

Appalachian Trail History

Grandma Gatewood's Walk

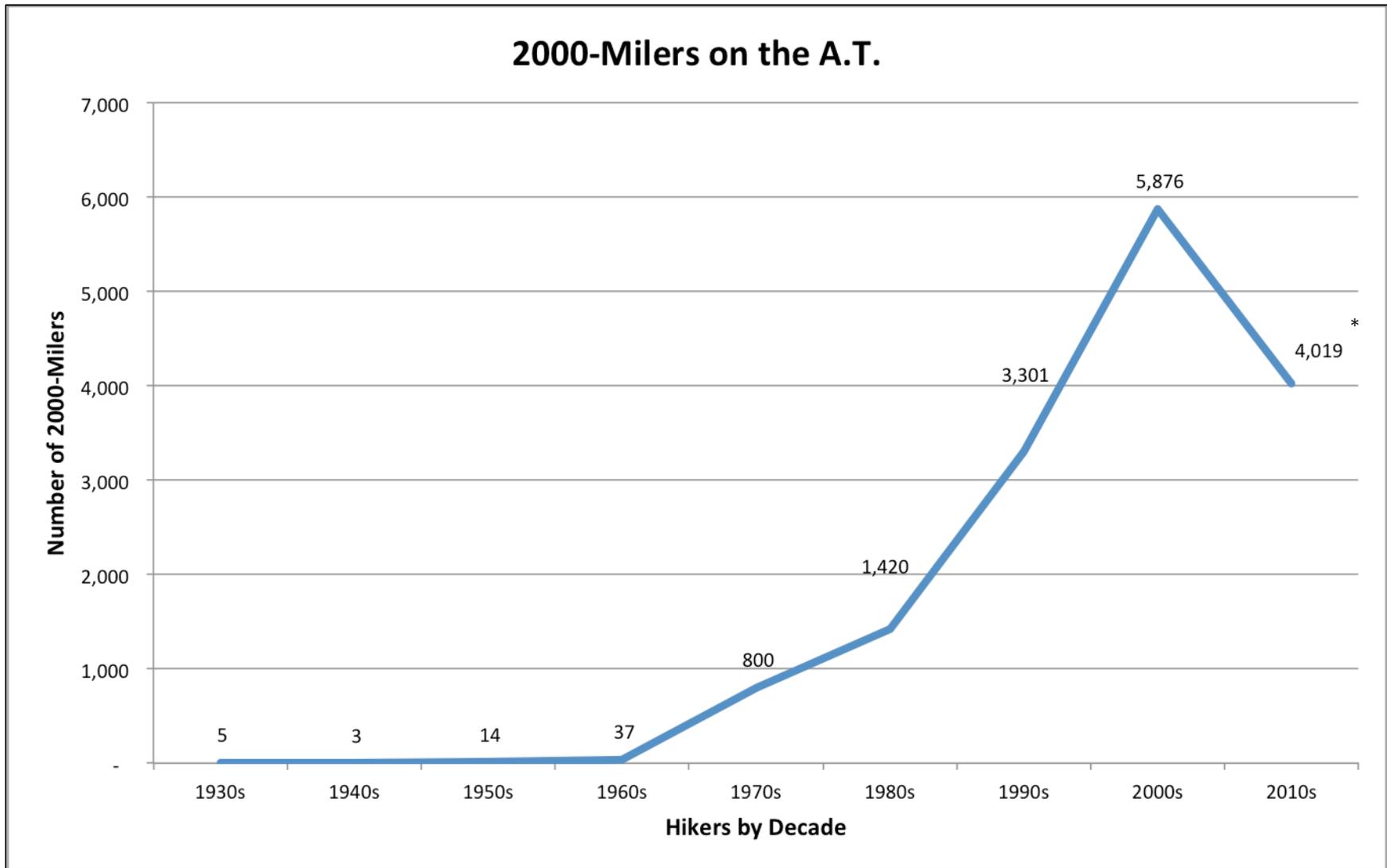
October 1921	"An Appalachian Trail: A Project in Regional Planning." by Benton MacKaye appears in the <i>Journal of the American Institute of Architects</i> . [TY]
March 3, 1925	Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC) established. [TY]
May 1928	A second ATC meeting... The reworded purpose of the organization was to "promote, establish and maintain a continuous trail for walkers, with a system of shelters and other necessary equipment..." [TY]
1931	"...nearly half the trail had been marked – but mostly in the Northeast, where many trails had long been established and hiking communities had a history." [p. 47]
June 1931	Myron H. Avery elected to first of seven consecutive terms as ATC Chairman." ¹ [TY] "[Myron] Avery... helped organize hiking clubs and plan undeveloped sections [of the A.T.]" [p. 47]
1933	"By 1933, the U.S. Forest Service and the southern clubs reported their third of the Trail completed." [TY]
1934	"Clubs reported completion of 1,937 miles of trail." [TY]
1935	"The Appalachian Trail – first in Maine, later in southern states – became an item on the agenda of the Depression-era Civilian Conservation Corps." [TY]
1936	"[Myron Avery] ...became the first '2,000-miler' on the footpath." "By that time, he had walked and measured every step of the flagged or constructed route..." [Note he accomplished this in sections, not in one continuous hike.] [TY]
August 14, 1937	"Appalachian Trail completed as a continuous footpath." [TY]
October 15, 1938	"...the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service executed an agreement to promote the trailway concept on the 875 miles of federal lands along the A.T. route..." [TY]
August 5, 1948	Earl Shaffer, a hiker from Pennsylvania, became the first, reported thru-hiker of the A.T. [TY]
October 2, 1968	National Trails System Act becomes law; A.T. becomes a national scenic trail under federal-state protection. [TY]
January 26, 1984	National Park Service delegates to ATC the responsibility for managing A.T. corridor lands [TY]

TY - [Trail Years: A History of the Appalachian Trail Conference](#) as published by Appalachian Trailway News, Special 75th Edition, July 2000

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*Through 2013. Source: <https://www.appalachiantrail.org/2000-milers>