. The Sturgeon River  
 6 Lumber Company purchased John Chassell's farm on Pike's Bay in 1881. In 1887–88 the  
 7 company replaced the Hancock operation with a new sawmill, planing mill, and lumberyards on  
 8 the former farm and platted the company town of Chassell. In 1888 the Duluth, South Shore &  
 9 Atlantic Railroad (DSS&A) established a railroad stop at Chassell, enabling the lumber company  
 10 to ship its products by rail. The company employed more than two hundred people, many of  
 11 them French Canadians; the mill had a capacity of twenty million board feet a year.

12  
 13 In the early 1880s, lumberman Thomas Nestor sold his property on Saginaw Bay and invested  
 14 the money in sixty thousand acres of timberlands in the Sturgeon and Ontonagon river valleys.  
 15 Nestor built his mill in the village of Baraga. By then, logging was taking place at many  
 16 locations around the Keweenaw Peninsula. Before railroads reached an area, most logging took  
 17 place close to the lakeshore or—for pine—near rivers where the logs could be driven to the  
 18 lakeshore. At the lakeshore, logs were rafted to sawmills, some as far away as the Hebard and  
 19 Thurber sawmill in Pequaming, on the eastern shore of Keweenaw Bay. During the 1880s  
 20 mining companies transitioned from wood to coal to fuel their steam engines, but there remained  
 21 a large demand for mine timbers. Not only were there new and bigger mines, but C&H used  
 22 more mine timbers than other mining companies. The Calumet Conglomerate was harder than  
 23 other types of copper-bearing rock, making the roofs of the mines more fragile and less stable.  
 24 During the 1880s C&H began using milled square-set timbers in addition to stulls; there were so  
 25 many timbers in its mines that they were described as a forest underground. In 1885 C&H  
 26 owned approximately eighty million feet of standing pine to supply timbers for its mines.<sup>49</sup>

27  
 28 In Ontonagon County, there was little copper mining by the 1880s, but the village of Ontonagon  
 29 was poised to become one of the Upper Peninsula's biggest lumber boom towns. White pine  
 30 was the mainstay of the American lumber industry that began in New England and worked its  
 31 way west. Pine logging was well underway in the northern Lower Peninsula by the mid-  
 32 nineteenth century, moving northward as the pine was depleted. Large-scale commercial logging  
 33 began in Ontonagon County in 1881, when a group of Chicago investors organized the  
 34 Ontonagon Lumber Company, purchased thirty thousand acres of pine lands, and built a sawmill  
 35 and shingle mill in the village of Ontonagon. The company's lumber was shipped to Chicago.  
 36 In 1882, Sisson & Lilly—previously of Ottawa County in the Lower Peninsula—built a larger  
 37 sawmill and shingle mill in Ontonagon. In September 1882 the Diamond Match Company, a  
 38 giant matchmaking monopoly, bought control of both of these lumber companies and began  
 39 buying timberlands in southern Ontonagon County. Thomas Nestor also owned extensive  
 40 timberlands along the Ontonagon River. Commercial logging in Ontonagon County remained  
 41 relatively limited in scope, however, until the late 1880s, when a rail line linked the port of  
 42 Ontonagon to Milwaukee, and two additional railroad lines were built in southern Ontonagon  
 43 County. In addition to Diamond and Nestor, many smaller lumber companies and logging  
 44 contractors established logging and milling operations along the railroad lines in the south. Both

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<sup>49</sup> Lankton, *Hollowed Ground*, 81.

1 Diamond and Nestor drove pine down the Ontonagon River to the village of Ontonagon,<sup>50</sup> but  
 2 railroads were instrumental in transporting lumber to market and in supplying lumber towns that  
 3 in turn supplied the logging camps. Paulding, Robbins, Craigsmere, Choate, Calderwood, Trout  
 4 Creek, Paynesville, Baltimore, Ewen, Matchwood, and others served as supply centers and mill  
 5 towns for dozens—perhaps hundreds—of logging camps in the surrounding woods. In  
 6 southernmost Houghton County, the lumber towns of Pori, Frost, Sidnaw, Kenton, and Kitchie  
 7 were established along some of the same railroad lines.

8  
 9 By the early 1890s, the Diamond Match Company’s sawmills in Ontonagon operated around the  
 10 clock, producing up to seventy million board feet of lumber per year and employing between 250  
 11 and 400 men, depending on the season. Pine logging in Ontonagon County peaked during the  
 12 winter of 1894–95, when Diamond organized a massive logging operation to harvest trees that  
 13 had been scorched in a forest fire the previous summer. By spring, 185 million feet of pine logs  
 14 had been piled by the banks of the Ontonagon River. Logjams on the river slowed the  
 15 processing of these logs, which was still underway in August 1896 when a forest fire destroyed  
 16 Diamond’s Ontonagon mills along with most of the village. With the county’s pine timber  
 17 nearly depleted, Diamond decided not to rebuild its Ontonagon mills. By the early 1900s there  
 18 was little white pine left in the Copper Country.

19  
 20 Throughout the north woods, the lumber industry turned to hardwood, hemlock, and cedar once  
 21 the white pine was depleted. The first two decades of the twentieth century were the peak years  
 22 for hardwood and hemlock logging in the Upper Peninsula. Hardwood was used for lumber,  
 23 furniture, and flooring. Hemlock became the preferred wood for mine timbers and was also used  
 24 for lumber, railroad ties, and pulpwood; the bark was harvested for tanning bark. Cedar was  
 25 used for shingles, railroad ties, paving blocks, utility poles, and posts. Some of the lumber  
 26 companies that logged pine stayed to log hardwoods and hemlock, but most often the pine  
 27 lumber companies moved on and new companies moved in. Hardwood and hemlock logging  
 28 required new techniques and equipment. Because hardwoods do not float, logging railroads  
 29 were built to access the timber. In Ontonagon County, the C. V. McMillan Company and its  
 30 successor the Greenwood Lumber Company led the way in harvesting hemlock west of the  
 31 village of Ontonagon. One of Greenwood’s logging camps became the community of Green,  
 32 designed as a model company town. Farther south, Gunlek Bergland purchased seventeen  
 33 thousand acres of timberland north and west of Lake Gogebic. Bergland built his sawmill at the  
 34 north end of the lake, where he platted the community of Bergland. Other lumber companies  
 35 that were active in Ontonagon County included the Holt Lumber Company, Weidman Lumber  
 36 Company, and Sawyer-Goodman Company.

37  
 38 In southern Houghton County, construction of the Copper Range Railroad and Mineral Range  
 39 Railroad opened new areas for logging. Alston, Nisula, and Donken were all established as  
 40 lumber towns during this period. Logging took place in other parts of the Keweenaw Peninsula,  
 41 and there were even logging ventures on Isle Royale. But the biggest operation was in Chassell.  
 42 Having logged all of its pine, in 1902 the Sturgeon River Lumber Company sold its timberlands,  
 43 mills, and remaining property in Chassell to Charles H. Worcester of Chicago. The Worcester  
 44 Lumber Company began operation in 1903. The company built a logging railroad into the Pike  
 45 and Otter River valleys and employed 300 to 400 men in the woods in addition to 30 on the

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<sup>50</sup> From Ontonagon, Thomas Nestor moved his timber by barge to his mill in Baraga.

1 railroad and 120 at the mill. By then, Finns had largely replaced the French Canadians who had  
2 worked for the Sturgeon River Lumber Company. With one of the largest sawmills on the Great  
3 Lakes, the Worcester Lumber Company produced 750 million feet of soft and hardwood lumber  
4 in addition to lath, shingles, hemlock tanning bark, and cedar poles and ties between 1903 and its  
5 closing in 1928.<sup>51</sup> Chassell was part of C. H. Worcester's larger logging empire; he owned more  
6 than one hundred thousand acres of timberland in the Upper Peninsula<sup>52</sup> and had a national  
7 reputation as a leading lumberman. Worcester chose Chassell for his summer home (built 1908;  
8 destroyed by fire 1974), and he introduced a number of improvements to his company town  
9 there, including new housing, wooden sidewalks, and electricity.

10  
11 Even at its height, hardwood and hemlock logging was never as big an industry as pine logging,  
12 and by the 1920s it was declining. By 1929 some lumber companies had already ended their  
13 Keweenaw operations; more closed during the Depression. Contrary to the general trend, the  
14 Horner Flooring Company opened a plant in Dollar Bay in the 1930s, the Dion Lumber  
15 Company opened a sawmill in Gay in 1933, and the Boniface-Gorman Lumber Company began  
16 manufacturing cedar poles, ties, and posts in Lake Linden in 1934. By the 1930s, pulpwood for  
17 papermaking rivaled lumber as the primary product of the forest. At first hemlock was the  
18 preferred pulpwood, but as hemlock played out, spruce became the primary pulpwood. Balsam  
19 fir and jack pine were used as well. Spruce, balsam fir, jack pine, birch, aspen, and maple were  
20 all components of the second-growth forests that were growing on cutover lands by the 1930s  
21 and 1940s. The Northern Fibre Company built one of the first pulp mills in the Upper Peninsula  
22 in the village of Ontonagon in 1920. The Northern Fibre Company was short-lived, but in 1923  
23 the Ontonagon Fibre Company took over the mill and added a paperboard machine. In 1931 the  
24 company was reorganized as the Ontonagon Fiber Corporation. The company struggled during  
25 the Depression, but did well during World War II, so well that it was purchased by the National  
26 Container Corporation. The pulp and paper mill in Ontonagon was the only one in the Copper  
27 Country; otherwise pulpwood was shipped to pulp and paper plants in northern Wisconsin.

28  
29 During the 1930s trucks began to replace logging railroads for getting timber out of the forest. In  
30 addition, landowners began to adopt the principles of scientific forestry, managing timberlands  
31 as renewable resources by practicing selective cutting instead of clear cutting. The Michigan  
32 College of Mining and Technology established a forestry department in 1936, at once a sign of  
33 the growing forestry profession and also a sign of the importance of the industry in the region.  
34 Scientific forestry was one outgrowth of the conservation movement, which also included  
35 reforestation programs and the establishment of state and national forests. During the 1920s and  
36 1930s large areas of cutover land in the Lake Superior region reverted to county governments as  
37 the result of tax delinquency. Government agencies used some of this land to create county,  
38 state, and national forests, including the Copper Country State Forest and Ottawa National  
39 Forest. Much of the timber in these forests was managed for timber harvest using the sustained  
40 yield methods of scientific forestry. It was also during this time that mining companies began to  
41 sell logging rights to the standing timber on their lands.

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<sup>51</sup> Stephanie Atwood, Shannon Bennett, and Alison K. Hoagland, "Chassell School Complex" (Washington, D.C.; National Register of Historic Places, 2008), 14.

<sup>52</sup> Theodore J. Karamanski, *Deep Woods Frontier: A History of Logging in Northern Michigan* (Detroit: Wayne State University, 1989), 195.

1 The lumber and wood products industry played a major role in the Copper Country's post-World  
2 War II economy. Logging took place in regenerated forests on much of the Keweenaw  
3 Peninsula, and scientific forestry became common practice. Pulpwood predominated, but there  
4 was also a sizable hardwood lumber industry. Many of the loggers were small operators, but  
5 there were several larger logging, milling, and manufacturing operations. The Dion Lumber  
6 Company in Gay operated into the 1960s, producing up to ten car loads of lumber a week. The  
7 Horner Flooring Company in Dollar Bay had a national reputation for its maple flooring; it is  
8 still in operation today. In Donken, the Vulcan Corporation's lumber mill was probably the  
9 largest in the Copper Country until it closed in the mid-1960s. Based in Antigo, Wisconsin,  
10 Vulcan employed eighty men in the mill and one hundred men in the woods in 1956; in addition  
11 to lumber its products included shoe lasts and bowling pins. In Ontonagon, the National  
12 Container Corporation closed abruptly in 1953 when the softwood that it used to make  
13 paperboard was no longer available. Four years later the Huss Ontonagon Pulp and Paper  
14 Company reopened the plant with new equipment to make paper from second-growth  
15 hardwoods. By 1967 Huss had become part of the Hoerner-Waldorf Corporation. Eventually  
16 the Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation owned the much-expanded paperboard plant.

17  
18 Copper Range and C&H both continued to sell timber from their extensive landholdings. By the  
19 1950s timber sales from its 185,000 acres of timberlands on the Keweenaw Peninsula provided  
20 Copper Range with its primary source of revenue. In 1955, C&H took the next step and entered  
21 the forest products business with its purchase of the Goodman Lumber Company of Goodman,  
22 Wisconsin—a company known for its excellent forestry practice. In addition to Goodman's  
23 mills and 70,000 acres of Wisconsin timberlands, the Goodman acquisition brought C&H the  
24 expertise to manage the 104,000 acres of timberlands that it already owned on the Keweenaw  
25 Peninsula. The Goodman Lumber Company became the core of the C&H Forest Industries  
26 Division. C&H built a sawmill near Calumet that produced birch and maple veneer for furniture,  
27 maple flooring, construction lumber, and softwood for industrial crating and mine timbers. The  
28 division also produced pulpwood for papermaking. In 1968 Copper Range opened its Northern  
29 Hardwoods Division and built a sawmill near South Range; later this became part of the Mead  
30 Corporation. Logging, milling, and wood products manufacturing continues today in the Copper  
31 Country. In some places it is a community's primary employer, but it is no longer a major part  
32 of the regional economy.

### 33 34 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*

35  
36 Logging camps, lumber mills, and manufacturing plants are the property types most directly  
37 associated with the lumber industry theme. Logging camps are represented only by  
38 archaeological sites, and since the scope of this survey was limited to what was visible from  
39 improved roads, no logging camp sites were identified during the survey. Two sawmills were  
40 identified in the survey. The sawmill at the site of the CCC camp in Sidnaw is relatively new; if  
41 there are historic buildings, they do not retain integrity. At Donken, the extensive lumber mill  
42 complex comprises about a half dozen large brick and concrete block buildings that appear to  
43 date from the 1920s to the 1950s. Most of the buildings are in ruins, and the complex as a whole  
44 does not retain integrity. A mill pond remains at Trout Creek, and while it would contribute to a  
45 potential Trout Creek Historic District, it is not National Register eligible by itself. In the village  
46 of Ontonagon, the Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation, built around the original 1920 pulp

1 plant, closed in 2009 and was demolished two years later. The Hawley Lumber Company is  
2 significant as the sole surviving lumber company in the village. The company was established in  
3 1881; most of the current buildings were built after World War II and appear to retain integrity.  
4 In Dollar Bay, the Horner Flooring Company is a dense complex of industrial buildings built of  
5 wood, tile, brick, concrete block, and metal. A number of the buildings appear to be relatively  
6 new, though some buildings clearly pre-date World War II. Horner Flooring is significant as one  
7 of very few extant wood products plants, but additional research is needed to determine if the  
8 plant retains integrity.

9  
10 Company housing is not as central to the lumber industry theme as the mills and plants  
11 themselves, but there are places where only worker housing survives to represent vanished  
12 lumber mills. Two streets of one-story front-gabled worker houses built by the Hawley Lumber  
13 Company survive in Ontonagon Village; these may constitute a National Register historic  
14 district. There are four clusters of lumber mill worker housing in and near the village of Trout  
15 Creek, consisting mostly of one- and one-and-one-half-story front-gabled houses. On Weidman  
16 Street in Trout Creek, two rows of five houses apiece face each other across the street. Eight of  
17 these are one-and-one-half-story front-gabled worker houses. At the end of each row is a  
18 foursquare manager’s house. The mill owner’s house (destroyed by fire) once stood on a hill  
19 overlooking the street. These houses would contribute to a potential Trout Creek Historic  
20 District. In Donken, houses associated with the Vulcan lumber mill date to the 1950s and 1960s;  
21 most of these are in fair or poor condition and others lack integrity. Company houses at Chassell  
22 would contribute to a potential Chassell Historic District. Chassell was built as a company  
23 lumber town in the 1880s and remained so through 1928. The village of Chassell is significant  
24 as a company town for two of the Copper Country’s leading lumber companies. Intensive level  
25 survey will determine if there are enough contributing buildings to support a historic district.  
26 Even without company housing, a lumber town may be all that remains to represent a  
27 community’s historic role in the lumber industry. A number of lumber towns, especially those  
28 from the pine era, have disappeared completely. Of those that remain, Ewen and Bergland seem  
29 to be the most complete. Intensive level survey is needed to determine what remains from the  
30 time when these two villages functioned actively as lumber towns.

31  
32 (Photo—Hawley Lumber Company, Iron St (1-A), Ontonagon Village District)

33  
34  
35 **Industry: Quarrying**

36  
37 In contrast to the copper and lumber industries, sandstone quarrying took place in a relatively  
38 small part of the Keweenaw Peninsula and for a relatively short time. Yet during that time  
39 quarrying was a major industry, and sandstone from the quarries had a lasting impact on the  
40 region’s architecture.

41  
42 The sandstone that was quarried on the Keweenaw Peninsula is part of a band of sandstones that  
43 crop out along the south shore of Lake Superior from Duluth, Minnesota, to Munising, Michigan.  
44 In the east, the Jacobsville formation extends from the Keweenaw Peninsula eastward to  
45 Munising. The Jacobsville formation was named for the village of Jacobsville, which was  
46 established at a sandstone quarry near the mouth of the Portage River; the village, in turn, was

1 named for John H. Jacobs, one of the most successful quarry developers. In the west, the three  
 2 formations of the Bayfield group extend from the head of Chequamegon Bay westward to the St.  
 3 Louis River between Superior, Wisconsin, and Duluth. Ranging in color from red to brown, the  
 4 sandstones of Lake Superior's south shore were known as Lake Superior sandstone, brownstone,  
 5 or redstone. The Lake Superior sandstones were well suited to building—strong, durable, and  
 6 easily worked. As geologists began to explore the Lake Superior region they recognized the  
 7 economic potential of the local sandstone. In reports of their 1840 survey, geologists Douglass  
 8 Houghton and Bela Hubbard described the sandstones of the Upper Peninsula and noted their  
 9 value as a building material. By the 1860s, sandstone from the Jacobsville formation was being  
 10 quarried near Marquette and Munising.

11  
 12 In 1861 Englishman George Craig discovered deposits of sandstone on land east of the mouth of  
 13 the Portage River, also known as the Portage Entry.<sup>53</sup> Craig opened a quarry and established the  
 14 small settlement of Craig nearby, but his venture failed. In 1883 John H. Jacobs with other  
 15 investors formed the Wolf and Jacobs Company and opened a quarry on the shore of Keweenaw  
 16 Bay about a mile southeast of the Craig quarry. Born in Ohio in 1847, John Jacobs started  
 17 working in Ohio stone quarries at the age of eleven. In 1870 he came to Marquette to be  
 18 foreman of the Peter Wolf and Son Company quarry and soon became a key figure in the  
 19 Marquette sandstone industry, developing, managing, and investing in several different quarries.  
 20 In 1885 the Wolf and Son quarry produced 90,000 cubic feet of sandstone. By 1887 output  
 21 exceeded 300,000 cubic feet. In that year the company reorganized as Furst, Jacobs and  
 22 Company, with the Furst family of Chicago as investors. The community of Jacobsville grew up  
 23 near the quarry, populated primarily by Finnish quarry workers and their families. The  
 24 sandstone from the quarry was valued for its beautiful red color and fine texture. By  
 25 comparison, the sandstones quarried at Marquette and Chequamegon Bay were more brown in  
 26 color. There was a strong market for Lake Superior sandstone during the 1880s. Stone was the  
 27 material of choice for local landmarks such as banks, courthouses, city halls, and mansions. In  
 28 response to destructive fires, many cities passed ordinances requiring that buildings in central  
 29 business districts be constructed of brick or stone. In addition, the 1880s saw the rise in  
 30 popularity of the Richardsonian Romanesque style, a massive and colorful style derived from the  
 31 designs of Henry Hobson Richardson, one of America's greatest architects. Richardson's own  
 32 works were typically executed in rock-faced granite and sandstone. Nevertheless, there were  
 33 only a few other quarrying operations in the Copper Country during the 1880s. Notable among  
 34 them was the Torch Lake Sandstone Quarry near Lake Linden. Owned by C&H, the quarry  
 35 produced sandstone for the company's stamp mill and mine buildings.

36  
 37 During the 1890s, the strong market for Lake Superior sandstone led to an increase in quarrying  
 38 activity along the eastern shore of the Keweenaw Peninsula. Furst, Jacobs and Company  
 39 continued to lead the way; in 1890 its production peaked at 450,000 cubic feet. The following  
 40 year Jacobs left the firm, which reorganized as Furst, Neu and Company. In 1893, Furst, Neu  
 41 and Company consolidated with the Portage Entry Red Stone Company and the Portage Entry  
 42 Sandstone Company as the Portage Entry Quarries Company. J. W. Wyckoff of Marquette  
 43 became the company's manager. Within a few years the Portage Entry Quarries Company  
 44 operated several quarries and was the largest sandstone producer on Keweenaw Bay, probably

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<sup>53</sup> The term Portage Entry is used to refer to the mouth of the Portage River, to the village of Portage Entry on the west bank of the river, and to the land area in the vicinity of the river mouth.

1 the largest producer in the Lake Superior region. Wyckoff described the company as the  
2 Calumet and Hecla of commercial redstone. Because of the dominance of the Portage Entry  
3 Quarries Company, Jacobsville sandstone is often referred to as Portage Entry sandstone.  
4 Meanwhile, in 1892, John Jacobs organized the Kerber-Jacobs Redstone Company and opened a  
5 quarry about a mile north of Jacobsville. Between the quarry and the lakeshore the company  
6 built the community of Red Rock. Kerber-Jacobs quickly became second only to the Portage  
7 Entry Quarries Company in production.

8  
9 Other quarrying companies operating during the 1890s included the Excelsior Red Stone  
10 Company, the Michigan Red Stone Company, and the Lake Superior Redstone Company near  
11 Portage Entry and the Keweenaw Redstone Company and Superior Red Sandstone Company in  
12 northern Baraga County. In 1894 lumberman Charles Hebard of Pequaming opened a quarry at  
13 the headwaters of the Trap Rock River in Keweenaw County, the northernmost of the Copper  
14 Country sandstone quarries. The following year Hebard's Traverse Bay Red Stone Company  
15 built a railroad from the quarry to the lakeshore and shipped 6,500 cubic feet of sandstone. In  
16 1896 the company shipped 20,000 cubic feet of sandstone in its last year of operation. Later the  
17 Portage Entry Quarries Company operated the quarry, and the Mohawk Mining Company  
18 purchased the railroad to transport copper ore from its mine to its stamp mill at Gay.

19  
20 The Traverse Bay Red Stone Company was not the only quarry to close in 1896. The Panic of  
21 1893 precipitated the end of the Lake Superior sandstone industry, but it was not the only factor.  
22 When the depression of the 1890s eased, new construction techniques and architectural fashions  
23 left the brown and red sandstones behind. Steel and concrete were replacing traditional masonry  
24 construction. Where stone was used, architects favored light colored stones such as marble and  
25 limestone—the White City of the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago ushered in the new  
26 architectural fashion. Building stone shipments through the Sault locks document the decline of  
27 the Lake Superior sandstone industry from a peak of 47,973 tons shipped in 1890 to 4,670 tons  
28 in 1898. In 1897 John Jacobs sold his interest in the Kerber-Jacobs Redstone Company. At  
29 about that time the community of Jacobsville reached its population peak of approximately eight  
30 hundred people and then began to fall. Production declined at the quarries that remained open.  
31 In 1909 the Portage Entry Quarries Company ceased operations because there was no longer a  
32 market for “colored stone.”

33  
34 During the 1880s and 1890s, sandstone from the quarries at Portage Entry was used to construct  
35 buildings as far south as New Orleans, as far west as Omaha, as far north as Montreal, and as far  
36 east as New York City; it was even used for a bank in Liverpool, England. In the Copper  
37 Country, those decades were years of rapid growth, and in Houghton County especially, the red  
38 sandstone was used so frequently and prominently for banks, department stores, village halls,  
39 churches, industrial buildings, fine homes, and more that it played a large role in shaping the  
40 distinctive character of the region's architecture.

41  
42 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*

43  
44 The industrial landscapes of quarrying have disappeared; all that remain are several small lakes  
45 and ponds in the Portage Entry area that are abandoned quarries. These do not retain integrity as  
46 quarries. The scattering of houses in the vicinity of Jacobsville does not convey the village of

1 eight hundred people that once stood there. The 1888 Jacobsville Finnish Lutheran Church, the  
2 Jacobsville Cemetery, and probably the Jacobsville School date to the years when the quarries  
3 were active, but the cemetery and buildings by themselves are not strong enough representatives  
4 of the quarrying industry to be National Register eligible under the theme of quarrying. The  
5 church is listed in the National Register for its significance in representing Finnish Lutheran  
6 culture in northern Michigan.

7  
8 (Photo—Quarry Lake, Red Rock Rd (2-A), Jacobsville District)  
9

## 10 11 **Landscape Architecture**

12  
13 The landscape architecture theme covers landscapes that were consciously designed according to  
14 design principles or traditions. The designer may be a landscape architect, another design  
15 professional, or an amateur. Villages and locations are the most common types of designed  
16 landscapes in the Copper Country. Not all villages and locations were consciously designed;  
17 some, particularly in the early years of settlement, grew organically rather than according to a  
18 plan. Most, however, were platted or laid out according to a rectangular grid plan, which was  
19 introduced on the eastern seaboard in the late seventeenth century and became standard for  
20 community layout as settlement expanded westward. Two of the Copper Country's earliest  
21 villages, Eagle Harbor and Ontonagon, were laid out in a grid plan. Where needed, the grid was  
22 altered to fit the local topography. At mine locations, mine shafts determined where mine  
23 buildings and residential neighborhoods would be located. Where there were landscape features  
24 such as rivers and hills, the straight lines of the grid were replaced by an irregular street pattern  
25 fitted to these features.

26  
27 The Copper Range Consolidated Copper Company's post-World War II company town of White  
28 Pine stands in sharp contrast to the Copper Country's typical grid-plan communities. Copper  
29 Range hired Pace Associates of Chicago to design a modern, model company town for workers  
30 at its new White Pine mine. Construction began in 1952. The plan for White Pine used a  
31 curvilinear street plan characteristic of post-World War II suburbs. It included several types of  
32 housing, schools, a hospital, churches, and a town center with a shopping center, gas station,  
33 high school, and green space. But White Pine did not attract enough residents to support  
34 construction of all of these features, and in 1970 Copper Range hired Unlimited Development to  
35 develop a new master plan intended to make White Pine a more desirable place to live. The new  
36 master plan called for more housing, schools, and churches; a shopping center, a man-made lake  
37 and park, golf course, library, exhibition hall, motel, restaurant, theater, and bowling alley. The  
38 shopping mall, motel, restaurant, and bowling alley were built, but not much else. In the early  
39 1970s White Pine had about fifteen hundred residents, far short of the projected five thousand.

