

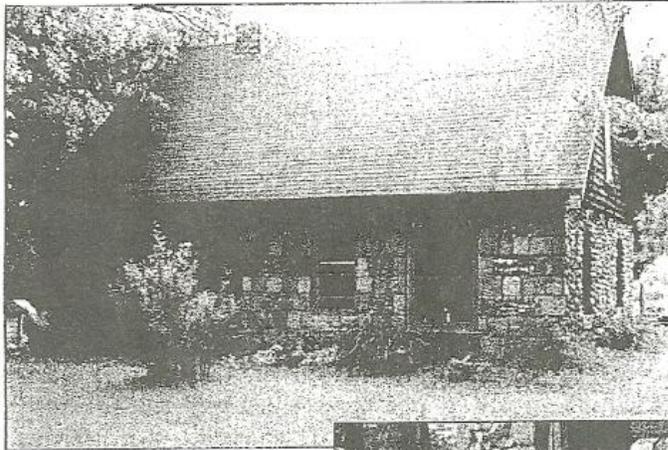
2005 Tour Of The "Fisherman's House" (Mae Ruttger, right)



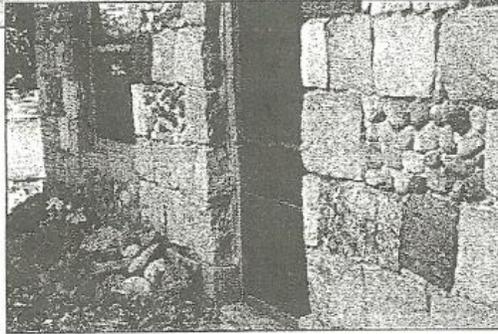
Kathy Jasperson & Jim Miller

# Welcome to the Stone House...

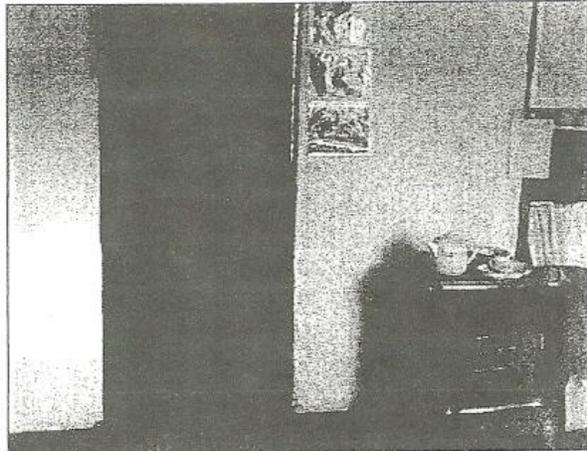
Grandma Taylor's House, the Rock House or the Taylor Home Place.



This is the road view of the Stone House, built by Vern Taylor in 1911. This side of the house features fancy cut granite blocks and solid and split fieldstone.



rows full into metal reinforced wooden forms. The basement has two exits: one with a fancy portico and stone steps. It also has a kitchen, living area, two bedrooms and deep window wells for light. The family lived in the finished basement while the main level was complete.



The kitchen and front room feature stucco finished walls.

BY KATHY JASPERSON

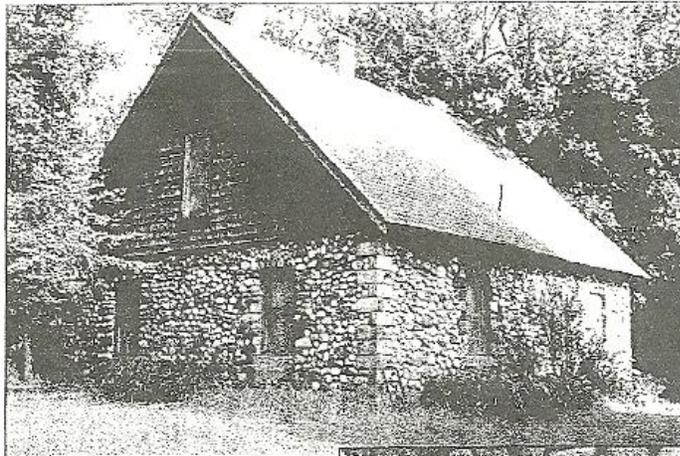
Known by many names this grand old structure has been in a class by itself for almost 100 years.

