



The Grand Portage Guide



Grand Portage: Much More Than a “Great Carrying Place”

Superintendent Tim Cochrane

Welcome to Grand Portage, the new Heritage Center, and the new exhibits detailing the Grand Portage story. Please join us and browse the exhibits, as there are some stunning objects, art work, and photographs. And there is a chance to try your bargaining skills as a fur trader, listen to Grand Portage elders’ stories about Gitchi Onigaming and a multi-media introduction to the Great Carrying Place – or Grand Portage.

There is much to learn here. The ancients used the Grand Portage trail to carry raw copper westward and to trade for materials such as obsidian (jet-black volcanic glass) and medicines. Many people have walked the root-laced portage through time. At one time, you might hear Dakota, Assiniboine, Cree, Ojibwe,



Rendezvous Kitchi Onigaming a mural in the new Heritage Center at Grand Portage by Carl Gawboy.

Iroquois, French, English, Spanish, or German spoken by people carrying precious items over its eight and a half miles.

There are numerous Grand Portage stories coming from many different peoples and different activities through time. Nostalgic symbols of days past such as cooking fires and the smell of wood smoke – here in the Heritage Center or at the depot – also inspired fear among the traders. They were fearful that the valuable furs that were collected from the Great North West might be lost in building fires. During the height of the fur trade, the gates were shut tight at dusk and two sentries guarded the depot area primarily from accidental fires. Forest fires

(Continued on page 6)

Table of Contents

Grand Portage National Monument

Welcome and Map of Site.....	2
Daily Activity Guide	3
Self-Guided Activities	4
Books Worth Browsing	4
Special Events	5
Friends of Grand Portage.....	5
A Monumental Task: GPNM Celebrates 50 Years	7
Gateway to the Northwest	20
A Rough Guide to the Grand Portage	20
Area Information.....	22
Kid’s Page.....	23
Tips and Reminders.....	Back Cover

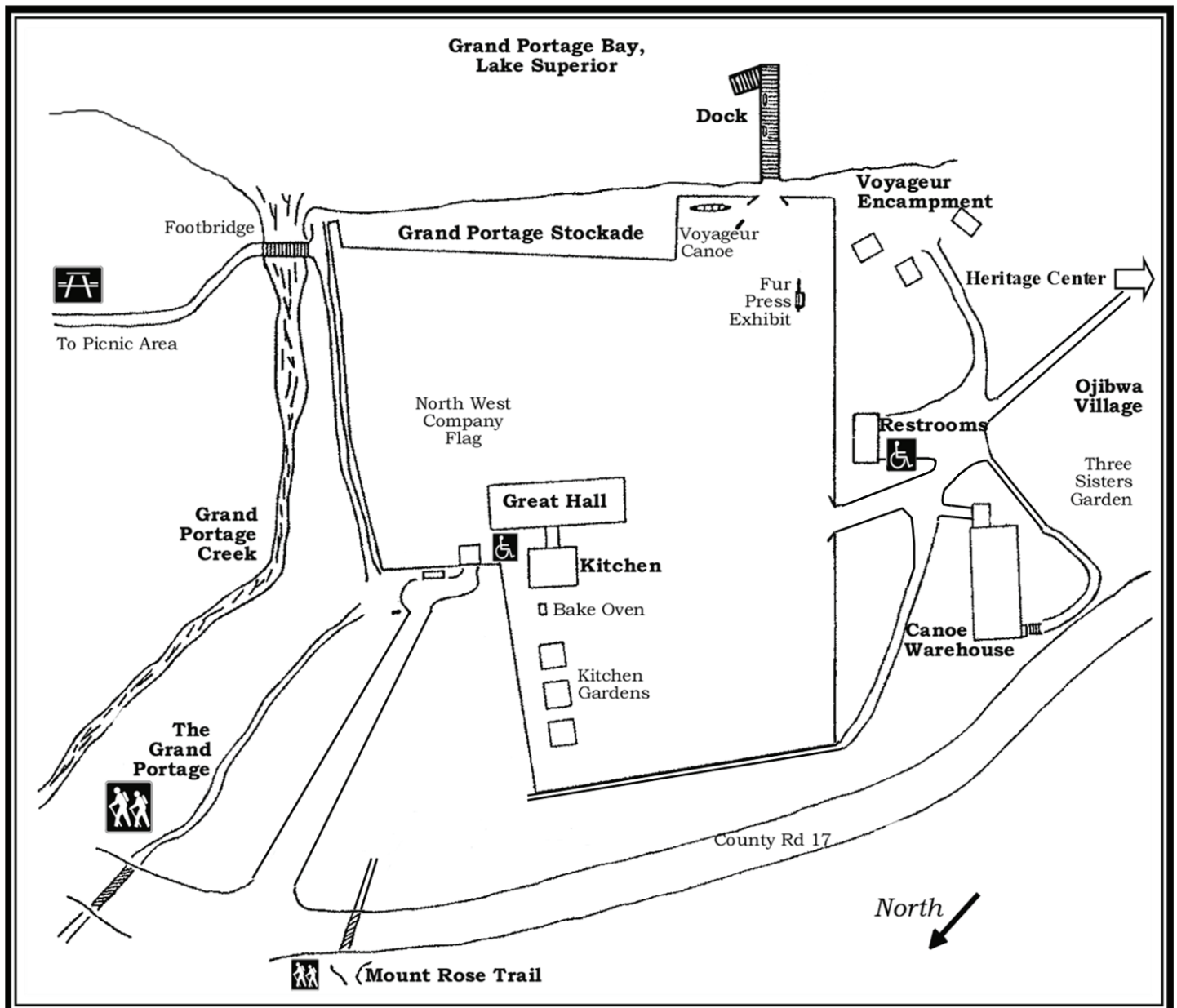
Boozhoo *Bonjour* Welcome

Welcome to Grand Portage. We are pleased you are here and exploring "Portage" with us. There is much to see and do. Please join our interpreters and participate in the past. Please ask us about the fur trade and its ingenious technology, or its novel customs. Or come and learn about the intrinsic links between the fur traders and the nearby residents, the Grand Portage Ojibwe.

The Staff of Grand Portage National Monument

A GUIDE TO HELP YOU FIND YOUR WAY AT GRAND PORTAGE NATIONAL MONUMENT

More than 200 years ago, the North West Company concentrated its business activities in and around the stockade. Four of the most important structures have been reconstructed on their original foundations: The Great Hall, kitchen, warehouse, and gatehouse. National Park Service employees and Volunteers-In-Parks (VIPs) staff these buildings. You will find rangers and VIPs wearing dress appropriate to the period, or in the NPS uniform.



ACTIVITIES & RANGER-CONDUCTED PROGRAMS

LIVING HISTORY DEMONSTRATIONS

Come to the Voyageur Encampment and Ojibwe Village, where you will see demonstrations of Ojibwe and voyageur life in the late 1700s. While there, see our American Indian Three Sisters garden, and witness the firing of a North West Company trade gun.

Visit the Great Hall, historically furnished circa 1790s. Also in the Great Hall, there is a Try-It-On historic clothing exhibit where *you* can fit into history!

Follow your nose to the kitchen, where you can see period cooking and baking demonstrations from mid-June through early September. Don't miss our historic heirloom garden and outdoor bake oven located just behind the kitchen.



The 2008 Guide in tribute to: Tom Abthorpe - Parent, Grandparent, Friend, Mentor, Monument Advocate



RANGER-CONDUCTED INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS

History comes alive when you take part in an interpretive program here at Grand Portage. Park rangers will transport you back in time, where you can become part of the story that unfolds before you!

These programs range in length from 20 minutes to 60 minutes. Be sure and check the "Program" sign in the Heritage Center or ask information desk staff for program topics, locations, and starting times. *Please note: Our program schedule is subject to change without notice due to staffing or weather conditions.*

VIDEO PRESENTATIONS

Video programs are offered regularly in the Heritage Center classroom. There are several to choose from. *Please see "Notes" below - Schedule subject to change.*

- Northwest Passage: The Story of Grand Portage – Running time is 10 minutes. - *Note: Shown on the hour.*
- The Voyageur – Running time is 20 minutes. - *Note: Shown on the half-hour, except 10:30 & 2:30.*
- The Birch Bark Canoe Builder – Running time is 30 minutes. - *Note: Shown at 10:30 & 2:30.*³

SELF-GUIDED ACTIVITIES

HIKING TRAILS

The Grand Portage: The 8½-mile *Grand Portage* is open for hiking. Two campsites are available for primitive camping at Fort Charlotte. A free permit is required, and can be obtained at the heritage center or at one of three registration boxes located along the Grand Portage.