40  
41 Urban parks and street plantings are another aspect of community design and planning. Urban  
42 parks were usually modest in size and were found in villages more often than in locations. For  
43 example, in Laurium there are two small parks: Gipp Park (1935), which has a cobblestone  
44 monument to George Gipp, and Daniell Park (ca. 1937), which has a bandstand. Also in  
45 Laurium, trees were planted on residential streets according to a 1908 tree planting plan prepared  
46 by village engineer Donald Scott. The plan specified trees at intervals of sixteen feet eight

1 inches on the grass lawn between the sidewalk and the street—thirty-seven trees on each side of  
2 the street per block. Mature street trees planted according to this plan are found through much of  
3 Laurium today. Perhaps the most significant designed landscape in the Copper Country is  
4 Calumet’s Agassiz Park, designed by Warren H. Manning, one of the country’s premiere  
5 landscape architects. Manning first came to Calumet in about 1915 to design a garden for the  
6 home of C&H general manager James MacNaughton. A few years later Manning was hired to  
7 design a park to hold a statue of deceased company president Alexander Agassiz by the noted  
8 American sculptor Paul Wayland Bartlett. The park site was an open area between the C&H  
9 mines and the village of Calumet (known as Red Jacket until 1929). Manning’s design for  
10 Agassiz Park included tree-lined paths leading to the statue; athletic fields; and planting beds  
11 with shrubs and flowering plants. Manning employed Helen Bullard, an early and important  
12 woman in the field of landscape architecture, to oversee the park’s construction. After the park  
13 was dedicated in 1923, Manning came to Calumet twice a year to supervise park maintenance  
14 and work on other projects for C&H, including landscape plans for the homes of company  
15 officials and grounds for the high school and company hospital. On Calumet Avenue, Manning  
16 directed the replacement of fences around house lots with privet hedges; some of these hedges  
17 remain today. C&H terminated Manning’s contract in 1932, as the company could no longer  
18 afford his services. Some designed landscapes were built using federal relief funds, such as the  
19 stone staircase in East Hancock.

20  
21 There are also township, county, state, and national parks in the Copper Country. All of these  
22 were designed to some degree. Of the six state parks in the survey area, significant designed  
23 landscapes have been identified at two of them—Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park  
24 and Fort Wilkins Historic State Park. Fort Wilkins became a state park in 1923. During the late  
25 1920s, a parking area, picnic area, and the east campground were developed. Additional  
26 improvements were made to these areas during the late 1930s and early 1940s. In addition to  
27 layout, rows of trees, buildings, and small-scale features such as fire rings and concrete curbs are  
28 some of the historic features of the Fort Wilkins park landscapes. Porcupine Mountains State  
29 Park was established in 1945. A hiking trail and cabin system, campground, ski area, service  
30 area, and Lake of the Clouds overlook were constructed in the late 1940s.

31  
32 Also of note are the scenic drives and roadside parks that the Keweenaw County Road  
33 Commission built during the 1930s using federal relief funds. The commission’s scenic  
34 overlooks, parks, and roads are distinguished by post and chain guard rails and rustic directional  
35 and interpretive signs. Its two biggest projects were Lakeshore Drive and Brockway Mountain  
36 Drive, both begun in 1933. On Lakeshore Drive (M-26) between Eagle Harbor and Copper  
37 Harbor, Esrey and Hebard roadside parks were designed to take advantage of the natural terrain  
38 and views. At Esrey Park (1933), steps and a fireplace are cut into a bedrock outcrop. The idea  
39 for Brockway Mountain Drive came from Warren Manning, who suggested a scenic summit  
40 highway when he was visiting the Copper Country in the 1920s. In addition to breathtaking  
41 scenic overlooks and the characteristic guard rails and rustic signs, two types of distinctive stone  
42 walls line sections of the roadway.

43  
44 College campuses are another type of designed landscape, traditionally consisting of buildings  
45 arranged around one or more quadrangles. According to historian Arthur Thurner, landscape  
46 artists designed a campus for the Michigan College of Mines in Houghton by 1908. Early views

1 show the buildings facing, but set back from, College Avenue, with paths crossing the grassy  
2 area between the buildings and College Avenue and trees lining the avenue. In 1959, Swanson  
3 Associates of Bloomfield Hills produced a new campus development plan for the rapidly  
4 growing college, then known as the Michigan College of Mining and Technology. This plan  
5 called for expansion of the crowded campus across College Avenue (U.S. 41) and into the  
6 Hubbell Heights tract. In 1966, Johnson, Johnson & Roy of Ann Arbor prepared yet another  
7 development plan for what was by then Michigan Technological University. Key elements of  
8 Johnson, Johnson & Roy's recommendations were relocating College Avenue/U.S. 41 outside of  
9 the main academic area and replacing it with open space that included an efficient pedestrian  
10 circulation pattern, with buildings around the edges of the open space. These recommendations  
11 were implemented: U.S. 41 was relocated to the south of the main campus and several of the  
12 college's original buildings were demolished and replaced with new buildings along the edges of  
13 what was now a central open space.

14  
15 At Suomi College (now Finlandia University) in Hancock, Eliel and Eero Saarinen and J. R. F.  
16 Swanson prepared a plan for future campus development in 1938, when they were designing  
17 Nikander Hall. Until the 1960s, however, Nikander Hall and Old Main were the college's only  
18 two buildings. By the time three more buildings were constructed in the 1960s, there was little  
19 evidence of the axial plan that Saarinen and Swanson presented.

20  
21 Many cemeteries in the Copper Country, particularly in the early years of settlement, developed  
22 organically rather than according to a pre-conceived plan. By the late nineteenth century,  
23 cemeteries were commonly laid out with rectangular blocks divided into lots; family plots  
24 outlined with curbs, walls, or fences reflect these divisions. By then, some cemeteries were  
25 landscaped with cedar, Lombardy poplar, or maple trees. Historic photos suggest that Lakeview  
26 Cemetery (1894) west of Calumet incorporated aspects of rural cemetery design, with  
27 naturalistic plantings, but twenty years later the design was more formal, with canopy trees and  
28 manicured lawns.

29  
30 The first golf courses were built in the U.S. in the 1880s and the first in Michigan in the 1890s.  
31 The Les Cheneaux Golf Course at Cedarville, opened in 1898, is the oldest golf course in the  
32 Upper Peninsula. Near Houghton, Portage Lake Golf Course, opened in 1902, is a relatively  
33 early golf course and the oldest in the Copper Country. Four additional golf courses were built  
34 in the Copper Country before 1970: the Calumet Golf Club (1925), Keweenaw Mountain Lodge  
35 (1935), Ontonagon Golf Course (1959), and Wyandotte Hills Golf Course (1960).

### 36 37 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*

38  
39 Villages, locations, parks, scenic drives, college campuses, cemeteries, and golf courses are all  
40 types of designed landscapes found in the Copper Country. These landscapes may have  
41 significance under themes such as social history, education, or entertainment/recreation, but they  
42 are not significant under the landscape architecture theme unless the landscape design itself has  
43 significance. Under Criterion C in the area of landscape architecture, a designed landscape may  
44 be significant as an early, rare, or excellent example of a landscape type; for its high artistic  
45 value; or as the work of a master designer. In White Pine, the street layout is significant as a  
46 type of community planning that is unique in the Copper Country. Agassiz Park in Calumet is

1 significant as the work of master landscape architect Warren Manning. Park landscapes in Fort  
2 Wilkins Historic State Park and Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park are significant as  
3 excellent examples of state park landscapes from the 1920s and 1940s that rarely survive without  
4 major alterations. Brockway Mountain Drive is one of only two scenic drives in the Keweenaw  
5 and is significant for its high artistic value.  
6

7 To be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, designed landscapes must  
8 have integrity as well as significance. Features that contribute to a landscape’s historic character  
9 include spatial relationships, vegetation, original property boundary, topography, site  
10 furnishings, design intent, architectural features, and circulation system. A landscape need not  
11 retain all of these features, but it must retain enough so that its design intent and visual effect are  
12 recognizable. At White Pine, the design and layout of the community is highly intact. Agassiz  
13 Park has not fared as well. The park retains tree-lined paths and tall poplars along its northeast  
14 border. But the park’s integrity has been significantly compromised: the statue of Alexander  
15 Agassiz has been moved out of the park, and new buildings have been constructed within park  
16 boundaries—a grocery store, office building, public restroom facility, four townhouses, and two  
17 senior apartment buildings. In her 1998 report on historic resources in Michigan’s state parks,  
18 Amy Arnold identified an eligible historic district encompassing the road and trail system and  
19 service area at Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park; the ski area was not included  
20 because of alterations. At Fort Wilkins, Arnold identified a historic district containing the  
21 parking and picnic areas and east campground. Brockway Mountain Drive retains all of the  
22 major elements of its designed landscape, including its historic road pattern, scenic overlooks  
23 and views, and small scale features such as guard rails, walls, and rustic signs, though some of  
24 the latter have been replaced with duplicates. The Sky Top Inn at the summit was replaced in  
25 1966, but this is a relatively small change in the context of the overall landscape. The Michigan  
26 State Historic Preservation Office has determined that Brockway Mountain Drive is eligible for  
27 the National Register. Esrey and Hebard parks appear to retain integrity and are significant as  
28 excellent examples of rustic roadside parks. The integrity of Lakeshore Drive as a whole,  
29 however, has been compromised by recent development. Additional research is needed to  
30 evaluate the eligibility of other parks as well as cemeteries and golf courses.  
31

32 (Photo—Brockway Mountain Drive (4), Copper Harbor District)  
33  
34

### 35 **Maritime History** 36

37 Maritime history is a multifaceted theme that encompasses shipping, passenger travel, aids to  
38 navigation, lifesaving, and fishing. Water transportation was the primary means of travel to and  
39 from the Copper Country until the 1880s. In May 1843 the schooner *Algonquin* brought the first  
40 mining prospectors to Copper Harbor. The *Algonquin* was one of only two sailing ships on Lake  
41 Superior at that time; the other was the *John Jacob Astor*, which was wrecked at Copper Harbor  
42 during a storm in 1844. The next year additional sailing ships were portaged around the Sault  
43 Ste. Marie rapids along with the steamer *Independence*, the first steamer on Lake Superior.  
44 There were natural harbors at Copper Harbor and Eagle Harbor, but at Eagle River and  
45 Ontonagon, people and freight were transferred to smaller watercraft to be brought to shore. The  
46 reliance on water transportation posed hardships for the Copper Country’s young communities.

1 The shipping season was only from late April or early May until late October or November, and  
 2 the number and size of ships was limited by the rapids at the Sault. With copper and iron mining  
 3 in the Upper Peninsula growing in importance, Congress authorized construction of a canal and  
 4 locks at the Sault. The St. Mary's Falls Ship canal Company began building the canal in 1853;  
 5 the company was paid with land grants. On June 18, 1855, the steamer *Illinois* was the first ship  
 6 to pass through the canal. With the opening of the Sault canal, traffic on Lake Superior quickly  
 7 increased, and the cost of shipping dropped.

8  
 9 In the Copper Country, however, a new traffic bottleneck emerged when copper mines were  
 10 opened in the area around Portage Lake, and the villages of Houghton and Hancock were  
 11 established. Lake ships could not navigate the Portage River, so freight to and from Houghton  
 12 and Hancock had to be transshipped in small boats, a time consuming and costly process. Local  
 13 merchants and mining companies raised funds to dredge and straighten the Portage River; the  
 14 improved shipping channel that opened in 1861 allowed lake ships to dock at Houghton and  
 15 Hancock. The next action was to create a northern entry to Portage Lake by cutting a canal  
 16 through from Lake Superior. The Lake Superior Ship Canal Company built the canal between  
 17 1868 and 1873; as with the Sault canal, the government paid the company with land grants. The  
 18 final action, undertaken by the mining companies in the early 1870s, was to dredge a channel  
 19 between Portage and Torch lakes, making Torch Lake accessible to lake ships.

20  
 21 Even after the 1880s, when railroads connected the Copper Country to the outside world,  
 22 steamers continued to transport passengers and freight between communities on the Keweenaw  
 23 Peninsula. Lake shipping remained important as the cheapest way to transport bulk freight such  
 24 as copper ingots. By then sailing ships were disappearing, with the exception of the schooner  
 25 barge—a truncated schooner designed to be towed by a steamer—that was popular for shipping  
 26 lumber. In Baraga, the Nestor Lumber Company built the schooner barges *George Nester* [sic]  
 27 and *Mary N. Bourke* in the late 1880s. Within ten years, however, bulk freighters were rapidly  
 28 making schooner barges obsolete. The *Robert J. Hackett*, the first bulk freighter, was launched  
 29 in 1869; the *Spokane*, the first Great Lakes bulk freighter built of steel, was launched in 1886.  
 30 Steel construction allowed freighters to grow to previously unimaginable sizes; by the end of the  
 31 nineteenth century there were freighters with capacities exceeding six thousand tons. Lake  
 32 Superior shipping continued to grow in the twentieth century. The number of passages through  
 33 the Sault peaked at 25,407 in 1916, perhaps not coincidentally the year of peak copper  
 34 production in the Keweenaw. The number of tons that were shipped through the Sault continued  
 35 to increase to a peak of 98,744,000 tons in 1955.<sup>54</sup> Passenger travel declined more rapidly than  
 36 freight shipping, but it was not until 1966 that the last passenger ship docked at Hancock.

37  
 38 Travel on Lake Superior was hazardous. In 1839 and 1840 two American Fur Company fishing  
 39 schooners were wrecked on Isle Royale. The *John Jacob Astor* was the first of ten ships  
 40 wrecked off the shore of the Keweenaw Peninsula between 1844 and 1865. Lighthouses and  
 41 other aids to navigation helped ships to navigate around dangerous shoals and into harbors. The  
 42 first five lighthouses on Lake Superior were all built to guide travel to and from the copper  
 43 mines. The first two were placed in service in 1849, at Whitefish Point, near the southeastern  
 44 end of Lake Superior, and Copper Harbor. These were followed by lighthouses on Manitou

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<sup>54</sup> Jane C. Busch, *People and Places: A Human History of the Apostle Islands* (Omaha: National Park Service, 2008), 120–21.

1 Island (1850), Eagle Harbor (1851), and Ontonagon (1852). The next lighthouse, at Marquette  
 2 (1853), served the iron mines, but lighthouse construction continued apace in the Copper  
 3 Country, with lighthouses at Eagle River (1854), and Rock Harbor (1855) on Isle Royale.  
 4 Construction of a lighthouse at the mouth of the Portage River in 1855 was a foresighted action  
 5 anticipating the growth of traffic to Portage Lake. During the 1860s, the Lighthouse Board  
 6 began replacing the first generation of lighthouses with more substantial structures, while it  
 7 continued building new. Between 1865 and 1919, eight new light stations were established on  
 8 the Keweenaw Peninsula, plus one on Gull Rock off the tip of the peninsula, one on Isle Royale,  
 9 and two on the neighboring Menagerie and Passage islands. The first fog signal was installed in  
 10 1895 at the Eagle Harbor Light Station. The Lighthouse Service became part of the U.S. Coast  
 11 Guard in 1939. Over the next few decades the Coast Guard automated a number of stations,  
 12 decommissioned others, and staffed several stations with Coast Guard crews. The last manned  
 13 light station was Eagle Harbor, which was automated in 1982.

14  
 15 In all, nineteen light stations were constructed in the Copper Country.<sup>55</sup> Lighthouses built during  
 16 the nineteenth century were usually constructed of brick or stone; a few were wood frame. The  
 17 skeletal iron light tower built on Manitou Island in 1861 is one of the two oldest iron light towers  
 18 on the Great Lakes.<sup>56</sup> Several steel towers were built in the twentieth century. Keeper's  
 19 dwellings were usually attached to the light tower; in the remote Rock of Ages lighthouse off of  
 20 Isle Royale, the keepers lived in the lower levels of the light tower. Equipment at the light  
 21 stations was updated as new technology was introduced. Considering that the first light station  
 22 was built in 1849, there were many changes, including kerosene lamps, followed by gas and  
 23 electricity; fog signals, first steam whistles and then air diaphones; and radio equipment, not to  
 24 mention updated appliances and indoor plumbing in the dwellings. Fog signals were an  
 25 important advance in maritime safety—in addition to fog caused by the lake effect, smoke from  
 26 forest fires was a frequent problem in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

27  
 28 There were two lifesaving stations in the Copper Country, one at the northern end of the Portage  
 29 Lake Ship Canal and the other at Eagle Harbor. The federal government built its first lifesaving  
 30 stations in 1848. The U.S. Revenue Marine managed the stations until 1878, when the U.S. Life-  
 31 Saving Service was established as a separate agency. By then the network of lifesaving stations  
 32 included the Great Lakes. The first four lifesaving stations on Lake Superior were built in 1876  
 33 between Whitefish Point and Munising, an area known as the shipwreck coast. The fifth was  
 34 built in 1885 at the north end of the Portage Lake Ship Canal, about three-quarters of a mile from  
 35 the entrance to the canal. In 1902 this station was replaced by a new station with more buildings  
 36 and a lookout tower. The Eagle Harbor Lifesaving Station was built in 1912, across Eagle  
 37 Harbor from the village and the Eagle Harbor Lighthouse. In November 1913 the crews from  
 38 both the Eagle Harbor and Portage stations participated in a famous rescue, when the steamer *L.*  
 39 *C. Waldo* was driven onto Gull Rock and broke in half. The lifesaving crews were able to save  
 40 the entire ship's company of twenty-four people and a dog, and as a result were awarded the  
 41 Gold Lifesaving Medal for heroism, the highest award of the Life-Saving Service.

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<sup>55</sup> This includes two range light stations, one at Copper Harbor and one at Eagle Harbor. The 1874 and 1950 Keweenaw Waterway Upper Entrance Lights are counted as one station, although in 1950 the location was shifted from the west bank of the canal to the end of the breakwater.

<sup>56</sup> The other was built the same year at Whitefish Point.

1 In 1915 the Life-Saving Service and the Revenue Cutter Service were merged to create the U.S.  
 2 Coast Guard, which then took charge of the lifesaving stations. In 1935 the north entrance to the  
 3 Portage Lake Ship Canal was widened, necessitating the removal of the Portage Lifesaving  
 4 Station to a new location farther south. One boathouse was moved from the 1902 station; new  
 5 buildings included a station building, crew quarters, and a three-stall boathouse in the Colonial  
 6 Revival style favored by the federal government at that time. The Eagle Harbor station  
 7 continued in operation until 1950, and the Portage station until 1990; in 1997 a new Coast Guard  
 8 station was built at Dollar Bay.

9  
 10 Fishing for food was a necessary activity for the Lake Superior Ojibwa. Commercial fishing on  
 11 Lake Superior began in 1836, when the American Fur Company established a fishing station at  
 12 La Pointe, followed by Grand Portage and—in 1837—Isle Royale; seven smaller stations  
 13 followed. By 1839 the company employed thirty-three fishermen on Isle Royale. Whitefish and  
 14 lake trout formed the bulk of the catch; Lake Superior whitefish had already acquired a  
 15 reputation for excellence. The American Fur Company’s fishing enterprise was quite  
 16 productive—the yield increased every year, reaching five thousand barrels in 1839. But the  
 17 market collapsed in the late 1830s, and the company ended its commercial fishing in 1841. In  
 18 1842 another trading company, the Cleveland North Western Lake Company, sent a fishing party  
 19 on the schooner *Algonquin* into Copper Harbor, to test the harbor as a commercial fishing site.  
 20 But when the *Algonquin* returned in September, the fishermen had produced only thirty barrels  
 21 of fish. Ironically, just a few years after the American Fur Company ended its fishing venture,  
 22 the growth of copper mining and associated communities created a local market for fish. In 1847  
 23 Ransom Sheldon and Columbus C. Douglas started a trading and fishing business at the mouth of  
 24 the Portage River, beginning a long history of successful commercial fishing in that vicinity.  
 25 Commercial fishing grew modestly: in addition to the Portage River entry, fishermen sailed from  
 26 several locations on Isle Royale, from the village of Ontonagon, and likely from other ports.  
 27 Most of the fishermen were French Canadian, Ojibwa, or Métis, of mixed French Canadian and  
 28 Indian ancestry. In 1874 Michigan’s state census counted seventy-five fishermen, hunters, and  
 29 trappers in Ontonagon, Houghton, and Keweenaw counties, including Isle Royale.<sup>57</sup>

30  
 31 In the 1880s, commercial fishing on Lake Superior increased dramatically: the number of  
 32 fishermen and the amount of the catch more than doubled between 1880 and 1885. The coming  
 33 of railroads to the region and refrigerated rail cars that allowed fish to be shipped fresh instead of  
 34 salted were important factors in this growth. Another reason was population growth, and thus  
 35 market growth, in the Lake Superior region. In 1885 whitefish was the leading fish, followed by  
 36 lake trout and then herring. In that year, fishermen in Keweenaw, Houghton, and Ontonagon  
 37 counties caught a combined total of 490,000 pounds of fish, 10 percent of the total catch of  
 38 4,909,730 pounds from the U.S. waters of Lake Superior. The herring catch from Keweenaw  
 39 and Houghton counties, however, was unusually high: at 140,000 pounds it accounted for half of  
 40 the total U.S. catch from Lake Superior.<sup>58</sup> Nearly all of this came from Craig, a Finnish fishing  
 41 village of about thirty or forty families on the east side of the Portage River entry.

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<sup>57</sup> Lankton, *Beyond the Boundaries*, 122. Since the census did not include “uncivilized Indians,” it may have undercounted the number of fishermen.

<sup>58</sup> U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries, *Report of the Commissioner for 1887* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1891), 40. A fisherman’s catch was counted at his home port; thus, the Isle Royale catch would be counted with Duluth, Bayfield, or Houghton.

1 Approximately 115 fishermen worked on the Keweenaw Peninsula, including about sixty at  
2 Craig, nineteen at Houghton and Hancock, ten at Ontonagon, eight at Eagle River, and six at  
3 Eagle Harbor. These were the home ports of the fishermen, not necessarily where they were  
4 fishing; many of them fished along the shores of Keweenaw Bay and some fished as far away as  
5 Isle Royale. Finnish immigrants predominated, followed by French Canadians and Swedes and a  
6 few Ojibwa and Métis. The fishermen worked independently, usually selling their fish to local  
7 dealers for shipment to Chicago and other Great Lakes ports or to peddlers who sold them in the  
8 mining communities. Commercial fishing on Isle Royale was quite different than on the  
9 Keweenaw Peninsula. In the early 1880s most of the Isle Royale fishermen had their home ports  
10 in Bayfield, Wisconsin; Duluth; and Houghton and went to Isle Royale during the fishing season,  
11 setting up fishing camps on the island. The number of fishing crews varied from year to year,  
12 ranging from about twenty to sixty or more. The fishermen were predominantly Norwegian,  
13 Swedish, or Finland Swedes, who came from Finland but spoke Swedish. Most of them worked  
14 for large fish dealers, which sent fish tugs to the island at regular intervals to deliver supplies and  
15 collect fish.

16  
17 The fishing industry continued to grow in the 1890s and early twentieth century, despite a crisis  
18 in the 1890s when the whitefish population crashed. Overfishing was the primary culprit, but  
19 habitat degradation from mining and lumbering was a contributing factor. By the early 1900s the  
20 industry had recovered, with lake trout and herring taking the place of whitefish. The herring  
21 catch soon exceeded the lake trout catch, although the latter commanded a higher price. During  
22 the 1890s the Finnish fishing village of Craig relocated to the west side of the Portage River  
23 entry, where it became known as Portage Entry and continued to play a prominent role in  
24 commercial fishing. By the 1920s there were also enclaves of Finnish fishermen and their  
25 families at Rabbit Bay, Big Traverse, and Gay on the eastern shore of the peninsula. In 1922, the  
26 U.S. Bureau of Fisheries counted a total of 124 fishermen in Keweenaw, Houghton, and  
27 Ontonagon counties—only a small increase over 1885. The amount of the catch increased more  
28 significantly, to a total of 662,335 pounds of fish for the three counties, or 6 percent of the U.S.  
29 Lake Superior total of 10,988,020 pounds.<sup>59</sup> Improved technology such as boats with gasoline  
30 engines and gas-powered mechanical gill net lifters helped to increase the yield. Commercial  
31 fishing on Isle Royale was at its peak during these years; in the 1920s more than 100 fishermen  
32 fished from the island. They came from Duluth and other locations on Minnesota's North Shore;  
33 A. Booth and Company was the largest of the fish dealers that took the catch to Duluth.  
34 Houghton and Ontonagon were counted among Lake Superior's important fishing centers on the  
35 American side, along with Sault Ste. Marie, Grand Marais, Munising, Marquette, Bayfield, and  
36 Duluth. Fishing boats were built on Isle Royale and a number of locations on the Keweenaw  
37 Peninsula; Chassell was the leader in this small but important local industry.

38  
39 The Depression brought hard times to the Great Lakes fishing industry, not only because of  
40 falling prices but also because of declining fish populations. A number of fish dealers went out  
41 of business during the 1930s, and A. Booth and Company ended its Isle Royale operation. The  
42 number of fishermen on Isle Royale declined sharply during the 1930s, in part because of the  
43 Depression, but also because of the establishment of Isle Royale National Park, which created a  
44 less hospitable climate for commercial fishermen. On the Keweenaw Peninsula, however, the

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<sup>59</sup> Department of Commerce, Bureau of Fisheries, *Report of the United States Commissioner of Fisheries for the Fiscal Year 1924* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1925), 283, 286–87.

