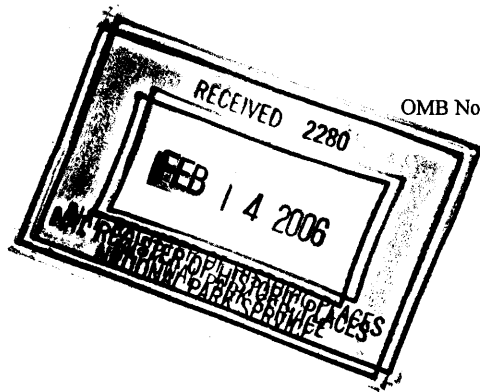


2006

NPS Form 10-900  
(January 1992)  
Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

OMB No. 10024-0018



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Glidden State Bank

other names/site number Citizen's State Bank; Northern State Bank

**2. Location**

street & number	<u>216 First Street</u>	N/A	<b>not for publication</b>
city or town	<u>Town of Jacobs</u>	N/A	<b>vicinity</b>
state	<u>Wisconsin</u>	code	<u>003</u>
	code <u>WI</u>	county	<u>Ashland</u>
		code	<u>003</u>
		zip code	<u>54527</u>

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Feb 8, 2006

Signature of certifying official/Title  
State Historic Preservation Officer-WI

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  
( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Glidden State Bank

Ashland County

Wisconsin

Name of Property

County and State

**4. National Park Service Certification**

- I hereby certify that the property is:
- entered in the National Register.
- See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.
- See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- See continuation sheet.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

*Edson K. Beall*

3/29/06

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**5. Classification**

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)	
		contributing	noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	1	0 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	0	0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	0 structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	0	0 objects
		1	0 total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
(Enter "N/A" if property not part of a multiple property  
listing.

N/A

Number of contributing resources  
is previously listed in the National Register

0

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: SINGLE DWELLING

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
Romanesque

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation CONCRETE

walls Sandstone

roof ASPHALT

other CONCRETE

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Glidden State Bank  
Name of Property

Ashland County  
County and State

Wisconsin

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

**Period of Significance**

1905-1956

**Significant Dates**

1905

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Mohr, Conrad; builder

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

**Primary location of additional data:**

- X State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

**10. Geographical Data**Acreage of Property less than one

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>687360</u>	<u>5111970</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

3	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

2	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

4	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

 See Continuation Sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title	Elizabeth L. Miller	date	August 1, 2005
organization		telephone	608-233-5942
street & number	4033 Tokay Blvd	zip code	53711
city or town	Madison	state	WI

Glidden State Bank

Ashland County

Wisconsin

Name of Property

County and State

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps** A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs** Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional Items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

<b>name/title</b>	Jerome J. Hellenbrand	<b>date</b>	August 1, 2005
<b>organization</b>		<b>telephone</b>	608-798-0203
<b>street&amp;number</b>	7659 Riles Road	<b>zip code</b>	53562
<b>city or town</b>	Middleton	<b>state</b>	WI

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
Continuation Sheet

Glidden State Bank  
Jacobs Township, Ashland County, Wisconsin

Section 7 Page 1

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INTRODUCTION

The Glidden State Bank is situated in the unincorporated hamlet of Glidden, Jacobs Township, on the edge of the Chequamegon National Forest in southern Ashland County. The bank is a two-story, concrete block building resting on a partial, concrete basement. The built-up roof slopes gently toward the center, and is hidden behind a parapet. The Glidden State Bank was erected in 1905 by local builder Conrad Mohr.<sup>1</sup> The south-facing (front) façade is veneered with reddish-brown sandstone of the type often called "brownstone." The rock-faced finish of the brownstone, the arched first floor openings with heavy, rock-faced voussoirs, and the shaped parapet framed with engaged piers of rock-faced sandstone display the influence of the Richardsonian Romanesque style (see photo 1).

PRESENT APPEARANCE

The Glidden State Bank stands on the north side of First Street, just east of Grant Street. First Street cuts east-west across the side of a hill overlooking the Chippewa River, which bisects Glidden. The Glidden State Bank anchors the east end of three blocks of one- and two-story, commercial buildings dating from the late nineteenth and very early twentieth centuries. Single-family residences of the same era are found east and north of the bank. The tracks of the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Saulte Ste. Marie (Soo Line) Railroad lie to the south, running along the north bank of the Chippewa River. Because there are only two small sheds on the south side of First Street, there is an unobstructed view of the river from the bank.

