

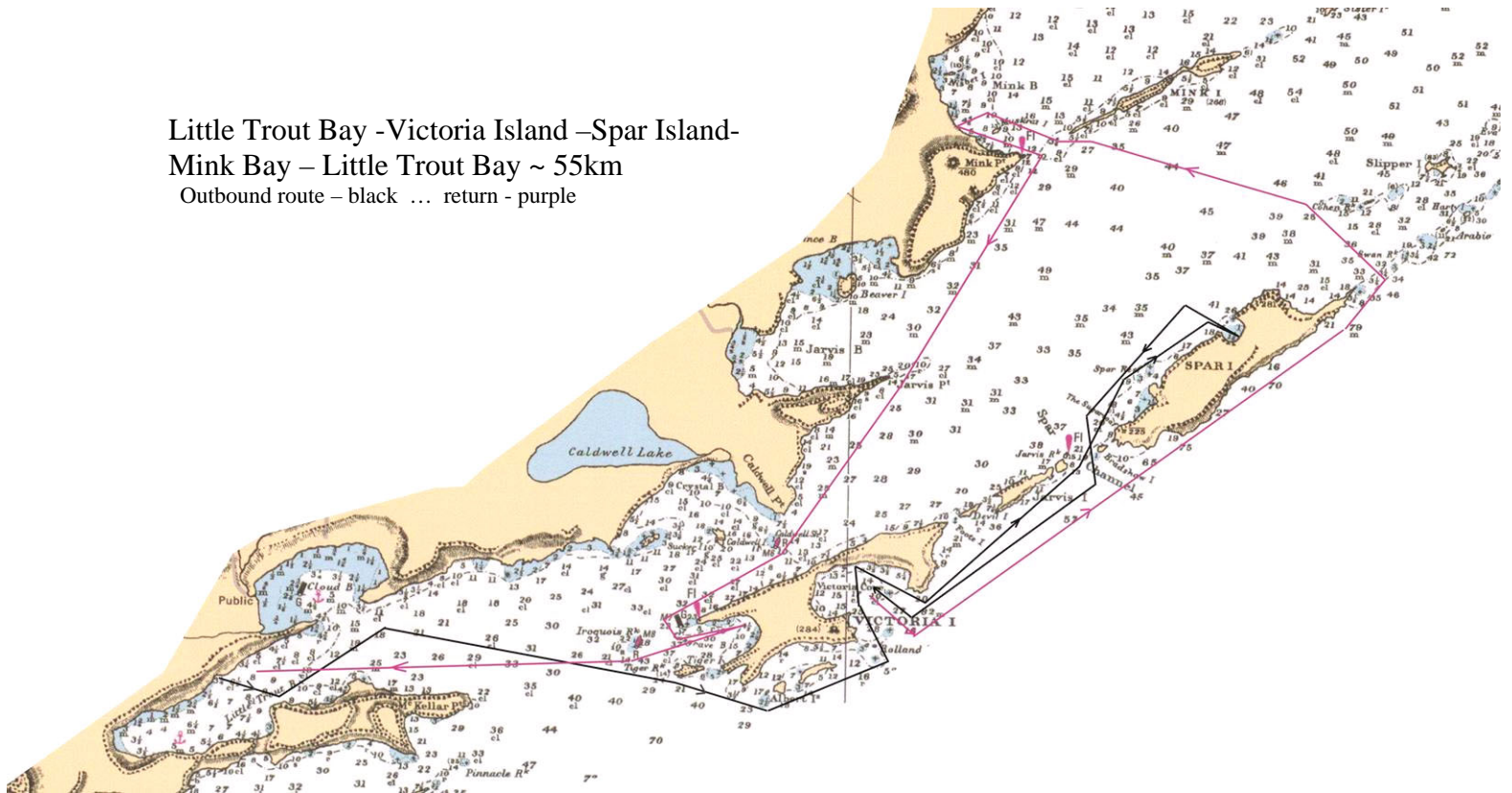
Lake Superior ... Victoria Island 'Expedition'

Sept 3-4, 2006 Wayfarer 9657

A weekend cruise around some Lake Superior islands southwest of Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Wayfarer sailors Andy Ivancic and Andrew Hail

Little Trout Bay -Victoria Island –Spar Island-
Mink Bay – Little Trout Bay ~ 55km
Outbound route – black ... return - purple



Regional map

Victoria Island ... W cruise /camping Sept 3-4, 2006



After setting up the boat and stowage of gear we departed the launching dock at Little Trout Bay Conservation Area – located on the coast southwest of Thunder Bay on Lake Superior.



We sailed out of Little Trout Bay and NE toward Victoria Island... part of the linear group of offshore islands leading from Pie Island south of Thunder Bay and down towards the US-border.



The outside E coast of Victoria Island - approaching the entrance to Victoria Cove.



