

Resorts on Belle Taine: Past and present

A new sign greets visitors at the Belle Taine public landing.

Local resident Dave McCurnin spend nearly a year on the project, working off of old Fuller's Tackle maps, Hubbard County Historical Society records, a book of old resorts, postcards and talking to past and present resort owners and even the Hubbard County assessor's office.

"I was on a Belle Taine Lake cruise with my wife, pointing out where old resorts used to be, and she suggested I should make a map of all the old resorts on the lake. The resulting sign is now displayed at the public access on Belle Taine, on the back side of the "Welcome to Belle Taine" sign," McCurnin said. "I had lots of help in getting things in the general vicinity of where they were in the past"

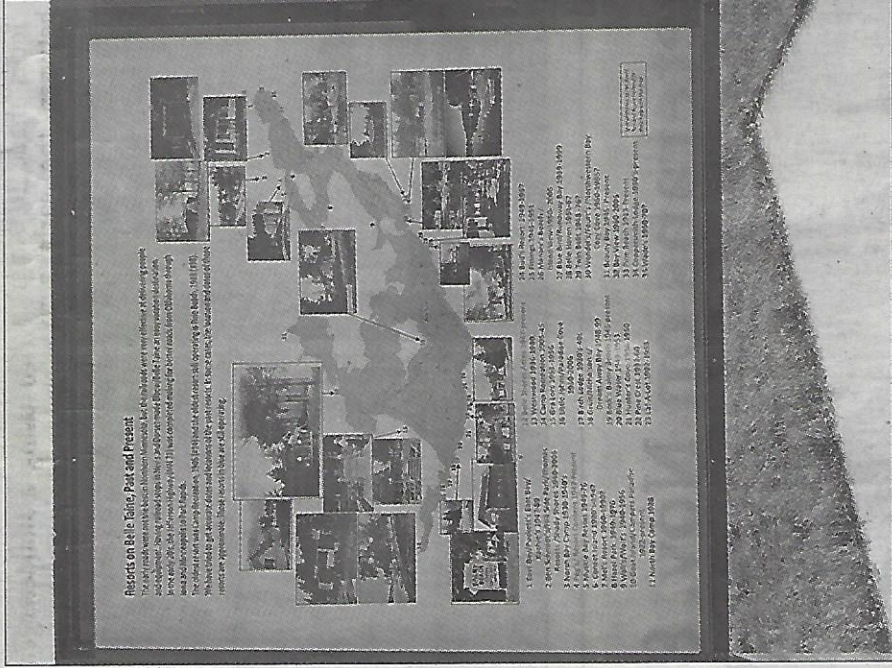
Since the late 1920s, Fuller's Tackle printed maps of area lakes with resorts marked on them. These maps were a rich

resource for McCurnin.

"Fuller's placement was approximate, as is my representation," he said. "Pat Roehl, a former resort owner, helped with some photos and dates. In addition, Ren Holland's book "Early Resorts of Minnesota" was used to help with dates and name changes. We got old resort postcards and maps from Ren and Royce Holland and Darrell Hanson. Some of the cards had postmarks on them, which actually helped with establishing the dates resorts were open, as was the case with Pine Beach."

McCurnin hopes the next step will be adding signs at each location, commemorating the address with the name of the resort that once existed there and its dates of operation.

"We are still looking for old photos of some of the resorts, and if we are able to get them, we'll add them to the sign," he said. McCurnin can be reached at 602-432-9236.



Submitted photo Belle Taine resident Dave McCurnin installed this new sign at the lake's public landing. The map details where past and present resorts were located.