

Laurium is noted for its spectacular mansions and prominent homes built during the copper mining boom years of 1890-1915. Laurium, at one time, was the largest incorporated village in the US.

Laurium started as a mining claim of the Laurium Mining Co. The company did not find commercially viable copper deposits so in 1877 it platted 20 acres into building lots on 6 blocks of Calumet, Osceola, and Hecla St. between First and Fourth Street. The first lots were sold in 1880. The only remaining log house at 129 Hecla is in this area.

The village now known as Calumet was originally called Red Jacket. Laurium started out being named the Village of Calumet. In 1895, residents wanted their own post office separate from the Calumet area post office. To do so they had to change the village name, and changed it to Laurium. In 1929 the Village of Red Jacket changed to the Village of Calumet.

Laurium grew rapidly with 1200 people in 1890 until 1916 when the population reached around 10,000. Unlike neighboring Calumet, people could own the land under their homes. Many people took in boarders because housing was in short supply. The 1905 Polk Directory lists 6 unrelated men living in the small 3 bedroom house at 237 Tamarack Street and 7 unrelated people at 333 Tamarack.

Land developers and speculators such as Ernst Bollman, John Duncan, & Paul Roehm platted additions. For example, Duncan purchased Block 54 for \$9600 from the Laurium Mining Co. and sold the 24 individual lots for \$475-500 each. Real estate was booming and some people doubled their investment in as little as 2 years in the 1900-10 period.

By 1906 Laurium had 40 grocery stores, 4 hotels, 10 meat markets, 33 saloons, 11 schools, 6 churches, 4 railroads, 4 theatres, a streetcar line and gas lines were being run. During this period the investors in Calumet & Arizona Mining Co. started to receive their dividend checks and created a mansion building boom. By 1929 C&A had paid out \$65 million in dividends. By the 1930's Laurium had an airport on the east side of town by the depot.

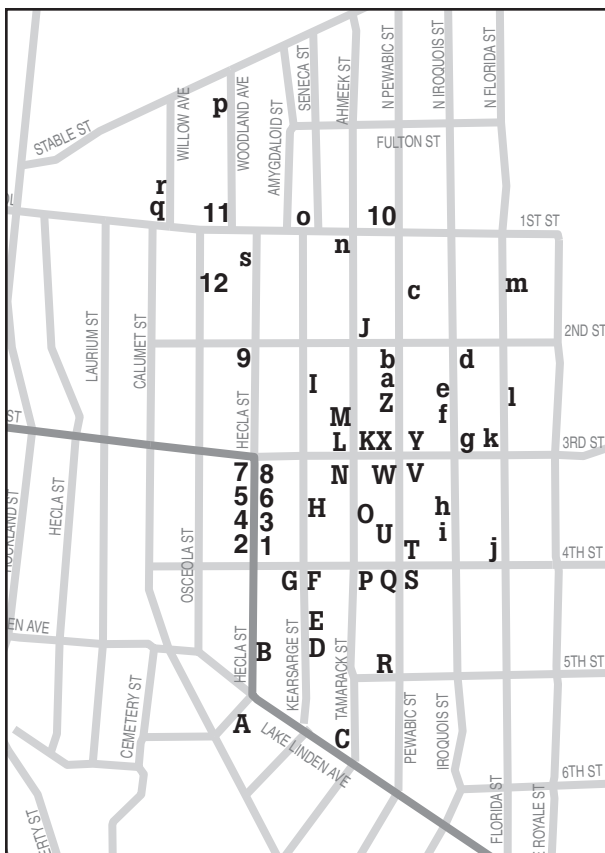
The 1913 strike, technology, competition with western mines and then the Depression caused the decline in Keweenaw copper mining and Laurium's population. By the 1950's the population had dropped to 3000 and hundreds of buildings standing in 1917 had been demolished. The 1968 strike ended mining in the Calumet area and was almost a deathblow to the area. Many more buildings were lost to fires, neglect, and demolition in the 1970's & 1980's. The 2000 census listed 2100 people. Since the 1990's many of the formerly run down buildings have been restored to their former glory.

Where original house prices are stated, remember that miners were making about 25 cents/hour. Laurium lots typically sold for \$400-600 in 1900 period, and by 1905 prime lots were \$1500-2500.

The complete Laurium National Register Nomination and additional old photos of Laurium buildings and people can be seen on the website below.

www.Laurium.info

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All information is believed to be accurate. It was researched from many different sources including Sanborn Insurance Maps, Polk Directories, Houghton County property records, MTU Archives, Keweenaw National Historical Park, the Laurium National Register Nomination and Laurium Centennial Book.

