

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

HABS No. MN-146-W

HABS  
MINN  
31-GRAP.V,  
3W-

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PHOTOGRAPH  
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, GREENHOUSE

HABS No. MN-146-W

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31-GDRAP.V,  
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### PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

#### A. Physical History:

1. **Date of Erection** Ca. 1923.
2. **Original and Subsequent Owners** In 1916, David Gage Joyce secured the site of the Greenhouse 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.<sup>1</sup>
3. **Builders, Contractors, Suppliers** Unknown.
4. **Alterations and Additions** After the Forest Service acquired the Joyce Estate in 1974, it made plans to dismantle and sell the Greenhouse "because of its fragile nature." Demolition had occurred by 1986.<sup>2</sup>

- B. Historical Context:** According to former Joyce Estate caretaker Joseph Waleski, Jr., the Greenhouse was built in the early 1920s to provide ornamental shrubs and flowers for landscaping the grounds. David Gage Joyce's probate file, compiled in 1938, itemizes a "greenhouse" as one of the estate's improvements.<sup>3</sup> For further information, see HABS No. MN-146.

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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> Grand Rapids Herald Review, 21 October 1974; Stuart MacDonald and Jeffrey A. Hess, HABS/HAER Inventory Card for Greenhouse, 1986, in MacDonald and Mack Partnership and Jeffrey A. Hess, "Cultural Resource Overview, Joyce Estate," prepared for Chippewa National Forest, 1987, in Chippewa National Forest Headquarters Building, Cass Lake, MN.

<sup>3</sup> 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** The Greenhouse was demolished, due to safety concerns, between 1974 and 1986. A metal pylon and several other fragments of building materials mark the site.
- 2. Condition of Fabric** Demolished.

### **B. Description of Exterior:** Not applicable.

### **C. Description of Interior:** Not applicable.

### **D. Site:**

- 1. General Setting and Orientation** Situated in the west end of the Caretaker's Compound immediately east of the Garden (HABS No. MN-146-V), the Greenhouse formerly stood on the north side of the road leading to the Main Cabin Compound; the Bulb Storage Cellar (HABS No. MN-146-X) is dug into a hill across the road to the south. For further information, see HABS No. MN-146.
- 2. Historic Landscape Design** Unknown.

## **PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

### **A. Historic Views:** According to a photograph in the Grand Rapids Herald Review of 21 October 1974, the Greenhouse was a gabled-roofed, glass-paned superstructure on a wood or concrete base.

### **B. Interviews:** See HABS No. MN-146.

### **C. Bibliography:**

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

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

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