

Joyce Estate, Barbeque Pit  
Chippewa National Forest Road 2144,  
3 miles north of County Road 335  
Grand Rapids vicinity  
Itasca County  
Minnesota

HABS No. MN-146-F

HABS  
MINN  
31-GDRAP.V,  
3F-

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Rocky Mountain Regional Office  
Department of the Interior  
P.O. Box 25287  
Denver, Colorado 80225

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

### JOYCE ESTATE, BARBEQUE PIT

HABS No. MN-146-F

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## PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

### A. Physical History:

1. **Date of Erection** Ca. 1948
2. **Original and Subsequent Owners** In 1916, David Gage Joyce secured the site of the Barbeque Pit and nearby buildings through the services of Simeon D. Patrick, who purchased the land as an intermediary. In 1917, Joyce acquired title in his own name. After Joyce's death in 1937, the property passed to his wife Beatrice Rudolph and daughter Beatrice Clotilde. In 1946, two years before her death, Beatrice Rudolph conveyed full title to Beatrice Clotilde, who retained ownership until her own death in 1972. In 1973, the Nature Conservancy purchased the property and resold it at cost the following year to the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service for incorporation into the Chippewa National Forest.<sup>1</sup>
3. **Builders, Contractors, Suppliers** Unknown.
4. **Alterations and Additions** The Barbeque Pit appears to be in its original condition.

**B. Historical Context:** According to former Joyce Estate caretaker Joseph Waleski, Jr., the Barbeque Pit was built "in the late 1940s."<sup>2</sup> For further information, see the historical overview of the Joyce Estate in HABS No. MN-146.

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

### A. General Statement:

1. **Architectural Character** Constructed of heavily mortared, rubble fieldstone, the

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<sup>1</sup> S.D. Patrick, Deed to David G. Joyce, 9 May 1917, Deed Book 35, 103; "In the Matter of the Estate of David Gage Joyce, Final Decree of Distribution," 30 June 1938, Book of Deeds 144, 401-406; Beatrice Rudolph Joyce, Deed to Beatrice Clotilde Joyce, 3 July 1946, Deed Book 167, 249 (all the foregoing in the Itasca County Recorder's Office, Itasca County Courthouse, Grand Rapids, MN); "Former Joyce Estate Is Dedicated to Public," Grand Rapids Herald Review, 14 October 1974.

<sup>2</sup> Author's interview with Joseph Waleski, Jr., Grand Rapids, MN, 27 January 1987.

Barbeque Pit consists of a central fire-grate, oven, and chimney section flanked by sloping wing walls; on the rear (southwest) of the stonework is a small, one-story, wood-frame, gable-roofed woodshed. The Barbeque Pit's rustic appearance harmonizes well with its wooded surroundings.

**2. Condition of Fabric Good.**

**B. Description of Exterior:**

- 1. Overall Dimensions** Approximately 8'0"x16'4"x6'6" high.
- 2. Foundations** Concrete slab.
- 3. Walls** Fire-grate side (northeast): rubble fieldstone. Woodshed side (southwest): wood siding, painted brown with green trim, on wood frame.
- 4. Structural System, Framing** Fieldstone for the Barbeque Pit proper; wood frame for the woodshed.
- 5. Porches, Stoops, Balconies, Bulkheads** Concrete slab patio in front (north) of the fieldstone wing walls and fire grate.
- 6. Chimneys** Central, rectangular, fieldstone chimney surmounts oven section.
- 7. Openings**
  - a. Doorways and Doors** The woodshed on southwest side of the structure has a central doorway; metal strap hinges remain, but the door is gone.
  - b. Windows and Shutters** None.
- 8. Roof**
  - a. Shape, Covering** Woodshed has raised, central, gable-roofed section (ridge on northeast-southwest axis), flanked by shed-roofed wings. All roof sections are covered with composition shingles.
  - b. Dormers, Cupolas, Towers** None.

**C. Description of Interior:**

**1. Floor Plans**

- a. Describe Floors** The front (southwest) doorway of the woodshed leads into a small room formerly used for storing wood.

**2. Stairways** None.

**3. Flooring** Unfinished wood planks in the woodshed.

**4. Wall and Ceiling Finishes** Unfinished wood planks in the woodshed.

**5. Openings**

- a. Doorways and Doors** The woodshed's single door has been removed.

- b. Windows** None.

**6. Decorative Features and Trim** The woodshed's doorway has simple plank surrounds, painted green. The central section of the stone Barbeque has a metal, two-door oven immediately below the chimney. Immediately below the oven is a metal fire grate in a projecting fieldstone fire place. A stone shelf nestles in the crook created by the chimney and east wingwall.

**D. Site:**

- 1. General Setting and Orientation** Located near the wooded shore of Trout Lake in the southwest corner of the Main Cabin Compound, the Barbeque Pit stands in a secluded clearing about 100 feet southeast of the Main Cabin (HABS No. MN-146-A). For further information, see HABS No. MN-146.

**PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

- A. Interviews:** See HABS No. MN-146.

- B. Bibliography:**

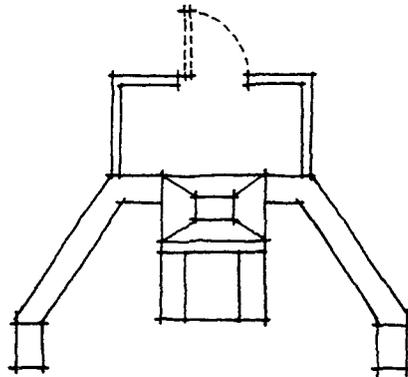
**B. Bibliography:**

1. **Primary and Unpublished Sources** See HABS No. MN-146.

2. **Secondary and Published Sources** See HABS No. MN-146.

**C. Likely Sources not yet Investigated:** See HABS No. MN-146.

**PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION** See HABS No. MN-146.



0 1 3 6 feet



0 1 2 meters



north

SKETCH PLAN: BARBEQUE PIT