

KAWAWEOGAMA OUTPOST

1981

FLINDT RIVER to ARMSTRONG

Maps Required:

1:250,000 Series: Sioux Lookout 52 J
Armstrong 52 I

1:50,000 Series: Seseganaga Lake 52 J/1
Wilkie Lake 52 J/8
Neverfreeze Lake 52 J/9
Wabakimi Lake 52 I/12
Goldsborough Lake 52 I/11
Armstrong 52 I/6
Onamakawash Lake 52 I/5

'79 Report should be consulted; most of the following are additional comments to be added to 2nd and 3rd circuits of '79

Trip Reports: 1979 Section 7
1965 Keewaydin Section A Albany River
Nipigon District Canoe Routes
1979 Bob McCoubrie Report

Base to Foam Lake --

Same as '79 except water several inches higher. Right fork on portage trail much better than main trail -- fork is less well walked and begins only 30-40 yards from start 50° 17' 90° 13'. Left trail is great until approach to water is needed where it is choked with windfalls and carry is finished blasting through the trees.

Foam Lake to Small Water before Flet --

Stream out of Barrington where we handed canoes down in '79, we ran down left side in '81. 50° 18' 90° 15+ Very shallow with trees that have been cut out, but path turns sharply to right at top and is difficult. Right channel would still have to have canoes handed down.

Rapid below 50° 18+ 90° 16' -- don't bother looking over. It's difficult anyway because right side is flooded land with any kind of water. Portage starts at least 25 yards above rapid on right side to avoid drowned land. Good trail; and easy walking.

At rock lift-over at falls would make an attractive lunchsite or campsite as in '65 50° 20' 90° 17'

Rapid below 50° 20'+ 90° 17' -- top was easy through obvious V, but bottom was rough. We went along right shore and stayed right of large rocks, but it was not good with throw of water toward center. Consider going over the cellars in center next time.

4' drop 50° 21' 90° 17½' -- we couldn't lift-over on rocks as in '79 on right so unloaded and carried 15 yards on right side without flipping canoe. Excellent lunchsite with good swimming hole past the portage; could easily make a good campsite.

We went and looked at top rapid at the 600-yard portage around the peninsula. 50° 22' 90° 16' Top section could be run easily. 2nd section maybe along right shore, but would be difficult and third section looked so impossible we didn't go all the way down to it. Rapids at the final section



1" to 4 miles

FLINDT RIVER to ARMSTRONG

Map 1

4-5, 16

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Woodfall

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FLINT RIVER TO ARMSTRONG

Scale: 1" to 4 Miles

definitely could not be tackled under any condition -- its more a cascade. Portage was in good shape -- previous notes still hold -- although seemed perfectly well cut out this time. Space to unload only one canoe at a time -- also load only one or two. We had to cut out a large leaning poplar at start, but otherwise clear.

Just beyond on right shore just before island is a good looking campsite area which at least had someone's fireplace on it. 50° 22' 90° 15'

We went to far end of pond to see if we could paddle into next water and then carry to Wilkie 50° 22+ ' 90° 14' a carry would definitely be needed and there may be a trail, but we did not land to look.

Portage to Flet 50° 22' 90° 14' is definitely on left side with primary landing right at start of drop marked by a blaze on a cedar. but very dangerous to approach with chance of being swept down rapid. There's an alternate landing just to left in a swampy area that has a less well cut trail to main trail, but definitely safer in reasonable water.

We camped on western rock area of two just before 50° 22' 90° 14+ ' high rock that marks west entrance to river. Eastern rock area might well be better with better swimming and tentsites closer to where kitchen would go. Our area worked -- best tentsites in a clearing about 30 yards in from water. Swimming ok with a shallow dive.

Before Flet to Opposite entrance to Sassenach --

See previous notes on portage to Flet -- loading area at end is quite poor -- puts in in bay to left of main river in a river channel and loading area badly choked with cedar and a newly fallen poplar -- really should be cleared out.

Stream to Flet 50° 22' 90° 12' First rapid is only problem and ought to be looked over. From either side is difficult, but left is probably the only way to do it -- most of land is flooded behind river. Top is the problem in good water -- run just left of a stone that causes a cellar at top -- about in midstream. River curves left and then right and no problem in decent water, though there are lots of stones to avoid.

Just below took left side of island and there is really only current to Flet with some stones to avoid.

Campsites could be made on Flet -- one to right just at end of river.

Flindt outpost camp seems to have burned down 50° 23- ' 90° 11' and has been moved to northern end of bay just after '79 campsite. 50° 24' 90° 12' There's a leanto frame on left shore slightly up from across from old outpost camp -- with a sign saying "Resorts Ltd"

At top of Flindt, first rapid occurs just after split of river 50° 27' 90° 11' to east of island. Channel is on far left shore -- as it was in '79, but in good water you can go down middle, although it is very shallow anywhere except on left shore. Start of carry just below still poor as before.

Main camping areas on next lake -- mentioned in '79 report -- occur after the wide stretch.

Water flows wrong way -- into Sassenach instead of into Flindt River 50° 28' 90° 12' Entrance can be paddled though shallow about in middle of what would be normal channel.

We camped almost opposite 50° 28' 90° 11' on a relatively low rock shelf with tentsites back from water -- except for kitchen and staff tent. Reasonable swimming -- perfectly ok, but can probably do better.

Opposite Sassenach to Rapid after Wide Section after Split --

'79 lunchsite rapid run right down center after a leaning tree was chopped out across lower part -- very powerful with haystacks 50° 29-' 90° 11' canoes had to be dumped afterwards.

Would be an excellent camping area in bay to left after rapid.

At turn before portage where '79 lined, we ran easily on right side.

Only unload one canoe at a time at long portage which is probably only 500 yards. 50° 28+' 90° 10½' Loading at pond difficult because of rocks at landing.

