

1971 ATTAWAPISKAT RIVER

Savant Lake, Savant River, Miniss Lake, Lake St. Joseph, Cat Lake, Baggy Lake, Morris Lake, Williams Lake, Otoskwin Lake, Otoskwin River, Badesdawa Lake, Attawapiskat Lake, Lansdowne House, Attawapiskat Post.

Maps Required: 1:250,000 Series (Provisional Edition of maps of this area showed portages. Current Edition does not.)

Sioux Lookout 52 J
Lake St. Joseph 52 O
Miminiska Lake 52 P
Wunnummin Lake 53 A
Lansdowne House 43 D
Missisa Lake 43 C
Matateto River 43 F
Kapiskau River 43 B

If water level on Attawapiskat were to prove exceptionally low, it might be worthwhile to carry maps for lower part of Albany. Going south from Lansdowne House to Fort Hope.

Fort Hope 42 M
Ogoki 42 N
Ghost River 42 O
Fort Albany 43 A

1:500,000 Series

Pickle Crow - Armstrong 52 N. E.
Wunnummin Lake 53 S. E.
Attawapiskat 43 S. W.
Akimiski Island 43 S. E.

Also can be carried: Map #23 -- District of Thunder Bay. 8 miles to the inch. Not as accurate as above, but shows some portages not on National Series. \$1.00.

Department of Surveys and Engineering
Department of Lands and Forests
Parliament Buildings
Toronto, Ontario

Reoutfitting was done by Koval Brothers (trucking). Second leg supplies were taken on train to Savant Lake, stored in Station, and picked up by Koval to be stored in Koval warehouse at Pickle Lake until mail arrived from camp later. Then trucked to a depot on the narrow strip of land between Badesdawa Lake (called Mud Lake locally) and Collishaw Lake. Depot has a caretaker and is a depot for winter tractor trains. Road from Pickle Lake passes within 100 yards of depot.

Fishing licenses at camp. Canoes had to be shipped 10 days ahead from CN Freight Office in North Bay. With Wabun canoes we had a box car sent out, but otherwise they would have been trucked to Toronto, sent to Winnipeg, and then back to Savant Lake. Train left North Bay 9:18 pm. Arrived Savant Lake about 2:00 EDT (they are on Central Time). To stop train at Chivelston check with new conductor who gets on at Armstrong -- Savant Lake is probably next stop. Stop at Chivelston is at a sign on right of track marked "100 Cars." To get to Chivelston from town a truck can go south on highway, turn to east and parallel tracks roughly to a gravel pit where there is supposed to be a trail that crosses tracks to Chivelston, about 1/2 mile. To portage

from town follow track east to a silver switch box just before a cut through a rock area. A trail to left goes to closest bay on Chivelston. In all about 1 1/2 miles. There is a second trail past this also, closer to rock cut that goes same place. Large aircraft at Savant Lake probably at Trapper's Landing about 2-4 miles south of town. Small aircraft can land on a small pond just south of railroad station -- about 300 yards. Store is reasonably well stocked.

Chivelston to Savant Lake --

Campsite on Chivelston on shore between tracks and trail to town on a rock point with grass tent sites behind.

Leaving Chivelston paddle north. Campsite on north point of peninsula not quite to top of lake -- used by Lands and Forests when we were there

Indian cabin on left just before top of lake still there.

Portage on right just before end of lake goes to Harris. Several starts to trail -- all pretty good and all end up same place -- about 1/2 mile. Pretty good walker. Lunch site at least at far end.

Portage from Harris to Harold -- follow right shore toward top of lake. Trail about 400 yards from end of bay and just before a hill that would not be very much fun to go over. Trail poorly cleared and needs some cutting. About 500 yards. Poor lunch site on high land to left of foot of trail in very old Indian site. Water very shallow at end.

Harold is partially drowned. Campsite on Harold about 500 yards before end of bay to Savant portage on right on bald rock.

Portage to Savant on left of tip of bay at north east of Harold bay. Grassy landing. Trail soon leads into a well cleared, wide portagewith very little wet. One small climb near end. About a mile. Good walker. Puts into shallow, grassy bay.

Campsite on Savant on right at tip of point just as lake opens up. Not very good; tent sites very crowded.

South end of Savant to Top of Savant --

Tower at narrows on left side with houses facing south.

Fishing camp in deep bay on left side about half way up narrows. Old HBC Post on left at north side of creek entrance where lake starts to narrow. Campsite on south shore of creek opposite HBC Post.

Indian grave on island about 2-3 miles north of HBC Post faces west. Large blazes on trees.

Watch map to avoid a couple blind bays.

Area about 2 miles above Indian grave up to next wide stretch quite good for campsites -- rocky points a good many of which have been used.

Our campsite on east side of large island just above in an old mining camp -- pretty good, although swimming is shallow.

Top of Savant to 5 Miles before Falls on Savant River -- (just past last marked rapid)

4 miles north of campsite Indian graves (2) on island before fast water starts. Pretty old and poorly marked.

Just past some little tiny horseraces -- stay left at foot of series to avoid bay that cuts back to south and looks like attractive country.

1 mile north, rapid on bend to left. Look over from left shore,

run is pretty much down center, starting slightly left of center, right of center after turn. Fairly easy, but not a good break in rapid because of turn.

Couple small horseraces to Jabez. Follow right shore around corner of Jabez. River starts again at foot of bay. Portage trail in a back bay with entrance to right of main river. Rapid is another 50 yards ahead. Has a line of rock across top and too steep and rocky at foot. Portage at foot of side bay near a side creek that parallels main river. 60 yards, good walker. No campsites or lunch sites. (If lunch site is wanted, territory just down river is very good.)

Small horserace follows.

After paddle north -- 2 marked rapids in a row. 1st run right of center over a ledge on right side of center -- fairly straight, but a good drop with rocks to avoid on right shore. Look over on right. 2nd run tight to left shore -- straight run, but top is shallow and hard to get into run. Best seen on left side.

A few more horseraces and riffles. Territory very good looking for campsites.

River turns sharply south, and a good horserace at turn, run to right of center.

Rapid below has a portage of 60 yards on right -- old ill-used trail on left. Look over from left. Run to left of center for first 25 yards and then center and in shallows at foot right of center and back to center.

Wide part of river follows with good campsite straight ahead in stand of jackpine.

5 Miles before Falls to McCrea Lake --

Portage at falls starts just left of falls after running some swifts to get to it. Portage 50 yards, good trail. Takes out on a grassy landing and loading on rocks. Pike and walleye at foot of falls. Could be used for a campground, but rather poor.

Portage to avoid long paddle at northern end of bay -- 50 yards, excellent trail. Excellent campsite at top.

Couple horseraces to first rapid; 2nd of these has a ledge in it. First rapid wide and shallow with rock dodging all the way. Ledge at bottom almost all across river. Only opening on right shore, right next to shore. So run stayed to right shore after starting right of center. Very hard to look over from right shore with swamp, side streams, and cedar banks.

Second rapid starts with a left hand run over a little ledge.

Then a calm and a straight run in center of V at real rapid.

Third rapid -- river splits at a small island. Right side too rocky and steep. Run on left is straight down middle plowing through major swells -- will take water! There is a very short portage if wanted across spit of land to left of rapid.

Fourth run left of center. Has good power.

Poor looking site on right just past last rapid.

Site on island toward top of McCrea might be ok in clear weather. Very small and tent poles and dry wood would have to be drawn from mainland.

Our campsite on rock about 1/2 mile before portage on left at an Indian winter site with old tent still standing. Small and dirty, but not really bad -- would be good if cleaned up.

McCrea to Medcalf --

Portage to Pashkokogan at tip of bay after entering a small,

narrow stream for about 25 yards. Landing on left, past wet areas. trail wide enough for a tractor, leads to current tractor road after about 30 yards. 600 yards, excellent walker with corduroy at all wet spots. Cut to water when tractor road turns left 90° -- obvious.

