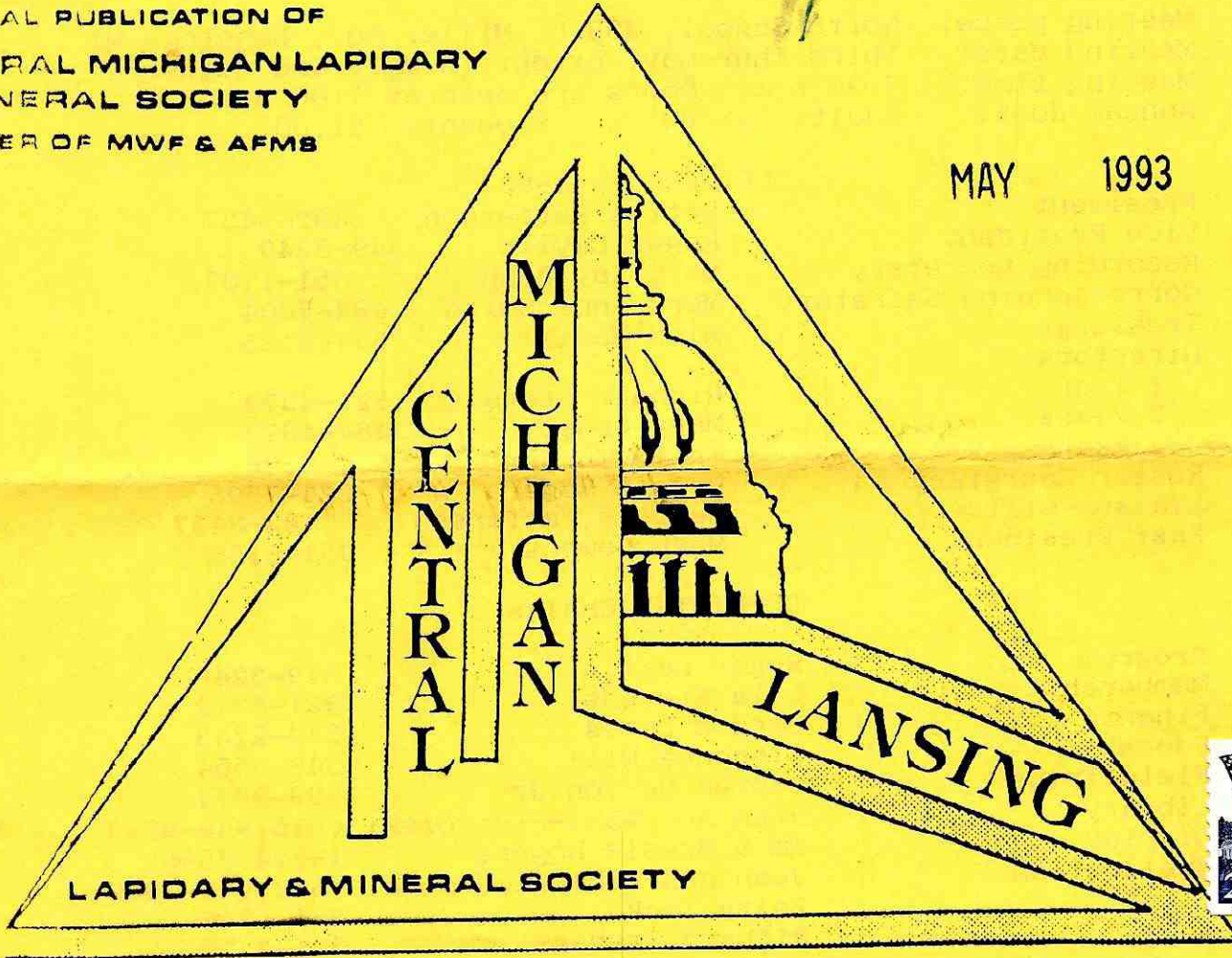


ROCKHOUND NEWS

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
CENTRAL MICHIGAN LAPIDARY
& MINERAL SOCIETY
MEMBERS OF MWF & AFMS

MAY 1993



Return To:
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14933 Brown Rd.,
Lansing, Michigan 48906

FIRST CLASS
TIME VALUE

ROCKHOUND NEWS

This bulletin is the official publication of the Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society of Greater Lansing, Michigan. It is published the second week of each month except July and August.

The Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society is a non-profit organization, meeting to promote interest and increased knowledge in the fields of mineralogy, geology, paleontology and the lapidary arts. It was organized in May, 1957.

Meeting place: North School, 333 E. Miller Rd., Lansing, MI
Meeting date: Third Thursday, except in July and August
Meeting time: 7:30 p.m. Doors are open at 7:00 p.m.
Annual dues: Adults \$3.00 Students \$1.00

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REMEMBER THE CLUB BANQUET -- MAY 20. TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE. CALL MARY ANNE SMITH NOW IF YOU STILL NEED YOURS: 484-7804.

MAY FIELD TRIP & POT-LUCK PICNIC, MAY 23 -- George Heaton

For our May field trip we will be hosting the Scarborough Ontario Mineral Club with a joint field trip to the Stoneco Lime City Ohio Quarry. It is pay-back time for when the Scarborough Club hosted our club last year with a visit to the Flamborough Quarry near Flamborough Ontario, followed by a big pot-luck picnic at a nearby park.

We will meet the Scarborough Club members at the Lime City Quarry gate at 7:45-8:00AM on SUNDAY, May 23rd and will plan to enter the quarry at 8:00AM. This is Canada's Victoria Day Holiday weekend which allows the Canadians to make the long drive on Saturday, visit the quarry on Sunday, and return home on Monday. We will leave the quarry at 1:30pm.

Following our visit to the quarry we will gather at a nearby park somewhere for a pot-luck picnic to feed ourselves and our Canadian friends. Bring a dish or two of food to share, and eating and drinking equipment. I do not know which park site we will be using for our picnic. I hope to thrash that out at our board meeting. I am open to suggestions from anybody who is familiar with the Toledo Ohio area.

Material to be collected at Lime City includes celestite, fluorite, calcite, sphalerite, and strontianite. Sulfur and barite have also been reported here. Fossils also may be found here. Much of the material from this quarry is fluorescent.

To get to the Lime City Quarry take I-96 East from Lansing to Rt. 23. Go South on Rt. 23 to Ohio where you pick up the I-475 bypass around Toledo. You take I-475 South to where it meets I-75 and you go north on I-75 to the first exit beyond the intersection of I-475 and I-75. This is the Rts. 20 & 23 exit to Perrysburg. From here you go east about 2 miles to Lime City. The quarry entrance is on the left about one or two blocks after you cross the railroad tracks in Lime City. The distance from Lansing is about 130 miles so you should allow at least 2 1/2 hours driving time to get to the quarry. If you travel on Saturday morning you should leave the house no later than 5:00 AM to get to the quarry by 7:45 AM.

The usual collecting tools, including hammers of various sizes and an assortment of various chisels are needed. Also bring wrapping paper and boxes for specimens. DO NOT FORGET YOU MUST HAVE HARD HAT, HARD-TOED BOOTS AND SAFETY GLASSES OR GOGGLES WHEN COLLECTING IN QUARRIES!

As usual, a map appears on the last page of this newsletter.

TWO NEW DEALERS FOR OUR SHOW--

Red Rogers has obtained two new dealers to fill out our show: Crystal Connections of Hudson Ohio and Terra Firma from Wisconsin. Conflict with the faceters guild show caused two of our usual dealers to decline.

MEMBER DONA LAY IS HAVING A MOVING SALE

Dona Lay will be moving from her big house on Miller Road and wishes to sell her rock equipment, slabs and cutting material. She has also decided to part with a few of her crystal specimens.