1 number of fishermen increased during the 1930s. As with farming, even if a fisherman couldn't  
 2 make a profit, he could still feed his family. In 1941, there were eighteen fishing ports on the  
 3 Keweenaw Peninsula, beginning at Baraga in the southeast and continuing around the tip to  
 4 Ontonagon in the southwest. During the early 1940s Finnish fishermen formed a cooperative,  
 5 the Northern Co-Operative Company (later Lake Superior Fisheries), in Hancock, to process and  
 6 market their fish. The number of fishermen on the Keweenaw Peninsula continued to grow  
 7 during the 1940s, when the war increased the demand for fish, and most fishermen were exempt  
 8 from the draft. Herring especially was a profitable business during the 1940s. Most of the  
 9 herring were caught during the three- to four-week herring run from late October to early  
 10 December. In December 1949, the *Daily Mining Gazette* reported that the herring run that year  
 11 would bring one million dollars to the Keweenaw Peninsula, with six companies employing four  
 12 hundred people to catch, process, and ship herring.<sup>60</sup>

13  
 14 Commercial fishing in the Copper Country began to decline in the 1950s, as it did all over Lake  
 15 Superior. Fish populations that were already stressed by overfishing were devastated by the  
 16 parasitic sea lamprey, which came to Lake Superior from the lower lakes and preyed on large  
 17 fish such as lake trout and whitefish. Between 1949 and 1961, the annual lake trout catch on  
 18 Lake Superior decreased by 92 percent, while the whitefish catch decreased by more than 50  
 19 percent.<sup>61</sup> The government initiated a lamprey control program, which substantially reduced the  
 20 lamprey population by the early 1960s; this was accompanied by a lake trout stocking program.  
 21 In 1962 authorities closed commercial lake trout fishing on Lake Superior to give the trout time  
 22 to recover. In 1967 commercial lake trout fishing was reopened, but with a strict quota in place.  
 23 Meanwhile, the herring population declined, in part because of overfishing but also because of  
 24 competition from rainbow smelt, another newcomer to Lake Superior. Given these  
 25 circumstances, the Copper Country's commercial fishermen either retired or found other work;  
 26 very few remained in the business by the late 1960s.

### 27 28 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*

29  
 30 Lighthouses are the most prominent resources that represent the maritime history theme. All of  
 31 the nineteen light stations built in the Copper Country are extant, although the 1874 Keweenaw  
 32 Waterway Upper Entrance Light on the west bank of the canal was replaced in 1950 by a light  
 33 tower at the end of the breakwater, arguably a separate station. Many of the light stations have  
 34 second generation lighthouses. The oldest building at a light station is the 1849 keeper's house  
 35 at the Copper Harbor Light Station. The oldest lighthouse is the 1855 Rock Harbor Lighthouse,  
 36 one of the oldest on the Great Lakes. In addition to light towers and keeper's dwellings (usually  
 37 but not always attached to the tower), buildings and structures found at light stations include fog  
 38 signal buildings, oil houses, privies, boathouses, garages, barns, docks, and a tramway (Passage  
 39 Island). Ten of the nineteen light stations are listed in the National Register of Historic Places,  
 40 nine of these in Keweenaw County and one in Ontonagon County. Because of this relatively  
 41 large number, eligible lighthouses should be highly intact, without additions or other alterations  
 42 that obscure their historic appearance. The presence of fog signal buildings, oil houses, and  
 43 other auxiliary buildings augments a station's significance.

44

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<sup>60</sup> "Herring Run is Worth Million Dollars to Copper Country," *Daily Mining Gazette*, December 8, 1949.

<sup>61</sup> Busch, *People and Places*, 205.

1 Of the two lifesaving stations that existed on the Keweenaw Peninsula, only the Portage station  
2 is intact. At the Eagle Harbor Lifesaving Station, the boathouse built in 1938 is the sole  
3 surviving building. It has been listed in the National Register as the most intact of the few  
4 surviving examples of the 1930s Coast Guard “Roosevelt” standard design three-bay boathouses  
5 in Michigan. The lookout tower from the Eagle Harbor station was moved to Copper Falls Park,  
6 where it stands today. The 1935 Portage Lifesaving Station is significant as the only intact  
7 lifesaving station in the Copper Country; it retains all of its major buildings, which in turn retain  
8 their historic appearance.

9  
10 Fishing villages and enclaves and seasonal fishing camps are important remnants of the  
11 commercial fishing industry in the Copper Country. A fishery typically consisted of small  
12 dwellings, storage sheds, a net house, a fish house, a dock, and net reels for drying nets. Some  
13 also had an ice house. In order to be National Register eligible under the theme of maritime  
14 history, the distinctive building types associated with fishing must be present; dwellings only are  
15 not sufficient. The Big Traverse Bay Historic District consisting of the historic Finnish fishing  
16 village of Big Traverse is listed in the National Register. There are remnants of fishing enclaves  
17 at Portage Entry, Rabbit Bay, Betsy, Birch Point (Smith Fishery), and possibly other locations on  
18 the Keweenaw Peninsula; additional research is needed to determine whether these enclaves  
19 retain their historic fishing buildings. In their 1999 study of historic structures at Isle Royale  
20 National Park, Kathryn Franks and Arnold Alanen found that ten fishing camps survived out of  
21 more than fifty that once existed. Of these ten, five had integrity and one—the Edisen Fishery—  
22 was listed in the National Register.<sup>62</sup> The high rate of loss was due to abandonment and  
23 deterioration as well as National Park Service policy of burning camps that were no longer  
24 actively used for fishing. In addition to fishing communities and camps, fishing sheds on the  
25 bank of the Ontonagon River in Ontonagon Village are significant and possibly National  
26 Register eligible as the only surviving resources associated with that historic fishing port.  
27 Buildings that housed fish dealers or boat builders were not identified during the survey, but it’s  
28 possible that some still exist.

29  
30 Harbor improvements including docks, piers, and breakwalls are additional property types  
31 associated with maritime history. The National Register-listed Ontonagon Harbor Piers Historic  
32 District consists of two piers built beginning in the 1860s that create a shipping channel from  
33 Lake Superior into the Ontonagon River. The Keweenaw Waterway, consisting of the Portage  
34 Lake Ship Canal, Portage Lake, Torch Lake, and the Portage River, is exceptionally significant  
35 for its key role in improving shipping and supporting the development of the copper industry  
36 beginning in the 1860s. The waterway has been dredged periodically, but this has not noticeably  
37 altered its historic appearance.

38  
39 (Photo—Keweenaw Waterway Lower Entrance Light Station, White City Rd (2-B), Jacobsville  
40 District)

41  
42  
43 **Military**

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<sup>62</sup> Kathryn E. Franks and Arnold R. Alanen, “Historic Structures at Isle Royale National Park: Historic Contexts and Associated Property Types” (January 1999), cited in Philip V. Scarpino, “Cultural Resources on Isle Royale National Park: An Historic Context” (Indianapolis: Indiana University/Purdue University, 2010), 51.

1  
2 Fort Wilkins, built in 1844, was the first military establishment in the Copper Country and the  
3 northernmost in a line of forts that extended to the Gulf of Mexico. The copper rush had just  
4 begun, and the U.S. Army built Fort Wilkins near Copper Harbor to keep law and order, enforce  
5 federal authority over land claims, and protect incoming prospectors from the Ojibwa. Just over  
6 one hundred infantry troops manned the fort at first. But the anticipated Ojibwa attacks and civil  
7 unrest never came, and in 1845 the troops at Fort Wilkins were reduced by half. In 1846 the fort  
8 was vacated. The army reoccupied the fort in 1867 and then abandoned it for good in 1870. Fort  
9 Wilkins today consists of twenty-one log or frame buildings built primarily in 1844; some are  
10 reconstructions. Most of the buildings are arranged around the parade grounds within wooden  
11 palisade walls. The fort cemetery is east of the fort proper.

12  
13 Fort Wilkins was nearly cut off from the rest of the country during the winter when Lake  
14 Superior was frozen. Proposals to build an overland wagon road from Fort Wilkins to Fort  
15 Howard in Green Bay, Wisconsin, were put forward beginning in 1844. But there was no action  
16 until the Civil War was well underway. Congress authorized funds for a Military Road for  
17 transportation of troops, mail, and supplies in 1863; construction began soon after, but the final  
18 segment was not completed until 1873. Although the road never served a military purpose, it did  
19 become an important transportation route through the Copper Country.

20  
21 More than eight hundred men from the Copper Country fought for the Union during the Civil  
22 War, so many that their departure created a labor shortage in the copper mines. After the Civil  
23 War many companies disbanded, but the Franco-Prussian War of 1870 prompted the Michigan  
24 Legislature, like other states, to establish the Michigan State Troops, composed of volunteer  
25 companies from around the state. The Calumet Light Guard was organized in 1880 and became  
26 part of the Michigan State Troops in 1881. The Houghton Light Infantry was organized in 1885  
27 and joined the Michigan State Troops that year. When the Michigan Naval Militia was  
28 organized in 1893, a unit was established in Hancock. In 1894 the Michigan State Troops was  
29 renamed the Michigan National Guard. Both the Calumet Light Guard and the Houghton Light  
30 Infantry served in the Spanish-American War with loss of life not to battle but to illness—  
31 especially malaria—and injury. Under the Militia Act of 1903, all state National Guard units  
32 became part of the U.S. National Guard under the authority of the U.S. Army Reserve.

33  
34 In July 1913, immediately after the start of the Copper Country labor strike, Michigan's governor  
35 sent the state's entire National Guard force of 2,817 men to Calumet and the Quincy mine. This  
36 included the Calumet and Houghton units, whose members were placed in a difficult and  
37 potentially dangerous position, as they were known in the community. The National Guard was  
38 charged with keeping the peace, and they were supposed to be nonpartisan, but the hospitality  
39 and amenities that the mine companies extended to the soldiers placed them on the side of the  
40 companies. Beginning in August, their numbers were reduced, and the last of the guard were  
41 withdrawn in January 1914.

42  
43 The Calumet Light Guard and Houghton Light Infantry occupied a succession of armories, most  
44 no longer extant. Calumet's first armory was on C&H land. In 1903 C&H built a new, larger  
45 armory, designed for dances and other social functions as well to serve the light guard. After this  
46 building burned in 1942, the National Guard moved into the Calumet Colosseum (1913), which

1 then served as both armory and ice rink, its original function. The National Guard remained in  
2 the Colosseum until 2005. The Houghton Light Infantry met at first in the old Houghton  
3 courthouse and then in a building that also served as an opera house. In the early 1900s the  
4 infantry moved into the Amphidrome ice rink, where an annex was built to house them. The  
5 Amphidrome burned in 1927, and the New Amphidrome was built on the same site in 1928. In  
6 1946 the Michigan College of Mining and Technology purchased the New Amphidrome and  
7 renamed it Dee Stadium. Both Dee Stadium and the Calumet Colosseum are three-story barrel-  
8 roof buildings. A similar-looking naval armory in Hancock was destroyed by fire in 1982.

9  
10 In 1916, on the eve of U.S. entry into World War I, the U.S. Naval Reserve was organized; the  
11 Hancock Naval Reserves would become the Fifteenth Division. The Army National Guard was  
12 reorganized many times. In 1917 the Calumet Light Guard and Houghton Light Infantry became  
13 part of the 107<sup>th</sup> Engineers, which included companies from across the Upper Peninsula. Army  
14 and navy reservists and draftees from the Copper Country served in the two World Wars.  
15 During World War II, German POW camps were established at the former CCC camps Pori and  
16 Sidnaw; these were two of five POW camps in the Upper Peninsula. There were more than two  
17 hundred German prisoners of war at each of the two camps.

18  
19 Several new military installations were built in the Copper Country during the Cold War. The  
20 Calumet Air Force Station was built on top of Mt. Horace Greeley in Keweenaw County in 1950,  
21 its purpose to provide radar surveillance to identify aircraft flying near the northern border of the  
22 U.S. With housing, commissary, exchange, dining hall, and gymnasium, at its peak the station  
23 was home to 450 military and civilian personnel and their families. The station closed in 1988.  
24 In 1953 the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Command (TACOM) established the Keweenaw Field  
25 Station as a substation of the Detroit Arsenal in Warren, Michigan. Located near the Houghton  
26 County airport, the purpose of the field station was to test military vehicles and tanks in cold  
27 weather. Eight buildings were constructed at the field station between 1955 and 1960. Michigan  
28 Technological University now operates the field station as the Keweenaw Research Center. In  
29 1956 a new National Guard armory was built in Baraga. The brick building with its horizontal  
30 lines in the modern idiom is distinctly different than the fortress-like armories built in the late  
31 nineteenth and early twentieth centuries or the other barrel-roof armories in the Copper Country.

32  
33 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*

34  
35 Resources associated with the military theme are few in number but of a wide variety of types.  
36 Some of these resources are central to the theme; these include military installations, armories,  
37 and POW camps. Because there are few military installations and each is one of a kind in the  
38 region, any would be considered National Register eligible if it retains integrity. Fort Wilkins is  
39 one of a small number of extant nineteenth century forts in the Great Lakes region and is listed in  
40 the National Register of Historic Places. The abandoned Calumet Air Force Station is gated and  
41 was not accessible during fieldwork. Recent aerial photos suggest that the station may be largely  
42 intact, although a few houses have been moved off site. Considering that closed Cold War era  
43 military bases elsewhere have usually been redeveloped, the Calumet Air Force Station may be  
44 significant not only for its unique role in Copper Country history but also as a well-preserved  
45 example of its type. Further investigation is recommended. Regarding the armories in the  
46 region, the New Amphidrome/Dee Stadium received new siding in the 1980s that greatly altered

1 its historic appearance. In addition, it's uncertain whether the National Guard actually used this  
2 building. The Calumet Armory/Colosseum retains integrity and is significant as both armory and  
3 ice rink. The Michigan Department of Military & Veterans Affairs (DMVA) has identified the  
4 Baraga Armory as National Register eligible.<sup>63</sup> Only ruins and debris remain at the two POW  
5 camps; however, a rare surviving example of a guard tower was dismantled and moved from  
6 Camp Sidnaw to the local airport. If restored as planned, the guard tower could be eligible as a  
7 rare example of its type.

8  
9 The Keweenaw Field Station, though it did not house troops, is also important to the military  
10 theme as the only cold weather military vehicle testing station in the state. It appears to retain  
11 integrity and if so would be National Register eligible. The Military Road was built during the  
12 Civil War with defense in mind, but it never served a military purpose. VFW posts and veterans'  
13 memorials and honor rolls are tangential to the military theme. These may be eligible if they are  
14 outstanding representations, for example, a memorial of artistic design, such as the Civil and  
15 Spanish War memorial at Lakeview Cemetery.

16  
17 (Photo—Fort Wilkins)

18  
19  
20 **Politics/Government**

21  
22 The politics and government theme covers the enactment and administration of laws by federal,  
23 tribal, state, and local governments and activities related to the political process. Counties were  
24 the first government units established in the Upper Peninsula. In 1843 the Michigan Legislature  
25 divided the Upper Peninsula into six counties: Chippewa, Delta, Mackinac, Marquette,  
26 Ontonagon, and Schoolcraft. In 1845 the legislature defined Houghton County as a seventh  
27 county, and Houghton County was formally organized in 1846. Although Ontonagon County  
28 was defined as one of the six original counties, it was not formally organized as a separate  
29 county until 1853. Keweenaw County was separated from Houghton County in 1861, and  
30 Baraga County was separated from Houghton County in 1875. County governments were  
31 governed by a board of supervisors and were responsible for operating jails and courts and  
32 keeping public records. To this end they built courthouses and jails, modest structures at first,  
33 but by the late nineteenth century they were among the most prominent buildings in the region.  
34 Ontonagon County built a brick, Romanesque Revival style courthouse in Ontonagon Village in  
35 1886. After the courthouse burned in the 1896 fire that destroyed most of the village, the walls  
36 were salvaged and a new courthouse constructed to the designs of architect D. F. Charlton. The  
37 1960s modernist sheriff's office and jail stands near the courthouse. The Houghton County  
38 Courthouse (1887) in the city of Houghton is a High Victorian Gothic building of cream-colored  
39 Milwaukee brick with Jacobsville sandstone trim and a mansard roof. The one-story brick  
40 sheriff's office and jail (1963) is next door to the courthouse. In Eagle River, the Keweenaw  
41 County Courthouse (1866) and adjoining sheriff's residence and jail (1886; J. B. Sweat) were  
42 remodeled in 1925 in the Georgian Revival style. The courthouses and jails were not just for  
43 show, however; they were active, busy places.

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<sup>63</sup> The Baraga Armory was identified as National Register eligible in a survey of above-ground cultural resources that the Louis Berger Group conducted for the DMVA in 2003. The SHPO concurred in a letter from John Halsey to Gregory Huntington, DMVA, dated 24 March 2003.

1  
2 County governments also took responsibility for caring for the poor, either by assisting those  
3 who lived in their own homes or by admitting them to the county poorhouse. At first county  
4 governments rented buildings to serve as poorhouses; Keweenaw County continued to operate a  
5 poorhouse in this manner. In 1866 Houghton County built a poorhouse on a farm, and by the  
6 early 1870s Ontonagon County did the same. The concept was that residents would work on the  
7 farm to support and feed themselves and others. In 1881 the Houghton County poorhouse and  
8 farm had thirty-eight “inmates”; in addition, the county gave assistance to six hundred others  
9 outside of the poorhouse. Later, Houghton County built a county infirmary on the poor farm;  
10 ultimately this became the Houghton County Medical Facility, which operated there until 1968,  
11 when it moved to Hancock. Today the buildings remaining at the site are in ruins. In 1900  
12 Ontonagon County upgraded its poorhouse with a new building designed by D. F. Charlton. The  
13 two-and-one-half-story brick building with cupola is the only poorhouse remaining in the Copper  
14 Country. In the early twentieth century, county road commissions were established to improve  
15 and maintain rural roads. Houghton County established a road commission in 1910, followed by  
16 Ontonagon and Keweenaw counties within the next few years. Road commissions built garages  
17 and offices for their own use, or in several instances occupied former mine buildings. Road  
18 commission buildings tend to be utilitarian, but the Ontonagon County Road Commission garage  
19 in Ontonagon Village is one of the Copper Country’s few examples of the Art Moderne style.  
20

21 Soon after counties were created they were divided into townships, which performed local  
22 government functions including police and fire protection, tax assessment, providing utilities,  
23 and passing ordinances governing land use and public health and safety. Townships were  
24 subdivided as needed as an area became more populated. Houghton County, for example, was  
25 initially organized in 1846 with three townships, then in 1847 it was divided into six townships.  
26 Some of those townships went into Keweenaw and Baraga counties when they were organized,  
27 while the townships remaining in Houghton County were subdivided. Despite the presence of  
28 civil government, mining companies exercised considerable authority in the townships where  
29 they were located. Township halls are typically modest one-story front-gabled frame buildings.  
30 In addition, a number of communities have fire halls or stations that are under the jurisdiction of  
31 township government. The Trout Creek Fire Hall is an unusual example: the three-bay side-  
32 gabled frame building has the appearance of an oversized bungalow.  
33

34 Only a small proportion of the communities in the Copper Country incorporated as villages.  
35 Some communities incorporated as villages but later dissolved their village government when the  
36 population declined. Ewen, for example, incorporated as a village in 1895 and then dissolved the  
37 village government in 1899 when the lumber boom ended. The first community to incorporate  
38 as a village was Houghton in 1861. Other incorporated villages are Hancock (1875), Calumet  
39 (1875, known as Red Jacket until 1929), Ontonagon (1885), Lake Linden (1885), Laurium  
40 (1889), Baraga (1891), South Range (1906), Ahmeek (1909), and Copper City (1917). Village  
41 governments had the same responsibilities as township governments, but because villages were  
42 more densely populated they required more intensive governing and had larger budgets for that  
43 purpose. The villages of Hancock and Houghton incorporated as cities when their populations  
44 crossed the required threshold, Hancock in 1903 and Houghton in 1970.  
45

1 In contrast to the modest township halls, government buildings in the larger villages were  
 2 imposing and stylish. The Village of Calumet and the Village of Laurium each built a village  
 3 hall that was later remodeled and expanded in a grander style. In 1899–1900, when an opera  
 4 house (Charles K. Shand) was added to the 1886 Calumet Village Hall (J. B. Sweatt), the village  
 5 hall was remodeled to match the Italian Renaissance style of the opera house. The two buildings  
 6 have first floors of rusticated Jacobsville sandstone and upper floors of cream-colored brick;  
 7 there is a clock tower at the juncture of the two. In Laurium, the 1898 village hall was  
 8 “remodeled” (essentially reconstructed) in 1914 (Fred Maass) to its current appearance. The  
 9 two-story frame building is faced with sandstone on its front and north sides and has a three-  
 10 story sandstone corner tower with arched windows, corbelling, and crenellations. Hancock City  
 11 Hall (1899; Charlton, Gilbert & Demar) is a two-story building of rusticated Jacobsville  
 12 sandstone, featuring a Flemish gable with a round arch window and a corner clock tower. The  
 13 Lake Linden Village Hall (Charles K. Shand, 1901) is a brick Romanesque Revival style  
 14 building with a tower in front and sandstone details. These buildings all incorporate offices,  
 15 council chambers, police station, and—except for Calumet—fire hall. When the Calumet  
 16 Village Hall was remodeled in 1899, the fire department moved across the street into a  
 17 Romanesque Revival fire hall built of Jacobsville sandstone (Charles K. Shand). Other fire halls  
 18 of note are the Italianate style Continental Fire Company (1883) in Houghton and the South  
 19 Range Fire Hall (1913) built of rusticated concrete block.

20  
 21 The State of Michigan has large landholdings in the state parks and forests of the Copper  
 22 Country, and there are administrative buildings associated with these entities. Outside of the  
 23 state parks and forests, the only state government building is the Michigan Department of  
 24 Natural Resources (DNR) Building in Baraga. The two-story front-gabled brick building with a  
 25 two-story vestibule in front and mosaic spandrels between its metal casement windows is an  
 26 unusual example of the modern style.

27  
 28 While the Treaty of 1854 established the Ojibwa reservation at Keweenaw Bay, it was not until  
 29 1936 that the U.S. government formally recognized the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community  
 30 (KBIC) as a sovereign nation. The KBIC is governed by a tribal council. It operates  
 31 independently of local governments with its own court, police, social services, and public works.  
 32 The tribal center is on Beartown Road in Baraga Township.

33  
 34 Like state government, the federal government has large landholdings consisting of Keweenaw  
 35 and Isle Royale national parks and Ottawa National Forest, but the buildings that most directly  
 36 represent the federal government in local communities are post offices. The establishment of a  
 37 post office in a community was a sign that it was recognized as a village, even if it did not  
 38 incorporate as a village. During the nineteenth century, post offices were often located in private  
 39 commercial buildings such as general stores. In the twentieth century, post offices were more  
 40 frequently located in their own buildings, typically a modest one-story gable-roof building. In  
 41 the larger villages, however, there were some substantial post office buildings. Brick post  
 42 offices built in Houghton (1924), Hancock (1934), and Calumet (1939; Louis A. Simon) are  
 43 relatively plain. The Houghton Post Office displays some Renaissance Revival style influence,  
 44 while the Hancock Post Office is a modest version of the Colonial Revival style. The Calumet  
 45 Post Office is known for its WPA mural depicting copper mining in Calumet. Post offices built

1 in Ontonagon (1958) and Dollar Bay (1967) in the modernist idiom are flat roof buildings of  
2 brick and sandstone with broad expanses of windows.

3  
4 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*

5  
6 Property types associated with the politics/government theme are city, village, and township  
7 halls; sheriff's offices and jails; courthouses; fire halls; post offices; and road commission offices  
8 and garages. The Ontonagon County Poorhouse is the only extant example of a poorhouse.  
9 Government buildings are significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of  
10 politics/government as centers for government activity and as symbols of government authority  
11 and political stability; the grander buildings also serve as symbols of civic pride. Many of these  
12 buildings are significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture because they embody the  
13 distinctive characteristics of a type of building or they possess high artistic value. The National  
14 Register listing of all three county courthouses, the Lake Linden and Calumet village halls,  
15 Hancock City Hall, and the Calumet Fire Hall is evidence that the significance of these  
16 architectural show places is recognized. Not one township hall is listed in the National Register,  
17 even though each township hall played a key role in the history of its township. An early, rare,  
18 or outstanding township hall may also be significant under Criterion C because it embodies the  
19 distinctive characteristics of the town hall as a building type. The Ontonagon County Poorhouse  
20 is significant under both Criteria A and C for its important role in the government and social  
21 history of the region and as a rare surviving example of its type. Modernist government  
22 buildings should be evaluated in relation to other modernist buildings in the region.

23  
24 Government buildings that are significant under Criterion C must be highly intact with integrity  
25 of design, materials, and workmanship. Government buildings that are significant under  
26 Criterion A may have some alterations as long as they retain the better part of their historic  
27 appearance. Integrity can be problematic for relatively plain, wood frame buildings such as  
28 township halls or small post offices. On these buildings, original siding and windows are key  
29 character-defining features, yet they are more likely to be altered than on masonry buildings. A  
30 rare or early township hall may still be National Register eligible with vinyl siding, but a more  
31 common type of township hall would need to be more intact.

32  
33 (Photo—Ontonagon County Poorhouse, M38 (2), Ontonagon Township)

34  
35  
36 **Religion**

37  
38 Missionaries intent on converting the Ojibwa to Christianity preceded miners to the Copper  
39 Country. Methodists established a mission on the eastern shore of Keweenaw Bay in 1834, but  
40 there was no mission on the west shore until Father Frederic Baraga established a Catholic  
41 mission (later named Assinins) there in 1843. The Catholic mission was more successful than  
42 the Methodist mission, in part because Catholicism was less demanding of its converts and in  
43 part because of the extraordinary Father Baraga, whose many accomplishments included writing  
44 a dictionary of the Ojibwa language, one of eight languages that he spoke. Both Father Baraga  
45 and Reverend John Pitezal from the Methodist mission traveled to the mines to minister to the  
46 miners, a difficult journey taken mostly on foot. The Cornish were predominantly Methodist,

1 while the Irish, Germans, and French Canadians were predominantly Catholic. At first, religious  
 2 services were usually conducted in homes or schools; Reverend Pitezel preached in the cooper  
 3 shop of the Cliff mine. Because few clerics were available, services were often conducted by lay  
 4 people. The first church was a Methodist church built at the Cliff mine in 1848. In 1853, Father  
 5 Baraga was appointed bishop of Upper Michigan and moved to Sault Ste. Marie, but he  
 6 continued to travel widely and was instrumental in establishing Catholic churches throughout the  
 7 Copper Country. By 1854 there were Catholic churches in Eagle Harbor and Ontonagon,  
 8 followed soon after by churches at the Minesota and Norwich mines.

