

## irst Wilderness Heritage Corridor

**Hiking Trails** 

## **Hooper Mine**

SIAMESE PONDS WILDERNESS - TOWN OF JOHNSBURG, NY

Difficulty: Length:

.7 mile roundtrip

Time to Complete: 1/2 hr

Trailhead Coordinates: -74 6.29 43 42.53

160 **Elevation Gain:** 

**Trail Notes:** 

This is a fun destination for kids, those curious about the area's mining history, and anyone interested in finding the unique garnet that populates this region (hint: you don't have to look far). The Hooper Garnet Mine opened in 1898, but closed shortly thereafter when Mr. Hooper realized he couldn't compete with the Barton Mine next door and went to work for his competitor instead. The abandoned mine is now state-owned and accessed via a short, uphill trail from the Garnet Hill tennis courts. Head around to the north side of the pit to view an abandoned mine structure and climb up to the top of the mine. You'll be rewarded with a great view of Ruby Mountain Mine, as well as Thirteenth Lake.

Directions and Parking:

Count Take the Northway to exit 23. Turn west off the exit and then right onto Route 9 North for 4.2 miles. Turn left onto NY28 for 21.2 miles. Turn left onto 13th Lake Rd for 4.4 miles. Follow the signs for the Garnet Hill Ski shop to the right and park at the tennis court. The trail starts on Garnet Hill's property, so be sure to check in at the ski shop and let them know you would like to hike to the mine. Follow the road to the left of the tennis courts a short distance until you see an old trail kiosk off to the right. Follow the sign for Hooper Mine to the left. The trail is not marked, but is easy to follow. Just be sure to bear to the right and up the hill.

Saratoga

## Things to Do Nearby:

Garnet Hill offers a number of recreational opportunities, including cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and mountain biking, as well as a lodge for overnight guests and a restaurant. Visit nearby Barton Mines to learn more about the area's garnet mining history, or hike one of the other numerous Siamese Ponds Wilderness trails.

