



CITY OF
GLADSTONE
 HISTORIC TOUR



706 Wisconsin Avenue

PHOTO COURTESY OF
 EQUUS CLUB OF WISCONSIN SOCIETY

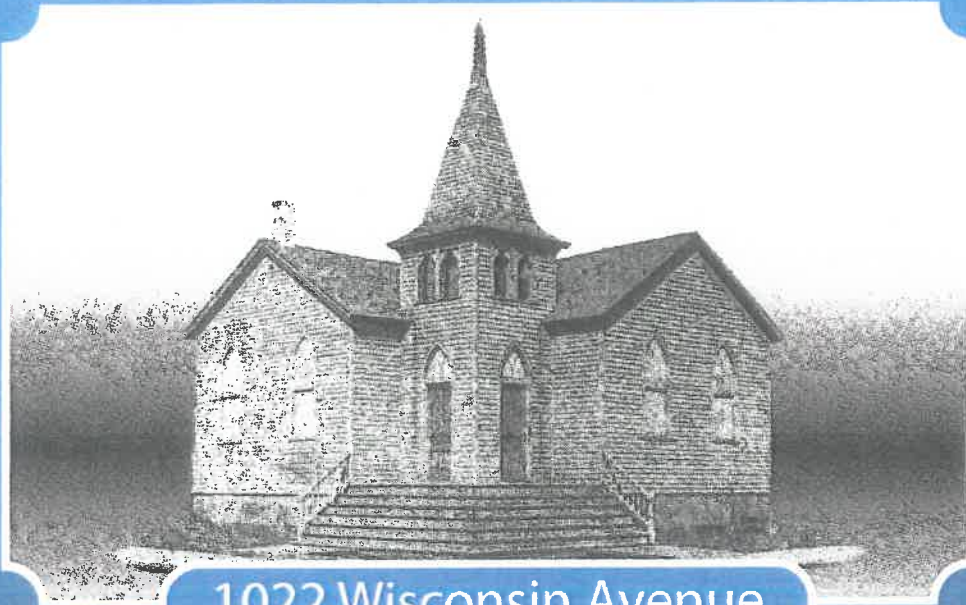
The beautiful Colonial Revival single family home was built in 1900. The design was simple, symmetrical and practical. This style home is one of the more enduring examples of American Architecture.

J Paul Bushong owned this home. Paul came to Gladstone in 1894 at the age of 11. He became the President of the Northwestern Cooperage and Lumber Company. The largest employer in the county. He was highly respected throughout the area. He served on the County Board of Supervisors, City Commission as Mayor and the U.P. Development Bureau. He hosted "Ford Day" on June 13th, 1931, for some 20,000 people. He was President and part owner of the Delta Silver Fox Farm. In 1923 he announced the construction of the New Community Center on Delta Ave. The Rialto Center. He married Bernice Bowen of Manistique in 1910. They had one daughter, Mary Alice. Paul died at the age of 52. The city prepared a proclamation and lowered the flags the day of his funeral. Bernice lived in the home until she passed in 1946.

John Skradski purchased the home in 1947 and renovated the structure for a more traditional style. Designed to provide comfort as well as provide a functional service. This home has been beautifully maintained and will serve the community for many years into the future.