9  
 10 Methodist and Catholic churches were typically the first two churches built in a community, but  
 11 a few Presbyterian and Episcopal churches were also built during the 1850s. By the late 1850s  
 12 there were five churches in the village of Ontonagon: Catholic, Methodist, Presbyterian,  
 13 Episcopal, and Baptist. Congregational and German Lutheran churches were built in Hancock in  
 14 1863 and 1866 respectively. Mining companies supported church construction, often providing  
 15 land for churches and contributing to building funds, as churches cultivated the habits that  
 16 managers wanted in their work force. By 1870 there were more than thirty churches in the  
 17 Copper Country. The churches were modest, front-gabled wood frame buildings with a tower  
 18 attached to the front or rising from the roof; usually there was a steeple. Pointed arch windows  
 19 and doors spoke to traditional Gothic church architecture. The crenellations at the top of the  
 20 Central Mine Methodist Church tower are a unique feature drawn from churches in Cornwall.  
 21 Three churches survive from this period: Holy Redeemer Church (Catholic, 1854) in Eagle  
 22 Harbor; Church of the Assumption (Catholic, 1858), which was built at the Cliff mine and  
 23 moved in 1898 to Phoenix; and Central Mine Methodist Church (1868). The Assinins mission  
 24 also grew during this time, adding a new schoolhouse in 1860 and a convent in 1866.

25  
 26 In the late nineteenth century the number of churches multiplied rapidly as the population grew,  
 27 new denominations were introduced, and ethnic groups within denominations built their own  
 28 churches, for example, separate churches for French Canadian, Slovenian, and Italian Catholics.  
 29 There were also different denominations within ethnic groups, such as German Lutherans and  
 30 German Catholics. And sometimes there were denominational splits within an ethnic group. For  
 31 example, there were three Finnish Lutheran sects: the Apostolic (Laestadian) Lutheran Church,  
 32 the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church/Suomi Synod, and the Finnish National Evangelical  
 33 Lutheran Church. Moreover, disputes among the Apostolic Lutherans sometimes led to the  
 34 establishment of two or more separate congregations. New congregations often met in multi-  
 35 purpose halls until they raised funds to building their own church building. By the early 1900s,  
 36 in greater Calumet there were more than two dozen churches including all of those on company  
 37 land and in the villages of Calumet (called Red Jacket until 1929) and Laurium. In addition to  
 38 churches, several Catholic and Lutheran congregations in Hancock, Houghton, and other  
 39 communities operated parochial schools. Sacred Heart School in Laurium was likely the largest.  
 40 Established in 1891, the school had about eight hundred students in the early 1900s. The Copper  
 41 Country's Jewish residents worshipped in private homes until 1912, when they built Temple  
 42 Jacob (Maass Brothers, architects) in Hancock on land donated by the Quincy Mining Company.  
 43 Avoiding Christian iconography, the brick synagogue has round-arched windows and is topped  
 44 with a copper dome; stained glass windows depict Jewish symbols.

1 By then there was much more variety in church architecture, although the majority still adopted  
 2 the traditional form with tower and steeple in front. The simplest churches are front-gabled  
 3 buildings without even a tower. Other churches have corner towers, and two of the grandest—  
 4 St. Joseph’s Catholic Church (1912; A. F. Wasielewski) in Lake Linden and St. Joseph’s  
 5 Catholic Church (1908; Shand & Eastman, now called St. Paul the Apostle) in Calumet—have  
 6 two towers. Built of Jacobsville sandstone, St. Joseph’s in Lake Linden is Romanesque Revival  
 7 style with a classical entrance portico topped by statues of saints, while St. Joseph’s in Calumet  
 8 is also Romanesque Revival with five arched entrances in front and buttresses on the side. Some  
 9 of the differences in church design are due to religious differences, for example, Apostolic  
 10 Lutheran churches are usually plainer than other Lutheran churches, and the Congregational  
 11 Church (1893) in Chassell is Colonial Revival in style, hearkening to its New England roots.  
 12 The largest and most ornate churches are second- or third-generation churches, built of brick or  
 13 Jacobsville sandstone and located in the larger villages. In addition to the two St. Joseph’s  
 14 churches, St. Anne’s Catholic Church (1901; Charlton, Gilbert & Demar) in Calumet is an  
 15 outstanding example of a Gothic Revival church, built of Jacobsville sandstone with a corner bell  
 16 tower, a triple pointed-arch entrance, and pointed arch windows separated by buttresses on the  
 17 sides. There are three monumental churches in Houghton: Grace United Methodist Church  
 18 (1893; William Pryor), a Richardsonian Romanesque church of Jacobsville sandstone; St.  
 19 Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church (1902; Erhard Brielmaier), a Gothic Revival church of  
 20 Jacobsville sandstone; and Trinity Episcopal Church (1910; John B. Sutcliffe), a Gothic Revival  
 21 church built of brick. Although it is a wood frame structure, the First Congregational Church  
 22 (1886) in Lake Linden is significant as an unusual example of a Stick Style church; Chicago  
 23 architects Holabird and Roche designed it for a predominantly Scottish congregation.

24  
 25 With the decline in population beginning in the 1920s, congregations struggled to keep their  
 26 churches open, but eventually they consolidated with others, and many church buildings closed.  
 27 Relatively few new churches were built, usually to replace an older building that had been  
 28 destroyed by fire. In Eagle River, the Northern Baptist Convention built the Gitche Gumee Bible  
 29 Camp in 1930. At Assinins, a new orphanage was built in 1929. After World War II, a number  
 30 of churches eschewed traditional styles and forms and embraced modernism. Geometric shapes  
 31 predominate in form and details; in some examples the steeply pitched roof reaches nearly to the  
 32 ground, like an A-frame house. Three modernist churches—Catholic, Methodist, and  
 33 Lutheran—were built in the new community of White Pine. In contrast, Our Lady of the Pines  
 34 Chapel (1953; Victor Oja) in Copper Harbor is a rustic log building with an adjoining shrine to  
 35 the Virgin Mary.

### 36 37 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards*

38  
 39 Churches are the most important property types representing the theme of religion. The survey  
 40 identified nearly one hundred churches; at least one church survives in most communities, and in  
 41 some cases a church is all that is left of a community. Six churches are individually listed in the  
 42 National Register: Central Mine Methodist Church, Church of the Assumption (Phoenix), Holy  
 43 Redeemer Church (Eagle Harbor), First Congregational Church (Lake Linden), Jacobsville  
 44 Finnish Lutheran Church, and Saint Ignatius Loyola Church (Houghton). Other churches  
 45 contribute to historic districts. Churches may be significant under Criterion A in the area of  
 46 religion and under Criterion C in the area of architecture, however, Criteria Consideration A

1 applies to properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes. Under this  
2 consideration a church may be listed if it derives its primary significance from architectural or  
3 artistic distinction or historical importance. A church may have historical importance if it is a  
4 rare or early example of a church representing a specific denomination or ethnic group or it is the  
5 only remaining church in a community. A number of churches are significant for their  
6 architecture, either as a rare, early, or outstanding example of a type or for artistic quality.  
7 Churches that are significant under Criterion A may have alterations such as vinyl siding or  
8 additions as long as they don't obscure the historic appearance of the church. Churches that are  
9 significant under Criterion C must be highly intact with integrity of design, materials, and  
10 workmanship. Note that although St. Ignatius Loyola Church has an inappropriate entrance  
11 portico added in 1928, this is outweighed by the church's exceptional interior and exterior design  
12 and craftsmanship.

13  
14 Other property types associated with churches are parsonages and rectories, convents, parochial  
15 schools, and cemeteries. Although these do not represent religion as strongly as churches, they  
16 may be National Register eligible on their own or more likely in association with a church. The  
17 survey identified only a few parsonages or rectories and five parochial schools. The same  
18 standards for integrity that apply to churches apply to these buildings. Criteria Consideration D  
19 applies to cemeteries. Under this consideration a cemetery may be listed if it derives its primary  
20 significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive  
21 design features, or from association with historic events. Several cemeteries survive from the  
22 early years of the copper rush; others are the oldest surviving resource in a community or the  
23 only surviving resource in a community. Thus there are a number of cemeteries that may be  
24 eligible for age or historical importance or for association with an eligible church. A few  
25 cemeteries may be eligible under Criterion C in the area of landscape architecture; these will be  
26 discussed under the landscape architecture theme.

27  
28 The Catholic mission at Assinins is exceptionally significant for its association with Bishop  
29 Baraga; it was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1972. Since that time the  
30 1929 orphanage has been demolished, and the earlier orphanage and convent, a three-story  
31 rubble stone building (1866; 1872) is in very poor condition; the west wing has already  
32 collapsed. Extant resources are the school (1860), a barn, and the cemetery (established in the  
33 1860s).

34  
35 The Gitche Gumee Bible Camp is a well-preserved camp complex with historic buildings and  
36 landscape features; it appears to be National Register eligible under Criterion A in the areas of  
37 religion and entertainment/recreation and possibly under Criterion C in the area of architecture.

38  
39 (Photo—First Congregational and Methodist Episcopal churches in Lake Linden, N Ave (1-B) in  
40 Lake Linden District)

## 41 42 43 **Transportation**

44  
45 Water transportation was the primary means of travel and shipping to and from the Copper  
46 Country until the 1880s; water transportation is discussed under the maritime history theme.

1 Roads were needed to travel inland, however, as there were few navigable rivers. Trails became  
2 footpaths, which became horse trails and then wagon roads. Mine companies built the first roads  
3 to connect mine locations with shipping ports. The best of these was the Ontonagon Plank Road,  
4 built by cooperating mine companies between 1850 and 1859. Constructed of side-by-side  
5 wooden planks, the road was good enough to support a daily stagecoach line. Ordinary wagon  
6 roads were poorly built and difficult to travel; the situation improved in winter when snow  
7 covered the ruts and stumps and sleighs were used. As settlement progressed, roads were built to  
8 connect mine locations with each other. The first government-sponsored road was built by  
9 Houghton County in 1856 to connect Copper Harbor and Portage Lake. The State of Michigan  
10 sponsored the Mineral Range State Road from Copper Harbor to Ontonagon; construction began  
11 ca. 1857 and was completed in 1863. In that year, the U.S. Congress authorized the construction  
12 of a Military Road linking Copper Harbor with Green Bay, Wisconsin. Construction began soon  
13 after; the final segment was completed in 1873. More and better roads were built, allowing  
14 regular mail delivery and stagecoach travel between Copper Country communities and to Green  
15 Bay, Wisconsin, and Marquette, Michigan. The first bridge over Portage Lake between  
16 Houghton and Hancock was built in 1876.

17  
18 Railroads were essential to the growth of the copper industry in the late nineteenth century. The  
19 first railroads in the Copper Country were short lines that were built north of Portage Lake in the  
20 1860s to connect mines to stamp mills. In 1873 the Mineral Range Railroad offered the first  
21 passenger service, carrying passengers—as well as copper rock—between Calumet and  
22 Hancock. Ten years later the Marquette, Houghton & Ontonagon Railroad (MH&O) reached  
23 Houghton via a line along Keweenaw Bay, giving the Copper Country its first rail connection to  
24 cities outside of the region. The network of rail lines expanded rapidly, transforming the  
25 landscape with hundreds of miles of track and numerous bridges over waterways. Within the  
26 region, numerous railroads connected communities, mines, mills, and smelters, extending as far  
27 north as Lac La Belle in Keweenaw County. In Ontonagon County and southern Houghton  
28 County, three railroad lines connected lumber towns with major Midwestern cities; one of these  
29 lines—the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway—extended to Ontonagon Village. Mergers  
30 and buyouts made for a complex history, but in the twentieth century three lines emerged as  
31 predominant. The Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic Railroad (DSS&A) was organized in 1886  
32 through the consolidation of several existing lines. Within two years the DSS&A extended from  
33 Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, to Duluth, Minnesota, crossing southern Ontonagon County. By the  
34 early 1890s the DSS&A had acquired the MH&O Railroad and gained control of the Mineral  
35 Range and Hancock & Calumet railroads to become the leading railroad line in the Copper  
36 Country. The Mineral Range Railroad operated under its own name until 1949. Extending north  
37 to Mohawk, the Calumet branch of the DSS&A provided service to copper mines and mills,  
38 while the main line through southern Ontonagon County served lumber towns; both lines carried  
39 passengers.

40  
41 The DSS&A's chief rival was the Copper Range Railroad, established in 1899 by the Copper  
42 Range Company to serve its new mines southwest of Houghton on the Baltic lode. A line  
43 between Houghton and Mass City with a branch to the Copper Range mines was quickly  
44 completed. Branch lines were soon added to the company's stamp mills at Redridge and vicinity  
45 as well as northward to Calumet. The Copper Range Railroad's primary business was to serve  
46 its own mines, locations, mills, and smelter, but it also carried passengers and general freight. In

1 1917, when Copper Range contracted to haul ore for the Mohawk and Wolverine mines, it  
 2 extended its line from Calumet to Mohawk and from there to the stamp mills at Gay. The  
 3 Copper Range Railroad's bustling yard in Houghton included a large roundhouse and massive  
 4 coal dock.

5  
 6 The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway (reorganized in 1928 as the Chicago, Milwaukee,  
 7 St. Paul & Pacific Railroad), commonly known as the Milwaukee Road, was not as prominent in  
 8 the Copper Country as the Copper Range or DSS&A railroads, but it made a place for itself with  
 9 its superior passenger service. The Milwaukee Road's single railroad line in the Copper Country  
 10 extended through lumber towns in southern Houghton and Ontonagon counties to end at  
 11 Ontonagon Village. But the Milwaukee Road and the Copper Range Railroad cooperated with  
 12 each other to provide passenger service from Calumet to Chicago. This culminated in the  
 13 Milwaukee Road's Northern Michigan Special, which operated from 1912 to 1920 and provided  
 14 through service on a single train. Meanwhile, the Milwaukee Road operated the famed Copper  
 15 Country Limited passenger train from Chicago to Calumet over DSS&A tracks. Passenger  
 16 depots were the public face of the railroad lines. Depots were numerous, typically modest one-  
 17 story frame buildings with hipped or gabled roofs and bracketed eaves. The most substantial  
 18 depot following this design is the Mineral Range Railroad Depot (1903) in Houghton, built of  
 19 Jacobsville sandstone. It was designed to rival the nearby Copper Range Railroad Depot (1899),  
 20 a two-story hipped roof building of yellow brick with Jacobsville sandstone trim. In Calumet,  
 21 the Mineral Range Railroad Depot (1908; Frank W. Hessenmueller) is a two-story brick building  
 22 that housed railroad company offices on the second floor.

23  
 24 Beginning in 1900, electric streetcars offered a transportation alternative in central Houghton  
 25 County. The Houghton County Traction Company interurban line began in Houghton and  
 26 extended north through Hancock to Boston by the end of the year; by 1908 it extended to  
 27 Mohawk, with a branch to Hubbell via Lake Linden. The streetcar was extremely important in  
 28 its first two decades. For travel between villages it provided a less expensive and more  
 29 convenient alternative to railroad trains, while for local travel it provided an alternative to  
 30 walking. But after years of declining ridership, the Houghton County Traction Company went  
 31 out of business in 1932. In part this was due to competition from the Copper Range Motor Bus  
 32 Company, formed in 1925 as a subsidiary to the Copper Range Railroad. Economic and  
 33 population decline were other factors, but the biggest factor was automobile ownership, which  
 34 brought an end to streetcar and interurban service across the country. A few Houghton County  
 35 Traction Company stations remain today as well as the company's streetcar barns in Hancock  
 36 and Laurium and a power plant in Laurium.

37  
 38 The first automobile owner in the Copper Country may have been Frank Kaiser of Lake Linden;  
 39 his 1900 purchase was reported in the *Daily Mining Gazette*.<sup>64</sup> In the early 1900s wealthy  
 40 individuals purchased automobiles primarily for recreational use. Automobiles were expensive,  
 41 and they could not go far or fast without good roads. The good roads movement began in the  
 42 late nineteenth century, with bicyclists at the forefront. In 1893 the Michigan Legislature passed  
 43 the County Road Act, which enabled a county to establish a road commission and levy taxes in  
 44 order to improve roads. Houghton County established a road commission in 1910, followed by

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<sup>64</sup> Erik Nordberg, "Automobiles Made Early Debut in the Copper Country," *Houghton County Historical Society Newsletter* (Autumn 2000), 2.

1 Ontonagon and Keweenaw counties within the next few years. Meanwhile, the Michigan  
2 Legislature passed laws establishing a state highway department in 1905 and a state trunkline  
3 highway system in 1913; these laws provided state funds for local road building. Michigan  
4 highway M-15 from Menominee through Escanaba and Marquette to Copper Harbor was an  
5 early state trunkline; in 1926 it was designated U.S. 41. The federal government enacted the  
6 Federal Aid Road Act in 1916, the first of many laws to provide federal funding for road  
7 building. With funding in place, existing roads were improved and new roads were built. New  
8 and replacement bridges were made of steel and concrete. Road commissions built garages and  
9 offices for their own use, or in several instances occupied former mine buildings. Road  
10 commission buildings tend to be utilitarian, but the Ontonagon County Road Commission garage  
11 in Ontonagon Village is one of the Copper Country's few examples of the Art Moderne style.  
12

13 By the 1920s automobiles had become more reliable and less expensive, and the family  
14 automobile was well on its way to becoming commonplace. Federal relief programs boosted  
15 road building during the Depression; the Keweenaw County Road Commission in particular  
16 made good use of these funds to build new roads. During World War II, Copper Country roads  
17 took a back seat to the war effort, but when the war ended road building resumed with renewed  
18 intensity. Many Copper Country bridges date to the late 1940s and 1950s. The opening of the  
19 Mackinac Bridge in 1957 brought a dramatic increase in automobile travel to the Upper  
20 Peninsula (UP). Freeway construction also made it faster and easier for people to travel to the  
21 UP. The first sections of the I-75 freeway in Michigan were built in 1957; its impact was felt in  
22 the UP well before the freeway was completed in 1973.  
23

24 Railroad service had begun to decline in the 1920s due to the same factors that brought the  
25 demise of the interurban: economic decline, population decline, and competition with motor  
26 vehicles. The Copper Range Railroad operated its last passenger train in 1946. When the  
27 Copper Country Limited ended in 1968, it marked the end of passenger travel in the Copper  
28 Country. Freight service, though diminished, lasted a little longer. The Copper Range Railroad  
29 line ceased operating in 1972, and ten years later the Soo Line, formerly the DSS&A, stopped  
30 running trains north of Baraga. Today two railroad lines are still in use—the former Milwaukee  
31 Road line to Rockland and a branch of the former DSS&A line from Marengo Junction,  
32 Wisconsin, to White Pine.  
33

34 Private airplanes were flying over the Copper Country by the 1920s. At first they landed in open  
35 fields, but soon a few landing strips were built. The Prickett Grooms Airport at Sidnaw was built  
36 in 1933. The Houghton-Keweenaw County Airport was built at Laurium in 1933–34 using  
37 federal relief funds. The airplane hangar is a barrel-roof building of Jacobsville sandstone. In  
38 1948 the airport at Laurium was replaced by the current Houghton County Memorial Airport; a  
39 new terminal was built in 1958. Ontonagon County opened its current airport in 1961. The  
40 Houghton County Memorial Airport is the only airport in the Copper Country with commercial  
41 airline service.  
42

#### 43 *Property Types and Evaluation Standards* 44

45 The wide variety of property types related to transportation can be grouped into four categories:  
46 road, railroad, streetcar, and air. Most of the resources related to road transportation are roads

1 and bridges. There are also a small number of road commission buildings and one toll house.  
2 Commercial buildings and residential garages that relate to automobile ownership and travel  
3 have been discussed under the themes of commerce and architecture, respectively. Roads and  
4 road-related resources may be eligible under Criterion A in the area of transportation if they are  
5 early or rare examples or if they played an important role in the development of road  
6 transportation. For example, the ca. 1850s toll house in Ontonagon Village is significant as the  
7 only remaining example of a toll house in the Copper Country. Bridges may also be eligible  
8 under Criterion C in the area of engineering as an early, rare, outstanding, or excellent  
9 representative of a specific bridge type. Historic bridge surveys conducted by the Michigan  
10 Department of Transportation (MDOT) identified fifteen different types of historic highway  
11 bridges. Bridges may also be eligible under Criterion C for high artistic value. Buildings may  
12 be significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture as an important example of a style or  
13 type. The Ontonagon County Road Commission garage in Ontonagon Village is significant as a  
14 rare example of the Art Moderne style in the Copper Country. Roads and road-related resources  
15 that are eligible under Criterion A will have integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and  
16 association. Moved bridges and buildings may be eligible under Criterion C but integrity of  
17 workmanship, design, and materials will be emphasized.

18  
19 Bridges have often been altered for continued and safe use. Deck replacement does not affect  
20 integrity, nor does the placement of guard rails inside historic railings. Replacement of parts of  
21 the superstructure or substructure with new materials or a different design does impact integrity  
22 and may affect eligibility, depending on the extent of the alterations and the reason why the  
23 bridge is significant. MDOT has identified the following highway bridges as National Register  
24 eligible according to its statewide historic bridge context: the Cedar Creek and Silver River  
25 culverts, Fanny Hooe Creek Bridge, and the Main Street Bridge in Eagle River in Keweenaw  
26 County; the Pike River Bridge, the County Line Road Bridge over the West Branch Sturgeon  
27 River, and the Houghton-Hancock Lift Bridge in Houghton County; and the M-28 bridge over  
28 the Middle Branch Ontonagon River in Ontonagon County; four of these bridges have been  
29 listed. Several reliable sources have also identified the Lake Shore Drive Bridge in Eagle River  
30 as National Register eligible. There are likely additional bridges that are significant at the local  
31 level.

32  
33 Integrity is problematic when it comes to roads. Many roads in the Copper Country generally  
34 follow routes that were established in the nineteenth century, but they have been paved or re-  
35 paved with modern materials and there have been many changes in alignment. It is not unusual  
36 to see sections of road marked Old M-28 or Old M-64, for example, that parallel the current  
37 highway. There do not seem to be any roads that retain integrity as a whole. In the vicinity of  
38 Copper Harbor there are some surviving sections of the Military Road constructed of logs or  
39 planks on stringers. These sections may be National Register eligible. Sections of early  
40 twentieth century brick and concrete paving in Calumet have been identified as contributing to  
41 the Calumet Village Civic and Commercial Historic District.

42  
43 Property types associated with railroad transportation include tracks, switches, bridges, signals,  
44 depots, the C&H Railroad roundhouse (ca. 1888), the Quincy & Torch Lake Railroad engine  
45 house and water tower (1889), the Isle Royale Railroad engine house (1917), and buildings in  
46 Ontonagon Village and at Frost Junction that may be switching buildings. Whereas road-related

1 resources are numerous, railroad-related resources are not. The vast majority of the railroad  
2 tracks that once criss-crossed the Copper Country have been taken up and the majority of  
3 railroad bridges along with them. It appears that about a dozen railroad bridges survive. The  
4 survey identified nine passenger depots, whereas several dozen once existed. Because railroads  
5 were so important in Copper Country history, and because so few resources survive, most of  
6 them will be eligible under Criterion A in the area of transportation if they retain integrity of  
7 location, design, setting, materials, and association. Tracks and small-scale resources such as  
8 switches and signals are considered as part of a larger railroad line. Unfortunately the tracks  
9 were recently removed between Ontonagon and Rockland on one of the Copper Country's  
10 earliest railroad lines, the former Milwaukee Road, so that line no longer retains integrity. As  
11 with highway bridges, railroad bridges may be eligible under Criterion A for transportation or  
12 under Criterion C for engineering. Several railroad bridges, including but not limited to  
13 examples of high level trestle bridges, appear to have engineering significance. Buildings may  
14 be significant under Criterion A or under Criterion C as an important example of a type or style.  
15 Most of the extant depots retain integrity and appear to be eligible. The C&H roundhouse has  
16 lost integrity due to recent alterations. The Isle Royale Railroad engine house is intact except for  
17 new doors, and the Quincy & Torch Lake Railroad engine house is being restored.

18  
19 Streetcar lines were not as long-lived or as essential as railroads to the historical development of  
20 the Copper Country; nevertheless, for three decades they played an important role in the life of  
21 the communities where they were located. Tracks, overhead lines, and trestles are all gone. The  
22 survey identified six extant streetcar stations, a car barn in Hancock, and a car barn and power  
23 plant in Laurium. Criteria A and C apply to these buildings in the same way that they apply to  
24 railroad-related buildings. The Ahmeek Streetcar Station has been listed in the National  
25 Register. Although both car barns have been altered, they retain the greater part of their historic  
26 appearance and appear to be eligible under Criterion A, along with the power plant in Laurium.

27  
28 Properties relating to air transportation were never numerous; today three airports and the hangar  
29 in Laurium remain. Airport buildings and runways may be eligible under Criterion A in the area  
30 of transportation; buildings may also be eligible under Criterion C as an important example of a  
31 style or type. The hangar in Laurium is an unusual example of an airplane hangar built out of  
32 Jacobsville sandstone; it is eligible under both criteria. The Houghton County Memorial Airport  
33 underwent a major renovation and expansion in 1971–72; it does not retain integrity. More  
34 research is needed on the Prickett Grooms and Ontonagon County airports.

35  
36 (Photo—Copper Range Railroad Depot, Houghton West District)

**SURVEY RESULTS**

1  
2  
3 A primary goal of the Copper Country survey was to identify properties that may be eligible for  
4 listing in the National Register of Historic Places. A reconnaissance level survey can only  
5 provide a preliminary identification of properties that may be National Register eligible;  
6 intensive level survey with additional research is needed to determine whether these places have  
7 the integrity and significance required for National Register listing. The potentially eligible  
8 properties identified here were evaluated using the National Register of Historic Places criteria  
9 for evaluation and the contextual information provided in the thematic narratives.  
10 Recommendations from previous surveys were taken into consideration.

11  
12 The National Register criteria state:

13  
14 The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology,  
15 engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects  
16 that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and  
17 association, and:

- 18  
19 A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the  
20 broad patterns of our history; or  
21 B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or  
22 C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of  
23 construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values,  
24 or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack  
25 individual distinction; or  
26 D. That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history or  
27 prehistory.  
28

29 Appendix A contains a list of properties that are currently listed in the National Register of  
30 Historic Places.

31  
32 The properties described below are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of  
33 Historic Places. Individually listed properties must have interior as well as exterior integrity;  
34 only in rare cases did surveyors go inside of buildings, so some buildings that appear eligible  
35 from the outside may be eliminated. On the other hand, intensive level survey will undoubtedly  
36 identify additional resources with historical significance that could not be determined by  
37 reconnaissance survey. Some properties have been added and some deleted from the  
38 assessments of National Register eligibility found on the individual district survey forms. Those  
39 assessments were made at the end of fieldwork for each district, without the benefit of the  
40 contextual information contained in the thematic narratives. Properties that may be individually  
41 eligible are listed first, followed by a discussion of potential districts. The list of individually-  
42 eligible properties identifies individual resources in most cases, but in some cases it specifies a  
43 type of property, such as houses or farmsteads. In these cases it appeared that there were  
44 multiple houses or farmsteads that could be National Register eligible, but intensive level survey  
45 will be needed to identify exactly which ones. Additional information on all of the properties

DRAFT

1 identified as potentially eligible may be found in the district survey forms and field worksheets;  
 2 there are also photographs of many of them in the photo files.