Dona and her family will have an open house from 1:00-6:00 pm on Sunday May 23 for those who would like to come and take a look. The address is 408 E. Miller Road, it's a large yellow/tan house across the street (more or less) from North School where we have our monthly meetings. The phone number is 393-5418 if you have any questions.

FIRST FOSSIL INTEREST GROUP MEETING A SUCCESS--Connie Snapp

Eleven people attended the first meeting of the fossil interest group at the Snapps' home on April 16. Echinodermata was the area of focus, and there was a full table of interesting specimens which were gathered by those attending. The Tripps loaned us an excellent brittle star fish from the cretaceous period of Texas.

Watch for another such meeting in the fall to feature fossil molluscs. This is a good time not only to add to your information about fossils, but also to enjoy an evening of fellowship and refreshments with a small group of club members.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT

April showers this year seemed to be concentrated in one 24 hour period! But the resulting daffodil displays all over the area might actually make mopping up damp basements worth it!

During the past month cards were sent to Bill Henderson and Oleta Brockway who were both ill with pneumonia; Alice Turner and Agnes Baughan both recovering from surgery and now at home; and, to Frank Card, Fred Dunn Sr. and Louise Beebe.

Invitations were sent to representatives from seven area clubs to join us at our banquet in May.

Please continue to call 484-7804 with any news of members awards, weddings, illnesses, etc.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Anne Smith

WELCOME TO THREE NEW MEMBERS

Phoebe Basso, wife of member Charles Basso, was accepted into the club at the April board meeting. Phoebe works in Grand Rapids as a mechanical engineer. Her hobbies are "music and rocks." She is primarily interested in mineralogy, but also in a bit of lapidary work. Their address: 1301 G University Village, East Lansing MI 48823; 355-6060.

You may remember our newest junior member as a guest at the April meeting. Susan Cheyne attended the meeting to gather information for a school report, and decided to join the club! Susan is 13 years old and a student at Hayes Middle School in Grand Ledge. She enjoys reading, computers, karate, math and science; and, would like to pursue a career in mineralogy. Her address: 516 Gettysburg Drive, Lansing MI 48917; 321-2328.

New Members cont.

Dean McCollaum was also a visitor at our April meeting. In addition to geology and mineralogy, Dean is interested in photography, poetry, philosophy and personal computers. His address: 1850 E. Stoll Rd., Lansing MI 48906; 485-4652.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NEEDED FOR OUR SHOW. PLEASE BE THINKING OF US AS YOU DO SPRING CLEANING AND SUMMER COLLECTING!

- Petoskey stones smaller than an egg for inclusion in polishing kits. (Lila Stevens)
- High quality rock and mineral creations or specimens for the raffle. (Rich Stevens)
- Good quality rock and mineral creations or specimens for door prizes. (Red Rogers)
- Better specimens and cutting material for the silent auction. (Gordon & Marie Lewis)
- Egg cartons for the children's sample kits. (Florence Hill)
- Just about anything for the children's table. (George Heaton or Grit Turner)

MWF CONVENTION / RED METAL RETREAT / ISHPEMING SWAP- Jean Ann

August 6 - 13 will be one doosey of a week in da UP. The Ishpeming Club swap and field trip is usually worth a trip in itself. This year festivities will begin on Friday with a field trip to several iron mines to collect MICROMOUNT SPECIMENS. Saturday will feature the swap and crackerbaarel -- a great chance to buy and visit. Sunday, it's off to the field again for beautiful pink Kona Dolomite at the Lindburgh Quarry. You must sign up for the field trip at the swap on Saturday and there is a \$2.00 charge.

The Sixth Annual Red Metal Retreat appears to be sponsored solely by Michigan Tech this year and will be held concurrently with the MWF Convention. Richard Whiteman began this event in 1988 as a chance for copper enthusiasts to get together -- boy has it grown. Activities include a symposium, swap, collecting & noncollecting tours of the Caledonia Mine (Richard's place), and a tour of the new National Park (see article from The Rockpile).