The Glidden State Bank is built into the hillside. It is rectangular in plan and measures 20 feet (east-west) by about 50 feet (north-south). The building faces south.

The south-facing (front) façade of the bank is framed by a pair of engaged piers of rock-faced, brownstone ashlar. Each pier is capped with a rounded stone carved in a floral motif. The burglar alarm, a small metal box, can be seen on the east pier. Between the piers, a broad, round-arched entrance portal with voussoirs is set off-center at the west end of the façade at the first story. A wood-and-glass door surmounted by a transom, framed with sidelights of glass block and capped with a two-pane, fixed transom appears in the portal. East of the entrance, a broad, basket handle-arched opening with voussoirs and a rock-faced stone sill can be seen. It holds a fixed, display window flanked by glass block, and surmounted by a four-pane transom. A wide belt course of smooth, cream-colored stone extends across the first story. A carved, leaf-like flourish embellishes either end of the belt course. Originally, the belt course was carved with raised letters reading, GLIDDEN STATE BANK.

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<sup>1</sup> "A Fine Bank Building," *The Glidden Enterprise*, 15 September 1905, p. 1.

**United States Department of the Interior  
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Continuation Sheet**

Glidden State Bank

Section 7 Page 2

Jacobs Township, Ashland County, Wisconsin

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Metal letters spelling, NORTHERN STATE BANK, the name of the bank from 1933 until 1978, replaced the earlier bank name, but were removed when the bank moved out. Above, a continuous sill of rock-faced, cream-colored stone unifies the four, regularly-spaced window openings at the second story. Each opening originally held a 1/1 double-hung sash window, but the openings have been reduced with concrete block and fitted with smaller, 1/1 windows. A continuous lintel of smooth, cream-colored stone appears above the second floor windows. At attic level, the original, small, 1/1 window is centered in the shaped parapet. It displays a rock-faced, brownstone lintel. The shaped parapet is enriched with a smooth, brownstone coping. While the door and transoms on the first floor may be original, the glass block, concrete block infill, and replacement windows date from c. 1975.<sup>2</sup>

On the north-facing (rear) façade, only the second story can be seen, as the first story is below grade (see photo 2). The exterior finish is concrete block. A metal flashing has been attached to the parapet. A square, brick, interior chimney rises on either end of this façade. An enclosed, shed-roofed, entrance porch covers the west half of the façade. The entrance porch is clad with vinyl siding and exhibits a door on its north face. It was attached to the building when the second floor was converted from office space to apartment use, prior to 1978.<sup>3</sup> A window opening with stone lintel and sill can be seen just east of the entrance porch. A replacement 1/1 window was installed, and the opening reduced with concrete block, c. 1975. A wooden deck was built onto the building sometime between 1978 and 2000.<sup>4</sup>

The east- and west-facing facades each display a concrete block finish, a parapet capped with tile coping, and a square, brick, interior chimney (see photos 3 and 4). Window openings appear at the second story on each façade: five on the west-facing façade and three on the east-facing façade. All the window openings exhibit stone lintels and sills, and each has been reduced with concrete block. A 1/1 double-hung sash window admits light through each opening.

On the interior, the front door opens into a small vestibule. North of the vestibule, a wood-and-glass door gives access to a straight, wooden staircase that rises to the second floor (see photo 5). East of the vestibule is a wood-and-glass door leading into the former bank lobby. Above each door is a transom; these doors are original. The wooden chute that drops into the night depository is mounted north of the door into the bank lobby; the steel depository box is also extant (these are not original elements, but do date from when the bank's occupancy). At the north end of the lobby, the bank vault (northeast) and the former banker's office (northwest) are found (see photo 6). The segmental-arched

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<sup>2</sup> *History of the Glidden Four-Town Area*, (Park Falls, Wisconsin: McGregor Litho, Inc., 1976), p. 102, shows a photograph of the building with its current window and door configuration.

