

Monona Terrace Times

1953-1954

Madison, Wisconsin

The Monona Terrace Project

WRIGHT NOW ASHAMED OF TOWN OF HIS BOYHOOD

By Frank Lloyd Wright
The Capital Times August 25, 1953

A GREAT IDEA has been hiding around dear old Madison ever since I was a Madison boy. Yes, long ago. Even then I could never understand how a site for a city so beautiful as Madison's could be blotted out by the inconsequence of little men. But John M. Olin came along and cheered me up. He was prophetic of better things but Madison lost him.

Three great gifts Madison has.

ONE. The capital city of a great State.

TWO. The site of a once upon a time famous University.

THREE. A city favored by nature herself as no other living city of my recollection.

And yet as I could see, even then, the citizens were doing nothing to dignify or memorialize any of the three great gifts to the city. Now it may be seen that the city has lived as a parasite upon all these three great gifts.

What reason? Why this inconsequence? Were Madison citizens all nickel-pinchers afraid to move because they might incur costs and costs were always too much? Why move when they were all sitting pretty with the three great gifts?



Frank Lloyd Wright
by Valentino Sarra

WELL, I'VE BEEN around the world extensively since I saw part of the old State capitol fall. When I came back to Madison again the new capitol was standing there owning the town. The beautiful lakes were blotted out by private residences. The University instead of developing with the incomparable beauty of its own site had invaded the commonplace town. There was no new John M. Olin. Like many beneficiary of great inheritance, too lazy to work, too well off to care, Madison citizens were either occupying the front seats on the lake-shore quite satisfied with their share of the great inheritance or leaving the town for travel. Commonplace in every sense was Madison as a city. The rise of mediocrity was manifest. Madison had done nothing, afraid even to build enough schools. If the city had money it was hiding it. The commonplace appeared everywhere in everything and Madison was quite proud of it. No vision, no courage, no discontent, divine or profane, was exhibited anywhere.

Life in Madison had gone, well---just stale. No public spirit. Then young Manchester broke the trance, had bad luck with his architects. A merchant move to build something distinguished recently made by Wolff, Kubly and Hirsig. A good idea wrongly applied---but a little something.

Otherwise, probably not one building enterprise in Madison by either State University, Madison merchants, or the private dwellings of citizens rose above the hum-drum level of the commonplace mill. There were a few outlying dwellings of a worthy character. The city, but for its gifts was just Edgerton, Stough-

ton, Fort Atkinson. Or what have you? Plenty of civic snobbery but no civic pride. Was that the answer? Well, the University itself had started down grade with Glenn Frank, etc. The State lost its eminence with its last good Governor, Gov. Jocko Kohler---a real builder. The city had got itself a reactionary architect, builder of bad Roman temples, for Mayor. He was soon (but not soon enough) moved over into the Highway Commission and the State built narrow high truss steel-bridges all over the State, at least 50 years behind the times. One of his last acts was to route a heavy, main, north-south traffic lane to and from Wisconsin's choicest landscape region through a peanut and popcorn stand that had dropped its legitimate name to take over one that would beckon to tourists as the Dells themselves.

Well---so I could go on and on way down the line and make no end and make no point.

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COMING BACK to this dear old scene, of my boyhood, I was and am ashamed of the old town. Now Madison is not a poverty-patch. It has at least one newspaper editor of crusading calibre. Too bad he is not a builder. It now, after a great struggle, has factories and shows some signs of making money of its own---apart from State or University. But the merchantable nickel-pinchers prevail as always and will part with a nickel only if it has a hole in it.

Fear is so easy to instill and poor old Madison itself has been a poor spender, until now, by some hocus-pocus, a nine million dollar (that is about what

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NOW CITY-COUNTY UNIT TO HEAR WRIGHT'S PLAN

By George Rodgerson, Staff Writer
Wisconsin State Journal September 12, 1953

Architect Frank Lloyd Wright will be invited to explain in detail his plans for a city-county building, union train depot, and auditorium to the joint City-County Building committee and the city Municipal Auditorium committee, it was voted Friday night.

