



# Historic Forest Service 1940s Shell Lake Canoe Restored for Conservation Legacy Center

In 1968 Gil and Lucy Churchill paid \$76.00 for this Forest Service canoe used on the Superior National Forests. Gil was a Forest Service employee in Isabella.

The Churchhill's donated the canoe to the *National Museum of Forest Service History* in 2021. The canoe was restored in 2022 by *Jamie Dunn* of the *Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Museum*.

The National Museum of Forest Service History is a nonprofit organization based in Missoula, Montana whose mission is to share the rich history and story of America's Conservation Legacy.

The Museum is in the final stages of a Capital Campaign to build the National Conservation Legacy Center, a world class cultural and learning center. The Center will be dedicated to public understanding of the national conservation history of our forest and rangelands. Construction begins 2023.



The Superior National Forests uses canoes to patrol lakes and rivers of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. The rangers contact campers to ensure compliance with camping and campfire rules. Crews use canoes to maintain trails and portages.



*Photo of a Shell Lake canvas/wood canoe at Lac LaCroix ca.1920's.*



*Above: Artistic rendering of the National Conservation Legacy Center*

*Below: Rendering of the Shell Lake Canoe on display in the lobby of the Center*

