

"The fantasy-like atmosphere of
Legs Inn was created solely
by one man, Stanislaw Smolak.

A Polish immigrant who fell
in love w/ Cross Village & its
people in 1921 & decided to settle
here. This gentle man became
a friend & brother to the Ottawa
Indians of the region & was
adopted by them and named
Chief White Cloud.

"The twisted & arched
forms of roots of driftwood (CALLED
LEGS) collected by →

Smolak from the surrounding
area, and the stones was
smooth & round by lake
waters caused the arti-
ficial and from them
this fantastic building
his own hands.

(arr. in ~~1970~~ 1970
to begin
died mid

with 1921
Legs Inn
(1970s)

10. v. 1
to US in 1912.

fugitive from Poland (escaped
from jail, fled to U.S.)
Settled in Chi. as furniture
maker. Not happy. Saw
farmers going by boat to Mich.;
followed them. Worked periodically
over yrs. so constant inv.
Helped by Ojibwa Indians, who
he treated fairly & who adopted
him in turn.