



Help Preserve Keweenaw's Proud Heritage

Founded in 1980, the Keweenaw County Historical Society depends on the generous contributions of members and friends to fund its continuing preservation, restoration and exhibition work.

The members of the Society have profound respect for those who went before, those who created the history we study and preserve. And we have a profound responsibility to those who will come after, to ensure that the history is still there. We are the connecting link, and it is important that we do our job well. Every membership and every gift is vital— we could not continue the Society's important and exciting work without such support.

Please join us! Members of the Society receive our award winning newsletter, *The Superior Signal*, and other benefits.

To join, or ask for additional information about membership or assist our work with a donation, please use the form in this brochure.

Historical Society members are eligible to rent a cottage on the Lighthouse grounds which formerly housed assistant lighthouse keepers.

For updated info on the Light Station and its hours, as well as other sites/museums, cottage reservations, membership information, events and programs, visit the Keweenaw County Historical Society's website:

www.keweenawhistory.org



The Light Station grounds are open year round. The observation deck provides beautiful views of Lake Superior, passing freighters and sunsets.

Location – The Eagle Harbor Light Station is on 670 Lighthouse Drive, not far from the swimming beach along M26 in Eagle Harbor.

GPS: N47 27.582 W88 09.558

Eagle Harbor Light Station

Tour the Lighthouse & Maritime,
Commercial Fishing and History Museums



Photo by Larry Molloy

Keweenaw County Historical Society

Eagle Harbor, Michigan

The Light Station is open mid June,
September & early October and
on all Sundays from Noon to 5 PM and
from 10 AM to 5 PM Monday through
Saturday in July & August.

Free Admission for Children

www.keweenawhistory.org

Keweenaw Heritage Site

Partner of Keweenaw National Historical Park



We invite you to join the Keweenaw County Historical Society

Yes, I am interested in assisting the work of the Society

Please sign me up as a member. My first year dues are enclosed.

- Historian\$30 per year
- Copper Miner.....\$50 per year
- Lightkeeper....\$75 or more per year
- Life\$500

Please mail me additional information about Society membership.

I'm not interested in membership, but want to help. My \$_____ donation is enclosed.

I wish to volunteer, please contact me.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Please detach or copy
and mail to:

Keweenaw County Historical Society
670 LIGHTHOUSE ROAD
MOHAWK, MICHIGAN 49950
www.keweenawhistory.org



Thank You!

Eagle Harbor Lighthouse

Tour the Keweenaw's most visited and photographed lighthouse and learn about the keepers who tended the light from a volunteer docent. Since 1851 when the first lighthouse was built until 1982 when the Keweenaw County Historical Society took over, 21 lighthouse keepers and their families have lived and worked on this light station.

In the mid-19th century, when roads to this area were almost non-existent, the copper mining boom meant a dramatic increase in shipping bringing incoming settlers and supplies and outgoing shipments of copper and timber. Lighthouses were the primary navigational aid for sailors at that time.

When the first lighthouse deteriorated due to the Keweenaw Peninsula's harsh weather, it was replaced in 1871 by the present two-story red brick structure built with 18-inch outside walls and a double-walled forty-foot tower.

A cast iron spiral staircase in the tower connects the cellar and first and second floors. Restored living quarters include a kitchen, dining room, parlor and second floor bedrooms.

A 4th Order Fresnel Lens is on Display



A Fresnel Lens sent out light signals from the Eagle Harbor Lighthouse tower to passing ships for much of the Lighthouse's history. The Fresnel Lens lit the way with a variety of illuminants, including whale oil, lard oil, kerosene and electricity, until it was replaced in the 1960s with an Aviation Beacon with red and white lamps. Currently, a Marine Rotating Beacon, is beaming out signals from the tower. It is fully automated and is maintained by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Watch for the red and white signature lights which flash every ten seconds.



Maritime Museum in Fog Horn Building

The Fog Horn Building was built in 1895 to house the fog signal and radio beacon (installed in 1929). This building now contains maritime exhibits and a gift shop. A six-minute video explains the history of the Eagle Harbor fog horn.

Learn about shipping on Lake Superior, including stories of ship wrecks, like the 1989 U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Mesquite. Ship models and maritime equipment, including a working marine radio are also on display.



Commercial Fishing Museum

Visit the former assistant light keeper's dwelling to see displays of boats, nets and gear used by generations of fishermen who have braved Lake Superior's waters since the mid-1800's. The photographs in the museum put a human face on the rough and risky business of commercial fishing.

History Museum

Discover more about early life and mining in the Keweenaw through the photos, artwork and artifacts in the museum located next to the entry gate. Popular displays include the copper specimens, a 1600 pound piece of float copper, and the S.S. Bangor exhibit with a 1927 Chrysler car recovered from the Keweenaw's most famous ship wreck.