Ice house on point just to left of landing with dock facing landing.

Portage out of Pashkokogan about 150 yards short of end of bay on left in a poplar grove, fairly bushy landing. Good walker, but only a trail with alder and poplar closing in on it. Goes up a hill to highway. After crossing highway, goes down a steeper hill -- 600 yards. Good walker. Trail across highway a little hard to find, but trail crosses highway at same angle as it entered.

Campsite on point between pond and Metcalf on north side of point on rock shore. Small, but ok. Good swimming.

Medcalf to Miniss Lake --

Portage out of Medcalf on left shore in bay past island campsite -- which we did not look over at all -- portage at south west corner of bay takes off at a grassy landing. Goes up over a pretty good hill. Plateau at top is only about 15 yards long. 1/2 mile. Good walker. Should come out in a quaking bog, but Indian has a log walk across it.

Portage to head of Miniss leaves left bay at foot of small water. Trail starts through a grassy landing -- poorly marked. About 50 yards along trail there is a small trail to left that will lead to a log bridge across a beaver creek. If main trail is followed, walk left up stream to bridge and is wet. Otherwise good walker. About 200 yards. Small lunch site in grass at end.

Below narrows 2 campsites on left. One just after narrows, other at foot of narrows.

Cabins on Miniss in bay on left at end of winter road from Medcalf.

Campsite on island a mile or so below -- really 2-3 islands and east end of last one looks quite good.

We camped on mainland opposite next large island near shore. Rocky kitchen area about 10 feet above water. Tents on moss on rocks or in bush behind. Good swimming.

Miniss to Bay of Lake St. Joseph --

2 cabins in bays at top of Miniss Lake.

Miniss Lake and all of Miniss River has rock areas along shore looking like suitable campgrounds -- very attractive area -- best we have seen except maybe north part of Savant Lake.

First rapid out of Miniss Lake carried on right, excellent trail, 100 yards. Rapid too steep and rocky to run.

Campsite on first island in pond below looks excellent.

Portage at rapid below pond on left of rapid, perhaps 50 yards before rapid. Trail not as good as previous one. 75 yards.

Loading at foot poor.

Shortly below rapid starts to right of center, left below some rocks, and runs out on left. Right side of foot is all rock and must be avoided.

Miniss River and wide area that follows quite good looking -- bowl shaped rock on left at foot of wide stretch is unusual.

Rapid at foot of wide stretch carried on left, 60 yards. Good trail. Only loading for 2 canoes.

Rapid below has a good drop. Run starts in center and runs out on left. In center and right there are ledges. After turn in Dawson, rapid at foot of Dawson not as steep as others. Starts in center and runs out right of center. Campsite below where bay comes in from south, on south west corner, looks good -- several other nearby areas. As turn to north is made occasional tree stumps in water, but area still pretty good. Follow left shore to left turn to portage across peninsula. Campsite on rock about half way into bay. Fair, but not very good for tent sites.

Bay of Lake St. Joseph to Johnston Bay --

Portage across peninsula leaves in lower left corner of bay at bushy landing. Trail only used sparingly. 400 yards. Leads to old log cabin with grassy area that could be used as a campground.

To Johnston Bay, go to point of first large island on right and then to round island left of next large island. Take sighting in general direction -- there's one rise slightly higher than rest, head just right of it.

Entrance to bay has dead wood on right and evidence of fire on right shore on way in. Just as bay proper is entered there are 2 sand cliffs on right.

Turn left and ahead is a tall stand of sparse poplar. Stream to Blackstone is just left of it.

We lost trail here for half a day and camped on small island just at entrance to bay in an old Indian site -- pretty good.

Johnston Bay to Roadhouse Lake --

Current fair in cut to Blackstone.

Follow right shore to tip of point and turn north continuing to top of lake -- no water opening to west until top of large island near north end of lake.

Follow island west and turn south inside two islands just off north west corner of island.

Jump across entrance to Cat River to south shore. Here burned land becomes attractive forest.

Old trapper's log cabins at campsite on second point on south shore -- good site with rock landing on point.

River runs almost due west now, some current -- very attractive country. Lots of possible campsites.

Follow right shore at rapids -- there are four different rapid channels through islands. Portage 200 yards on right at foot of rapids. No campsite.

We camped on Roadhouse Lake about 1 mile above portage on small rock point on right after deep bay to right. Excellent site.

Roadhouse Lake to Wesleyan Lake --

Fishing camp on left just before rapids at head of Roadhouse Lake -- fairly large well built sport's house.

Portage on left side of island at rapids. Come up left side of river to foot of rapid, run back down beside rapid and cross current into eddy behind island -- fairly difficult. Portage on good trail about 150 yards. Loading spot very shallow and rocky.

Above portage a couple swifts to paddle -- take right side. On island in pond above, is a trapper's cabin -- Indian, several

years old.

Behind island, portage next rapid on right. Trail is a stream bed at start. 50 yards, puts in on rocks above rapid. Rapid is probably run on opposite side coming down.

Some small swifts above.

Bamaji Lake and North Bamaji are very attractive with lots of rock shores and islands. Camping spots would be easy to come by. Andy's on first part of Bamaji is not very good -- better could easily be found -- on left before main stretch of lake that runs south-west to north-east is reached.

At start of river at end of North Bamaji there is a fishing camp, looks to be run by Slate Falls Airways. Was in distant past an HBC Post. Cabins for sports, a half dozen Indian houses, and a general store that stocks only canned goods, etc. for camping -- like we have in wannigans.

River turns sharp left above bay off lake. First rapid is portaged on island to left of first section of rapids. About 25 yards, very good trail. Could also be lifted over on rocks on right corner of island.

Second rapid just above portaged 25 yards on left. Very wide trail.

We camped on small island just as Wesleyan turns west, not very good. Shallow water in front and no swimming. Tent sites inadequate.

Wesleyan Lake to Fawcett Lake --

Andy's site on Wesleyan has current running by it -- reasonably attractive looking site at narrows between left shore and round island about 1 1/2 - 2 miles before portage out.

Portage is in bay far to west of rapid as though there were two rapids with an island in the middle -- but no water where portage is. Indian has a boat trail and one just to the right of it which is better walking without logs to step over. Good trail. 300 yards. At top there are two walking trails to right and left of boat trail which is wet. One on right probably easier with a canoe. Loading area quite damp and soggy.

Portage above Kezik on left -- 100 yards -- excellent walker.

Campsites at both ends and in middle -- would be pretty good. Right above portage on right channel on right side 25 yards over rock. Might be a campsite, but poor.

Looks like Andy's campsite on left just above second carry.

Looks poor.

Indian shack on right shore shortly after entering Fawcett.

Excellent campsite on north side of large island before exit bay.

One of the best so far with flat rock cooking area right next to water. Campsites easy to come by all through the day.

Fawcett Lake to Kaskego Rapids --

Small narrow water at north end of Fawcett goes through easily on first narrows. On second a tiny lift over on smooth rock was needed -- lifting canoes over loaded. Watch map carefully to follow course.

Crossing of Zionz -- take sighting from north point as lake is entered just north of first island out -- there is a narrow cut in trees on far shore as an aiming point.

Entrance to bay on far shore is hidden quite well until right on top of it.

Course through islands is tricky -- but map is good.

First portage on river is in bay at foot of major rapid -- one swift to paddle up first. On left side. Area is partly burned -- as is top of Zionz leading into portage. Trail well used and good nevertheless until about 3/4 way over. At this point there is a cut to water. Looks as though there is another trail opposite on right shore for a second carry. Easier to keep going on trail on left side another 200 yards past next drop. Last 200 yards is wet and has windfalls and is harder. Good lunch site at top of hill at cut to water. Both ends also possible but no campsites really. 900 yards total. Next portage a good mile above -- some current in river. Indian site on left just before carry. Portage on right 150 yards. Small campgrounds. Good walker.