<sup>3</sup> George Padjen, owner from 1978-2003, personal communication, 23 June 2005.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 3

Glidden State Bank  
Jacobs Township, Ashland County, Wisconsin

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vault is constructed of concrete and closes with a steel door and safe mechanism manufactured by the Cary Safe Company of Buffalo, New York (stamped on the door). The door surround is embellished with classical details, including paneled, fluted pilasters capped with guilloche ornament and a palmette, and an entablature with dentils. The former banker's office exhibits built-in cabinets and a countertop along the north wall. These date from the bank's tenure, perhaps c. 1970. Two doors can be seen on the west wall of the bank lobby. The north door opens into a tiny bathroom with a sink and toilet. The south door provides access to the straight, wooden staircase that descends to the basement. Interior finishes include a dropped acoustical tile ceiling, hanging fluorescent lights, wood paneling, and carpeting over the wood flooring. There are no ornamental details on the ceiling or walls above the dropped ceiling.

Originally, office space for a doctor and a dentist occupied the second floor. The upstairs was remodeled into a three-bedroom apartment while the Northern State Bank still owned the building, prior to 1978. Second floor finishes include plaster and drywall (walls and ceilings), and linoleum and wood flooring. The basement is half-size, lying only beneath the south half of the building. It is unfinished.

#### ALTERATIONS

On the exterior, the Glidden State Bank exhibits door and window openings that have been reduced with concrete block and glass block, and 1/1 replacement windows. These alterations detract from the historic appearance of the building, such that the Glidden State Bank is not significant for its architecture. However, the interior layout of the bank space (first floor) is intact, and equipment characteristic of bank buildings remains, including the original vault and ornamented steel door, the burglar alarm, and the night depository. Other alterations are less significant. The small, enclosed entrance porch and wooden deck added to the rear of the building are not visible for the street façade, minimizing their impact. The loss of the second floor office space, remodeled as an apartment, does not affect the integrity of the Glidden State Bank, as the office use was unrelated to the building's role as a bank. Despite alterations, the Glidden State Bank retains sufficient integrity to convey its historic use as a bank, and its historic association with financial institutions in Glidden.



**United States Department of the Interior  
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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section 8 Page 1

Glidden State Bank  
Jacobs Township, Ashland County, Wisconsin

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: SUMMARY

The Glidden State Bank is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under *Criterion A*, at the local level, in the history of commerce, for its 73-year association with Glidden's financial institutions, beginning with the Glidden State Bank and continuing through its successor firms, Citizens State Bank of Glidden, the German-American State Bank of Glidden, the American State Bank of Glidden, and Northern State Bank. The period of significance extends from 1905, when the building was completed, through 1956, the fifty-year cut-off date. The Glidden State Bank retains good integrity.

HISTORY OF GLIDDEN AND JACOBS TOWNSHIP

In 1877, the Wisconsin Central Railroad was extended northward through the pine and hardwood forests of Ashland County to Lake Superior. The same year, the railroad had that part of Glidden that lies northeast of the Chippewa River platted as the "Village of Chippewa Crossing." A railroad depot was erected on the south side of First Street just west of Grant Street to serve as a shipping point for lumber. Two boarding houses were built immediately: the Emigrant House and the Glidden House (both razed). A. J. King opened the first retail business in Chippewa Crossing. It was a general store (not extant) to serve the logging camps in the vicinity, and was located on the north side of First Street across from the depot, one block west of the site of the Glidden State Bank. A tiny lumbering support community sprang up, and by the end of 1877, the first public school in Chippewa Crossing had been built. In 1878, the post office was established under the name of "Glidden," in honor of Charles R. Glidden, an official with the Wisconsin Central Railroad. In 1882, Glidden became a part of Jacobs Township. Early European-American residents of the area were predominantly of British descent, but German immigrants soon outnumbered them.<sup>5</sup>

By 1884, Glidden had a population of about 150. The business district, arrayed along First and Grant streets, was made up of three saloons, two hotels/boarding houses, two general stores and a blacksmith. Two carpenters and a surveyor also lived in the community. The first local newspaper, *The Glidden Pioneer*, began publication in 1884 (it would move to Iron River in 1895). Over the next two years, another saloon, two more hotels, another general store, and two more blacksmith shops were added to the commercial district. New businesses in 1886 included a meat market, a druggist, a feed store, two shoemakers and the first local entertainment venue, a roller rink. The Ashland Iron and

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<sup>5</sup> *History of the Glidden Four-Town Area*, pp. 5, 22, and 69.

