

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

HABS No. MN-146-N

HABS
MINN
31-GDRAP.V,
3N-

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,
PRIVY

HABS No. MN-146-N

HABS
MINN
31-5-DRAP. V
3N-

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 Privy and nearby 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** None.

B. Historical Context: Little is known about the Privy, a small structure set in the woods about 40 feet behind (west of) the Maid's Cabin (HABS No. MN-146-M) in the Main Cabin Compound. 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** This small, single-story structure has walls made of vertical boards, topped by a gable roof.
2. **Condition of Fabric** Deteriorated.

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.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. **Overall Dimensions** Approximately 5'2" by 5'2".
2. **Foundations** Log sleeper.
3. **Walls** Vertical boards, painted brown; ventilation holes drilled in gables.
4. **Structural System, Framing** Vertical boards, braced with 2"x4" diagonals.
5. **Porches, Stoops, Balconies, Bulkheads** None.
6. **Chimneys** None.
7. **Openings**
 - a. **Doorways and Doors** Plank door, painted brown, oriented to the west; plain board surround.
 - b. **Windows and Shutters** None.
8. **Roof**
 - a. **Shape, Covering** Gable, with green composition shingles.
 - b. **Cornice, Eaves** Exposed rafter tails.
 - c. **Dormers, Cupolas, Towers** None.

C. Description of Interior:

1. **Floor Plans**
 - a. **Describe Floors** Undivided space, with ledge seat across east wall; a "one-holer."
2. **Stairways** None.
3. **Flooring** Wood planks.
4. **Wall and Ceiling Finishes** Unfinished framing.

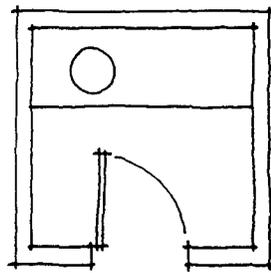
5. **Openings**
 - a. **Doorways and Doors** No interior doors; plain board trim for exterior door to west.
 - b. **Windows** None.
 6. **Decorative Features and Trim** A wood shelf is built into the southwest corner.
 7. **Hardware** None.
 8. **Mechanical Equipment**
 - a. **Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation** Ventilation holes in east and west gables.
 - b. **Lighting** None.
 - c. **Plumbing** None.
- D. **Site:**
1. **General Setting and Orientation** The Privy stands on the edge of a forested area. It is situated about 50 feet behind (west of) the Maid's Cabin (HABS No. MN-146-M), the northernmost of a row of residential cabins along the crest of a hill. The Privy door faces west, toward the forest and away from the cabins. 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.

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



0 1 2 3 feet



0 1 meter



north



SKETCH PLAN: PRIVY