



1  
2 **Figure II - 8: Old Red Jacket Fire Department and Town Hall, 336 Fifth Street,**  
3 **Red Jacket/Calumet, ca. 1880** (source: NPS, Keweenaw NHP, Andrew C. Curto  
4 Collection, Album 8, #011)  
5

6 **1871 – 1889 Calumet and Hecla Mining Company’s Initial Years**  
7

8 By 1889, the Calumet area was highly developed, including eighteen shafts along the  
9 Calumet Conglomerate lode, associated mine buildings, railroad tracks, utility corridors,  
10 and areas for stockpiling materials needed for the mining activities, all within the  
11 industrial core of the landscape. In addition, the Village of Red Jacket was thriving, with  
12 over 1,000 residents. Multiple residential areas, referred to as housing locations, were  
13 established, including Blue Jacket, New Town, Hecla, Calumet, and Raymbaultown. The  
14 1871 to 1889 Period of Change Plan, illustrated in Figure II-9, indicates major  
15 developments present upon the landscape during this period. There were a number of  
16 mining companies in the vicinity whose activities impacted the regional landscape. The  
17 focus of this report is on the Calumet Unit of Keweenaw NHP and information included  
18 herein is limited to that directly associated with the development of that specific  
19 landscape.  
20  
21

## C&H Activities (*Industrial Core*)—1871-1889

In 1871, the Calumet and Hecla Mining Company (C&H) was formed.<sup>63</sup> Alexander Agassiz became president of the company on 1 August 1871. He remained in that role until his death in 1910. The mines grew quickly and within three years the company was producing over 14 million pounds of ingot copper. This was almost half of the copper production of the entire country.<sup>64</sup> During this period, six shafts were developed on the Calumet location, located northeast of Red Jacket Road. The remaining twelve shafts were located on the Hecla location, southwest of Red Jacket Road (see Figure II-6). Initially, all mine shafts were exploratory. As the underground area was investigated, the company regularly closed selected shafts and opened new ones as necessary to achieve the most profitable operations. If a shaft proved unproductive, efforts were shifted elsewhere. The buildings associated with unproductive shafts would be removed to make room for other developments.<sup>65</sup>

This was supported by the company's tendency to "overbuild." Rather than building facilities to meet their immediate needs, the company invested in larger facilities that would serve for many decades. They also stayed ahead of their production capacity in identifying and opening up new mining areas, anticipating future needs. The eventual result was the development of the most impressive surface works associated with a mine in the region. A view of the area in 1871 is provided in Figure II-6.

Next Page:

### **Figure II - 9: Calumet Period of Change Plan, 1871-1889**

#### **Sources for Figure II-9: Calumet Period of Change Plan, 1871-1889**

- Lithograph, Birds Eye View of Calumet, Hecla and Red Jacket, 1871 (NPS, Keweenaw NHP, Jack Foster Collection, Series I (001), Sub-series A (C and H), Sub-series (01) Library, #016)
- Map, Calumet and Hecla Mine Location 1886
- Lithograph, Birds Eye View of Calumet, Hecla and Red Jacket, 1881 (NPS, Keweenaw NHP, Jack Foster Collection, Series I (001), Sub-series A (C and H), Sub-series (01) Library, #015)
- Photo, Old Washington School, 1875 (NPS, Keweenaw NHP, Jack Foster Collection, Series I (001), Sub-series A (C and H), Sub-series (01) Library, #048)
- Photo, Calumet and Hecla Mining Co. Calumet No. 3 Shaft Mine Fire, 1888 (NPS, Keweenaw NHP, Jack Foster Collection, Series I (001), Sub-series A (C and H), Sub-series (01) Library, #084, (1~1))
- Photo, Bluejacket Taken from the Smokestack at Calumet, 1885 (NPS, Keweenaw NHP, Andrew C. Curto Collection, Album 5, 019)
- Photo, Calumet and Tamarack Location from Calumet Stack-Isler, 1885 (NPS, Keweenaw NHP, Andrew C. Curto Collection, Album 12, #006)

---

<sup>63</sup> There were a number of other companies in the vicinity. Future research should address the scope and extent of these companies, and how their activities impacted the landscape.