If you have additional information on any of these buildings, corrections, or old photos of Laurium that you are willing to let be scanned please contact Dave Sprenger at the Laurium Manor Inn (906-337-2549) or email at: Dave@Laurium.info.

Specific old photos I'm looking for are: O'Neil block before the fire, House at 309 Pewabic torn down for Daniel Park, Lathrop's mansion before upper floors removal, Irving School, Tinnette block, Huffman Hotel, German Lutheran School.



HECLA STREET, LAURIUM, MICH. WINTER SCENE.

-LAURIUM- HISTORIC DISTRICT TOUR

Tamarack Street, Calumet, Mich.



— RESIDENTIAL —



A — 104 S. Hecla, 1910

George (b.1849) & Jane Hall. Born in Quebec, came to Keweenaw in 1875. President of the Calumet Brewing Co, railroad builder, First National Bank of Laurium director, Calumet Mutual Fire Ins. Co-director, real estate investor, lumber business.

B — 432 Hecla, 1895

George Gipp (1895-1920) Laurium's most famous citizen "The Gipper" was born in this house. He was a nationally famous All American Notre Dame football player in 1920.



C — 535 Tamarack, 1935

Gipp Memorial. Monument to George Gipp, a nationally famous All American Notre Dame football player in 1920. Ronald Reagan played the part of George Gipp in the Movie "Knute Rockne: All American".

D — 434 Kearsarge, 1907

Joseph & Delia Ouellette. Clerk in Charles Briggs's store on Depot St west of US41. Probably an investor in Calumet & Arizona stock.



E — 424 Kearsarge, 1907

Capt. William (b.1846) & Margaret Weir. Born in Scotland and immigrated to U.S. in 1870 and to the Keweenaw in 1872 worked for C&H as a mine captain until his retirement in 1907. This \$15,000 building was designed by Maass Bros. Architects.

F — 404 Kearsarge, 1902

Capt. William H. (b.1866) & Margaret Thielman. Partner in Armstrong-Thielman Lumber Co. & VP of State Savings Bank and was on Mich. Gov. Warner's staff. Captain in the Spanish-American War.



G — 403 Kearsarge, 1903

Frank S. & Jane Carlton. Mr. Carlton made his fortune in hardware selling heavy equipment to mining companies. The Carlton Hardware was located in Calumet at NW corner of Fifth & Elm

H — 310 Kearsarge, 1902

Methodist Episcopal Church could seat 1000 people, built for \$14,000

308 Kearsarge Parsonage, 1905

Designed by arch. C. Maass and built for \$4500



I — 206 Kearsarge, 1900

Robert & Johanna Grierson. Bookkeeper

J — 146 Tamarack, 1899

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church. Congregation moved from Scott Street in Calumet to this location.



K — 246 Tamarack, 1895

Swedish Mission Church

L — 247 Tamarack, 1905

Joseph & Addie Wills. Laurium President 1911-16 & 1930-36



M — 243 Tamarack, 1905

Charles Maass (1871-1959) Prominent local architect that designed most of Laurium's mansions. Bought this lot with an existing small house, enlarged to 2500 sq.ft. and dramatically improved it to the present home. This house is now used for vacation rental.

N — 305 Tamarack, 1906

Norman (1863-1949) & Minnie MacDonald. Immigrating in 1869 from Germany, Norman's father, Daniel T. MacDonald opened Calumet's first drug store in 1870. Norman made his fortune as a founder, officer and investor in the Calumet & Arizona Mining Co. This 7,000 sq.ft. mansion is now a B&B



O — 320 Tamarack, 1908

Thomas, Jr (1861-1929) & Cornelia Hoatson (1864-1947) Born in Ontario to Scottish parents, he came to Keweenaw in 1872. His father, Thomas Hoatson Sr., was Superintendent of C&H mine. Thomas Jr. was partner in the Calumet & Arizona Mining Co. and director and/or officer

of numerous mining, railroad, and banking companies. He was the first president of the International Hockey League. Maass Bros architects designed this 13,000 sq.ft., 45 room, 9 bedroom mansion. It was built for \$50,000 and \$35,000 of furnishings and decorations were added. It is now a hotel with 10 guest rooms. Tours daily 11am-5pm.



P — 71 Fourth, 1907

Dr. Donald & Caroline MacQueen. Partner in the MacQueen & Sibilsky Pharmacy bought small existing house and greatly enlarged it. Caroline was daughter of Ludlow's at 73 Fourth Street.

Q — 73 Fourth, 1897

Elizabeth J. Ludlow, widow of Capt. William Ludlow.



R — 441 Pewabic, 1895

Charles Anderson. Contractor and carpenter, He built many of the fine Laurium houses including J. Daniell and Calumet's Michigan House in 1905.

