



This is an Approximate Extent of the Laurentide Ice sheet based on an extension of the Wisconsin ICE trail

A lot of people call me curious and I guess I am but I think that most people who paddle and hike are too because you take so much time to reflect on things and wonder why. I also was a Road Design Tech in my working life meaning I was paid to be part of a group to find passageways.

The red dotted lines are MAIN passageways that would have been formed by the primary ungulate CARIBOU (given to twice yearly migration) It is completely natural for the First People to situate on the narrows of these routes and/or to follow them particularly because these pathways are almost always the best route possible which is the reason why modern roads and railroads also followed them.

Notice how these routes all by-pass high craggy hills and big waters!

My conclusion is that North Bay and Mattawa are GATEWAYS to Northern Ontario, north western Quebec and the rest of Canada.

I borrowed "GATEWAY" from Peter Legget's book "Ottawa Waterway, Gateway to a Continent (1975)