Exit of first part of Kapikik hidden and narrow.

Follow map up to Kaskego Rapids. Portage on right -- 100 yards. Campsite at top in bush. Good stand of spruce dry wood to right of trail behind old grassy Indian site. Walleye at foot of rapids.

Kaskego Rapids to Cat Lake --

Cat Lake quite attractive -- burn on left shore about 3/4 way up of recent origin.

Campsite at narrows on way up is excellent.

HBC dock is last one toward end of point -- maybe 600 yards from end of point.

Campsite on point -- sand beach area facing toward post best for overall tent sites. Better site on tip of point facing away from post, but not enough tent sites.

Post is quite small -- 215 Indians. From east to west -- HBC, dock for planes and sawmill, church, school, and nurse' office, the Indian houses strung out along top of hill to end of point on west. Mennonite Misson on next island to west almost connected to point on which post is located by a sand bar. Would probably be possible to draw dry wood at campsite, but we brought ours from Kaskego easily and probably had better wood as a result. No real activity at post. Majority of houses really tightly made log cabins, though there are some new ones going up from lumber cut at the post.

Cat Lake to Baggy Lake --

Portage from Cat Lake leaves at small narrows at end of bay -- does not look like water really goes through to pond where it is supposed. Trail is an excellent walker up a very shallow rise and almost half way across, then gets wet and last part is quite wet and puts in on a quaking bog. About 1/2 mile.

Next portage to the right side of the pond. Trail not as wet as previous one, but damp with lots of roots. About 1/4 mile.

Quaking bog at end is longer and worse.

Third portage is supposed to be directly across pond. We found what is probably not the good trail -- the others have been well cut. This one was not and had not been traveled very much. Landing was ok, but loading at other end was terrible and full of windfalls. About 300 yards.

Fourth portage to Baggy Lake to right of island in pond.

Excellent trail, dry and well cut. 200 yards. Lunch site better at upper than lower end. Indian campsites all along the middle of the portage, but none closer to water than 25 - 35

yards -- one at lower end slightly better. We were in by 2:15 without stopping for lunch. No good lunch sites until 4th portage except for start of first one.

Baggy Lake to Maika Lake --

Baggy is extremely shallow so that canoe drags badly for almost all of paddle.

Creek out of Baggy has 3 portages -- not 2 as Andy's information says. 1st is on left, about 100 yards. Pretty good trail.

2nd is fairly soon below on right, 100 yards. Trail not as well cut and narrow and fairly wet. Loading area at foot pretty good, however.

3rd on right -- 60 yards -- poorly cut and wet. Can be let down, however, provided water at top is deep enough to get to narrow cut on right shore.

Maxim is first attractive water since Cat Lake. Rock areas on south shore where Andy had his campsite. Looks to be one on north shore off a sand beach as paddle west is taken.

Creek out of Maxim has a fair number of rocks, so parts have to be taken slowly.

Portage from Otokwin leaves on left just before a rapid that can be seen ahead -- about 50 yards before rapid. 800 yards. 1st part quite good and then gets wet in middle. Pretty good Indian campsite about 50 yards in from water at start. Excellent lunch site on a rock rise just before end. Could be a campsite also. Loading is off a quaking bog, however, although not too wet.

Cross pond to left of island into left corner of far side of pond. Landing is on a very wet bog. Portage can be seen as a cut through the trees and looks a lighter shade of green than the rest of the forest. Trail goes up over a rocky ridge -- 200 yards. Good trail up over hill, not very high. Good Indian site at top of hill.

Next portage parallels a stream -- south of stream out of pond. Landing is just beyond a beaver dam and without breaking dam canoes can be skidded up on bush to right of dam and unloaded. Trail is pretty wet for 3/4 of it. About 700 yards. Foot has an Indian site which is fairly good.

Stream leaving pond twists and turns very badly particularly at first part. Current in creek and only one beaver dam to go across. Takes over an hour to go down.

Campsite on Maika on narrows after wide area on left on a rock landing just past a V-shaped bay on left. There is an Indian log tepee on point just before site. Good kitchen on flat rock and tent sites pretty good. Swimming shallow.

Maika Lake to Portage past Upturnedroot Lake --

Follow right shore of Maika -- Morris channel.

Morris has a good number of rock sites it seems. One on point on north shore about a mile from portage looks excellent.

Portage to avoid upper rapids on Morris River leaves from foot of bay. 900 yards. Excellent walker. Pretty level with a little drop toward end -- does not go over any heights as maybe map would make you believe.

There are four little rapids the rest of the way down. The first is very short and we let down on right of obvious channel next to left shore. A couple rocks in the foot that probably could not have been avoided if run. Could be run if water were a

little higher.

Second is right below and probably Andy called it same rapid. has a channel like 1st and 3rd that looks almost man-made.

Run 1st V in middle and then tight to left shore at 2nd swift. Works best with someone picketed on rocks at 2nd one.

Third just below -- Path is on right shore. Take very slowly in canoes -- at one point we had to hop out on rocks on either side of canoe to pass it through. 3 or 4 cedar overhanging the run and have to duck and let down on them.

Fourth has an island in middle. We let down left side of island.

At foot people picketed to pass canoes down works well.

Portage from Staddon to Buckdeer on left of bay before foot of bay. 200 yards. Good trail. Upper end could be made into a campsite if necessary.

Turn in Buckdeer toward portage to Upturnedroot is shallow.

Portage to Upturnedroot on right of stream just at very top of rapid -- landing for one canoe at real start of trail. 250 yards. Good trail. Excellent campsite at end of trail with good tent sites and kitchen on rocks at end of trail.

Upturnedroot is fair looking lake, but left shore all the way up is broken rock and not very suitable for landing canoes even if a campsite were found. At very top there was a tent pitched near shore about 100 yards before portage, but ground was impossible for tent sites for us.

Portage around rapids starts about 25 yards down stream on left shore at a grassy landing. 400 yards. Reasonable walker, but has a lot of roots. We camped at foot of trail in an impossible spot. Either stop at head of Upturnedroot or plan to go farther.

Upturnedroot to Williams Lake --

Three little shallow swifts after end of portage. 1st run on right side staying left of a rock half way down and then back to right to avoid a rock at the foot. This is another where a channel is cut down the right side as though man-made.

Second is run in same run without stopping and starts on right shore and moves to center staying left of a rock about 5 yards out from right shore.

Third is run on right. All three are quite shallow and just below is a particularly shallow area -- not a rapid -- that is best done on left.

There is an old Indian log-sided tent on left just below -- looks like probably a better campsite than the one we used -- but not great.

Narrows into Dehoux is a swift run on left -- there is a ledge about 1/3 of the way down that is cleared near left shore.

Watch rocks all through. Was run blind which may not be wise. Obabika was pretty attractive with rock on left shore, but may slope more than wished for a campsite.

Obabika Narrows was very shallow and canoes were walked up taking off boots and pants.

Portage to Williams on left of foot of bay -- landing on a tiny sand beach with some grass behind and a good stand of spruce. Lunch site to right of trail could be a campsite easily.

Trail damp, but not really wet, with soft footing most of the way. 1 mile. Pretty flat. Not bad, but not the best either.

Puts in on a grassy loading area.

Top part of Williams has sand beaches on left. Andy's campsite

area on islands just after crescent shaped bay look excellent -- best looking is on last of the islands.

After narrows and turn to south, campsites much harder to find.

We camped on point on right just before turn to west in an Indian side -- quite good for tent sites. Landing is on shelf rock but not enough for kitchen. Swimming is not too good. But probably is not very good anywhere -- lake seems quite shallow.

