

Quincy Mine

Underground Mine Tours,
Museum and Tram Ride

Quincy Mine National
Historic Landmark District

Keweenaw Heritage Site

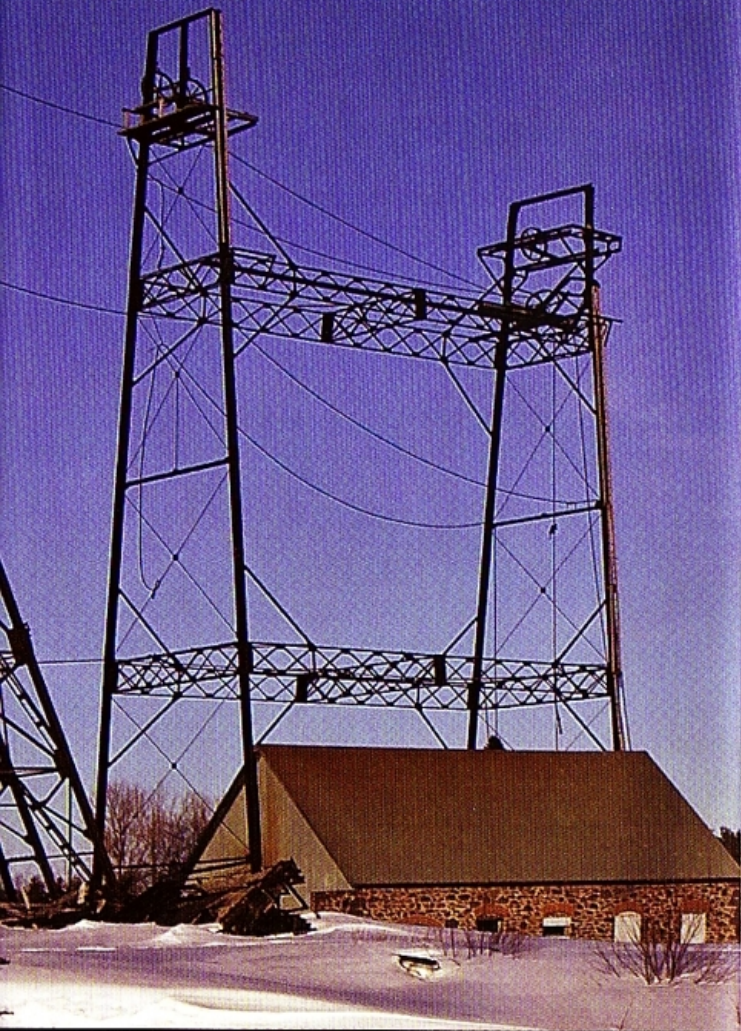


The Copper Rush

In 1843, six years before the California Gold Rush, one of the nation's first mineral rushes occurred here. Prospectors came to the Keweenaw not for gold, but for copper. As the United States entered the Industrial Revolution, the demand for copper increased. The Keweenaw contained a wealth of pure elemental copper.



Mine workers pose in front of the old #2 Shaffhouse.



A Company Called Old Reliable

Established in 1848, Quincy Mining Company was an early mine in the Portage Lake area. Quincy's hope for wealth was a copper bearing rock called the Pewabic Lode. The Civil War increased the demand of copper for munitions and allowed the Quincy Mining Company to grow. Though ups and downs occurred in production and prices, Quincy had become the second largest mine in the Lake Superior region by the late 1880s. From 1862 to 1920, Quincy paid dividends to investors, earning the nickname "Old Reliable." Immigrants from across the world came for the jobs that copper mining provided. The city of Hancock grew to provide services for the miners. Labor unrest in 1913 and the rise of strip mining for copper in other locations started Quincy's slow decline. After nearly 100 years, mining operations ceased in 1945.

Deep in the Earth

At its maximum depth, Quincy's No.2 shaft reached 9,260 feet on the incline into the earth. Moving men, ore and water out of the mine required innovation and engineering. Today's visitors explore a 2,400 foot section of the seventh level to see what life was like for mine workers and learn about the changes in mining processes through history. Since the mine stopped operating, all 85 levels below the seventh level have filled with water.



A guide shows how miners removed copper ore from the rock.