Mt. Rose Trail: The Mt. Rose trail, located across from the historic depot, is a paved ½-mile-long nature trail which climbs 300 feet for a spectacular vista of the depot and Lake Superior. Approximate hiking time is 1 hour. A self-guiding trail brochure is available at the trail head.

BROCHURES AVAILABLE

We offer several brochures for your use and enjoyment:

- NPS Grand Portage Official Map and Guide
- Ojibwe Lifeways
- Historic Garden
- Bird Checklist

JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM

Become a Grand Portage Junior Ranger! This program, for kids ages 7 to 13, is free. Activity guides can be picked up at the Heritage Center and great hall. You should allow at least 1½ hours to complete this activity. When finished, kids are awarded a Junior Ranger badge and a Voyageur's contract. This is a family activity and we encourage parents to get involved and enjoy the program with their kids! Children under the age of 7, or those with special needs, will require the assistance of an adult.

BOOKS WORTH BROWSING

To help alleviate the isolation of winter posts, the North West Company provided reading materials. Daniel Harmon, a North West Company clerk wrote,

“Most of our leisure moments (and which is nearly nine tenths of our time) will be spent reading, and conversing on what we have read.”



The following titles may be found in *your* local library:

“The Nor’Westers: The Fight for the Fur Trade” by Marjorie Wilkins Campbell, 2002. Fitzhenry & Whiteside, Calgary, Alberta, Canada & Allston, MA, 134 pg.

“Indians In Minnesota” by Kathy Davis & Elizabeth Ebbott, 2006. University of Minnesota Press, 386 pg.

“Celebrating Birch: The Lore, and Craft of an Ancient Tree” by North House Folk School, 2007. Fox Chapel Publishing, PA, 178 pg.

“Making the Voyageur World: Travelers and Traders in the North American Fur Trade” by Carolyn Podruchny, 2006. University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, 414 pg.

“We Are at Home: Pictures of Ojibwe People” by Bruce White, 2007. Minnesota Historical Society Press, 260 pg.

“Canoeing a Continent: On the Trail of Alexander Mackenzie” by Max Finkelstein, 2005. Natural Heritage/Natural History, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 298 pg.

“The Sound the Stars Make Rushing Through the Sky: The Writings of Jane Johnston Schoolcraft” edited by Robert D. Parker, 2007. University of Pennsylvania Press, 292 pg.

These books are also available at the Eastern National bookstore in the Grand Portage National Monument Heritage Center.

The Grand Rendezvous

Ranger Karl Koster

The hustle and bustle of summer activity peaked with the North West Company Rendezvous held here at Grand Portage. This was the time when furs from wintering posts, which reached into Canada, were delivered down the historic *Grand Portage*. The annual Rendezvous is still celebrated here during the second full weekend of August. The event is held in conjunction with the Rendezvous Days and Powwow, sponsored by the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. The

annual gathering is our biggest and grandest celebration of the year, a time when Grand Portage comes alive and reflects on its rich heritage. Re-enactors from across the country and Canada gather to camp and challenge each other. This is one event you do not want to miss! Music, dancing, craft demonstrations, and hands-on workshops ensure an exciting weekend at the National Monument.



FRIENDS OF GRAND PORTAGE



As a member of our non-profit association, you can support the National Monument. We invite you to join us for the opportunity to be personally involved in Grand Portage's vibrant historic & contemporary communities.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

- Keep me posted on Friends of Grand Portage news by e-mail at: _____
- I love Grand Portage! Please contact me, because I'd like to assist the board to plan events & projects!
- Enclosed is my check (US funds) payable to *Friends of Grand Portage*. My dues or contributions are tax-deductible, because we are a 501(c) 3 organization. Enroll me for the current year (annual dues) as:

- Investor/Member of Beaver Club \$ _____
- Patron /Wintering Partner \$100
- Sustaining Member/Clerk \$50
- Contributing Member/Interpreter \$35



- Regular Member/Winterer \$25
- Senior Member/Retired Voyageur \$15
- Student Member/Green-Horn \$10

Please keep my personal information private.

•Visit us Online - <http://grandportage.org>

(Continued from page 1)



Decoy-making workshop held during Rendezvous Days.

momentarily altered some trade routes, and up the portage changed the make-up of the vegetation – testimony to sweeping fires of the past. In the 1850s, U.S.

Indian agents were once anxious to provide wood stoves to Grand Portage villagers thinking that the heavy stoves would anchor the Ojibwe in one place and keep them from “roving” off reservation to hunt, fish, or living in old homelands. Hence, important symbols such as fire in the hearth at Grand Portage have multiple implications and are richer in meanings than we might first guess.

Canoes are another essential element of the fur trade and a symbol for us at Grand Portage National Monument. We have a remarkable collection of birch bark canoes, with one even displayed in the Heritage Center on the second floor. They were made in different sizes for different purposes, smaller ones for fishing, broader ones for collecting wild rice, longer ones for traveling great distances. Birch bark was so important during the fur trade days, it was a trade item just like cloth, an axe, knife, or beads. And before long, Ojibwe had to travel some distance to find good canoe bark – free of knots and large and thick enough to be very durable. The large birch trees necessary for canoes became scarce. Eventually, canoes were made regionally and then brought to Grand Portage to trade to the North West Company. They were so valuable that the canoe makers were given fur trade currency for a good canoe. Like the fire and canoe examples, other symbolic objects you will discover here have a rich, intricate past. It takes some time and study to appreciate their ingenuity or consequences.

On a clear day, the view from the Heritage Center is inspiring. Minong – the Ojibwe word for Isle Royale – is visible twenty some miles away. This same view looking beyond Grand Portage Island, which is centered in the bay, could have aroused different feelings for North West Company clerks short of some foods or waiting for word from their homes about an ailing relative. Countless eyes have searched these gaps on either side of Grand Portage island waiting for a fur trade brigade or a sailing vessel to bring mail, supplies, news, books, and some one new to converse with.

The Grand Portage itself – the ultimate reason for the park’s existence – has embedded in it stories of both good and bad. One group of voyageurs refused to cross it because of its length and the unimaginable toil of carrying goods across it. Competing fur trade companies on occasion might chop trees down across the trail to make it harder yet to cross. Ojibwe coming to trade at the depot were sometimes robbed of their furs by traders. At one time, Ojibwe stayed off the trail in fear of unscrupulous traders, walking parallel to it in the woods to avoid detection. A few miles inland, where the Lake Superior watershed ends at the upper reaches of the Pigeon River, voyageurs were given a rite of passage, recognizing they were elite “Northmen.” They had made the transition from rookie or “Porkeater” to veteran guides and winterers in remote trading establishments.

Please take the time to explore the rich layers of history here at Grand Portage. The new exhibits are one way to start your exploration. And if something puzzles you, please ask us. Enjoy our visit!



Loading the Montreal canoe during Rendezvous Days.

A Monumental Task: Grand Portage National Monument Celebrates 50 Years

Chief of Interpretation Pam Neil - Ranger Mike Plummer-Steen

Welcome to Grand Portage National Monument! You have arrived at a very special time in the monument's history. On September 2, 2008 we will commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of this very unique unit within the National Park Service.

Accounts of the storied North West Company during the fur trade era are full of amazing tales of trade with Native Americans, adventurous exploits of traders and voyageurs, the rising and falling of magnificent fortunes as the NWCo and its rival, Hudson's Bay Company competed for domination of the trade, and grand explorations resulting in the opening of a continent. Much of this history unfolded right here at Grand Portage!

The stories are compelling to be sure. However, you will discover as you wander through our exhibits, interact with our staff in the historic depot, and perhaps spend a few days here in the community, that what makes this park *truly unique* is the Grand Portage Ojibwe who, long after the pageantry of the fur trade faded into the history books, have remained on their homeland and sustained a vibrant culture and community.