Williams Lake to Otokwin Lake --

Entrance to Williams River is very narrow and hard to realize it is really river.

Very soon the rapids (?) start. There are about five before Foxhead Lake. Almost all start with some little swift that can be run and then a foot that either runs out, has too many rocks, or is too steep. Banks are almost all cedar swamp making scouting difficult. All five were let down, some doing the canoes no good.

Lunch site on rock area just into Foxhead on right -- pretty good. After Foxhead there are two more rapids. First very shallow and was taken on right getting in and out of canoes on stones. Second was shot to right of swells and run out on left side -- shallow at foot.

Portage at Lynxhead Rapids on right -- not left as Andy's notes say -- About 400 yards, trail damp in spots. Landing about anywhere on right shore desired depending on water level. Trail comes pretty much up to top of pond where river starts. Trail parallels river usually in sight of water and almost always within sound of rapids. About 300 yards down trail there is a blazed tree with a trail to right and one to left. Take left trail -- they don't come together and right trail goes on for a mile before coming back to river well below any rapids at all. Real trail puts in at foot of rapids.

There are two little V's right below and then a free run to Otokwin Lake -- takes about 1/2 hour. Current all the way. At one point there is a bay on right that map does not show. Follow current as indicated by weeds.

Enters Otokwin Lake through a grassy bay.

Straight ahead is campsite on a low rock shore line. There is a cross on shore at campsite and the remains of an old cabin behind. Stand of jack pine has been pretty well skinned for dry wood. Kitchen and tent sites good. Swimming would not be much.

Otokwin Lake to Bow Lake --

Otokwin Lake pretty attractive. Seems to be popular as an Indian meeting place. Old canoe left on next point past campground (seems to be a marker of some sort). Cabin on left point as Long Current Rapids are approached.

Long Current portaged on right; 1 mile. Trail starts well above white water at a small grassy landing. Lots of blazes on trees, but hard to see from water. Trail is fairly wet most of way. Follows river about half way, then goes up over a small hill and walking is a little better. Trail splits at rise and right hand trail is definitely drier.. At end there is a little rise onto a rocky knoll and then down back side. Trail to water here is then very wet for last 25 - 30 yards. There is another trail that goes on for another 200 yards to very foot. Wet trail puts into an eddy at the top of the last run.

Rapid is run left of swells without much trouble. Longer trail puts in on smooth rock to right of this last rapid -- would at least make a superb lunch site. Maybe campsite depending on tent site possibilities.

Froats Lake pretty attractive.

2 small swifts as turn into river is made.

The river flows with current for 6 - 8 miles. Several rocky places for lunch sites and maybe campsites could be cut.

Another very small swift half way down turn to south.

Rest of river does not look good for camping.

Portage to Bow Lake on right about 50 yards before rapids start in a grassy landing. Portage is a very good walker. Very little dampness except toward end. One set of large windfalls about in middle were partially cut through. Puts in on a wet, black muskeg landing.

Campsite on rock island to north east of entrance bay. Faces north or east depending on wind. Tent sites good and excellent kitchen area -- best if wind would let it face north.

Bow Lake to Falls before Badesdawa Lake --

Perhaps a campsite on left on a sand beach about 3/4 mile above last night's island. Other campsites not very obvious -- if any -- except for what looks like an Indian site on right just before lake becomes river.

First rapid looked over on right and run on right.

Second run on left with several rocks to avoid and some eddies into which canoes should not be run.

Third run on left and looked over on left. We walked most and then ran one canoe to an eddy most of the way down and picked up the other four canoes after looking over the foot.

Calm water for a while to the fourth.

Fourth -- run on left shore, left of swells to turn to right and then out a little from shore starting at the turn and outside a large rock on left shore (under water) and run out in the center -- stones in the foot -- life jacket rapid.

Next two pretty much together. We ran top on right to an eddy, took out and carried over a rock ledge on right -- and had lunch. Then ran foot in center and to left of swells on turn below. Rapid ran out badly at foot and we all ran aground. There are a couple islands in the second part and there might be a course left of the islands in higher water. Otherwise some other way has to be found at the foot.

Then a long calm stretch to rapids marked on map. Run on right of center at start, outside of a stone in middle, and then left of a stone at the foot that could not be seen from the top -- foot should have been looked over better.

Another calm stretch with a possible campsite on right at a bend to the north. Had a log dock in front of it. (Andy has it marked several miles farther on which is wrong.)

At narrows in river a rapid Andy did not mark. The easiest run of the group. Run right shore for first 2/3 and then to center and run out left shore. In higher water probably better to stay on right all the way. We ran a canoe to the eddy 2/3 of the way down and picked up the others again.

Falls should be approached cautiously. Landings depend on water level. There are several possible trails. The top two landings which have a relatively new wide trail to follow have very shallow approaches in our water and are very difficult to use.

In low water best to slip down right shore to smooth rock just at start of falls and unload there. Room for only one canoe. Campsite at falls is pretty good. Kitchen on rocks over top of falls -- which are really chutes. Excellent area. Couple tent sites just back in bush on short trail around falls. Others back from water farther on upper side of long trail. Short trail puts in in a bay at the foot of the last chute and paddle must be made out of it. Long trail puts in on rock below all white water. Short trail about 40 yards. Long one about 80 yards. Both easy to walk. Best to check most desirable landings and trails, etc. before starting across.

Falls before Badesdawa to Badesdawa --

River flows pretty placidly to Badesdawa -- nothing interesting to see or watch really.

Last part of river is shallow and canoe drags. Does so a little on Badesdawa also.

Depot for reoutfitting just into bay where portage to Collishaw would go. Large establishment as a storage area for winter tractor trains to northern outposts with caretaker in charge who was very accommodating about keeping our stuff. No campsite near at hand, landing is mostly clay. Highway is just behind the depot. There is a Lands and Forests access campsite on south side of next point below.

We went another half mile south, down lake, and cut out a site in poplar on east side of lake -- not much. Sand beach in front and cooking area just barely off sand as were tent sites, though some back in bush were ok.

Badesdawa to 3rd Lift Over below Ozhuskans Rapids --

After narrows at Badesdawa, lake seems to get deeper and less drag. There was a large Indian fishing camp on left shore in this section about half way down.

Just as river starts highway bridge crosses.

First rapid is only a swift taken down middle just looking at top.

Second and third are also no problem and not much more than 1st.

Ozhuskans has a portage trail on right maybe 150 yards. Would be a good walker except for windfalls which we cut around. Andy ran the rapid in '67 on right to start and then finishing in center. Our water level was too low to run right of the white water as he says he did, but might well be possible in better water.

Rapid he marked just below does not exist.

A mile - two farther on river starts breaking into small falls and ledges between islands. Quite attractive. First drop is carried on left side of island closest to right shore -- 25 yards on rock.

Second is just below. Slip down right shore to rock landing and carry 20 yards on right shore through a couple cedar and put in just below.

Go left of large island ahead and 3rd carry is on left shore -- 20 yards. Campsite is just left of the foot of the carry with kitchen on nice rock area. Tent sites not very good and a lot of windfalls through the camping area. Quite attractive, however, with respect to the view.

3rd Lift Over below Ozhuskans to Portage to Kakagiwizida Lake --

Next rapid below campsite carried 300 yards on right. Trail has

roots as Andy says but also had a great many windfalls toward foot, some of which had to be cut through to effect the passage

Horseshoe with some slope to it before the island between the portages.

Rapid indicated below the island is nothing but a V to left of center.

Next rapid carried 150 yards on right. Left side was too steep and right side too shallow and boulder choaked to be run.

Unloading area was a little difficult coming over a couple windfalls.