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Glidden State Bank  
Jacobs Township, Ashland County, Wisconsin

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Steel Company began operating charcoal burners near Glidden in 1888, an enterprise that would continue until 1902.<sup>6</sup>

Glidden counted some 400 residents in 1890. Three churches had been organized, and a two-story town hall erected. The Glidden Lumber Company opened a sawmill and lumberyard at the east end of First Street in 1890. George Rogers and Charles Emmons established their sawmill the same year. Five hotels, four saloons, two meat markets, two general stores, a drugstore, a blacksmith shop, a hardware store, a barbershop, a restaurant, a shoemaker's shop and a tailor shop were among the other commercial enterprises in Glidden in 1891. By 1893, a physician and a jeweler had moved to town and William G. Fordyce had opened the Glidden Exchange Bank. A weekly, German-language newspaper, *Der Berichterstatte* (*The Reporter*), was established the same year. By 1895, a clothing store, a milliner, a dressmaker, a mason, a painter and a taxidermist had become established in Glidden. The population of the community had reached about 600, and the number of saloons had expanded to 16.<sup>7</sup>

By 1900, the pine forests in Ashland County had largely been cleared. Lumber companies began felling hardwoods and moving into wood products manufacturing. One of the largest of these operations was the Glidden Veneer Company, established c. 1900. This company employed 150 hands by 1904, and had its own railroad line into the thousands of acres of timberland that it owned. It would continue in business until at least 1911.<sup>8</sup> In 1900, a privately-owned waterworks and electric plant was built in Glidden. The Glidden Exchange Bank closed c. 1900, and John Fleishbein opened the Glidden State Bank c. 1902. The Glidden Telephone Company was organized in 1903. In December of that year, Glidden gained a second private financial institution: the Wisconsin State Bank. A second newspaper, *The Glidden Enterprise*, went into publication in 1904. Other businesses in the community included 11 saloons, four hotels, four general stores, three barbers, three carpenters, two lumber companies, two meat markets, two tailors, two liveries, an opera house that could accommodate 500, a jeweler and watchmaker, a blacksmith, a drugstore, a physician, a confectioner, a cigar maker, a hardware store, a milliner, a shoemaker and a drayman. In 1905, the year in which the Glidden State Bank was built, the population of Glidden stood at 820. Two wood products manufacturing plants were organized in 1905: a broom handle factory and a barrel stave factory. By 1907, a creamery had opened in Glidden, reflecting the development of dairying in the area. In 1907, the *Der Berichterstatte* became the *Ashland County Herald*, published in English. It would move to Ashland

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<sup>6</sup> Ibid., p. 59; and *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory*, (Detroit: R.L. Polk and Co., 1884 and 1886).

<sup>7</sup> *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory*, (1891; 1893; and 1895); and *History of the Glidden Four-Town Area*, pp. 18 and 59.

<sup>8</sup> "An Enterprising Community," *The Glidden Enterprise*, 10 June 1904, p. 1.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
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**National Register of Historic Places**  
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 3

Glidden State Bank  
Jacobs Township, Ashland County, Wisconsin

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in 1911. Among the new establishments in Glidden in 1907: five more saloons, two more general stores, a dentist, a furniture store, a lawyer, a harnessmaker, another livery and a lath and shingle mill. In 1909, the Wisconsin Central Railroad was purchased by the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Saulte Ste. Marie (Soo Line) Company. By this time, the Wisconsin State Bank had closed.<sup>9</sup>

Glidden had added another jeweler, a restaurant, a machine shop, and an automobile dealership by 1911. Builder and saloonkeeper Conrad Mohr opened Glidden's first moving picture theater in 1912. Industries in the community that year included two lumber mills, the creamery, the shingle, lath and tie mill, and the broom handle factory. The Glidden Broom Handle Factory prospered during World War I, employing more than 100 women in 1918. By 1922, the plant was producing 75,000 handles every day. The company erected 14 houses on the east side of village, but went bankrupt in 1923. At the time, Glidden counted 928 residents. A hardwood flooring factory opened in the early 1920s; that plant would be destroyed in 1931.<sup>10</sup>