We would like to share with you a bit of the history of the creation of the Grand Portage National Monument situated, entirely within the Grand Portage Indian Reservation, on some land gifted to the American people by the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. It's a story of the perseverance and collaboration of a sovereign people with local, state and ultimately federal governments to create a partnership as unique as the monument itself.

The Land

In 1958, Dwight D. Eisenhower was president, the average American income was \$4,650.00, a gallon of gas cost 24 cents, a postal stamp cost 4



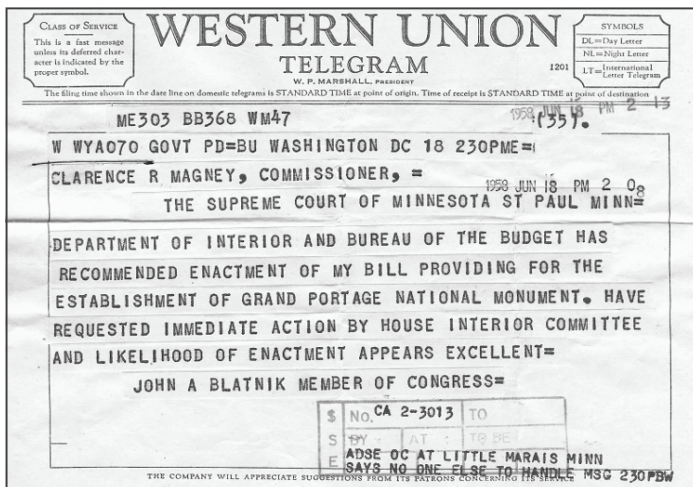
1922 Minneapolis Journal article written by Paul Bliss after he hiked the old Grand Portage to the location of Fort Charlotte with Minnesota Historical Society Field Secretary Cecil Shirk.

cents, and a loaf of bread cost 19 cents. The "Hula Hoop" was a popular fad, drive-in movies were at their height in popularity, and "Gigi" won the Academy Award for Best Film. Conversely, the country was in the midst of the worst economic recession the country had seen since World War II, the unemployment rate was at 6.8%, and 5.5 million people were out of work.

In Indian Country, the federal government was in the midst of carrying out a "Termination and

(Continued from page 7)

Relocation” policy; its express aim being to terminate the sovereign status of tribes, revoke the federal trust status of reservation lands (converted into private ownership and in many cases sold), and to relocate Indians from reservations to urban areas under the well intentioned, but misguided notion of easing the high unemployment on reservations. It was against this backdrop that Public Law (PL) 85-910 was passed by the 85th session of Congress authorizing the establishment of Grand Portage National Monument (GPNM). On August 21, 1958 Minnesota Congressman John A. Blatnik relayed a telegram: “Senate today passed my bill authorizing the establishment of the Grand Portage National



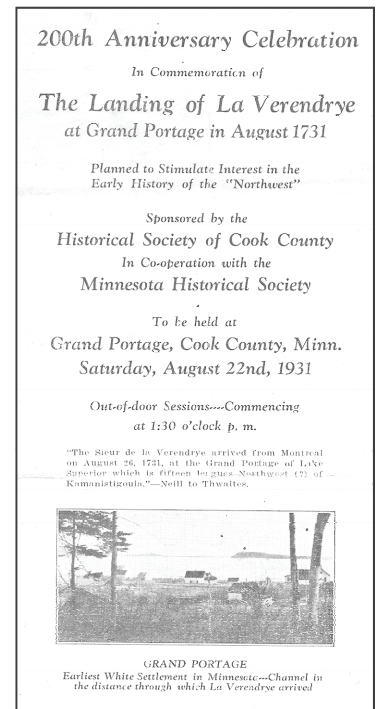
Telegram dated June 18, 1958 from John Blatnik to Clarence Magney indicating Congressional progress being made to establish Grand Portage National Monument.

Monument. Thanks to Senator Hubert Humphrey’s hard work and leadership, we were able to overcome Senate committee objections to the bill which had delayed passage. President’s signature now all that is needed for enactment.” President Eisenhower did sign the bill officially creating the Grand Portage National Monument.

The Act provided the tool for preservation and management of the 710 acres making up the monument and interpretation of its 18th and 19th century internationally significant history during the pinnacle of North West Company (NWC) activities in northwestern North America.

One very unique aspect of monument establishment, given the federal termination policy at the time, was the transfer by the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa of land titles and interests within the proposed boundaries to the Department of the Interior. Much of the text of Public Law 85-910 delineates three contiguous sections of land: a NWC area on Grand Portage Bay, Lake Superior, a Fort Charlotte area at the western end of the Grand Portage Trail along the Pigeon River border with Canada, and the remaining acres form the narrow corridor approximately 600 feet wide connecting the NWC and FC areas, the Grand Portage Trail section.

In a speech made in October of 1958, Congressman Blatnik hailed passage of the legislation as one of the major achievements of Minnesota’s statehood centennial year. He said, “It is fortunate that this major historic spot will at long last receive the care it has long deserved.” He termed Grand Portage as probably Minnesota’s most historic area and went on to say, “It is important that this historic place be preserved for the enjoyment of all the people and that future generations may secure the benefit from seeing the area, which played a significant part in our nation’s history substantially as it was at the time.” He added, “The establishment of this national monument should be a great boost to the tourist trade and in bringing additional revenue to the residents of the area and the members of the Grand Portage Band.” Ironically, though, there seems to have been little fanfare nationally or locally over the legal process that created the national monument.



1931 LaVerendrye bicentennial program cover.

The Minnesota Historical Society

As with most conservation projects, a grassroots interest at the local level is what “gets the ball rolling” toward larger efforts. And, the preservation of what became Grand Portage National Monument is no different. In 1922, residents of Grand Portage grew concerned as a result of the encroachment of settlers; likely non-Indians who’d bought “excess allotments” on the reservation initially created by the Dawes Act of 1877. Some were fencing-off portions of the old foot-path and posting “closed” signs. Equally apprehensive about the encroachment on the historic Grand Portage, Minnesota Historical Society (MHS) Superintendent, Dr. Solon J. Buck had MHS Field Secretary, Cecil Shirk, and “Minneapolis Journal” news writer, Paul Bliss, travel to Grand Portage in June of 1922, and hike up the overgrown portage to its terminus at Fort Charlotte. Bliss recounted their hike in a lengthy news article entitled, “Rediscovery of the Grand Portage Trail.” The article helped reawaken public awareness of the trail and the great northwest fur trade.

In July of 1922, Grand Portage resident Paul Le-



The “Witch Tree” by Dewey Albinson in the Great Hall completed in 1938. Grand Portage people refer to the tree as *Manito Geezhigaynce* the “Spirit Little Cedar Tree.”

Garde guided Artist Dewey Albinson and Alvin Eastman up the portage to Fort Charlotte, financed by MHS monies. Albinson mapped and took photographs of the Fort Charlotte area and the Grand Portage village including a small ce-



CCC-ID Grand Portage Stockade Excavation 1936. Taken by MHS archeologist Ralph Brown

dar tree sacred to the Grand Portage Ojibwe. He then composed and published a painting of the *Manito Geezhigaynce* (Spirit Little Cedar Tree), which he named the “Witch Tree.” The image helped create even more interest and curiosity about Grand Portage. Additionally, during this same time in the 1920s and 30s, MHS historian, Dr. Grace Lee Nute, popularized fur trade history and traditions through her books: The Voyageur, The Voyageur’s Highway, Lake Superior and Rainy River Country. Naturally, public interest in Grand Portage continued.

The MHS held its 1931 convention, attended by over 1,000 supporters, at the NWC area in Grand Portage as part of a bicentennial celebration in commemoration of French explorer Pierre La’Verendrye’s landing and construction of a building there August 26, 1731. The Cook County Historical Society (CCHS) sponsored the event and \$2,500 was raised for improvement projects on the NWC site. These funds allowed the log Crawford Cabin to be moved to the site and converted into a small museum. In addition, a replica NWC dock on Grand Portage Bay was to be constructed with timbers and construction help provided by Ojibwe craftsmen.

