

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JUN 14 1978

DATE ENTERED

DEC 8 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Seven Pines Lodge

*(Charles F Lewis Cabolo)*

AND/OR COMMON

*given - no name by orig. owner per title no. Hunt 6-1978*

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

*SE of Lewis off WI 35*

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Lewis

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third

STATE

Wisconsin

VICINITY OF

CODE

55

COUNTY

Polk

CODE

095 ✓

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: <i>Private club.</i>

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

David and Joan Simpson

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 104

CITY, TOWN

Lewis

VICINITY OF

STATE

Wisconsin 54851

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Polk County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Balsam Lake

STATE

Wisconsin 54810

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

1977

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

CITY, TOWN

Madison

STATE  
Wisconsin 53706

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Seven Pines estate today comprises 66 acres. At one time Lewis' holdings included 1520 acres of white pine forest laced with trout streams, but all but the present tract was sold and then logged in the early 1940s. On 10 of the 66 acres are located the main lodge and six ancillary structures, nestled among towering pine trees.

Main Lodge: The main lodge is a large, two-and-one-half story building constructed of round white pine logs harvested on the estate. It was built in 1903 by a Norwegian craftsman, John "Ole" Mangseth, with the help of John Tipton and Mataichi Hamada. The broad axes, hatchets and shaving knives they purportedly used in the construction still decorate the walls of the house. The main section is a large, three-bay block with a widely-overhanging gable roof. A gabled wing with a king-post truss designed bargeboard projects on the south side. A small glassed-in wing next to it surmounts a one-story enclosed porch which is decorated with criss-crossed sticks below the windows and a balustrade of criss-crossed logs at the second level. This porch wraps around the entire east side of the house.

A similar one-story porch across the west side of the building connects to a separate one-and-one-half kitchen wing which features a gable roof with two cross gables. The logs on the main block are saddle-notched and are corbelled under the eaves to form brackets. Double-hung windows feature diamond-patterned muntins within the top sash. Three cobblestone chimneys crown the composition.

The interior is virtually unaltered, except for a bathroom added in 1928 adjoining the "president's bedroom." The first floor consists of the two large enclosed porches, a living room, a dining room, and the kitchen wing. The living room occupies half of the first floor, with a large cobblestone fireplace at its end. The dining room and a stairhall occupy the other half of the first floor. The stairs to the second floor are constructed of split logs, and interior walls are either rounded logs or knotty pine wainscoting. Comparison with old photos shows that the original furnishings and decor of the house have been little altered. The second floor of the main wing contains four bedrooms, a sleeping porch, and two baths.

Caretaker's House: To the south across the estate road from the main lodge is the caretaker's house (see map), built between 1913 and 1919. This building is a smaller, one-and-one-half story version of the main lodge with a cross-gabled roof, a one-story wing and an enclosed entrance porch. Recently picture windows were pierced into the side of the structure. Behind the caretaker's house is a tiny frame ice house and a one-story, frame, hipped-roofed maintenance building, with two arched entrances for vehicles.

Gatehouse: Built prior to 1913, the gatehouse is a small, one-story structure similar in design and construction to the main lodge. A narrow porte-cochere extends across the estate drive. This structure houses Lewis' office and the telegraph key which connected Seven Pines Lodge with the Minneapolis grain brokers 80 miles away.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

Stream House: The stream house, built prior to 1913, is a two-story dwelling which straddles the stream southeast of the main lodge. A screened balcony is cantilevered on brackets on all four sides of the building and is covered by a hipped roof.

Water Tower: A two-story octagonal frame water tower is located on a small ridge overlooking the main lodge to the southeast. It was also built prior to 1913.

Pool and Pumphouse: The outdoor pool is lined with small tiles and once was enclosed by a glass house. After being destroyed once in a windstorm and once by a fallen tree, the glass structure was removed. The pool and its pumphouse were completed before 1913.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Association with locally significant person.
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES      1903 - ca. 1919<sup>1</sup>      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      John "Ole" Mangseth<sup>1</sup>

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of Seven Pines Lodge is principally architectural. The lodge and ancillary structures are a significant example of the rustic resort style of log construction which was popular in the early twentieth century. The house and many of the other structures on the property were built entirely of logs; the quality of craftsmanship is excellent. Particularly important is the fact that all of the buildings as well as the interior of the main lodge have remained virtually untouched; even the furniture and wall decorations are original. Seven Pines Lodge therefore conveys a living image of the rustic lifestyle that came into vogue among wealthy Americans around the turn of the century.