Just after turn is made to south, portage 75 yards around a steep rapid -- rather attractive. Possible to portage along shore in low water, but easier to take trail. There are two possible trails. The shorter turns left about 10 yards in from shore and parallels shore, putting in on rocks in a small bay off drop -- easy to slide along shore. Other keeps on main trail another 20 - 30 yards and takes left split of trail to a landing about 25 yards below the other bay. This is the better used trail. There is also a right fork which is less well traveled which is supposed to go completely around the next bay and join the next portage.

Slide along right shore into large bay to right on next rapids.

Landing is on an obvious grassy slope. Trail is about 1/2 mile and is an excellent walker except for windfalls -- all had trails around them when we came through. Trail goes up a little rise and carries on top of a plateau until last 75 yards when it drops sharply to water. Campsite is just before drop to water -- good tent sites and a spring just to right of trail just below campsite. Carries around a couple cascades. First is wide and second passes through a narrower channel, around a point and then widens at foot. Best view is obtained by cutting down to bay between 1st and 2nd by going back 2/3 of way to start of portage and cutting downhill to water. Fair sized cascade.

Kakagiwizida to Rapid above Saburn Lake --

Kakagiwizida was as advertised devoid of likely looking campsites.

Andy cut back in '67 at middle of long island (there is no passage between long point and long island that follows as shown on map). Claims area behind alder was fairly flat. Lake is shallow and canoes drag a little. Long point that projects from north shore about 2/3 way down extends farther south than the map makes it look. After this point there is a sand beach on right shore and one on left where a campsite might be made (we did not look). Shortly after river starts there is an Indian site on left shore. Would be about 2 hours from foot of portage.

River has relatively little current to portage around a very heavy rapid. Scenery does improve, however. Portage 250 yards on left. Landing is about 40 yards above heavy white water. There is a low water landing on smooth rocks just above heavy water, but rock would not be connected to shore except in very low water and trail from it is very poorly used. Better to use upper landing. Pretty good sized Indian campsite at head of trail. Trail is a good walker, well used. An Indian had been over it not too far ahead of us and laid brush on all the damp areas. Trail ends in middle of rapid -- after major drop.

There is a continuation of the trail if desired that leaves the main trail at right angles to the left about 25 yards from the end of the main trail. Looks very poorly used.

Foot is run by running to a bay just below -- should be scouted and stopping fairly high in the bay.

Then run is from bay through a V on left shore at a point and then angle toward center, cutting downstream between two swells of white water off rocks. It's a pretty straight run from top of bay, but must be looked over from left shore.

The river runs with reasonable current for about 3 miles. Then current picks up and several rapids of the swift variety are encountered. There's one before the islands start that Andy did not mark. Others for the next couple miles are not much.

One just before island as river turns from running south-east to east is really two -- 1st one runs out at foot on right completely and has to be taken on left at foot -- there's a row of stone across foot and passages have to be found -- go slowly. 2nd is just above island and is shallow also and runs right of the island and current is fair.

Andy's campsite rapid is about a mile plus farther on -- he had it marked too soon. Approach to the rapid is made on left. There is a large prominent rock island just left of center of the river with heavy rapid to right of it. Catch left side of rock and look over easily from rock. Run is left of heavy water fairly near rock island. Just below is a rock area from left shore and campsite is in this eddy -- easy to catch. There is a sand beach just east of the rock landing. Kitchen on rocks and tent sites just back of them. Swimming good.. There is a rapid about 100 - 200 yards below the site also.

Rapid above Saburn Lake to Ozhiski Lake --

Rapid below campsite -- cross to rocks on right shore staying well above rapid as crossing is made. Scout from rocks on right. Run V just left of large rock area off shore (it may be shore in low water) and then run out next to rock staying to right of major swells.

A calm follows with fast current. Slip down right shore to a ledge that angles out to center. Here a portage trail starts that runs parallel to the rapid and just inland. Rapid can be looked over from trail which is about 400 yards long. If rapid is to be run, this ledge probably has to be lifted over. Then a short calm area is paddled -- 30 yards -- to a rock point at a small falls. Below falls right side can be paddled easily for quite a while and then starts dropping through a boulder strewn foot which would be difficult to run in our water. Could not be let down with no shore line to walk and no good way to stop on way down. Look at this foot before deciding to lift over the two top areas. It is quicker to carry the whole affair. The trail from the 1st lift over to the falls is not very good, but after that is quite good though not terribly well used until the last 50 yards where there is a clay area to cross. (Easy to stay to right of clay with wannigans, but not with canoes.)

Next rapid goes around a corner. Was run on right all the way with one rocky area at corner to go outside of. Below this there is one large boulder well out of water. Run outside of it is easier than inside.

Last rapid is not very steep. Andy ran top to bay on right and

had to let down the foot. He says there is a path down the center that can be seen from the foot. We crossed to the left because it was easier to look over from there. There is a trail on left side that could be used. It is not terribly good. We ran on left, staying left of a little grassy island, but run might not be there in low water.

Then a calm stretch of a mile with obvious clay cliffs ahead on right. Just past cliffs is a fairly deep bay with portage around a cascade-like falls. Trail is an excellent walker; straight as a die. 300 yards. Pretty large Indian campsite at foot, but water in front is not very good. We cooked lunch on rocks at top of falls. Supposed to be able to walk shore to look at the falls, but we had to walk back in the bush. Ran guide's canoe down to top of falls with lunch materials. Falls are worth looking at. Portage goes across a point and gives no view or route to falls.

Next stretch to Ozhiski has some current and took us about 2 1/2 hours to campsite on Ozhiski. Country fairly low, no campsites, but not completely unattractive.

Campsite on Ozhiski on right just after a grassy point at start of lake. A small rock kitchen area with tent sites behind. Major area pretty flat and will hold 3 tents easily -- maybe 4. Area just back of kitchen takes one maybe 2. Then there are areas to both sides of kitchen where tents could be pitched on moss in the spruce forest that is not immediately obvious. Kitchen would be flooded in a major rain.

Ozhiski Lake to Four Miles beyond Ozhiski Lake --

Andy says lots of possible campsites in lower section of lake. We saw only one likely looking area of good prospective rock on left shore about 4 miles above last night's site, more or less behind an island. There were several sand beaches farther on. One where lake turns slightly north which Indians had used.

There was an Indian camp on south shore opposite this as we went by and another looked to be larger Indian camp on north shore in deep bay behind large island about 2-3 miles from exit.

We missed exit to left of long pointed island. Rapid on that side looked very steep and very rocky at foot as we viewed it from below -- Andy says it runs out.

Instead, by mistake we went right and then behind large island at exit. It turned out to be a better move. Heading west behind large island a small island to the north is encountered. We ran east of this island in what was really a swift. Maybe it runs out on you in low water, but it was fine for us.

Then there are various swifts and currents. Rapid just before 1 1/2 mile bay to west was run left of center and around corner and had to be looked over from left, mainly because wind was kicking up white water.

After mile and a half bay we followed left shore after looking at rapid from eddy at top on right. We found a run down the center to the right of a little grassy island, but decided against it and let canoes down left side holding onto alder and going slowly until around bend to left and then ran left shore around bend to right and ran out rapid behind the island. Channel from right side of island comes in about 1/5 of the way down and rapid looks too steep to negotiate. Our run on left would be rough in low water, but maybe there would be shore line to actually let down.

More swifts through islands to river exit from area. We ran tight to left shore for 1st rapid on this stretch into an eddy of fairly large size, and then tight to left shore into Andy's campsite which is just at bend where river turns north east after a slight easterly section. Both rapids into site were scouted, mainly because of bend in river.

Campsite is 2 - 3 rock points with small sand-gravel beaches between. Kitchen on center point. Tent sites on sort of rise behind. Swimming good. Excellent kitchen and tent sites fair.

4 Miles above Ozhiski to Kabania Lake --

It took about 5 hours to get down the next stretch of rapids to Kabania Lake in spite of having scouted top rapid after dinner the previous night. Runs made this time were apparently with very high water, so might be quite different under other conditions. All scouting had to be done back in bush, no shore line to walk.

