

J. W. Nara Photograph Collection

MS-797

Finding aid prepared by Elizabeth Russell, revised by Rachael Bussert

Michigan Tech
Create the Future



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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

June 26, 2014

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections

5/10/2011

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Summary Information

Repository	Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections
Creator	Nara, J. W. , (John William), b. 1874
Title	J. W. Nara Photograph Collection
Date [inclusive]	1892-Circa 1920
Extent	0.35 cubic feet 1 manuscript box
Language	English
Language of Material	English
Mixed materials [Box]	1
Abstract	Photograph collection, 1892-circa 1920, of J. W. Nara, one of the Copper Country's first commercial photographers. Includes photographs of Michigan's Copper Country, capturing the people and places in the midst of the Keweenaw Peninsula's most productive decades of copper mining.

Preferred Citation

MS-797, J. W. Nara Photograph Collection, Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections, Houghton, Michigan.

Biography

Emigrating from Finland in the 1890s, J. W. Nara became one of the Copper Country's first commercial photographers. His images of the rural, urban, and industrial life of Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula represent one of the best documents of the growing copper mining region. Nara translated the success of his studio into a growing portfolio of timber lands in the region, becoming one of the first advocates for selective logging practices (excerpted from "People, Place and Time," Michigan Tech Archives, 2009)

Collection Scope and Content Summary

Photographs of Michigan's Copper Country, capturing the people and places in the midst of the Keweenaw Peninsula's most productive decades of copper mining.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections 5/10/2011

Revision Description

This collection was processed during the NHPRC funded Detailed Processing Project. 6/14/2014

Conditions Governing Access

Available for use in the Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections.

Conditions Governing Use

Various copying restrictions apply. Guidelines are available from Michigan Technological University Archives & Copper Country Historical Collections.

Acquisition

A gift of one cubic feet containing photographs was donated to the Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections by John William Nara on February 3, 1973.

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- Photographs
- Portraits

Geographic Name(s)

- Calumet (Mich.)
- Keweenaw Peninsula (Mich.)

Personal Name(s)

- Nara, J. W. , (John William), b. 1874

Subject(s)

- Business enterprises--Michigan--Calumet
- Copper mines and mining--Michigan--Keweenaw Peninsula
- Landscapes--Michigan--Keweenaw Peninsula

Collection Inventory

	Item
Nara Lumber Camp, present Sugar Camp	42-075
General note	
Lumbering-Camp Scenes	
Nara Log Landing ca. 1915 c. 1915	42-076
General note	
Lumbering	
Large Construction Site by Waterway- Location Unknown	42-083
General note	
Building-Construction	
Large Construction Site by Waterway- Location Unknown	42-084
General note	
Building-Construction	
Large Construction Site	42-085
General note	

Building-Construction

Large Construction Site 42-086

General note

Building-Construction

Large Construction Site 42-087

General note

Building-Construction

Large Construction Site 42-088

General note

Building-Construction

Ship Launching 42-089

General note

Industry- Shipbuilding

"Schooner" in Dry Dock 42-090

General note

3508

General note

Industry- Shipbuilding

Camping Scene

42-092

General note

Sports & Recreation-Camping

Camping Scene

42-093

General note

Sports & Recreation-Camping

People's Auto Co.- Calumet (Streetcar)

42-094

General note

Automotive- Industry & Automobiles

(Noted on print: Italian Church, Oak Street, Calumet) More likely the Solvenian Church,
now St. Paul Apostle Church

