



Village of Calumet Historic District Commission  
340 6th St.--Calumet, Michigan 49913  
Telephone (906) 337-1713  
calumethdc@gmail.com

Dear Property Owner:

Under the authority of the Village of Calumet's Historic District Ordinance (Ordinance No 140), the Village Council, on January 15, 2002, established the Civic and Commercial Historic District and established a Historic District Commission (HDC) composed of five Village residents to:

- Safeguard the heritage of the Village of Calumet by preserving historic districts within the Village that reflect elements of its cultural, social, economic, political or architectural history;
- Stabilize and improve property values within any historic district;
- Foster civic beauty and pride;
- Strengthen the local economy;
- Recommend the establishment, creation and promotion of the historic districts for the education, pleasure and welfare of the residents of the Village and the State of Michigan;
- Encourage property owners and residents to participate in preservation activities; and
- Assist in the development of Keweenaw National Historical Park.

Village Ordinance No. 140 §5.a(3) created a review process for all *exterior* alterations to properties within the historic district, including demolition and new construction, with the HDC administering this review process. Please note, Village Ordinance No. 140 §5.b *prevents* the HDC from reviewing the **interior** of buildings without *specific authorization* from the Village Council.

The review process protects the heritage values of owners' properties while allowing the HDC to advise and assist with protecting your assets. The Village of Calumet Manager and the HDC's Coordinator work together to assist owners throughout the application process, and we strive to keep the process as simple, and affordable, as possible, including fees of only \$20.00 compared to Michigan's fellow Historic Districts which can exceed \$80.00.

Property owners submit their application(s) for a Certificate of Appropriateness describing the proposed work to the HDC Coordinator. Maintenance and some minor projects may not require formal review by the full HDC. In those instances, the HDC Coordinator can grant an administrative approval. If a full review is required, the Coordinator adds the application packet to the next appropriate HDC public hearing. All completed applications received by the second Wednesday of each month will be reviewed during that same month's public hearing. The HDC then reviews the application(s) for completeness of information and compliance with the District's Design Guidelines. Upon successful review, the HDC issues a Certificate of Appropriateness which permits the designated external projects. The HDC schedules a follow-up review to see the completed project and issues a final approval for the Village. As a final note, the HDC reviews the *appropriateness* of the proposed work; any required permits must be obtained from the Houghton County Building Department.

Please contact the Village Manager at [manager@villageofcalumet.com](mailto:manager@villageofcalumet.com) or the HDC Coordinator at [calumethdc@gmail.com](mailto:calumethdc@gmail.com) if you have any questions about this application.