From campsite, left shore was followed fairly tightly to a large bay on left -- shown on map. Only one rock a real problem about half way between campsite and bay. Run was inside it, although three canoes went outside with no problem.

After bay there is a narrows where drop is not too great and we crossed to right after narrows.

We ran tight to right shore down almost to a rock point and let down the last 20 yards to the point. Lifted canoes across about 15 yards. Below are two rapids. 1st was run on right side, but fairly far out. Water tight to shore runs out. Second, started next to right shore and then outside of two swells and back inside the last swell.

This puts you in a large bay with a large bald rock on left.

There might be a campsite possibility here.

We crossed to left here and went down bays on left running successive eddies with a minimum of scouting out of the canoe. The portage around a violent rapid (it ends in a falls about 10 feet high) starts in a little tiny eddy on left just before violent rapid starts. It is probably safer to land and scout for the start of the carry. It goes up a slight hill at the start.

Carry is 500 yards long, would be a good walker except for our recent rains. Ends at a rather large bay. On way back for second load there is a fork in trail (not obvious on way over); be sure to take left fork. Right fork seems to run parallel to river for at least another 500 yards and goes into a swamp and maybe goes all the way up to the wide bay at the top of the series. There is a reasonable Indian campsite at the foot of the portage, but swimming would be poor.

We then crossed to right and went down tight to right shore almost to a rock point with a violent rapid -- short one -- around it. There is a trail on right here parallel to river. We cut back into trail about 10 yards from a point about 25 yards above the point around which the rapid breaks and carried to the foot of the rapid's point. 100 yards. The left side has a smooth rock here and maybe left side could be run in lower water. Andy ran right side here.

At end of portage we crossed to left and ran left side -- about 20 yards off shore (there is a ledge off left shore to go around).

This is last rapid. Just below on left are several rock areas

suitable for lunch sites and could be rough campsites. There is a little current to Kabania Lake. In the first couple miles there is a little rock along the left shore. After that practically none. Andy says there is a possible campsite on the esker point and some Indian cabins on left where turn to east is made about 4 miles above. There are a pair of new cabins on crook of long thin point about 2 miles farther. Andy's campsite on west side of arrow shaped point just south of tip of this point is terrible in high water -- the kitchen is flooded out and minute. In normal water it might be fine. Tent sites are in a spruce grove behind with lots of dry wood and windfalls. Site is also really too far from end of rapids if lunch comes at end of rapids.

Kabania Lake to Lansdowne House --

No other obvious sites on Kabania.

We took northern rapid of three that are formed by islands across exit channel. Really only a swift, probably best run to left of center though with our high water we ran center -- there were rocks at foot to avoid.

There is another swift just above narrows before large rapid and another at narrows.

After deep bay on left, stay to left side. Portage takes out just before rapid starts on left. Couple windfalls at start of trail, but all have trails around them. 100 yards. Good walker. Pretty good Indian campsite at foot of trail. Maybe rapid can be run on left under different water conditions.

Couple cabins on right shore about 4 - 5 miles from portage.

Post on tip of actual point as shown on map. There is a small island just north of point with a reef that reaches west.

There is an obvious wooden causeway to island off tip of point. Causeway all supported by cribs with rock between the cribs except for one opening about in the center that will just take a canoe. Bay post is on right just past causeway.

We camped in field behind the warehouse -- level ground, but quite exposed. Fireplace near water just before landing at post. Rest of non-native part of settlement faces south and is past post around corner -- Department of Transport weather station is quite large. Then Nursing Station, School, and a warehouse for Indian Affairs. Anglican Church and settlement is on north side of point with some Indian houses on south side past Indian Affairs dock. Catholic settlement is on island connected with the causeway. Large church in middle of island with parsonage and grave yard. Saw mill just over causeway on north side. Bathing beach on south side just over causeway and Indian cabins mostly on north side of island with a few south of church.

There is a small island just south of Catholic island that Andy may have used for a campsite in a past year, although his campsite mark put him on the Catholic Island.

There is an Indian Cooperative store run sort of by the Catholic Mission in a white building just north east of what looks like a recreation hall behind the church.

About 200 + Indians on the Catholic side and a like number of Anglicans.

The Catholic Church is all plywood paneled inside -- quite well done. Built by the same Brother who was building one at Ogoki in 1965. The Anglican Church is much smaller and less well

fixed, but attractive.

Indian Affairs apparently picks up the Indian made goods to be sold on the outside and maybe contact can be made with the Indian who handles it. Goods are stored in a small cabin on the Anglican side -- 1st cabin on left after group right around Church. Prices on these goods are all set by what the Indian has already been paid for his work. Moose hide of all kinds and carvings -- a lot done of driftwood in sort of a modern artistic style. Otherwise Indians will visit regularly once they know you are buying. Then asking prices are almost always subject to being lowered. Asking prices on moccasin slippers is much too high.

The causeway to the island was built the spring of 1971; sawmill is run by Catholics, but road had government help of course.

Lansdowne House to Rapid before 1 1/4 Mile Portage --

Did not investigate Andy's campsite on right 4 miles from Lansdowne. Directly opposite to north east there is a needle-like island. There is a line of boulder between his campsite and that needle-like island and passage in low water is next to needle-like island.

We went north of Powis Island and there are two swifts, one at north tip of island and one at narrows on east.

Fishing camp on island in Windsor Lake has two sheds and a dock.

Ice in back shed for packing fish. Indians were camped in tents to both sides of dock -- maybe 30 or more men and at least a dozen tents -- all on south side of island.

Campsite on tip of point as turn is made into rapid after Windsor is on sort of a sandy tip of land in poplar.

Rapid below Windsor was run pretty much in center.

Next one at narrows after turn to left was also taken in center.

First rapid before Earls Lake is S-shaped and should be looked over. There is supposed to be a portage on north side, but we did not find it. Some swifts at top, then a V about 25 yards off shore and then to left shore at top bend in the S staying off rock near shore. Then left behind this point -- eddy is quite strong if you get too close to shore. Then follow left shore and out on left shore at foot of S.

2nd rapid before Earls Lake is also supposed to have a portage that we did not find. We let down left shore over shallows for about 40 yards and then shot rest on left. Top looked too shallow to run and other possible route was out too much in center.

Rapid after Earls Lake was much smaller and run on left with no problems. Actually 2 rapids, there is a second after river widens. There seemed to be a line of rock at the foot after the rapid was finished and best path would have been on left shore.

We checked bay leading into Somers Lake for portage as marked by Spafford. Trail is there in middle of bay at top of area, but it has not been traveled for years, although first 100 yards or so are perfectly ok.

We then started to shoot left side of rapid below and came to a very shallow, rocky area. There was a portage landing at the head of this which we camped on, at the head of the portage. Not too bad in the spruce forest. Could stand some definite clearing and thinning. Portage trail not very well used, but quite easy. 100 yards. Right side of rapid throws up the

largest swells, but there is supposed to be a route down that side -- we got our signals crossed after meeting a traveler who told us it could be run and got boxed in on the left.

Rapid before 1 1/4 Mile Portage to Rapid below Junction --

Portage takes off in obvious bay about half way into deep bay off river. Landing is obscured by weeds and grass in the water extending maybe a canoe's length off shore and might be hard to locate if no one had been through for a while. First 1/3 of trail is quite wet and the walking gets better as trail rounds a low hill on left of trail. Alder grows quite thick in spots and trail is therefore narrow, but perfectly walkable. There is an old Indian campsite -- would not be really useable -- about 1/3 of way over just after worst of wet spots. Last 1/6 of portage gets wetter as river is neared. About 1 1/4 - 1 1/2 miles. Campsite at foot has cooking area near water and tent area back on trail a little way so there is a wet bog between tents and kitchen. Not a very good site; ours of previous night was considerably better. Last part of rapids that can be seen from river after portage is a steep drop that probably could not be run, but nothing spectacular.