Vern Taylor, Kathy Jaspersen's grandfather, was a stonemason in an area packed with stones and competition. To set himself apart, he used an array of masonry techniques that displayed his master craftsmanship and artistry for all to see in the family home he built south of Deerwood next to Hwy. 6.

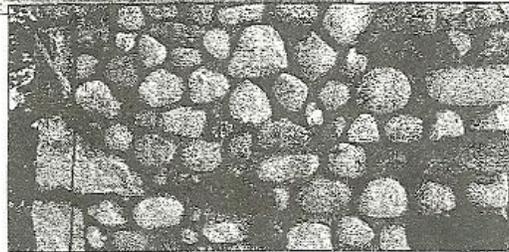
Construction began in 1911. The foundation is composed of cut stone... some as wide as 36 inches! The room partitions and the ceiling were constructed of cement poured by the wheelbarrow.

The main level included a kitchen, "front room" and two bedrooms. The ceilings were 9 feet high which was very unusual for the times. The kitchen and front room had stucco finished walls, while the two bedrooms were left with the cement blocks exposed.

A fireplace of brick stood in the road facing bedroom. Most striking is the exterior. Fancy cut granite blocks and solid and split fieldstone form the road-facing side while smaller stones built up the sides and back. Hard formed cement blocks or cut stone defined each corner framing the facade. Notice the many different stone materials used. The temperature inside was naturally cool, which encouraged visitors to stop by in hot weather.



This is the east and south views of the Stone House which is made up of smaller rocks. Hand formed cement blocks or cut stone defined each corner framing the facade.



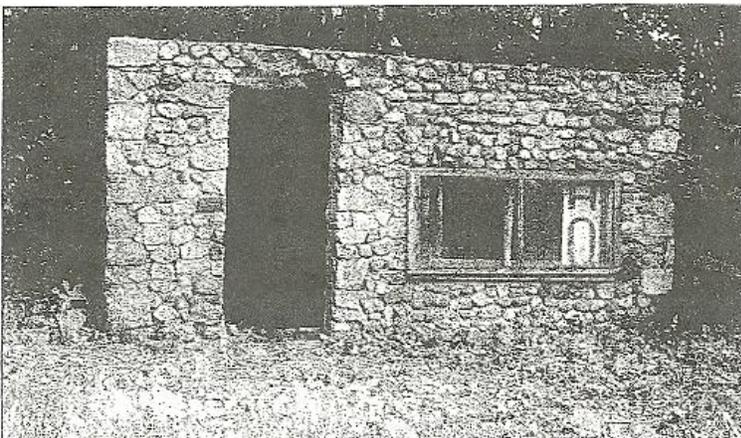
A cut stone chicken coop was built nearby, but was primarily, built to complement the home. Amenities like electricity, indoor water and bathroom were later added. Identical stained glass windows were installed in the road facing front room and bedroom. The property was also a working farm of 40 acres.

Vern Taylor was only 61 when he died in 1933. Mavis Fern, the only child at home was 13. Isabel Taylor lived there until shortly before her death in 1954. The 10 Taylor siblings continued ownership until 1968 when their family decided to

sell the property to Blanche Moore, then manager of the riding stable at Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge.

Over the years Blanche and her husband Denny moved other buildings to the property, including Ruttger's two-story woman's dormitory - known in pre-enlightened days as the "hen house." The structure was made into a barn for what they called the "Rock House Ranch". They also put their own mark on the house in 1978 by adding a bathroom, shortening most of the windows, paneling all the walls, painting the kitchen dark blue, installing a false kitchen ceiling, removing the original cabinets and other modifications. After Denny's death, Blanche sold the property to Ruttger's on a life lease that enabled her to stay in the home and Ruttger's to build an 18 hole golf course.

