

Rabideau Civilian Conservation Corps Camp,  
Army Officer's Quarters (Building No. 13)  
County Road 39  
Blackduck Vicinity  
Beltrami County  
Minnesota

HABS No. MN-147-L

HABS  
MINN  
4-BLADU.V,  
IL-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

RABIDEAU CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS CAMP,  
ARMY OFFICER'S QUARTERS HABS No. MN-147-L  
(BUILDING NO. 13)

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Location: One-half mile west of Beltrami County Highway 39, six miles south of Blackduck, Beltrami County, Minnesota.

Significance: The Army Officer's Quarters was constructed in 1935 as part of the Rabideau Civilian Conservation Corps Camp, which operated on the Chippewa National Forest until 1941. The camp was later used by the University of Illinois as a summer field school from 1946 to 1972.

Description: The Army Officer's Quarters is a one-story, rectangular-plan frame building with overall dimensions of 20' x 42'. The building is covered with shiplap siding painted dark green and is capped with a low-pitch, trussed, gable roof covered with green rolled asphalt. The building is supported by a log-post foundation. The principal (west) facade features an off-center entry, with a small porch with wood railings, flanked by single nine-lite casement sash. One six-lite sash is positioned in the gable end. The north facade includes four nine-lite sash, and the east end wall features two nine-lite sash and one six-lite sash in the gable end. A multi-paned, French-style entrance door is centered on the south facade, with two sash evenly spaced to either side. All door and window trim, as well as the corner boards, consist of plain wood planks painted green. Three metal chimneys project from the roof, all from the south slope.

Beginning at the west entrance, the interior includes an entry room, a bathroom, and a day room, all located along the south facade. Four bedrooms are positioned along the north side. Wall surfaces in the entrance room and west end bedroom are finished with varnished plywood, while all the remaining rooms, with the exception of the bath, feature knotty-pine paneling. All ceilings are finished with plywood; those in the day room and three east bedrooms are characterized by a tent-like appearance, achieved by angling a plywood section toward each of the north and south side walls. With the exception of the brown linoleum in the day room, all floors are hardwood.

History: During the CCC era, the Army Officer's Quarters housed the Camp Commander, Second Officer, and Camp Physician. The interior was remodelled about 1939. From 1946 to 1972, the University of Illinois used the building as staff quarters. The building was restored by the Forest Service in 1986.

Sources: An undated history of the Rabideau Camp by the Forest Service, in a file on the Rabideau Camp at the Forest Supervisor's Office in Cass Lake, Minnesota; and the oldest known site plan of the camp while still occupied by the CCC, entitled "Rabideau Camp F-50" (ca. 1936), located at the University Archives, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, in the

Rabideau Civilian Conservation Corps Camp,  
Army Officer's Quarters (Building No. 13)  
HABS No. MN-147-L  
Page 2

Civil Engineering Subject File Record Series 11/5/1. See also HABS No. MN-147.

Historian: Rolf T. Anderson, 1994