Portage out of pond 50° 28+' 90° 10+' unload one at a time. Trail ends with a little chute to run which would be ok with experienced people -- plus rocks at loading are sharp. We went down shore another 10 yards to put in -- still poor loading, but no backwash off rapid.

We took left branch this time at split. 50° 30-' 90° 10' Huge fireplace on point facing south with what looks like a reasonable tentsite area behind, though not large.

Did not see Painter Creek coming in, but area looks like drop into Flindt would be steep.

1st rapid too shallow to run, lined on left, not all that difficult, though one tough spot at top and one at foot 50° 31+' 90° 9' approach was made in canoes down left side into a little bay before starting to line.

2nd rapid run easily 50° 31½' 90° 9-' First part is an easy chute, then turns right into a second chute, also easy, but a little more shallow -- then river turns left again. Fairly easy to stay in middle.

Before 3rd rapid 50° 32' 90° 8' there was a relatively long section of narrows with current to follow -- easy, and real rapid could be seen ahead easily before getting to it. Rapid lined on left. Top a little tricky and we had to cut out overhanging cedar limbs first. Then middle easy walking rocks out toward middle of river. Bottom; canoes had to be shot into a chute to right of last standable rock and let run free below.

Campsite at end of wide section 50° 33' 90° 6-' had extra windfalls between landing and kitchen this time, but still attractive. Swimming not very good; really bathing only in rapids below site.

Top of Wide Stretch to Tew Lake --

Had to take full trail at campsite rapid and still had to walk out 10 yards on boulders.

Rocks have to be watched still to next rapid -- one small swift on the way.

Next rapid -- 50° 33' 90° 5' part of our recutting in '79 that allowed us to walk rock ledge had to be redone to intersect the old trail and one other section had to be redone.

At island below 50° 33' 90° 5' we cut the suggested 50-yard trail across the point on right of rapid. We could have portaged across rock on island as in '79. Water coming down left side this time, but right far too rocky to run. New trail is much safer.

One below as before. 50° 34' 90° 4+'

At long one around bend 50° 35' 90° 4', we cut a trail across the point from the landing in the little obvious bay. Probably still 250 yards in all, so probably not a great improvement over old trail. Walking reasonable and fairly flat. We could put in right at end of regular trail this time -- runoff shallow.

Landing at next difficult to approach 50° 36' 90° 3' in small bay just before rapid and point has to be rounded first. Bring one canoe down at a time. Loading no longer has the beach as before, so room for only a couple canoes really.

One swift into Tew after final 40-yarder.

We camped all tents on eastern point at campsite in narrows this time 50° 36½' 90° 1+ a little crowded, but otherwise fine.

Tew Lake to Wabakimi at Allanwater River Entrance --

Route from Tew Lake to Wabakimi same as '79 -- only seemed perfectly well traveled this time. Still had to walk left of end of 1st trail to put into beaver pond. Trail down from pond to river was relatively dry with no serious runoff from beaver pond coming down trail. 3rd portage still had to be taken; would have to flatten out a lot more to be run. Approach is very cautious, directly against right shore into a V of rock at top which gives room to land canoe without going down rapid. Loading area at foot out on a rock area and loading is easy.

Fire burned western end of Wabakimi from about eastern end of narrows down maybe 2 miles ruining some areas that would have made good campsites -- when we went through the narrows up to chute and 3rd portage had somehow escaped, but later reports indicated that fire had burned westward up to island in Tew.

We camped on eastern shore at mouth of Allanwater on a rock point not quite to turn to Lower Wabakimi. 50° 38' 89° 43' Perfectly ok with good kitchen behind a screen of trees. Tentsites adequate, but not spectacular. Swimming possible with shallow dive.

Wabakimi to Smoothrock --

Wabakimi - Lower Wabakimi narrows has possible campsites before and after narrows. Lots of good looking possibilities down near '79 campsite just before leaving Lower Wabakimi. 50° 36' 89° 36'

Rapid south of island 50° 35+ 89° 35+ looked too rough this time because of lack of control coming off 1st chute. Portage trail seemed really well-walked. Nipigon report said north rapids could be lined -- if so with difficulty. However, we took their portage from bay west of north rapid since it was only about 40 yards and an easy walker. However, route only makes sense in good water since there is a very shallow loading area and two shallow little V's to run afterwards.

Rest of way down river was as our '79 report (Nipigon report is wrong. On 2nd carry of the two before the pond area 50° 35' 89° 35-' there are two unloading areas. If possible use the lower area since the top section of the trail is not great for walking and neither will allow lots of canoes to unload together -- but check how shallow first. On last rapid at island before last portage 50° 35-' 89° 33' this time we ran the north channel right next to the island and turned right to avoid a rock pile (if necessary, go left of rock pile and stop in eddy and then take little V out). '79 run looked dangerous because of rock in foot that was barely out of water this time, but throw of water was all into it. Best way to look over is to come down north side of island -- rapids are at eastern end of island.

We should definitely have camped on bay leading out from rapid at one of the used sites. 50° 34' 89° 32'

We went south, going on east side of large island and camped on west shore in our worst campsite so far. 50° 33' 89° 31+' (see notes for next day) Swimming ok, but sun disappears behind trees early.

Smoothrock and back --

Went down almost nine miles until lake starts to curve east and turned back by fire. 50° 24' 89° 30 or 29' More possible campsites on way down, but still a problem with land rising too rapidly from shore line. On paddle back we had to go some distance to find a sheltered lunchsite.

We camped in the little bay 50 feet south of last night's point with more protection, as good or better swimming and better tentsites; but still probably our 2nd worse site of the summer thus far.

