

BATHHOUSE
Calumet Avenue at Depot Street intersection
Calumet
Houghton County
Michigan

HABS No. MI-433

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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

BATHHOUSE

HABS No. MI-433

- Location: The Bathhouse is located at the intersection of Calumet Avenue and 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 Bathhouse has a similar ownership history to the Roundhouse, Library, General Office, Machine Shop, Agassiz House, and Miscowaubik Club. The chain of title information is as follows:
- Twp 56N Range 33W Section 23
- I. E $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$
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 $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$
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 $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$
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: Constructed in 1910-11, the Bathhouse is significant for its use as community service building for there the miners could bathe before returning to their respective homes in and around the city. Inside there was a 26' x 40' swimming pool, in addition to the tubs, showers, dressing rooms, and other recreational spaces. Before the erection of a purpose-built bathing facility, miners cleansed themselves in the rooms provided in the basement of the library.¹ The bathhouse was designed by the firm Charlton and Kuenzli of Marquette and Milwaukee, Wisconsin; the company, Warden Allen Co., of Chicago, Milwaukee, and Houghton, provided the structural steel for the project.²

The bathhouse is T-shaped in plan and rests on a mine-rock foundation. It is one-story in height over a raised basement. The main section of the building measures approximately 99' x 52'4", while the pool section measures 39'2" x 33'2". The walls are made of 4" (red) brick and 8" hollow tiles and are embellished by a limestone belt course. The structure is covered by a flat roof. Inside, the flooring is concrete.³

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.

¹ "Calumet and Hecla Industrial District," Nomination form 1974, 1977, National Register for Historic Places, National Park Service.

² Kevin Harrington and Wendy Nicholas, notes, 1975; "Calumet and Hecla Industrial District," Nomination form 1974, 1977, National Register for Historic Places, National Park Service.

³ Kevin Harrington and Wendy Nicholas, notes, 1975.

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.