<sup>64</sup> Lankton, *Hollowed Ground*, 76-77.

<sup>65</sup> Lankton, *Hollowed Ground*, 80.

Chronology

- 1871**  
C&H Mining Company formed. Continued efforts to sink 18 shafts. Six shafts were on the northern portion of the property – the Calumet branch. Twelve shafts were on the southern portion – the Hecla branch. (Lankton, HG, 80)
- 1873**  
Bird's-eye view of Calumet, Hecla & Red Jacket. Depicts livestock grazing in one corner of the triangular commons that would eventually become Agassiz Park.
- 1875**  
Village of Red Jacket officially incorporated over 1,000 residents.
- 1880**  
By 1880, the majority of commercial activities are located in Red Jacket and Mine Street is devoted to industrial endeavors.
- 1881**  
An updated bird's-eye view of Calumet shows that the trees have been removed from the center of the commons but remain along the northern edge. Recreational use is indicated by the depiction of a baseball diamond and the commons is managed by C&H for grazing land.
- 1887-1888**  
Fires broke out in the mines. Mine fires close Calumet No. 1 & 3 and Hecla No. 1. After the fires, 3 shafts on Calumet Branch, 4 shafts on Hecla Branch, and 5 shafts on the South Hecla Branch, remained open. C&H constructs new office building on Red Jacket Road.
- 1889**  
C&H begins to construct Red Jacket Shaft. Union Building constructed.



# Calumet Unit

Keweenaw National Historical Park  
Cultural Landscape Report & Environmental Assessment

## 1871-1889 Period of Change Plan

- Legend
- (A) Old Washington School, 1875
  - (B) Commons
  - (C) Calumet Rock House
  - (D) Hecla Rock House
  - (E) Calumet Mill
  - (F) Gear House
  - (G) Village of Red Jacket (later Village of Calumet)
  - (H) Blue Jacket Housing Location
  - (I) Newtown Housing Location
  - (J) Hecla Housing Location
  - (K) Calumet Housing Location
  - (L) Swedetown Housing Location
  - (M) Raymbaultown Housing Location
  - (N) Calumet Hotel
  - (O) Union Building

- Map Notes
1. Locations of elements on plan are approximate based on best available sources. Plan sources are provided in the adjacent CLR narrative.
  2. Mineral lodes are indicated on diagrams only for periods during which they were actively mined.

Created/Revised  
February 2012



Figure II-9

1 By 1880, the majority of the non-industrial activities had moved from Mine Street to the  
2 Village of Red Jacket. Mine Street was highly developed and functioned as the primary  
3 circulation spine of the industrial core of the C&H mining activities (see Figures II-7  
4 through II-11). The route paralleled the Calumet Conglomerate lode, running in a  
5 southwest to northeast direction. This alignment was initially established on the surface  
6 by the alignment of the shafts along the angle of the lode. Mine Street and the other  
7 streets on C&H property were aligned with this common angle, running either parallel or  
8 perpendicular to it. Tramroads were constructed at the same angle and tramcars  
9 transported rock from the shafthouses to the rockhouses. The two rockhouses were  
10 adjacent to railroad lines allowing trains to load material to be conveyed to the stamp  
11 mills at Lake Linden. Other industrial structures present included two large engine  
12 houses, dry houses, a railroad roundhouse, pumphouses, a compressor building,  
13 blacksmith shops, a machine shop, warehouses, man-engine houses, a carpenter shop, and  
14 several smokestacks. The earliest versions of many of these buildings were constructed  
15 of wood. These were eventually followed by structures built of poor rock from the mine  
16 (see Figure II-14). The company's most important structures utilized poor rock and brick  
17 (see Figure II-15).<sup>66</sup>  
18



