

PRIEST LAKE MUSEUM AND VISITOR CENTER



¼ mi. north of the junction of Luby Bay
Rd and Lakeshore Rd
P.O. Box 44, Coolin ID 83848
(208) 443-2676

Open daily (except Monday)
throughout the summer

The Coolin Civic Organization

is a not for profit group of dedicated
volunteers working for the good of the
Coolin Community.

The Coolin Community Center also
serves as the disaster relief center for
east side Priest Lake.



*Fundraisers include the Memorial Day
Weekend Spring Festival; sale of "Cooking
at Priest Lake" and "Coolin Cooks;" and the
annual Independence Day Ice Cream Social.*

You are Invited to an Open House at the historic Northern Inn



to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the PRIEST LAKE MUSEUM

Saturday May 29, 2010
1:00 – 3:00, following the parade

Honorees: Lois Hill & GG Fisher,
Museum Founders

Enjoy
a display of historic Priest Lake photos
Refreshments and Fond Memories

HISTORIC COOLIN WALKING TOUR

“GATEWAY TO PRIEST LAKE”



BEARDMORE AUTO STAGE

In 1904 Charles Beardmore bought the fledgling Priest Lake Transportation Company, a wagon and team of horses taking supplies and passengers from Priest River to Coolin. It was an arduous journey, taking most of the day with a lunch stop at the Halfway House. The 1914 White auto stage took only two hours and has been replicated by Beardmore's great-grandsons for display.

HISTORIC COOLIN WALKING TOUR "GATEWAY TO PRIEST LAKE"

#1 SCHOOL HOUSE



The one-room Coolin school opened in 1916 for grades 1-8. Teachers often boarded with local families and some children had to walk several miles to attend classes. The building has served as a community center since 1950.

#2 PAUL-JONES BEACH CABIN number 12



Developed in 1923 on the beach beyond the Leonard Paul Store, this popular resort attracted tourists with its giant water slide, dance pavilion and beautiful sandy beaches. There were 16 rental cabins, which came complete with a rowboat - but no electricity or indoor plumbing. Cabin #12 has been moved to its present site.

#3 NORTHERN INN



The Great Northern Railway built the Inn in 1890 to accommodate tourists it envisioned flocking to Priest Lake via a proposed rail line. As times changed, the inn was renamed the Klockmann Hotel after the original owner of the Continental Mine, and today stands as the oldest historic building on the lake.

#4 LEONARD PAUL STORE



Leonard Paul built the first general store on this site in 1906 to provide supplies for the homesteaders, miners, trappers and early tourists. His motto was, "If we don't have it, you don't need it." The current store, constructed in 1926, still serves area residents and travelers.

#5 IDAHO INN



The Bishop's Marina site was once the location of the charming two-story Idaho Inn. The hub of Coolin's social life in the early 1900s, owner Ida Handy offered guest rooms, delicious meals, and a place for residents to congregate on weekends. The Inn burned to the ground in 1943.

#6 SLEE MARINA AND CABIN



Slee's boats provided the only means of transportation around the lake for many years. The marina and family log cabin were located to the right of the current boat launch on Coolin's waterfront, and will soon be the site of a photo kiosk, "Coolin - the Gateway to Priest Lake," a project of the Priest Lake Museum.

#7 FUTURE KIOSK

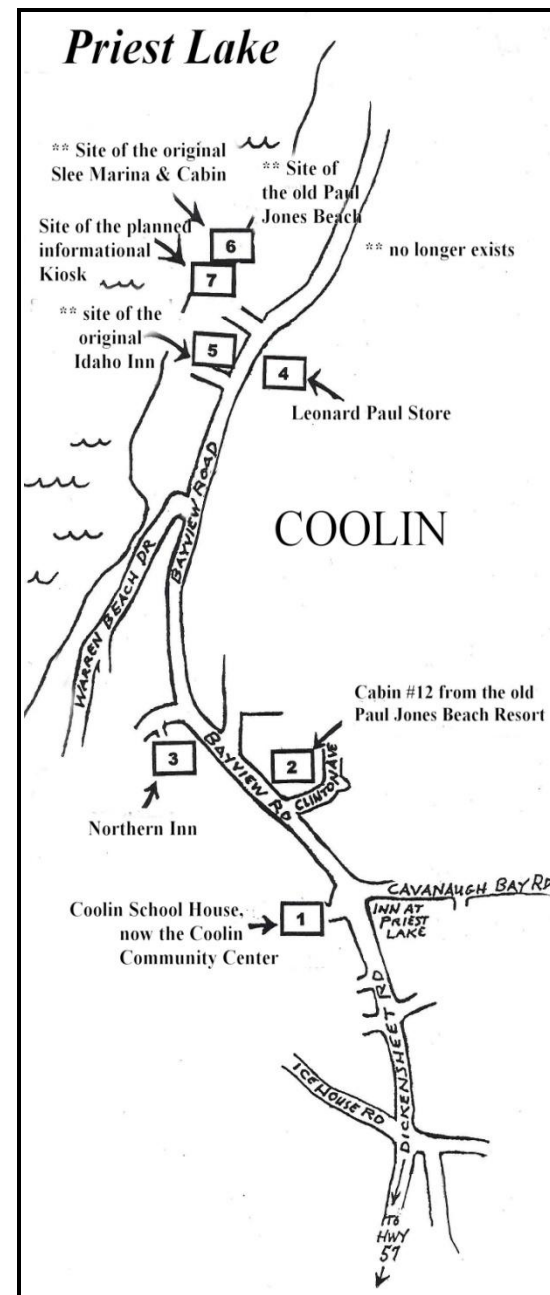


An informational kiosk will feature photo panels and items of historical interest.

ANDREW COOLIN



Born in Toronto, Canada, Andrew Coolin came to Priest lake in the 1890s. He homesteaded 160 acres at Coolin and served as Postmaster from 1894-1900. Andy Coolin had several rustic cabins around the lake near his mining claims and traveled widely in search of his big strike. He died in 1936 at age 87, leaving wife Elizabeth of Stockton, California, and son Stewart of Priest Lake.



For more about the history of Coolin and Priest Lake, read "Pioneer Voices of Priest Lake," edited by Kris Runberg Smith. Available at the Priest Lake Museum and local outlets.