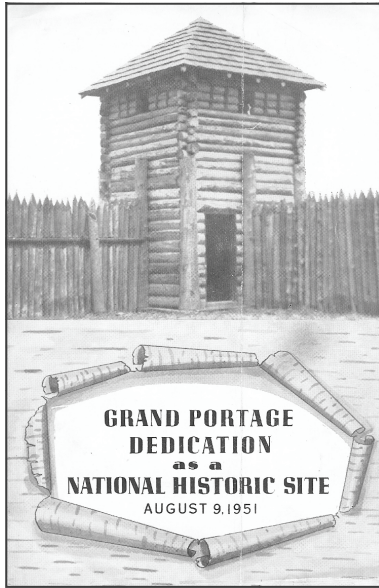
Federal Agencies Join the Effort at Grand Portage

As the Great Depression (1929-1939) intensified, developments at Grand Portage slowed but did not stop. In 1933, the Grand Portage Civilian Conservation Corps-Indian Division (CCC-ID) enrollees, cleared the nearly nine miles of the

(Continued from page 9)

Grand Portage Trail mainly to lessen fire danger. In 1934, in an effort to restore tribal lands lost during the "Allotment Period," Congress passed the Indian Reorganization Act to protect the land base of Indian tribes and to acknowledge tribal governments. Six Bands of Ojibwe came together to form the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and the first elected Grand Portage Reservation government was formed. In 1935, the CCC-ID appropriated \$6,200, for historic reconstructions to be built in the NWC area. To accomplish this, the Band of Grand Portage Ojibwe approached the MHS for help. The MHS emphasized that no construction work should begin until palisade dimensions, building foundations and accompanying artifacts' province could be examined and analyzed by a series of excavations. To this end, an archeological expedition under the direction of MHS museum Curator, Willoughby Babcock and Archeologist, Ralph Brown, with excavation help from a crew of Grand Portage CCC-ID enrollees began in the summer of 1936. The project provided badly needed paying jobs to Grand Portage residents during the Great Depression and allowed for the first in-depth look at the remains of the NWC depot area.

The excavation exposed three white cedar pickets from the original stockade fence line, the 3.5 acre outline of the stockade, and foundations for various buildings inside the stockade walls. Also found were wooden pieces with the original Spanish brown paint. The project progressed and from 1938-1940, the MHS provided supervision to reconstruct the stockade around the de-



1951 Grand Portage National Historic Site Dedication Cover

pot, and to rebuild the Great Hall. George Morrison, an enrollee in the CCC-ID camp at Grand Portage, remembered the extreme attention paid to details like carving wooden pegs rather than nails to hold the stockade together.

Morrison said, "We whittled dowels down, then put points on them like a nail. The local blacksmith made the metal hinges for the doors and things." Other efforts to invigorate the economy and development at Grand Portage included Works Progress Administration Indian crafts projects (some are now on display in the Heritage Center) and various interpretive displays. A restaurant was included in the Great Hall rebuild and was operated by the Grand Portage Band.

During World War II (1939-1945) the site was largely unattended, as ninety-eight percent of eligible Grand Portage enrollees enlisted in their country's armed services in support of war efforts. The first NWC reconstructions had little funding and care through the war years. Like all Americans at that critical time in our history, Grand Portage residents had more important priorities.

In the years immediately after WWII, interest in Grand Portage was reinvigorated when Duluth and Canadian Boy Scouts assisted by Grand Portage Ojibwe, painstakingly cleared the Grand Portage Trail. The NWC area, however, remained in a serious state of disrepair, as no significant maintenance of the site had occurred since 1940.

Grand Portage National Historic Site Becomes Grand Portage National Monument



John Flatte, Chief of Grand Portage Band speaking and his father Mike Flatte at the 1951 Dedication ceremony.

On June 9, 1950, the Grand Portage Band invited National Park Service (NPS) representatives to a tribal executive committee meeting to discuss acquiring National Historic Site status for Grand Portage. Two representatives, Regional Historian Merrill Mattes and Landscape Architect George Ingalls were sent from the Region II office in Omaha to negotiate with the Grand Portage Tribal Council. The proposed affiliation between Grand Portage and the National Park Service was not an entirely new idea, as Grand Portage had been considered as a possible headquarters setting when Isle Royale National Park, only 22 miles away by water, was established in 1940. Before all was said and done, historian Mattes had typed six different draft agreements. The final agreement provided for National Historic site authorization for lands along Lake Superior, the Grand Portage and Fort Charlotte by the Secretary of the Interior, to be operated by the Grand Portage Band for the benefit of the American people, and to provide a facility for visitors.

Dedication ceremonies for the new Grand Portage National Historic Site (GPNHS) were organized by conservationist Sigurd Olson, and the ceremony was held on August 9, 1951. Incidentally this was the very date in 1842, 109 years earlier, that the Webster-Ashburton Treaty was agreed upon thus creating the Canada-U.S. boundary. The Premier of Ontario and the President of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe spoke about the international importance of Grand Portage; Historian Dr. Grace Lee Nute was the featured speaker. The Grand Portage community provided Native dancing, singing and provided a feast of lake trout, wild rice and blueberry pie.

At the same time as the establishment of the historic site, the Wilderness Society, led by Ernest Oberholtzer and Sigurd Olson as well as Robert Marshall of the federal "Indian Service" sought to create a wilderness area along Pigeon Point and the Suzie Islands. There was a major movement afoot to form wilderness preserves along the international border. The Wilderness Society hoped the NPS would form an anchor of

Federal protection as the USDA Forest Service had in 1938 with the designation of the Superior Primitive Area which has since become the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. The efforts were not immediately successful, but decades later, Grand Portage Band itself would protect this area as a "Preservation" zone.

A memorandum of Agreement between the Secretary of the Interior and the Grand Portage Ojibwe in 1952 pledged the NPS to erect two bronze GPNHS markers at each terminus of the Portage, publish literature for visitors and cooperate with Grand Portage to ensure the site's



Dedication ceremonies at Grand Portage National Historic Site 1951.

preservation within NPS appropriation limits provided annually for GPNHS. National Park Service Director, Conrad Wirth, in a letter to Minnesota Senator Hubert Humphrey, stated that NPS could not effectively administer the site (provide adequate funding, management, etc.) without holding title to the land.

There were numerous and sometimes heated debates within the Reservation Business Committee, the governing body in Grand Portage, on whether to approve the land transfer and relinquish reservation land back to the U.S. Government, a rare occurrence, to say the least. On June 8, 1953 the Grand Portage Tribal Council agreed, due to the limited financial assistance available under the current agreement, that it was desirable to create Grand Portage National Monument by ceding lands to the NPS. How-

(Continued from page 11)

ever, working out the details including maintaining crucial rights for the Grand Portage Band was far from a simple task, and negotiations continued until 1958. The lengthy process was concluded with the passage of Public Law 85-910, which established Grand Portage National Monument essentially as it is today.

Establishment: Management Guidelines

The details of PL 85-910, the enabling legislation for the monument, are quite unusual compared to many parks and contain eleven different sections. Following is a short synopsis: The first three sections of PL 85-910 dealt with the land accessions granted to the NPS by the Grand Portage Band. Section four granted members of the Grand Portage Ojibwe privileges to provide visitor accommodations and services, including guide services which the Secretary of the Interior deems necessary within the monument. The next section gives first preference to employment of members of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe for construction, maintenance or other services for which they are qualified. A paragraph stating the Secretary will encourage members of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe to produce and sell handicraft objects within the monument is contained in section six. The next section states Minnesota Chippewa Tribe members shall not be denied the privilege of traversing the boundaries of the monument for the purpose of logging their land, fishing or boating, accessing their homes or businesses or pursuing their traditional rights to hunt and trap outside monument boundaries. Section eight directs the Secretary to construct and provide docking facilities at the NWC area available for use by the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. Section nine provides for consultation or advisory assistance to the tribe by the monument. The next section provides for use of provisions included in the 1916 NPS Organic Act to administer, protect and develop the monument. The final section ¹² added that if the monument is abandoned by the NPS, for example due to budget constraints, title to the lands relinquished automatically revert



Cultural demonstrator Rose Porter crafts baskets from birchbark while Bertha LaPlante produces decorative necklaces and bracelets using colorful glass beads. Both forms of art and craft use traditional Ojibwe designs and

back to the Grand Portage Band.

Upon establishment of GPNM, the enormous task of restoring the dilapidated NWC area depot lay ahead for the NPS. The Cook County Historical Society donated the Crawford Cabin museum and eight glass cases in the Great Hall containing 258 artifacts in various states of neglect. The CCHS also donated invaluable objects, documents, and photographs to the NPS that supported early interpretive efforts.