In order to gain "the facts," the city-county group, made up of aldermen and county supervisors, voted to accept the request of Ted Boyle, head of the City-County Civic Center Committee, to have the famed Spring Green architect explain his proposal.

Group Named

At the same time, the committee appointed a four-man subcommittee to "investigate all the facts of the Wright plan, and report them to the County Board and the City Council."

The joint group will ask Wright to appear before them Sept. 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the courthouse.

While the joint committee voted to ask Wright to express his plans in detail, the members were frankly skeptical that either the city or the county could afford the controversial building, which would extend out over Lake Monona at the foot of Monona Ave.

At the same time the committee members saw the promotion of the Wright plan as an attempt to stall the present city-county building plans.

Mayor Quoted

Although the figure of 17 1/2 million dollars has been pinned on the Wright proposal, Mayor George Forster told the committee that "conservative estimates" would place the figure closer to \$37,000,000.

The cost to the taxpayers of Dane County and Madison is one of the top priority items in the quiz of Wright later in the month the alderman and supervisors agreed.

Ald. Carroll Metzner claimed that he saw "dis-

crepancies" in the Wright plan when he said it would take at least 21 acres to park 3,500 cars, as proposed while Wright contemplates only 7 acres for the whole project.

Metzner when on to point out that the estimate of \$17,500,000 for the project was made 15 years ago, when building costs were considerably less than they are today.

'Hear Him Out'

Ald. Ivan A. Nestingen, a member of the joint committee and chairman of the Municipal Auditorium committee, told the group:

"We can hear Wright and his supporter out, and then report back to the board and council on the facts and the discrepancies."

Both Metzner and Ald. H. L. Garner expressed their doubts that either the North Western or Milwaukee roads would be interested in a union train depot, especially if they were called on to contribute money.

Nesting also pointed out that it was present and former members of the council and the County Board who have always opposed a city-county building or an auditorium who are now pushing the Wright plan.

Forster Sums Up

Forster summed up the committee's feeling, when he told the group:

"If he (Wright) can do the things he says he can, than we ought to hire the man."



Photo by Edwin Stein; Madison City Council meeting Mayor George Forster (standing) has the floor.

Appointed to the fact-finding subcommittee were Nestingen, Metzner, C. A. Sorenson and George Solrud.

The committee agreed to meet before and after the Wright quizzing before submitting a report to the council and the board.

BACK REFERENDUM ON WRIGHT CENTER

By Herbert Marcus
The Capital Times July 8, 1954

The City Council's Municipal Auditorium Committee Wednesday night adopted its final report recommending that the voters decide this fall whether Madison shall build a civic center and auditorium designed by Architect Frank Lloyd Wright. The report, climaxing many months of work by the study group, will be presented to the City Council tonight. If it follows normal legislative procedure, the report will be referred to the Council's July 20 Committee of the Whole session for discussion. The move urging that the voters be left to decide if they want Wright as the architect of the proposed civic project confirms action taken by the committee at a meeting last week. The final report also confirms two other major recommendations agreed upon by the committee. They are: 1) That the separate referendum question seeking voter approval of the general obligation bond issue needed to finance the project shall ask for an amount not to exceed \$4 million. 2) That, regardless of who the architect is, the civic center should contain those facilities outlined in Plan III of the Sprague-Bowmen research report. The firm was hired by the Council to examine Madison's auditorium needs. Should the City Council follow its committee's recommendations it will mean that two separate referendum questions will appear on the Nov. 2 general election ballot the one being the question of a bond issue, the other seeking instructions on hiring Wright as the architect. The Council will have a choice, however. It could reject the proposal to seek advice on the architect and place only the question of a bond issue before the

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WRIGHT NOW ASHAMED OF TOWN OF HIS BOYHOOD

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the Capitol cost the State) office structure of the lower middle-class is finally in sight to complete the monstrous commonplace and further complicate the growing traffic menace, wasting the taxpayer's chance for anything better for all time to come.

