



W Lake Eaton

Indian Lake S

Fire observers were employed by the NY Commissioner of Conservation from early spring until autumn rains returned. The observers not only watched for smoke, but also graded, sawed, skinned, and packed for the frequent turnover in personnel.

During inclement weather, observers worked on trails, phone lines, and buildings on and off the mountain. In winter, most observers were given a leave of absence without pay which accounted for the frequent turnover in personnel.

When smoke was spotted, a sighting instrument called an "Osborne Fire Finder" was rotated on its map until a lined up edge and telephone or radio line was read from the map lower. The second tower obtained a direction, and the fire's location could be pinpointed. A fire fighting crew would then be dispatched to the location.



Osborne Tower Observations
 Between 1895 and 1905, the Adirondack Park was divided into 100 sections. Each section was assigned a fire tower. The following table lists the towers and their locations.

Tower Name	Location	Year
Adirondack Park	Adirondack Park	1895
Adirondack Park	Adirondack Park	1896
Adirondack Park	Adirondack Park	1897
Adirondack Park	Adirondack Park	1898
Adirondack Park	Adirondack Park	1899
Adirondack Park	Adirondack Park	1900
Adirondack Park	Adirondack Park	1901
Adirondack Park	Adirondack Park	1902
Adirondack Park	Adirondack Park	1903
Adirondack Park	Adirondack Park	1904
Adirondack Park	Adirondack Park	1905

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