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1022 Wisconsin Avenue

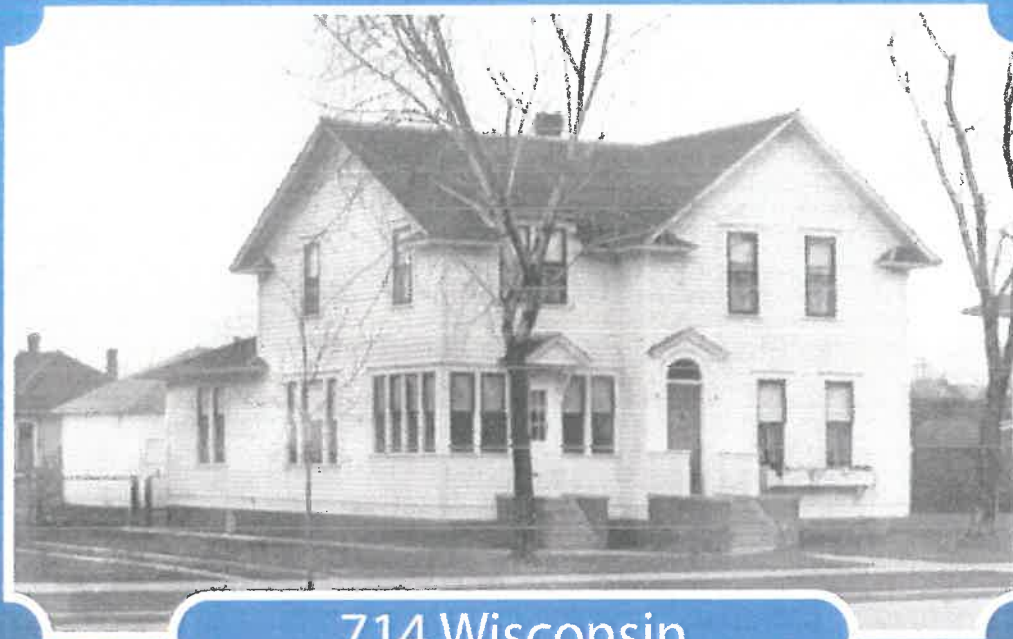
This building is quaint and small with a big heart. Rev. George C. Empson came to Gladstone in 1890 from England, to establish the First Congregational Church. He purchased this site and built this church in 1900. The parsonage was located at 1018 Wisconsin.

He married Sarah Freeman in 1864 and they had seven living children. Four children remained in Gladstone for the remainder of their life and were very prominent. Rev. Empson died in 1910 and the building became the Peoples Congregational Church, they didn't have a Pastor, so the church closed in 1920.

The school then used the building for extra classrooms until 1924 when the building was sold to The Community of Christ Church for \$500 with payments of \$25 a month. Once it was paid for, they then purchased the land the building sits on in 1952. Renovation has taken place over the years and the Annex was added in 1955.



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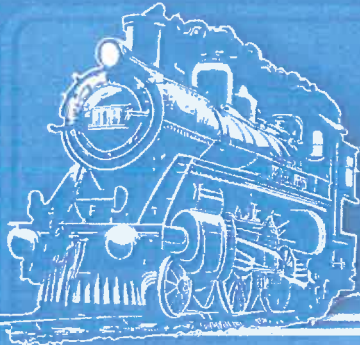
714 Wisconsin

This traditional family home brings style and comfort to the neighborhood. Built in 1927 for one of the City's oldest residents, William L. Marble. He came to Gladstone at the age of seven the first son of Webster Marble, founder of Marble Manufacturing. William served the company and the community until he passed at the age of 96.

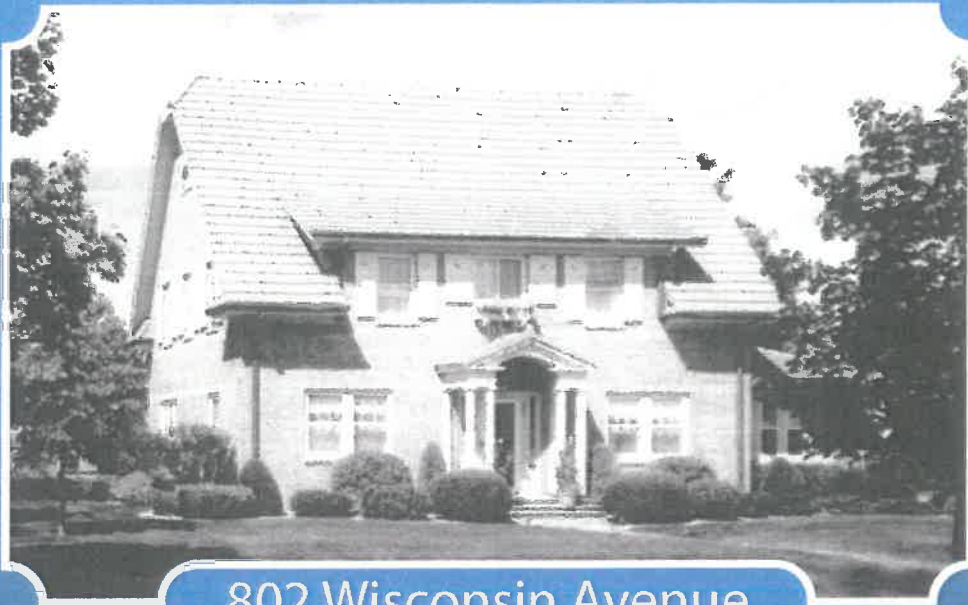
William Marble married Ethel Jackson in 1907 and they raised three children. Will traveled the country promoting and selling Marble products. He worked at the factory and served as Advertising Manager, even doing the hand drawings for the brochures. He became President of the Company in 1930 and retired in 1953. He served 25 years on the U.P. Development Board, was a director for the Delta County Historical Society, Salvation Army Board and Gladstone State Bank.

