

Diamond Drill

Out of the Past

August 29, 1973

William Howard Way, 32, tentatively identified as a prison parolee, is being held at the Iron County Jail in the aftermath of a crime spree that began with a killing in Battle Creek, Michigan, kidnapping in Petoskey, Michigan, abduction in Florence, Wisconsin and ending in his capture after a shooting incident on Crystal Avenue in Crystal Falls. Way, frail looking with shoulder length hair, abducted James Youngell and two juvenile boys in Florence and commandeering a late model Ford Bronco travelled to Crystal Falls before the vehicle "supposedly" developed mechanical problems near the Russell Paulsen residence at 716 Crystal Avenue. Paulsen after refusing to surrender his own vehicle to Way was shot with a bullet fired from a .22 caliber pistol. Desperate to end the situation, Youngell attacked Way resulting in a stray shot being fired that gained the attention of Charlie Bandaccari, butcher at Lada's Red Owl Store located at the northwest corner of Crystal Avenue and High Street, who rushed outside to help subdue the assailant until Deputy Sherriff Harold Gill arrived at the scene.