

Historical Timeline

written by admin | September 15, 2018

Designated as an International Dark Sky Park

June 21, 2022

The Keweenaw Mountain Lodge, 560 acres, designated as an International Dark Sky Park by the International Dark-Sky Association. The park is named Keweenaw Dark Sky Park.

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The Lodge is bought by Keweenaw Resort, LLC

September 5, 2018

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Auction of the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge

July 26, 2018

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Keweenaw County agrees to sell the

Lodge via Auction

April 9, 2018

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Lodge put up for sale

March 22, 2017

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The Keweenaw Mountain Lodge Story Written (book) by Paul LaVanway

January 1, 2010

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Frisbee Golf Course Constructed

January 1, 2009

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Open During the 2008-09 Winter Season (for 1 Season)

December 1, 2008

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Conference Center Expansion and Cabin Winterization

January 1, 2008

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Motel Addition

May 1, 1984

U.P. Engineers and Architects designed the motel addition. Construction began with Arend Builders Inc., and was constructed adjacent to what had been the swimming pool that was built back in the 60's by Superior Development. During construction of that pool, the soil was not compacted properly. As a result, during frost heaving...

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Listed on the National Register of Historic Places

January 1, 1980

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Designated a Michigan State Historic Site

January 1, 1976

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Keweenaw County Resumes Operations (again)

May 1, 1970

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Project Developers, Inc begin to operate the Lodge

March 24, 1970

Project Developers, Inc. began operating the lodge under a five-year land contract. Art Pontius became manager. He and his partner, William Greig tried to run the lodge year round and did not succeed. Project Developers failed to make a required \$27,000 payment on January 1, 1971 and just after that Pontius and his partner walked away from the business. Literally. Without even bothering to lock the front door, they just up and left and the lodge ended up back into ownership under Keweenaw County. Since this was a land contract, the deed and the ownership was never transferred to the buyers.

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Keweenaw County Resumes Operations

May 13, 1968

On May 13, 1968 Superior Development was found in default, and Circuit Judge Stephen D. Condon ruled that they were to forfeit all rights, title, and interest in the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge premises and Keweenaw County resumed ownership. They needed a monetary advance, and had to resolve several liens before

opening for the 1968 season. The lodge showed a \$10, 648 loss that season.

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Name Changed to Keweenaw Mountain Lodge

January 1, 1966

Name changed from Keweenaw Park and Golf Course to Keweenaw Mountain Lodge when it was operated by Superior Development

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Superior Development Corporation begins operating the lodge

January 1, 1966

Superior Development began operating the lodge in 1966. Many upgrades and changes were made. A full-sized swimming pool was installed, the original handcrafted lounge and dining room furniture was replaced, the lounge was remodeled. The dining room had previously had a sort of dress code, “jacked and tie after 5” that was done away with. Unfortunately, Superior Development was under capitalized and within a year went delinquent on it’s land contract.

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Work Projects Administration (WPA)

Terminated

June 30, 1943

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Rock Wall Constructed

June 1, 1940

The rock wall along the US 41 perimeter of the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge was built circa 1940. These walls are “piered” walls, which are stone walls constructed from cut and fitted fieldstone. They are topped with a “concrete wash”. The walls were probably constructed by Keweenaw County Road Commission employees. They are walls...

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Works Progress Administration (WPA) Renamed Work Projects Administration (WPA)

January 1, 1939

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10 Cabins (Cottages) finished

July 1, 1937

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Name Changed to Keweenaw Park and Cottages

January 1, 1937

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Shantytown (Employee Housing) Constructed

November 1, 1936

Start of construction of employee housing, "Shantytown", a WPA financed project. A collection of thirteen 8'x10' structures, located to the east of the tennis court.

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Cabin (Cottage) construction begins

January 1, 1936

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The Lodge Building (Clubhouse) Officially Opens

June 23, 1935

2,000 people in 427 cars traveled to what was then known as the Keweenaw Park Resort for the opening of the golf course and lodge. A quote from the speech by Keweenaw County Relief Administrator U.V. Tervo..."A monument to what could be done. To the people of Keweenaw County, it is the dawn of a new industry-

the tourist industry- and provides a wonderful opportunity for the future.”

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Works Progress Administration (WPA) Created

May 6, 1935

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Basic Structure of the Lodge Building Completed

October 31, 1934

By last fall 1934, the basic structure of the lodge building was complete.

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First green seeded

August 27, 1934

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Civil Works Administration (CWA) Terminated

March 31, 1934

Most employment stopped March 31, 1934, but the program was not officially stopped until July 1934.

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Keweenaw Park and Golf Course Established Under a CWA Project

January 2, 1934

Written agreement between Keweenaw Copper and the Park Trustees, dated January 2, 1934. ...with a contractual agreement to construct 9 holes of the golf course by July 1, 1934, and the construct a second 9 holes by July 1, 1935.

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Civil Works Administration (CWA) Created

November 9, 1933

The CWA was created on November 9, 1933 by Executive Order No. 6420B, under the power granted to President Roosevelt by Title II of the National Industrial Recovery Act of 1933 [1]

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Work on the Keweenaw Park and Golf Course Begins

November 6, 1933

With a crew of 124, work began on clearing the grounds and constructing a gravel entrance road. An estimated 18,700 trees were cut and 16, 500 stumps were blasted. 3,000 cords of wood were saved and distributed to local families on relief to be

used for fuel. Of all the clearing and work done, only one team of horses was used with the majority of the work being done by hand.

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The Idea of the Keweenaw Park and Golf Course Conceived by Ocha Potter

September 1, 1933

Idea conceived by Ocha Potter in autumn of 1933, under a Civil Works Administration (CWA) project. Date ????. ...ideas was probably conceived before the CWA was started, and then when the CWA was started, the county / Ocha Potter submitted it as a project for the CWA in November??

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