As the tumultuous decade of the 1960s began, we had a new president, a growing civil rights movement, a growing interest in the space race, the war in Vietnam was on everyone's mind, and the Beatles would soon become all the rage on the teen music scene. In Grand Portage, the 1960s would prove to be a time of growth as well as one major setback for the new national monument:

1960 –

Eliot Davis became Grand Portage National Monument's first superintendent. He came to Grand Portage from a park ranger position at Yellowstone National Park.

1961 –

MHS Archeologist Alan Woolworth began excavations in the area east of Grand Portage Creek near the monument picnic area; the goal

was to find a site free of cultural remnants which could be used for the construction of an interpretive center. Discovery of sensitive archeological objects precluded disturbance.

1963 –

The Mount Rose Trail was reconstructed, the roof of the Great Hall was replaced, and landscaping was restored to an old parking area inside the depot.

Prior to replacement of the stockade walls, Alan Woolworth and Ojibwe crews conducted exploratory excavations around its perimeter. In the fall, a log structure northwest of the stockade was found. It was completely excavated the following year and artifact assemblages implied it had been a warehouse.

1964 –

The first detailed NPS document to guide interpretation to visitors called for more research before better developed interpretive programs could be established. Significantly, NPS officials endorsed the need for further archeological research in the North West Company and Fort Charlotte areas and recommended that lands still not federally titled be transferred into the monument so the research could progress without interruptions. The prospectus also proposed implementation of planning for a jointly administered headquarters and visitor facility and well-written and attractive publications covering the many facets of the Grand Portage story.



The Ranger Station was used for many purposes from 1970 : a bookstore and film room, the cultural demonstration area, visitor information services and offices. It was demolished in the Fall of 2007.



On July 15, 1969 the reconstructed Great Hall from 1938 is consumed by a lightning caused fire.

1966 –

A two-year project to replace the old stockade walls was completed. Pickets had rotted at their bases and fallen over in several parts of the stockade due to poor drainage. MHS archeological excavations resulted in a rebuilt and more accurate gatehouse at the Grand Portage Trail entrance into the stockade.

Regular guided tours around the stockade began and Eastern National became a partner for book sales and support services at the monument.

Ojibwe cultural demonstrators displayed craft-work in a long birch bark wigwam near the Great Hall and sold items to the public.

Grand Portage resident Mary Jane Hendrickson managed the coffee shop in the old Great Hall. A former park ranger employed at GPNM in the 1960s has said, “The restaurant had the best homemade blueberry pie available on the north shore.”

1968 –

AIM (American Indian Movement) was founded in Minneapolis, MN. The movement advocated Native Americans’ interests, inspired cultural renewal, monitored police activities and coordinated employment programs in cities and in rural reservation communities across the United States.

(Continued from page 13)

1969 –

On July 15, 1969 a bolt of lightning struck the Great Hall. Within two hours, the 1938 Great Hall was consumed by fire; only two forlorn chimneys surrounded by charred timbers remained. Local residents and NPS personnel saved the gatehouse and stockade closest to the Great Hall by dousing them with water from fire hoses, several flags were saved near the Great Hall entrance but the main feature of the monument was completely gone and treasured cultural artifacts were lost forever. An investigation



Great Hall construction crew 1971 (L to R): Norman Deschampe, Sr., Ernest Spry, Gordon LeGarde, Fred “Bud” Haylock, Raymond Duhaime, Theodore Kozlowski, Skipper Roberson, Herman Hendrickson, Kenneth Sherer, Larry Dahl, Steven Hunter, Anthony LeSage, Roger Deschampe

concluded that the fire was caused by lightning and it had started inside the structure.

The loss of the Great Hall left a void in the monument’s ability to provide visitor services. There was an immediate and pressing need for some level of facilities. Regional maintenance chief J. L. Dunning recommended moving a vacant building (which ultimately became the monument’s small ranger station) owned by the state, from Mount Maude to the monument to be used as a temporary café/craft shop. A garage was brought in the northeast corner of the stockade for a visitor contact station while arrangements and funding were arranged for rebuilding the Great Hall.

The 1970’s was a time of change in the U.S. in-



Second reconstructed Great Hall goes up in 1971.

cluding: The ending of U.S. involvement in Vietnam; AIM continued its activism; The Feminist Movement; an oil crisis leading to gas shortages and long lines at the pumps; economic recession; the Watergate political scandal; Disco music; mood rings; the “Brady Bunch” and “All in the Family” on television and “The Godfather”, “Jaws” and “Star Wars” in the movie theaters. The 1970s would also prove to be a renaissance for the monument:

1970-

The reconstructed Great Hall, built in 1938, was somewhat hastily completed in order to meet funding deadlines of the CCC initiative raising concerns about the accuracy of this first reconstruction. Archeologist Alan Woolworth returned and conducted excavations of the site. The crew conducted a more in-depth excavation of the site of the Great Hall and its perimeter. Evidence was found for a porch on the Great Hall; and to its rear, a kitchen building foundation in and around which was found high numbers of domestic artifacts. The latest excavation, along with a historic structures report, provided much needed information to provide a higher level of historic accuracy in any new constructions.

1971 –

Reconstruction of the Great Hall began with timbers locally cut from the Grand Portage Reservation and Grand Portage Ojibwe carpenters doing the work. Superintendent Richard Tou-

sley (1969-1971) said, "The crew accepted a tremendous challenge and took quiet pride in its work. The building is a monument to the crew's skill and dedication."

1972 -

The Grand Portage "Rendezvous Days" celebration continued to grow from its beginnings back in 1962. Ojibwe danced in full regalia around their drum in front of the Great Hall. A small group of history enthusiasts reenacted the life of voyageurs as well.

Beginning of a major underwater archeology survey (that would yield thousands of important artifacts from pre-history through the fur trade era and beyond) on the Pigeon River at Fort Charlotte.

1973 -

Reconstruction of the Canoe Warehouse found during the 1963 excavation, was completed. Eventually, large birch bark canoes built by Bill Hafeman were added.

1975 -

Federal Indian policy changed dramatically leading to the passage of Public Law 93-638, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975. It made it possible for Tribes to take over federal programs that serve or benefit the tribes themselves and for providing funding for such efforts.

Reconstruction of the Kitchen found during the 1970 excavation was completed.

The café in the old Mount Maude building was closed in 1975 with the opening of the Radisson Inn nearby (renamed Grand Portage Lodge and Casino in 1990). The Mount Maude building was converted to a temporary visitor center with informative films and an Eastern National sales outlet.

1976 -

Youth Conservation Corps crews cleaned Grand Portage Creek, landscaped the stockade, built trail bridges, cleared trails and improved

the campground at Fort Charlotte.

1977 -

The newly constructed buildings were furnished as funding allowed, to reflect the 18th century time period and seasonal park rangers began using them, along with clothing and furs in interpreting the compelling stories of Grand Portage.

Grand Portage National Monument was nomi-



Inside the stockade since 1931 and used as a museum, maintenance shop, and cultural demonstrators area, the Crawford Cabin is moved to Mineral Center's Trail Center.

nated to the National Register of Historic Places. The nomination was accepted to be listed in September of 1977.

As the 1970s rolled on into the 1980s, the Grand Portage community and monument staff could reflect with pride on the reconstruction of the Great Hall and additional constructions resulting in a much improved venue for visitors; certainly worthy achievements. Even still, the monument lacked a visitor center and the monument's management team was headquartered 37 miles away in Grand Marais, not an ideal situation for staff or the Grand Portage Band as this partnership continued to evolve.

The 1990s was a time of growth in the community as the Grand Portage Band, already operating the Grand Portage Lodge (formerly the Radisson), built a casino on the property. The casino operation provided economic opportuni-

(Continued from page 15)

ties, and the Band used the casino profits to invest in its infrastructure by building a new community center, school, and health clinic. At the monument new interpretive venues were added.

1981 –

A new planning document (Interpretive Prospectus), classified Grand Portage as a “developing park.” This document included, as had been done before, a recommendation for the construction of a visitor center. The new facility was envisioned to house a visitor information area, an interpreters’ office, a library and a multi-purpose room. Additionally a museum storage area capable of protecting all artifacts discovered going back to the 1936 excavations was included in the proposal, as was an Ojibwe Cultural Demonstration area.