Preserving the Past

The Quincy Mine Hoist Association formed as a non-profit organization in 1961 to preserve the mining structures and technology and educate visitors about the site. Quincy Mine was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1989 and in 1992 became a partner with Keweenaw National Historical Park. The Association manages a key component of the park's Quincy Unit.



Ruins of the No. 7 Boiler house are preserved at the Quincy Mine.

Pride of the Company



The Nordberg Steam Hoist fills the cavernous space of the hoist house.

To transport men into and out of the deepest levels of the mine, Quincy Mining Company commissioned construction of the Nordberg Steam Hoist in 1918. As the world's largest steam hoist, it represented the success and power of the company to workers and investors. The hoist and its reinforced concrete building with brick veneer and Italian tiled walls, cost over \$370,000 but was used for only eleven years.



- Visitor information
- Rest rooms
- Gift shop
- Picnic area
- Accessibility facility
- Parking

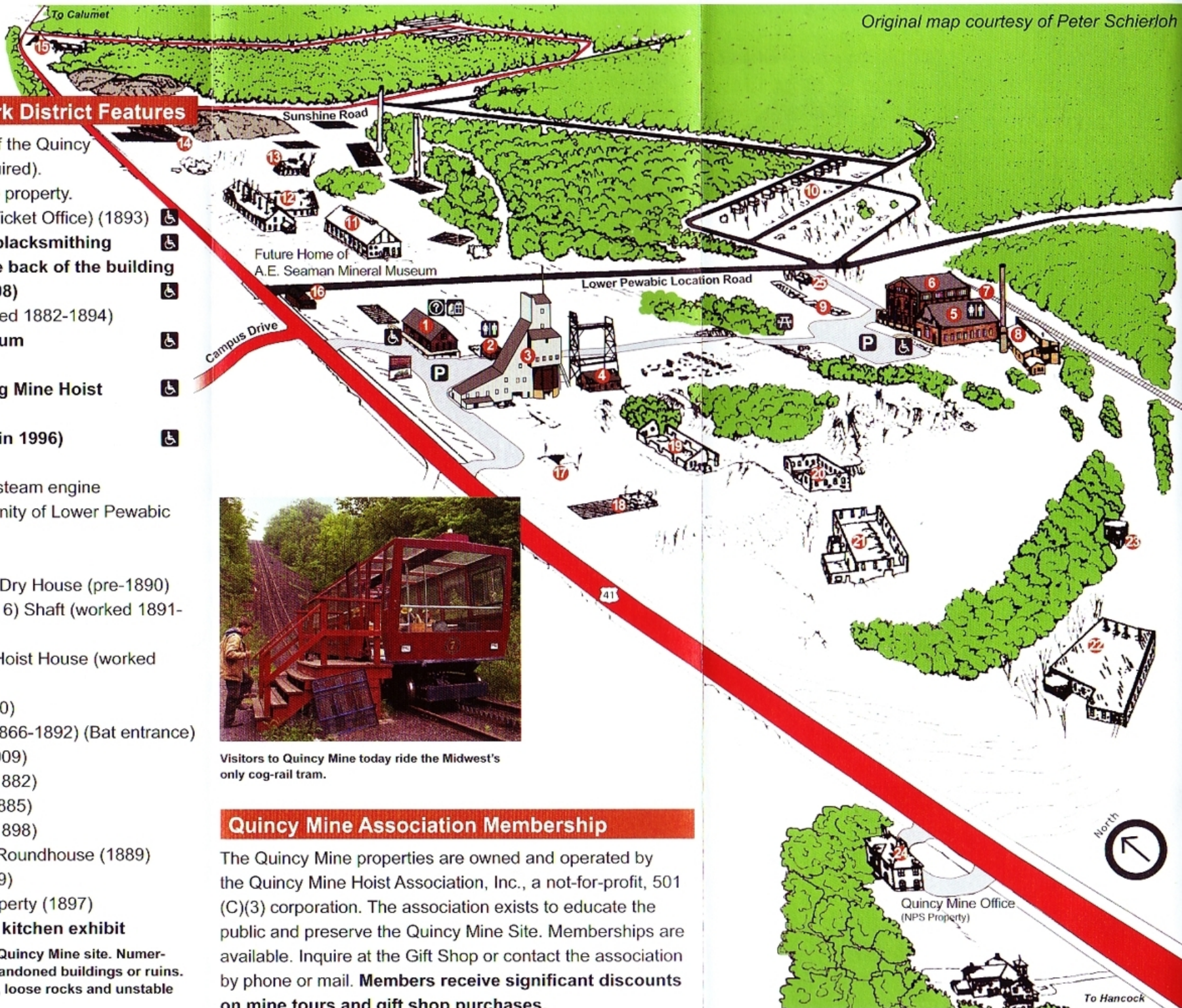
Original map courtesy of Peter Schierloh

