

Cabins - Dunbar & Sun Ray Cabins

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C1940 Dunbar Cabins – C1950 Sun Ray Cabins

In February 1940, Dale Dunbar purchased a 160-acre stretch of property, south of Whitehall, intersected by US 31, that once belonged to the Covell Estate. His plans for the property were to build overnight tourist cabins there.

His plans included construction of a scenic drive leading to the cabin development on his property. He offered to donate the cut timbers from that roadway to the American Legion for their building on White Lake, if they were willing to cut the trees.

In 1947, Dunbar sold his cabin property to Joseph Nast of Chicago and the wooded part of the property on the other side of US 31 to Walter Hunt.

Dunbar was born in Convoy, Ohio, on 29 October 1905. He died in Homer, Michigan in September 1976.

Mr. Joseph Nast and his wife Madelyne changed the name of Dunbar Cabins to Sun Ray Cabins and operated them for many years. They featured hot and cold water, inner-spring mattresses, oil heat and a private bath in each cabin.

Joe Nast was born in Chicago on 17 June 1895. He married Madelyne Schaefer in Chicago on 31 August 1918. While living in Chicago, Nast worked for the Eversharp Pen and Pencil Company. They had moved

to Michigan around 1946. Madelyn died 14 January 1968 in Muskegon at the age of 71 years. Joe remarried on 18 June 1970 to Florence Hayes in Hart. He died in Grand Rapids on 13 Aug 1971 at the age of 76.