1985 –



Good bread comes out of the wood fired Quebec oven behind the kitchen.

A usable historic oven, called a Quebec oven from its region of origin, was reconstructed in 1985. A succession of Quebec ovens would be used from this time to today.

1986 –

In 1986 the Crawford Cabin was removed from inside the stockade and relocated to Mineral Center to become a center for Grand Portage’s



Historic gardener attending to the needs of the kitchen gardens.

cross country skiing and snowmobiling winter activities.

1989 –

An historic garden program was begun; an historic gardener interpreter position was created for the gardens in 1994. The program preserves heirloom seeds from the colonial era and advocates organic gardening practices.

1990 –

In 1990 historic weapons demonstrations began in a voyageur encampment overlooking the lake. Interpreters fired historically accurate trade guns and talked about the popularity of this firearm during the fur trade era. The programs were very popular with visitors and remain so today.

1992 –

During 1992, an Ojibwe Village was planned adjacent to the canoe warehouse with a summer wigwam built first. The village has expanded to include numerous structures which interpret the historic cycle of the seasons for Ojibwe people.

As the 20th century drew to a close, the decades-old partnership between the National Park Service and Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, while much improved, had seen its share of “growing pains” and the community was still waiting for long-ago pledges of more jobs and a visitor center to be fulfilled. In 1996,

the Grand Portage Band made a request to the NPS to propose operating portions of the park through an Indian Self Governance Act agreement. Negotiations slowed when there was much legal wrangling on definitions and per-



Grand Portage Headstart kids parch wild rice in the Ojibwe Village.

formance measures.

In 1998, tribal chairman, Norman Deschampe, and monument superintendent, Tim Cochrane, set out on a determined course to further the partnership under the “Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975.” Subsequent amendments had expanded the scope of this legislation to some work within the national parks. The tribal chairman, along with other tribal leaders, thought a self-governance agreement might work at Grand Portage. In a recent interview, Deschampe recalled, “Here’s a monument located right within the boundaries of a reservation: the two are intertwined. We thought maybe we could play a larger role here, co-manage the park. We saw it as a positive opportunity to provide local em-

ployment, which was part of the intent of the original legislation.”

To this end, using the Tribal Self-Governance Act, tribal chairman Deschampe and superintendent Cochrane shepherded the discussions between the Department of the Interior and the Grand Portage tribal government to initiate the first “Annual Funding Agreement” in 1999. There were many “twists and turns” to the negotiations for making the Band a full partner in operating the park, as this agreement was the first of its kind for both entities. It was a successful endeavor and the Grand Portage Band now has responsibility for all park maintenance duties, for which it receives one-quarter of the park’s annual budget. Ten of eleven maintenance employees are now employees of the Band. Through the Annual Funding Agreement, the monument and Band have become more than just partners; the Band is a co-manager of the park. This agreement was a vital stepping-stone toward future cooperative efforts; perhaps the largest of which lay just around the corner in the new century.


From the monument’s creation in 1958, there had been several attempts to fulfill the pledge of

a visitor center at Grand Portage.

There were successes in securing planning monies for the project over the years, but no building ever materialized from those efforts, frustrating monument staff and community members alike. But with the “Annual

Grand Portage National Monument

Heritage Center



Grand Opening & Dedication

3:30 p.m.
August 10, 2007

Grand Portage, Minnesota

Grand Opening Cover

(Continued from page 17)

Funding Agreement” in place, the tribal government felt invested enough in the monument to advocate very strongly to the federal government for full funding for a heritage center. The Band had held up its end of the bargain in donating the land. A general management plan/environmental impact statement had been completed, laying out the preferred plan for just such a project. It was time! NPS officials agreed it was time to build at Grand Portage, with some urging from Congressman James Oberstar, (D-MN).

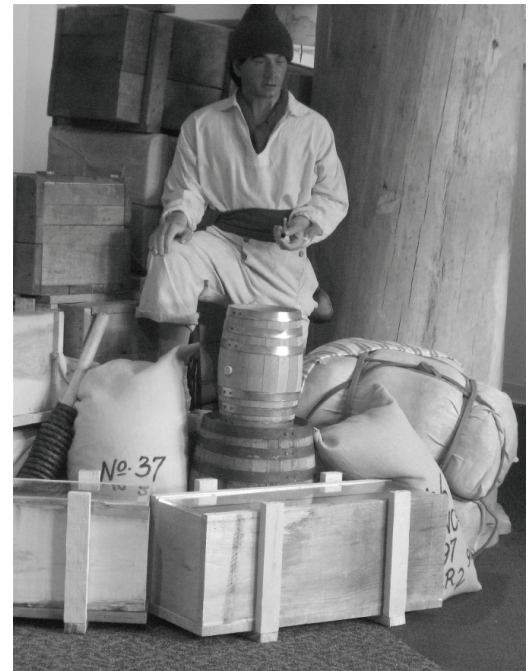
Groundbreaking for the long awaited Grand Portage National Monument Heritage Center began in the fall of 2006. Finally, the visitor center, promised for so many years, had come to Grand Portage. Grand opening ceremonies took place during Rendezvous Days and Powwow August 2007. It was a genuinely congenial affair attended by a host of community members, monument staff, re-enactors, the NPS Midwest regional director, Ernie Quintana, and even Congressman Oberstar himself. After the festivities came the long-awaited moving day for monument headquarters staff. For the first time in monument history, the superintendent and his staff moved to Grand Portage, leaving the Coast Guard building in Grand Marais, used as headquarters since 1987.

Through the years, many superintendents, his-



A birchbark canoe undergoing steaming of the bark and initial shaping of the bottom on the upper building bed in the Ojibwe Village.

torians, and maintenance foremen have said, that the coming of a visitor center would open a whole new chapter for the monument. It would be “reborn” becoming an integral part of the community of Grand Portage.



Part of the life sized diorama in the Heritage Center, a voyageur guards valuable trade goods at a pose (resting place) along the Grand Portage .

And it has begun. The view from the building is stunning. Its architecture echoes the strong connections of Ojibwe and French-Canadian cultures so constant in the monument’s history. State of the art exhibits and video highlight the story and people of Grand Portage. The Great Hall is being returned to its more historically accurate character, as modern intrusions such as the bookstore and film room are moved to the HC. Even the historic Grand Portage Trail is being reconnected to the back gate of the depot now that the old parking lot has been removed. It’s an amazing time in the monument’s history: the completion of the heritage center brings full circle all that had been hoped for and pledged all those years ago.

In reading this article, one can easily get a sense of the struggles, successes, and contributions of this community and the agencies who’ve worked to be a part of preserving this amazing resource. Through it all there has been one enduring constant - the Grand Portage people. Grand Portage people, along with others, have worked hard at preserving this history. A few of their contributions include the initial “saving” of the old portage footpath in 1922, to the many crewmen who maintained historic structures, to



Cecelia Hendrickson beading in 1972 in the ranger station when it was being used for the cultural demonstration area.

the groundbreaking for the Heritage Center by the Grand Portage construction crew in 2006.

During a recent meeting of monument staff to talk about celebrating the first fifty years of the monument, current maintenance foreman, Melvin “Bun” Gagnon asked us all to look forward to the next fifty years, and to the amazing progress we will witness as Grand Portage people take continued ownership in *their* national monument; unique in the system of national parks, a monument on their homeland that they have helped create and maintain. *As you visit the site today, among the first to experience our brand new heritage center, you too have become part of the story here at Grand Portage....be sure to sign our guest book to become part of the historic record. Enjoy your visit!!*

What we see and enjoy today is the product of many people’s labors. We’d like to acknowledge a few of those who have guided developments at the Monument through time: the superintendents, maintenance foremen, and tribal chairmen. All of our maintenance foremen have been Grand Portage community members.

The Monument has worked with the Grand

Portage tribal government throughout its existence. The Grand Portage Band is one of six “bands” which make-up the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. Leaders of the Grand Portage Band have been instrumental in the creation of the Monument, working on projects of mutual interest, and insuring tribal interests are considered in park management. The tribal chairmen who have led the tribal government during the creation of the Monument and to the present are: John Flatte, Paul Cyrette, William (Bucko) Bushman, Paul LeGarde, James Hendrickson, and Norman Deschampe Jr.