Information about the Midwest Federation Convention & Field Trip in Houghton has arrived, though it still leaves many questions unanswered. General registration is due by July 15, field trip registration will be August 9 at the registration table. The only charges appear to be for meals if you choose to partake. Guided field trips are scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday; self guided trips for Thursday and Friday -- but, there is no indication as to where we might be going! There will be a swap Tuesday - Thursday; and, live entertainment on the beach Wednesday evening.

A comparison of the Red Metal Retreat & Convention schedules indicate that some activities are being co-sponsored, but this is not specifically stated. I hope to get more information while visiting with Richard at the Dearborn Show. I will have copies of the fliers for all three events at our banquet; or, give me a call and I'd be glad to drop them in the mail.

MWF Convention/Ishpeming/Red Metal Retreat cont.

In addition to area motels, housing is also being offered at Michigan Tech's Wadsworth Hall dormitory. Campers have the option of the Hancock City Campground and McLain State Park. Baraga State Park is a bit further away, but not too bad. If you have any questions about eating, sleeping or rockhounding in the Copper Country, Dave and I will be glad to try to answer them.

THE TEN ROCKAMANDMENTS via The Petoskey Stone 4/93 via others

1. Thou shalt not touch thy neighbor's minerals unless he places them in your hand.
2. Thou shalt not test the strength of crystals by pushing, biting or squeezing.
3. Thou shalt not drop thy neighbor's fossil, for many do not bounce properly.
4. Thou shalt not drop thy neighbor's specimen in thine own pocket.
5. Thou shalt not test thy neighbor's agates for hardness by rubbing them together.
6. Thou shalt not argue the name of that mineral too violently, sometimes thou could be wrong.
7. Thou shalt not climb above thy neighbor when on a field trip lest thou are willing to spend the remainder of the day digging him out.
8. Thou shalt protect thine own eyes, hands and feet so thou can enjoy many, many more field trips.
9. Thou shalt not encroach upon thy neighbor's diggings lest his hammer be dropped on thy toe.
10. Thou shalt not complain about or denounce thy club officers under penalty of being elected one thyself.

JASPER CONGLOMERATE OR "PUDDING STONE" excerpts from an article by Steve Wilson, member of Michigan Mineralogical Society & on the staff of the Michigan Geological Survey; via The Pterodactyl & others

Conglomerate is a rock composed of rounded waterworn pebbles, usually of quartz, cemented by the mass of finer material filling the spaces between. Often there is a contrast between the color of the pebbles and that of the matrix, which makes appropriate the nickname "pudding stone."

Although there are other types of conglomerates, jasper conglomerate is unique in that it originates north of Georgian Bay, and is technically called Huronian supergroup oligomictic pebble conglomerate. It is scattered about in Michigan and Ontario and a few rocks in Michigan have been the subject of widespread interest. Jasper conglomerate is found in gravel pits, fields, streambeds and along lake shores from the Algoma region of Ontario to the Ohio River in western Ohio and eastern Indiana, and even across the Mississippi River in southeastern Iowa.

Jasper Conglomerate cont.

This rock is in demand by both tourists and collectors for souvenirs or as ornaments. As a result, supplies in some areas have been depleted. Intermittently, small-scale quarrying has been tried near Echo Lake Ontario, but it seems that the conglomerate is either highly fractured or coated with alteration products.

As early as 1859 the geology of the Sault Ste. Marie area had been deciphered and mapped. This area is dominated by Pre-Cambrian rocks. The area is historic because it includes the original Huronian area where the first division of the Pre-Cambrian rocks in Canada was achieved. The jasper conglomerate was unique then, and it has maintained its identity through subsequent reclassification and divisions.

