

## ELY'S MINING HERITAGE: SAVOY MINE

In a five part series, Mine Reader is exploring Ely's mining heritage by recounting the history of the five iron ore mines which were actively mined for nearly 80 years and included: Chandler, Pioneer, Savoy, Sibley and Zenith mines. These mines all resided within a one and a half mile radius in the eastern Vermilion Iron Range located in Ely, Minnesota. Today the history of these mines is told along the Trezona Trail, which circles Ely's Miners Lake, a recreational lake formed after the closing of the Pioneer Mine in 1967. In the third installment of the series we explore the story of Ely's Savoy Mine, located northeast of downtown Ely.



#### Sources:

*The commemorative mine signs were made possible by the Ely Greenstone Public Art, with the cooperation of the City of Ely, who obtained a grant for the signs. The grant was made possible in part by an appropriation to the Minnesota Historical Society from the Minnesota Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund. The Trezona Trail signage was produced by the City of Ely and the Mineland Reclamation Division of the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board.*

*Zenith City Archive, [http://zenithcity.com/zenith-city-history-archives/minnesotas-arrowhead/a-brief-history-of-ely/Mining\\_Artifacts](http://zenithcity.com/zenith-city-history-archives/minnesotas-arrowhead/a-brief-history-of-ely/Mining_Artifacts), <http://www.miningartifacts.org/Minnesota-MInes.html>*

The development of the Savoy Mine began in 1898 by John G. Brown and A.M. Miller, Sr. who quickly relinquished their ownership. Ultimately, Henry H. Porter, a Chicago railroad owner, built the Savoy Mine with the first shipment of iron ore being made in 1899, operating until 1916. The Savoy Mine reached depths of 840 feet and produced more than 1.8 million long tons of iron ore during its operation. The ore body and steel shaft from the Savoy Mine were later utilized by the Sibley Mine which operated until 1954.