3  
 4  
 5

**Baraga County**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>NR Criteria</b>	<b>Themes</b>
Baraga Village	Baraga Armory	A, C	Architecture, Military
Baraga Village	Sand Point Lighthouse	A	Maritime History
Baraga Village	Side Track Bar	A, C	Commerce, Architecture
Baraga Village	DNR Building	C	Architecture
Baraga Township	Michigan Mill boiler house	A	Industry: Copper
Baraga Township	Baraga Grange Hall	A	Agriculture
Pelkie	Pelkie Elementary School	A, C	Education, Architecture
Pelkie	First Apostolic Lutheran Church	A, C	Ethnic Heritage: Finnish, Religion, Architecture
Pelkie vicinity	Pelkie School (1909)	A, C	Education, Architecture
Pelkie vicinity	Pelkie Cemetery	A	Social History
Pelkie vicinity	Johnson Farm, Kyro Road	A, C	Agriculture, Ethnic Heritage: Finnish, Architecture
Pelkie vicinity	Farmsteads and farm buildings	A, C	Agriculture, Ethnic Heritage: Finnish, Architecture

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 22

In northwestern Baraga Township, there may be a rural agricultural historic district that extends westward into southern Portage Township in Houghton County. This part of Baraga Township, which contains the National Register-listed Hanka Homestead, is contiguous with the Otter Lake community of Finnish farmers. There may be another rural agricultural historic district in the vicinity of Pelkie, where there was also a large Finnish farming community; this district would include, but would not necessarily be limited to, Hamar Road. Within this potential district there are a number of farmsteads and farm buildings that may be individually eligible, including examples of stovewood and hewn log construction and distinctive Finnish building types such as granaries and saunas. Both of these potential agricultural historic districts retain historic landscape features and rural character with relatively few modern intrusions. There may be a district encompassing all or part of the village of Pelkie, which has been that area's community center since the 1890s. Buildings in Pelkie include two churches, a co-op store, a cheese factory, a school, automobile service station, railroad-related buildings, and houses.

**Houghton County**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>NR Criteria</b>	<b>Themes</b>
Adams Township	Michigan Smelter office	A	Industry: Copper

23

<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>NR Criteria</b>	<b>Themes</b>
Askel vicinity	Heikkinen Farm	A, C	Agriculture, Ethnic Heritage: Finnish, Architecture
Askel vicinity	Askel Cemetery	A	Ethnic Heritage: Finnish, Social History
Atlantic Mine	St. Mary's Church Hall	A, C	Industry: Copper, Architecture
Boston vicinity	Potato warehouse	A	Agriculture
Calumet Township	Schoolcraft Township Cemetery	A	Social History
Centennial Heights	WPA stone boat	C	Art
Chassell	Hamar House	C	Architecture
Chassell	Community Center	C	Architecture
Chassell	Chassell State Bank	A, C	Commerce, Architecture
Chassell vicinity	Farmsteads and farm buildings	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Coburntown	Barn, Sunshine Road	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Copper City	Commercial buildings	A, C	Commerce, Architecture
Copper City vicinity	Kearsarge No. 4 machine shop	A, C	Industry: Copper, Architecture
Dollar Bay	Copper Country Cheese Cooperative	A	Agriculture
Dollar Bay	Dollar Bay High School	A, C	Education, Architecture
Dollar Bay	Order of Runeberg Lodge	A	Ethnic Heritage: Finnish
Elo vicinity	Elo Cemetery	A	Ethnic Heritage: Finnish, Social History
Florida	Calumet Finnish Ladies' Society Hall	A, C	Ethnic Heritage: Finnish, Architecture
Franklin Township	Keweenaw Research Center	A	Military
Hancock	House, 624 Lake Avenue	C	Architecture
Hancock	House with Flemish gables, Quincy Street	C	Architecture
Hancock	Finnish Lutheran Church	A, C	Religion, Architecture
Hancock	Central High School	A, C	Education, Architecture
Hancock	Edward Ryan School	A, C	Education, Architecture
Hancock	E. L. Wright School	A, C	Education, Architecture
Hancock	OHM Building, Hancock St.	A, C	Commerce, Architecture
Hancock	Tenement, Quincy St.	C	Architecture
Hancock	Houses on Quincy, Roberts, Minnesota, Emma, Ethel	C	Architecture
Hancock	Gas station, N. Lincoln Dr.	A, C	Commerce, Architecture
Hancock	Sisters of St. Joseph Carondelet Hospital	A, C	Health/Medicine, Architecture

## DRAFT

<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>NR Criteria</b>	<b>Themes</b>
Hancock	Nikander Hall	A, C	Education, Architecture
Hancock	HCTC streetcar barn	A	Transportation
Hancock	Houghton-Hancock Lift Bridge	A	Transportation
Hancock Township	Portage Lifesaving Station	A, C	Maritime History, Architecture
Hancock Township	Farmsteads	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Houghton	Copper Range Railroad Depot	A, C	Transportation, Architecture
Houghton	MTU Administration and Library Building	A, C	Education, Architecture
Houghton	MTU Daniell Heights	C	Architecture
Houghton vicinity	Forest Hill Cemetery	A	Social History
Hubbell	Queen Anne style house, D Avenue	C	Architecture
Hubbell	First National Bank	A, C	Commerce, Architecture
Hubbell	Opal Building	A, C	Commerce, Architecture
Hubbell	St. John's Lutheran Church	A, C	Religion, Architecture
Hubbell	St. Cecelia's Catholic Church, parsonage, school	A, C	Religion, Architecture
Hurontown	Bungalow, Main Street	C	Architecture
Jacobsville vicinity	Jacobsville School	A, C	Education, Architecture
Jacobsville vicinity	Jacobsville Cemetery	A	Social History
Kearsarge	Hut Inn	A, C	Commerce, Architecture
Kearsarge	Vic's Cabins	A, C	Entertainment/Recreation, Architecture
Kearsarge	WPA stone boat	C	Art
Kenton	Ottawa National Forest Ranger Station and obelisk	A, C	Conservation, Architecture
Laird Township	Farmsteads	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Laird Township	Motley School	A	Education
Laird Township	County Line Road Bridge	A	Transportation
Lake Linden	Mineral Range Railroad Station	A, C	Transportation, Architecture
Lake Linden	C&H stamp mill site	A	Industry: Copper
Lake Linden	Potato warehouse	A	Agriculture
Lake Linden vicinity	Mount Calvary Cemetery	A	Social History
Lake Linden vicinity	Maple Hill Cemetery	A	Social History
Lake Linden vicinity	House, Bootjack Rd. (Gregoryville)	C	Architecture
Laurium	Airport hangar	A, C	Transportation, Architecture

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<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>NR Criteria</b>	<b>Themes</b>
Liminga	Two one-room schools	A, C	Education, Architecture
Nisula	St. Henry's Church	A, C	Religion, Architecture
Nisula	Nisula School	A, C	Education, Architecture
Osceola Township	Lakeview Cemetery	A, C	Social History, Landscape Architecture
Paavola	Farmsteads	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Portage and Chassell townships	Farmsteads, Paradise Road	A, C	Agriculture, Ethnic Heritage, Architecture
Portage Township	Farm buildings in vicinity of Tapiola, Askel, Elo	A, C	Agriculture, Ethnic Heritage: Finnish, Architecture
Portage Township	Otter River Fish Hatchery	A, C	Conservation, Architecture
Portage Township	Karki Hill Cemetery	A	Ethnic Heritage: Finnish, Social History
Redridge	Redridge School	A, C	Education, Architecture
Ripley	Ripley School	A, C	Education, Architecture
Schoolcraft Township	Farm with observatory-granary, Post Road	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Schoolcraft Township	Recreational homes	A, C	Entertainment/Recreation, Architecture
Sidnaw	Sidnaw School	A, C	Education, Architecture
Sidnaw	POW camp guard tower	A	Military
Stanton Township	Farmsteads and farm buildings, northern Stanton Township	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Stanton Township	One-room school, Coles Creek Road	A, C	Education, Architecture
Stanton Township	Heikkinen School	A, C	Education, Architecture
Stanton Township	Farmstead, Lakeview Rd.	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Stanton Township	Farmstead, Misery Bay Rd.	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Stanton Township	Gothic-roofed barn, Misery Bay Rd.	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Tapiola	Doelle Agricultural School	A, C	Agriculture, Education, Architecture
Tapiola vicinity	Farmstead, 3576 Lake Road	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Tapiola vicinity	Stovewood poultry house, 17177 S. River Road	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Torch Lake Township	Sarazin School	A, C	Education, Architecture
Torch Lake Township	Keweenaw Waterway Lower Entrance Light, light station, breakwater pier	A, C	Maritime History, Architecture

1

<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>NR Criteria</b>	<b>Themes</b>
Torch Lake Township	Nara Farmstead	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Torch Lake Township	Farm, Red Rock Road	A, C	Agriculture, Ethnic Heritage: Finnish, Architecture
Torch Lake Township	Lake Linden-Hubbell Sportsmen’s Association Clubhouse	A, C	Entertainment/Recreation, Architecture
Torch Lake Township	Recreational homes	A, C	Entertainment/Recreation, Architecture
Twin Lakes	Golden Harp Tavern	A, C	Commerce, Architecture
Winona vicinity	Woodland Cemetery	A	Social History
	Keweenaw Waterway	A	Maritime History

2

3 In northernmost Calumet Township, there may be an industrial historic district encompassing the  
 4 Centennial, Wolverine, and Kearsarge mine sites, an area once known as the Valley of the  
 5 Mines. Multiple sites associated with each mining company contain industrial buildings,  
 6 structures, ruins, and waste rock piles. Two of five extant shafthouses in the Copper Country are  
 7 in this proposed district at the Centennial No. 3 and No. 6 mine sites.

8

9 An intensive level survey of worker housing in the C&H, Osceola, Tamarack, and Centennial  
 10 mine locations in Calumet and Osceola townships recommended National Register listing for the  
 11 entire area of 910 acres with approximately fifteen hundred properties as the Calumet and Hecla  
 12 Mining Company Worker Housing Historic District.<sup>65</sup> A small proportion of the proposed  
 13 historic district is within the National Historic Landmark Calumet Historic District; a larger  
 14 proportion is within the boundaries of Keweenaw National Historical Park. The proposed  
 15 district contains the largest concentration of mine worker housing in the Copper Country. The  
 16 2000 survey identified 86 percent of the buildings in the proposed district as contributing. There  
 17 have been losses since then, but not enough to invalidate the integrity of the district as a whole.

18

19 There may be one or more rural agricultural historic districts in the area west and southwest of  
 20 the village of Calumet. In addition to farmsteads that may be individually eligible, the area  
 21 contains historic agricultural landscapes and retains its rural character with few modern  
 22 intrusions.

23

24 In the city of Hancock, the Quincy Hillside Addition (1899) and the Quincy Second Hillside  
 25 Addition (1903) may be eligible as historic districts. The Quincy Mining Company platted the  
 26 two subdivisions to provide reasonably priced homes for mine workers. In contrast to mine  
 27 locations, the company sold both houses and lots. The Quincy Second Hillside Addition extends  
 28 outside of city boundaries into Franklin Township. There may also be a residential historic

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<sup>65</sup> Lynn Bjorkman, “Mine Worker Housing in Calumet, Michigan: 1864-1950” (Calumet: Keweenaw National Historical Park, 2000).

1 district in the area along Lake Avenue and Water Street. This neighborhood contains a  
2 concentration of distinctive house styles and types, including some of the oldest houses in the  
3 city. Two areas near the National Historic Landmark Quincy Mining Company Historic District  
4 may be eligible as historic districts. One is the village of Paavola, an independent community  
5 built to house workers at the Arcadian Mining Company. Paavola contains diverse house types,  
6 a community hall, and small barns and other buildings used for subsistence agriculture. In  
7 Ripley, the Quincy Mining Company built housing for workers and managers at the Quincy  
8 Smelter; however, only a small part of Ripley is included in the Quincy Mining Company  
9 Historic District. There are nearly one hundred buildings in Ripley, mostly houses. The Ripley  
10 School is a focal point; the Michigan SHPO has determined that the school is eligible.

11  
12 Another potential industrial historic district consists of Torch Lake and Portage Lake stamp mill  
13 and smelter sites in the communities of Lake Linden, Hubbell, Tamarack City, Mason, Dollar  
14 Bay, and Point Mills. Although none of the stamp mills survive, there are impressive ruins along  
15 with industrial and administrative buildings, structures, and stamp sands. The Quincy Mining  
16 Company Stamp Mill Historic District in Mason is within this proposed district. Just north of  
17 Hubbell, there may be a residential historic district in Linwood, which includes a section of large  
18 houses that were marketed to C&H upper-level personnel. Immediately north of Lake Linden,  
19 there may be a residential historic district of large houses on Cemetery Road.

20  
21 On the peninsula surrounded by Portage and Torch lakes, the Atlas Powder Company site with  
22 its company town of Senter may be eligible as a historic district. The Atlas Powder Company  
23 provided explosives to the mining companies; its explosives plant at Senter operated from 1910  
24 to 1960. This distinctive industrial complex retains at least four brick industrial buildings (only  
25 part of the site was accessible), laboratory, office building, and five company houses.

26  
27 In Houghton, there may be a residential historic district on East Houghton Avenue and vicinity,  
28 where there is a concentration of elaborate houses dating from the late nineteenth to early  
29 twentieth centuries. Along Woodland Drive, extending from Houghton into northern Portage  
30 Township, a group of distinctive modern ranch, split-level, and two-story houses may constitute  
31 a district. Other potential historic districts in northern Portage Township are Dakota Heights,  
32 Hurontown, and Isle Royale No. 2 and No. 5 locations. Laid out in 1906, Dakota Heights is a  
33 neighborhood of worker housing that was developed for workers in the Copper Range Railroad  
34 yards. Immediately south of Houghton, Hurontown is composed of two communities that were  
35 platted in 1862 on former mining company land. Approximately one hundred resources in  
36 Hurontown are mostly houses dating to the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Isle  
37 Royale No. 2 location contains houses, industrial buildings, and ruins. Isle Royale No. 5 location  
38 contains houses and two schools.

39  
40 In the South Range area, the Painesdale Historic District is listed in the National Register, but  
41 there are other potential districts associated with the Copper Range Consolidated Company  
42 copper mines. The incorporated village of South Range was the commercial village serving the  
43 mine locations; it is the most intact and substantial of the district's communities. There appears  
44 to be a historic business district along Trimountain Avenue in South Range; there may also be a  
45 larger historic district that encompasses residential neighborhoods in the village. At Baltic and  
46 Trimountain locations there may be historic districts composed of worker and manager housing.

1 The Baltic mine site retains four industrial buildings and large piles of mine waste rock. On the  
 2 Lake Superior shore, Freda may constitute a historic district as the most intact of the Copper  
 3 Range stamp mill locations. The community contains extensive ruins from the Champion stamp  
 4 mill, the mill office/warehouse, and worker housing.

5  
 6 In the unincorporated village of Chassell, there may be a historic district along Willson  
 7 Memorial Drive. Chassell was the leading lumber company town in Houghton County and one  
 8 of the most important lumber towns in the western Upper Peninsula. Willson Memorial Drive is  
 9 the main thoroughfare and retains commercial buildings, churches, houses, and a community  
 10 center. There may also be a residential historic district on other streets in the village, including  
 11 but not necessarily limited to the company housing on Marinette Street.

12  
 13 In southern Portage Township, there are two potential rural agricultural historic districts, one in  
 14 the vicinity of Askel and the other west of Tapiola. Both areas were part of the Otter Lake  
 15 Finnish farming community, the oldest Finnish farming community in the Copper Country. The  
 16 districts retain concentrations of Finnish farms with excellent examples of distinctive Finnish  
 17 agricultural building types and construction techniques along with historic landscape features;  
 18 there are few modern intrusions. There may also be a historic district of recreational cottages on  
 19 the north shore of Otter Lake.

20  
 21 In the Twin Lakes area of Elm River Township, there may be one or more historic districts of  
 22 recreational cottages on Lake Gerald, Lake Roland, and/or Sandy Lake. There may be a  
 23 thematic district of hunting and fishing camps in Duncan Township. Many of the camps are log  
 24 buildings in the rustic style.

25  
 26 **Keweenaw County**

27

Location	Description	NR Criteria	Themes
Ahmeek Location	Ahmeek Mine Office	A, C	Industry: Copper, Architecture
Ahmeek vicinity	Methodist Church	A, C	Religion, Architecture
Ahmeek vicinity	Ahmeek mine dry house	A, C	Industry: Copper, Architecture
Allouez Township	Veterans Memorial Park	A, C	Entertainment/Recreation, Art
Allouez Township	Keweenaw Handicraft Shop	A, C	Entertainment/Recreation, Architecture
Allouez Township	Sunset Bay Campground	A, C	Entertainment/Recreation, Architecture
Copper Harbor	Our Lady of the Pines Chapel	A, C	Religion, Architecture
Copper Harbor vicinity	Copper Harbor range lights station	A, C	Maritime History, Architecture
Copper Harbor vicinity	Fort Wilkins State Park campground, parking area, picnic area	A, C	Entertainment/Recreation, Architecture, Landscape Architecture

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<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>NR Criteria</b>	<b>Themes</b>
Eagle Harbor	Lake Breeze Hotel	A, C	Entertainment/Recreation, Architecture
Eagle Harbor	Eagle Harbor School (1872)	A, C	Education, Architecture
Eagle Harbor	Foley Brothers General Store	A	Commerce
Eagle Harbor vicinity	Eagle Harbor rear range lighthouse	A, C	Maritime History, Architecture
Eagle Harbor vicinity	Pine Grove Cemetery	A	Social History
Eagle Harbor Township	Copper Falls Park	A	Entertainment/Recreation
Eagle Harbor and Grant townships	Brockway Mountain Drive	A, C	Entertainment/Recreation, Landscape Architecture
Eagle River	Main Street Bridge	A	Transportation
Eagle River	Lake Shore Drive Bridge	A	Transportation
Eagle River	Gitche Gumee Bible Camp	A, C	Religion, Entertainment/Recreation, Architecture
Eagle River vicinity	Evergreen Cemetery	A	Social History
Grant Township	Mendota Ship Canal	A	Maritime History
Phoenix vicinity	Bammert Blacksmith Shop	A, C	Commerce, Architecture

1  
2 On M-26 between Eagle Harbor and Copper Harbor, Hebard Park, Esrey Park, and Silver River  
3 Falls may constitute a non-contiguous district of roadside parks created by the Keweenaw  
4 County Road Commission (KCRC). They may also be part of a larger district of KCRC projects  
5 in Keweenaw County. During the Depression, the KCRC used federal relief funds for projects  
6 that provided work for unemployed mine workers and played an important role in the  
7 development of automobile tourism. The parks are also notable for their landscape design.

8  
9 There appears to be a historic district in the village of Eagle Harbor. One of the oldest  
10 communities in the Copper Country, Eagle Harbor retains much historic fabric including the  
11 largest concentration of Greek Revival style buildings in the region. In addition to houses,  
12 nineteenth century buildings include a general store, hotels, two schools, and three churches,  
13 some of which are individually listed or eligible. Buildings related to the development of Eagle  
14 Harbor as a resort town in the twentieth century include recreational homes, the Lake Breeze  
15 Hotel, motels, and several tourist-oriented commercial buildings.

16  
17 In central Keweenaw County, there may be a historic district encompassing the Cliff, Phoenix,  
18 Central, Delaware, and Mandan mine locations along with other mine sites in the vicinity. This  
19 district does not have the dense concentration of buildings that is found in the South End, but  
20 there are clusters of buildings at the important Central (NR listed) and Phoenix mine locations,  
21 scattered buildings elsewhere, cemeteries, numerous ruins of industrial buildings, and important  
22 mine waste rock piles and stamp sand deposits. The Cliff site has outstanding significance as the  
23 first successful mine in the Copper Country; archaeological excavations there have demonstrated

1 its eligibility under Criterion D for archaeology. At the Delaware mine, one of the shafts is open  
 2 for underground tours.

3  
 4 There is potential for several historic districts among the mine sites, locations, and villages of  
 5 southwestern Keweenaw County. Known as the South End, this mining district extends from  
 6 Seneca Location in the north to Allouez on the Houghton County border. Mining began here in  
 7 1847 and ended in 1966. There is an array of housing types and styles for mine workers and  
 8 managers in the company locations of Bumbletown, Allouez, New Allouez, Ahmeek Location,  
 9 Fulton, Mohawk, and Seneca Location. Although Mohawk was a company location, it also  
 10 served as a community center with general stores (not extant) and churches. Ahmeek Village  
 11 was incorporated in 1909 as a commercial village; it retains its historic commercial district along  
 12 with churches, a streetcar station, town hall, and many houses. The South End also contains  
 13 industrial buildings, ruins, and waste rock piles.

14  
 15 In southeastern Keweenaw County, there may be a historic district in the village of Gay. The  
 16 small community at the mouth of the Tobacco River supported logging and quarrying before the  
 17 Mohawk and Wolverine mining companies built stamp mills there in the early twentieth century,  
 18 leading to significant growth. After the last stamp mill closed in 1932, the Dion sawmill became  
 19 the primary employer until the 1960s. Today Gay retains much of its historic fabric as a stamp  
 20 mill and lumber town, including worker housing and community buildings. A towering  
 21 smokestack remains from the Mohawk stamp mill, and there are miles of stamp sands along the  
 22 Lake Superior shore. Northeast of Gay on the lakeshore, a former Finnish fishing community at  
 23 the mouth of the Big Betsy River may constitute a historic district. Most, if not all, of the two  
 24 dozen houses and outbuildings are from the Jarve family of commercial fishermen who lived and  
 25 operated there in the mid-twentieth century.

26  
 27 **Ontonagon County**

28

Location	Description	NR Criteria	Themes
Bergland	Pump house	C	Architecture
Bergland	Bergland School	A, C	Education, Architecture
Bruce Crossing	Settlers Co-op Hall	A, C	Ethnic Heritage: Finnish, Architecture
Bruce Crossing	Settlers Co-op Farm & Feed Store	A, C	Agriculture, Ethnic Heritage: Finnish, Architecture
Bruce Crossing	Bungalow with garage and barn, M-28	C	Architecture
Carp Lake Township	Carp Lake Township Precinct 2 School	A, C	Education, Architecture
Ewen	Humphrey farmstead	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Ewen	Foursquare house, Birch St.	C	Architecture
Ewen	Ewen United Methodist Church	A, C	Religion, Architecture
Ewen	State Bank of Ewen (now township library & offices)	A, C	Commerce, Architecture

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<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>NR Criteria</b>	<b>Themes</b>
Ewen	Ewen High School	A, C	Education, Architecture
Greenland Township	Wainola Church	A	Religion, Ethnic Heritage: Finnish
Greenland Township	Mass Co-op Company	A	Commerce, Ethnic Heritage: Finnish
Haight Township	Maple Grove Town Hall	A	Politics, Government
Interior Township	M-28 Bridge, Middle Branch Ontonagon River	A, C	Transportation, Engineering
Interior Township	Agate Falls railroad trestle bridge	A, C	Transportation
Mass City	Settlers Co-op Store	A	Commerce, Ethnic Heritage: Finnish
Mass location	Mass mine doctor's house, Ridge Road	A, C	Industry: Copper, Architecture
Matchwood Township	Topaz Community Hall	A	Social History
Matchwood Township	Farmsteads	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
McMillan Township	Farmsteads and farm buildings	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Misery Bay	Misery Bay Hall	A, C	Education, Social History, Architecture
Misery Bay	Farmsteads	A, C	Agriculture, Ethnic Heritage: Finnish, Architecture
Ontonagon Township	Ontonagon County Poorhouse	A, C	Politics/Government; Architecture
Ontonagon Township	Ontonagon Golf Course Clubhouse	A, C	Entertainment/Recreation, Architecture
Ontonagon Township	Evergreen Cemetery	A	Social History
Ontonagon Township	Farmsteads	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Ontonagon Village	Toll House	A, C	Transportation, Architecture
Ontonagon Village	First National Bank	A, C	Commerce, Architecture
Ontonagon Village	Johnny's Bar	A	Ethnic Heritage
Ontonagon Village	Hawley Lumber Company	A, C	Industry: Lumber, Architecture
Ontonagon Village	Ontonagon County Road Commission Garage	A, C	Transportation, Architecture
Ontonagon Village	Heard Farm, 215 Silver St.	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Ontonagon Village	Redeemer Free Lutheran Church	A, C	Religion, Architecture

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<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>NR Criteria</b>	<b>Themes</b>
Ontonagon Village <sup>66</sup>	Commercial building, 626 River Street	A, C	Commerce, Architecture
Ontonagon Village	Commercial Building, 745 River Street	A, C	Commerce, Architecture
Ontonagon Village	Commercial Building, 401 Quartz Street	A, C	Commerce, Architecture
Ontonagon Village	House, 502 Greenland Road	C	Architecture
Ontonagon Village	House, 109 Mercury Road	C	Architecture
Ontonagon Village	House, 607 Old Rockland Road	C	Architecture
Ontonagon Village	House, 102 River Street	C	Architecture
Ontonagon Village	House, 109 N. Steel Street	C	Architecture
Ontonagon Village	House, 210 S. Steel Street	C	Architecture
Ontonagon Village	House, 418 S. Steel Street	C	Architecture
Porcupine Mountains State Park	Carp Lake mine site	A, D	Industry: Copper, Archaeology
Porcupine Mountains State Park	Presque Isle Suspension Bridge	A, C	Entertainment/Recreation
Rockland	Davey Farm	A, C	Agriculture, Architecture
Rockland	Meader House	C	Architecture
Rockland	House (1856), McClellan Avenue	C	Architecture
Rockland	Reynolds House	C	Architecture
Rockland	Rose Cemetery	A	Social History
Rockland vicinity	Irish Hollow Cemetery	A	Social History, Ethnic Heritage
Rockland vicinity	Woodlawn Cemetery	A	Social History
Trout Creek	Trout Creek School (brick)	A, C	Education, Architecture
Trout Creek	Railroad depot	A, C	Transportation, Architecture
Trout Creek	Fire Hall	A, C	Politics/Government, Architecture
White Pine	Ball mill site	A, D	Industry: copper, archaeology

- 1
- 2 There are at least two potential historic districts in the village of Ontonagon. On South Steel and
- 3 Gold streets, the Hawley houses are identical worker houses built by the Hawley Lumber
- 4 Company. On Greenland Road there is a group of large, well-preserved early twentieth century

<sup>66</sup> The three commercial buildings and seven houses that follow were identified as National Register eligible in an intensive level survey that Commonwealth Cultural Resources Group conducted in 1996. Commonwealth Cultural Resources Group, "Phase I Archaeological Survey, Land Use History and Survey of Above-Ground Historic Resources, M-64 Bridge Replacement Project, Ontonagon, Michigan" (Jackson, MI: CCRG, 1996).

