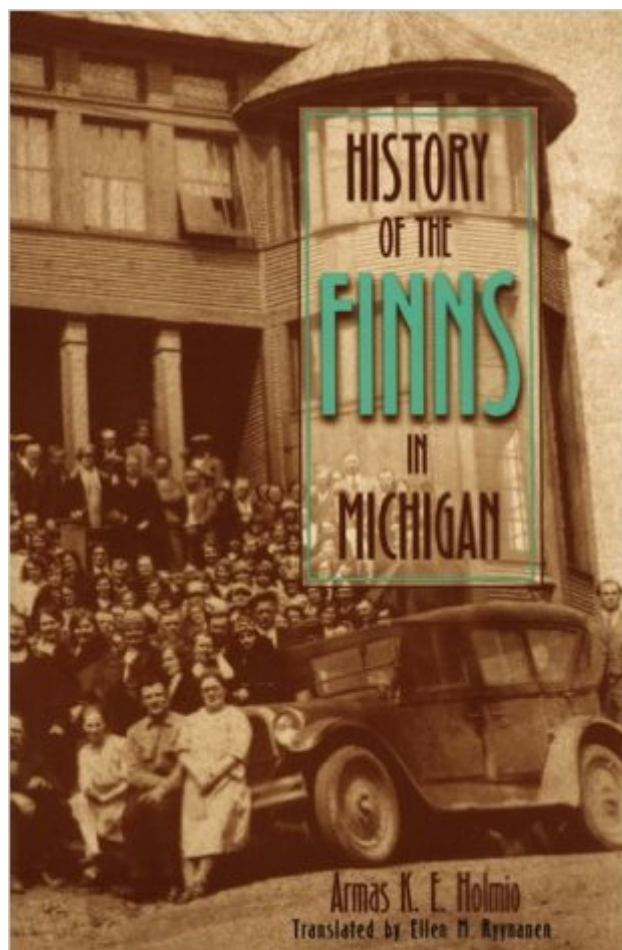


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# History Of The Finns In Michigan (Great Lakes Books Series)



## Synopsis

Michigan's Upper Peninsula was a major destination for Finns during the peak years of migration in the nineteenth century and the early decades of the twentieth century. Several Upper Peninsula communities had large Finnish populations and Finnish churches, lodges, cooperative stores, and temperance societies. Ishpeming and Hancock, especially, were important nationally as Finnish cultural centers. Originally published in Finnish in 1967 by Armas K. E. Holmio, *History of the Finns in Michigan*, translated into English by Ellen M. Ryyanen, brings the story of the contribution of Finnish immigrants into the mainstream of Michigan history. Holmio combines firsthand experience and personal contact with the first generation of Finnish immigrants with research in Finnish-language sources to create an important and compelling story of an immigrant group and its role in the development of Michigan.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I bought this book as a reference. It sounded dreary, but I figured it would answer occasional questions. Instead, it was quite fascinating in a variety of ways. It dealt with the background of Michigan's Finnish immigration (the first and biggest 19th c. migration stream), the decline of the fur trade as sailing ships became obsolete, the dreadful winters and crop failures of the late 1860s. The settlement of small communities is detailed -- interesting to Upper Peninsula people. I had to stop before the meaty chapters on the Apostolic Finns and the politics and purposes of the 20th c. cooperative movement, headquartered in Superior, Wisconsin. Its relics can be seen throughout

Finnish rural areas of Upper Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. Probably the author's bi-cultural perspective, being a native of Finland transplanted to Suomi College in Hancock, Michigan, makes this such an interesting book.

I bought this as a gift for a relative that is of Finnish heritage from the UP. She said that this book is excellent. It is written for someone interested in a detailed account of the local history. It actually goes into detail about specific families. It's not for casual reading; I would describe it as a book for research.

Interesting book I'd recommend to people interested in the Finnish settling in the USA. Lots to learn from this book about the politics of the time and area and the Finnish people and their high value of their unique and high level culture.

I enjoyed this book a great deal. My dad's family came from Finland to the U.P. of Michigan. It was fascinating reading the history of the Finns who migrated to the U.S., and how they lived, reasons for coming to the U.S., etc.

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