



Recapturing Lost History

By Terry Clark



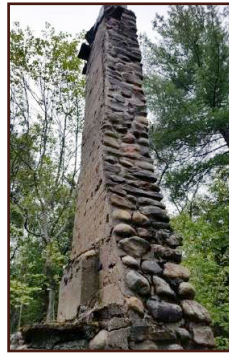
The really fun part of serving on the OHPS Board over the past many years has been the opportunity to bring back new life to vintage structures and preserve them for future generations. When my service as President concluded last October, I was in the midst of working on one of my most exciting projects for the Historical Society; and, in my capacity as Past President, I have been able to continue with it as the project moves into reality – the restoration of the old Pinewood cabin.

You will be seeing and hearing more about Pinewood this coming summer. Situated along the walking trails between the



Oakwood cabin and Cedarwood, with the ancient stone fireplace and chimney rising some twenty plus feet toward the sky, Pinewood was originally built

in the early 1900's and served over many years as the residence during the summer of such Ojibway icons as Hamilton Davis, Burt Bruckland, the Desmasdon family and the Kernaghan family. But by the early-1990's Pinewood had fallen



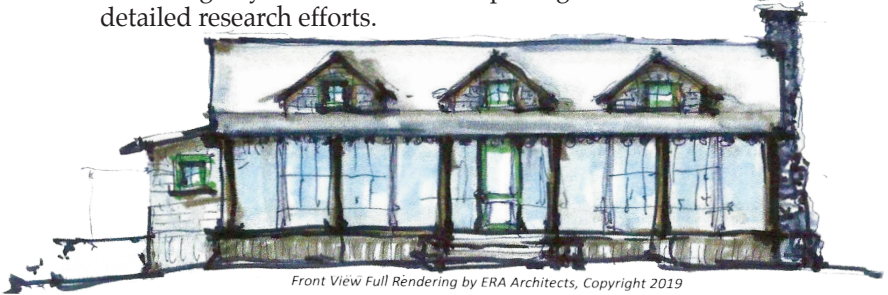
into considerable disrepair, and the collective judgment at the time was to tear it down. For the past 25 years or so, Pinewood has been gone and lost to history – except for that tall stone chimney rising in the middle of an overgrown woods.

Then serendipitously, in July of 2018, the opportunity arose with a very interested major donor to have OHPS evaluate whether Pinewood could ever possibly be restored. Since then a committed team consisting of Nancy Lang, Bill Watts and myself, along with ERA Architects, has quietly been working hard behind the scenes, starting with many site visits and interviews to determine the cabin footprint, dimensions, room locations and layout, buttressed by further research and

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consultations to confirm the historical elements of the high-peaked roof, veranda, screened in porch, dormers and many other details.

This enabled us to achieve concept drawings and renderings as the basis to estimate project scope and cost, permitting me and Club representative, John O'Connell, to engage in meaningful negotiations reaching an agreement with the major donor on how the well-developed concept package could be transformed into an historically restored Pinewood. Here is one of the Pinewood renderings by ERA Architects depicting the results of all the detailed research efforts.



Front View Full Rendering by ERA Architects, Copyright 2019

As of this writing, all systems are set with the major donor and the Club, for OHPS to move forward with ERA into the construction drawings and competitive contractor bidding phase. The current plan, anticipating necessary building permits, is to engage in site clearance in the Spring and start construction in the Fall of 2019. Final completion of Pinewood would then be achieved by June 2020 – and another venerable piece of Ojibway lore will be faithfully restored! When you're walking along the Ojibway trails this year, stop to take a look at the Pinewood site, and you can watch history in the re-making.



Side View Rendering by ERA Architects, Copyright 2019