1 houses influenced by the Queen Anne style. Styles and types of houses in the remainder of  
2 Ontonagon Village are more diverse than usual, including Queen Anne; Arts and Crafts, both  
3 bungalows and foursquares; Tudor cottages; Cape Cod cottages; and ranch houses. Integrity is  
4 variable, so intensive level survey is needed to determine where there are districts.  
5

6 In her 1998 inventory of historic resources in Michigan's state parks, Amy Arnold identified an  
7 eligible historic district encompassing the road and trail system and service area in Porcupine  
8 Mountains Wilderness State Park.<sup>67</sup> These resources were developed following establishment of  
9 the state park in 1945 and include foot trails, South Boundary Road, trailside cabins, Lake of the  
10 Clouds overlook, and service area buildings. Arnold did not include the Union Bay Campground  
11 (1952) because it was not fifty years old in 1998; now it appears to contribute to the historic  
12 district.  
13

14 The White Pine town site appears to be eligible as a historic district. The town site is  
15 exceptionally important for its association with the White Pine mine, which produced more than  
16 four billion pounds of sulfide copper between 1955 and 1995, when native copper mining had  
17 ended. The White Pine mine site does not retain integrity, but the town site does, and it has  
18 significance in its own right as a model company town designed by Pace Associates of Chicago.  
19 With a curvilinear street pattern characteristic of postwar suburbs, White Pine was built  
20 beginning in 1952. Today, community buildings, two schools, three churches, and a few  
21 examples of multi-family housing remain at White Pine along with approximately two to three  
22 hundred single-family houses, most of them ranch houses.  
23

24 There may be an industrial historic district encompassing the Mass mine sites. At Mass mine  
25 sites A & B there are foundations, pond and dam, a smokestack, and waste rock piles.<sup>68</sup> At Mass  
26 location, a half dozen or so large homes for upper-level mine personnel on Ridge and Trearrow  
27 roads may constitute a historic district. There may be a rural agricultural historic district south of  
28 Mass City in southern Greenland Township, extending eastward into Bohemia Township as far  
29 as Dishneau Road. In the early twentieth century this was a prosperous dairy farming area,  
30 predominated by Finns. More than one hundred former farms were identified during the survey.  
31 Numerous farmsteads have multiple buildings, including examples with log construction. The  
32 town sites of Wainola and Wasas are within the potential district, which retains its rural  
33 agricultural character with few modern intrusions.  
34

35 Rockland is the most intact of the native copper mine towns in Ontonagon County; it is also  
36 significant for its association with the Minesota mine, the second profitable copper mine in the  
37 Copper Country. There may be a historic business district on National Avenue (U.S. 45), which  
38 contains a concentration of commercial buildings built ca. 1900, including examples in the  
39 Italianate style. On Victoria Avenue, a potential residential historic district comprised of large  
40 Queen Anne and Colonial Revival style houses may extend along intersecting streets.  
41

42 At Victoria, there may be a historic district encompassing Victoria location, the sawmill site, and  
43 the mine site. At Victoria location, four log workers' houses have been restored, and there are

---

<sup>67</sup> Amy Arnold and Deborah Dietrich-Smith, *Inventory of Historical Resources in Selected Michigan State Parks* (Lansing: Michigan State Historic Preservation Office, 1998).

<sup>68</sup> Mass mine site C was not accessible for the survey.

1 ruins of additional log houses there and at the sawmill site. At the Victoria mine site, there are  
2 numerous ruins of industrial buildings and large piles of mine waste rock. Some additional  
3 company housing is located near the mine site, including the mine captain's house.  
4

5 In southern Ontonagon County, Trout Creek, Ewen, and Bergland are the most intact of more  
6 than a dozen lumber mill towns that existed there in the late nineteenth and early twentieth  
7 centuries. Most have disappeared with little or no trace other than a name on a map. Of the  
8 three, Trout Creek had the longest life as a lumber town: the first sawmill began operating there  
9 in 1891, and the last burned ca. 1970. A potential historic district in Trout Creek would include  
10 commercial buildings, churches, two schools, a fire hall, railroad station, and housing, including  
11 two distinct clusters of mill worker housing. Near the village (which is unincorporated, so  
12 boundaries are not defined), two more clusters of worker housing and a mill pond could be  
13 included in this historic district. Ewen was platted in 1889 and grew rapidly as a mill town and  
14 supply center for logging camps in the woods nearby. Rebuilt after a fire in 1893, in the early  
15 twentieth century Ewen was part lumber town and part community center for the surrounding  
16 farms. There may be a historic commercial district on Cedar Street; there are also streets of  
17 worker housing, but integrity may be an issue. Lumberman Gunlek Bergland platted Bergland in  
18 1902, but he let the village develop independently rather than as a company town. There may be  
19 a historic district in Bergland, which retains houses, churches, commercial buildings, a park, a  
20 cemetery, and a school. Early twentieth century buildings are concentrated south of M-28, while  
21 later buildings such as ranch houses and two modernist churches predominate north of M-28.  
22

### 23 **Non-Contiguous Historic Districts**

24  
25 In addition to the contiguous districts described above, there may be two non-contiguous  
26 thematic historic districts, one consisting of stovewood buildings and the other consisting of one-  
27 room schoolhouses. During the 1930s Finns used stovewood (also known as cordwood)  
28 construction, an unusual construction technique in which short logs were stacked perpendicular  
29 to the plane of the wall so that the cut ends faced outward.<sup>69</sup> Stovewood construction was most  
30 frequently used for building poultry houses, but it was also used for barns and other farm  
31 buildings. There may be several dozen stovewood farm buildings in Houghton, Baraga, and  
32 Ontonagon counties. Approximately twenty one-room schoolhouses were identified in the  
33 survey. While most, perhaps all, of these are individually significant under Criterion A, as a  
34 group they may be eligible as a non-contiguous district that shows how the one-room  
35 schoolhouse evolved over time.  
36

### 37 **Priorities for Intensive Level Survey**

38  
39 Many individual properties and districts that may be eligible for listing in the National Register  
40 of Historic Places have been identified in the preceding discussion. Following are suggested  
41 priorities for conducting intensive level survey. In general, intensive level survey of potential  
42 districts will have a greater impact than documentation of individual properties. If a property is  
43 threatened, however, that may override other considerations. In some cases it will be possible to  
44 combine intensive level survey with preparation of a National Register nomination. In other

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<sup>69</sup> Finns constructed the vast majority of stovewood buildings in the Copper Country, but it is possible that a few were built by Swedes, Norwegians, or Poles, who used stovewood construction in Wisconsin.

DRAFT

1 cases it may make more sense to conduct intensive level survey first in order to get more  
2 information about a potential district before proceeding with a National Register nomination.  
3

- 4 · Priority 1: Intensive level survey of places with concentrations of copper mining  
5 resources, including White Pine, Torch Lake, and the South End of Keweenaw County  
6
- 7 · Priority 2: Intensive level survey of places such as Eagle Harbor that played an important  
8 role in copper mining history but do not contain copper mining resources  
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- 10 · Priority 3: Intensive level survey of places tangentially related to copper mining, such as  
11 agricultural districts  
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- 13 · Priority 4: Intensive level survey of places not related to copper mining, such as lumber  
14 towns in southern Ontonagon County  
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16 Copper mining resources have been given top priority because the history of copper mining is  
17 the most important story in the history of the region; it is what makes the Copper Country  
18 nationally significant. Nevertheless, even if other types of historic resources are of secondary  
19 importance, they have been included here because they may be National Register eligible and are  
20 worthy of consideration when time and resources permit.  
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**THE FRAMEWORK FOR PRESERVATION**

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Historic preservation activities in the Copper Country are supported by a framework of federal and state government agencies, local governments, nonprofit organizations, laws, and policies. Within this framework, Keweenaw National Historical Park plays the lead role. Congress established the park in 1992 to preserve and interpret the nationally significant resources that tell the story of copper mining on the Keweenaw Peninsula. The park consists of two units: the Quincy Unit, northeast of the city of Hancock, and the Calumet Unit, in and around the village of Calumet. The Quincy Unit contains 1,120 acres that encompass the buildings, structures, ruins, and landscapes that remain from the Quincy Mining Company. The National Park Service (NPS) owns 137 acres within the Quincy Unit, including two standing buildings—the Quincy Mine Office and the Mesnard Streetcar Station. The Calumet Unit contains 750 acres that include the historic village of Calumet and the mine locations that surround it, most notably the buildings, structures, and landscapes of the Calumet & Hecla (C&H) Mining Company. The NPS owns four historic buildings in the Calumet Unit—the C&H general office building, C&H library, C&H warehouse, and the Union Building—and one historic structure—the Russell snowplow. The NPS has rehabilitated the C&H general office building as park headquarters and the Union Building as a visitor center; the C&H library houses the park’s museum collections and archives.

Most of the property within park boundaries is not owned by the NPS. Keweenaw National Historical Park was established as a partnership park, intended to work with and assist local partners who undertake much of the work of preserving and interpreting copper mining history, both within and outside of park boundaries. The park’s enabling legislation established the Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission to assist the park in its mission, to act as a liaison with neighboring communities, and to conduct activities outside of park boundaries. The seven members of the Advisory Commission include representatives from local governments and the State of Michigan; there is also an executive director. One of the commission’s activities is to help administer and develop the Keweenaw Heritage Sites program, a network of nineteen sites owned and operated by state and local governments, private businesses, and nonprofit organizations both within and outside of park boundaries. The majority of the Heritage Sites are museums or heritage centers; all but two of these are located in historic buildings. These include the Coppertown Museum, Keweenaw Heritage Center at St. Anne’s, and Copper Country Firefighters History Museum in Calumet; the Chassell Heritage Center in Chassell; the Copper Range Historical Museum in South Range; and the Ontonagon County Historical Society museum and lighthouse in Ontonagon Village. In Lake Linden, the Houghton County Historical Society operates a museum complex of in situ and moved buildings on the site of the C&H stamp mill in addition to a heritage center in the First Congregational Church. The Keweenaw County Historical Society’s primary museum complex consists of the Eagle Harbor lighthouse and its auxiliary buildings. In addition, the society has restored and interprets historic buildings in Central, Eagle Harbor, Eagle River, Gay, and Phoenix.

The Heritage Sites include three mine sites that offer underground mine tours: the Delaware mine (Keweenaw County), Adventure mine (Ontonagon County), and Quincy mine. These mine sites also have ruins and a few standing buildings, most notably at the Quincy mine, which is operated by the Quincy Mine Hoist Association. Other historic sites include Fort Wilkins

1 Historic State Park near Copper Harbor, the Hanka Homestead Museum near Pelkie, and Old  
2 Victoria near Rockland. Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park contains numerous remains  
3 of early copper mines. Two National Register-listed buildings that are not museums are also  
4 Heritage Sites. At the Calumet Theatre, visitors can tour the theater or attend a theatrical  
5 performance. The Laurium Manor Inn, a mine captain’s mansion that is now a bed and breakfast  
6 inn, is open to the public for tours.

7  
8 Keweenaw National Historical Park and the Advisory Commission work with a variety of  
9 partners in addition to the Heritage Sites. The municipalities within park boundaries are key  
10 partners. Calumet Village, its historic district commission, and its downtown development  
11 authority along with Main Street Calumet work closely with the park to preserve and revitalize  
12 Calumet’s historic business district. Calumet Township with its historic district commission and  
13 downtown development authority works similarly to preserve historic resources within its  
14 jurisdiction, including many that it owns. Franklin Township owns the Quincy Smelter and  
15 works with the Advisory Commission and the nonprofit Quincy Smelter Association to preserve  
16 this internationally-significant historic resource. Franklin and Quincy townships are partners in  
17 preserving the Quincy mine site. Several partners are involved in promoting heritage tourism  
18 including the Keweenaw Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, Keweenaw Convention and Visitors  
19 Bureau, Western Upper Peninsula Heritage Trail Network, and Copper Country Trail National  
20 Byway. The Copper Country Trail Committee—itsself a consortium of private and public  
21 partners—is actively involved in the stewardship of historic and natural resources within the  
22 byway corridor, which consists of all of the Keweenaw Peninsula north of the Portage Lake Lift  
23 Bridge. The Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR)  
24 coordinates the work of the Copper Country Trail Committee and undertakes other heritage  
25 tourism initiatives. Isle Royale National Park occupies a unique place among the park’s partners,  
26 as it contains historic resources that tell the story of copper mining on Isle Royale, a complement  
27 to Keweenaw National Historical Park’s mission to tell that story on the Keweenaw Peninsula.  
28 Faculty and students at Michigan Technological University’s graduate programs in industrial  
29 archaeology and heritage management undertake many activities in partnership with the park,  
30 including documenting historic sites and writing nominations for the National Register of  
31 Historic Places. The mission of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community’s Tribal Historic  
32 Preservation Office (THPO) is to preserve and protect all aspects of Ojibwa culture, including  
33 historic sites.

34  
35 In addition to maintaining and restoring the park’s historic buildings, Keweenaw National  
36 Historical Park and the Advisory Commission conduct numerous activities that further historic  
37 preservation and guide interpretive efforts. A cultural landscape report was completed for the  
38 Quincy Unit and another is underway for the Calumet Unit, assessing the current conditions of  
39 historic resources and making recommendations for their preservation. The park’s interpretive  
40 programs include walking tours that highlight the significance of historic buildings, structures,  
41 and landscapes. The Advisory Commission sponsored the Copper Country survey of above-  
42 ground historic resources along with a second survey of mine waste deposits and has given  
43 special attention to preserving the Quincy Smelter, helping to obtain a \$1,000,000 congressional  
44 appropriation for its stabilization. Park staff members provide extensive technical assistance to  
45 partners in the areas of preservation, museum collections, interpretation, education, and visitor  
46 services. A few examples of technical assistance recently provided by the park’s landscape

1 architect include assessing the Quincy Smelter complex for safety and preservation deficiencies,  
2 advising the Quincy Mine Hoist Association on landscape improvements that are compatible  
3 with historic resources, working with the Village of Calumet and Main Street Calumet to  
4 develop a site plan to transform a vacant lot into an urban sculpture park, and developing a  
5 wayfinding sign program for the Keweenaw Heritage Sites. The park's historical architect  
6 serves as architectural advisor to the Village of Calumet Historic District Commission. Other  
7 examples of his technical assistance activities include condition assessments with repair  
8 recommendations for the Church of the Assumption in Phoenix and the Adventure Mining  
9 Company hoist house foundation in Greenland, and making recommendations for several façade  
10 rehabilitation projects in Calumet's business district. Last but not least, both the NPS and the  
11 commission offer grants for historic preservation and related activities, a welcome source of  
12 funds that can be difficult to obtain for these purposes. The NPS funds projects within park  
13 boundaries, while the Advisory Commission can also fund projects outside of park boundaries.  
14 The Keweenaw Heritage Grant program began in 2008 and through 2012 has granted a total of  
15 \$469,578. A few of the projects funded in 2012 were asbestos abatement at the Quincy Smelter,  
16 cornice restoration of the Croatian Co-op building in Calumet, restoration of the Carnegie  
17 Library in Houghton, and repair of leaded glass windows in Christ Episcopal Church in Calumet.  
18 The NPS has also used other monies to fund the rehabilitation of historic buildings. Recent  
19 examples include replacing the roof of the Coppertown Museum building, originally the C&H  
20 pattern shop, in partnership with Coppertown USA, and stabilizing the Paine Webber building on  
21 Fifth Street in Calumet in partnership with the Calumet Village Downtown Development  
22 Authority (DDA).

23  
24 Laws at the national, state, and local level and the agencies and programs enabled by these laws  
25 provide tools to preserve historic places. More than any other law, the National Historic  
26 Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, determines how preservation activities are  
27 conducted in the United States. The NHPA established the State Historic Preservation Offices  
28 (SHPOs), the Historic Preservation Fund to fund the SHPOs, the National Register of Historic  
29 Places, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Section 106 review and comment on  
30 federal undertakings, and the Certified Local Government Program. The National Register of  
31 Historic Places is the nation's list of properties worthy of preservation. Administered by the  
32 National Park Service (NPS), the National Register lists resources significant in American  
33 history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. National Register listing does not  
34 restrict what a private property owner can do to a property. The Advisory Council on Historic  
35 Preservation administers Section 106 of the NHPA, under which activities that are funded or  
36 licensed by federal agencies are reviewed for their effects on resources that are listed in or  
37 eligible for the National Register, providing some protection from any adverse effects that these  
38 activities might cause. The most common types of projects that undergo Section 106 review are  
39 road improvements and low-income housing rehabilitations. The Certified Local Government  
40 Program is a partnership between federal, state, and local governments intended to promote  
41 preservation at the local level. Communities that are certified as Certified Local Governments  
42 (CLGs) are recognized for their commitment to preservation, receive priority for technical  
43 assistance, and can apply for historic preservation grants that are available only to CLGs. The  
44 Village of Calumet is in the process of becoming certified as a CLG.

45

1 The National Historic Landmarks Program, administered by the National Park Service, was  
2 established in 1960 to recognize the nation’s outstanding cultural and historic resources; after  
3 1966 it was coordinated with the National Register program. Resources are designated as  
4 landmarks when they possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the  
5 heritage of the United States. The Calumet Historic District and the Quincy Mining Company  
6 Historic District are both National Historic Landmarks. The Tax Reform Act of 1986  
7 established a 20 percent federal income tax credit for rehabilitating historic buildings for  
8 commercial, industrial, agricultural, or rental residential use. The tax credit is available to  
9 owners or long-term lessees of buildings that are individually listed in the National Register, that  
10 contribute to a National Register district, or that contribute to a local historic district that has  
11 been certified for this purpose. Rehabilitation work must follow the *Secretary of the Interior’s*  
12 *Standards for Rehabilitation*. A total of eight projects in Calumet, Laurium, Hancock, and  
13 Houghton have been completed using the federal historic rehabilitation tax credit.<sup>70</sup> Under the  
14 National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), federal agencies must review the impacts  
15 of their projects on the environment, including natural, historic, and cultural resources. To  
16 comply with NEPA, agencies complete environmental assessments or environmental impact  
17 statements. Keweenaw National Historical Park’s *General Management Plan* (1998) included  
18 an environmental impact statement.

19  
20 Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 provides that the Federal Highway  
21 Administration (FHWA) and other U.S. Department of Transportation agencies cannot approve a  
22 project that will harm historic resources unless it has been demonstrated that there is no prudent  
23 and feasible alternative; this has provided important protection to historic resources that are  
24 affected by federally-funded highway projects. In 2012 Congress passed MAP-21, the Moving  
25 Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, to fund and guide surface transportation programs  
26 beginning in 2013. Under MAP-21, the Transportation Alternatives Program replaces the  
27 Transportation Enhancement Program, continuing to offer grants for preservation of historic  
28 resources that relate to surface transportation. Unfortunately, MAP-21 eliminated the National  
29 Scenic Byways Program, which had positive impact in the Copper Country, particularly through  
30 the Copper Country Trail, which was designated a National Scenic Byway in 2005. In addition,  
31 a National Scenic Byways grant provided substantial funding for the Copper Country survey.

32  
33 The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development offers Community Development  
34 Block Grant (CDBG) funds for activities that benefit low- or moderate-income persons or  
35 prevent or eliminate slums or blight; these activities include historic preservation and heritage  
36 tourism. The Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) and Michigan State  
37 Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) administer CDBG funds in Michigan. CDBG funds  
38 have been used for many projects in the Copper Country; a few examples are rehabilitation of the  
39 Scott Hotel in Hancock as senior housing, stabilization of the Quincy Smelter, and rehabilitation  
40 of the Morrison School in Calumet Village as rental apartments. HUD’s HOME program  
41 provides grants to build, buy, or rehabilitate affordable housing for low-income households;  
42 HOME funds have been used for housing rehabilitation in the Copper Country.

43  
44 The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Rural Development Program offers technical  
45 assistance, loans, and a limited number of grants to support housing, community facilities,

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<sup>70</sup> A few additional projects utilized the state historic rehabilitation tax credit, which is no longer available.

1 utilities, and economic development in rural America, objectives that can readily encompass  
2 historic preservation. Rural Development loans that support historic preservation have been  
3 made to the Quincy Mine Hoist Association to restore the Quincy locomotive engine house and  
4 to Calumet Township for rehabilitation of the Keweenaw Heritage Center at St. Anne's.  
5 Calumet Township also received a Rural Development grant to install an elevator in the Calumet  
6 Colosseum. The USDA supports the National Endowment of the Arts Citizens' Institute on  
7 Rural Design, which offers grants to rural communities to host community design workshops.  
8 Among other objectives, the workshops can show how to preserve a community's historic  
9 character.

10  
11 At the state level, the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is the most important  
12 government agency for historic preservation. Located within MSHDA, the SHPO helps people  
13 throughout Michigan to identify, evaluate, designate, and protect historic resources. The SHPO  
14 administers federal and state historic preservation programs including the National Register of  
15 Historic Places, the Certified Local Government Program, Section 106 review, historic  
16 preservation tax credits, historic resources survey program, archaeology, local historic districts,  
17 the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program, and the Michigan Main Street Program. Michigan  
18 Lighthouse Assistance grants have been awarded to the Gull Rock, Manitou Island, Ontonagon,  
19 and Eagle Harbor lighthouses in the Copper Country. Main Street Calumet is one of sixteen  
20 communities statewide that participate in the Michigan Main Street Program. MSHDA operates  
21 a number of other programs in support of affordable housing and community development,  
22 including, but not limited to, several federal housing programs. MSHDA grants money for  
23 housing rehabilitation in the Copper Country on an ongoing basis; WUPPDR administers these  
24 funds. MSHDA's Community Development Division operates a rental rehabilitation program to  
25 support rental housing rehabilitation in downtown business districts; the program gives priority  
26 to the historical rehabilitation of commercial buildings. The rental rehabilitation program  
27 operates in the village of Calumet. Among other MSHDA awards have been a Neighborhood  
28 Preservation Program grant to Calumet Township and façade rehabilitation grants to Calumet  
29 Village.

30  
31 The Michigan Heritage Route Program, located in the Michigan Department of Transportation,  
32 was established in 1993 to recognize and preserve the state's recreational, scenic, and historic  
33 highways and to use them to promote economic development. The Copper Country Trail,  
34 consisting of U.S. 41 between Houghton and Copper Harbor, was designated in 1995, the first  
35 scenic heritage route in the state. The Copper Country Trail's historic resources are recognized  
36 as valuable assets. Although U.S. 41 is the byway, the scope of the Copper Country Trail takes  
37 in the entire byway corridor, which is all of the Keweenaw Peninsula north of the Portage Lake  
38 Lift Bridge. WUPPDR has submitted an application for a Bridge to the Clouds Heritage Route  
39 in Ontonagon County. It is proposed as a recreational heritage route, but as with the Copper  
40 Country Trail, the historic communities and sites along the route are considered among its assets.  
41 Michigan's Coastal Management Program, established in 1978 and located within the Michigan  
42 Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), assists shoreline communities and organizations to  
43 protect and enhance coastal areas. Under the federal Coastal Zone Management Act, the DEQ  
44 receives federal funds that it passes through as grants for design and construction projects within  
45 the coastal zone boundary, including restoration of historic coastal structures. Projects funded by  
46 the Coastal Management Program have included restoration and exhibits at the Eagle Harbor and

1 Copper Harbor light stations, Keweenaw County’s zoning ordinance, and the Historic Houghton  
2 virtual tour of the city of Houghton.

3  
4 Two state laws enable local ordinances that are of particular benefit to historic preservation.  
5 Michigan’s Local Historic Districts Act (PA 169 of 1970, as amended) enables local  
6 governments to adopt local historic district ordinances, under which a historic district  
7 commission reviews exterior work within designated local historic districts. A local historic  
8 district ordinance provides the strongest protection for historic districts, as the historic district  
9 commission has the authority to deny work that is not in keeping with the district’s historic  
10 character. Both Calumet Village and Calumet Township have passed local historic district  
11 ordinances. The Calumet Village Historic District Commission meets monthly and works  
12 closely with Keweenaw National Historical Park; it has proven that even a small village  
13 (population 798) can utilize a historic district ordinance to protect its historic resources. The  
14 Calumet Township Historic District Commission meets on an irregular basis. The Downtown  
15 Development Authority Act (PA 197 of 1995) enables local governments to create downtown  
16 development authorities (DDAs) to prevent deterioration, encourage historic preservation, and  
17 promote economic growth in downtown business districts. There are ten DDAs in the Copper  
18 Country: Calumet Village, Calumet Township, Hancock City, Houghton City, Lake Linden  
19 Village, and South Range Village in Houghton County; Grant Township (Copper Harbor) in  
20 Keweenaw County; Greenland Township and Ontonagon Village in Ontonagon County; and  
21 Baraga Village in Baraga County. A third state law, Michigan’s Natural Resources and  
22 Environmental Protection Act (PA 451 of 1994, as amended), enables property owners to grant  
23 easements to units of government or nonprofit organizations; a historic preservation easement  
24 ensures that the historic features of a resource will not be altered. A property owner who donates  
25 an easement qualifies for a federal income tax deduction.