In Michigan, jasper conglomerate, which is found in the glacial drift, is usually more or less rounded. The size ranges from bean size to immense boulders weighing tons. In addition to the red, brown and/or purple jasper, the conglomerate carries pebbles of white, pink and/or green quartz or quartzite, and black, gray and/or peach chert. Some pebbles show banding of jasper and hematite. Typically, the colored pebbles are separated by a light matrix. This makes an attractive, durable stone!

The origin of this rock goes back to the Huronian Period of the Proterozoic Era (or Pre-Cambrian here in the States). That is over 1.5 billion years ago! During this period, extensive sediments were deposited in or adjacent to bodies of water called epicontinental seas. These seas were shallow and the level apparently fluctuated greatly. Much of the material which became the conglomerates was derived by erosion from even older rocks. These sediments were in the form of fine sand and small rounded pebbles of gray and white quartz. The colored pebbles were deposited only in some parts of the area. These pebbles are usually at an angle to the bedding of the sand. For this reason it can be called a poorly-sorted conglomerate.

Sands, free of pebbles later become sandstone. The individual sand grains became cemented by silica and iron-bearing waters. The mixture of sand pebbles became conglomerates by similar processes. Later this area was affected by volcanic activity. The resulting heat and pressure transformed these into their metamorphic counterparts. The sandstone became quartzite and conglomerate became metaconglomerate.

Well over one billion years of weathering and erosion uncovered some of these rocks. Loose fragments in great masses were gathered or plucked from the bedrock, then moved by the Pleistocene (only 1 million years ago) continental ice sheets. The current outcrop area is restricted to the area around Sault Ste Marie. The erosional boundary to the south is essentially St. Joseph Island.