About 15 years ago I was moved to called attention to another--- a neglected, gift---the contiguity of Lake Monona and the State capitol at the center of the town square.

Connected by four main streets, a broad central mall, terraces and parks built out over Lake Monona would connect Monona directly with the capitol square and by economic modern construction afford the city a stately civic-center containing a Union Station, a splendid Civic-auditorium, the City Hall and a jail, a County seat and jail, and two large municipal boat-houses, using the waters of the lake itself to feature the three great buildings with big water-domes. All this civic center to counter on the State-house dome and lift the character of the whole city of Madison to the point where the Capitol would belong to the town and not the town belong to the Capitol. Both working together could have a note-worthy gathering place (no longer left to a field house or a stock-barn) and be able to return something to the University for its use of those facilities. In short, here was golden opportunity to finally correlate the features of the city with its beautiful site in such manner as to make, yes with extraordinary economy, a great modern civic circumstance, seven acres added to the heart of the city. An establishment of which any city on earth could be proud, and Madison could do all this on the self-liquidating plan now being put into practice by so many American cities where no burden at all falls upon the taxpayer. In this case 17 1/2 million dollars. The great improvement is planned to pay its own way if the city and county uses its credit.

Fifteen years ago the Monona Terrace Garden plan encountered the reactionary Mayor and Council. Now 15 years later the city remembers that idea. Remembers that it was based upon a unique opportunity by way of site and asks to see it again.

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BUT, ALSO ANOTHER commonplace building is looming to leave both City and County sandwiched with no provision for parking at all is planned. Cost nine million dollars in direct taxes. The perquisites are arranged. Politically to disturb them now would be suicide they say. Why?

The press should answer. But the press won't interfere. The present Mayor--a red-blooded one---sees the prospect for a good thing but won't believe it can be built for the sum proposed. An average alibi anybody could make. How could the Mayor or anybody the Mayor knows realize the great economies of this proposed type of construction making several spacious beautifully proportioned buildings within itself, spending little or nothing on their exteriors and yet the miraculous resources of reinforced concrete yielding the noteworthy noble effects of modern construction! Since it was the citizens themselves who remembered the project it is now the citizens themselves who may act. There is no known way to prevent mistaken commitments of politicians from taking effect, when aided by the press, except the referendum. A life-saving clause characteristic of our Democracy, is this affair of the referendum.

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Councilmen come and go. Next year half of them are reelected. Governors are reelected. Newspapers veer with their interests. But---the people go on forever. What the people deeply feel they want, they get: if they are young enough. Madison is old but I am persuaded already that young Madison, whatever its age may be, wants the Monona Terrace Park project for the children of its children's children. Madison, young, can visualize a capital city as a future shrine for the whole country.

It was young-old John Bright who stood up and declared in England's parliament (when twitted by the overwhelming opposition): "One man and the right idea is a majority." He pointed to history to prove it. History in this case may again prove his point.

But I wish this project to be called the Monona Terrace Park, not "the Frank Lloyd Wright Plan." Take all personalities out of the affair so far as possible. They are not only stumbling blocks but also anathema to small minds and a curse or a cheap come-on in politics.

BACK REFERENDUM ON WRIGHT CENTER

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voters. The report noted that two members of the committee dissented from the majority report recommending a referendum on whether Wright should design the building. They were Aids. Harrison L. Garner and Michael T. Whalen. The other members of the committee, favoring voter opinion on the issue, are Ald. Ivan A. Nestingen, chairman of the committee, and Aids. Robert Nuckles and Paul Lorenz.

