

# Glidden Drive Access Lanes

Last updated 01/19/2008

A search of the records at the Door County Courthouse about Glidden Drive's "access lanes" has turned up some interesting information. My intention was to clear up questions about ownership and lane widths, but it also turned up lanes marked on maps but not evident today.

On August 1, 1937, Olive T. Glidden, Oram Glidden's widow, submitted the Long Beach Plat to the Town of Sevastopol and it was accepted the following year. This tract of land reached from today's south entrance of Glidden Drive to Goldenrod Lane, and included these roads and lanes:

**Glidden Drive:** The same road we have today.

**Schmock Drive:** Approximately parallel to Glidden, it exists today only as an unmarked dirt track extending from County T to Shivering Sands Creek, where it curves along the creek and joins Glidden at the Shivering Sands bridge. It is shown on the maps as diverging and continuing on the other side of the creek to Fernwood Lane also. It has been suggested that acceptance of the plat by the Town constitutes ownership transference of *all roads and land designated as public*, which would include both the obvious, currently used roads and the land originally planned for roads but never developed.

The following lanes are listed from the south to the north as they cross or intersect Glidden Drive:

**Evergreen Lane:** The first beach access from the south. Like all the other lanes, ownership is not indicated on the original Long Beach plat. County records say it is 60 feet wide from the lake, across Glidden to Schmock Drive.

Evergreen Lane, from Glidden to the shore only, was moved at some time and for some reason not presently known.

On either side of Evergreen Lane, but only near the shore, are 60-foot wide areas that look like "wings" from the air, marked on the Long Beach Plat as "Dedicated to lot owners." County records show no more information about this (in all such cases, Sevastopol Town is shown as owner of the lane only). The other dimension is not given and the original

map is not accurate enough to scale from; we will have to assume this was intended to be “beach” only.

In a video memoir given by John Brogan in 2007, it was suggested that Mr. Glidden’s experience with similar, earlier developments along Lake Michigan in Indiana guided his plans here. In the Indiana development, he did not provide access to the water for back lot owners, and Glidden felt this caused the development to “turn trashy”. He attempted to solve this problem by making frequent and easy water access to all property owners so created many lanes and wide public beaches.

**Deerpath Lane:** Similar to Evergreen.

**Hemlock Lane:** Similar to Evergreen.

**Bittersweet Lane:** Similar to Evergreen.

**Short Street:** Aptly named at less than 50 feet long, it extends from Glidden Drive to the edge of Shivering Sands Creek, shown only on maps.

**Woodland Lane:** Not marked on the road, but 50 feet wide from Glidden to Schmock Drive three lots north of Shivering Sands Creek (does not go to the beach).

**Arrowhead Lane:** Similar to Evergreen.

**Fernwood Lane:** Not marked on the road, but 50 feet wide from Glidden to Schmock Drive slightly south of Goldenrod lane (does not go to the beach). Schmock Drive appears to end here.

**Goldenrod Lane:** 50 feet wide from Glidden Drive to the beach, owned by Sevastopol. No “wings” on either side on the beach.

Long Beach Plat ends here.

**White Pine Lane:** County real estate records show this lane as 50 feet wide from Glidden Drive to the lake. However, it is not included in the 1992 transfer deed from the Estates to the Association. The real estate listing refers to book 135, page 528, but that book and page is a mortgage, not a deed, and it does not describe that parcel. (I understand that page numbering mistakes were often made and it is standard practice, even when found, to not attempt fix them.) The adjacent pages 527A and 528A, document #310433, mention “a 50-foot wide access road,” but only as the northern boundary for a private parcel.

The White Pine Lane mystery was solved when John Brogan, one of the two developers of Glidden Drive Estates in the 1960's with Bill Fairfield, gave video testimony in 2007. Brogan said that a portion of Glidden Drive from Goldenrod Lane to White Pine Lane ran along the shore when first built. Presumably due to the small creek (Fischer) and the swampy area that makes road building difficult, the planners took the easy route around the swamp on gravel, rocky shore and forded the stream rather than building a bridge. Some years later, the lake had other ideas and washed out the shore route. When the road was repaired by rerouting much farther inland, the portion of the original road that returned from the old shore to the new main road became a stub, and was relabeled White Pine Lane.

This story is corroborated with oral history from other sources and an old map in Brogan's possession showing the original shore route.

It is assumed that White Pine Lane is now a Town Road.

The following lanes were created by Glidden Drive Estates in the 1960's and deeded to the nonprofit Glidden Drive Association in 1992:

**Oak Lane:** 50 feet wide from Glidden Drive to the lake.

**Elmtree Lane:** Prior to 2006, County records showed Elmtree as 54 feet wide from Glidden Drive to the lake, but the Estates plat showed 6 feet. This has created a potential boundary overlap with Werner and Ruth Petersen's property to the north, and very likely is related to a similar 54-foot gap north of Roger and Mary Peterson's lot (Petersen/Peterson lots are adjacent). A search of deed records suggests the correct dimension is probably 6 feet as recorded in the 1992 Estates/Association multi-lane transfer and the discrepancy was due to a surveyor's error. A resurvey of both lots and the lane has verified that the correct width is 6 ft and the County records have been corrected. (Names used here refer to the property owners ca. 2000.)

**Pebble Lane:** 183 feet wide on the road, much less on the lake, from Glidden Drive to the lake (platted as a .79 acre lot).

**Yew lane:** 6 feet wide from Glidden Drive to the lake. The location of this lane was moved, but detail on this has not been researched.

**Beech Lane:** 6 feet wide from Glidden Drive to the lake.

**Birch Lane:** 6 feet wide from Glidden Drive to the lake.

**Cherry Lane:** 6 feet wide from Glidden Drive to the lake.

**Cedar Lane:** 6 feet wide from Glidden Drive to the lake.

**Maple Lane:** 6 feet wide from Glidden Drive to the lake.

**Spruce Lane:** 6 feet wide from Glidden Drive to the lake.

**Balsam Lane:** 6 feet wide from Glidden Drive to the lake.

There is a small 1.2 acre piece of land adjacent to Shivering Sands Creek and Glidden Drive, on the northeast, that is marked on the 1937 plat as “Dedicated to the public for park purposes.” According to Holly Hansen at the County Assessor’s office, the Assessor has decided to mark this property as owned by Sevastopol Town on the same grounds as mentioned above about Schmock Road. It is presently an unmarked, undeveloped Town Park. It does not extend to Lake Michigan.

The Nature Conservancy owns one or more access lanes from Glidden to the interior as well as many lots and large tracts to the west of Glidden. It has been suggested that some of the undeveloped lanes may have become their property. More research is needed to settle this question.

— Laddie Chapman

The latest version of this document is available on the Glidden Drive Assn. Web site: [www.doorbell.net/gda](http://www.doorbell.net/gda)