

Address: 4 Raynor Island, Lake of Bays

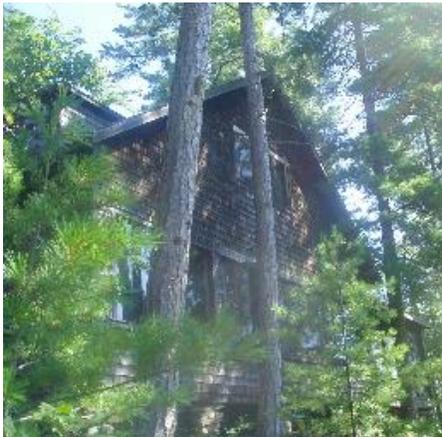
Legal Description: Part 3, RP 35R13475, Franklin

Original Owner: Margaret Spaulding

Year Built: 1911

Architectural Styles: Ontario Vernacular

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:



Raynor Island was first surveyed in 1878 and granted by the Crown to W.P. Raynor for mining purposes in 1879. Raynor Island property is comprised of the Theobald cottage, the Blue Wing cabin, an ice house and a two-seater outhouse all located on 2.70 acres on this historic Island on Lake of Bays that is representative of the early 20th century rustic Muskoka heritage.



Margaret Spaulding purchased the property on March 28th, 1911 and had the original cabin built from materials harvested and sourced from the island property and local area exhibiting the vernacular architecture that was indigenous to this specific area and time period. The cabin operated as a tea room serving its customers under a covered veranda from the local resorts (Bigwin, Wa-Wa and Britannia Hotels) from 1911 to 1930 characterizing the historic development of Lake of Bays as a tourist resource and retreat. The property was purchased in 1930 by Victor W. and Marie Hurst and they built the four sleeping cabins for their children and grandchildren (Blue Wing, Green Wing, Yellow Wing and Red Wing). These cabins remain in their original state located along pathways from the main cottage.



Raynor Island was one of the many stops for the S.S. Iroquois steamship on Lake of Bays to deliver supplies, people and the mail. The steamer dock was located in front of this Raynor Island property and the Theobald's constructed their current dock using the original cribbing. The Theobald property is archetypical of the settlement in the Muskoka area and is one of the remaining landmarks that has defined the character and history of the Lake of Bays area.