42-095

General note

5366

General note

Buildings- Churches- Calumet

Benstrom Nystie Store

42-096

General note

Buildings- Stores- Calumet

5th Street- Calumet in Winter

42-097 A

General note

3671

General note

Cities & Towns- Calumet Street Scenes

Barbershop- Calumet

42-098

General note

Buildings- Calumet

5th Street- Calumet in Winter

42-099

General note

Cities & Towns- Calumet Street Scenes

Firestation- Unidentified

42-100

General note

Fires & Firefighting

Streetcar Crossing Portage Lake Bridge- Houghton/Hancock

42-101

General note

(?)- General

Freda Copper Mill- Freda

42-102

General note

Mining- Copper

Railroad Scene

42-103

General note

Transportation- Railroads

Steel Shaft- Norrie Mines- Ironwood

42-104

General note

Mining- Iron

Mining Scene- Unidentified

42-106

General note

Mining- Unidentified

Calumet Street Scene

42-107

General note

Town & City Scenes- Street Scenes- Calumet

6th Street, Calumet- Michigan Auto Co. Garage

42-108

General note

Automotive Industry

Calumet Dam- Woman in Buggy- Unidentified

42-109

General note

Power Plants & Dams

Sleigh Party- Winter

42-111

General note

Social Life & Customs

2 Men & 2 Children in Keweenaw- Phoenix?

42-112

General note

People- Unidentified

Bare A. Beach

42-113

General note

Scene- Michigan- Lakes

Playboys from Early Days

42-116

General note

People- Unidentified

Playboys from Early Days

42-117

General note

People- Unidentified

Playboys from Early Days

42-118

General note

People- Unidentified

Wrestler

42-119

General note

Sports & Recreation- Wrestling

Italian Immigrant to Calumet to Work in Mines

42-120

General note

2210

General note

Immigrants & Emmigrants

Italian Immigrant to Calumet to Work in Mines

42-121

General note

Immigrants & Emmigrants

Italian Immigrant to Work in Calumet

42-122

General note

1883

General note

Immigrants & Emmigrants

Newlyweds

42-123

General note

People- Unidentified

First World War Soldier?

42-124

General note

Defense

Woman- Unidentified

42-125

General note

People- Unidentified

Wrestler- Boxer?