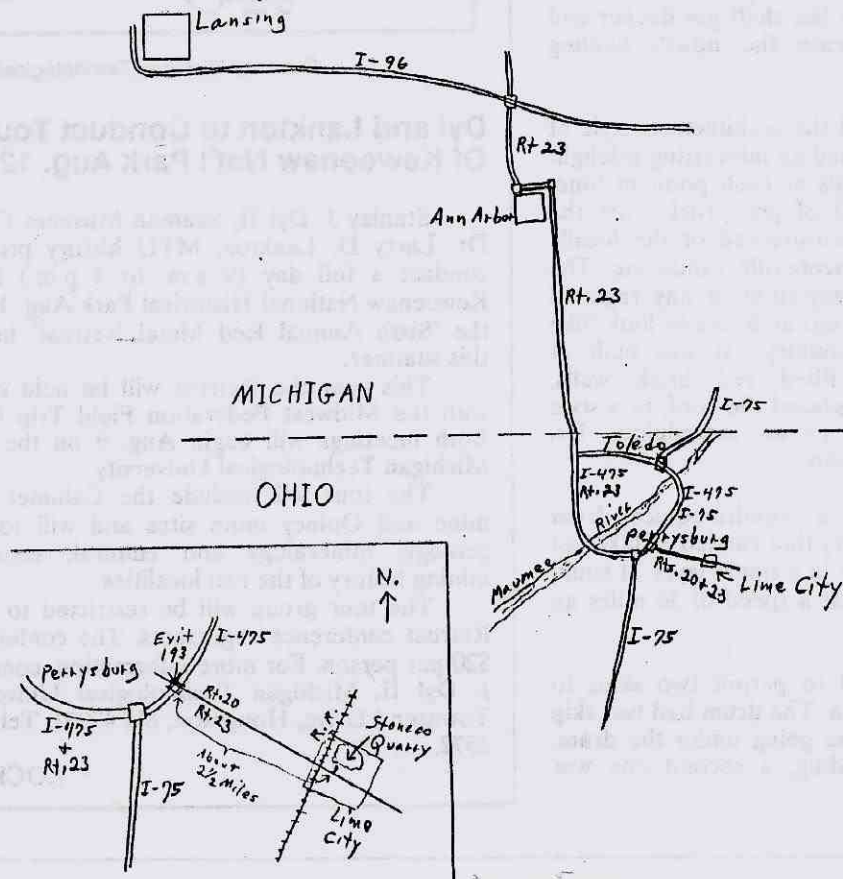
CLUB CALENDAR

- May 20 Club Banquet- Okemos Masonic Temple
- May 23 Field trip & picnic, Stoneco Quarry, Lime City OH
Dona Lay's open house to sell equipment & rocks
- July 17 Field trip to Stoneco Quarry, Maybee MI
- July 24 Picnic & Work meeting at the cottage of Rich and Lila Stevens
- August 21 Field trip to Stoneco Quarry, Maybee MI
- October 29-31 Our SHOW, "Nature's Sparklers"

SHOW CALENDAR - SEE RED ROGERS FOR FLIERS

- May 14-16 Dearborn Show "Around the Great Lakes"- Dearborn Civic Center, Michigan & Greenfield Fri 5-10pm
Sat 10am-8pm Sun 11am-5:30pm
- June 18-20 Lawrence County (Bedford) Indiana Show & Swap-
Monroe County 4-H Fair Grounds, Bloomington Indiana
- June 26-27 MGAGS Seminar- Mid-Michigan Community College,
Harrison MI
- August 6-6 Ishpeming Swap & field trips
- August 9-15 Midwest Federation Field Trip Convention-
Houghton MI
- Sept. 17-18 Holland Show "Michigan Iron"

*Crudely Drawn Map to Lime City Ohio
and Stoneco Quarry*



Quincy Copper Mine

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

They thought of everything. There are things in there (you wouldn't believe) - you could even warm your lunches over a steam pipe."

In recent years the Quincy Mine Hoist Association, a nonprofit organization, led an effort to preserve and restore the Quincy No. 2 complex, and in Oct. 1992 Congress assured its long-term preservation by enacting legislation to establish the Keweenaw National Historical Park, which encompasses the Quincy complex and the Calumet Historic District.

Visitor Information

Before the Quincy Hoist Historic Site became part of the National Park, the following visitor information pertained: open June 15 to Labor Day, 9:30 - 5:00, daily and weekends. An entrance fee was charged. A gift shop, exhibit areas and public restrooms were available. It is not known what changes the National Park Service may make concerning visits by the public.

Other Quincy Facts

Some other facts about the Quincy No. 2 complex imparted by Dr. Lankton:

The shaft descends 9,200 feet at an angle of 54 degrees from the horizontal (slanting beneath U.S. 41). It is about 6,000 feet deep vertically and was the deepest shaft in the Copper Country.

The three existing hoist houses were built in 1882, 1894 and 1920, each becoming necessary to accommodate ever larger hoisting machines as the shaft got deeper and the company wanted to increase the hoist's hauling capacity and speed.

The building materials and the architectural style of each of the three hoist houses shed an interesting sidelight on the company's financial status at each point in time: The 1882 hoist house was built of poor rock from the mine. The 1894 building was constructed of the locally quarried but more attractive Jacobsville sandstone. The 1920 building, in an apparent rejection of any regional identity, was designed by a Chicago architect to look "like nothing else in the Copper Country." It was built of reinforced concrete, with in-filled red brick walls, cathedral windows and a green glazed tile roof, in a style which an architect described to an incredulous Dr. Lankton as "vaguely Mediterranean."

