Description

Glenbeulah is situated on the north side of the Mullet River in the village of Glenbeulah. It is a two and a half-story frame structure with clapboard siding. The exterior housing to the south once contained an overshot waterwheel. (1) The original structure, of tongue and groove construction, was built in 1857. Its size is (approximately 37' x 42') typical of the commercial mills in the county. In 1863, a two-story intersecting gabled addition was made to the north (2) and hub and spokes were manufactured using water powered machinery in addition to the milling operation. The mill pond to the west of the mill building is still evident, but the mill race is no longer in operation. Because the mill race is the only one in the county known to have run an exterior housed paddlewheel and because it adds to the integrity of the mill and its site, it is included in the nomination. Nothing remains of the waterwheel, however remnants of the mill stones (French Burr) were found by the present owners. The paddlewheel was replaced with a Leffel turbine in 1895. (3) The addition to the rear or east of the building is not significant to the nomination since it was not constructed within the significance orange is significance. Since many types of additions were typical to these early mills as they adapted to technical changes, this addition does not detract from its overall integrity both in character and setting. The mill interior contains much of the line shaft and pulley system. This machinery at one time powered two mill stones (4) and worked twenty-four hours a day (5). To the original Leffel turbine (26" in diameter) a second Leffel (13") was added in 1915. (6) As late as 1915 the mill operated 75 days a year, running 10 hours per day and six days per week. (7) The mill stood idle for many years and the machinery was stripped out to aid the war effort. (8) The sluiceway channelled water from the pond and directed it over a paddlewheel on the exterior of the mill building. Because the pond and sluiceway are more elevated than the wheel housing, it is presumed that the wheel was an overshot type. Significance

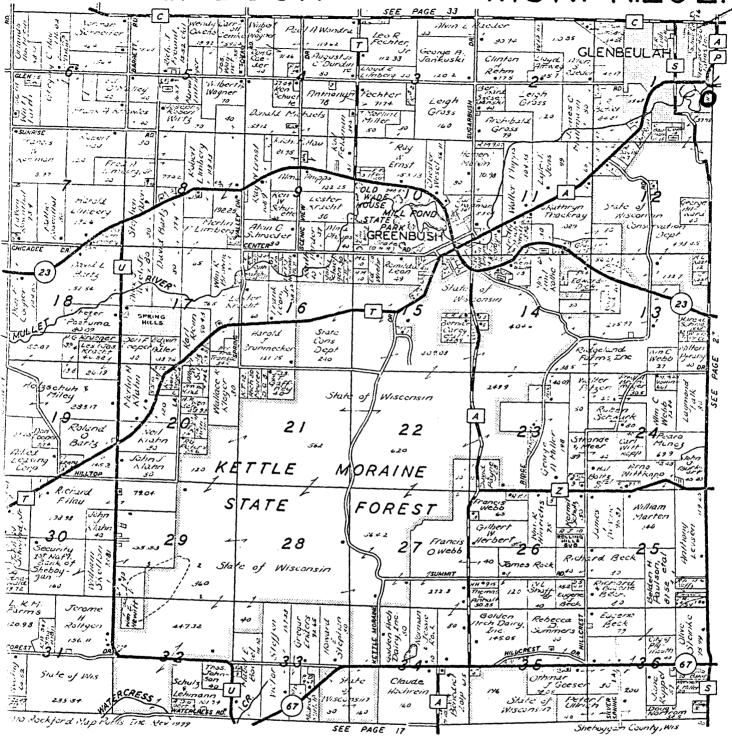
Glenbeulah was a leading grain market and the western terminus for the Sheboygan-Mississippi Railroad when funds ran out. (9) The mill was built by Yankee land speculators who platted Glenbeulah, (10) and is therefore a fine example of Yankee settlement and enterprise. This commercial mill shipped most of its flour to Boston and other eastern ports, (11) via the Great Lakes route. The mill is an excellent example of the early mills built in the county and the only remaining commercial mill known to have had an exterior paddlewheel. It is a good example of early mills, showing how the mill pond, flume and wheel worked in conjunction to power the machinery. The northern addition does not in any way detract from the mills integrity and was constructed well within the wheat era. The setting for the mill remains the same as it did in its most productive days.

References:

- (1) Sheboygan Press, April 29, 1927, p. 14
- (2) Ibid
- (3) Department of Natural Resources Railroad Commission, June, 1915, File #59
- (4) Buchen, Gustav, HISTORIC SHEBOYGAN COUNTY, 1944, p. 174
- (5) DNR Railraod Commission, Op Cit
- (6) Ibid
- (7) Ibid

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