Smoothrock to Just above 4 carries on Caribou River --

Campsites on islands coming across north of Smoothrock. 50° 34' 89° 25+' Two club groups camped on southern ends of last couple islands when wide stretch is reached -- looked good. Outpost where firefighters had their headquarters about 1½ miles south of the logical crossing to Caribou Bay. 50° 33' 89° 27'

We had lunch on campsite on tip of long thin peninsula where turn to north is made. 50° 32' 89° 20' Would be fine, but swimming would be poor.

Rest as '79 including carries -- last portage 50° 31+' 89° 11+' better to carry more than the 40 yards to get to a safe loading area.

We camped on western tip of first large island above 4th carry -- about ¾ of a mile to a mile up. 50° 31' 89° 11' Clubber site, but reasonably clean. Tentsites really not very good, however.

Outlet Bay, Caribou, to Caribou Lake --

Not much for campsites the rest of the way down. Last possible area would be wide section before '79 site, but that does not look good either. 50° 29+' 89° 8'

We went down Caribou which is shorter in distance and effort than portaging up into Little Caribou. Passed left of Saturday Island and then south of next large island. At narrows to main or south part of Caribou, several campsites,

particularly in the narrows. One especially good, large one on right after bays right and left and before large bay on left -- had a Whitewater Lake party leaving it. 50° 25' 89° 9'

Main part of Caribou open in a wind obviously. Water clearer than most so far anywhere. Might be an area before or on the peninsula from east shore to use, but nothing going down east shore -- land very steep and not even a possible landing on anything like an open area.

We had lunch on the island opposite the bay for the airbase 50° 21' 89° 10', but there's nothing there and fire area was unsafe.

Bay at airbase is end of road from Armstrong, has a couple spots that are trailer-hook up areas with picnic tables where they might let you make lunch -- if you had wood -- just inland of dock for airbase -- called Caribou North. We phoned Ray Laird to pick us up in truck (2012). He no longer owns Hotel.

Armstrong 8 miles away. Canoes North base is about a mile down road from airbase.

Armstrong stores close at 5 pm. Restaurant open 7:30 - 9:00 except Sundays. There's another about a mile down road toward Ministry of Natural Resources -- and past there.

Train as usual -- supposed to be 11:00 (Eastern) in Armstrong. No real problem with canoes etc. \$141 for outfit.

Stop at Allanwater is at a shed designed to detect hotboxes?

Campsite on island 3/4 miles south of dock.

ALLANWATER - PALISADE - WEBSTER CREEK - ROCKCLIFF -
METIG - PASHKOKOGAN - HAMILTON

Maps Required:

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Armstrong 52 I

1:50,000 Series: Seseganaga Lake 52 J/1
Wilkie Lake 52 J/8
Onamakawash Lake 52 I/5
Wabakimi Lake 52 I/12
Burntrock Lake 52 I/13
McCrea Lake 52 J/16

'79 Report should be consulted; much of the following are additional comments to be added to the 2nd and 3rd circuits of '79

Trip Reports: 1979 Section E
Bob McCoubrie Reports -- 1978 and 1979
Nipigon District Canoe Routes -- Allanwater to
Armstrong (or Sioux Lookout Reports)
1965 Section A Albany River

Base to '79 Site on Allanwater River --

Nothing really different from '79 report. Rapids run the same way with portages taken the same. None of those portaged can be run by us. Perhaps next time try right branch of river $50^{\circ} 17' 90^{\circ} 9'$. Trail on 2nd portage $50^{\circ} 17+ ' 90^{\circ} 8-'$ had to have some windfalls taken out; maybe others have used a trail on right or walked rocks down a dry creek bed -- using trail is safer. At 3rd portage $50^{\circ} 17+ ' 90^{\circ} 8+'$ a tree branch out in water made getting canoes to landing a little difficult and a little unsafe. Campsite just below does not appear to have tentsites, but ones can be found in area to north of rock fireplace in addition to a couple behind site.

'79 Allanwater Site to South End of Mondale Lake --

No real changes from '79 all the way.

Paddle after campsite is basically through marshy land. 1st portage $50^{\circ} 18+ ' 90^{\circ} 7'$ has been used for campsite, but much better one on rocks across from upper end of portage.

Prior to next portage $50^{\circ} 19' 90^{\circ} 7'$ there are two swifts to run leaving the area mentioned in '79 as attractive rock area for campsites.

Rapid whose top could not be run $50^{\circ} 21' 90^{\circ} 7'$ -- lower section can be in reasonable water -- we didn't, but start is down left shore and then out to center to leave a cellar on left, then slightly back to left to leave next cellar on right and run out probably toward left at foot with some rocks to avoid as foot shallows. However, an excellent lunchsite at end of portage with a large cooking area back in from landing which is a relatively small sand beach.

Last rapid before '79 campsite $50^{\circ} 21+ ' 90^{\circ} 7'$ -- loading is still terrible. We took portage on left side again. We did not find the one supposed to be on right, but it might be tried.

We passed up the '79 campsite and portaged island



ALLNATER RIVER - PALISADE - HAMILTON LAKE

Scale: 1" to 4 Miles



Scale: 1" to 4 Miles

ALLANWATER RIVER - PALISADE - HAMILTON LAKE

Map 2

and camped on left after portage. 50° 22' 90° 7' A great view of the end of the east falls. Good kitchen and swimming, but tentsites not the best either in number or quality -- but it worked.

South End of Mondale to East End of Brennan, '63-'65 Campsite --

No changes from '79

Rapids before Brennan -- 1st 50° 25+ ' 90° 4' looked over from high rock on right and then run starting on right and cutting across to finish left of center. Two aluminum canoes with us ran right side with a chute between rocks on right at foot, but couldn't be seen clearly from top. 2nd just below aluminum canoes ran starting down right and then staying right of rocks and cellars at foot -- after portaging their loads -- too dangerous for us. Portage takes out just past point on left side in a very shallow, rocky area and puts in also in a very poor shallow rocky loading area.