Current after portage is only fair down to rapid past Nolin Island

Rapid was run on right and occurs much farther down than would be expected for river has widened out.

Next rapid below was also run on right, though at a quick glance from foot, left looks easier. We ran outside a little farther than desirable, should have been done next to shore.

Current slackens, but there is some to Beteau proper. We took north side of large island at start of lake.

Campsite on west side of first point is a cleared beach area with a recently built large tent frame.

We did not see campsite on 2nd point.

First campsite on right as river starts is a cleared area about 5 - 6 feet above a small sand beach. We did not see 2nd area on right.

Current picks up slightly to junction which is not as obvious as map would make it.

Just after junction a very swift current is encountered, not really a rapid, but drops quite a good deal. We took left shore but either would be fine. Current runs like this for 3/4 - 1 mile to below small island.

About 1/2 mile below island on right is a new metal cabin up on bank -- would make a poor camping area.

The current to 1st rapid just below a small island is pretty good. We looked at both sides of rapid and ran right a fair distance out from shore following a long stretch of black water staying right of a really rough looking center area, but to left of rocks and chop on right shore -- look over first. Left side could have been let down, but had too many boulders to be run as well.

At foot on left is the first flat outcropping of rock seen since Attawapiskat Lake. We camped at east end of rock, using a kitchen facing east. Could also use a higher area facing south if wanted. Andy used a rock area farther west -- ours was much better. A good stand of spruce behind and tent sites in spruce or in area between the two possible kitchens. Pretty good swimming on south side though current is quite evident.

Rapid beyond Junction to Below Pym Island --

Swift-like area below campsite pretty much run on left. Current

then pretty good to first rapid.

First rapid just below island and after river turns north was run on right going all the way through reading from the top.

After river swings west all four rapids -- one marked by Andy and 3 by map were run on left. At top of 1st we tried the right shore first. There is a broad expanse of flat rock on the right at the top. Would make a great kitchen area. We did not really look, but bush behind did not really look great for tent sites.

Run along left shore was easy until what amounts to 3rd rapid, although it is difficult to tell them apart. Here we paused to scout a run near left shore that was run tight to left shore, and inside rock off shore. Then run continued on left down to last rapid where a ledge-like area of rock came out from left shore. Did not look good in the swells outside and inside was too rocky although there was a possible run. Letting down was impossible so we portaged 40 yards on rocks and grass on left shore and ran out foot into a bay area below.

Just around bend starts about 4 miles of "fast water with obstacles." We followed right shore all the way, and some of it particularly just before lowest bend on river was more of a rapid. Many times it looked as though left side was calmer. Obstacles trail off toward bend of river to the south before the islands.

Last rapid of the day where river turns east has an island in mid-channel. We followed tight to left shore and really had only a swift to run. There was an exposed rock area to our right.

About 1/2 mile below on left pretty well hidden up on 10 foot bank in bush was a well built trapper's cabin. Would not make a bad campsite, although water in front is not much.

Current is reasonable for another 5 - 6 miles and then starts to diminish. Some rocks in river on way. One fairly small rock area on right about 2 - 3 miles below cabin which would make a lunch site if no wind were blowing.

On left as turn is made to go up west side of Pym Island there are two cleared areas for campsites.

Current up west side of Pym is not great, but there. Scenery is nothing at all to get excited about and maybe east side is better.

Andy's island campsite at top of Pym just before east channel joins has a sandy beach area with tent sites back in bush.

Kitchen would either have to be out on this point or way back in bush.

About 1/2 mile below on left is a cleared field area with a well built trapper's cabin -- would not be good for camping. Tents would be in very high grass. Landing poor and no dry wood anywhere in sight.

We went on another 1/2 mile to south side of next point on a small gravel beach and found an old Indian site. Not very good. Tent sites crowded, but kitchen is just up bank from water.

Below Pym to Below 4th Rapid --

Current only fair for next 6 miles or so. Picks up at northern end of straight north stretch. Last granite is a pair of rock islands with very little vegetation in middle of river toward eastern end of stretch that goes west to east about 8 miles above Pym Island. There might be some rock area on right shore -- none on left.

There is a cut as though a survey or dam about 2 miles before this and another smaller one at the granite on right.

River runs north for about 6 miles and then bends east for 1/2 - 1 mile. Here limestone starts with banks about 20 feet high in spots -- maybe reaches 50 feet occasionally.

We had lunch on right shore about a mile before bend to east about 10 feet up bank in a spruce stand that had been used by the Indian -- would make a campsite if needed.

First rapid is on north side of a bend just at end of map and 500 foot level is crossed just below it. We took right shore. Like all others for rest of day, it is not really a rapid, just a run of fast water with swells in middle so that canoe probably would not ride there. Run is made just dodging the occasional rock, but speed and power are such that reading has to be done pretty far ahead.

River then runs between high banks for much of the way to next rapid about 6 miles down and looks quite a bit wider than previously.

Rapid here is a mile or longer. Run on left. Same as before, but only extends to end of bay on right.

Andy had camped just below on left with his fire right next to water.

1 1/2 miles below a shorter rapid run on right stops before island at foot. Same side run.

The river runs with fair current north for about 8 miles to next rapid, about 1 1/2 - 2 miles long, run on left. This one was shallower near shore and run had to be farther out in spots. After about 3/4 of it is run there is a section of relative calm and then a final short pitch that had some little mounds of limestone above water.

Andy's old campsite below was on a wet grassy bank on left with tents probably pitched back close to alder. Terrible site.

We went on for another 2 miles and cut one up on a 15 foot bank on left in a stand of poplar and spruce. Not very good either, but dry. Bank here was mostly clay and unattractive. Campsites in this area very hard to come by -- we looked for about 10 miles finding nothing better. Next rapid ahead could be heard from site.

Below 4th Rapid to 3 miles above Missisa HBC Post --

Rapid opposite 478 elevation mark is about a mile long. Run on right.

Next rapid at 400 foot level is shorter and just before islands, which are at foot. Actual limestone cliff on right as this is run.

Last rapid of series at 53° North runs off map and is fairly long with limestone cliffs on way down. All three tend to be shallow at foot.

At end of this series limestone ceases abruptly and country gets lower with gravel and clay banks, although some clay banks are still high.

Current slackens for about 6 miles and then picks up slightly. Spafford's Indian camp at north of creek at 85° 27' we did not see.

From mouth of Muketei River down through islands is supposed to be fast and shallow in low water -- not in ours.

There is a cabin on north side of river just past last of these islands which is a pre-fab job and probably belonged to water survey party.

Andy was camped on right about 3 miles below with kitchen on gravel and tent sites in spruce above.

We camped on left about 3 miles farther on up in thin spruce -- nothing to recommend it except water off bank was deep enough to dive in.

3 miles above Missisa HBC Post to 3 miles onto Missisa Lake Map -- HBC Missisa Lake Post on point; Missisa River enters behind.

Small store, manager's house, and 2 small warehouses. The houses built of squared log timbers and warehouses of vertically placed log timbers. Not much to look at. Possible to camp in high grass, but would be quite poor. Better to find a nearby spot -- though none showed.

Current behind this large island and next one is quite sluggish. Picks up a little after second large island is passed.

4 mile rapid starts maybe 400 yards or more below where left channel leaves to go around island. We ran right side of right channel. There is an excellent lunch site on flat limestone on right side just about opposite tip of island. Start of rapid is just fast water. Limestone cliffs on both sides of river, usually about 20 feet high, yellow-tan color and quite impressive as run is made. Rapid is never very serious close to shore, but gets a little more interesting toward foot. Possible to drift down at least top of it taking pictures. At very foot there is a shallows near shore that has to be rounded. Rapid extends to below small island below big one. Cliffs are just about over at this point. Andy had a campsite just below this island.