The facilities which the committee urges should go into the project include:

1. A sloping-floor theater-type auditorium seating at least 2,500.
2. A flat-floor exhibition hall, with 22,500 feet of floor space, having a seating capacity of 3,000. The hall would be so designed that it would be suitable for spectator sports including basketball, and the floor would be refrigerated for ice sports.
3. A community center; art gallery; little theater, added meeting rooms, and a food service area.

It is estimated that these facilities will cost about \$4 million. This plan offers a diversified program for the people of the city. the committee report said. The report also noted the difficulties of building a sports arena structure. It pointed out that the history of professional sports in Madison has been poor, because of University athletics, and stated to expend the large initial amount on a sports arena would remove the opportunity for construction of facilities which would have a much wider use and demand, since we are not able to afford all the facilities discussed in the Sprague-Bowman report. Plan III offers the widest range of facilities for Madison and still keeps us within the amount of money we can reasonably spend, the report said. The committee also told the Council that it feels the referendum on the project should not be delayed. Many persons will lose the strong interest they have in the project if further delays occur, it stated. The report also noted that the committee has explored inclusion of the Villages of Maple Bluff, Shorewood Hills, and Monona and the Town of Madison in the project. We believe there is sufficient basis for real hope of a joint effort, both in sharing the cost on a suggested basis of comparative equalized valuations and in joint management on a formula yet to be determined, the report observed.

—An Editorial—

THE OLD, OLD STORY!

By William Evjue, Editor
The Capital Times July 21, 1954

AS HAS so often been Madison's civic misfortune in years gone by, another great opportunity for a community project that would bring this city national fame for civic achievement is to be wrecked by the same old special interest crew that has been blind to the city's opportunities in the past---the peewee City Hall politicians and the Chamber of Commerce mentality.

Last night, the members of the Common Council, sitting as a Committee of the Whole, recommended that on the referendum to be held this fall the citizens of Madison will be asked to approve a general obligation bond issue, not to exceed \$4 million, to build and equip an auditorium and civic center. In other words---the Common Council is asking the people of Madison to give the Council and the Chamber of Commerce a blank check under which they will decide the location and the nature of the project.

The action of the Council members should be taken for what it is---hostility towards the Lake Monona Terrace plan as envisioned by a man who had early day roots in this community and who has won worldwide acclaim as a great architect--Frank Lloyd Wright.

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IN HIS argument last night, Mayor Forster descended to the level of political trickery too often voiced by the peewee politician found in the American city hall. Mayor Forster chose to make Mr. Wright the issue rather than the Lake Monona Terrace project itself. Being a skillful, vote-appraising politician, it has not escaped Mayor Forster's political eye that there is a strong sentiment in Madison for the Lake Monona location. These people will demand, and rightfully so, that they be given an opportunity to vote on the location of the auditorium, rather than a clique of City Hall-Chamber of Commerce representatives who are usually

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1908 Bird's-Eye of Madison



THE OLD, OLD STORY!

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responsive to wire-pulling, special interests.

Mayor Forster said Tuesday night:

"If there is a 'yes' vote Nov. 2 on the auditorium bond issue, the building cannot be completed in less than five years. At 85, Mr. Wright is sound of mind and body, but there is a breaking point."

Discussing the Monona Terrace project, the mayor said: "We could expect to experience many time consuming obstacles. There would be arrangements with the railroad, with the state, the filling in of the lake and many legal involvements." This is subterfuge. We need only to look back over the city-county building fight to ask if the delay would be any longer than will be required to condemn property for the auditorium.

We cannot resist the temptation to say that, even at 85, Mr. Wright still has more imagination and vision than have the City Hall politicians of the great opportunity within Madison's grasp to erect here a civic project that would attract national attention and acclaim.

