

Joyce Estate, New Cabin (Peterson Cabin)
Chippewa National Forest Road 2144,
3 miles north of County Road 335
Grand Rapids vicinity
Itasca County
Minnesota

HABS No. MN-146-R

HABS
MINN
31-GDRAP.V,
3R-

PHOTOGRAPHS
HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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, NEW CABIN (Peterson Cabin)

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PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. **Date of Erection** Ca. 1935
2. **Original and Subsequent Owners** In 1916, David Gage Joyce secured the site of the New Cabin 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.¹
3. **Builders, Contractors, Suppliers** Unknown.
4. **Alterations and Additions** Walls are rifled with holes, and fixtures have been torn from the bathroom. Small shingle-sided, frame extension to rear (west) may be a later addition.

B. Historical Context: This cabin was built in the 1930s, according to former Joyce Estate caretaker Joseph Waleski, Jr. The wood-frame structure clearly dates from the second phase of construction on the estate, after log framing was abandoned. The "New Cabin" appears by name in the probate inventory of David Gage Joyce, compiled 1938. The building later became known as the "Peterson Cabin," in reference to frequent guest Kent Peterson, a Chicago attorney and Joyce Family friend. During the 1940s, Peterson oversaw legal matters for Beatrice Clotilde Joyce, David Joyce's only child.² For more information, see the historical overview of the Joyce Estate in HABS No. MN-146.

¹ 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.

² Author's interview with Joseph Waleski, Jr., Grand Rapids, MN, 27 January 1987; "In the Matter of the Estate of David Gage Joyce," 1938.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. **Architectural Character** A gabled pavilion projects from the center of the symmetrical front (east) side of this single-story, side-gabled cabin. The wood-frame structure is sheathed with split-log siding.
2. **Condition of Fabric** Fair.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. **Overall Dimensions** Approximately 26'4" by 16'4".
2. **Foundations** Concrete pedestals.
3. **Walls** Split-log siding, painted brown; small extension to rear (west) is shingled, painted brown.
4. **Structural System, Framing** Wood-frame construction.
5. **Porches, Stoops, Balconies, Bulkheads** Six concrete steps with stone-decorated risers; decaying rail poles, but no extant railing.
6. **Chimneys** None.
7. **Openings**
 - a. **Doorways and Doors** Wood-frame screen door on front (east); front door missing.
 - b. **Windows and Shutters** A single one-over-one double-hung sash window is on each side of the door on the projecting entry pavilion. A pair of one-over-one double-hung sash windows are on each end (north and south walls) and on the east wall of the wings extending from either side of the projecting pavilion. Single one-over-one double-hung sash windows are on the rear (west) of each wing; a horizontal window opening, which once held two side-sliding single-pane sash, is in the middle of that wall. Most glazing, and some sash, is missing.
8. **Roof**

- a. **Shape, Covering** Side gable roof, with front-gable pavilion, sheathed with shingles, capped with a metal ridge roll.
- b. **Cornice, Eaves** Eaves are supported by simple, square-post brackets. Rafter tails are exposed.
- c. **Dormers, Cupolas, Towers** Rafter tails are exposed.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plans

- a. **Describe Floors** The front (east) door leads into a relatively large entry foyer, from which doors open into identical north and south rooms. To the west of the foyer, approached by doors from the north and south rooms, is a narrow bathroom. A small extension to the rear (west), which is not accessible from the interior of the cabin, may have held a water heater for the bathroom.

2. Stairways None.

3. Flooring Wood floor boards; linoleum covering in bathroom.

4. Wall and Ceiling Finishes Gypsum wallboard walls and ceilings.

5. Openings

- a. **Doorways and Doors** Doors have been removed. Wood boards edged with fillet moldings trim the doorways.
- b. **Windows** Wood boards edged with fillet moldings trim the windows. Sills project slightly.

6. Decorative Features and Trim None.

7. Hardware None.

8. Mechanical Equipment

- a. **Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation** Water heater may have been located in extension to rear (west).

- b. **Lighting** No longer extant.
- c. **Plumbing** The bathtub and all piping have been removed; other fixtures are no longer in place.

D. Site:

- 1. **General Setting and Orientation** Located in the Main Cabin Compound, the New Cabin occupies a prime site on the crown of a hill overlooking Trout Lake to the south and east. It is the southernmost of a row of residential structures. Concrete and stone steps lead eastward down the hill to the Main Cabin (HABS No. MN-146-A). Immediately to the rear (west) of the New Cabin is a forested area containing native birch and other hardwoods. For further information, see HABS No. MN-146.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

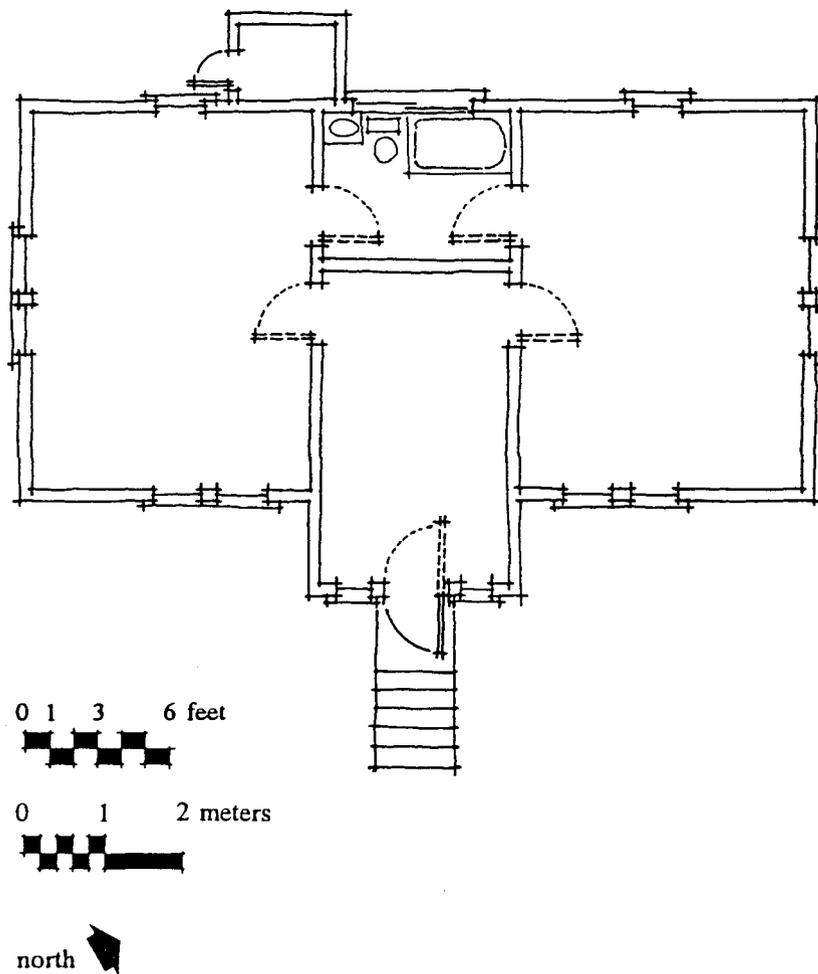
A. Interviews: See HABS No. MN-146.

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.



SKETCH PLAN: NEW CABIN