

PH 366722

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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FEB 13 1976  
RECEIVED  
DATE ENTERED JUL 20 1977

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

**\*\*** HISTORIC *Mr*

E. J. Longyear First Diamond Drill Site on the Mesabi Range

AND/OR COMMON

E. J. Longyear First Diamond Drill Site on the Mesabi Range

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER: E of Mesaba

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN: Mesaba, Minn.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Hoyt Lakes

VICINITY OF

8th

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Minnesota

27

St. Louis

137

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Erie Mining Company

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Hoyt Lakes

VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

St. Louis County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Fifth Avenue at First Street

CITY, TOWN

Duluth

STATE

Minnesota

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Statewide Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1975

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Minnesota Historical Society, Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul

STATE

Minnesota

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The site nominated is the exact location of the first diamond<sup>rec</sup> drill hole on the Mesabi Range put down in the <sup>NE 1</sup>/<sub>NW 4</sub> of the <sup>NE 1</sup>/<sub>NW 4</sub> of Section <sup>33</sup>/<sub>34</sub>, Township 59 North, Range 14 West, St. Louis County, Minnesota. Edmund J. Longyear drilled to a depth of 1293 feet between June 1 and December 9, 1890.

The drilling exploration work was performed on behalf of the Longyear Mesabi Land and Iron Company formed in 1887 by John Munro Longyear of Marquette, Michigan, a cousin of Edmund J. Longyear. Hundreds of feet of taconite core 1 1/8 inch in diameter were recovered from the exploratory hole but since taconite's day was not to come until decades later, plans for further work were abandoned.

Recent formation of the East Range Historical Society and the desire of Albert Stimac, president of this organization, to restore this original site led to a joint undertaking by the East Range Historical Society, Erie Mining Company, Longyear Company and other organizations to reconstruct the drill site for public examination and layout. The preparation has now been completed and includes a placement over the original hole of a drill rig duplicating the original 1890 drill outfit. Equipment includes a drill platform, steam operated drill machine, steam pump, Minnesota churn buck and steam boiler fueled by wood. An authentic tripod configuration used for pulling drill rod, is also set up.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	Mineral exploration in early development of Mesabi Range,	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			Minnesota	

SPECIFIC DATES 1890

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Minnesota

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Mesabi Range was a significant factor in the production of iron ore for consumption in the United States for over 50 years. It was a major element in shaping the future of Minnesota as well as the United States.

E. J. Longyear's first diamond core drill hole was the beginning of many thousands of exploration holes he put down in northern Minnesota. No other man contributed as much to the vital exploration and development of this valuable iron ore resource.

The first diamond core drill hole is recognized as the beginning of a mining era which continues today.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mesabi Pioneer: Reminiscences, by Edmund Longyear published by the Minnesota Historical Society, 1951.

E.J. Longyear Diary, unpublished.

Longyear Company "News Bits", July-August, 1975.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 5	5 6 6 3 8 0	5 2 6 7 2 2 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Jean Stimac, Director

ORGANIZATION

East Range Historical Society

DATE

23 September 1975

STREET & NUMBER

317 Arlington Road

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Hoyt Lakes

STATE

Minnesota

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Russell W. Fridley* Feb 4, 1976

TITLE

Russell W. Fridley  
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

*Charles A. ...*

DATE

7/20/77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

3.18.77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper Melvin Lyman  
11/19/89

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Note: These changes apply to  
Longyear, E. J. First Diamond Drill  
Site in St. Louis County,  
Minnesota.

REFERENCE NUMBER: 77001526

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: St. Louis

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC):

CITY: Hoyt Lakes

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS: off Co. Hwy. 110

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS: Property is located in the city  
of Hoyt Lakes, not in the vicinity  
of Mesaba.

*Nina M. Archabal*

Nina M. Archabal  
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988

Date