Rock paintings of two moose and a man on cliffs on northeast side of large island past Jenos Village. 50° 27½' 89° 59' Both very clear and good drawings.

Brennan the same -- we camped on '63 - '65 site just past tip of point where entrance to rapids swings south. 50° 29' 89° 48' Fine site -- tentsites ok, but should be scattered Kitchen and swimming good. We had little fishing success.

Top of Brennan to Below Black Beaver --

Portage at chute as usual 50° 29' 89° 48' Our three-canoe party used it as a campground; looked like probably rougher than ours. The 2 aluminum canoes camped on a small island about 200 yards farther on. Would be possible to find several campsites in this area.

Rapid below 50° 28+ ' 89° 47' water was higher, but even though we could get into run starting on right, swells in center would have been too much. We carried loads again on rock on left at ledges and let canoes down in water. Aluminum canoes before us let them down loaded, but could not have cleared and must have dragged on rocks.

Falls as before 50° 29' 89° 47' there may be a better trail slightly inland from normal one, but not well-used and reports it's poor for canoes. After leaving falls and bend to right, area looks good for campsites.

Small rapid at island as before 50° 29- ' 89° 46'

Good looking campsite area at last bay before last point on Granite before crossing to falls 50° 31' 89° 47'

We took long portage at falls. 50° 32' 89° 47' as in '79. The 3-canoe group came down between right hand island and middle island, probably lining canoes down, and therefore did only last half of portage -- which is the worse half.

Black Beaver 50° 34' 89° 45' can't be run in an open canoe.

We used '79 campsite just below --as in '79 though tentsites could be better -- though not all that bad.

Below Black Beaver to River Bay, Wabakimi --

Rapid below Black Beaver 50° 35' 89° 45' has a small swift at top with V on left and then clear water for a good distance before the major rapid. The major rapid is supposed

to be shot to left of string of rocks that comes almost right down middle staying between rocks and swells to left. We ran right shore again as in '79 with some scrapes. Run just left of a tree coming out from right shore and then between two rocks with some at foot to miss also.

At Little Sturgeon 50° 36' 89° 45-' we ran around the curving bay to right and stopped at portage landing; stay right as much as possible -- landing is just past the foot of a sloping rock that can be seen easily from above. Eddy at portage is small, but holds all canoes. We again could not run around corner at main rapid. Someone has a trail and a lunchsite going around the point, but it stopped one drop before we wanted to put in. Shorter, we carried dry creek bed across point and put in and ran right side of the rest with no trouble, stopping at the slack water at the foot of the '79 portage before lower rapid starts. Lower one was again a nice ride down right side angling out to center at very foot -- looked over before going, however.

Sturgeon as before 50° 37' 89° 44' but trail continues farther than necessary. Stop at lunchsite at foot of trail Trapper's cabin as before. Several campsites on right as bay starts to widen. One in particular on north point of what appears to be last peninsula.

Outpost camp 50° 38' 89° 45' farther out on point than previously marked on map.

Just into River Bay 50° 40+ ' 89° 42' an outpost camp on left behind first island into bay.

'79 campsite into River Bay just past tiny island and rock dot next to it. 50° 41' 89° 37½' One more rock to come afterwards which is too steep. Tent sites very crowded, but possible. Swimming possible, but shallow.

River Bay to Kenoji at foot of Palisade --

Nothing changed from '79 report down to Kenoji -- swift at top of long portage run easily 50° 42' 89° 36' Room in eddy at start of carry for all six canoes. Our 3-canoe party had camped at head of portage. Trail dry for us; wet spot is about ¼ of the way over. Shallow leaving carry.

Then we portaged next two as in '79 50° 42+ ' 89° 37' Start of our trail on first can be seen as rapid is neared. Run on left still too tricky for us -- should be run close to left shore staying out of swells. Next one -- we did let down as before and then let down into carry. Trail reworked to some degree and now better, but one hard left turn soon after start that needs some more alder cut out to get canoes turned. We basically cleared the main trail -- there's an alternate at the turn that is still choked with windfalls. Our 3-canoe group ran right side of this one pretty well. We did the little run-off after the carry and probably would have run left side if we had run the main section.

After wide area next one run down center. 50° 44- ' 89° 36' But needs to be looked over from right shore. Catch shore of island below and look over last rapid. We started in center running slightly to the right.

Our 3-canoe group camped on northwest corner of large island 50° 44' 89° 36' We had lunch on small one. Tent

poles still left from '79! Enough wood left by others for lunch.

'63-'65 site at foot of first pull-up on Palisade 50° 46' 89° 38+' still good and not over-used as feared. Pretty well-sheltered. No fishing attempted.

Palisade Start to '65 Palisade site via Slim Creek --

Side trip to look for possible portage to Little Scrag to north of island and found nothing. Channel east of island still blocked with a line of rock. Channel east of 1st pull-up on Palisade also blocked with rock.

We paddled up what has always been 1st pull-up -- paddled 2nd swift easily 50° 46+' 89° 38' and lined third on right as usual. 50° 46½' 89° 39'

Before next portage we turned right into Slim River. 50° 47' 89° 40-' 1st wide lake-like area very attractive. Highest cliff in area on way in on right. Land rises too steeply for good campsites on most of it except probably point on north shore after lake begins to narrow.

When Slim Creek turns north, land not quite as attractive but still nice. At turn to go back to Palisade McCoubrie had a campsite on what he called "Wolf Howl Point". 50° 51' 89° 36' Landing on east side, probably kitchen up on a relatively high exposed point (we had lunch here and moved fireplace back for protection from wind). We could squeeze tents in, but it would be crowded and rough. If camping take a look at next rock area west, there may be better tentsites on western part of area.