26  
27 Planning documents such as land use and master plans articulate a community’s views and  
28 policies toward historic preservation. The Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development  
29 Region (WUPPDR) is the lead planning agency in the Copper Country. Established in 1968,  
30 WUPPDR is one of fourteen state-designated planning and development regions in Michigan.  
31 WUPPDR serves the six counties in the western Upper Peninsula; its mission is to foster stable  
32 and diversified economies. WUPPDR assists communities in the region with planning activities  
33 designed to support economic development, protect the environment, and improve quality of life;  
34 it also serves as the regional clearinghouse for federal- and state-funded programs. WUPPDR  
35 has long advocated for protection of the Copper Country’s historic resources and has promoted  
36 their value as a basis for economic development. In 1977 WUPPDR prepared a historic  
37 preservation plan with policy guidelines for historic resources. WUPPDR followed this up in  
38 1990 with a survey of historic resources related to copper mining and a management plan that  
39 proposed a Michigan Copper Mining District Regional Heritage Reserve along the entire Copper  
40 Range. The management plan assisted the creation of Keweenaw National Historical Park and  
41 was the basis for the Copper Country Trail, which incorporates the northern portion of the  
42 proposed heritage reserve. In 1994–95, WUPPDR sponsored an architectural survey of Calumet  
43 Township, Calumet Village, and Laurium Village. In 1996 WUPPDR conducted a survey of  
44 historic resources related to mining, logging, agriculture, conservation, and communities in  
45 southern Ontonagon and Houghton counties (included in the current Copper Country survey) and  
46 parts of Gogebic, Iron, and Baraga counties. WUPPDR proposed a Forest Interior Heritage Area

1 that would use these historic resources as a basis for heritage tourism. WUPPDR continues to  
2 promote historic preservation and heritage tourism; its 2011 *Comprehensive Economic*  
3 *Development Strategy* identifies historic preservation ordinances as one of the ways to achieve  
4 the goal of improving community design and infrastructure and thus quality of life. Another goal  
5 is to further cultural preservation and heritage-based tourism as an economic development  
6 strategy.

7  
8 The new Michigan Planning Enabling Act (PA 33 of 2008) created a more uniform process for  
9 preparing master plans and has encouraged more communities to undertake this process—a  
10 positive step for preserving historic resources. At the county level, Keweenaw County updated  
11 its 2002 land use plan in 2013; Houghton County’s 2012 master plan is an update of its 2006  
12 land use plan. Historic preservation is an integral part of both of these plans. Keweenaw  
13 County’s plan makes frequent mention of the county’s historic, scenic, and recreational assets;  
14 one of the plan’s seven goals is heritage preservation. Houghton County’s plan cites the  
15 county’s “unusually rich concentration of nationally significant scenic, historic, and cultural  
16 resources,” including Keweenaw National Historical Park and its partners. The plan calls for  
17 sound management and protection of these resources. The City of Hancock’s strategic plan for  
18 the years 2012 to 2016 incorporates historic preservation in its vision statement, goals, and  
19 planned actions; specifics include preserving the city’s architectural heritage and historic  
20 resources that support tourism. The City of Houghton is currently working on a new master plan  
21 to replace the last plan prepared in 1972. In the interim, several area plans have been completed,  
22 including downtown plans that emphasize preserving the historic character of the business  
23 district. Three villages—Calumet, Lake Linden, and Ontonagon—and five townships—Eagle  
24 Harbor, Calumet, Chassell, Portage, and Baraga—have master, land use, and/or strategic plans.  
25 Most of these at least make mention of historic preservation. Baraga Township’s land use plan  
26 does not mention historic preservation, but it emphasizes the importance of preserving the  
27 township’s farmland and rural character, which could encompass preserving historic farm  
28 landscapes and buildings. A few other townships have planning commissions but no plans  
29 currently in place.

30  
31 The Michigan Zoning Enabling Act (PA 110 of 2006, as amended) has similarly encouraged  
32 more communities to implement zoning. Zoning helps to preserve historic character by  
33 regulating land use and aspects of construction such as massing and setback. For example,  
34 zoning can prevent construction of an industrial building in a residential neighborhood or require  
35 that buildings in a historic business district be at least two stories tall to match the existing fabric.  
36 The zoning picture varies considerably by county. Keweenaw County is the only county in  
37 Michigan with county-level zoning. Keweenaw County regulates zoning in all municipalities  
38 within the county except for Eagle Harbor Township, which has its own zoning. In Houghton  
39 County, eight of twenty-one municipalities have zoning: the cities of Hancock and Houghton, the  
40 villages of Calumet and South Range, and Calumet, Chassell, Duncan, and Portage townships  
41 have zoning. Houghton County’s master plan provides the legal basis for a municipality to adopt  
42 zoning if it does not have a plan of its own. In Ontonagon County, Ontonagon Village and nine  
43 out of eleven townships have zoning; Bohemia and Matchwood townships do not have zoning.  
44 Baraga Township has zoning; Baraga Village does not.

1 Building codes regulate work that is done to historic buildings. Both the code that is used and  
2 how it is applied can affect a building's historic features. For example, a building code may  
3 require an open staircase in a historic commercial building to be enclosed for fire safety, or the  
4 code may allow other fire safety measures to be implemented instead of enclosing the staircase.  
5 In Keweenaw County, the county building department issues building permits for all  
6 municipalities. In Houghton County, the county building department issues building permits for  
7 all municipalities except the Village of Calumet and City of Houghton. In Ontonagon County,  
8 the county government has no building department; all building permits are issued by the  
9 municipalities. Baraga Township has a building department; Baraga Village does not. All of the  
10 building departments use the Michigan Building Code, which incorporates the International  
11 Building Code. The Michigan Building Code is flexible enough to preserve a building's historic  
12 features, but much depends on the knowledge and understanding of the building inspector.  
13

14 Government policies toward the historic resources that they own have a significant impact in the  
15 Copper Country, where governments have extensive land holdings and own numerous historic  
16 buildings, structures, objects, and sites. Isle Royale National Park is one of two large areas  
17 owned by the federal government; it contains 571,790 acres, of which 23 percent is on land.  
18 Congress authorized Isle Royale National Park in 1931; the park was established in 1940. The  
19 park's purposes include preserving and protecting its wilderness character and preserving and  
20 protecting its cultural and natural resources. Historic resources in Isle Royale National Park  
21 include lighthouses, copper mines, fishing camps, the Johns Hotel, recreational cottages, and  
22 early park buildings; the four lighthouses, Edisen fishery, Johns Hotel, and Minong mine site are  
23 listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Isle Royale National Park's status as a  
24 wilderness park may, however, jeopardize preservation of the park's historic resources. In 1976  
25 Congress designated 98 percent of the park's land area as federal wilderness; subsequently that  
26 was increased to 99 percent. According to the Wilderness Act of 1964, a wilderness is "affected  
27 primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable."  
28 This has been interpreted as necessitating the removal of buildings and other evidence of human  
29 activity, and to this end, some buildings on Isle Royale have been destroyed or left to deteriorate.  
30 The National Park Service is currently working on a cultural resources management plan for the  
31 park; this will address all of the park's cultural resources. Until this plan is completed, cultural  
32 resources are managed according to the park's 1998 general management plan, which proposes  
33 adaptive reuse and preservation of only a select few.  
34

35 Ottawa National Forest is the second large area owned by the federal government. Established in  
36 1931, the national forest encompasses much of southern Ontonagon and Houghton counties and  
37 extends beyond the Copper Country into Baraga, Gogebic, and Iron counties. Most of the  
38 historic resources within the national forest are villages, houses, and farms that are private  
39 inholdings within forest boundaries. Resources owned by the federal government consist largely  
40 of historic sites such as mine sites, logging camp sites, and CCC camp sites; some of these have  
41 visible features. These resources are managed under the U.S. Forest Service Heritage Program.  
42 The National Register-listed Bergland ranger station houses a heritage center and museum that is  
43 operated by the Bergland/Matchwood Historical Society in partnership with Ottawa National  
44 Forest. Outside of Ottawa National Forest and the national parks, there are a few other buildings  
45 that are owned by the federal government. Several post offices are in historic buildings, and post  
46 offices in Calumet and Hancock contribute to National Register historic districts. The Calumet

1 Village Post Office is located in Calumet’s local historic district, but the post office incurred  
2 some insensitive alterations before the historic district was established. The Michigan  
3 Department of Military & Veterans Affairs has identified the Baraga Armory as eligible for the  
4 National Register.

5  
6 The Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC) assumed the duties of a State Historic  
7 Preservation Office in 2005, establishing a Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) to carry  
8 out SHPO programs such as the National Register of Historic Places and Section 106 review on  
9 tribal land, which includes land ceded in the 1842 treaty. The KBIC owns and maintains the  
10 Sand Point lighthouse, which is in the Ojibwa Recreation Area; the grounds are open to the  
11 public. KBIC’s master plan for Sand Point proposes the future restoration of the lighthouse.

12  
13 Many of the state-owned historic resources in the Copper Country are located in state parks that  
14 are under the jurisdiction of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). The six  
15 state parks in the region are Fort Wilkins Historic State Park in Keweenaw County; McLain  
16 State Park and Twin Lakes State Park in Houghton County; and Porcupine Mountains  
17 Wilderness State Park, Agate Falls Scenic Site, and Bond Falls Scenic Site in Ontonagon  
18 County. Fort Wilkins is the only one of these parks created expressly to preserve historic  
19 resources: the park was established in 1923 to protect Fort Wilkins and make it available to the  
20 public. The Copper Harbor rear range light station was part of the original state park; the main  
21 Copper Harbor light station was added to the park at a later date. The MDNR manages Fort  
22 Wilkins State Park as part of the Michigan Historical Museum system. The state has been  
23 meticulous in its restoration of Fort Wilkins, and recently nominated the Copper Harbor light  
24 station to the National Register of Historic Places. A study that the SHPO conducted in 1998  
25 makes the case that buildings and landscapes built for the state park in the 1930s and 1940s are  
26 also eligible for the National Register. Alterations and repairs to the buildings have been  
27 sensitive to their historic appearance.

28  
29 Porcupine Mountains State Park was established in 1945 to protect an expanse of virgin forest  
30 from logging; today the park contains sixty thousand acres. In 1972 the Michigan Legislature  
31 designated the park a wilderness area. Within the state park there are at least a dozen copper  
32 mining sites, including some of the earliest mines in the Copper Country. When the state park  
33 was created there were some mine buildings and structures still standing; these have since been  
34 removed. A number of the mine sites are marked and interpreted by the park. The SHPO’s 1998  
35 study of state park architecture identified park buildings, structures, and landscapes from the  
36 1940s and 1950s as historically significant. One of these buildings was recently removed,  
37 however, and inappropriate alterations have been made to a number of others. At Twin Lakes  
38 State Park, a concessions building built in the 1930s has been altered; no early park buildings  
39 appear to remain at McClain State Park. There are no above-ground historic resources at the two  
40 scenic sites. Outside of the state parks, the MDNR building in Baraga may be significant as an  
41 example of post-World War II modern architecture. It is unlikely that there are above-ground  
42 historic resources in the Copper Country State Forest.

43  
44 The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is responsible for state-owned highway  
45 bridges. In 1995 MDOT conducted a statewide inventory of bridges older than 1956 in order to  
46 identify bridges that were eligible for National Register listing. The inventory identified eight

1 National Register-eligible bridges in the Copper Country; four of these were listed. In 2006  
2 MDOT conducted an inventory of bridges built between 1956 and 1966. By identifying National  
3 Register-eligible bridges within a statewide context, these inventories aid community and  
4 transportation planning and facilitate the review of federally-funded work under Section 106,  
5 Section 4(f), and NEPA. This does not ensure that a historic bridge will be preserved, however.  
6 In 2006 the historic swing-span bridge in the village of Ontonagon was replaced when it was  
7 determined that there were no prudent and feasible alternatives; mitigation included historic  
8 resource survey in the village and National Register nominations for eligible resources. The  
9 state also owns roadside parks; a number of these were created in the 1930s and retain their  
10 landscape design and rustic buildings and structures. With this in mind, WUPPDR partnered  
11 with MDOT to develop Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) to maintain and improve these parks  
12 in ways that are sensitive to their historic character.  
13

14 The Michigan Technological University campus was built beginning in 1889, but only two  
15 buildings remain from the early twentieth century: the National Register-listed clubhouse and  
16 gymnasium (1906) and the administration and library building (1908). Two early buildings  
17 burned, and the university demolished four others in the late 1960s to make way for new  
18 construction. Buildings built in the 1950s and early 1960s are now fifty years old, and some  
19 appear to be eligible for the National Register. The university's current strategic plan lists as one  
20 of its objectives to provide exceptional infrastructure, a rich cultural environment, and a  
21 welcoming, aesthetically pleasing campus, but it makes no mention of preserving historic  
22 buildings. The university also owns the Keweenaw Research Center, which may be eligible for  
23 the National Register.  
24

25 County governments own county courthouses, some of the most prominent buildings in the  
26 Copper Country; the Ontonagon, Houghton, and Keweenaw County courthouses are all listed in  
27 the National Register, as is the Keweenaw County sheriff's residence and jail. The sheriff's  
28 offices in Houghton and Ontonagon counties are post-World War II modern buildings that  
29 should be evaluated for National Register eligibility. Keweenaw County owns the National  
30 Register-listed Keweenaw Mountain Lodge, a noted ensemble of Depression-era rustic buildings.  
31 Several buildings, including a motel, have been added to the property in recent years, and in  
32 2007 a large conference center was added to the rear of the main lodge. All of the new  
33 construction is in a compatible rustic style. County road commission buildings may be  
34 significant; some of them are old mine buildings, and the Ontonagon County Road Commission  
35 building in Ontonagon Village may be the only example of Art Moderne architecture in the  
36 Copper Country. County road commissions also maintain county parks, such as Copper Falls  
37 Park in Keweenaw County, which may be National Register eligible.  
38

39 In general, city, village, and township halls in the Copper Country are significant for their  
40 prominent place in community life. The more ornate, architect-designed city and village halls  
41 such as Hancock City Hall or Lake Linden Village Hall are valued and are often listed in the  
42 National Register. Calumet Village has gone to great lengths to restore its village hall and  
43 adjoining theater. The simpler township halls tend to be viewed more as functional than as  
44 historic and are more likely to be updated with new siding or windows, diminishing their historic  
45 character. Parks and memorials owned by local governments may be historically significant; two  
46 examples are the Wolverine Boat Park owned by Calumet Township and Agassiz Park owned by

1 Calumet Village. Unfortunately, the historic landscape features of both of these parks have been  
2 altered. Township governments own a number of historic mining buildings and structures:  
3 Franklin Township owns the Quincy Smelter, Osceola Township owns the Quincy dredge, and  
4 Calumet Township owns more than fifteen mine buildings and structures. The townships have  
5 worked to preserve these buildings and structures, but they are expensive to maintain, and  
6 adaptive reuse can be difficult or impossible. What, for example, does one do with a half-  
7 submerged dredge?  
8

9 Two nonprofit organizations outside of the Copper Country deserve mention for the assistance  
10 that they can provide to local historic preservation efforts. The National Trust for Historic  
11 Preservation's mission is to provide leadership, education, and advocacy to save America's  
12 historic places and revitalize communities. National Trust programs and activities include an  
13 annual national preservation conference, the National Trust Main Street Center, Barn Again, and  
14 a highly-publicized yearly list of eleven most endangered places. The National Trust offers  
15 grants to nonprofit organizations and government agencies, primarily for preservation planning  
16 and education. One of these grants is the Michigan Preservation Fund, available only to  
17 Michigan organizations and agencies. The Michigan Historic Preservation Network (MHPN),  
18 Michigan's statewide historic preservation advocacy organization, is a partner to the National  
19 Trust. MHPN programs and activities include an annual conference, vocational training in the  
20 preservation trades, an easement program, and workshops. Field representatives sponsored  
21 jointly by MHPN and the National Trust travel across the state to give communities customized  
22 assistance with their preservation activities and challenges.  
23



**CRITICAL ISSUES**

Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission members and National Park Service staff members identified the following critical issues pertaining to historic preservation in the Copper Country in order to help develop preservation goals.

Historic Buildings, Sites, Structures, and Landscapes

A century of profitable copper mining, along with related industries and a population that surpassed one hundred thousand, has left a rich architectural heritage on the landscape. Out-migration beginning in the early twentieth century has permitted much of that heritage to remain, in some cases untouched, but in many cases vacant and deteriorating.

Challenges to building and landscape preservation:

- The Copper Country’s historic resources are so numerous and widespread that it is difficult to prioritize preservation activities and devise ways to make an impact over such a broad area.
- Due to the utilitarian and often deteriorated appearance of industrial buildings, there is a lack of appreciation for this building type. Their large size and other characteristics complicate the adaptive reuse of these buildings.
- Because stamp sands contain contaminants and are sometimes toxic, all mining landscapes are perceived as contaminated, and their historical importance is frequently dismissed. The failure to recognize the significance of historic mining landscapes leads to the loss of important features such as waste rock piles.
- In the past, fire has damaged or destroyed many historic resources and continues to be a threat.

Community Values and Attitudes

Residents take pride in the unique history of the Copper Country, which also attracts many visitors. Copper mining drew immigrants from multiple countries to this area, and descendants of those immigrants celebrate their ethnic origins. Nonetheless, this interest in the area’s history does not necessarily translate into actions to preserve historic buildings, landscapes, and sites.

Values and attitudes that affect preservation efforts:

- The qualities of the area’s built environment are not widely appreciated; preserving historic places does not rank as a priority in residents’ lives.
- Historic resources are perceived as unimportant and are endangered by a lack of awareness of the opportunities and benefits of historic preservation.

- 1 · Despite a legacy of paternalism from the mining companies—and the idea that someone  
2 will take care of needs—there is also an anti-government sentiment that prefers little  
3 intrusion into private life.
- 4
- 5 · A preference for building new instead of using old often results in new development that  
6 adversely affects historic resources.
- 7

### 8 Government Framework

9

10 Established when the population was greater, local governments (townships, villages, cities) are  
11 numerous in the Copper Country. Because of the small constituencies of most elected officials,  
12 office-holders are accessible to citizens. However, the small population of most municipal units  
13 provides limited operating revenue; consequently, only a few local governments have ongoing  
14 historic preservation programs. The federal government has a presence in the Copper Country  
15 through two national parks and Ottawa National Forest.

16

17 Challenges to the effective implementation of preservation policies, laws, and programs by  
18 municipalities and the federal government:

19

- 20 · The large number of local government units hampers efforts to form a shared vision and  
21 create partnerships with federal and state governments and private organizations to  
22 address common preservation concerns.
- 23
- 24 · Only two counties and ten municipalities have master, land use, and/or strategic plans,  
25 and in Houghton County only eight out of twenty-one municipalities have zoning. Lack  
26 of effective land use planning and regulation threatens historic resources.
- 27
- 28 · Section 106 review of federal, federally assisted, and federally licensed activities is not  
29 adequately enforced or administered as effectively as it could be.
- 30
- 31 · The designation of Isle Royale National Park as a wilderness area is a threat to the  
32 preservation of the park’s historic resources.
- 33

### 34 The Economic Climate

35

36 High rates of unemployment, low wages, and a large percentage of elderly residents on fixed  
37 incomes are characteristics of the local economy. The decline in industry and tax base means  
38 that local governments have little funding available for historic preservation. State and federal  
39 support for preservation projects and programs continues to be reduced.

40

41 Economic realities that challenge preservation efforts:

42

- 43 · Many local residents who own historic properties do not have discretionary income to  
44 cover expenses beyond basic needs.
- 45

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1       · Insufficient funding and incentives for preservation projects are obstacles to preserving  
2 historic resources.

3  
4       · Due to a lack of revenue, townships, which in many cases own significant industrial  
5 resources, are unable to preserve all of the historic resources that they own.

6  
7



**GOALS**

The goals that follow address the Copper Country’s critical preservation issues and offer a broad strategy for preserving the region’s historic resources. The action plan will identify specific actions to be undertaken toward achieving these goals. The goals are not in priority order.

1. Increase appreciation for historic places and awareness of the benefits of historic preservation.
2. Promote community revitalization and environmental and economic sustainability through historic preservation.
3. Build alliances and strengthen partnerships between agencies, organizations, and individuals who have an interest in historic preservation.
4. Use federal, state, and local legislation, including planning and zoning, to protect historic properties.
5. Increase funding, incentives, and technical support for historic preservation.



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**ACTION PLAN**

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The action plan will be developed at the June 25 planning workshop and will be added to the final version of this report.



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APPENDICES  
A. NATIONAL REGISTER LISTINGS

The following properties are currently listed in the National Register of Historic Places:

**Baraga County** (within the survey area)

NAME	LOCATION	YEAR LISTED
Assinins	Assinins	1972
Herman and Anna Hanka Farm	Northeast of Pelkie	1984

**Houghton County**

NAME	LOCATION	YEAR LISTED
Big Traverse Bay Historic District	Schoolcraft Township	1975
Joseph Bosch Building	Lake Linden	1982
Calumet and Hecla Industrial District	Calumet Township	1974
Calumet Downtown Historic District	Calumet Village	1974
Calumet Fire Station	Calumet Village	1974
Calumet Historic District	Calumet Village and Township	1989
Calumet Theatre	Calumet Village	1971
Chassell School Complex	Chassell	2009
College Club House and Gymnasium	Houghton	1980
County Road C11--Pike River Bridge	Chassell vicinity	1999
Douglass House	Houghton	1982
East Hancock Neighborhood Historic District	Hancock	1980
First Congregational Church	Lake Linden	1980
Hancock Town Hall and Fire Hall	Hancock	1981
Thomas H. Hoatson House	Laurium	1994
Houghton County Courthouse	Houghton	1975
Jacobsville Finnish Lutheran Church	Jacobsville	1976
Kaleva Temple	South Range	1982
Keweenaw National Historical Park	Calumet and Quincy Units	1992
Lake Linden Historic District	Lake Linden	2009
Lake Linden Village Hall and Fire Station	Lake Linden	1981
Laurium Historic District	Laurium	2005
Lieblein House	Hancock	1980
John J. Michels House	Houghton	1991
Old Main, Suomi College	Hancock	1972
Painesdale	Painesdale	1993
Quincy Mine No. 2 Shaft Hoist House	Hancock vicinity	1970
Quincy Mining Company Historic District	Hancock vicinity	1989
Quincy Mining Company Stamp Mills Historic District	Mason	2007

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Quincy Street Historic District	Hancock	1988
Redridge Steel and Log Dams	Redridge	1992
Saint Ignatius Loyola Church	Houghton	1987
Shelden Avenue Historic District	Houghton	1987
Ransom B. Shelden House	Houghton	1980
Shelden-Dee Block	Houghton	1982
Smith-Dengler House	Kearsarge	2008
South Range Community Building	South Range	1981
J. Vivian Jr. and Company Building	Laurium	2003

1  
2

**Keweenaw County**

NAME	LOCATION	YEAR LISTED
Central Mine Historic District	Central	1974
Central Mine Methodist Church	Central	1970
Church of the Assumption	Phoenix	2000
Copper Harbor Light Station	Copper Harbor vicinity	2012
Eagle Harbor Coast Guard Station Boathouse	Eagle Harbor vicinity	2012
Eagle Harbor Light Station	Eagle Harbor	1984
Eagle Harbor Schoolhouse	Eagle Harbor	1972
Eagle River Historic District	Eagle River	1984
Edisen Fishery	Isle Royale National Park	1977
Fort Wilkins	Copper Harbor vicinity	1970
Gull Rock Light Station	Grant Township	1984
Holy Redeemer Church	Eagle Harbor	1972
Houghton County Traction Company Ahmeek Streetcar Station	Ahmeek	2000
Isle Royale Light Station	Isle Royale National Park	1983
Johns Hotel	Isle Royale National Park	1997
Keweenaw Mountain Lodge and Golf Course Complex	Copper Harbor vicinity	1980
M 26--Cedar Creek Culvert	Eagle Harbor Township	1999
M 26--Silver River Culvert	Eagle Harbor Township	1999
Manitou Island Light Station	Grant Township	1984
Minong Mine Historic District	Isle Royale National Park	1977
Passage Island Light Station	Isle Royale National Park	2006
Rock Harbor Lighthouse	Isle Royale National Park	1977
Rock of Ages Light Station	Isle Royale National Park	1983
Sand Hills Light Station	Allouez Township	1994
US 41--Fanny Hooe Creek Bridge	Copper Harbor vicinity	1999

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**Ontonagon County**

NAME	LOCATION	YEAR LISTED
Bergland Ranger Station	Bergland	2005
Ontonagon County Courthouse	Ontonagon	1980

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Ontonagon Harbor Piers Historic District	Ontonagon	2001
Ontonagon Lighthouse	Ontonagon	1975
Ontonagon School	Ontonagon	2011

1

2

## B. LIST OF SURVEY DISTRICTS

1  
2

County	Current Name	Date Built	Theme/ Subtheme 1	Theme/ Subtheme 2	Theme/ Subtheme 3	Theme/ Subtheme 4	Theme/ Subtheme 5
Baraga	Baraga District	1860s-1960s	Ethnic Heritage/Native American	Industry/lumbering industry	Architecture	Maritime History	Agriculture
Baraga	Keweenaw Bay District	1890s-1960s	Agriculture/dairy farming	Ethnic Heritage/Finnish	Industry/copper industry	Entertainment/Recreation	Architecture
Baraga	Pelkie District	1890s-1960s	Agriculture/dairy farming	Ethnic Heritage/Finnish	Architecture		
Houghton	Airport District	ca. 1890s-1960s	Agriculture	Ethnic Heritage/Finnish	Military	Architecture	
Houghton	Alston-Nisula District	1890s-1960s	Agriculture	Ethnic Heritage/Finnish	Architecture		
Houghton	Bootjack District	1880s-1960s	Agriculture	Entertainment/Recreation	Architecture		
Houghton	Boston-Tecumseh District	1860s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Agriculture			
Houghton	C&H Core District	1860s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture			
Houghton	Calumet District	1860s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture	Commerce/retail	Entertainment/Recreation	
Houghton	Chassell District	1880s-1960s	Architecture	Agriculture	Ethnic Heritage/Finnish	Commerce/retail	
Houghton	Dollar Bay District	1880s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture	Ethnic Heritage/Finnish		
Houghton	Hancock East District	1870s-1960s	Architecture	Commerce/Retail	Education	Industry/copper industry	
Houghton	Hancock West District	1860s-1960s	Architecture	Industry/copper industry			
Houghton	Houghton East District	1870s-1960s	Architecture	Education			
Houghton	Houghton West District	1860s-1960s	Commerce/retail	Architecture	Politics/Government/county government		

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County	Current Name	Date Built	Theme/ Subtheme 1	Theme/ Subtheme 2	Theme/ Subtheme 3	Theme/ Subtheme 4	Theme/ Subtheme 5
Houghton	Jacobsville District	1870-1960s	Industry/ quarrying	Maritime History	Ethnic Heritage/ Finnish	Agriculture	Architecture
Houghton	Kearsarge District	1860s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture			
Houghton	Kenton-Sidnaw District	1890s-1960s	Industry/ lumbering industry	Entertainment /Recreation	Conservation		
Houghton	Lake Linden District	1860s-1960s	Architecture	Industry/ copper industry	Commerce/ retail		
Houghton	Laurium District	1880s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture	Commerce/ retail		
Houghton	Liminga District	1890s-1960s	Agriculture	Ethnic Heritage/ Finnish	Architecture	Entertainment /Recreation	
Houghton	Mason District	1880s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture			
Houghton	North Portage Township District	1860s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture	Agriculture	Entertainment /Recreation	
Houghton	Point Mills District	1890s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture			
Houghton	Quincy District	1850s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture	Transportation		
Houghton	Redridge District	1890s-1950s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture			
Houghton	Salo District	1890s-1960s	Agriculture	Entertainment /Recreation	Maritime History	Architecture	
Houghton	South Range District	1900-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture	Commerce/ retail		
Houghton	Tapiola District	1890s-1960s	Agriculture/ dairy farming	Ethnic Heritage/ Finnish	Architecture		
Houghton	Toivola District	1890s-1960s	Agriculture/ dairy farming	Ethnic Heritage/ Finnish	Architecture		
Houghton	Torch Lake Mills District	1880s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture			
Houghton	Traprock District	1870s-1960s	Agriculture	Architecture			