42-126

General note

Sports & Recreation- Boxing

Temperance Parade, before 1913 Strike- Calumet

42-127

General note

Social Life & Customs- Celebrations- Parades

Temperance Parade, before 1913 Strike- Calumet

42-128

General note

Social Life & Customs- Celebrations- Parades

Italian Benevolent Society Hall

42-129

General note

1671

General note

Buildings- Union Halls

Hunting Scene- Men & Catch

42-130

General note

2596

General note

Sports & Recreation- Hunting

Hunting Scene- Men & Catch

42-131

General note

Sports & Recreation- Hunting

Hunting Camp & Catch

42-132

General note

2595

General note

Sports & Recreation- Hunting

Hunting Scene- Men & Catch

42-133

General note

Sports & Recreation- Hunting

Hunting Scene- Men & Catch

42-134

General note

Sports & Recreation- Hunting

Hunting Scene- Women & Catch

42-135

General note

1679

General note

Sports & Recreation- Hunting

Hunting Scene- Men & Catch

42-136

General note

1678

General note

Sports & Recreation- Hunting

Hunting Scene-Men & Catch

42-137

General note

2597

General note

Sports & Recreation- Hunting

5th Street- Calumet

42-139

General note

3672

General note

Cities & Towns- Calumet- Street Scenes

Road to House and Mine Shaft- Quincy

42-140

General note

Copper Mines & Mining

Miners Underground

42-142

General note

2707

General note

Copper Mines & Mining Scenes, Underground Scenes

Post Office

42-143

General note

Buildings- Post Office

Calumet Town Hall before Power Cut in 1940s-50s

42-145

General note

Buildings- City & Town Halls

Mine Shaft- Location Unknown

42-146

General note

Copper Mines & Mining- Calumet & Hecla

Copper Range RR Construction

42-147

General note

4118

General note

Railroads

Salvation Army Building- Calumet

42-148

General note

Religious Orders & Sects

Barbershop- Calumet

42-149

General note

Buildings- Barbershops

5th Street- Calumet

42-150

General note

2434

General note

Cities & Towns- Calumet- Street Scenes

Carnival Scene- Calumet

42-151

General note

Social Life & Customs- Circuses & Fairs

Carnival Scene- Calumet

42-152

General note

Social Life & Customs- Circuses & Fairs

Red Jacket Shaft- National Guard Calumet 1913 Strike

42-153

General note

1677

General note

Defense- 1913 Strike

Picnic Scene 42-154

General note

Social Life & Customs- Picnics

Italian Soldier 42-157

General note

Defense

Building in Calumet Being Hauled 42-159

General note

Buildings- Unidentified

Copper Range Railroad Construction 42-161

General note

Railroads

Copper Range Railroad Construction 42-162 A

General note

Railroads

Copper Range Railroad Construction 42-162 B

General note

Railroads

Copper Range Railroad Construction- Flatcars on Trestle with Sand

42-163 A

General note

Railroads

Copper Range Railroad Construction- Flatcars on Trestle with Sand

42-163 B

General note

Railroads

Copper Range Railroad Crew

42-164

General note

Railroads

Copper Range Railroad Construction

42-165

General note

Railroads

Copper Range Railroad Construction

42-166

General note

Railroads

Farm House- Winter Scene, Snowshoers Outside

42-167

General note

5538

General note

Buildings- Houses- Exterior

Wedding at Albert Rheault Farm, about 1910

42-168

General note

Social Life & Customs- Celebrations- Banquet

Benstrom Nystie Store

42-169

General note

Buildings- Stores

Tenant Farm J.W. Nara in Doorway

42-170

General note

Buildings- Cabins

Calumet House- Nara Built

42-171

General note

2591

General note

Buildings- Houses- Laurium

Centennial Heights Home

42-172

General note

2590

General note

Buildings- Houses- Exterior

Chinese Laundry Men

42-173

General note

People Unidentified

Women in Finnish Costumes

42-174

General note

2980

General note

Clothing & Dress- Women

Charcoal Kiln

42-175

General note

Industry- General

Man on Dock by Lake- Camping Scene

42-176

General note

Sports & Recreation- Camping

Men Boxing in Field- Camping Scene

42-177

General note

Sports & Recreation- Camping

Men Drinking by Tent- Camping Scene

42-178

General note

Sports & Recreation- Camping

Man in Boat on Lake- Camping Scene

42-179

General note

Sports & Recreation- Camping

Man in Boat on Lake- Camping Scene

42-180

General note

Sports & Recreation- Camping

Men Camping

42-181

General note

Sports & Recreation- Camping

Men Camping

42-182

General note

Sports & Recreation- Camping

Men Camping

42-183

General note

Sports & Recreation- Camping

Men Camping

42-184

General note

Sports & Recreation- Camping

Ladies on Horse Carriage

42-185

General note

People Unidentified

Fat Lydia 42-186

General note

Biography- L

Train Plowing Snow 42-187