After map shows three islands in a row 50° 51' 89° 36½' going west stream gets even more narrow and eventually has small rocky rapids. Portage on right, parallels stream. Not well-traveled, but perfectly usable. Walking not the best, but not terrible either. Puts in well above last rapid area, and probably could put in lots earlier, but no real need to do the extra work to do so. 100 yards.

A short paddle ahead stream enters on right (north) in a short rapid too shallow and a little too steep to paddle. 50° 51' 89° 38' Lined up easily on right.

In pond above rapid enters from north. 50° 51+' 89° 38' Portage just right of foot of rapid portages this one and one that goes from lake above to a pond. 160 yards. Again not well-used, but perfectly passable. A little rocky at top of trail.

Lake very attractive with several good looking campsite areas on west shore.

Portage out on west in a small bay. 50° 52' 89° 39' 230 yards. First 1/3 on normal forest floor -- not traveled a lot, but only problem was two large beaver-felled poplar to step over. Then goes through an area of wet green moss that would be very spongy in a wet year. At end someone cut a new trail left of old one that goes out onto a wet area -- but would not have been bad in our year -- new trail goes left down shore a little way to a slightly better loading area, but trail is not great for canoe carrying.

Paddle 3/4 mile to '65 site at west turn of Palisade 50° 52' 89° 39' River. We put kitchen on east end of site

as instructed from '65. West end has a table frame -- is also very exposed. Loads of tentsites. Good kitchen and swimming -- though our weather was poor.

Palisade to Webster Creek --

Normal portage to west of Indian site 50° 52' 89° 41' trails as advertised in '79 report -- left trail is much better and campsite at top would be quite good.

Stream to Redman on north shore as marked. 50° 52' 89° 41+' Starts with a very small rock shelf that has to be lined up -- or canoes slid across.

Shortly above portage on left 150 yards goes by a narrow section on map. Trail goes through a little broken rock for first 20 yards and then there is a little jog to the right -- if not careful it looks like trail goes straight ahead.

Just ahead -- supposed to be on an island, but we did not see rapids to right -- portage 200 yards to right of rapid. Unloading a little shallow -- we really unloaded 10 yards to right of trail. Path goes to a rock area and then crosses a very small burn, going roughly straight ahead. It is not very long, but could be confusing. Then goes up a rock area where blazes appear again. Rest of trail fine. Loading room for only a couple canoes.

3rd portage (maybe reaching 50° 52' 89° 40½') on right on a huge bare rock area. Loads of room to unload. Trail goes up gently sloping rock for 25 yards and then turns left into bush -- watch for turn. 150 yards. End in a very flat stand of jackpine on rock that would make an excellent campsite except for swimming.

4th portage at end of small pond on a flat rock unloading area -- lots of room. 90 yards on a very flat, easy trail. Campsites easy at both sides; north one perhaps better -- again probably poor swimming in shallows.

Rest of narrows to Redman paddled looking out for rocks. Many campsite possibilities -- maybe island just in front of 4th portage best.

As Redman is entered a sand beach in foot of entering bay to right and a fly-in camp on right side of bay just above (though we did not see any cabin).

McCoubrie says no campsites on Redman, but shore looks very inviting, though maybe it rises too sharply in places. Maybe tip of 2nd point just before ducking behind islands to portage out. 50° 53' 89° 42'

Portage out 50° 53-' 89° 42½' on north shore just past stream in Takes out just at base of a large, steep rock area and goes up rock. No blazes at start, but some can be seen on jackpine on top of rock. 130 yards. 1st half reasonable climb up. Rest reasonable trail. Puts into a very shallow pond with damp loading area. Paddle out through mud for 10 yards.

Pond shallow -- campsite possibility at west end.

Portage on right at stream supposed to be 65 yards 50° 53' 89° 43' ends very close to stream, but we had very little water in stream because of a huge beaver dam just ahead. Most carried right shore on rock, crossed trickle coming down through dam, and loaded on smooth rock on left at top of dam. We were supposed to put canoes in and load

as soon as water was deep enough. Walking rocks, 200-300 yards in all.

Dam has raised water level in lake or pond above. Shores, particularly south very inviting for camping. Actually 1st rock island would make a superior campsite, but we thought it too exposed in our wind and camped on rock point on south shore. $50^{\circ} 52' 89^{\circ} 44'$ Kitchen in behind trees and tentsites behind. Perfectly ok, but we had seen better on the day's run. Swimming possible, but water not terribly deep.

Webster Creek to Colehouse Lake --

At narrows still going west there's supposed to be a 100 yard portage on right $50^{\circ} 52' 89^{\circ} 45'$ but because of high lake level with beaver dam of yesterday, we paddled through with no trouble.

Shortly after turn to north on Webster Creek $50^{\circ} 53' 89^{\circ} 46'$ we had to unload on top of a beaver dam and lift over.

Campsites perfectly possible all along here, but water is not very deep anywhere.

There was one more beaver dam broken open and canoes pulled up through here.

Just before Webster Lake a portage around a rocky rapid $50^{\circ} 54' 89^{\circ} 46+$ on left 70 yards with not very good loading -- or unloading area. Just above a shallow rapid had to be lined on right; easy after guide cleared rocks out of path.

Hunters have had a small establishment on north end of island in the south of Webster Lake.

Exit from Webster very shallow $50^{\circ} 54' 89^{\circ} 47'$ and canoes had to be handed through a narrow rocky channel that may have been man-made. Then rocks to avoid for awhile and then rest of way to next pond was very shallow -- like paddling through Graymud Lake -- no apparent channel.

Lake was easier to paddle -- campsites ran out at Webster and through this lake.

Entrance to river $50^{\circ} 55' 89^{\circ} 47+$ shallow with reeds -- channel on left side of entrance.

Soon at a rocky rapid a portage on left 150 yards -- well-used trail puts in just above another large beaver dam. We had lunch part way across on a moss-covered rock area, but would have been better to send guide across first, load and paddle to a rock area on left 100 yards on which could not be seen from the beaver dam.