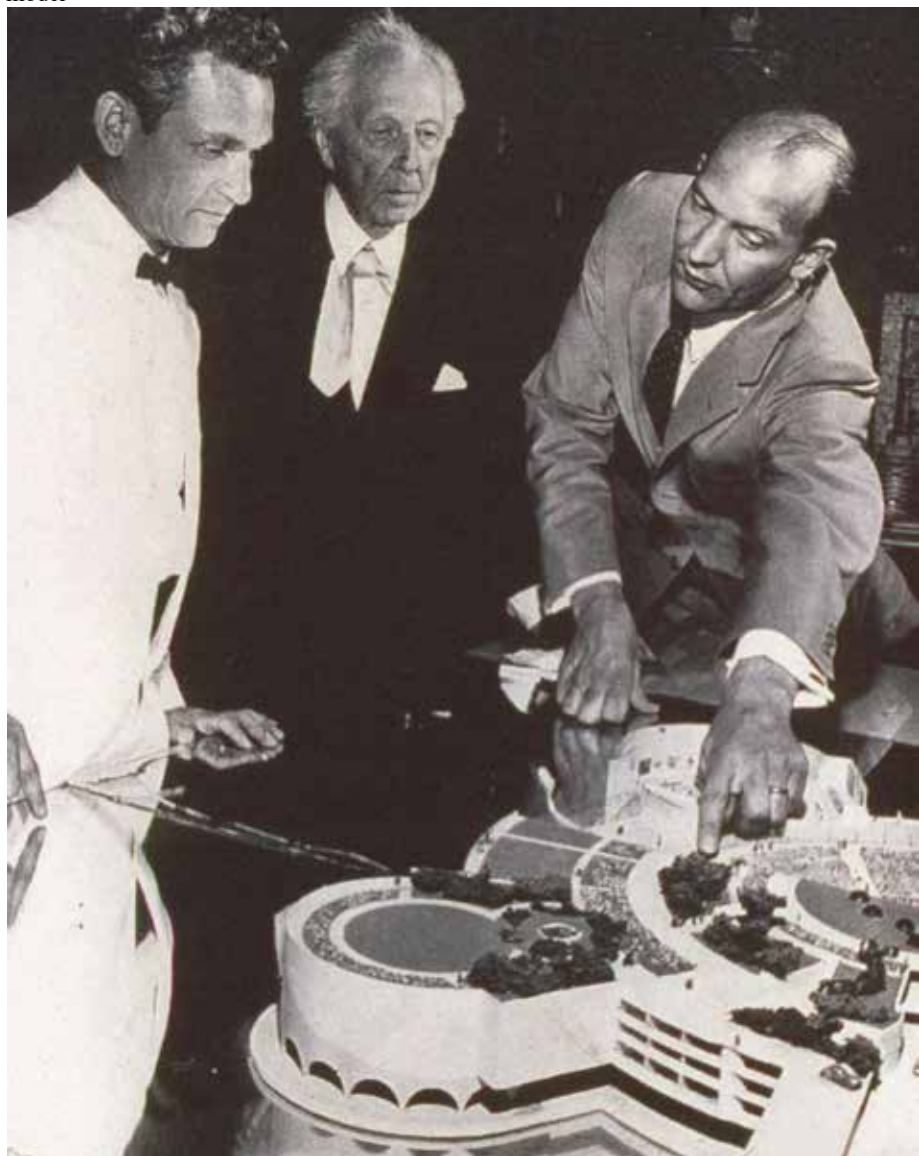
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IF THE City Hall-Chamber of Commerce crowd is now going to ask the citizens of Madison to give it a blank check for \$4 million under which this crowd will select the site and the type of architecture they want, should they not at least, give the people some intimation of what they propose to do? We can already see the jockeying and the bitter wire pulling that will be done by the real estate interests, business concerns and others having an economic stake in the location of this community project. George W. Hall, who represented the Chamber of Commerce at Tuesday night's meeting, months ago said that he would like to see a site down on West Wilson Street chosen for the auditorium project. If the Common Council believes that controversy can be eliminated by narrowing the opportunity of the voters to express their wishes in a blank check referendum, they are in for a lot of surprises.