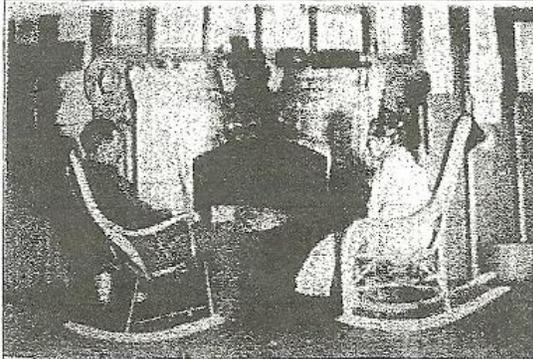
After Blanches death in 2004, Kathy approached the Ruttger Family with an offer to restore the home to it's original state for expense costs only. The goal was to preserve a unique example of craftsmanship for the community to enjoy. The project took one year and the result is what you see here. Pictures of the Taylor family and the home before renovation are posted throughout the home along with clarifying observations.



Look around, enjoy yourself. It's cool!

A cut stone chicken coop was built nearby to complement the home.

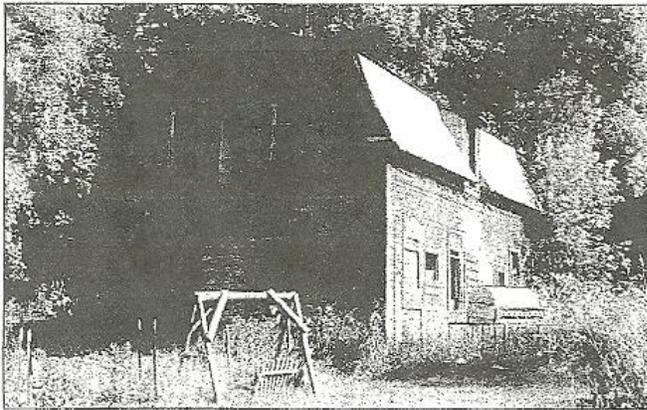
## Formerly Known as Fisherman's House...



Joseph and Josephine Ruttger sitting by the fireplace in the fisherman's house in 1912.

The second story sleeping rooms were reached by an outdoor stairway on the west end of the building. For five dollars a week the guests could have a room, meals and a boat.

After some years, cabins were built, as well as, rooms in the main lodge building. At that time the two-story building was used to house female employees—thus it was called “the Hen House”. The young girls that were housed there were hired to work cleaning the cabins and rooms occupied by the guests, as well as, those who worked in the kitchen and dining room, so they would not have to travel to get to work.

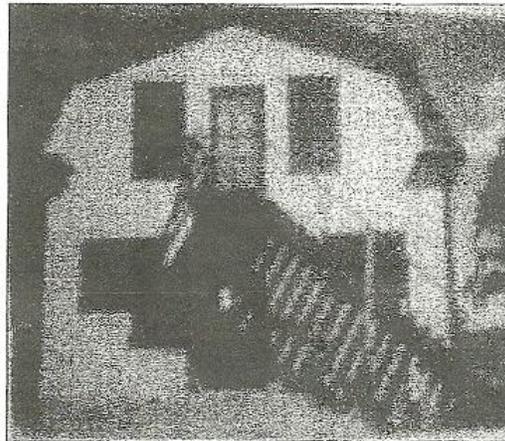


The fisherman's house as it looks today located behind the Stone House.

BY MAE (RUTTGER) HEGLUND

After a few years of housing summer visitors in tents Joseph and Josephine Ruttger built a two-story building which they called the “fisherman's house” to accommodate their summer visitors.

This two-story building was located where the present Ruttger's Bay Lake resort parking lot is, just to the south of the golf course. The fisherman's house had ten rooms.



The second story sleeping rooms of the fisherman's house were reached by an outdoor stairway on the west end of the building at the resort.

As stated in the Rock House information, the two-story building was moved to this property to be used as a horse-barn. It must have been a challenge to move a building of that size for that distance.