Rest of creek above to next lake very shallow and terrible paddling. One rocky area where canoes had to be handed over a flat rock area and then through a poor excuse for a beaver dam. At split in the stream -- in a marshy, grassy area -- we went left and should have gone right and cut through some dead wood blocking the way.

Lake is easier paddling, but shallow. As western end is approached better channel is near south shore -- very hard paddling along north shore.

We paddled into creek to west about 30 yards until stopped by windfalls. $50^{\circ} 56' 89^{\circ} 49'$ Trail starts there on left -- not marked to be seen from water -- well-cleared and used. Puts into Colehouse Lake just left of creek.

300 yards. Perfectly reasonable walking.

No campsites in first part of Colehouse. We camped on rock area -- first seen on left about 3/4 mile from west end. $50^{\circ} 57' 89^{\circ} 53'$ Reasonable, but tentsites could definitely be better. Rock to be seen to northwest of our site not good. Rock area on point just to south of bay to portage looked like it might be ok.

Colehouse Lake to Metig --

Portage to pond to west $50^{\circ} 57' 89^{\circ} 54'$ leaves in left corner of longest bay (northern one) just where it should -- grassy landing with no visible marks. 800 yards -- good walker but not terrifically well-traveled. Goes up a hill after about 200 yards. Dry and follows a good bit of bare rock. Toward end, one turn to right to follow a peaked rock trail rather than going straight ahead down into bush. At end looks out on a marshy low area, but trail curves right and follows rock to a one-canoe loading area -- others can load by walking a little more rock and putting canoe in from a rock a couple feet above water. Last part a little harder to walk than first.

Pond to Rockcliff -- $50^{\circ} 57' 89^{\circ} 55'$ -- trail starts on a little rock outcropping just south of tiny bay south of creek exit. From rock goes across a very wet area for 15-20 yards to next rock area inland which is probably first place trail can really be picked up. Stays on good land for about 25-30 yards and then an almost perfectly straight walk through what would be a very wet muskeg trail in a wet year -- was wet for us so that you should walk sides of trail most of the way. Trail narrow and impressed into ground. At about 250-300 yards goes onto a rock area and 25 yards on trail makes an unexpected right turn -- easy to spot if looking for it, and then starts drop to water which is very steep, but not too hard to walk. Puts in on the north side of a large rock area in a stand of birch -- would be very hard to locate coming the other way. 350 yards.

Across Rockcliff and slightly north McCoubrie claims is the only campsite on Rockcliff.

We paddled south a mile and had lunch in a hunter's camp on west side just before grass starts.

South end of Rockcliff very shallow and grass-filled -- and not at all attractive. We followed an open lead on east shore until it gave out and crossed through heavy grass -- which wasn't too hard to an open lead on west shore which starts just below island and then had to follow it as it swung east and finally into creek for Metig.

Portage at 1st rapid on right $50^{\circ} 55' 89^{\circ} 56'$ -- Rapids quite steep and very little water coming down. Landing poor -- 250 yards -- loading poor and shallow, but trail ok.

Immediately above portage on left 175 yards around an even steeper rapid. At top of steepest rapid drop there's a bare rock area. Just before trail splits -- take left trail or take right to bare rock and there's a cut-over to the left trail. Loading area very shallow and rocky and good for only one canoe.

Just ahead out of pond a carry on right around rapids from Metig 50° 54' 89° 56' (log jam on rapids from Davies can be seen on left). If water is high, after about 125-150 yards trail splits and left section puts into creek (probably good only coming downstream). Right fork goes to top of rapids -- total about 400 yards. Trail has one area that would be wet in a rainy year just past split in trail. Campsite at top of trail better than anything seen on Metig. Clean with good kitchen area just in from water, lots of reindeer moss flat rock and look to be plenty of tentsites. No swimming, but there isn't any on Metig anyway.

Just above a man-made dam with what looks to be a channel on right we did not try. There's a passage that can be lined easily in middle, at the top remove 2 sections of 4 by 8 that make a gate in the dam to let canoes through.

If coming from Davies, it would probably be easier to take long carry unless desiring the campsite at the head of the previous trail.

Most of Metig grass covered, but open water to paddle. Best campsite possibility on a rock point that faces north in middle section. 50° 55' 89° 59'

Passage to 3rd section identified by a large rock with a few trees beside it that is easily seen as second section is entered.

Trapper's cabin at point going into 3rd section 50° 54' 89° 59' now a mess with parts of skidoos, etc thrown around.

We camped on the cleared area just south of point noted in '79. Terrible -- place was a mess with trash all over the place -- no swimming, and water had to be drawn by going off shore. Awful.

Metig to Greenbush --

We followed open water on right or west shore and eventually ran out of water and had to paddle through grass to east to open water that led to rapid.

Lower part of rapid 50° 55' 90° 0' was easily paddled or poled past old portage we have always taken through channels that look very much man-made up to a very small cascade-like rapid with obvious portage trail on right. In higher water the next rapid might be lined, but we did not bother looking -- water was quite low -- trail is wide and well-traveled and comes into same landing as long one. 300 yards -- good walker. Campsite at top of trail considerably cleaner than in '79 and much more usable.

We got through grass on Little Metig with little trouble -- follow '79 notes.

At "Wretch" Portage 50° 56' 90° 1' someone had redone the rails and tram car so that it worked! We took 2 canoes and their loads across each trip -- took a lot longer than had we carried, but provided entertainment.

Rest of creek shallow, but possible. Then entire bay above is terribly shallow -- only inches of water. Finally gets a little deeper after bay. Then we turned left to go by island and by long thin point 50° 57' 90° 3' and water is only a foot or so deep all the way to end of island. After run back to northeast along this point when left turn

is made it is necessary to go farther northeast than map would lead you to believe to find deep enough water.

