

The Story of Indian Point

By Jean Theisen Schatz
March 23, 2018

I thought this would be a good time to tell our story. It is the story of *Indian Point*. We've been told that Sam Daugherty and his wife, Clara Daugherty (my Great-Grandpa and Great-Grandma) obtained the property in 1918. They would ride the train from Minneapolis to Backus and then take a horse and buggy out to the property.



Sam & Clara Daugherty

In 1920, Sam and Clara built a one-room log cabin. There were a couple resorts on Hand Lake, but theirs was the first single cabin on Lake. The Deed for the property states a filing date of 1924. There was no electricity or plumbing. They used kerosene lanterns to illuminate the room at night and a hand pump to draw water. Eventually, affectionately, they named the property *Indian Point*. They were referring to their grandchildren: Jack Theisen, Bea (Theisen) Springob, Bob Theisen, and Norma (Theisen) Swanson, as the little Indians.



Log Cabin

Sam and Clara enjoyed their little nook in the woods. They liked to hunt and fish, and they liked to entertain. So they added on a front porch to make room for more beds and guests. The picture of the cabin shows the front add-on, but not the back add-on. Eventually they added the back porch to

have a nice kitchen. There was still no electricity or plumbing. The hand pump was now in the kitchen. I do not know when the electricity came out to the cabin.

Then after both Great-Grandpa and Great-Grandma Daugherty passed away, Grandpa and Grandma Theisen (John and Marion Theisen) had the property. John would bring up the boys (Jack and Bob), and later on his grandkids to fish and hunt. I'm sure he invited friends as well. They had the first pontoon boat on the lake. It was during that time that electricity was added. John had *Indian Point* properly surveyed at some point during this time and found that more than just the "*Point*" was considered the property. It was all of the land on the west side of Sand Lake and reached over to Hand Lake.

After John passed away, Marion started to stay at *Indian Point* for weeks at a time. Dad and his siblings were concerned about her being up there alone. "What if something happened?!" So with a lot of resistance from Grandma, a telephone was hooked up.

It was during those years (around 1980) my Aunt Norma and my Dad each made a campground in the woods for their own families. It was a wonderful time swimming and frolicking with my cousins. Jack and Barb Theisen had property on Hand Lake as well, so that was even more cousins that got together. It was a great time.