On his 90th birthday, the City designated "Will Marble Day" He owned property on the Bluff and spent his retirement dividing and selling lots on Lake Minnewaska and the Marble Highlands.

This beautiful home will serve the community for many years to come.



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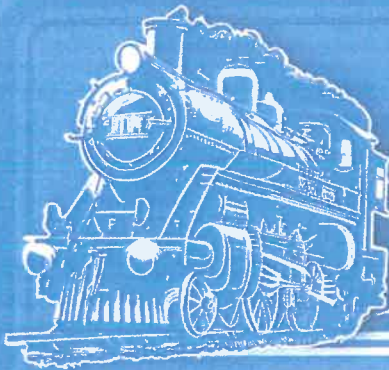
802 Wisconsin Avenue

This beautiful Georgian Style home was built in 1927 for James T. Jones. Jones arrived in Gladstone in 1905 at the age of 20 to work specifically for Webster L. Marble and the Marble Axe Company. By 1910 he was the assistant manager and within seven years he became a full partner. James T. Jones worked 62 years for the Marble Company.

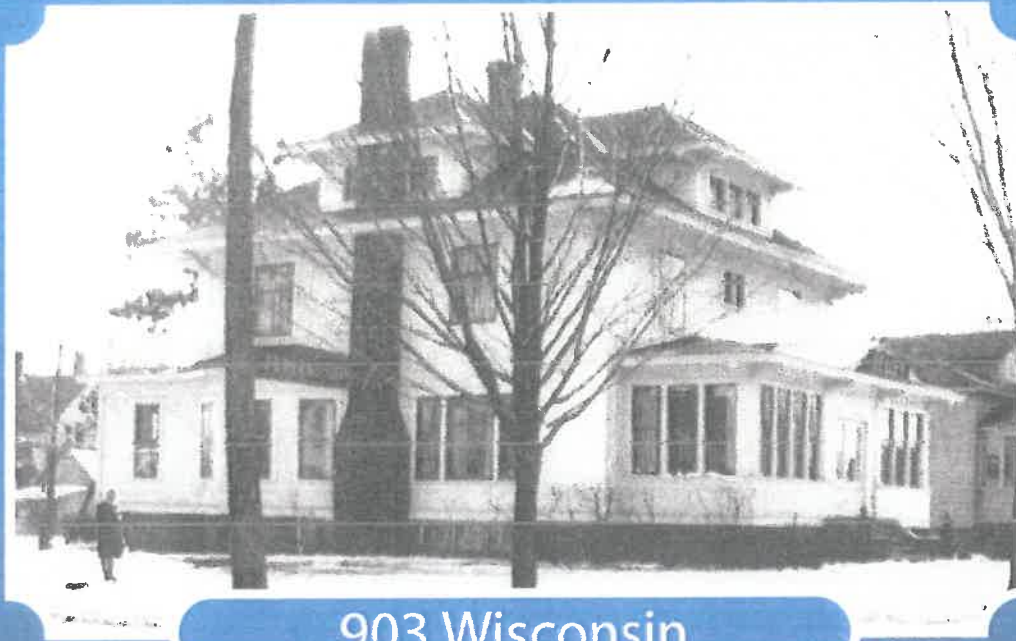
In 1919 he married Olive Colder and plans were made to build this beautiful home. Money was of little concern, and everything inside and out was of high-end quality. He hired George W. Repp from Chicago, a famed architect, to design the home and the blueprints are still available. Copper rain gutters and French Tile on the roof is still evident today. The original phone number was 274. The current homeowners have taken pride in maintaining the home's historic charm.