We camped at second campsite on island out in middle -- 50° 58' 90° 4' -- well-used hunter's site, but reasonably clean -- but a large can dump. Fine except swimming is poor. Staff misguaged finding site and should have taken first one used for lunch in '79 which has a pretty steep rock landing and is about 150 yards before this one. Swimming is probably better at upper site.

Greenbush to Pashkokogan --

Water shallows after island before turn into narrows to portage 50° 57' 90° 11' and is shallow all the way to portage, though after narrows theres a couple feet of water to paddle in until close to portage.

East Pashkokogan was way down so that west end of portage 50° 57+ ' 89° 13' was just mud -- not too hard to paddle through, but impossible to draw water or wallop pots without going out in canoe and then only maybe six inches of water to narrows out into main lake.

Portage to Pashkokogan 50° 57' 89° 16' needs some axe work with some fallen balsams -- we got through, but more clearing would help.

Campsite is on 2nd island, not 1st as marked on staff map. 50° 56' 90° 20+' There are three sites -- we used one on northwest part of eastern corner which was quite good -- shallow to north, but a decent swimming hole to east. Tentsites ok. We did not look at site on smooth rock on northeast corner. Site on southeast corner is a pig sty and no good.

Pashkokogan to Hamilton --

No change, water a little more shallow than usual.

Someone has built a tent frame at the top of the portage to Hamilton messing up what was a nice lunchsite, possible campground. 50° 53' 90° 26'

Campsite as in '79

Hamilton to Savant Lake --

No change.

FLINDT RIVER - HEATHCOTE - KAWAWEOGAMA

Maps Required:

1:250,000 Series: Sioux Lookout 52 J

1:50,000 Series: Savant Lake 52 J/2
Seseganaga Lake 52 J/1
Wilkie Lake 52 J/8

Trip Reports: 1965 Section A Albany River
1979 Section E
1981 Section E -- Flindt River Circuit

Savant Lake (town) to Flindt Lake --

Road is an excellent gravel road proceeding past turn-off to airbase. 1st side road to left goes to Camp 700, and is so marked. Road to Rainbow Lake leaves on left, so labeled.

1st small bridge with a wooden railing goes over Buckingham.

There's only a culvert over Wellington.

Next wooden bridge goes over Flindt River. $50^{\circ} 11\frac{1}{2}'$ $90^{\circ} 30+$ ' Put into water to north of bridge and paddle pond -- about 40 yards and take out on left at the top of a short steep rapid. Trail now cut -- was an old trail but now unused and had windfalls at start from burn. Some old cuts on some cedar at beginning of trail.

We camped on right after 1st point on a rock shore with good swimming, but really too steep. $50^{\circ} 11'$ $90^{\circ} 30-$ ' Tentsites scattered and poor.

Flindt Lake to Heathcote Lake --

Looked to be a better campsite possibility on next point headed toward narrows. $50^{\circ} 11'$ $90^{\circ} 29\frac{1}{2}'$ Might not be as good if an aircraft has to come in but plane could probably taxi up ok -- rock shore and looks flatter behind.

1st part of river perfectly ok to a reasonably steep rapid that could be run in higher water in all probability, $50^{\circ} 12\frac{1}{2}'$ $90^{\circ} 28'$ but too shallow for us -- an easy let down on right.

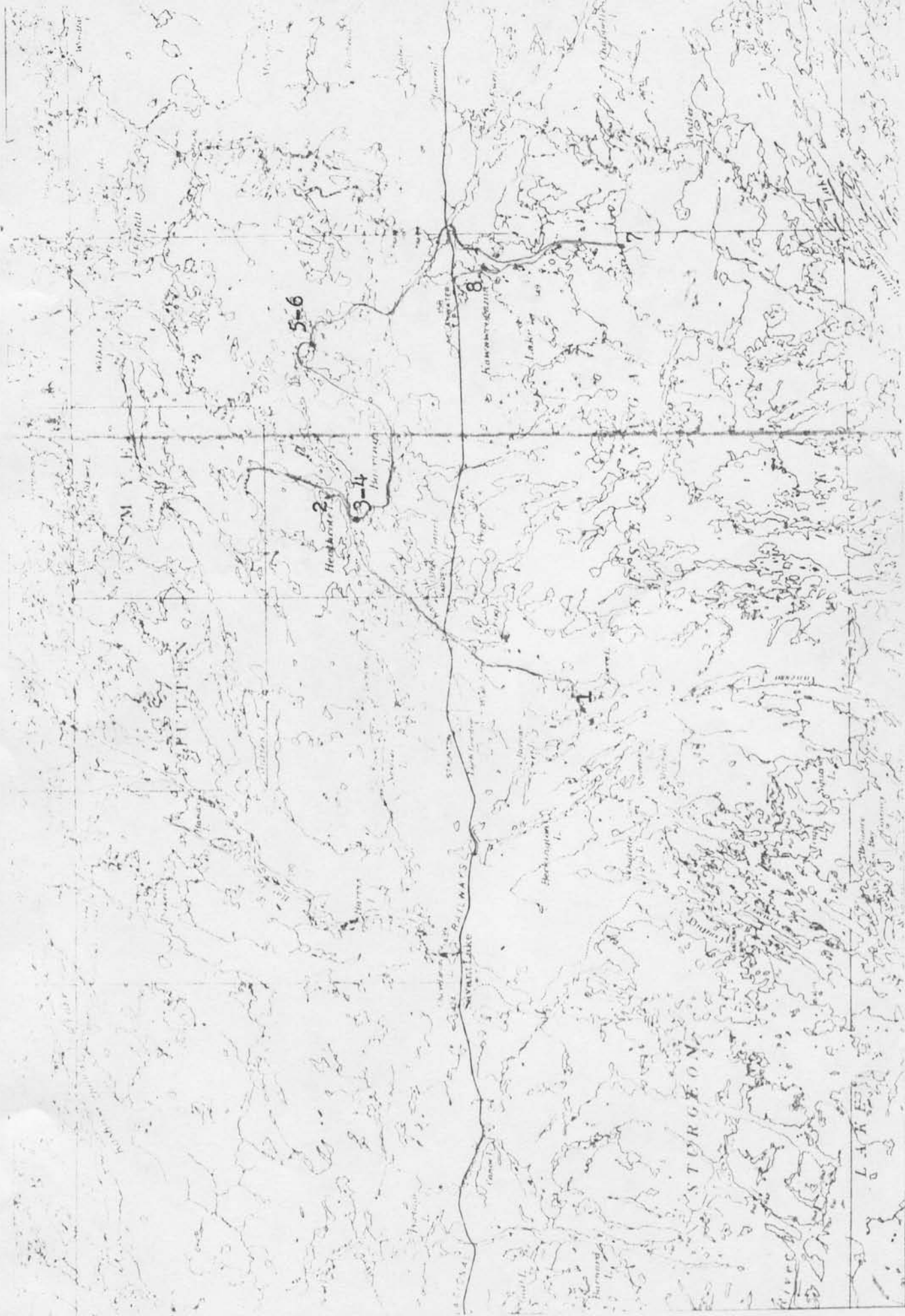
Then flat water for awhile to another one $50^{\circ} 13'$ $90^{\circ} 28'$ less likely to be run, but again an easy let down on right.

