



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

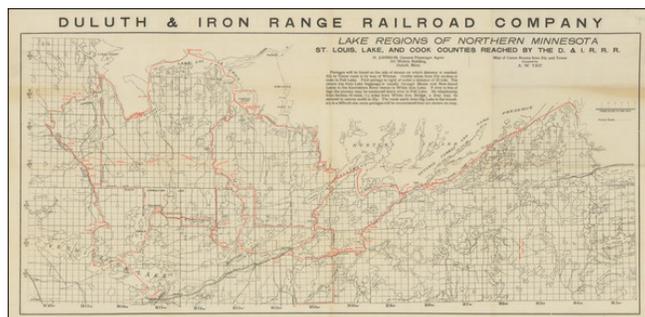
7407 La Jolla Boulevard  
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500  
blr@raremaps.com

## Lake Regions of Northern Minnesota — St. Louis, Lake, and Cook Counties Reached by the D. & I. R. R.

**Stock#:** 96193  
**Map Maker:** Duluth & Iron Range Railroad Co.  
**Date:** 1910 circa  
**Place:** Duluth  
**Color:** Outline Color  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 31 x 14 inches  
**Price:** \$ 475.00



### Description:

#### *Canoe Map of Northern Minnesota*

Fascinating map of the northernmost part of Saint Louis County, Minnesota, compiled by A.W. Tait.

Despite the Duluth & Iron Range Railroad Company's name being prominently featured at the top of this map, the railway line plays a surprisingly minor role in the map's overall content. Established in 1874 to connect Two Harbors and Soudan (located in the map's lower southeast section), the line was initially designed to transport minerals, predominantly iron ore, from the burgeoning mines in the area. However, as the 20th century dawned and mining activities began to diminish, the railroad company sought to diversify its revenue streams, turning its attention to the lucrative potential of tourism.

This map illustrates the company's efforts to promote tourism in Northern Minnesota, a region celebrated for its natural splendor and contributing to the state's moniker, "Land of 10,000 Lakes." Outdoor enthusiasts had long praised the area's pristine wilderness, and the railroad company sought to leverage this appeal. The map specifically highlights canoe routes originating from the towns of Tower and Ely. Both towns lie conveniently along the Duluth & Iron Range Railroad, making them accessible starting points for these adventurous excursions.

The canoe routes mapped out were not endeavors for the casual tourist; they presented real challenges. The map lists numerous portages, but these represent just a fraction of the potential difficulties faced by canoeists. Factors like communication hurdles, unpredictable weather, encounters with wildlife, and the need for adequate supplies were all part of the experience in the North Woods. Local businesses, recognizing the needs of these adventurers, offered services to enhance comfort and convenience. This is



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exemplified by the informative text box under the map's title, which describes a service where a dray, or flatbed wagon, could be summoned to transport canoes across troublesome portages, thereby easing one aspect of the journey for these intrepid visitors.

**Detailed Condition:**