The Jackson Iron Company built Fayette in 1867 as an iron-smelting town on Michigan’s Garden Peninsula—a spit of land that juts into northern Lake Michigan. The location was remote; the work was hard; winter was not for the faint of heart. Fayette was an industrial town, but it was also a village where immigrant families built new lives in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. Today, archaeologists use artifacts and structural remains to tell us about daily life at the town, significantly contributing to what we know from documents alone. The Fayette Historic Town Site is operated by the Michigan Historical Center, Department of Natural Resources, and is open to the public. michigan.gov/fayettetownsite

For information about Michigan Archaeology visit michigan.gov/archeology.