Almost to foot just before map makes it look like river widens $50^{\circ} 12\frac{1}{2}'$ $90^{\circ} 28'$ what was an old dam with two logs still in the river bed. We unloaded on rocks on left and lifted canoe over and reloaded. A little shallow immediately -- we took right path.

Area along river has been burned with no campsites, but wide area going up to Flindt Landing has some green areas -- mainly islands that look possible.

Railroad threw up an embankment with no passage at Flindt Landing $50^{\circ} 14\frac{1}{2}'$ $90^{\circ} 27'$. Portage on right at a small house with a dock on a sand beach and up stairs made or railroad ties, across tracks, and down wooden stairs on far side into Flindt Landing Camp and load off beach to right -- 50 yards.

Heathcote is pretty well-burned except for a few green islands up to bay that leads to portage to Barrington.



FLINT RIVER to KAWAEOGAMA BASE

Scale: 1" to 4 Miles

Rock shores are pretty steep and we had trouble finding a place to climb out for lunch. Area at eastern corner of bay that goes to Barrington portage looks like it would have campsites. 50° 17' 90° 22' (see below)

Flindt Camp has a lunch table on a small island out in front of this bay.

Manager at Flindt said portage to what he called Maria Lake is there 50° 17' 90° 23' but it's a dead end because area north of small lake is a swamp.

We camped on left shore just past island at corner of turn into bay to north. 50° 18' 90° 21' Area has traces of burn and is fairly open as a result. Reasonable, but tentsites could be better. Kitchen fair -- swimming ok.

Heathcote to Heathcote --

Attempt to get across to Smye Creek out of top of Heathcote was a failure. 50° 21' 90° 20½' Portage would have to go out of left corner of bay in obvious location and would go up a relatively gentle rise. No signs of prior travel -- a few game trails. Route would go through non-burned area though there is burn on both sides of where route would go. Very high rocks before and after where trail should go. Where map shows the creek; it's a very tiny trickle of water and no chance of ever getting a canoe even to the entrance -- if it can be found. Beyond creek land is lower and swampier, but through burn and not likely. Someone's name scratched on lichen on way up bay and one old bottle at rock just north of where portage should be, but no cuts or blazes anywhere.

We paddled back and camped on point on left as start is made into bay for portage to Barrington (see above) 50° 17' 90° 22' Small point that reaches east just north of a point to which it is connected at the western end -- strange geography. Tentsites could be better, but there are about four pretty good ones. Excellent rocks to dive off and deep water to north. Kitchen ok.

Heathcote to Foam Lake --

Portage to Barrington 50° 16½' 90° 21' just right of low land at foot of bay. Trail goes through very old burn and is badly in need of clearing of new growth and really a chain saw to get out step-over windfalls. Boats stored at both ends. At one point about 1/3 of way across trail doubles back on itself and turn with canoe is difficult. At end trail forks -- take right fork; left puts into a wet area. Terrific blueberries. (We left an axe at Barrington end.) 250 yards.

Narrow section after portage paddled with no trouble though not terribly deep. 50° 16' 90° 20' Area low land.

When Barrington is reached first part was burned though there are some green islands. As paddle north is made there's less burn.

One smooth rock area on south end of relatively large island that blocks bay to right before portage. 50° 18' 90° 15½' Had clubbers on it -- probably not big enough for a section.

On Foam side of portage 50° 18+' 90° 15-' there's a campsite on island just north of end of portage. Would

hold section, but water all around is only about 2 feet deep.

Our site at narrows is better mainly because of swimming. 50° 18' 90° 14'

Foam to Base --

Low water made no real difference through the portage 50° 17' 90° 13' lower trail is definitely the better way to go on portage. Some more clearing could be used, but possible to get through. Upper trail still choked with windfalls at top of hill just before water when coming north.

Creek between two ponds was very shallow 50° 16' 90° 13' and necessary to walk canoes through in places. Lower pond was all grass, but could be paddled. Last rocky narrows very shallow and hard on canoes; had to be walked through.

Allanwater rapid -- 50° 14' 90° 11' we paddled up right side under foot bridge without much trouble. Then lined right side, an easy line except getting into very start of it. No problem paddling the last little swift above.

Lunch on rock island to left at top -- quite good. 50° 13½' 90° 12-' (sort of C-shaped island)