United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



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

1. Nam	<u>e</u>			•	
historic	Marion Park Pa	vilion			
and/or common	•				
2. Loca	tion	,			
street & number	Marion Park				not for publication
city, town	Glidden MC	_X_ vic	cinity of	congressional district	7th
state	Wisconsin	code 55	county	Ashland	code 003
3. Class	sification				
Category district X building(\$) structure site object	Ownership X public private both Public Acquisition in process being considere	Accessible	upied n progress e stricted	Present Use agriculture commercial educational _X_ entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Prop	erty			
name	Town of Jacobs	, Attention:	Frank Ken	npf, Town Chairman	
street & number	Town Hall			•	
city, town	Glidden	vic	inity of	state	Wisconsin 54527
5. Loca	tion of Le	gal Des	criptic	n	
courthouse, regis	try of deeds, etc.	Ashland County	Courthou	ıse	
street & number					
city, town		Ashland		state	Wisconsin 54806
6. Repr	esentatio	n in Exis	ting \$	Surveys	
titleWisconsin	Inventory of His	storic Places	has this pror	perty been determined eli	gible?yes _X_no
date 1977				federal state	
depository for sur		State Historic	al Societ	y of Wisconsin	-
city, town		Madison		state	Wisconsin 53706

7. Description

Condition X excellent good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check one _X_ unaltered altered	Check one _X original site moved date	
■ 93 #				

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Marion Park Pavilion was designed and constructed by local Works Progress Administration skills and labor. The unusual octagonal, domed structure was designed to provide unobstructed space for dancing. Some 374 concrete piers and a concrete foundation support the superstructure, extending 24 inches into the ground and 10 inches above. The forms for the pillars and foundation were made from salvaged lumber from the razed dance pavilion that the new one replaced.

The side walls are twelve feet high and sheathed in shiplap siding painted white. Four of the eight exterior walls are pierced by double doors. Bands of windows with ten lights in each provide natural lighting.

The domed structure of the pavilion was designed as a three-dimensional, three-hinged arch arranged so that a series of arches are placed with their apexes forming the roof peak and rotating in an octagonal form. A total of 16 arches are formed. Each arch. spanning 92 feet, is formed with steel tie rods spanning across the main floor at the level of the top of the exterior sidewalls to resist the thrust of the arch members. The arches are composed of bowstring trusses whose bottom chord is angled at approximately 45 degrees, spanning from the sidewall to the apex. The bowstring truss configuration accomplishes both the curvature of the exterior surface creating the domed appearance, and as a trussed member, achieves the structural capability of spanning the distance from wall to peak with lighter wood members than if of structural timbers only. The thrust of the arches is compensated by horizontal tie rods from the truss bearing at the exterior wall to a small tension ring in the center, and an additional vertical tie rod connects the ring to the apex of the dome. The trusses connect at the peak to a compression ring. Stability of the light bowstring trusses is achieved through wood knee braces consisting of double wood members at the wall bearing and connected to the vertical wall framing, and at the peak by double members arranged as collar ties. Diagonal wood bridging braces the lower chords of the trusses at midspan and top chord rigidity is achieved by fitting the rafters between the chords. The hybrid structure combines the relatively uncluttered open space of the arch with the light wood of the trusses.

The roof, reaching a height of about fifty feet, is covered with asphalt shingles. The uninterrupted floor space is covered with hardwood flooring. In the north end of the pavilion a raised stage provides space for musicians.

The original plans called for 64,000 board feet of white pine at a cost of \$11,000. Since the use of the building was considered seasonal, no heating plant was provided. There is electricity in the building.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1799 1800–1899 X 1900–	Areas of Significance—C		g landscape architectul law literature military music	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify) WPA Project
Specific dates	1938 - 1939 ¹	Builder/Architect I	rank Huber ²	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Marion Park Pavilion is an example of the Works Progress Administration program that encouraged the use of local design skills, labor and materials. During the severest depression years, the federal government attempted to meet the needs of the unemployed millions by a large scale national works program. The Town of Jacobs, in which the unincorporated Glidden lies in northern Wisconsin's Ashland County, responded to the WPA program with a public building project that provided jobs and business to the community. From its completion more than forty years ago by the WPA, the Marion Park Pavilion has continued to be a gathering place for the community. The Pavilion is unique in adapting the engineering concepts of a three-hinged arch with a bowstring truss to obtain a large volume dome shaped structure constructed of timber members and metal tie rods. This combination of engineering forms achieved a sizeable structure with local materials and craftsmen.

Situated in the heart of Wisconsin's north woods, the community of Glidden in the Town of Jacobs lies on the banks of the Chippewa River. Since its platting in 1878 with the coming of the Wisconsin Central Railway, the village has always depended on timber-related industries for its livelihood. Sawmills and woodworking plants, as well as mills turning out shingles, barrel staves and broom handles, provided jobs in Glidden.

