

Rescue Room Audio Tour
Chapter 6, Stop 5
1:01

The Soudan Mine was considered a relatively safe mine compared to other mines. This is one reason it is considered “the Cadillac of Mines”. Unfortunately, there were still some accidents or emergencies at the mine.

The mine had a mine rescue team to respond to emergencies. Part of the team was stationed at the Pioneer Mine in Ely. Teams typically consisted of 5-7 men. One team would respond to the emergency, while a second was prepping as the back up team. The team had various protective equipment that they would wear when responding to an emergency. One item is the self-contained breathing apparatus. It provided the wearer with fresh oxygen, so he did not need to breathe the potentially “bad” air. They also had first aid kits, stretchers, and other first aid equipment.

Today the mine staff trains with the university’s lab staff, so we can respond to any emergencies. We still use some of the same type of equipment and receive monthly training on safety topics, so that the facility is a safe and secure area.