

**5. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other, explain:
- see continuation sheet

*Edson H. Beall*

4-21-00

*[Signature]*

Signature, Keeper of the National Register

Date

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions  
(Enter categories from instruction)

Recreation = hunting camp & caretaker's home  
Industry = logging  
Conservation

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Canoeist Base Camp

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instruction)

Other: Late 19<sup>th</sup>-early 20<sup>th</sup> century vernacular

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	Concrete piers
walls	Cypress boards covered with shingles
roof	Seamed Tin
other	Tongue & groove heart pine floor; Brick fireplace.

*Narrative Description*

The southwestern end of Floyds Island is a mixed evergreen-hardwood hammock dominated by laurel and live oaks, magnolia, loblolly and slash pines (Map 1). The undergrowth consists of palmetto, switchcane, huckleberry, sparkleberry, rusty lyonia, and beargrass. Resurrection ferns and green fly orchids grow from the oaks. Sand scrub and pine flatwoods are found on the northeast end of the island. Wright and Wright, in 1932, described the sand scrub habitat as "the most desert-like tracts of the southeast" characterized by saw-palmetto, clumps of oaks, poor grub, and small pines, and patches of bare sand. Prickly pear, partridge bean, false foxglove, huckleberry, and sparkleberry make up the understory. Pine flatwoods, or dry pine barrens, are dominated by longleaf pine, several varieties of oaks, and persimmon. Shrubs include heaths, papaws, saw-palmetto, and myrtle. The rest of the understory is comprised of wire-grass, gooseberry, huckleberry, highland ferns, trefoil, and bedstraw.

The popularity of evergreen hammocks as settlement sites in the swamps and piney woods of south Georgia and north Florida has persisted since prehistory. Biologists Albert and Anna Wright and novelist Majorie Kinnan Rawlings noted the human preferences for hammocks in their writings in the 1930s. Hammocks were "cultural centers" as well as vegetative patches in the Okefenokee. Floyds Island Hammock is a classic example.

The island acquired a reputation for remoteness and mystery at least as early as the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It is named for General Charles R. Floyd who led an army patrol across the Swamp in November 1838 during the Second Seminole War. A band of Seminoles from Florida had sought refuge on the island in January 1838. Floyd burned a village on the island and continued across the Swamp. The island remained difficult to get to until the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The island was part of the Charles Hebard family's holdings in the Okefenokee Swamp. The Hebard Lumber Company logged cypress off large tracts of the Swamp between 1901-1927 (Map 2). After Charles Hebard's death in 1902, Charles S., and Daniel L. Hebard were the company's owners. As part of the logging operation and to facilitate the removal of the cypress logs, an extensive network of railroad tracks and spur lines were laid throughout the Swamp (Map 3, Photos 2-6). A length of track crossed Floyds Island cutting through the center of 9Cr2. A track and turn-table provided the Hebard family and the various guests quick access to the camp. The family and their guests traveled on automobiles equipped with railroad wheels. The Hebard Family sold their holdings to the U.S. Government in 1937. The property became the core of the