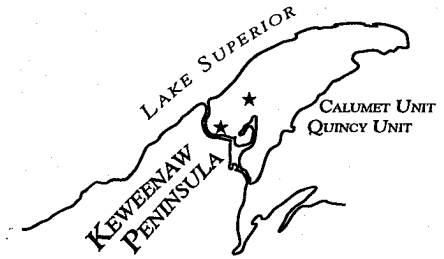




KEWEEENAW
NATIONAL
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P · A · R · K
ADVISORY COMMISSION



P.O. Box 471 • 25970 Red Jacket Road • Calumet, MI 49913-0471

June 16th, 2023

Keweenaw Mountain Lodge
Attn: John Mueller
14252 US Hwy 41
Copper Harbor, MI 49918

Dear John,

I am writing today on behalf of the Keweenaw National Historical Park's (NHP) Heritage Site program expansion committee to inform you that the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge's application to the Heritage Site program has not been approved for inclusion at this time.

While your application was quite thorough, it was felt by the committee that the Lodge does not adequately fit the mission of the Heritage Site program in connection to the National Historical Park. The history of the lodge can be connected to the story of copper's decline, but the events that led to the building of the lodge fall just outside the "period of significance" that the Keweenaw NHP's mission addresses. The national impact of Keweenaw Copper mining drops significantly after the 1920s, and the committee felt the 1930s story of the Lodge falls just outside the aims of the park's interpretive themes and goals.

Additionally, the committee was concerned that programming may not grow beyond the self-guided tours on offer while increasing demands on Park Service staff for technical assistance. For a committee made up primarily of existing Heritage Site members, you can understand that the argument for inclusion must be strong. It was felt that the Lodge, while perhaps a great marketing addition, would not be a strong thematic addition to the program.

It was a difficult decision as it was clear you put in a good deal of effort. I recall trying to help you make your arguments stronger during the application process. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call me at 906-869-1488.

Sincerely,

Sean M. Gohman, PhD
Executive Director,
Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission