

Property Owned by Harris and Francis Palmer

By, Son Cary (Frosty) Palmer

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My folks brought the property on the lake from Mr. Karl Kahmann (owner of Couderay Cozy Cabins near Hayward WI) on July 20th, 1945, for a whopping \$3,000.00. Mr. Kahmann had owned the property for about 20 years. As I mentioned, my folks began developing the property by first constructing a tar paper shanty probably about 10' by 15' in dimension so that they had a place out of the weather to stay while they built the cottage that they would eventually live in during the following 28 summers. Once that cottage was completed, Dad, with some help from his brother (who was living with, and helping his folks run the resort on Lake Lipsie near Spooner), began constructing the log rental cabin. My guess was that that cabin was completed in the early 1950's.

Due to Dad's declining health and the fact that my brothers and I lived so far away so couldn't be much help in maintain the place, he decided to sell the place and on November 14th, 1975, he sold it to Walter and Jane White from Wayzata Minnesota for a purchase price of \$110,000! What a steal for about 1600' of lakeshore! I believe that the White estate sold the property to the Reichert's around 2002.

After Dad partially recovered from his debilitating illness, he got sellers remorse and wanted to find property on Diamond to build another cabin. He located our current place from a Bayfield County tax sale and purchased it for \$1,600.00 in January of 1979. Dad began building this place with the help of two people, Emory Mallow (who had just come back from a log building school in Canada) and the neighbor boy Scott Byrd (age about 15) and completed the shell before he passed away in 1986. We hired Roy (Bunk) Kofal out of Grand View to finish off the interior and Mom spent almost all of her summers here from 1987 until she passed away in 1998. I then bought out my brothers' interest in the place and now you know "the rest of the story" as Paul Harvey would say.

As a footnote, my dad helped build his folks resort on Lake Lipsie (consisting of the homestead house, 9 log rental cabins, an overflow dormitory for family guests, and an icehouse and shop), the original Palmer cottage, shop/garage and log rental cabin (named Star o' the North), our home outside of Platteville Wisconsin, and the log cabin we now live in: all while maintaining a college teaching position (except for the Lake Lipsie Pines resort project, as he was only 20 years old at the time). That's a total of 18 structures! Not a bad record I would say.