

# CRAIN'S CHICAGO BUSINESS

A CRAIN FAMILY BRAND

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**Now you can rent a historic log cabin — the only lodging within Indiana Dunes**

By Jan Parr



Credit: In The Dunes

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Now you can stay overnight in a log home built for the 1933 Century of Progress in Chicago — and the only accommodation within the Indiana Dunes National Park.

The Cypress House, built entirely of cypress logs, was dismantled and moved after the fair via truck to Beverly Shores, one of five of the fair's homes moved as a marketing gimmick by the developer of the small lakefront town.

In recent years, Cypress has been leased to a family under a long-term agreement with the park and Indiana Landmarks until about a year ago. A new company, [In The Dunes](#), has partnered with the park and Indiana Landmarks to manage the property and offer it for short-term rentals.



Credit: In The Dunes

The Cypress house has exposed log walls, a nonoperable stone fireplace and a movie theater. It sleeps 12 in three bedrooms and is across the street from Lake Michigan with unobstructed views of the water.

Sleeping in a piece of history doesn't come cheap: Five days in November will run you \$859 a night; \$2,016 and more a night for weekends in June; and \$2,400 a night for July weekend nights.

"The National Park and Indiana Landmarks have talked about need for lodging in the park," said Todd Zeiger, director of Indiana Landmarks. "There is no place in the park that you can stay, which is unusual for a national park. So this is a way to address that need."

In The Dunes is a subsidiary of [NW Indiana Development Group](#) based in Michigan City. It runs Beachwalk and other vacation rentals in Michigan City near the lake.



Credit: In The Dunes

Interior photos of the house will be on the booking website in about a week, said Rob Harte, president of NW Indiana Development Group.

Most of the rental income will go to the national park, with some going to the management company and to the lessee of the home as part of the buyout of their lease, Zeiger said.

“NW Indiana Development checks a lot of the boxes that need to be checked,” Zeiger said. “They are preservation-minded, they have the capital to do these projects, and they are committed for the long term. We are thrilled with the partnership. ”

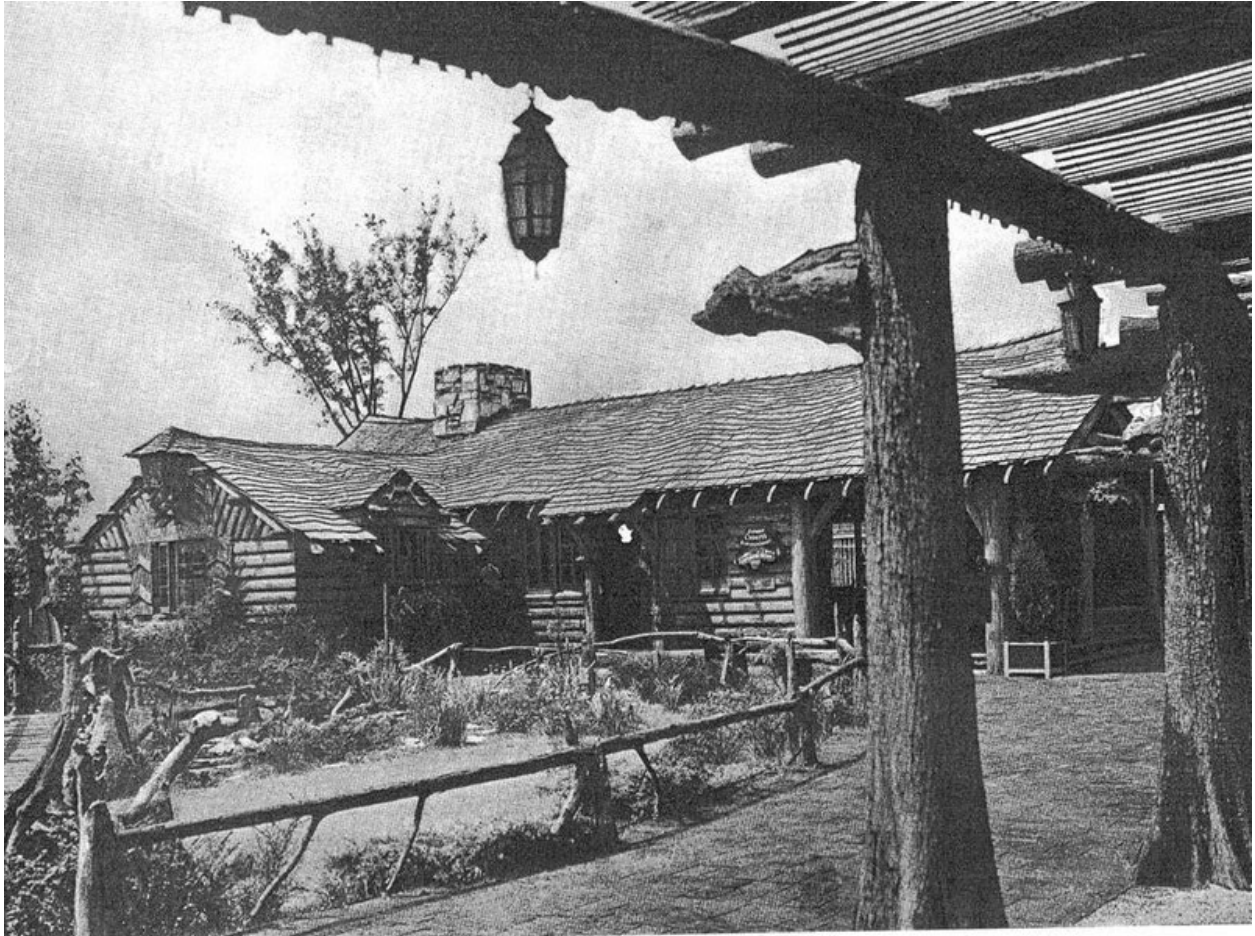
Meanwhile, across the street, another Century of Progress home, the Florida House, is available for long-term sublease, and another, the pioneering House of Tomorrow next door to Cypress, is undergoing [a \\$4 million renovation](#). It’s possible those houses could become vacation rentals in the future, Zeiger said.



Credit: In The Dunes



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The home as displayed at the 1933 World's Fair in Chicago

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