By the early 1930s, because of the depletion of timber resources, drought and subsequent fires, and the general economic depression, Glidden fell on hard times along with most of the region. A flood of federal programs and projects came into the region. In 1933 four Civilian Conservation Corps camps were set up in the area, bringing in almost 600 men. They planted trees, fought fires, cleaned streams, cut new roads and erected bridges. But the depression still held the region five years later. None of the sixteen villages, cities or towns in Ashland County paid tax rolls to the county treasurer by the designated deadline. That same year a Glidden man was named superintendent of all Works Progress Administration programs in Ashland County.

Choosing between a sewer system or a public building for Glidden, the Town of Jacobs WPA program drew upon local skills to draw plans for a community pavilion, replacing an aging building in Marion Park, on the outskirts of Glidden. Frank Huber, the designer-carpenter for the old pavilion some thirty years earlier, was a German immigrant who had arrived in Glidden in about 1904. Huber, with the aid of Gust Kasin of Marshfield, designed a dance pavilion in the shape of an octagon covered by a large domed roof. Since the pavilion was intended primarily for dancing (and roller skating too), Huber wanted no vertical structural supports to hinder activities on the floor. Huber's plan was approved by the State Industrial Commission. With local materials and WPA labor under the direction of Henry Hoffschmidt, the pavilion was begun in July of 1938. A formal dedication address was held June 2, 1939, the address given by Fred R. Zimmerman, former governor and then Secretary of State.

(continued)

9. Ma	ijor Bibliog	raphic	al Refer	ences			
May 12 History o Oral inte	en Enterprise June 2, 1939; June 2, 1 f the Glidden Fourviews by Marilyn fnagel, all of Gli	939: June 9 r-Town Area McMillan w	, 1939; June . Glidden, W ith Frank Kem	21, 1940; isconsin,	Novembe	er, 1943.	939;
10. G	eographic	al Data	UTM NO	TVERF	IED		
_	ominated propertyc name _Glidden, Wis		CREAGE NO		guadrang	le scale <u>1:</u> 6250	00
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List all state	es and counties for I	oroperties ove code	rlapping state o	r county b	oundaries	code	
	-						<u> </u>
11. F	orm Prepa	red By	· county			code	
	Marilyn•McMillan,		reservation A	ssistant			
organization	Northwest Regio				ly 15, 1	980	
street & numb				telephone		635-2197	
city or town	Spooner			···	isconsin		Minute, p.
	tate Histor	ric Pres	ervation				on
The evaluated	I significance of this pr	perty within the	state is:				
	national	state	·X_ local				
State Historic title Director HCRS used the property of the p	nominate this property the criteria and procedu Preservation Officer si ctor, State Histor se only certify that this proper the National Register	gnature	the Weritage Cons Lielle ty of Wiscons: the National Regisered	in			1
	ie National negister					•	
Attest:	in the state of th				date		

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Continuation sheet

Item number 8, 11

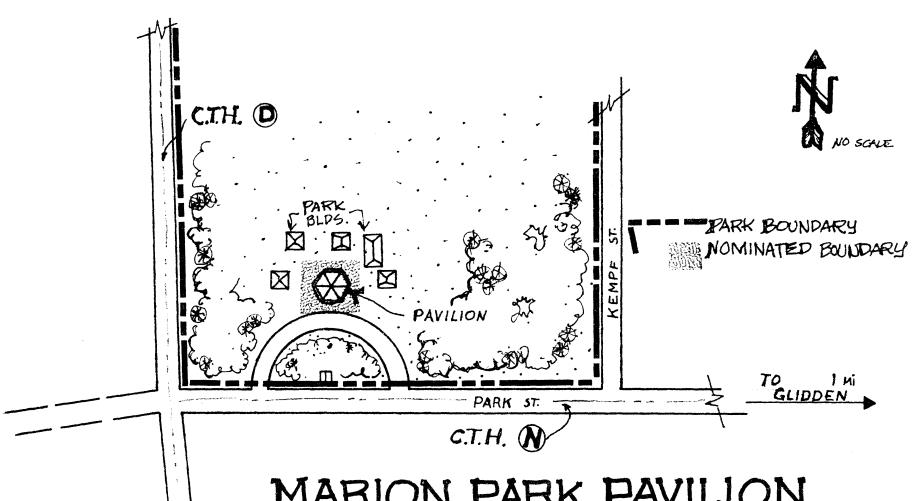
Page 1

- 8. From its inception, the pavilion was, and continues to be, a source of pride for the community. Dances, roller skating and an annual community fair provide a great deal of use for the pavilion.
- 11. Gordon D. Orr, Jr., FAIA, Architect
 American Institute of Architects
 2729 Mason Street
 Madison

April, 1981 608/238-1683 Wisconsin 53705

The Glidden Enterprise, July 8, 1938.

²<u>Ibid</u>., June 9, 1939.



MARION PARK PAVILION ASHLAND COUNTY, WISCONSIN

NURPC-R68/80

JUN 4 1981

MAY 4 1981