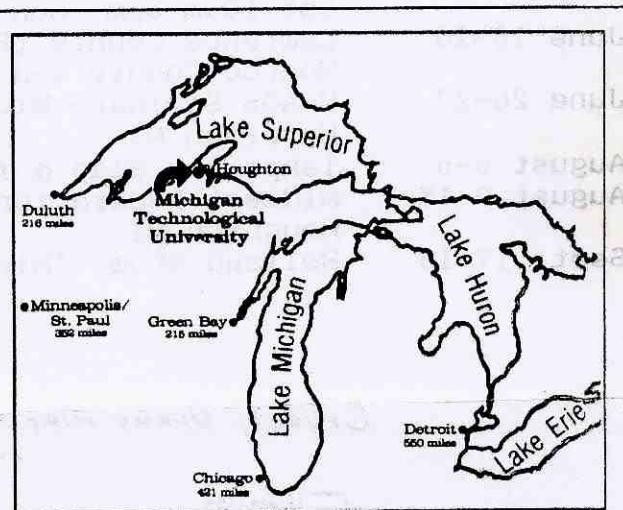
The 1920 steam hoist had a cylindro-conical drum (30 feet in diameter at the center) that carried 10,000 feet of 1 5/8 inch diameter wire rope in a single layer. It could lift 10-ton (capacity) rock skips at a speed of 36 miles an hour.

The shaft was constructed to permit two skips to operate in a reciprocating fashion. The drum had two skip ropes - one going over and one going under the drum. So, while one skip was ascending, a second one was descending.

REFERENCES

1. *Detroit Free Press*, article by David Hacker, Oct. 7, 1992.
2. Hanschu, Joyce, "The Historic Quincy Mine and Mine Hoist Building," *MWF Newsletter*, Dec. 1992.
3. Lankton, Larry D., and Charles K. Hyde. *Old Reliable: An Illustrated History of the Quincy Mining Company*, Quincy Mine Hoist Association, Inc (Hancock, 1982).
4. Lankton, Larry. *Cradle to Grave: Life, Work, and Death at the Lake Superior Copper Mines*, Oxford University Press (New York, 1991).
5. Lankton, Larry. Narration during his guided tour of the Quincy mine complex on Sept. 26, 1992, transcribed by *The ROCKPILE* staff and in its document library.

- Walt Vogtmann
Editor, *The ROCKPILE*



Courtesy Michigan Technological University

Dyl and Lankton to Conduct Tour Of Keweenaw Nat'l Park Aug. 12

Stanley J. Dyl II, Seaman Museum Curator, and Dr. Larry D. Lankton, MTU history professor, will conduct a full day (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) tour of the Keweenaw National Historical Park Aug. 12 as part of the "Sixth Annual Red Metal Retreat" in Houghton this summer.

This year the Retreat will be held concurrently with the Midwest Federation Field Trip Convention. Both meetings will begin Aug. 9 on the campus of Michigan Technological University.

The tour will include the Calumet and Hecla mine and Quincy mine sites and will focus on the geology, mineralogy and cultural, economic and mining history of the two localities.

The tour group will be restricted to Red Metal Retreat conference registrants. The conference fee is \$20 per person. For more information, contact Stanley J. Dyl II, Michigan Technological University, 1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49931, Tel. (906) 487-2572.

- ROCKPILE staff

A Keweenaw Treasure

Quincy Copper Mine Complex Enchants MTU Technology Historian

Like a behemoth sitting atop Quincy Hill, the old Quincy copper mine shaft-rockhouse No. 2 dominates the horizon north of Houghton and Hancock, Michigan's gateway cities to the Keweenaw Peninsula.

The shaft-rockhouse, a steel-framed structure built in 1908 to replace its 1894 wooden predecessor, is one of the few major mining structures still remaining from Michigan's historic copper mining era.

Shaft numbers indicated the sequential order in which the company sank them. In all, the Quincy Mining Company sank eight shafts between 1856 and 1900. They were spaced from 400 to 600 feet apart, and all of them tapped into the Pewabic Lode, an amygdaloid deposit. A ninth shaft was started, but was aborted in 1913 because of the miners' strike. The Quincy Mining Company had operated its No. 2 shaft from 1857 until 1931, when the company stopped its mining operations as a consequence of the Depression. Although the company resumed limited mining between 1937 and 1945, it never reopened the No. 2 complex.