Jones was very active in the community, having served 34 years on the School Board, thus, the elementary school is named for him. He served on the County Planning Commission and the City Commission, one term as Mayor. The Masonic Lodge and Boy Scouts were very important to him.

He attended two Presidential Inaugurations, and in 1959 he received the Distinguished Alumni Award as a graduate of Ferris Institute.



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903 Wisconsin

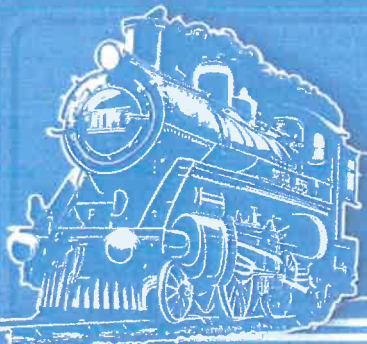
PHOTO COURTESY OF
INDIA LAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This beautiful single-family home in its traditional style, has met the needs of prominent families in the City of Gladstone. Built in 1917 under the direction of the Northwestern Cooperage and Lumber Company for their General Manager George C. Ogden. The Ogden family occupied the home until 1923.

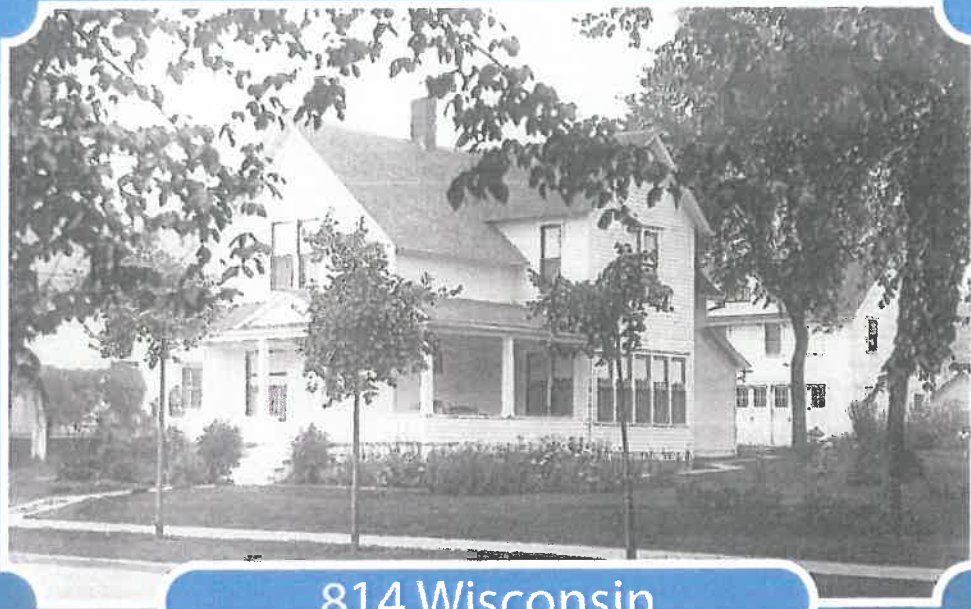
Robert J Riley, Manager of the "Buckeye Store" another holding of the Cooperage Company, purchased the home and lived here for many years. Mr. Riley served on several Boards and Committees including as chairman of the City's 50th Anniversary Celebration. He helped to establish the Gladstone Tourist Park and served on the Upper Peninsula Development Board.

Robert Riley was appointed by the Governor to the position of State Purchasing Agent which required a move to Lower Michigan.