We ran right of next island below, but would likely be quite shallow in lower water.

Current slackens after this, though is still reasonable.

We camped on first island on right after Missisa map is re-entered -- about 3 miles onto map. Shore is gentle sloping broken limestone. Kitchen down near water. Tent sites back in spruce-balsam stand, some on deep moss if desired, but this can be avoided. Front of site has fallen spruce as a result of ice damage. Much the best site we have had on the river since our last night on rock after the north and south channels joined two days out of Lansdowne.

3 Miles onto Missisa Map to Foot of Double Portage --

Current reasonable down to rapid among islands east of 83°.

Well cleared Indian site on left at south bend of river with a cached ski-doo as we came by.

We followed left shore through these rapids quite successfully.

The gray limestone starts just at the head of the rapid and is spectacular all the way through. Take this section in good sunlight! Numerous good places to stop and photograph, and for most of the descent cameras could safely be carried loose in the canoes and used while drifting.

Poor Indian campsite on top of high bank on left about a mile below grassy islands. Landing is clay and would be poor, but top is good.

Next set of rapids does not really start until island complex is entered. Again we followed left shore quite successfully. There are some ledges, particularly toward the foot that might be trouble in low water. Again spectacular limestone cliffs that should be photographed. Stopping places harder to come by,

but quite possible. No real break before 2nd set that is supposed to start at next set of islands. Again left shore followed with no problem. Rapids are really through before large island at east end of group.

Current from here for about 6 miles lessens. Indian cabin just east of bay with 2 large islands -- small and built very low to ground. After large island 2 miles before portages, catch left shore. Swifts down to portages.

First portage goes around about a 5 - 6 foot falls-cascade that is worth photographing from above and below. Portage landing at an obvious small eddy at top of rock. Carries along rock parallel to river for 40 yards and then trail starts at a well marked spruce (scout first, there are blazes on several other trees also). Puts in in a bay after the first drop. Swells in the eddy make loading hard and room for only one canoe to load at a time. 150 yards.

Next portage right across eddy at a grassy area landing just before major rock. Starts up rock and into woods immediately. 200 yards; bushy, but good. Landing at far end is down a short, steep hill that is difficult loaded. Good campsite at foot of trail. There is another possible area about 30 yards from end that would overlook the water better, but drawing it would be more dangerous. View of falls above and chutes at this one excellent from rock cliffs along bank.

Double Portage to 5 Miles below Lawashi Channel --

Current leaving Double Portage fairly good to rapids 4 miles beyond.

We ran to right of 1st large island; channel behind it did not look very large, and then north east between it and the next large island. Limestone is much less impressive through this area and more green shows. Rapids are not so violent and current a little less than above. Otherwise we followed the north channel. Rapid does not start until after head of 1st large island and continues a little past last small one.

Next rapid is only 1 1/2 miles away. Left shore followed all the way. Same limestone observations as before. Rapid as such has a break at head of large island down to below entrance of stream that cuts through island. Rapid marked on map is misplaced and should be below this stream. It has a good drop to it with swells.

North shore was followed into final set. First sort of swifts were taken on left. Then came a steeper drop that had to be looked over and was run close to left shore. Next section had a low limestone island just off left shore -- maybe mainland in low water. We ran down left shore to island and lined down island to grassy tip, crossed channel between island and mainland and lined down to small eddy just before a cascade-like drop all the way across the river. We then carried 100 yards over bald rock to below cascade and put back in. This is Andy's route, except for maybe the lining.

Spafford's route sounds more interesting. He must have followed south side of large island where we went north side. From view from foot there seems to be a good looking falls in this channel. Perhaps there is a normal carry on island to north of this falls. Spafford seems to have gone to south side of this channel onto small island formed by a small stream between it and the large island. He seems to have portaged on the island,

a small falls on the side channel and then lined a small falls below. In any case, his route sounds more scenic and interesting -- certainly falls between north island and very large one to south east were impressive.

Where south channel joins north one there is a shallow area just at mouth of south channel and exit from this channel should follow a shore -- on brief glance east shore looked deepest. On our route -- below the falls we carried there were a few swifts to entrance of south channel.

After channels join shallows start appearing at odd places in mid stream, best water is on north shore through here. There are several more rapids through islands, a couple with pretty good drops. And rapid area extends almost to Lawashi Channel exit. Current below Lawashi Channel exit is a little less with no rapids, but progress is good.

We camped on south side of a small island before tear-drop shaped one. Landing on large rounded sort of pebbles and dry. Tent sites and kitchen in spruce (because of wind, but could better be on rock). Indian had a cache on this side and one on east side also. Not too bad for a river site.

5 Miles below Lawashi Channel to Attawapiskat Post --

Good current down to rapids where river swings south west. We followed north shore around tear-shaped island at northern bend and stayed on north shore through rapid. It is supposed to be shallow on south side here, but probably would have made no difference in our water. Rapid was drowned out when we went through and there was nothing but fair current.

Below, about 3 - 4 miles and past next large island we hit several unscheduled drops that were much more of a rapid nature. We stayed on north side of river except where channel to north of an island was too small.

Rapid 2 - 3 miles before post, about 1 mile before bend to north east, has a steep drop at head of it. It is supposed to be trouble in low tide, low flow. But we came through in the reverse of both. There were some swells in the rapid that had to be taken running left shore, but major ones were missed by cutting close to shore.

As rapid trails off there is a gravel beach which makes the last good lunch site if needing protection of the bush which is small poplar. If wood is carried it would be ok. After rapid left side is low and bush is way back from shore while right bank is clay. There is a fine gravel bank on left at point where river turns north east. We used this area. The Indian has cut off the dry wood back in the bush, so wood must be carried if using this area.

Follow left shore into post. In low tide there is a bar just off the tip of Monument Channel that will be exposed. It has a dock on it for small plane landings. HBC Post is slightly up Monument Channel to west of church and is about the western end of village. Roy Turner was manager when we arrived. Camping area is in front of store, but he gave us a cabin back of store to use. Only problem is distance to river for water.

Attawapiskat Post --

At west end of village is a small deserted Anglican Church. The Catholic grave yard. Then a group of small houses. Then HBC group. Current store dates from 1965. Warehouse just to west

used to be store. Manager's house behind warehouse. Then Catholic Church group. Church is close to river bank and in spring water comes right up to bank in some years. Basic church is about 60 years old but has been redone with lowered ceiling and modern heating. Pews are old and of spruce from area, rest of materials were sent in. Rear behind altar is being redone as residence for priest. Rectory will become a nurse's home. Hospital next door has 20 beds or so and is used mainly by post itself. Behind is a barn which is now used as a generator plant. Old saw mill building is next to barn to the west. Apparently no longer used as lumber is shipped in from outside now. Field area behind apparently no longer cultivated. The rest of village on street parallel to water with about 3 others perpendicular to main street. Indian Coop store about 2 streets from Catholic Church. Mainly candy and pop with few groceries and clothes. There is a pool hall behind and two movie shows almost nightly. Running a school for Indian carpenters with idea that they will get Indian building contracts. Also running a school in goose camp management at Kapiskau River for Indians to hopefully take over some of the operation from Lands and Forests one of these days. Indians in both carpentry and goose camp operation are apparently pretty demanding of their rights. Barge lands at east end of village in the channel that runs behind the island that starts just east of the middle of the village.

Moosonee to T Station --

Mail did not make it having been sent by mail care of rail agent. He apparently would not pick it up from Post Office. Should be sent to him by Rail Express.

Camping area behind train shed is quite good -- better than in front or between it and creek.

Getting a box car rather than a baggage car was a good deal. Goes to Cochrane with us and then goes on a freight to T Station getting there about 9:00 and being set off for us to sleep in.