"... some of the finest structures

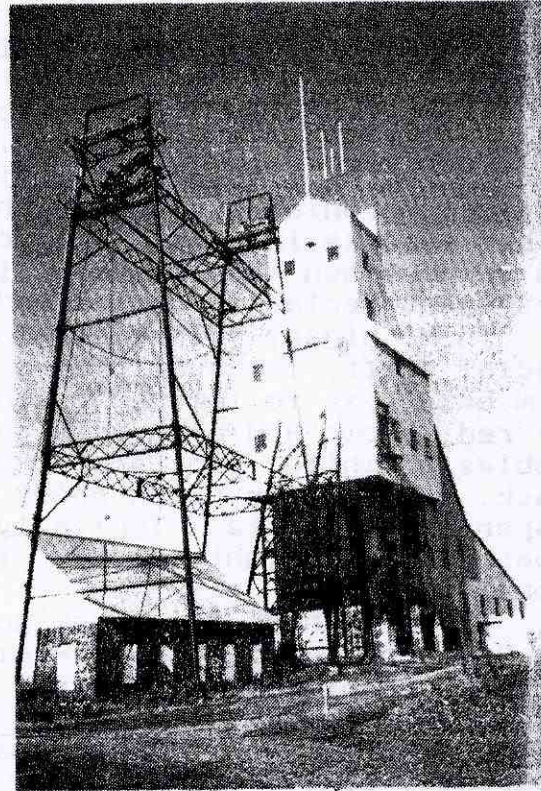
left in the Copper Country."

Dr. Larry Lankton, an industrial archaeologist and history professor at Michigan Technological University, Houghton, believes the Quincy No. 2 complex has "some of the finest structures left in the Copper Country." Dr. Lankton, with Dr. Charles Hyde, in 1982 co-authored *Old Reliable: An Illustrated History of the Quincy Mining Company*, and in 1991 wrote a second book, *Cradle to Grave - Life, Work, and Death at the Lake Superior Copper Mines*.

The Quincy complex, located on U.S. 41 north of Hancock, includes, in addition to the shaft-rockhouse, three generations of hoist houses, a boiler house and sundry other structures and ancillary equipment. The jewel of the complex and its principal visitor attraction, however, is the 1920 hoist house with its Nordberg steam hoist, representing "the pinnacle of steam-operated machinery in the Copper Country," according to Dr. Lankton. The steam hoist actually consists of four compound steam engines (one engine on each support leg of the massive hoist drum).

Dr. Lankton's comments were made during a tour of the Quincy complex he conducted last September. The tour, sponsored by the local historical society, was open to the public, but attracted a coterie of mostly Mich. Tech. faculty and students.

Though the day was cold and rainy, there were few defectors during the three-hour tour. It was a rare opportunity to get such expert insight into the workings of the Quincy mine, and Dr. Lankton's analytic description of the three hoist houses and the shaft-rockhouse's



The Quincy shaft-rockhouse No. 2, built in 1908, atop Quincy Hill near Hancock, Mich. The smaller building at the left is the 1882 hoist house that served an earlier shaft house. The steel structures above the old hoist house are two of the eight pulley stands originally erected to support the wire rope coming from the 1920 hoist house (not in photo).

technology more than compensated for any discomforts imposed by the dismal weather.

Describing himself as an "historian of technology," Dr. Lankton said that in his study of the Quincy complex, he has tried "to understand what happened - to find out why everything was there, why they put it where they put it, and why it looked the way it did."

Best Engineered Building

Dr. Lankton lauded the shaft-rockhouse as well organized to handle all kinds of cargo/materials - men, tools, poor rock, large and small pieces of mass copper, (amygdaloid) copper rock, mine water, timber, etc. "It was about the best engineered building in the Copper Country," he said. "You can really see efficiency engineering applied to this building - I love this building."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8