

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

AUG 24 1987

date entered

SEP 25 1987

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Josephine Martin Glidden Memorial Chapel

and/or common Mt. Pleasant Chapel

2. Location

street & number 2121 East 12th Street

not for publication

city, town Sioux Falls

NA vicinity of

state South Dakota

code 046

county Minnehaha

code 099

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: storage

4. Owner of Property

name Mt. Pleasant Cemetery Association

Boyce and Greeley Building

street & number 231 S. Phillips Avenue

city, town Sioux Falls

NA vicinity of

state South Dakota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Minnehaha County Courthouse

street & number 415 North Dakota Avenue

city, town Sioux Falls

state South Dakota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title NA

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Josephine Martin Glidden Memorial Chapel is a small, but imposing, rectangular masonry structure sited at the entrance to Mt. Pleasant Cemetery. With Romanesque rustication and gothic detailing, the building was constructed of native Sioux Quartzite blocks, which are set off with light colored terra cotta arches, courses, and parapets. The reddish-brown granite blocks were tuck pointed with a matching mortar. Originally, the gable roof was sheathed with ceramic tiles, but due to their deteriorating condition, the tiles were recently removed exposing equally deteriorating wooden roofing boards. Plans are being formulated to replace the roof with either tiles or some acceptable substitute.

On the east is the entry facade, consisting of a projecting narthex with a large gothic arched doorway and a slight, triangular parapet. On the east gable wall, above the narthex, are three small gothic arched windows. Each gable wall is capped by a triangular, stepped parapet. Axial wall fenestration consists of three larger gothic arched windows. Now covered with boards, the windows were initially of an amber glass with stained glass medallions set into the center of the upper panes. An end wall chimney rises along the west gable wall. The entire building is wrapped by a water table, the upper course of which is constructed of terra cotta.

Glidden Chapel rests on a stone foundation and basement, which served as a receiving crypt for corpses during winter months when the ground was difficult to excavate. Entrance to the basement crypt is gained either by an outside stairway on the southwest corner of the building or by an opening in the chapel floor. Although they have long since disappeared, the chapel was initially furnished with wooden pews. The interior remains essentially undecorated.

Original architectural plans included restrooms and office space, neither of which were ever completed. The current proposal calls for renovating the buildings as well as finishing the initial design. The cemetery association wishes to restore the chapel to its intended usefulness for the community.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1924 **Builder/Architect** Hugill and Blatherwick, Architectural firm

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Significant in the area of architecture, the Josephine Martin Glidden Memorial Chapel is a good example of funerary architecture in a gothic style with Romanesque features. The building served the community for several decades as a service chapel, a shelter from inclement weather for cemetery visitors, and as a receiving crypt. Under the South Dakota Historical Preservation Plan, the property relates to the historic context labeled: IV. Permanent Rural and Urban Pioneer Settlement, I. Community Burial Practices.

Constructed of Romanesque rusticated Sioux Quartzite block, a stone native to the area, the chapel exhibits gothic characteristics such as arched fenestration openings and a steep gable roof. Located at the cemetery entrance, slightly west of the main driveway, the chapel is in harmony with granite gateposts of the same material. The building looks like religious structures of the period, but was marked for no particular denomination. Rather, it functioned as a community hall in a community cemetery. Except for permanent mausoleums, there are no other similar funerary structures in the city.

Mt. Pleasant Cemetery is the oldest surviving cemetery in the city of Sioux Falls. It was founded in 1873 and platted the following year. In the 1880's, two earlier cemeteries were closed and the graves moved to Mt. Pleasant. Many of the notable early citizens of the community are interred there. By 1900, it was a well-developed burial ground. Since then, however, it has been overshadowed by larger, newer cemeteries, and until renewed interest in the late 1970's, had fallen into some disrepair. Likewise, so had the Glidden Chapel, the most prominent feature of the cemetery.

As early as 1899, the cemetery board of trustees had been hoping to build a chapel and shelter house at Mt. Pleasant, but funds never seemed to be readily available for this project. Upon her death in 1921, Josephine Martin Glidden bequeathed the cemetery with a gift of \$13,000.00 for construction of such a building. Her late husband, Dan L. Glidden, served as a cemetery trustee from 1904 until his death in 1912. Mrs. Glidden took a great interest in the well-being of the cemetery during and after her husband's tenure on the board. The chapel is a tribute to that devotion.

The local architectural firm of Wilford F. Blatherwick and George C. Hugill contracted to design the building. Both men had established a reputation throughout the state and especially in the local community as quality institutional architects. There are two other buildings constructed by this firm in South Dakota that are listed on the Register. They are the Soldiers and Sailors World War Memorial, in Pierre, Hughes County, and the Grand Lodge and Library of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in Sioux Falls, Minnehaha County.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Sioux Falls East

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	4	6	8	5	8	6	10	4	8	2	3	5	5	10
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries are contained within the legal description: Lots 1 and 2 of Block 26 of the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery Plat (October 11, 1877).

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state NA code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title William L. Webster, Cemetery Association Historian (with technical editing by John Rau, State Historical Preservation Center, Vermillion, SD 605-677-5314)

organization Mt. Pleasant Cemetery Association date February 20, 1987

street & number Boyce and Greely Building 231 S. Phillips Avenue telephone 336-7871

city or town Sioux Falls state South Dakota

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title Director SHPC date 8-20-87

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register entered in the National Register

date 9-25-87

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
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Opened to the public in 1925, the chapel's first funeral was that of the cemetery's longtime supporter and trustee Dennis L. McKinney. Plans for restrooms and an office were never brought to fruition. Until the 1950's, the building continued to be used as a chapel, but the temporary crypt never saw frequent use. By the 1960's, the chapel was used only for equipment storage.

Although now in deteriorating condition, the building has never suffered alteration. Currently, there is fervent interest to restore it and return it to its original function as a service chapel and a temporary burial crypt. Volunteer groups have policed the exterior and interior, and professionals have tuck pointed three walls. Much additional work is planned including a new roof, tuck pointing for the fourth wall, replacement of deteriorated terra cotta sections on the south facade, restored interior walls, and completion of the restrooms and office space. Listing is an important step in continuing the preservation effort at the chapel.

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p. 23. (recorded October 11, 1877).

Personal Interview with Henry Sorenson (former caretaker of Mt. Pleasant Cemetery)
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