GPNM Superintendents

Eliot Davis	1960-1965
Raymond Nelson	1965-1966
William Bromberg	1966-1969
Richard Tousley	1969-1971
Sherman Perry	1971-1975
Ivan Miller	1976-1980
Anthony Anderson	1981-1986
Dean Einwalter	1987-1998
Timothy Cochrane	1997-Present

GPNM Maintenance Foremen

Peter Gagnon	1960-1963
Elmer Spry	1963-1966
Gordon LeGarde	1966-1972
Herman Hendrickson	1972-1984
Melvin “Bun” Gagnon	1984-1989
Mickey Spry	1990-1994
Lester Day	1995-1997
Paul “Duane” Spry	1997-1999
Melvin “Bun” Gagnon	1999-Present



GPNM maintenance staff proudly wear this shoulder patch.

Gateway to the Northwest

Chief Resources Management Dave Cooper

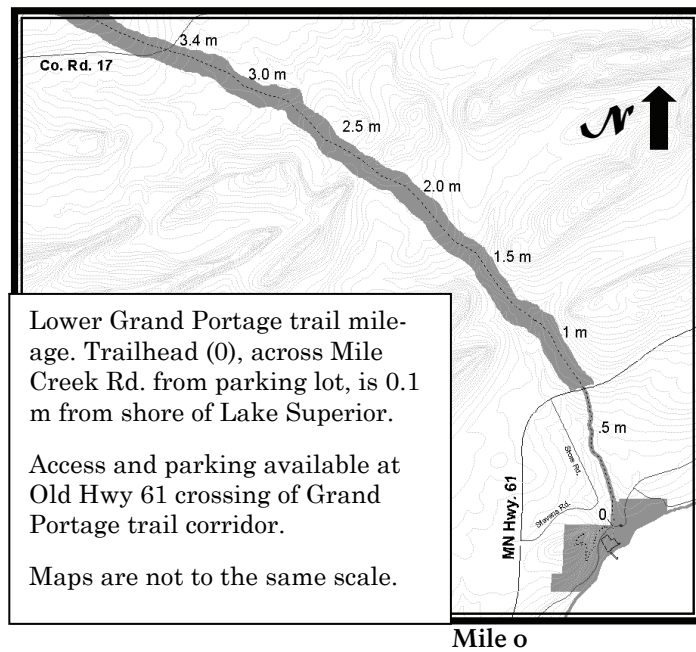
Visitors to Grand Portage National Monument in 2008 will get to see history in the making, and perhaps one would say, in the “unmaking.” For about 40 years, visitors parked their vehicles and entered the North West Company depot (the “stockade”) through the north gate (the location of the reconstructed gatehouse). With the opening of the new Grand Portage Heritage Center in 2007, visitors now park their vehicles offsite and enter the grounds from the west.

The removal of the former north gate parking lot will afford the visitor a less-cluttered, quiet, and more historic landscape around the depot. And, it will allow visitors something they haven’t been able to do for over two centuries: that is, to walk out the north gate in the path of the voyageurs, through the site of the old “Northmen’s camp” and hike up a restored segment of the Grand Portage on their way to the great Northwest.

Even if you only go as far as the nearby road you will have walked in the footsteps of historical figures such as John Tanner, David Thompson, Alexander Mackenzie, William McGillivray, and thousands of Ojibwe, Cree, and heavily-laden Canadian voyageurs as they began their long trek into the interior. Perhaps you’ll be enticed by the sight of the trail disappearing into the pines across the road to follow the portage on toward such voyageur landmarks as the Parting Trees, the Fountain, the Meadow, and on to Fort Charlotte, 8 ½ miles away. Huzzay!

So how do you see “history in the making?” After heavy equipment “unmakes” the parking lot by removing asphalt and gravel fill, National Park Service archeologists, helped by many volunteers, will begin excavations in the area of the old “Northmen’s camp,” carefully uncovering the history of this site layer by layer. Excavations will take place during July 2008, and visitors will have an opportunity to watch the “digs,” discuss findings with the archeologists, and perhaps even volunteer to help excavate.

What might we find? Archeologists working in this area in the 1960s discovered the foundation of what



There was probably no single trailhead for all the traders spread along Grand Portage Bay. The most direct route from the Grand Portage possibly ran to the lake on the east side of the stream.

0 to 0.5 m

During the 1930s and 1940s, several Village structures were relocated from the lakeshore area of the Monument to sites farther inland. This first section of the Grand Portage passes through the heart of the modern Anishinabe community.

0.5 to 1.0 m

A Rough Guide to the Grand Portage

The Grand Portage crosses through time, and across MN Hwy 61, along this stretch. Trader journals mention the “parting trees” near this area, where they entered the woods and lost sight of Grand Portage, the Bay and Lake Superior. It is still where you enter the woods of the voyageurs.

1.5 m

A gap in the steep highlands was an important landscape feature that determined the location of a suitable portage. It developed along a geological fault zone, where erosional forces could remove materials more easily than from the surrounding ridges.

1.5-2.5 m

This section of the Grand Portage has short steep slopes where the trail passes through two smaller gaps and stream drainages.

3.0 m

A footbridge carries the trail across Poplar Creek. Analysis of surveys from the 1820s and recent field research provide evidence that today's trail is closely aligned with the historic Grand Portage at this point.

3-4 m

Registration boxes at the trailheads on both sides of Old Hwy 61 make it easy for hikers to check in or leave comments, whether headed to Ft. Charlotte or Lake Superior.

is thought to be an early British structure, possibly a small trading house or warehouse that predated the 1780s North West Company depot. Cedar flooring, dishware fragments, beads, shoe buckles, buttons, and smoking pipe fragments were all left behind by the site's previous inhabitants, providing clues about their everyday lives. Excavations also produced a stone arrowhead (now exhibited at the Grand Portage Heritage Center), telling us of the use of this area by Native Americans many centuries ago. And there is always the possibility that early French traders from the 1730s to 1750s built a trading house in this area that was later taken over by the British.



Trenches outline upper stockade in NWC area. Old “Northmen’s camp” in areas of high shrubs at the upper left. White Crawford Cabin is located near the bridge across Grand Portage Creek . MHS Ralph Brown 1936

When the archeologists are finished, the old “Northmen’s camp” will be restored as a grassy opening, with a portage trail leading out the north gate and linking up with the main Grand Portage trail. The newly restored space will provide a site for interpretation, special events (like Rendezvous), arriving and departing canoe and hiker groups, and will provide a vegetated buffer to protect the nearby banks of Grand Portage Creek from erosion. New archeological findings, including former structures,

may also be interpreted in this area for visitors.

To set your boots on the portage and see “history in the making” just head out the north gate and visit us at the “dig”!

3.4 to 4.5 m

A few large red pine are scattered among the aspen-birch-spruce-fir forest as the Grand Portage gradually ascends a ridge. A historic pose (rest spot) may have been located along this grade.

4.5 to 5.5 m

Distant highlands can be glimpsed through the trees as the trail passes along the crest of a ridge. Large white pine are found amid ancient white cedars, which were well grown trees even when the voyageurs passed here.

6.0 m

The 1820s surveys indicate the Grand Portage cut through a dry “beaver meadow,” instead of the pond-wetland complex found today. Beavers were driven nearly to extinction by the fur trade, but today a 1/8th-mile-long footbridge tops an actively maintained dam, and passes within a few feet of the resident beaver's lodge.