General note

Snow Removal

Train Plowing Snow 42-188

General note

Snow Removal

Train Plowing Snow 42-189

General note

Snow Removal

Bunk House at Old Lumber Camp- not Nara's 42-190

General note

3565

General note

Lumbering- Camp Scenes

Lumber Wagon & Carriage

42-191

General note

Lumbering- Cutting & Hauling

Along Portage Lake, Dreamland District of Bootjack

42-192

General note

Ferries

Jacobsville Road, 1915; Horse-Drawn Carriage

42-193

General note

Roads

Dreamland Beach- Jacobsville

42-194

General note

Cities & Towns- Jacobsville

Paynesville RR Depot

42-195 A

General note

Railroads- Depots

Paynesville RR Depot

42-195 B

General note

Railroads- Depots

Palestra in Calumet

42-196

General note

2589

General note

Buildings- Armories

Farm Scene

42-197

General note

Agriculture

J.A. Nara House

42-198

General note

Buildings- Houses- Exterior

Copper Range RR- Construction

42-200

General note

Railroads

Log Landing, Bob Nara's Cottage on Point Now

42-201

General note

Lumbering

J.W. Nara Outside House

42-203

General note

Biography- Nara

Bert Rheault Farm Scene

42-204

General note

Agriculture

Old Lumber Camp- 2 miles in of Nara's

42-206

General note

Lumbering- Camp Scene

Calumet & Hecla Library

42-208

General note

2215

General note

Buildings- Libraries

Farm Scene

42-209

General note

1852

General note

Agriculture

Road Uphill Near Dreamland

42-210

General note

Roads

3 Playboys- Button Shoes

42-211

General note

People Unidentified

Farm Scene- People on Fence

42-212

General note

Agriculture

Horse- Powered by Hay Baler

42-213

General note

Agriculture

Logged Out Area

42-214

General note

Lumbering

Lake Bailey or Medora

42-216

General note

Lakes

Farm Scene

42-217

General note

Agriculture

Farm Scene

42-218

General note

Agriculture

Lighthouse

42-219

General note

Lighthouses & Life Saving Stations

Eagle Harbor Lighthouse

42-220

General note

Lighthouses & Life Saving Stations

National Guard 1913-1914 Strike

42-221

General note

Defense

Scrawny Cow

42-222

General note

Agriculture

Healthy Cow

42-223

General note

Agriculture

Rabbit Island

42-224

General note

Islands- Rabbit

Red Jacket Shaft, C&H

42-225

General note

Copper Mines & Mining

Local National Guard before 1913 Strike

42-226

General note

Defense

Calumet & Hecla Pay Office

42-228

General note

Buildings- Offices

Lakeview Cemetary- Monument

42-229

General note

Cemetaries

Carnival (According to Fred Dahlinger Jr., Circus World Museum, this is Ringling Bros.)

42-230

General note

5742

General note

Social Life & Customs- Parades

Street Scene- Winter

42-231

General note

Cities & Towns- Calumet

Jacobsville- Lighthouse Derricks for Loading Sand- Stone in Background

42-233

General note

Lighthouses & Life Saving Stations

Norwegian Church, Calumet

42-234

General note

1854

General note

Buildings- Churches- Calumet

Methodist Church, Calumet M.E. on US 41

42-235

General note

1855

General note

Buildings- Churches- Calumet

Rail Scene

42-236

General note

Railroads

Rail Scene

42-237

General note

Railroads

Church & Hall

42-238

General note

Buildings

Farm Scene

42-239

General note

Agriculture

Railroad Construction Scene- 3 Unidentified People

42-241

General note

Biography- Unidentified

Parks in Copper Country

42-242

General note

Parks- General

Street Scene- Bicyclers

42-243

General note

Sports & Recreation- Cycling

Street Scene- Unidentified

42-244

General note

Cities & Towns- Calumet

Railroad Scene

42-245

General note

Railroads

Railroad Scene

42-246

General note

Railroads

Calumet Area Scene

42-247

General note

Cities & Towns- Calumet

Oldtimes

42-248

General note

People Unidentified

Sailboat

42-249

General note

Sailboats

Boxing Match

42-250

General note

Sports & Recreation- Boxing

Boxing Match

42-251

General note

Sports & Recreation- Boxing

Boxing Match Crowd

42-252

General note

Sports & Recreation- Boxing

Boxing Match Crowd

42-253

General note

Sports & Recreation- Boxing

Boxing Match Crowd

42-254

General note

Sports & Recreation- Boxing

Excursion

42-255

General note

Ferries

Woodland School (?)

42-257

General note

Education- Schools

J.W. Nara Constructed House

42-259

General note

Buildings- Houses- Exterior

Copper Range Railroad Construction

42-261

General note

Railroads

Copper Range Railroad Construction

42-262

General note

Railroads

Italian Immigrant Miner

42-263

General note

Immigrants & Emmigrants

Hunter & Dog- Finnish Costume

42-264

General note

Clothing & Dress- Men

Bartender Training Dog

42-266

General note

People- Unidentified