S — 400 Pewabic, 1897

William & Elisabeth Reynolds. Original smaller home built by Nelson & James Turner. In 1900 Reynolds paid \$1007 for it then enlarged to 3000 sq.ft. and improved it. He owned Reynolds Meat Market on Hecla St, was a VP of First National Bank, and Laurium President 1909-1911



T — 346 Pewabic, 1907

Charles Briggs School. This 10 classroom brick and sandstone building was largest of the Laurium schools. Built for \$30,000 and closed in 1977. Horace Mann School was located behind the Briggs where the parking lot is now. Briggs was a prominent Keweenaw businessman and president of Calumet & Arizona Mining Co for 20 years.

U — 339 Pewabic, 1898

John J. MacLaurin. Originally a much smaller home. He was a carpenter and a manager at Bray Lumber Mill on Lake Linden Ave. Sold to William Boone, a plumbing contractor, in 1905 who doubled the size of the building to its present appearance.





V — 308 Pewabic, 1901

Susan Daniell, (1849-1923). Built by the widow of John Daniell (1839-1898), a brilliant mining engineer who opened the Tamarack Mine. It became a Senior's Home and a 1970's addition drastically altered its appearance. It is now a 13 unit apartment building

W — 309 Pewabic, 1937

Daniell Park. Erected on the site of a large home built by W. J. Duncan in 1900. The park's three lots were sold by W. Thielman to John T. Daniell for \$750 in 1937. Daniell donated the lots to the village for a park. Village spent \$150 to raze building and build the park. Concerts started in 1938.



X — 243 Pewabic, 1906

James (1846-1923) & Eliza Hoatson (1850-1936). A founder, director and VP of the C&A Mining Co. He also had a mansion in Hollywood, CA and his own Pullman car.

Y — 240 Pewabic, 1898

Johnson, Jr. (1858-1934) & Anna Vivian (1860-1948). Designed by architects D. Fred Charlton, R. William Gilbert, & Edward Demar. First National Bank President and became owner of the Vivian Department Store after his father died.



Z — 229 Pewabic, 1907

Dr. Richard D. Jones. Dentist. Designed by architect P. H. MacNeil

a — 209 Pewabic, 1898

Duncan Campbell. An architect & contractor, sold this house to Clara J. Douglas in 1899 for \$4900. Thomas Hoatson paid \$7200 in 1902 for this house before building his mansion. The porch was removed and converted into a duplex in the 1940's.



b — 205 Pewabic, 1898

Judge William J. (b.1866) & Anne Galbraith. prominent local attorney. Mich Legislature Rep. 1903-08



c — 116 Pewabic, 1903

James Edward & Elsie Fisher. Assit. Secretary of C&A Mining Co



d — 200 Iroquois, 1906

John & Lucy Kingston. A lumber contractor, originally from Keweenaw County, had exceptional wood trim installed in his home.



e — 213 Iroquois, 1906

J. Arthur (1886-1948) & Pearl Minnear (1886-1974). A successful copper stock broker located in the State Savings Bank building.



f — 221 Iroquois, 1906

Anton (1879-1969) & Jesse Sibilsky. Partner in the Macqueen & Sibilsky Pharmacy in the Richetta Block on Hecla. Designed by architect Charles Maass.



g — 242 Iroquois, 1899

Charles L. Fichtell, (b.1863). Owner of the Fichtell Drug Store in Calumet



h — 317 Iroquois, 1898

Dr. Alexander T. LaBerge. Physician



i — 327 Iroquois, 1913

Gordon R. (b.1870) & Lou Campbell. A prominent lawyer & Secretary for the Calumet & Arizona Mining Co, he became its president in 1921. He built his prior home across the street at 320 in 1902.



j — 78 Fourth, 1907

Maj. Joseph H. (1842-1907) & Carrie Lathrop. A Union lieutenant in the Civil War and Adj. General in the Mich. National Guard after the war. Chief Clerk at C&H. Made his fortune as an investor & founder of the Calumet & Arizona Mining Co. Designed by Maass Bros. and built for \$20,000. He paid \$7500 for the 5 lots. During the mansion's construction he died. His wife sold it to Frederick Guck in 1915, owner of a Laurium insurance company. 1907 newspapers described it as a "smaller Hoatson mansion" during its construction. Original house severely changed by removal of second & third floors and porches in late 1920's.



k — 94 Third, 1906

James Weir Milligan. Superintendent of C&H Mines for 50 years. Founder and VP of C&A. Designed by Maass Bros. Anton Sibilsky bought this mansion in 1925.



l — 228 Florida, 1906

James McNamara. He was in the insurance business.



m — 124 Florida, 1907

William H. Richards. In the clothing business & owner of Central Hotel in Laurium.

