**BIG QUESTIONS and our COLLABORATIVE ANSWERS**

**#1 What is the nature of Wright’s relationship with Madison? Identify:**

* 1. **Wright’s boyhood experiences**
  2. **Relationships Wright had to individuals and /or institutions throughout his life**
* Wright saw Madison as his hometown and Monona Terrace was his gift to the city
* He spent a good part of his boyhood in Madison, age 11-19
* Robie Lamp is a lifelong friend and Wright designed a house for him
* With friends, he would do projects with a small printing press and go iceboating on the lakes
* Had familial ties in Wyoming Valley
* Belonged to the Unitarian community in Madison- designed Unitarian Meeting House
* Attended 3 classes at UW and later received an honorary degree
* Worked on UW’s Science Hall while in the employment of engineer and UW professor Allan Conover
* Was in debt with many local businesses but at the same time appeared to flaunt his status with car, dress, etc.
* Had adversarial relationships with civic leaders
* In 1883, Wright witnessed the collapse of the State Capitol and learned the importance of supervising construction

**#2 Why did the project take so long?**

* City budget for project did not match Wright’s estimates
* Wright’s personal scandals and pacifistic views tarnished his image
* Changing mayors and public officials with different agendas
* Changing functions of the building
* Citizens’ interest in preserving view of Lake Monona and lakeshore green space, partially influenced by John Nolen’s vision
* WWII stalled the 1938 Civic Center project
* 50’s auditorium project was stalled due to opposition of the business community, and the 1957 bill restricting height of lakeshore construction to 20 ft.
* Legal debates over the dock-line and title on the land complicated matters