By 1931, the wood products manufacturing concerns in Glidden had all gone out of business. The creamery closed, too, as the cut-over timberland had proven poor for farming, and many farmers had lost their farms to tax delinquency. In addition, many lumber companies had abandoned their property once the timber was removed, leaving hundreds of acres in Ashland County tax delinquent by the late 1920s. A few forward-thinking wood products firms began planting trees. Among them was the Nekoosa-Edwards Paper Company, which planted 300 acres of white pine and yellow birch near Glidden in 1928. At the same time, the U.S. Forest Service, a branch of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, began buying up tax delinquent acreage. By 1930, the Forest Service owned 100,000 acres in Ashland County. In 1932, the U.S. Congress authorized the establishment of the Chequamegon National Forest. This 859,000-acre preserve includes parts of Ashland, Bayfield, Price, Sawyer and Taylor counties. It is divided into five districts: Park Falls, Washburn, Glidden, Mellen, and Hayward. The Glidden district is the largest, encompassing 214,000 acres. In 1933, the federal Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) program was organized. Four CCC camps were erected in the Glidden district of the Chequamegon National Forest, bringing in some 600 men to plant trees, build bridges and roads, and carry out other conservation and beautification projects under the direction of the Forest Service. The last local CCC closed in 1942. Since that time, personnel of the Forest Service, working out of its office in Glidden (located in the Glidden State Bank from 1978 until 2003), have guided wildlife and fish management, outdoor recreation, watershed protection and reforestation

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<sup>9</sup> "An Enterprising Community;" *History of the Glidden Four-Town Area*, pp. 18, 22, 44, 59, 60 and 71; and *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory*, (1903; 1907; and 1909).

<sup>10</sup> *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory*, (1911; 1915; and 1919); and *History of the Glidden Four-Town Area*, pp. 18, 22 and 27.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
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**National Register of Historic Places**  
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 4

Glidden State Bank  
Jacobs Township, Ashland County, Wisconsin

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efforts benefiting the thousands of visitors who come to the Chequamegon National Forest every year. In 1975, for example, over 700,000 trees were planted, 88,000 cords of pulpwood were cut, and 518,000 visitors came. From 1986 through 1995, the Chequamegon provided nearly 23.5 million board feet of timber and pulpwood for commercial use each year. Today, tourism, recreation, and selective logging in the Chequamegon National Forest are integral to Glidden's economy.<sup>11</sup>

**SIGNIFICANCE: COMMERCE**

The Glidden State Bank is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under *Criterion A*, at the local level, in the history of commerce. It is significant for its long-term use as a bank and for its association with financial institutions in Glidden, beginning with the Glidden State Bank and continuing through a chain of successor institutions: the Citizens State Bank of Glidden; the German-American State Bank of Glidden; the American State Bank of Glidden; and Northern State Bank. The significance in the area of commerce coincides with the opening of the building as a bank in 1905 and continues the length of the historic period, through 1956.

The first financial institution in Glidden appears to have been the Glidden Exchange Bank, a private bank owned by William G. Fordyce. Opened c. 1892, it was located in the A.J. King General Store building (not extant) on First Street just west of Grant Street. In 1895, the Glidden Exchange Bank reported capital of \$25,000. Fordyce retained ownership of the bank until at least 1897. By 1901, he had closed it and opened another private financial institution, the Ashland County Bank, in the nearby village of Butternut. Circa 1902, John Fleishbein established the Glidden State Bank. In 1905, Fleishbein's brother, Henry, moved to Glidden from Ironwood, Michigan, and they became partners in the bank. That year, the Glidden State Bank was erected on a site that Henry Fleishbein had purchased in 1902.<sup>12</sup>

The Glidden State Bank was built by Conrad Mohr, who had emigrated with his parents from Loch-A-Rhine, Germany and settled on a farm just outside of Glidden in 1884. Mohr was a man of varied business interests. Circa 1903, Mohr built the Rex Hotel. He operated a saloon, called the Regal, in the building for many years. In 1912, he erected a theater addition to the hotel, which he named the

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<sup>11</sup> *History of the Glidden Four-Town Area*, pp. 15, 55, and 61-62; and David Haugen, Phillip C. Freeman and Mark A. Theisen, *The Forest Resources of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest*, (St. Paul, Minnesota: North Central Research Station - U.S. Forest Service, 1998), p. 7.

