

Keweenaw

Keweenaw National Historical Park
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Above: Children sort "Quincy Copper" during the Centennial Celebration. (Bill Fink Photography)

NPS Centennial 2016 Recap

This year marked an important milestone for the National Park Service. All across the country people have been reconnecting with National Parks as we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. With over 400 units, ranging in size from over 8 million acres at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park to the 860 square feet that make up Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial, the National Park Service cares for some of the most special and important places in the country. Here at Keweenaw National Historical Park, we joined in the celebration with a few special events.

Calumet Visitor Center

Address:
98 5th Street
Calumet, MI 49913

Hours:
9am to 5pm
Sunday 12pm to 5pm
Sept: Monday-Sunday
Oct: Wednesday-Sunday

Phone:
(906) 483-3176
Free admission to three
floors of museum exhibits.

Use links below to find us at:
www.nps.gov/kewe



We kicked off the year by having over 400 4th graders come out for our Copper TRACES field day. We also worked with the Friends of Fashion to offer Parks and Parasols: 100 years of America's Parks (a vintage clothing show to highlight events and people involved in the formation of our national parks), and we had a day-long open house on Founders Day. During the open house, we hosted live music and tons of activities! Many people experienced the park for the first time and some stayed for the whole day. Children enthusiastically prepared their bikes (and themselves) for the Animals of the National Park's Bike Parade. They became animals, robots and flowers, with faces painted and costumes made out of recyclables. Coming up, we still have a fall color bike tour on September 24 for National Public Lands Day.

Beyond celebration, the centennial has been an opportunity for reflection. As a nation, we look back on what the National Park Service has accomplished. We also think about our future and the role Keweenaw NHP will play in preserving our unique history. As we continue connecting with the next generation of park visitors and stewards, we're already planning for next year's Copper TRACES event. We'll be visiting more classrooms and inviting even more schools, so we're looking forward to seeing you soon!

Missing in the Copper Country Story Maps

This summer Keweenaw National Historical Park and Michigan Tech partnered with Eastern Michigan University's GRACE (GIS Resources and Applications for Career Education) Project to give 11 local students real world GIS experience. The students, who came from the Calumet and Houghton high schools, were the first Upper Peninsula students to be funded by Eastern Michigan University's GRACE Project.

The 11 students spent one week completing GIS training, then split into two groups for the remaining 5 weeks of their internships. One team of three students worked with the NPS to develop interactive GIS Story Maps and the other eight students worked to digitize historic buildings for the Keweenaw Time Traveler project. The NPS Story Maps include a digital version of the Project SISU guide, a map to the

Below: GRACE students compare the past to present.



Above: GRACE students at public the presentations.

Heritage Sites, and a self-guided tour of the Missing in the Copper Country series.

After the projects were completed, all the students had a chance to present their work during a public reception. Following this, two of the students traveled downstate for the 21st annual Michigan Communities GIS Conference. They traveled with Dr. Don LaFreniere and John Arnold from Michigan Tech to highlight their work, discuss their internship experiences and share what they learned with other GIS students, teachers, and professionals.

To learn more about each of the projects, please visit this website:

[http://www.keweenawhistory.com/
project-news/grace-intern-storymaps](http://www.keweenawhistory.com/project-news/grace-intern-storymaps)

Geocaching Continues At Keweenaw NHP

Last year, Keweenaw National Historical Park (KNHP) joined the geocaching community by offering geocaching based walking tours in Calumet. On the 99th anniversary of the National Park Service, KNHP placed its first geocache to highlight the significance of the former Calumet and Hecla general office building, now home to the KNHP Headquarters.

Leading up to the National Park Service Centennial, KNHP began working with our heritage sites to create the Keweenaw Historic GeoTrail. Twenty interconnected geocaches will take participants throughout the Keweenaw to explore the copper mining history, connect with the people involved, and discover the unique geology that made it possible. Those that finish the trail will receive a custom 'Keweenaw Historic GeoTrail' coin, provided by the Park's Advisory Commission. The GeoTrail had a pre-launch event that invited geocachers to test out

the trail before it was officially published online. Two intrepid cachers completed the entire trail that same weekend and helped in ensuring it was ready for the public.

Later, on August 25th, a ranger guided geocaching introduction was offered as part of the centennial celebration. While similar activities have been offered in the Calumet Unit of the park, this was our first time offering the activity in the Quincy Unit, making use of one of the new Keweenaw Historic Geotrail caches.

On September 17th, Fort Wilkins Historic State Park, a heritage site of Keweenaw NHP, will be hosting their 10th annual Geocaching event. Cachers make their way to Copper Harbor the morning of the event to pick up the list of temporary caches placed by the park staff. In the afternoon the participants will meet at the picnic shelter for a bonfire, hotdogs, and door prizes. It is a noncompetitive event, with no pressure to find all of the new hides before returning for lunch, and all are welcome.

If you aren't already, maybe it's time to get out and start exploring the Keweenaw in a new way with the engaging game of geocaching.

Geocaching at KNHP: <https://www.nps.gov/kewe/geocache.htm>



Left: New "Keweenaw Historic Geotrail" coin.

Below: The first cacher to complete the trail.



Administration Launches Second Year of Every Kid in a Park Pass

Free access to federal lands and waters for all 4th graders and their families.

Valid from September 1, 2016 through August 31, 2017.

www.everykidinapark.gov

Above: Junior Rangers being sworn in at the Calumet Visitor Center. (Bill Fink Photography)



As part of President Obama’s commitment to protect our nation’s unique outdoor spaces and ensure that every American has the opportunity to visit and enjoy them, the Obama Administration launched the second year of the Every Kid in a Park program, which gives fourth graders and their families free access to federal lands and waters nationwide for a full year.

Fourth graders can visit the Every Kid in a Park website to obtain a free pass that provides access to federally managed lands and waters – including national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and marine sanctuaries. The pass is valid from September 1, 2016 through August 31, 2017 and grants free entry for fourth graders and up to three accompanying adults (or an entire non-commercial vehicle for drive-in parks) at more than 2,000 sites across the country.

The Every Kid in a Park program will continue each year with the new class of fourth graders. After 12 years, every school-age child in America will have had an opportunity to visit their public lands and waters for free, inspiring the next generation to be stewards of our nation’s shared natural and cultural heritage.

The program is an Administration-wide effort between the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Army, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Department of Education.

“The Every Kid in a Park program is unlocking natural curiosity in children by encouraging them to explore our nation’s most spectacular places,” said U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell.