The Gorden Kelly family purchased the Swenson Brothers Funeral Business and renovated this home to accommodate the community. In 1966 the home continued as a service to the area and has been updated and beautifully maintained.



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814 Wisconsin

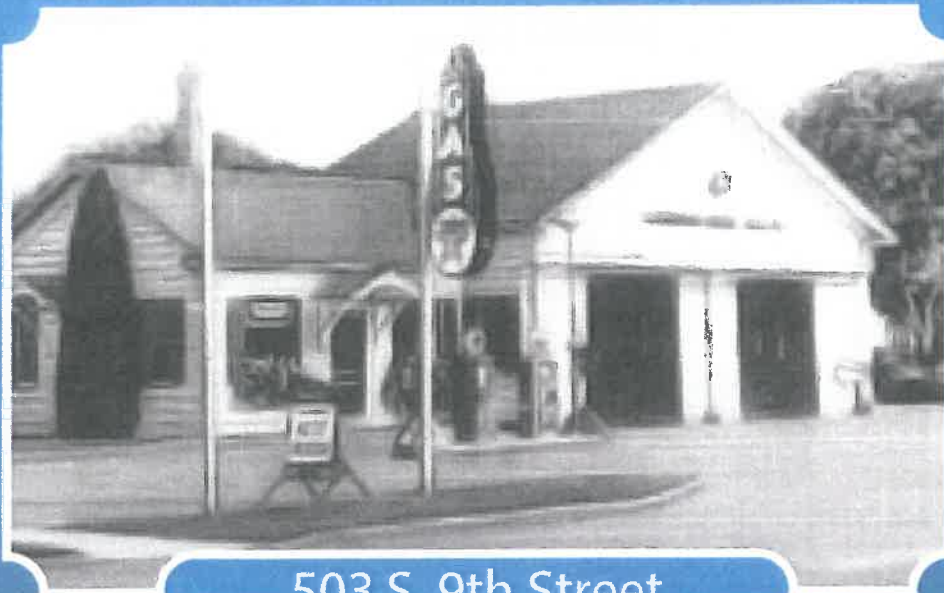
This charming family home is functional and practical and suited the personality of Webster L. Marble in 1900. Webster Marble was one of the greatest inventors and entrepreneurs of his time. He designed and developed practical, useful outdoor items for timbermen, hunters, fishermen, soldiers, campers and Boy Scouts. From a humble beginning in the shop behind his home, he designed and patented his first gun sight in 1891.

Marble was born in 1854 in Milwaukee. He married Rosa Derry in 1878 and they raised two sons. In 1887 the family came to Gladstone, the year the City was established. He was a Timber Cruiser by trade yet realized that the community was perfect for new industry. He founded the Gladstone Exchange Bank and served as President for 40 years. He partnered with Frank VanCleve and J. T. Jones to build the largest Outdoor Sportsmen's Production Company in the world. At peak production he employed almost 1000 people. Webster Marble invented and patented over 60 outdoor sportsmen products that are highly collectable today. He helped to build the City of Gladstone and served the community until he died in 1930. He was inducted into the Sporting Goods Hall of Fame and continues to be recognized today.

This beautiful home stands in remembrance of its history remaining humble & welcoming.



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503 S. 9th Street

Johnson Brothers Oil Company
Super Service Station

Soren and Vincent Johnson followed their father into the Johnson Oil Company business, formerly located on 10th Street (Central Ave). They saw a great opportunity when 9th Street was designated as Highway 2-41, before the four-lane was built. They formed a partnership and built this beautiful Colonial Style Service Station. They opened on June 26th, 1937, just in time for the City's 50th Anniversary Celebration. It had all the modern conveniences at that time and the only High Intensity Mercury Vapor Lamps in the Upper Peninsula, lighting the driveway. Their phone number was 102.

Soren was born in Gladstone in 1905 and married Alma Judson, they had one daughter. Vincent was born in 1911 and married Rose Schwab and had two daughters. The Johnson Families have been a part of Gladstone for over 100 years.

They retired and sold the business to Frank Stropich in 1974.

This building has been restored to its original nostalgic style and still serves the community in a new capacity.