n — 101 Tamarack, 1896

John Torreano. Built as a four unit rental, it's been a single family home since the 1930's



o — 70 First, 1905

German Lutheran School. Closed 1929, VFW Hall until 1990's

p — 163 Woodland, 1900

William John James. Miner



q — 101 Willow, 1895

Paul P. & Anna Roehm. Sandstone & masonry contractor, Laurium President 1905-1909. Investor in mining companies. A steam plant was located on this property that heated all the houses in his neighborhood.

r — 117 Willow, 1895

Dr Albert (1844-1923) & Margaret Lawbaugh. A leading physician, he had his office and pharmacy in this house. Started as physician for Phoenix, Osceola, & Tamarack mines.



s — 107 & 109 Hecla, 1905

John & Victoria Torreano. Although it appears to be a mansion, 1908 insurance maps show it as a duplex. It is now a 4 unit apartment.

— BUSINESS —

Laurium's business district started out on Osceola St. but by the late 1890's Hecla Street had become the main business thoroughfare with smaller business districts on Lake Linden Avenue and First Street.



1 — 342 Hecla, 1894

Vivian Store, 1894-1936. Originally a 2 story building designed by architects D. Fred Charlton & R. William Gilbert for Johnson Vivian, a mining captain with wide business interests. The third floor was added 1898 and a bay in 1906.

2 — 323 Hecla, 1900

Marta Block. Dominick Marta and wife Catherine built this building for his bakery on the first floor and had professional offices on the second and third floors. He lived in the house in back. By 1930 the offices were apartments.



3 — 320 Hecla, 1898

Peter LaPointe Saloon, Wine & Liquor dealer. He lived on the second floor.

4 — 317 Hecla, 1905

Faucett Block. William H. Faucett built this for his business. Laurium Hardware was on the first floor. Faucett Brothers & Guck Real Estate & Insurance on the second floor.



5 — 315 Hecla, 1905

Glocke Block. Frederick C. Glocke,

6 — 310 Hecla

Village Hall, 1914. Original brick building built in 1898, extensively remodeled in 1914 by architect Fred Maass for a cost of \$8000. Large ballroom with a stage and balcony seating located on second floor.



7 — 301 Hecla, 1907

First National Bank of Laurium Superior Pharmacy (MacQueen & Sibilsky) was located on first floor next to bank. Professional offices on the second and third floors.

8 — 300 Hecla, 1901

State Savings Bank. Designed by architect Carl E. Nystrom, this bank had professional offices on the second floor and a bowling alley and ballrooms on the third floor. Now a doctors office.



9 — 201 Hecla, 1900

Peter Contralto Block. Built for \$10,000. Architects Cowles & Eastman. Laurium Commercial School moved here from the Richetta block until closed in 1935. Now apartments.

10 — 88 First, 1905

Saloon



11 — 64 First, 1896

Bosch Brewing Beer Depot, distribuitn office, and manager residence on second floor.

12 — 116 Osceola, 1899

Tinette.

Laurium Printing Co. An Italian newspaper, *The Italian Miner*, was printed from 1900 to 1950's on the first floor. An Irish Pub was located in the basement.



— GONE —

300 Tamarack, 1900.

Earnest (d.1905) & Bertha Bollman mansion. A real estate developer and village President 1902-05, platted 3 additions to Laurium. Calumet & Arizona Mining Co. director. This 7000 sq.ft sandstone mansion was inherited by his son-in-law Col. John P. Petermann.



Petermann owned a chain of stores in the Keweenaw, president or director of several banks, owned the Eagle River Hotel. Financial problems during the depression caused the loss of this building to demolition in the late 1930's and loss of the property to the St. of Michigan in 1940 to back taxes.



220 Pewabic, 1903

Duncan School. Torn down 1940.

145 N. Iroquois, 1900

Irving School.

125 Lake Linden, 1891

Sacred Heart Schools. Torn down in 1960's Schools Convent. Convent was designed by Maass Bros. and built for \$12,000.



300 Florida, 1903

Northern Michigan General Hospital Commonly known as Calumet Hospital. Surgeon Charles Sorsen owned and lived in the building. Closed by 1930 and torn down 1940's.

700 Lake Linden, 1899

Holmes School. Known as the Florida School. Burned 1903. Torn down 1930.



333 Hecla, 1900

Richetta Block. Original 3 story building Burned 1947. Present location of Irish Times Restaurant.

Palestra Ice Rink, 1904

Located at the east end of 3rd & 4th Street, south of present Gipp Arena. It had seating for 3000 people. Moved to Marquette in 1921.



402 Hecla, 1907

Palace Hotel & Saloon

146 Lake Linden, 1900

Imperial Hotel. Burned in 1913. Now a bare lot with a billboard