W9657 in Victoria Cove- checking out the beach for camping opportunities.



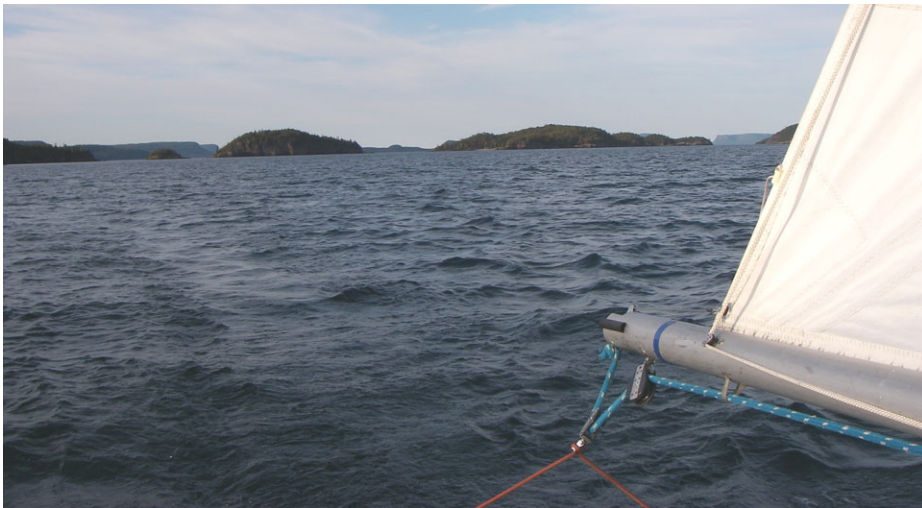
It is still far too early for actually camping so we sail onwards north and along the west side of Spar Island to check out another camping possibility – Pie Island in the distance.



Andy and spinnaker practice on the broad reach to Spar.



A clearing in the bay on Spar Island... a camping discouraging mess left after an old cabin fire.



We had a brisk upwind beat to return to Victoria Island and passed by a few smaller islands between Spar and Victoria en-route ...



... to the beach and campsite at Victoria Cove... and Njord rolled up on the cobble beach.



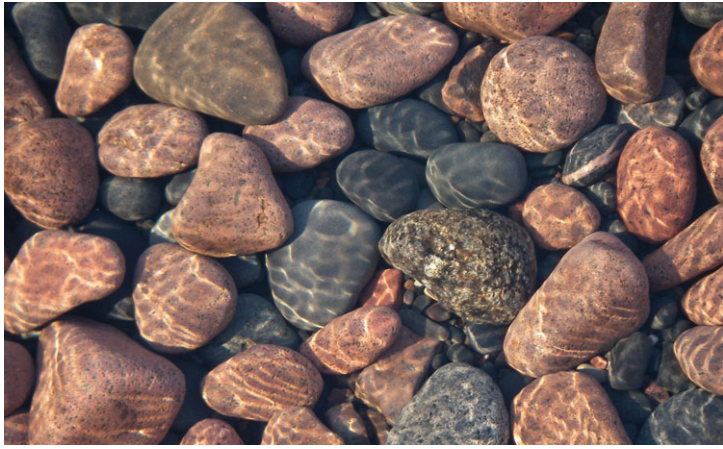
me... starting the stove for dinner (note: the beers are already started).



Evening light – Victoria Cove - north shore Lake Superior.



Next morning on Victoria Cove beach – not much wind yet but a great day is promised.



Cobbles at waters edge.



While waiting for wind we explored a mossy trail across Victoria Island on an old survey line cut through the predominately black spruce forest ...



... to reach the inland side and a view across to mainland and back down into Little Trout Bay.



Looking the other way north towards Spar, Thompson, and distant Pie Island.



Departure ... and sailing north outside the island chain looking through a gap to the mainland.



Along the rocky and wave pounded outer coast of Spar Island and the start of fall colours.



Perfection in spinnaker trim and a very big expanse of water to sail on.



The exposed Lake Superior coast of Spar and view north along Thompson to distant Pie Island.



Rounding the end of Spar Island ... looking north towards the spectacular cliffs of Pie Island.



Andy at the helm ...



...sailing from Spar towards Mink Island and the mainland at Mink Bay ...



... into Mink Bay and around to a mainland beach under the cliffs of the Palisades.



Njord anchored in shelter of Mink Bay for a lunch stop ... the view looking 15km to Pie Island.



Leaves and pebbles – Mink Bay beach.



Departing Mink Bay and beginning a long upwind sail up the inside channel of the island chain back to Victoria Island.



The returning vista into Little Trout Bay from the south tip of Victoria Island.



Early evening light on cliffs of Little Trout Bay at trip completion ... departing with intention for some further W cruises and exploring.

Andrew Hail W9657