Features

- A beautiful rock lodge, built in 1934, as part of the Chik Wauk Resort (in operation until 1978)
- Interactive, interpretive displays telling the story of the Gunflint Trail
- Rotating, temporary exhibits
- A 50 acre site with 5 unique nature trails
- A serene, jack pine studded setting on a bay on Saganaga Lake
- Close to the Centennial Trail
- Special presentations during the summer months

Location

Chik-Wauk Museum & Nature Center is about 56 miles northwest of Grand Marais near the end of Co. 12 (the Gunflint Trail).

- From MN 61 in Grand Marais, turn north on Co 12 (Gunflint Trail).
- Follow Co. 12 for 56 miles to Co. 81 (Moose Pond Rd). Turn right.
- Turn right into Chik-Wauk’s driveway through signed gate.
Description

The original Chik-Wauk Resort was built in 1931 by Gunflint Trail pioneer Ed Nunstedt, but the granite lodge seen today opened to guests in 1934 after a fire destroyed the original wooden lodge. During its heyday, Chik-Wauk Resort had 11 rental cabins on its property and offered meals, fishing services, and entertainment to guests. The property exchanged hands several times, until 1958 when Ralph and Bea Griffis purchased it. In the mid-1970's, the Griffis's sold the property to the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). Most of the cabins and outbuildings were removed, with the stone lodge remaining. In June of 2006, the newly formed Gunflint Trail Historical Society and the Superior National Forest established a partnership to restore the building to house a museum telling the story of the Gunflint Trail. Several years of restoration work and planning culminated with the Grand Opening on July 4, 2010.

In the museum, you’ll find exhibits detailing the history of the Trail as the area moved from mining to timber to tourism, plus the original massive stone fireplace. Outside, you can explore any of five nature trails.

Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center is open daily from 10-5 from Memorial Day weekend to mid-October.

Museum contact: 218-388-9915 www.chikwauk.com