



## Putting History on Display – Call for Artifacts for Union Building Exhibit



### ***Risk and Resilience: Life in a Copper Mining Community***

The concentration of labor, technology, and capital required to extract the Keweenaw's world-class copper resource left an enduring legacy on the land, communities, economy, and people of the region. Keweenaw National Historical Park provides tangible evidence of this legacy. A new interpretive exhibit titled, "Risk and Resilience: Life in a Copper Mining Community", will be located in the park-owned Union Building. To illustrate that story, the exhibit will use graphics panels, audio-visual aids, and most importantly, artifacts. The National Park Service needs help in finding these artifacts and is asking the public to become involved. Below is a list of needed artifacts. If you have an item listed, please consider contacting the park at 906-337-3168.

#### **The Land**

#### **The Community**

#### **The Economy**

#### **Remembering Italian Hall**

#### **Artifacts needed:**

- Fruit picking basket, early 1900s
- Fishing creel, early 1900s
- Woven picnic basket, early 1900s
- Finnish winter leather boots, early 1900s
- Men's or women's bathing suit, c. 1900
- Street light from Calumet/Red Jacket, c. 1910
- Exterior business sign from Calumet/Red Jacket, c. 1910
- Cash register from Calumet/Red Jacket store, c. 1910
- Miner's clothing, c. 1900 – 1920

- Mine captain's clothing, c. 1900 – 1920
- Hat rack, early 1900s
- Photographs of Italian Hall with mourning bunting
- "Save Italian Hall" button, c. 1984
- Other artifacts associated with Italian Hall building

#### **Mining the Keweenaw**

#### **Copper Curio Case**

#### **Artifacts needed:**

- Trunk used by immigrant families c. 1870 – 1910
- American Indian artifact made from local copper
- Civil War-era brass buttons, copper canteens, copper kettles, pans
- Daguerreotypes (made from copper)
- Lake Superior copper-related artifacts or documents from 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia

- Lake Superior copper-related artifacts or documents from 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago
- 1860s copper penny
- Lake Copper ingots, Civil War-era shipwreck)

#### **Risk and Resilience**

#### **Immigrants and New Arrivals**

#### **Strike and Strife**

#### **Artifacts needed:**

- Leyner water drill, c. 1912, made by Ingersoll-Rand
- Trunk used by immigrant family c. 1870 – 1910
- Items (or accounts of items) brought to US from the old country
- Poster or other item illustrating recruitment of copper miners in European countries by Lake Superior copper mines
- Train ticket, steamship ticket, or ship's manifest documenting an immigrant

- ancestor's journey
- Flag or placard used in 1913 strike parade
- Western Federation of Miners membership card
- Mine, Mill, and Smelter Workers membership card
- United Steel Workers membership card
- Deputy badge, hat, pistol etc. From the 1913-1914 strike
- Photographs of copper miners on strike in 1968

<p><b>Education &amp; Americanization</b></p> <p><b>From Cradle to Grave</b></p> <p><b>Keeping the Faith</b></p>	<p><b>Artifacts needed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shop projects made by students in C&amp;H Manual School</li> <li>• Text books (geography, civics, social studies) used in C&amp;H schools in early 1900s</li> <li>• Calumet High School letter patch</li> <li>• Student essay or drawing related to themes of citizenship, living in Calumet, immigrating, etc., 1900s - 1920s</li> <li>• C&amp;H employee badge</li> <li>• Books from C&amp;H library, early 1900s</li> <li>• Family bibles in foreign languages</li> </ul>	<p>(Italian, German, Slovenian, Finnish), early 1900s</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Items associated with practicing the Jewish faith (Mezuzah, menorah, etc.)</li> <li>• Catholic sick call set</li> <li>• Photographs of bar mitzvahs, first communions, baptisms from the early 1900s</li> <li>• Items associated with practicing Buddhist or Islamic faiths</li> </ul>
<p><b>Leisure &amp; Recreation</b></p> <p><b>Ethnic Identities</b></p> <p><b>Main Street</b></p> <p><b>Home/Food ways</b></p>	<p><b>Artifacts needed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copper lined trunk</li> <li>• Prohibition-era items</li> <li>• Personal stories about making, selling, or drinking moonshine</li> <li>• Photographs of bocce ball tournaments, ethnic picnics, parades, etc.</li> <li>• Wooden tokens from 1966 Centennial celebration</li> <li>• Store and business signs – Calumet/Red Jacket from early 1900's</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family recipes</li> <li>• Local cookbooks (e.g. 1920's Calumet Women's Club cookbook)</li> <li>• Potato picking tool and other hand-held farming tools</li> <li>• Photos of people in boarding houses</li> <li>• Artifacts related to taking in boarders and from boarding houses</li> <li>• Photographs of backyard gardens</li> <li>• Home movies showing home interiors, backyards, picnics, holidays, community events, outings, etc.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Resource &amp; Recreation</b></p> <p><b>Healthcare</b></p> <p><b>Kinship and Community</b></p>	<p><b>Artifacts needed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Old photographs of family outings, picnics, snowshoe treks, skiing, skating, fishing, berry picking, etc.</li> <li>• Early sports equipment like ice skates, snowshoes, hockey sticks, cricket bats, bocce balls.</li> <li>• C&amp;H Band memorabilia or musical instruments</li> <li>• Finnish cupping instruments</li> <li>• Stories about home remedies</li> <li>• Crutches used by injured miner</li> <li>• Broom made by blind miners in C&amp;H</li> </ul>	<p>broom factory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letter from C&amp;H regarding personal injury, disability case, or settlement</li> <li>• Patient registry from C&amp;H or other area hospital</li> <li>• Artifacts from local physician's or lawyers office</li> <li>• China used by Masons or Odd Fellows in Union Building lodges</li> <li>• Photographs of community events on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Union Building</li> <li>• Local temperance group memorabilia</li> <li>• Documents (program, photos) relating to 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary banquet for Masor</li> <li>• Photos and documents related to local area women's auxiliary clubs</li> </ul>