<sup>12</sup> *History of the Glidden Four-Town Area*, p. 73; and *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory*, (1891; 1893; 1895; 1897; 1901; and 1903); "An Enterprising Community," *The Glidden Enterprise*, 31 March 1905, p. 3; "A Fine Bank Building;" and Ashland County Deeds, 74:601, 25 January 1902.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 5

Glidden State Bank  
Jacobs Township, Ashland County, Wisconsin

Rex Theatre. The Rex Hotel may have been Mohr's first construction project. In 1903, he began construction on Glidden's Most Precious Blood Catholic Church (demolished). The second Catholic church on the site, it was a Neo-Gothic Revival edifice of brick and was completed in 1908. In 1907, Mohr founded the Glidden Construction Company. This company was active in Ashland, Washburn, Park Falls, Mellen, and Glidden for many years. In 1908, Mohr formed the Glidden Cement Block Company in partnership with Julius Schroeder and Joseph Fries. Mohr used the blocks in many of his construction projects. It is uncertain where the concrete blocks used in the construction of the Glidden State Bank were obtained. They could have been produced locally. However, it is more likely they were shipped in, probably from the city of Ashland, which lies 40 miles north of Glidden on the Soo Line. The brownstone used to veneer the front of the Glidden State Bank certainly was shipped in; its arrival was announced in *The Glidden Enterprise*. It probably came from Ashland as well, as brownstone is found near the Lake Superior shore and many brownstone quarries shipped from Ashland in the late nineteenth and very early twentieth centuries.<sup>13</sup>

The Glidden State Bank was not always the only financial institution in the community. In December 1903, Daniel F. Tyler opened the Wisconsin State Bank in Glidden.<sup>14</sup> Tyler (1863-?) was an early resident of Glidden. He had been the first overseer of highways for Jacobs Township in 1882. In 1884, he had established Glidden's largest general store, which he had sold in 1900. That year, he had a waterworks and electric plant erected in Glidden. Tyler was also on the board of directors of the Glidden Veneer Company, and owned a shingle mill. When Tyler opened the Wisconsin State Bank, he was postmaster of Glidden, an office he had held for six years, and he was serving his eleventh term as chairman of the Jacobs Town Board.<sup>15</sup> Daniel F. Tyler represented the American-born, English-speaking, ethnically British elite that had controlled politics and power in Ashland County, as it had in much of the rest of Wisconsin, during the years following Euro-American settlement. John and Henry Fleishbein, in contrast, exemplified the German immigrant population, becoming a powerful force in its own right throughout much of the state.

In the spring of 1904, John Fleishbein ran against Daniel Tyler for town chair. Fleishbein lost. In December 1904, Fleishbein petitioned the Ashland County Court for Tyler's removal from office. Fleishbein charged Tyler with 12 counts of "willful and corrupt official misconduct and willful neglect

<sup>13</sup> "Pioneers," *The Glidden Enterprise*, 8 July 1904, p. 1; *History of the Glidden Four-Town Area*, pp. 44, 48, and 71; *The Glidden Enterprise*, 11 August 1905, p. 3; and Barbara L. Wyatt, editor, *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin*, (Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986), 2:2-4 and 2:2-5.

<sup>14</sup> "An Enterprising Community."

<sup>15</sup> *History of the Glidden Four-Town Area*, pp. 6, 44 and 69;

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of duty.”<sup>16</sup> The charges contended that Tyler had insured the Jacobs Town Hall with an agency for which he was the agent and had received a commission; that he had loaned money to the Jacobs Township School Board through his bank unlawfully and at a usurious rate of interest; that he had omitted some of his property (including the waterworks and electric plant) from the tax roll; that he had undervalued the Wisconsin State Bank on the tax roll (declaring its value to be \$3,000 even though he advertised in the newspaper that its capital was \$5,000); that he had used boards from Glidden’s boardwalks for his own benefit and without accounting to the town; that he had neglected to appoint a police officer for the previous three years, despite the fact that Glidden had 15 saloons, and a house of prostitution was located in the township; that he had allowed one saloon and the house of prostitution to serve liquor without a license; and that Tyler himself was the landlord of the house of prostitution. Tyler’s initial response was, “...he’s sore about losing the election.”<sup>17</sup> Although some of the charges were dismissed, others were not and in March 1905, Tyler was removed from office.<sup>18</sup> In early April, John Fleishbein, running unopposed, was elected town chair. By the end of the month, he had forced the house of prostitution out of Jacobs Township, appointed a town constable, and entered negotiations on behalf of the town to buy Tyler’s waterworks and electric plant.<sup>19</sup>