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County	Current Name	Date Built	Theme/ Subtheme 1	Theme/ Subtheme 2	Theme/ Subtheme 3	Theme/ Subtheme 4	Theme/ Subtheme 5
Houghton	Traverse Bay District	1920s-1960s	Maritime History	Entertainment/Recreation	Architecture		
Houghton	Twin Lakes District	1890s-1960s	Entertainment/Recreation	Industry/copper industry	Industry/lumbering industry		
Keweenaw / Houghton	Allouez-Ahmeek District	1860s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture	Commerce/retail		
Keweenaw	Cliff-Delaware District	1840s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Entertainment/Recreation	Architecture		
Keweenaw	Copper Harbor District	1840s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Military	Maritime History	Entertainment/Recreation	Architecture
Keweenaw	Eagle Harbor District	1840s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Maritime History	Entertainment/Recreation	Architecture	Commerce/retail
Keweenaw	Eagle River District	1840s-1960s	Architecture	Maritime History	Politics/Government	Entertainment/Recreation	Transportation
Keweenaw	Isle Royale District	1850s-1960s	Maritime History	Entertainment/Recreation	Industry/copper industry	Conservation	Architecture
Keweenaw	Mohawk District	ca. 1850s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture			
Keweenaw	South Shore District	ca. 1860s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Entertainment/Recreation	Maritime History		
Ontonagon	Bergland District	1900s-1960s	Industry/lumbering industry	Entertainment/Recreation	Architecture	Conservation	
Ontonagon	Bruce Crossing District	ca. 1890s-1960s	Industry/lumbering industry	Agriculture	Ethnic Heritage/Finnish	Commerce/retail	Architecture
Ontonagon	Ewen District	1890s-1960s	Industry/lumbering industry	Commerce/retail	Agriculture	Architecture	
Ontonagon	Green District	ca. 1900s-1960s	Entertainment/Recreation	Agriculture	Architecture		
Ontonagon	Greenland District	1850s-1960s	Industry/copper industry				
Ontonagon	Mass District	Early 1900s-	Industry/copper industry	Agriculture/dairy farming	Ethnic Heritage/	Architecture	

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County	Current Name	Date Built	Theme/ Subtheme 1	Theme/ Subtheme 2	Theme/ Subtheme 3	Theme/ Subtheme 4	Theme/ Subtheme 5
		1960s			Finnish		
Ontonagon	Misery Bay District	1890s-1960s	Agriculture	Ethnic Heritage/ Finnish	Entertainment /Recreation	Architecture	
Ontonagon	Ontonagon Township District	1850s-1960s	Agriculture	Ethnic Heritage/ Finnish	Entertainment /Recreation	Architecture	
Ontonagon	Ontonagon Village District	1850s-1960s	Architecture	Commerce/ retail	Industry/ lumbering industry		
Ontonagon	Paulding District	ca. 1900s-1960s	Entertainment/ Recreation	Agriculture	Conservation		
Ontonagon	Paynesville District	1890s-1960s	Agriculture	Ethnic Heritage/ Finnish			
Ontonagon	Porcupine Mountains District	1840s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture	Conservation	Entertainment /Recreation	
Ontonagon	Roads and Railroads District	1850s-1960s	Transportation	Engineering			
Ontonagon	Rockland District	1850s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Architecture	Commerce/ retail	Agriculture	
Ontonagon	Silver City District	Late 1800s-1960s	Entertainment/ Recreation				
Ontonagon	Topaz-Matchwood District	1900s to 1960s	Agriculture	Architecture	Entertainment /Recreation	Ethnic Heritage/Finnish	
Ontonagon	Trout Creek District	ca. 1890-1960s	Industry/ lumbering industry	Agriculture	Ethnic Heritage/ Finnish	Entertainment /Recreation	
Ontonagon	Victoria District	1850s-1930s	Industry/copper industry	Archaeology/ historic--Non- aboriginal	Engineering/ power generation engineering	Architecture	
Ontonagon	Wainola-Rousseau District	1900s-1960s	Agriculture	Architecture	Ethnic Heritage/ Finnish	Entertainment /Recreation	Conservation
Ontonagon	White Pine District	1900s-1960s	Industry/copper industry	Community Planning and Development	Architecture		



**C. MAPS OF SURVEY DISTRICTS**

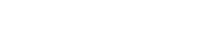
The five area maps that follow show all of the survey districts in northwestern Baraga County, southern Houghton County, northern Houghton County, Keweenaw County, and Ontonagon County. The maps show only a circular shape representing the general survey district location, so as not to give the impression that the fieldwork boundaries are defined historic district boundaries.

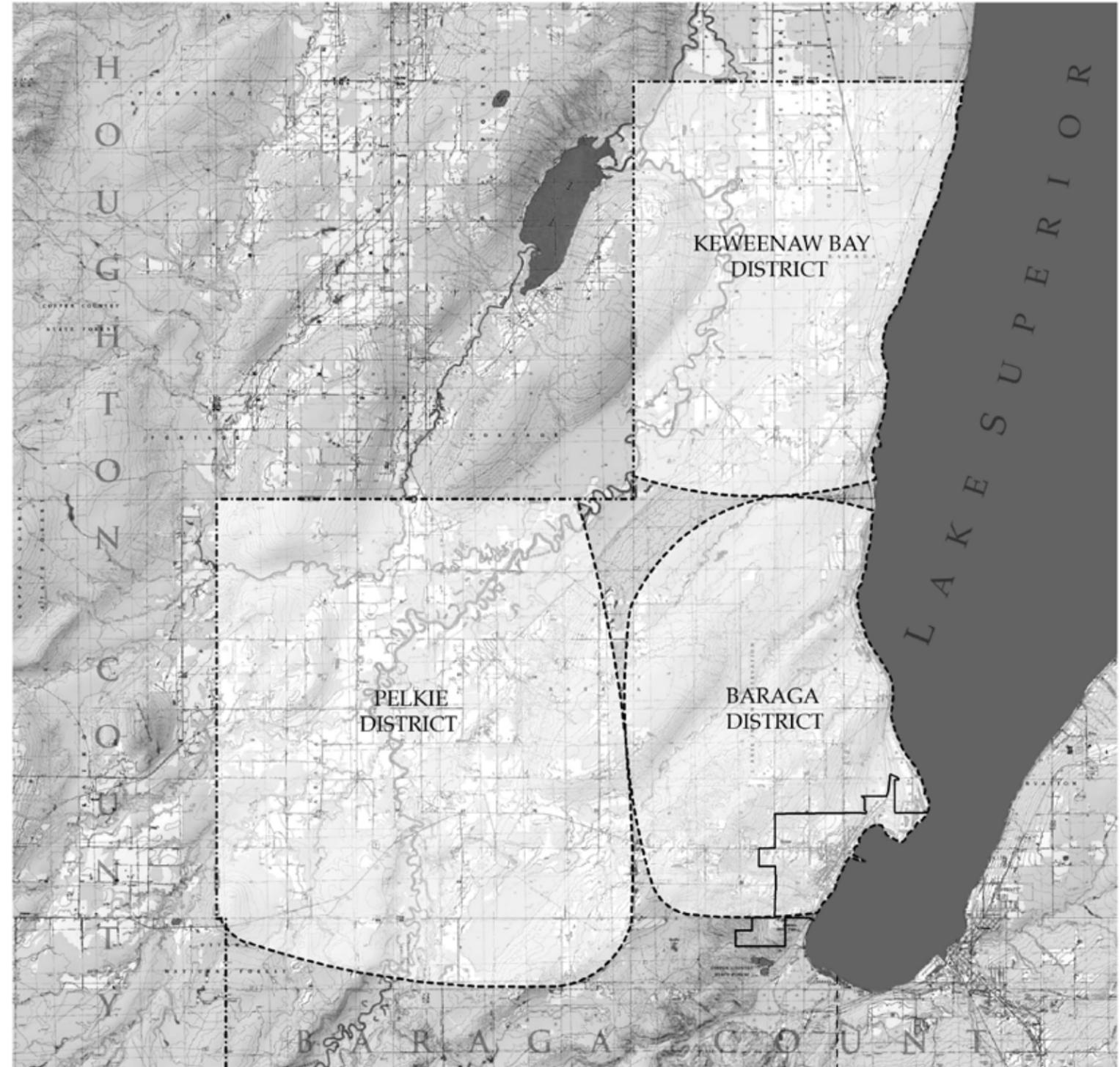
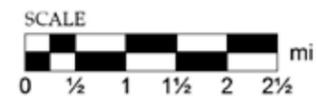
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# COPPER COUNTRY SURVEY BARAGA COUNTY



## LEGEND

- APPROXIMATE SURVEY DISTRICT 
- TOWNSHIP BOUNDARY 
- INCORPORATED VILLAGE BOUNDARY 
- COUNTY BOUNDARY 



MAP PREPARED BY RYAN HOLT OCTOBER 2011

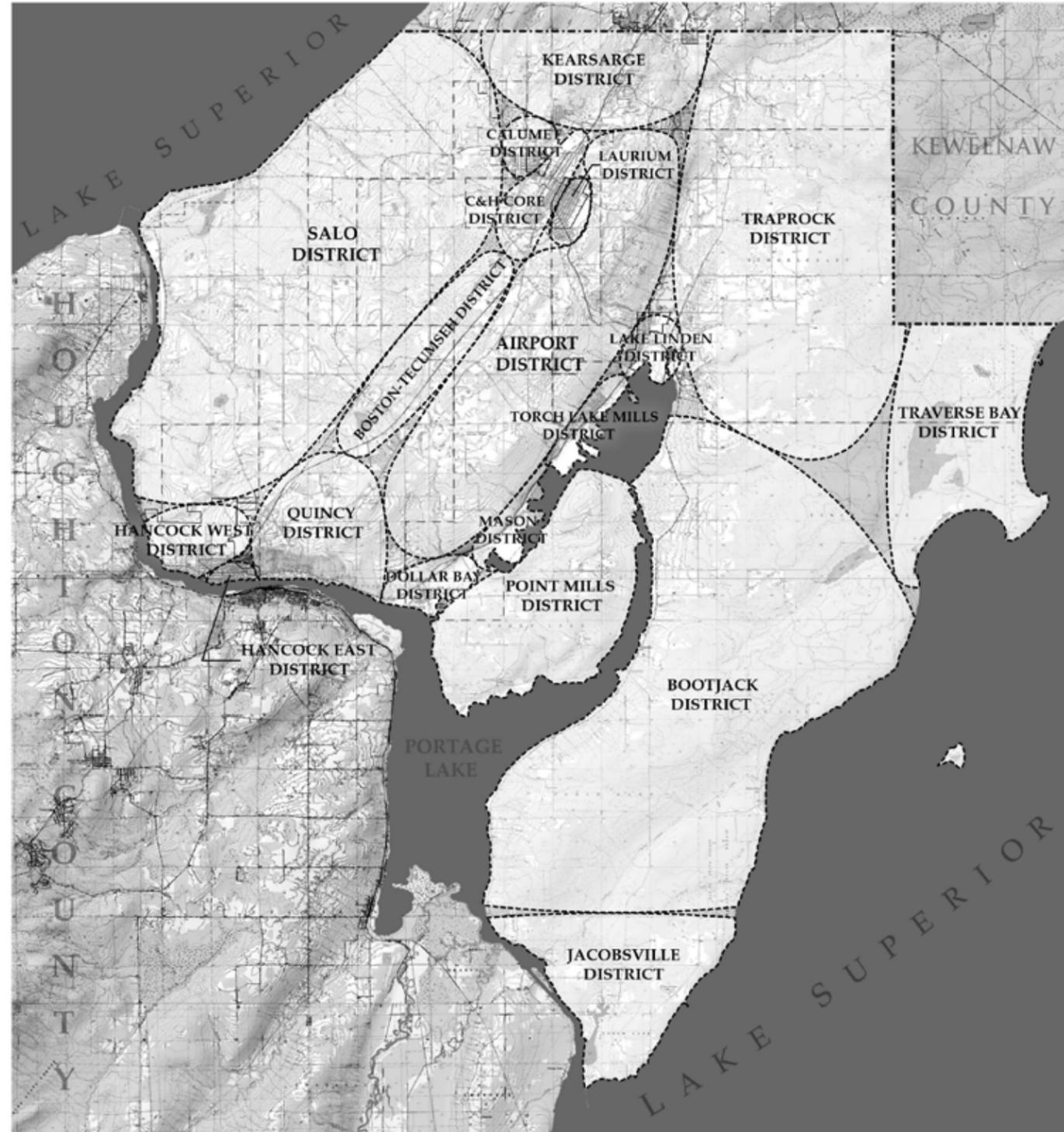
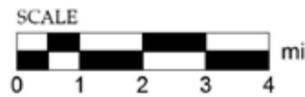
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# COPPER COUNTRY SURVEY NORTHERN HOUGHTON COUNTY



## LEGEND

- APPROXIMATE SURVEY DISTRICT 
- TOWNSHIP BOUNDARY 
- INCORPORATED CITY OR VILLAGE BOUNDARY 
- COUNTY BOUNDARY 
- STATE PARK BOUNDARY 



MAP PREPARED BY RYAN HOLT NOVEMBER 2012

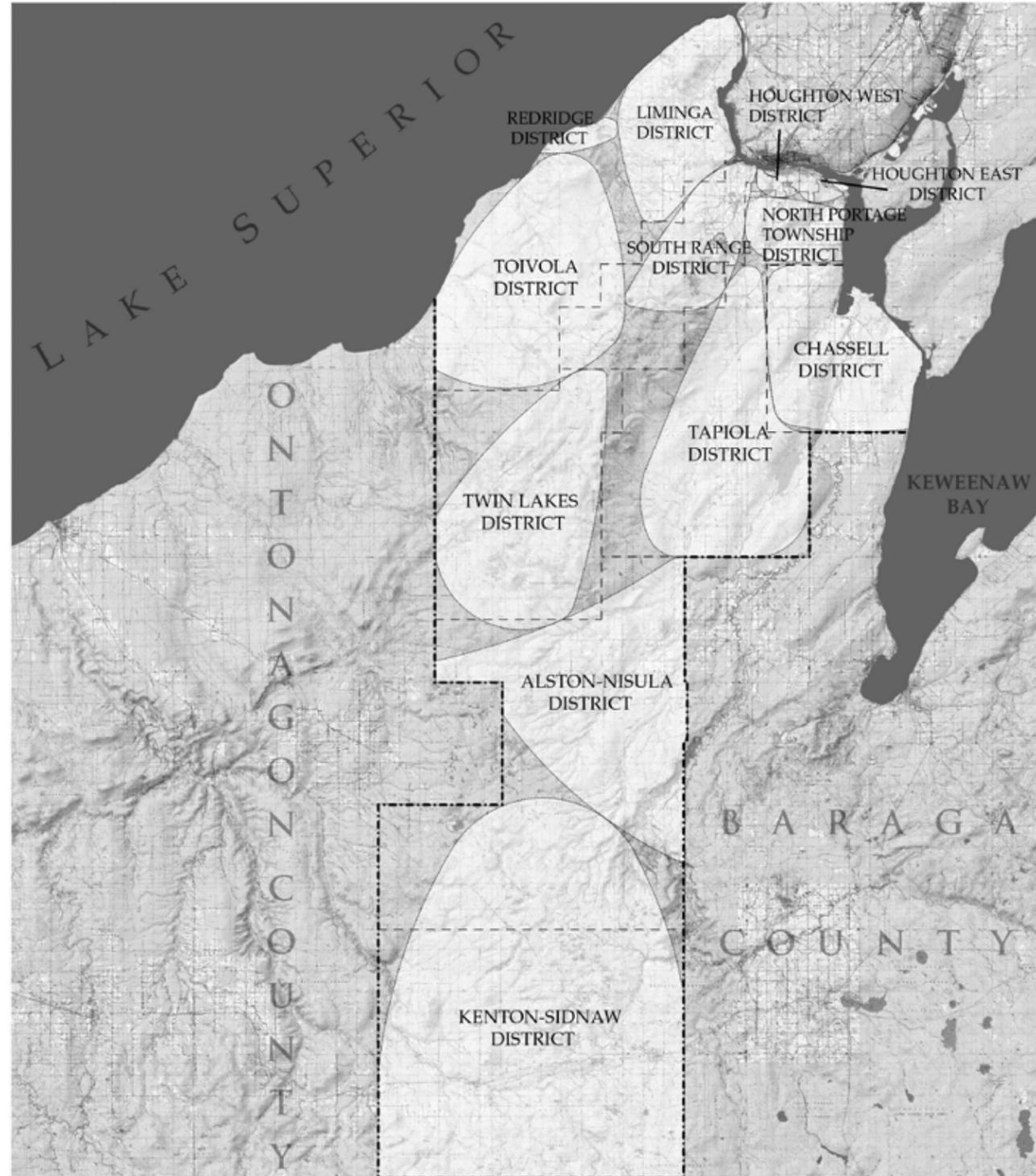
DRAFT

# COPPER COUNTRY SURVEY SOUTHERN HOUGHTON COUNTY



## LEGEND

- APPROXIMATE SURVEY DISTRICT 
- TOWNSHIP BOUNDARY 
- INCORPORATED CITY OR VILLAGE BOUNDARY 
- COUNTY BOUNDARY 



MAP PREPARED BY RYAN HOLT FEBRUARY 2012

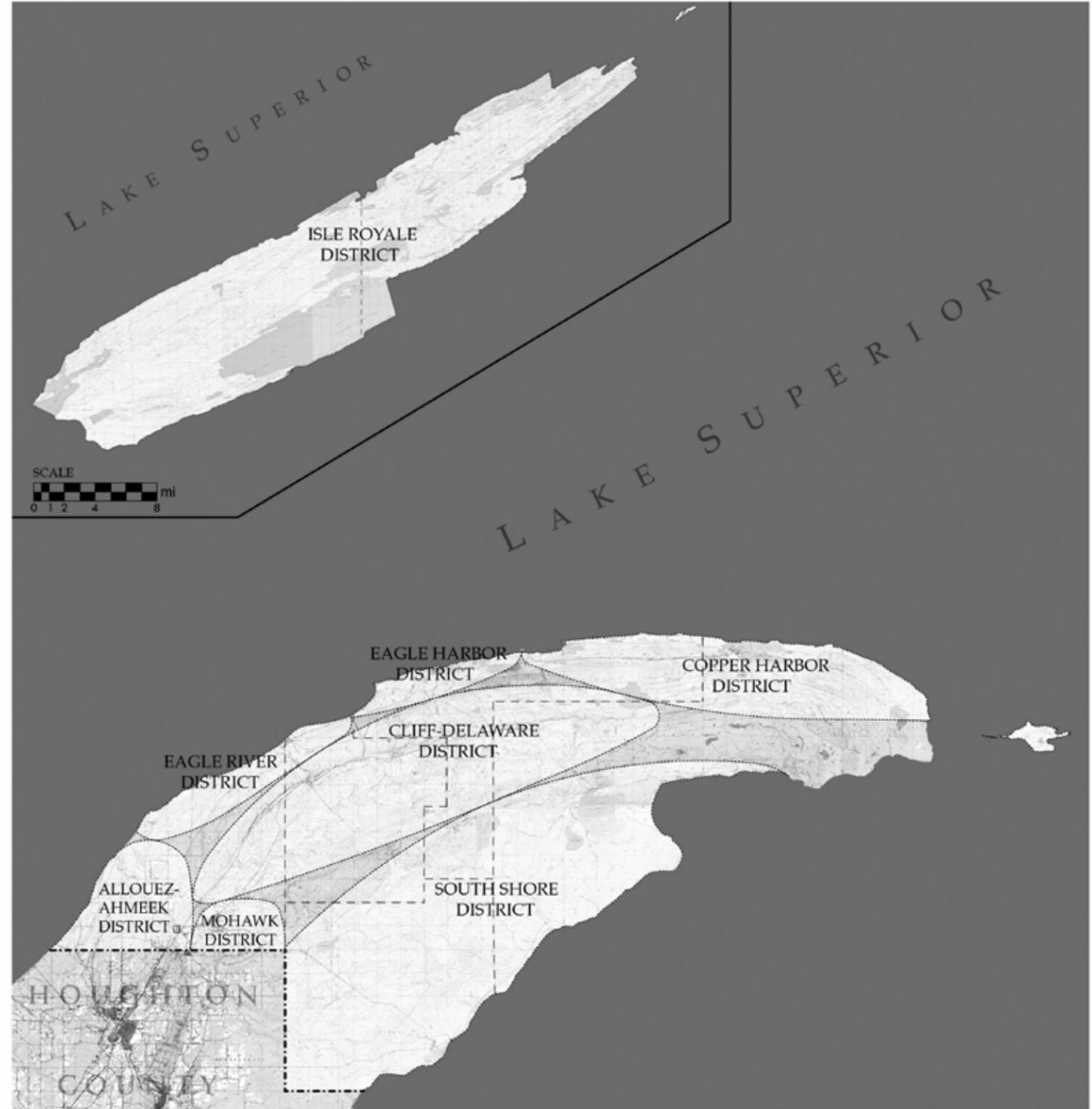
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# COPPER COUNTY SURVEY KEWEENAW COUNTY



## LEGEND

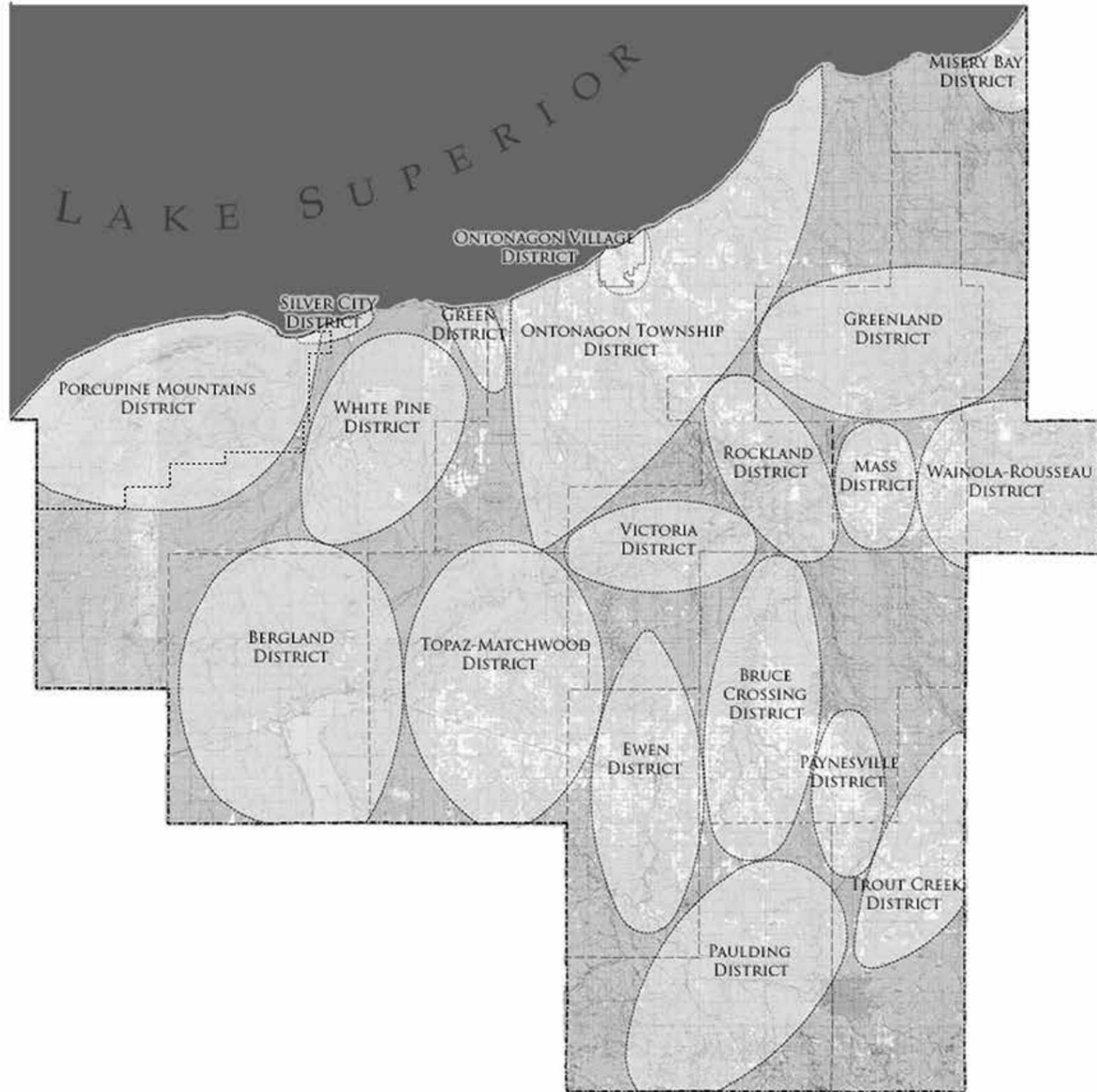
- APPROXIMATE SURVEY DISTRICT 
- TOWNSHIP BOUNDARY 
- INCORPORATED VILLAGE BOUNDARY 
- COUNTY BOUNDARY 



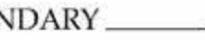
MAP PREPARED BY RYAN HOLT FEBRUARY 2012

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# COPPER COUNTRY SURVEY ONTONAGON COUNTY



## LEGEND

- APPROXIMATE SURVEY DISTRICT 
- TOWNSHIP BOUNDARY 
- INCORPORATED CITY OR VILLAGE BOUNDARY 
- COUNTY BOUNDARY 
- STATE PARK BOUNDARY 



MAP PREPARED BY RYAN HOLT  
MARCH 2010



DRAFT

**D. DISTRICT SURVEY FORMS**

The sixty-two district survey forms will be included on a CD in the final report.