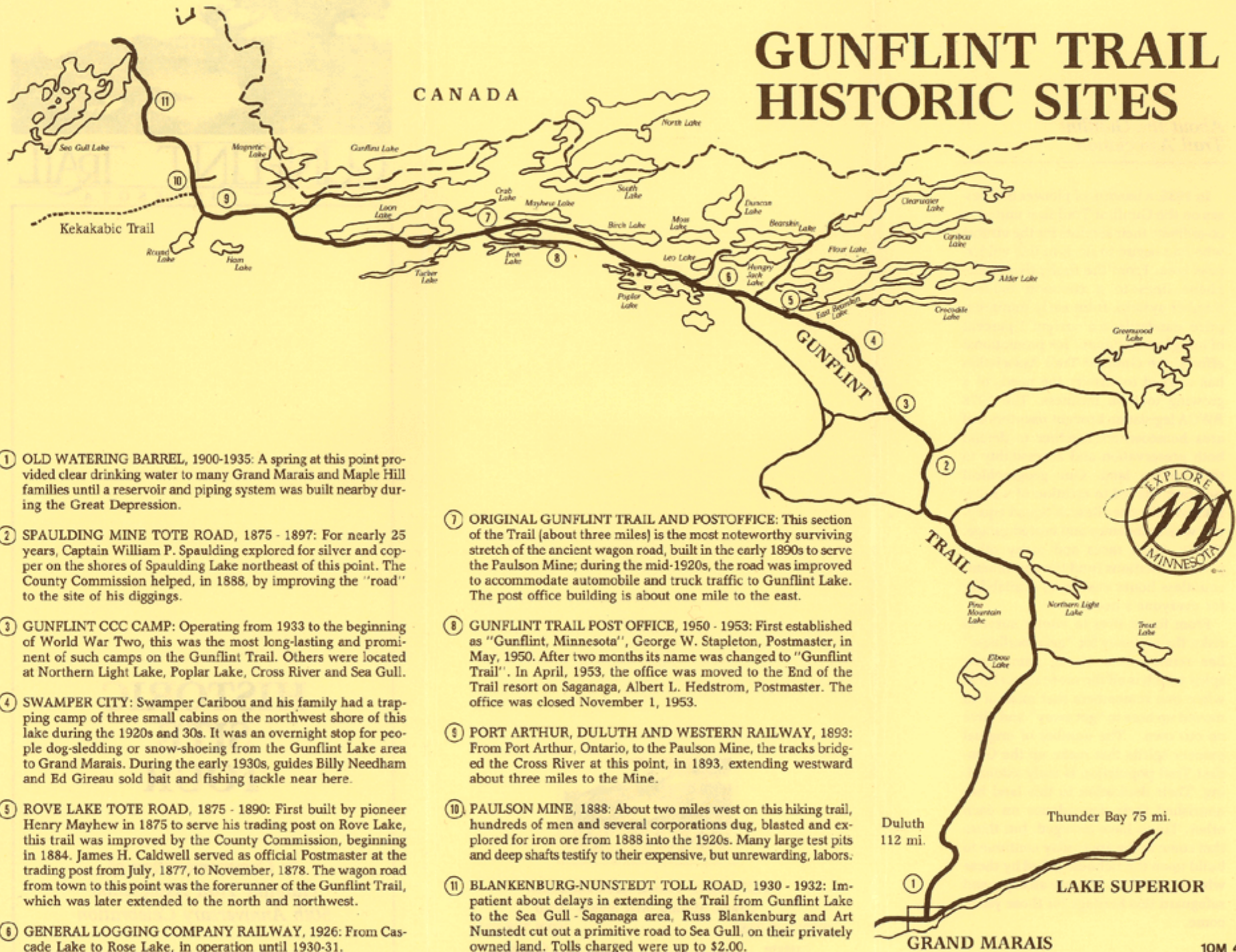


GUNFLINT TRAIL HISTORIC SITES



- ① **OLD WATERING BARREL, 1900-1935:** A spring at this point provided clear drinking water to many Grand Marais and Maple Hill families until a reservoir and piping system was built nearby during the Great Depression.
- ② **SPAULDING MINE TOTE ROAD, 1875 - 1897:** For nearly 25 years, Captain William P. Spaulding explored for silver and copper on the shores of Spaulding Lake northeast of this point. The County Commission helped, in 1888, by improving the "road" to the site of his diggings.
- ③ **GUNFLINT CCC CAMP:** Operating from 1933 to the beginning of World War Two, this was the most long-lasting and prominent of such camps on the Gunflint Trail. Others were located at Northern Light Lake, Poplar Lake, Cross River and Sea Gull.
- ④ **SWAMPER CITY:** Swamper Caribou and his family had a trapping camp of three small cabins on the northwest shore of this lake during the 1920s and 30s. It was an overnight stop for people dog-sledding or snow-shoeing from the Gunflint Lake area to Grand Marais. During the early 1930s, guides Billy Needham and Ed Gireau sold bait and fishing tackle near here.
- ⑤ **ROVE LAKE TOTE ROAD, 1875 - 1890:** First built by pioneer Henry Mayhew in 1875 to serve his trading post on Rove Lake, this trail was improved by the County Commission, beginning in 1884. James H. Caldwell served as official Postmaster at the trading post from July, 1877, to November, 1878. The wagon road from town to this point was the forerunner of the Gunflint Trail, which was later extended to the north and northwest.
- ⑥ **GENERAL LOGGING COMPANY RAILWAY, 1926:** From Cascade Lake to Rose Lake, in operation until 1930-31.

- ⑦ **ORIGINAL GUNFLINT TRAIL AND POSTOFFICE:** This section of the Trail (about three miles) is the most noteworthy surviving stretch of the ancient wagon road, built in the early 1890s to serve the Paulson Mine; during the mid-1920s, the road was improved to accommodate automobile and truck traffic to Gunflint Lake. The post office building is about one mile to the east.
- ⑧ **GUNFLINT TRAIL POST OFFICE, 1950 - 1953:** First established as "Gunflint, Minnesota", George W. Stapleton, Postmaster, in May, 1950. After two months its name was changed to "Gunflint Trail". In April, 1953, the office was moved to the End of the Trail resort on Saganaga, Albert L. Hedstrom, Postmaster. The office was closed November 1, 1953.
- ⑨ **PORT ARTHUR, DULUTH AND WESTERN RAILWAY, 1893:** From Port Arthur, Ontario, to the Paulson Mine, the tracks bridged the Cross River at this point, in 1893, extending westward about three miles to the Mine.
- ⑩ **PAULSON MINE, 1888:** About two miles west on this hiking trail, hundreds of men and several corporations dug, blasted and explored for iron ore from 1888 into the 1920s. Many large test pits and deep shafts testify to their expensive, but unrewarding, labors.
- ⑪ **BLANKENBURG-NUNSTEDT TOLL ROAD, 1930 - 1932:** Impatient about delays in extending the Trail from Gunflint Lake to the Sea Gull - Saganaga area, Russ Blankenburg and Art Nunstedt cut out a primitive road to Sea Gull, on their privately owned land. Tolls charged were up to \$2.00.