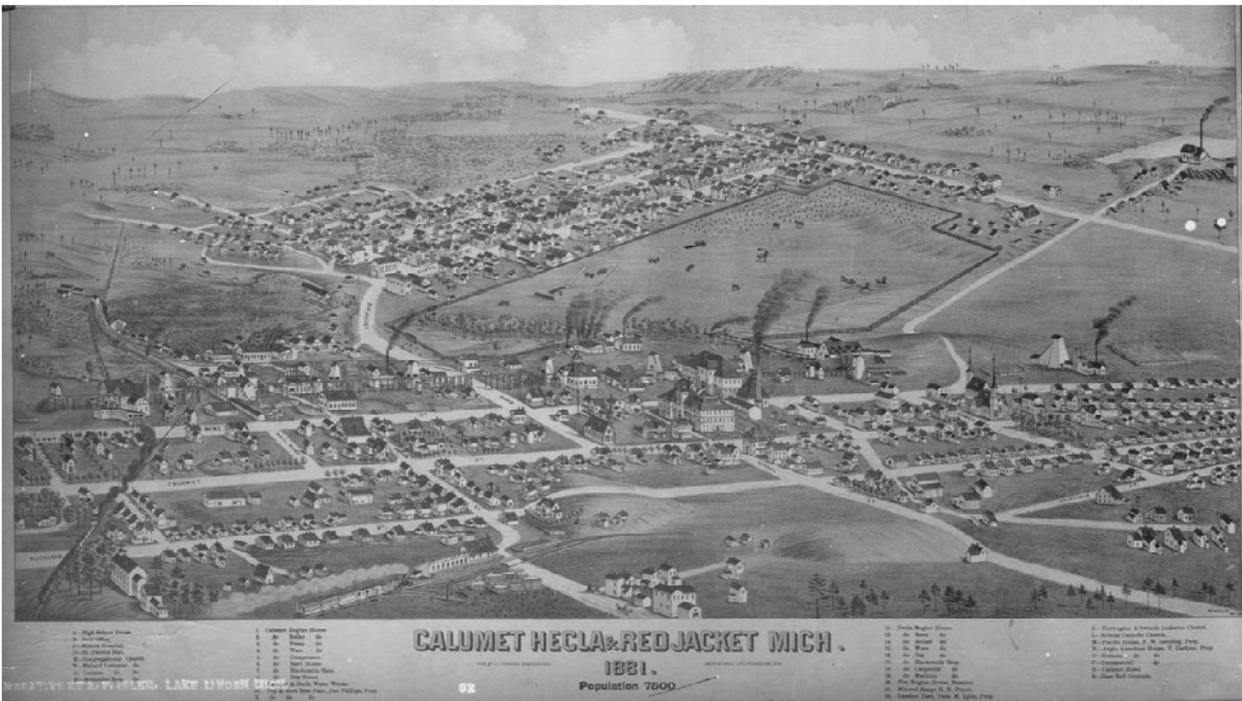
19  
20 **Figure II - 10: Day and night shift of C&H Mine on Mine Street in Calumet, 1874.**  
21 (source: NPS, Keweenaw NHP, Andrew C. Curto Collection, Album 12, #116 and #118)  
22

---

<sup>66</sup> Lankton, *Hollowed Ground*, 85-86.



1  
2 **Figure II - 11: Calumet housing adjacent to the industrial works, ca. 1880** (source:  
3 Smithsonian, 201001 14 057, Frank Klepetko Album)  
4  
5  
6



7  
8 **Figure II - 12: Birds Eye View of Calumet, Hecla and Red Jacket, facing northwest,**  
9 **1881.** (source: NPS, Keweenaw NHP, Jack Foster Collection, Series I (001), Sub-series  
10 A (C and H), Sub-series (01) Library, #015)  
11



1  
2 **Figure II - 13: Mine Street looking north, 1888.** (source: NPS, Keweenaw NHP, Jack  
3 Foster Collection, Series II Assembled Albums (002), Book 16, #003; also in Jack Foster  
4 Collection, Series I (001), Sub-series A (C and H), Sub-series (01) Library, #406)  
5



6  
7 **Figure II - 14: The general office of the C&H Mining Company was constructed**  
8 **using poor rock from the mines. Note the lawn and fence, ca. 1885.** (source: NPS,  
9 Keweenaw NHP, Jack Foster Collection, Series II Assembled Albums (002), Album 28,  
10 [C&H General Offices] R. Acton)  
11