MACHINE SHOP
Mine Street
Calumet
Houghton County
Michigan

HABS MI-432
MI-432

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

MACHINE SHOP

HABS No. MI-432

Location: The Machine Shop is located on Mine Street near the intersection of Depot Street in Calumet, Houghton County, Michigan.

Present Owner: Located on the south side of Red Jacket Road, or in the original Hecla Mining Company side of town, the Machine Shop has a similar ownership history to the roundhouse, library, general office, bathhouse, Agassiz House, and Miscowaubik Club. The chain of title information is as follows:

Twp 56N Range 33W Section 23

I. E ½ S ½ of NW ¼, SW ¼ of SW ¼ E ½ of SW ¼
Patent
State of Michigan to
St. Mary's Falls Ship Canal Co.
May 25, 1855, rec. September 4, 1875
Volume 17, p. 2.

II. E ½ S ½ of NW ¼ NE ¼ of SW ¼, S ½ of SW ¼
Warranty Deed
St. Mary's Falls Ship Canal Co. to
St. Mary's Canal Mineral Land Co.
June 8, 1860, rec. June 23, 1862
Volume 5, p. 316.

III. E ½ S ½ of SW ¼, S ½ of NW ¼, NE ¼ of SW ¼
Warranty Deed
St. Mary's Canal Mineral Land Co. to
Hecla Mining Company
September 11, 1866, rec. October 15, 1866
Volume 8, p. 371.

IV. Merger of Hecla Mining Company with Calumet Mining Company to form the Calumet & Hecla Mining Company
March 1871
Red Metal, p. 71.

V. Formation of the Calumet & Hecla Consolidated Copper Company
September 10, 1923
Red Metal, p. 140.

VI. Merger between Calumet & Hecla and Universal Oil Products
April 25, 1968.

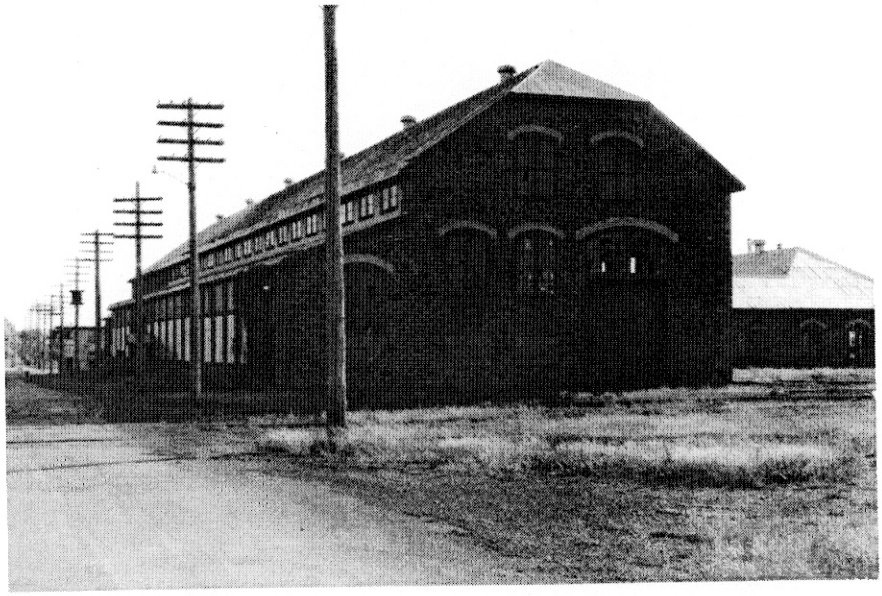
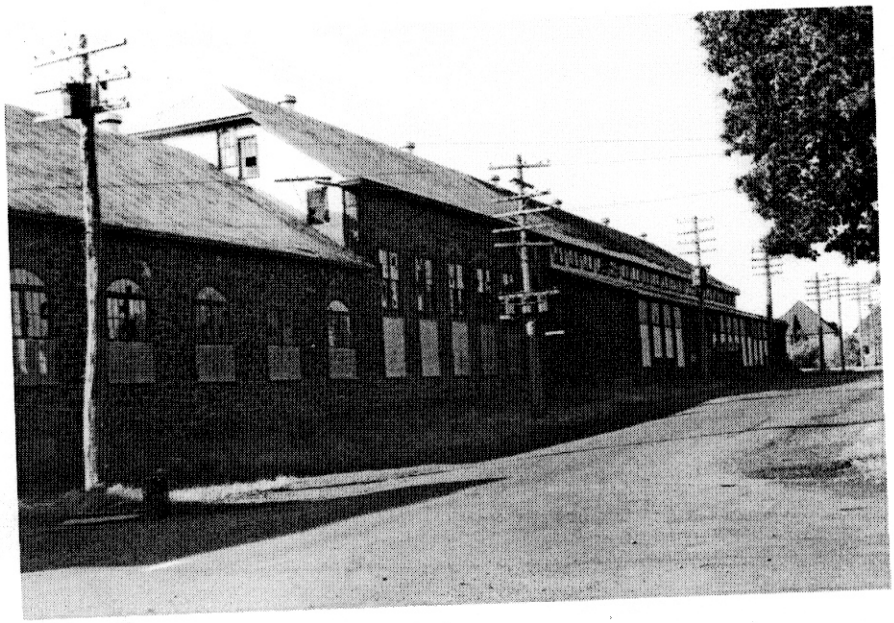
Present Occupant: Presumed vacant.

Notes: Originally designed by Erasmus D. Leavitt, Jr., and erected by the mining company around 1882, the Machine Shop was completely reconstructed in 1907. A short time later, in 1911, an addition 92' long was made to the southernmost portion of building and a bay measuring 17' x 230' was attached on the east. The 1907-11 shop stands two stories tall and is fashioned from hammer dressed, random ashlar masonry, with a gray, local poor rock used at the corners. It measures approximately 54' x 416'9" and has a clerestory to admit additional light beneath the hipped, gable roof covered with corrugated sheet metal. At the northeast corner, a railroad spur enters the building. Inside, most of the flooring is made of concrete, while the structural systems are a combination of load bearing masonry walls and timber trusses. The trusses also support a catwalk that runs the length of the main interior space.[1]

Sources: Charles K. Hyde and Diane B. Abbot, The Upper Peninsula of Michigan: An Inventory of Historic Engineering and Industrial Sites (Washington: Historic American Engineering Record, 1978, cited in "Calumet and Hecla Industrial District," Nomination form 1974, 1977, National Register for Historic Places, National Park Service.

"Coppertown USA." Barton-Aschman Associates, Inc., for the UOP Realty Development Company, 1972.

Historians: The summer historians were Kevin Harrington and Wendy Nicholas, who worked for the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record on the Calumet area survey in 1975.

[1] "Coppertown USA," (Barton-Aschman Associates, Inc., for the UOP Realty Company, 1972), p. 49; "Calumet and Hecla Industrial District," Nomination form 1974, 1977, National Register for Historic Places, National Park Service; "Summary of the Operations of the Calumet & Hecla Mining Company," (1911), p. 7; Notes by Harrington & Nicholas, 1975.

Figs. 1 & 2 General views of the Machine Shop. Photographs by Kevin Harrington & Wendy Nicholas, 1975.