National Historic Landmark District Features

Locations listed in bold are part of the Quincy Mine surface tour (tour ticket required).
Some sites are located on private property.

- 1** Supply Office (Gift Shop and Ticket Office) (1893)
- 2** Powder House (rest rooms) - **blacksmithing demonstration located at the back of the building**
- 3** **No. 2. Shaft-Rock House (1908)**
- 4** Old No. 2 Hoist House (operated 1882-1894)
- 5** **Old No. 2 Hoist House Museum (operated 1894-1920)**
- 6** **No. 2 Hoist House - Nordberg Mine Hoist (operated 1920-1931)**
- 7** **Cog Rail Tram (constructed in 1996)**
- 8** No. 5 Boiler House (1912)
- 9** Cooling ponds for No. 2 hoist steam engine
- 10** Remains of Company Community of Lower Pewabic
- 11** Machine Shop (1900)
- 12** Blacksmith Shop (1900)
- 13** Ruins of North Quincy (No. 6) Dry House (pre-1890)
- 14** Remains of North Quincy (No. 6) Shaft (worked 1891-1931)
- 15** No. 8 Shaft, Head frame and Hoist House (worked 1896-1931 and 1976-1977)
- 16** Mine Captain's Office (ca. 1860)
- 17** "Man-Engine" Shaft (worked 1866-1892) (Bat entrance)
- 18** No. 4 Shaft (capped) (1856-1909)
- 19** Ruins of No. 4 Boiler House (1882)
- 20** Ruins of No. 4 Hoist House (1885)
- 21** Ruins of No. 7 Boiler House (1898)
- 22** Locomotive Engine House or Roundhouse (1889)
- 23** Locomotive Water Tower (1889)
- 24** Quincy Mine Office (NPS) Property (1897)
- 25** **Company house (ca. 1870) - kitchen exhibit**

Use caution when walking around the Quincy Mine site. Numerous hazards exist. Do not enter any abandoned buildings or ruins. Watch out for trip hazards, open holes, loose rocks and unstable ruin walls.



Visitors to Quincy Mine today ride the Midwest's only cog-rail tram.

Quincy Mine Association Membership

The Quincy Mine properties are owned and operated by the Quincy Mine Hoist Association, Inc., a not-for-profit, 501 (C)(3) corporation. The association exists to educate the public and preserve the Quincy Mine Site. Memberships are available. Inquire at the Gift Shop or contact the association by phone or mail. **Members receive significant discounts on mine tours and gift shop purchases.**

Enjoying Your Visit

Visitor Information

A Keweenaw National Historical Park information desk is located in the entrance to the Quincy Mine Gift Shop. Information is available on park activities and area attractions.

Season and Hours

Open: Friday through Sunday from end of April to mid June and daily from mid June to late October.

Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Last tour leaves at 5:00 p.m.

Guided Tours and Fees

Full Tour (Includes Underground Mine and Tram Ride):
\$15.00 adults, \$14.00 seniors, \$8.00 6-12 year old, Under 6 free. (10% discount for AAA members)

Surface Tour Only: \$9.50 adults, \$4.50 6-12 year old, Under 6 free.

Group Rates are available in advance. Contact the Quincy Mine Hoist Association for more information.

Gift Shop

Features geology specimens, Copper Country gifts, books, videos and items related to the Northwoods.

Accessibility

The mine tour and several buildings are accessible to wheelchair users. See list to right.

For More Information

Quincy Mine Hoist Association
49750 US-41, Hancock, MI 49930.

906-482-3101 or 1-800-338-7982

www.quincymine.com or email quincy@quincymine.com

Where is Quincy Mine