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THE action of the Common Council is indeed disappointing. We are again having a demonstration of the fact that civic pride and initiative here in Madison cannot rise above private interest. It now looks as though the Lake Monona Terrace civic center project will be added to the long list of city plans for which the taxpayers paid thousands of dollars in the past and which are now gathering dust in the city ar-

Pictured below: (from left) unknown person, Frank Lloyd Wright and Mayor Ivan Nestingen looking at Monona Terrace model



chives--the Nolen plan, the Stout plan (turned down by the Legislature), the Bartholomew plan, and the Segoe plan.

Where has the City of Madison ever shown the civic enterprise and initiative commensurate with its opportunities? We suggest to the members of the Common Council that they take the time to read again the wonderfully penetrating speech made by Miss Fitz-Gibbon at the recent Chamber of Commerce banquet. We also suggest to Mayor Forster and the members of the Common Council who have not altogether been adverse to signing junket tabs for expenses in the past, to journey over to Racine and there ask one of Wisconsin's outstanding businessmen what he thinks of the business adaptability and practicality that have come out of the creative mind of Frank Lloyd Wright and how it has brought dividends to his firm.

JACKSON URGES YES VOTE ON BONDS; BLASTS WRIGHT, MONONA TERRACE SITE

Editor's note---Col. J. W. Jackson former executive director of the Madison and Wisconsin Foundation and for 20 years a leader in auditorium planning, urges citizens to vote "Yes" on auditorium bonds, "No" on the selection of Frank Lloyd Wright as Architect and "No" on the Monona Terrace site Tuesday. He cites his reasons in the statement below. He has led an initiative in Madison to make the auditorium project a memorial to war veterans, and refers to the project as such.

Opinion by Colonel J.W. Jackson
Wisconsin State Journal October 29, 1954

If Madison really wants an auditorium, all we need to do is vote "Yes" for the bonds next Tuesday, and that 50-year-old dream will become a reality.

It's that simple.

Properly located and planned to include necessary facilities for all, it will be the heart center of our city.

Let us vote "Yes" for the bonds with which to build our greatly needed auditorium.

But before any one of us vote for one particular site on which to build the auditorium and for one particular man to plan it, let us stop, look and listen, lest we establish a dangerous precedent that could plague Madison for many years.

If we make that great mistake, we may be called upon to vote for one particular site and for one particular architect for our future schools or other public buildings. That would lead to real trouble.



Col. J.W. Jackson

...

Certain questions and comments about the proposed site at the end of Monona Ave. are called for. How many of those who were asked to sign the Wright petitions knew or were told about other auditorium sites that had been given years of careful consideration by men well qualified to pass judgment?

How many signers were told that two of America's foremost city planners, John Nolen of Cambridge, Mass., and Ladislav Segoe of Cincinnati, both of whom studied Madison for 18 months, stated emphatically that the greatest mistake Madison could make would be to permit the erection of any building, regardless of the architect or type of struc-

ture, at the end of Monona Ave. on the lake front?

Exactly as they pointed out, any building located there would detract from, rather than add to, the magnificent panoramic outlook over beautiful Lake Monona nature gave us as the front door to our State Capitol.

It is the conviction of many Madison men of practical experience and sound judgement who, like Nolen and Segoe, have given careful consideration to the proper site for our auditorium, that the proposed Olin Terrace-Monona Ave. location lacks so many of the essential qualifications that it should be ruled out completely or, at most, be among the last locations to be considered.

That is where the railroads are, with the accompanying noises, dirt, and danger. There is not natural solid ground to build on, thereby necessitating expensive piling construction that adds nothing to the building itself. That is where both access and egress for thousands of cars and people are most limited. That is where congestion will be at a maximum.

How many signers of the Wright petitions were told about the large map of Madison which shows 44 sites that were studied as possible locations for the auditorium?

