

Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge.

The camp, at one time, consisted of the extant cabin, a bath house, a small cook's house, Billy Spaulding's cabin and garden, two-three tiny guide huts, the boardwalk, a turn-table, and boat runs to Chase Prairie and Floyds Island Prairie (Map 4). The camp was built by Daniel Hebard in 1925. The bath house was an old railroad caboose parked on an old rail bed about 25 meters south of the extant cabin.

The Hebard Cabin

The Hebard Cabin is an one-story T-shaped frame structure consisting of two bedrooms, a living room, a kitchen, and a pantry (See Map 5 for room arrangement and dimensions). It was built of cypress in 1925. The interior walls of the living room are covered with cypress paneling; the floor with tongue and groove heart pine planks. The exterior walls and gabled roof are covered by cypress shingles. A back porch once extended full length of west side of the kitchen and pantry, but has since been removed. Between 1937-1995, the cabin has undergone a number of repairs and renovations (Table 1; Map 6; Photos 9-11, 13, 15, 17-21).

Table 1. Chronology of Alterations to and Use of the Hebard Camp.

1925	Cabin built by Daniel Hebard.
1937	Hebard's holdings sold to the U.S. Government.
1937-1940	Furniture removed or stolen from cabin.
1939	4,000-foot long boardwalk repaired by Patrolman Gay, three laborers, and help from CCC Camp BF-1 (Photo 14).
1943-1944	Cabin repaired and refurnished. Shed roof of the porches were in bad shape and subsequently removed and rebuilt. Three sets of steps, several sashes and screens were replaced. New piers were installed under the cabin and porches. A dining table and benches were built of cypress logs salvaged by the CCC from the Suwanee Canal between Cornelia and Billys Bay.
1945	Fire standby crew from Cornelia cleaned up a large tree which blew down near the cabin. Dr. Fattig of Emory University and Dr. R. L. Usinger of University of California stayed at the cabin while collecting entomological specimens.
1948	The cabin's roof was damaged by limbs of the nearby oaks. The limbs tore several large holes in the roof. Boardwalk received temporary repairs. Refuge manager suggested that the adjacent old pole boat trail be dynamited out to its original depth to permit access to the cabin.
1949-1950	The island was almost completely inaccessible. The refuge staff dynamited a boat run through Floyds Island Bay between June 13-24, 1949. They hauled materials and tools to replace the cabin's roof using the newly dynamited run. The area around cabin was cleared of brush and undergrowth as a fire protection measure. By August 1950, the staff had replaced sections of the roof's sheeting and repaired the porches. The west bedroom's brick flue was removed when cabin re-roofed.
1951	The cabin's window and door screens were replaced with new copper ones.
1954	Group of Cornell University students under the supervision of Dr. P.P. Kellogg conducted a faunal and botanical survey on and around Floyds Island. South of the cabin, found only two tree species present - magnolia and live oak. "Well on the porch of the cabin" from which water containing sand and grit obtained. Observed carpenter bees feasting on the porch rafters. Porch collapsed by the 1970s.
1954-57	In the 1950's, the island and cabin used sparingly. Virtually all of the Swamp impassable during the droughts in 1954, 1955, and 1956. In 1954-55, a wildfire swept through 80% of the swamp, including Floyds Island. The cabin was not damaged by the fire. By 1957, the boat run leading from the north side of the island to Floyds Prairie overgrown and "hardly discernible."
1959	Boat trail from Suwanee Canal to Floyds Island Inlet cut across Chase Prairie with newly devised canoe trail-cutter. Canoe trail system developed over the next two years.
1960	Leaves and debris were removed around base of cabin to prevent fire.
1971	Initiation of canoe trail system. The cabin was one of the overnight stops used by canoeists.