

Joyce Estate, White Spruce Plantation
Chippewa National Forest Road 2144,
3 miles north of County Road 335
Grand Rapids vicinity
Itasca County
Minnesota

HABS No. MN-146-U

HABS
MINN
31-GDRAP.V,
3U-

PHOTOGRAPH
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, WHITE SPRUCE PLANTATION

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PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. **Date of Erection** Unknown.
2. **Original and Subsequent Owners** In 1916, David Gage Joyce secured the site of the White Spruce Plantation and neighboring facilities 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** The history of planting is unknown.

B. Historical Context: No information is available that indicates why white spruce were planted at this location. For general information about the Joyce Estate, see the historical overview of the complex in HABS No. MN-146.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. **Architectural Character** Comprising a grove of about 100 mature trees, the White Spruce Plantation creates a woody canopy for the estate's entry road shortly before it reaches the Main Cabin Compound. Trees on the south side of the road are planted in two rows, paralleling the roadway. On the north, the

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.

trees are more numerous, and are randomly arranged. Lower limbs have been trimmed from the tree trunks, creating a shady bower carpeted with pine needles.

B. Description of Exterior: Not applicable.

C. Description of Interior: Not applicable.

D. Site:

1. **General Setting and Orientation** Situated along the estate's main entry road, the White Spruce Plantation separates the Recreation Area to the west from the residential and service areas to the east. For further information, see HABS No. MN-146.
2. **Historic Landscape Design** Nothing is known about the planning and planting of the White Spruce Plantation.

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.