

Small Historic Towns Across America.

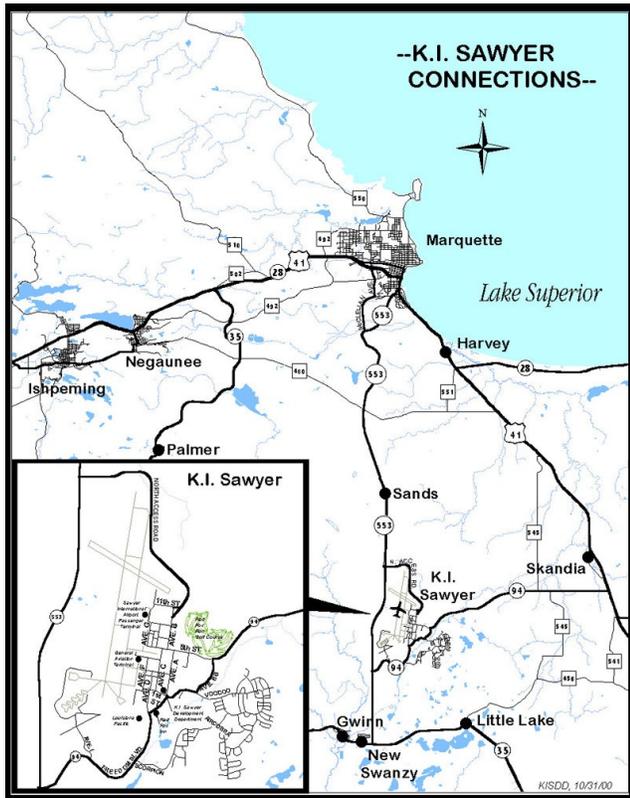
as presented by Mr. Stadt's online Freedom Project Education U.S. History classes in the Fall and Winter of 2014. You can learn more about our classes by visiting us at: www.fpeusa.org



A Brief History of Marquette, Michigan:

Marquette was founded by Amos Harlow and his expedition leader Peter White. The city was originally named Worcester, after Amos Harlow's hometown, Worcester, Massachusetts, but it is now named for the French explorer Jacques Marquette. Marquette was a shipping port for hematite ores, but now exports iron ore pellets from nearby mines and pelletizing plants. The city includes several small islands (principally Middle Island, Gull Island, Lover's Island, Presque Isle Pt. Rocks, White Rocks, Ripley Rock, and Picnic Rocks) in Lake Superior.

Marquette is home to the largest wooden dome in the world, the Superior Dome. Northern Michigan University owns the facility and holds its home football games there. The dome also hosts numerous private and public events which draw in thousands from around the region. Marquette is the most populated city in the Upper Peninsula, and was listed among the top ten places to retire in 2012.



Location and Driving Directions:

The nearest airport to Marquette is Sawyer International Airport in Gwinn, Michigan. Located on the K.I. Sawyer Air Force base about fifteen miles south of Marquette, a short, lovely drive on Highway 553 will lead

you through thick foliage in the summer, and a white wonderland in the winter to the little gem on Lake Superior's rocky shores.

Who was President at the time this town was founded? What was the political environment in America at the time?

President Fillmore held office when Marquette officially became a town in 1850. During this time, the United States was becoming a country continually more divided over issues of land, states' rights, and slavery. Many settlers were moving to different areas to build up new towns and create new businesses. The year Marquette was founded was the same year that the Compromise of 1850 was passed. This was an act that gave the states different rights about how to deal with slavery. More acts like this became more common over the next few years, dividing deeper rifts in the country, and eventually climaxing in the Civil War.

Oldest/largest businesses today:

The largest businesses in Marquette today are Northern Michigan University, Marquette General Hospital, and the downtown area small businesses.

Out of the top five oldest companies in the U.S., one is located in Marquette. For well over a century, Getz's has been a staple for the Upper Peninsula's work wear. It was first founded in 1887 to provide work clothing for those in the mining and foresting industries. Still family owned and operating today, Getz's has adapted to many different kinds of workplace styles, but is still located in the original building.



City government:

Marquette is governed by a council-manager government form. Under this type of local government, the city council is voted into office every three years, and is in charge of the legislation in the town. The manager is appointed by the members of the city council, and is responsible for making the major decisions.

Historic Attractions, Festivals, and Events:

Over the course of the year, Marquette hosts several seasonal festivals and events. Check out this [link](#) to find a list to coordinate the time of your trip. The Blueberry Festival, as shown on the below, is one of the festivals close to the end of summer.



Other fun places to visit that are open year round are the Peter White Library,

Marquette Maritime Museum, The KI Sawyer Museum, HotPlate Pottery and Art Studio, and the numerous beaches, parks, and lighthouses in the area. Pictured Rocks is another mouth dropping place to see. A small scale version of the Grand Canyon, Pictured Rocks is a place you don't want to miss! Take a day trip about an hour and a half away from Marquette along the shore of Lake Superior. It is well worth your time!



Why would I want to visit Marquette?

Marquette is truly a beautiful town.

Tucked away in a little inlet with the deep, icy blue waters of Lake Superior on one side, and quaint shops built into the hills, this is one town that cries, "Relaxation!" The outdoors are very important to the people of Marquette, including the yacht club, sailing, nordic and downhill skiing, waterfalls, public trails, and well maintained parks and beaches. But after a full day of exploring, you will have many choice places to dine in the evenings! One of my family's favorites is the Villa Capri. The genuine Italian cuisine is tasty, and the atmosphere is pleasant.

<http://www.travelmarquettetemichigan.com/entertainment/dining/>

Places to stay:



The Landmark Inn is the most historic hotel in Marquette. Built in the early 1900's, the Landmark Inn once had Amelia Earhart as a guest! The hotel has been completely

restored, and offers spectacular views of Lake Superior, wonderful service, and is right in the heart of downtown!

Links for more information on Marquette:

<http://www.travelmarquettetemichigan.com>

http://www.sawyerairport.com/general_aviation.html

<https://downtownmarquette.org/history-of-downtown/>

<http://www.kishamuseum.org/history.php>

<http://www.iron.org/forms/UPeconProfiles.pdf>

<http://www.inc.com/ss/2009-inc-5000-top-10-oldest-companies?slide=4>

<http://thelandmarkinn.com>