Seven Pines Lodge is historically significant as an expression of the turn-of-the-century interest in conservation and wilderness preservation, which was espoused by numbers of wealthy Americans, and which achieved national recognition when advocated by the outdoorsman-president, Theodore Roosevelt. It is also significant for its association with Charles E. Lewis, its creator and the driving force behind the establishment of the Village of Lewis.

In 1900 Lewis, a wealthy Minneapolis wheat broker, bought a large tract in the Town of Clam Falls from Oscar Knapp, an Osceola steamboat builder and captain. Lewis was a conservationist, attracted to the area by its natural beauty and its excellent trout streams; he purchased the tract, which was then mostly covered with virgin timber, as a conservation project as well as for a personal estate and as an investment.

In 1903 Lewis contracted with John "Ole" Mangseth, a Norwegian builder, for the construction of the main lodge. Mangseth and two others built the lodge of white pine harvested at the site. When they had finished they left behind many of their tools, which survive as decorative pieces in the lodge.

After completion of the building, Lewis moved there, using the place both as home and office. Among the visitors to Lewis' estate were business associates and prominent individuals; in 1928 Calvin Coolidge spent a couple of days there, enjoying the fishing and Lewis' hospitality. In subsequent years Lewis directed the development of the estate, establishing a fish hatchery and a progressive farm there. He remained committed to the preservation of the natural wildness of the tract; when substantial marl deposits were discovered there he chose not to exploit them.

1. Interview of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Schonebaum, previous owners, by T. Erickson, Area Research Center, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, June 1974.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY ~~ACRES~~ **66 acres**

QUADRANGLE NAME Frederic

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:62,500

UTM REFERENCES

D	A	1,5	5,4,7	7,7,0	5,0	6,0	4,7,0	A	B	1,5	5,4,8	3,6,0	5,0	6,0	4,6,0
		ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING					ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING		
B	C	1,5	5,4,8	3,6,0	5,0	6,0	0,5,0	C	D	1,5	5,4,7	7,7,0	5,0	6,0	0,5,0
E								F							
G								H							

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

From northwest corner of section 17, T37N, R16W, proceed along town road to crossing of Knapp Creek, thence southerly .25 mile, thence westerly to section line, thence northerly along section line to point of beginning.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE  
Mark A. Nickerson, Preservation Assistant

ORGANIZATION  
State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE  
April 3, 1978

STREET & NUMBER  
816 State Street

TELEPHONE  
608/262-2970

CITY OR TOWN  
Madison

STATE  
Wisconsin 53706

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Richard A. Erney*

TITLE  
Richard A. Erney, Director  
State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE  
6/8/78

### FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*[Signature]*  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER  
ATTEST: *[Signature]*  
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 12-8-78

DATE 12-7-78

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

In the first decade of the twentieth century the Soo Line Railroad constructed a line through Polk County, and through Lewis' property. He secured the location of a depot near his estate, and in 1910 he platted the Village of Lewis there. Early Lewis was very much the creature of its namesake, who donated and built the Lewis People's Church, and was responsible for the Lewis Bank, a creamery, a hotel, a general store, and bungalow housing for several of the village's residents.

Lewis had no heirs, and in the late 1920s he tried to sell the estate to the state for use as a park, and thereby to insure its preservation as a natural area after his death. Although repeated attempts failed, Seven Pines Lodge has remained largely unchanged to this day. Now a private resort, the lodge remains a landmark in northwestern Wisconsin and Polk County.

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See

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER below PAGE

Item 9: MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Inter-County Ledger, Centennial Edition, March 31, 1954.

The Polk County Ledger, Vol. 32, no. 2, August 23, 1928; Vol. 32, no. 34,  
April 4, 1929; Vol. 32, no. 49, July 18, 1929.

St. Paul Pioneer Press, September 1, 1963.

The History of Minnesota, William Watts Folwell, 1921-30, pp. 294-97.

Soo Line Topics, Vol. 5, no. 10, December 1926.

The Wisconsin Magazine, Vol. 6, no. 8, August 8, 1928.

Item 11: FORM PREPARED BY (continued)

David A. Donath, Historian  
State Historical Society  
816 State Street  
Madison

April 14, 1978  
608/262-3390  
Wisconsin 53706

Katherine E. Hundt, Architectural Historian  
State Historical Society of Wisconsin  
816 State Street  
Madison

April 14, 1978  
608/262-2970  
Wisconsin 53706

Entrance Gate

SEVEN PINES LODGE  
(not to scale)

Estate Road

Gatehouse

Water Tower

Main Lodge

Pool and Pumphouse

Stream House

Maintenance  
Bldg.

Ice House

Caretaker's House