Despite Tyler’s setback, the Wisconsin State Bank remained in business until 1908, and Tyler retained ownership of the waterworks and electric plant until 1910, at which point he appears to have moved on. John and Henry Fleishbein continued to operate the Glidden State Bank until 1912, when they sold out to the Citizens State Bank of Glidden. John Fleishbein then apparently left the area, while Henry Fleishbein opened a shingle mill in Glidden. He sold the shingle mill not long afterward, and served as postmaster of Glidden from 1916 to 1919, after which he, too, appears to have departed.<sup>20</sup>

The Citizens State Bank of Glidden incorporated in 1912.<sup>21</sup> Its officers were Rolfe J. Russell, Kate E. Russell and Harry Beal, who were also officers in the Glidden Veneer Company and other local lumbering concerns. Henry Fleishbein retained ownership of the Glidden State Bank building until

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<sup>16</sup> “Petition to Judge Parish Asks That Chairman Tyler Be Removed From Office,” *The Glidden Enterprise*, 16 December 1904, p. 1.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>18</sup> “Tyler Removed: Found Guilty of Official Misconduct and Wilful [sic] Neglect of Duty,” *The Glidden Enterprise*, 31 March 1905, p. 1.

<sup>19</sup> “Fleishbein Elected Town Chair,” *The Glidden Enterprise*, 7 April 1905, p. 1; and “Reform At Glidden,” *The Glidden Enterprise*, 28 April 1905, p. 1.

<sup>20</sup> *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory*, (1907; 1909; 1911; 1915; 1919; 1924; and 1927); and *History of the Glidden Four-Town Area*, p. 69.

<sup>21</sup> Abstract of Title, 216 First Street, in possession of current owner, Jerry Hellenbrand.

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1914, when he sold the structure to Citizens State Bank of Glidden for \$4,000.<sup>22</sup> By that time, William G. Fordyce had become president of the institution. In 1914, both the business and the building of the Citizens State Bank of Glidden were sold to the German-American State Bank of Glidden for \$4,000.<sup>23</sup> The German American State Bank was incorporated in August 1914 by J.D. Twomey, George Deringer, Peter Fischbach, Philip Stoltz, J.D. Twomey, Conrad Mohr, and William Fordyce.<sup>24</sup> In 1918, the stockholders of the German American State Bank voted to change the name of the institution to the American State Bank of Glidden.<sup>25</sup> The bank issued the following statement to explain the name change:

We do not feel the change is a reflection in any way upon those honest and loyal citizens of German extraction...but on the other hand, we feel that our country is now in a state of war with the German government, so that it is our duty to be in harmony with the spirit of the times.<sup>26</sup>

The newspaper applauded the change and in the adjacent column published a report of "another" German resident of Ashland being tar-and-feathered by a masked gang calling themselves the "Knights of Liberty," suggesting that changing the bank's name was a wise move.<sup>27</sup>

The American State Bank of Glidden prospered through the 1920s, declaring capital of \$25,000 in 1924, and closing only briefly in 1933. William G. Fordyce was the president of the bank during much of this period. In August 1933, the American State Bank of Glidden merged with the Marengo State Bank of the village of Marengo, the Mellen State Bank of the city of Mellen, the Ashland County Bank of the village of Butternut (all in Ashland County), and the Mason State Bank of the village of Mason (Bayfield County) to form the Northern State Bank. The consolidation of these banks, crossing county lines, was said to be the first cross-county merger in the state, permitted due to the influence of Fordyce, who had a financial interest in most, if not all, of the banks. William Fordyce (1869-1944) was born in Weyauwega, Wisconsin and was employed by the Wisconsin Central Railroad from a young age, working his way up from cook for the construction crew extending the line through Ashland County. Fordyce opened the Glidden Exchange Bank c. 1892, continuing its operation through at least 1897. By 1901, Fordyce had relocated to Butternut, where he became proprietor of the

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<sup>22</sup> Ashland County Deeds, 109:168, 28 January 1914.

