

# Duluth Aerial Lift Bridge

## Identification

<b>EBN</b>	239407
<b>Name</b>	Duluth Aerial Lift Bridge
<b>Construction Type</b>	bridge
<b>Current Status</b>	existing [completed]

## Location

<b>Continent Name</b>	North America	<b>Metro Area Name</b>	Duluth Metro Area
<b>Country Name</b>	U.S.A.	<b>City Name</b>	Duluth
<b>State Name</b>	Minnesota	<b>District (1st level)</b>	Park Point
<b>Zone</b>	Canal Park	<b>Address (as text)</b>	Lake Avenue South, connecting Canal Park with Minnesota Point

## Description

**Main Usage**  foot traffic  
 vehicle traffic

## Spatial dimensions

**Height (structural)** 228 ft

## Years and costs

**Year (construction start)** 1904 **Year (last renovation)** 1930

**Year (construction end)** 1905

## Features & Amenities

- One of the city's famous buildings
- National landmark

## Facts

- The Duluth Aerial Lift Bridge transports traffic from the mainland to Minnesota Point, a narrow 7 mile sandbar that extends south.
- Minnesota Point shelters the Duluth-Superior Harbor, one of the largest inland harbors in the world, from Lake Superior, the world's largest freshwater lake.
- The Duluth Ship Canal was originally constructed in 1871 to satisfy the increasing demand for access to the harbor by large cargo and passenger ships plying the Great Lakes.
- By the mid-1920s, the gondola system could no longer keep up with the increasing traffic.
- The bridge was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1973.
- Engineers raised the top span by 42 feet, constructed new towers within the original structure, and added a movable bridge deck.
- This solution was modeled after a similar bridge and gondola system in Rouen, France.
- Last overhauled in 1985-1986, the bridge remains one of the Duluth's most enduring symbols and popular tourist attractions.

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- The span is raised either half-way (for small vessels) or to the top of the structure to allow massive freighters, primarily transporting iron ore, coal, and grain, through the Duluth Ship Canal.
- The superstructure was completed in 1905 and featured a gondola which could transport up to 62 tons at a time, including pedestrians, horses, freight, and later, automobiles.
- The span was first lifted on March 29, 1930 and is lifted approximately 5000 times per year.

## Involved companies

Architect.....

**Thomas McGilvray**

Duluth

U.S.A.

## Additional company data available for this building

<b>Construction Company</b>	<a href="#">Buy full PDF</a>	<b>Steel Supplier</b>	<a href="#">Buy full PDF</a>
<b>Owner</b>	<a href="#">Buy full PDF</a>	<b>Structural Engineering</b>	<a href="#">Buy full PDF</a>

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