

The First Open Pit Mining Site



The First Open Pit

THE JACKSON MINE

"We returned to the mouth of the Carp with three hundred pounds of ore on our backs" Abram Berry 1846

First President of the Jackson Mining Company

Discovering iron ore was easier than mining it. This first open pit mine in the Lake Superior region started as a mountain of ore 150 feet high. Workers began prying ore from the surface with a bar and pick. Later they hand-drilled holes and filled them with explosives to fracture the ore body.

Eventually mining transitioned to underground following the rich veins of ore. Look for evidence of these mining examples.