<sup>23</sup> Ashland County Deeds, 107:418, 5 November 1914.

<sup>24</sup> Abstract of Title, 18 August 1914.

<sup>25</sup> Abstract of Title, 8 April 1918.

<sup>26</sup> "Bank Changes Its Name," *The Glidden Enterprise*, 12 April 1918, p. 1.

<sup>27</sup> "More Tar and More Feathers," *The Glidden Enterprise*, 12 April 1918, p. 1.

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Ashland County Bank, which he later incorporated. In 1933, he relocated to Marshfield, where he served as receiver for the American National Bank, retiring in 1943.<sup>28</sup>

The Northern State Bank owned and occupied the former Glidden State Bank building until 1978, when the institution had a new structure erected in Glidden.<sup>29</sup> The former Glidden State Bank building was then sold to George M. Padjen, who leased the first floor to the U.S. Forest Service.<sup>30</sup> The Forest Service remained in residence until July 2004. The current owner, Jerry Hellenbrand, acquired the building in 2003.<sup>31</sup> The first floor is vacant, but the second floor apartment is occupied.

In conclusion, the Glidden State Bank is eligible for the National Register under *Criterion A* in commerce for its many years of service as a local financial institution. Furthermore, this is the only building constructed in the community during the historic period specifically for use as a bank. Although the banks that occupied the building had different names over the years, they represent an unbroken chain of successor firms, descended from the Glidden State Bank, opened by John Fleishbein c. 1902. When Fleishbein sold the business to Citizens State Bank of Glidden (a corporation) in 1912, William G. Fordyce became involved, serving as president of that institution. Fordyce still held that post when Citizens Bank became the German American State Bank of Glidden in 1914. Fordyce also had an interest in the German American State Bank of Glidden, and was its president when the name of the institution was changed to the American State Bank of Glidden in 1918. Fordyce continued to serve as president until the institution consolidated with several other banks to become the Northern State Bank in 1933. The Northern State Bank occupied the building until 1978. Thus, the Glidden State Bank was associated with financial institutions in Glidden for 73 years.

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<sup>28</sup> *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory*, (1924 and 1927); *History of the Glidden Four-Town Area*, p. 73; Abstract of Title, 29 August 1933; "William G. Fordyce," *Ashland Press*, 21 April 1944, p. 1; and "William G. Fordyce Dies Early Sunday," *The Marshfield News-Herald*, 17 April 1944, p. 2.

<sup>29</sup> Building Plans Correspondence of the Wisconsin Industrial Commission/Department of Labor and Human Resources, E File Number 109578, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, Wisconsin.

<sup>30</sup> Ashland County Deeds, 341:62, 15 November 1978; and Padjen.

<sup>31</sup> Hellenbrand.



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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The Glidden State Bank is located in the unincorporated community of Glidden, Jacobs Township, Ashland County. The boundary includes the south 75 feet of the site more particularly described as: the East 5 feet of Lot 1 and the West 25 feet of Lot 2, Block 3, Village of Chippewa Crossing (now Glidden). The nominated parcel encompasses less than one acre and is indicated on the attached site plan.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The boundaries of the Glidden State Bank include all the resources historically associated with it, and coincide with the south half of the legal boundaries of the parcel on which the Glidden State Bank sits.

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Photo 1 of 6

Glidden State Bank

Glidden (unincorporated), Jacobs Township, Ashland County, Wisconsin

Photo by Elizabeth L. Miller, June 2005

Negatives on file, Wisconsin Historical Society

View of the south-facing (front) facade, looking northwest.

The information for the following photographs is the same as the one above, except as noted:

Photo 2 of 6

View of the north-facing (rear) facade, looking south.

Photo 3 of 6

View of the north- and east-facing facades, looking southwest.

Photo 4 of 6

View of the west- and north-facing facades, looking southeast

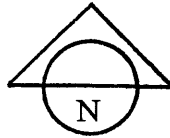
Photo 5 of 6

View of the staircase rising to the second floor.


Photo 6 of 6


View of the lobby looking north toward the bankers (west) office and the vault (east).

Glidden State Bank  
216 First Street  
Glidden, Jacobs Township  
Ashland County, Wisconsin



Scale 1" = 20'

 contributing

 non-contributing

 nominated boundary

 extraneous legal boundary