6.5 to 7.0 m

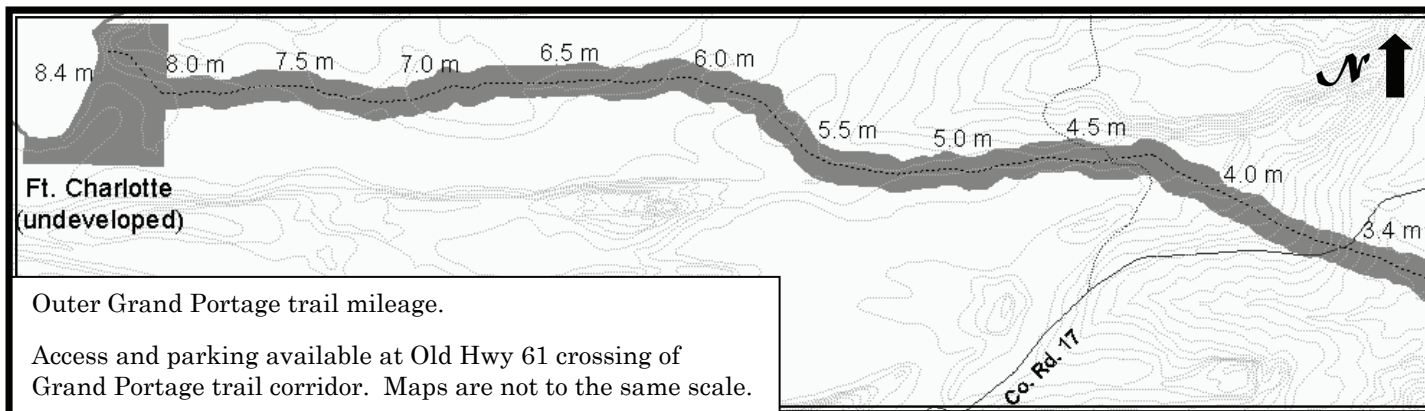
The outer portage is shielded from the moderating effect of Lake Superior by the ridges and highlands it passes through. As a result, both daily and seasonal temperatures are more extreme than along the eastern sections of trail. It can be 25-30°F warmer near Ft. Charlotte than on the lakeshore during the summer.

7.0 to 8.0 m

The distance from roads and other sources of disturbance makes evidence of wildlife more abundant along the outer portage corridor. Watch for moose and bear, and listen for wolves.

8.4 m

Canoeists still use the Pigeon River and the Grand Portage to complete journeys from the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Two group sites and a latrine are provided for overnight campers.



AREA INFORMATION:

There are a few places nearby to purchase light meals, snacks, gas, and other necessities.

The food and lodging information provided here is for the convenience of our visitors, and is not an endorsement by the National Park Service.

SERVICES:

Grand Portage Trading Post, & Rendezvous Grill, Post Office & SPUR Gas – Drive about 1/2 mile west (a right hand turn out of Heritage Center parking lot) on Mile Creek Road. The Trading Post, Post Office and SPUR gas station are on the right between Mile Creek Road and Highway 61. **Phone: 218-475-2282**

Grand Portage Lodge/Gift Shop/ Island View Dining Room – Drive about 1/2 mile west on Mile Creek Road. The Grand Portage Lodge 100-room facility is on the left at the stop sign. **Phone: 218-475-2401**

Ryden's Border Store, Cafe Hotel & Phillips 66 Gas – Located 3 miles north of Grand Portage National Monument on Highway 61. At any junction to Highway 61 in Grand Portage, turn right (east) on Highway 61. Follow Highway 61 to Ryden's on your left. **Phone: 218-475-2330**

Voyageurs Marina – Located about 1½ miles from the monument. Follow Mile Creek Road east over stone bridge. Follow County Road 17 to your left, up over the hill and past the church and school. Continue to follow County Road 17 1½ miles, to the east side of the bay. The marina will be on your right. Under new management. **Phone 218-475-2476.**

CAMPGROUNDS:

Grand Portage Marina & Campground – Marina Rd. (adjacent to Grand Portage Lodge & Casino), Grand Portage, MN, 55605. **Phone 218-475-2476**

Judge Magney State Park – 4051 E Hwy 61, Grand Marais, MN, 55604. **Phone: 218-387-3039**

Grand Marais Recreation Area – Highway 61, Grand Marais, MN, 55604. **Phone: 218-387-1712**

LOCAL STATE PARKS:

Grand Portage State Park – 9393 E Hwy 61, 5 miles east of Grand Portage. Offers a scenic trail to the spectacular Pigeon Falls. The park has a visitor contact station and sales area. There are no camping facilities. **Phone: 218-475-2360**

Judge C.R. Magney State Park – 4051 E Hwy 61, 14 miles west of Grand Portage. Offers trout fishing and white-water kayaking on the Brule River. There are 6 miles of summer hiking trails and 5 miles of winter ski trails. A well-maintained trail winds along the river to the Upper and Lower Falls and the Devil's Kettle, a large pothole into which half of the river disappears. **Phone: 218-387-3039**

Cascade River State Park – 3481 W Hwy 61, 45 miles west of Grand Portage. Offers spectacular waterfalls along the Cascade River. There are also scenic overlooks of Lake Superior. There are 18 miles of trails through a birch and spruce forest. The park has a 40-site campground, picnic facilities, and plenty of lake and river fishing. **Phone: 218-387-3053**

Need Special Assistance?


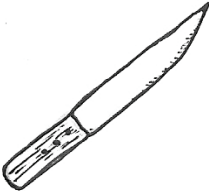
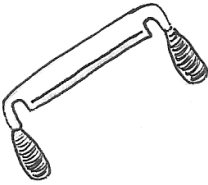

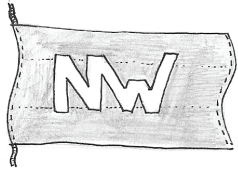



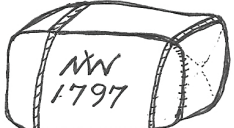
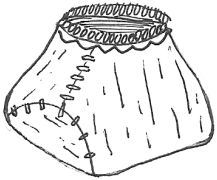
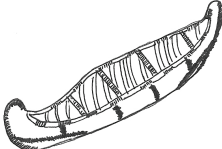





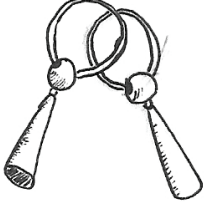
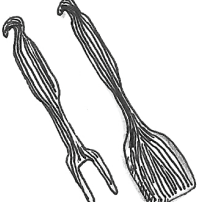


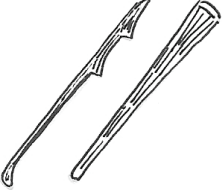
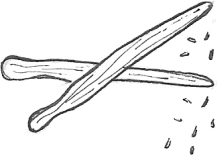

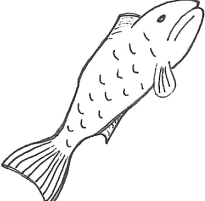
For help or questions concerning accessibility at the park, please contact any park ranger, or Accessibility Coordinator, Ranger Jon Sage.

218-475- 0123 Voice/TDD

jon_sage@nps.gov

Kids Page: Fur Trade Bingo

Circle objects you see in the Heritage Center, Ojibwe Village, Voyageur's Encampment, Warehouse, Kitchen and Great Hall as you tour Grand Portage National Monument. Find five objects in a row—vertically, horizontally or diagonally and you win!

B	I	N	G	O
				
				
				
				
				

A FEW TIPS TO HELP YOU ENJOY YOUR VISIT

Lead Park Ranger Jon Sage

- Wear sturdy footwear when walking on Monument trails. Please stay on the trails. Watch closely for roots and uneven ground to avoid tripping.
 - Do not drink water from streams or lakes unless you first boil or treat it.
 - Never hike alone. Always tell a friend/relative where you are going, and when you plan to return.
 - When hiking in the backcountry during summer months, the use of insect repellent and/or head nets is strongly recommended.
-

REMINDERS AND HELPFUL INFORMATION

- Notify a park employee if you encounter any situation you feel is unsafe.
 - All plants and animals are protected within Monument boundaries. Please help us protect them by not feeding animals or picking plants.
 - Pets and smoking are not permitted inside the palisade walls or inside buildings.
 - Please keep bicycles out of the palisade and secured to the bike rack provided. Do not lock bicycles to sign posts or trees.
 - A picnic area is located east of the palisade across Grand Portage Creek, and may be reached by walking the path between the creek and the palisade and crossing the footbridge.
-

VISITING ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK

For information about ferry service to Isle Royale National Park please ask park staff.

For more information about Grand Portage National Monument, contact:

Superintendent, Grand Portage National Monument

P.O. Box 426, 170 Mile Creek Road, Grand Portage, Minnesota, 55605.

Voice/TDD: 218-475-0123

Visit our website at www.nps.gov/grpo,

or contact us by e-mail at: grpo_interpretation@nps.gov

This document can be obtained in alternate formats.

Please contact the park's accessibility coordinator to make a request.