Years of Search

With it is a detailed report stating the advantages and disadvantages of each site. That represents years of careful searching for the best location, yet no consideration whatever is now given it by those who apparently assume that Wright is a city planner as well as an architect.

Wright is not a qualified city planner and he is not experienced in locating auditoriums.

Our City Council of 20 men, together with our mayor and our Commission, are thoroughly competent to select the proper location for our auditorium. If they need outside expert opinion they will get it.

Let us, therefore, leave it to them to determine where our \$4 million dollar War Memorial Auditorium should be constructed.

Under the law, it is the responsibility and authority of the City Council to pass upon auditorium plans. Also, the plans and site must have the approval of the City Plan Commission. And the consent of the City Park Commission is necessary for a site in Law Park.

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Now let us consider the architect.

It seems fair to ask how many of those who signed the Wright petitions ever hired him to spend their own money to plan a home or a building of any kind?

The say Wright has practiced as an architect for 60 years. Was he ever called upon to plan any of the 48 capitols? Of the 3,200 counties in the United States did Wright design any court-houses? Of our thousands of cities, was he ever employed to plan any city halls?

Of the thousands of great skyscrapers in New York, Detroit, Chicago, the city in which he once practiced and elsewhere throughout the country, did Wright design any other than the smaller one being built in a little Oklahoma oil town? Of our 1,700 colleges and universities with an average of 25 to 50 buildings, was Wright asked to design any, outside of the one in Florida?

Not Selected by U.W.

Wright is an alumnus of our University of Wisconsin. During the past 20 years, 15 different architects have been selected to design its newer buildings. Two were Chicago architects and 13 were Wisconsin architects. Wright was not among them.

There have been many men of wisdom and sound judgment on the University Boards of Regents, but is it not significant that never did they select Wright to design a building on our world-famous campus?

Of the thousands of art galleries, museums, music halls, theaters, high schools, churches and cathedrals, and other public buildings in the United States how many times was Wright called upon to design one other than our Unitarian church and the churches in a couple of Western towns, and a gallery now being built in New York?

And of all the great new hotels in New York, Chicago, Miami, Los Angeles, Detroit and

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JACKSON URGES YES VOTE ON BONDS; BLASTS WRIGHT, MONONA TERRACE SITE

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throughout the country, how does it come that Wright's only contribution is that bitterly controversial hotel in Tokyo, Japan, built 34 years ago?

And of all the auditoriums and war memorials in America, was Wright employed to plan any one of them? Why not?

When our last half dozen or so World's Fairs were planned, it was customary to select the ten foremost architects in America to design 10 of the finest buildings. Was Wright selected to do even one of those many buildings?

Comment on the Capitol

Wright has publicly condemned our Wisconsin state Capitol as a "monstrosity." Yet millions have come from over the world to see it, and never once--as far as is known---did they do other than praise it highly. Many thousands have termed it "one of the most majestic edifices on earth."

Since Wright says that our Capitol is a "monstrosity," it might reasonably be expected that whatever War Memorial Auditorium he would design at the foot of Monona Ave. ---two blocks from the Capitol---would be as far different from the Capitol as he could conceive, wholly out of harmony with our majestic white granite state house, our new County-City building, our Federal Building, and our State Office Building to which a \$4 million dollar addition is to be built.

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Wright has stated publicly that he never does any work for less than 10 per cent commission. On that basis, it would be \$400,000 to Wright. If cut in half it is still \$200,000, and even that is quite some target for Wright to aim for.

But how unfair it would be for us to bar all 25 of Madison's architects---taxpayers and good citizens---who have done so much to make Madison what it is; whereas, Wright has done so little for it. It would even bar Michael Hare, the widely recognized New York architect who planned the world-famed Wisconsin Union Theater at our University.

How many signers of the Wright petition were told that a few years ago Michael Hare designed a beautiful and workable auditorium of glass brick for Madison that was approved and highly commended by the Federal Government, and for which the government offered to pay 45 per cent of the cost?

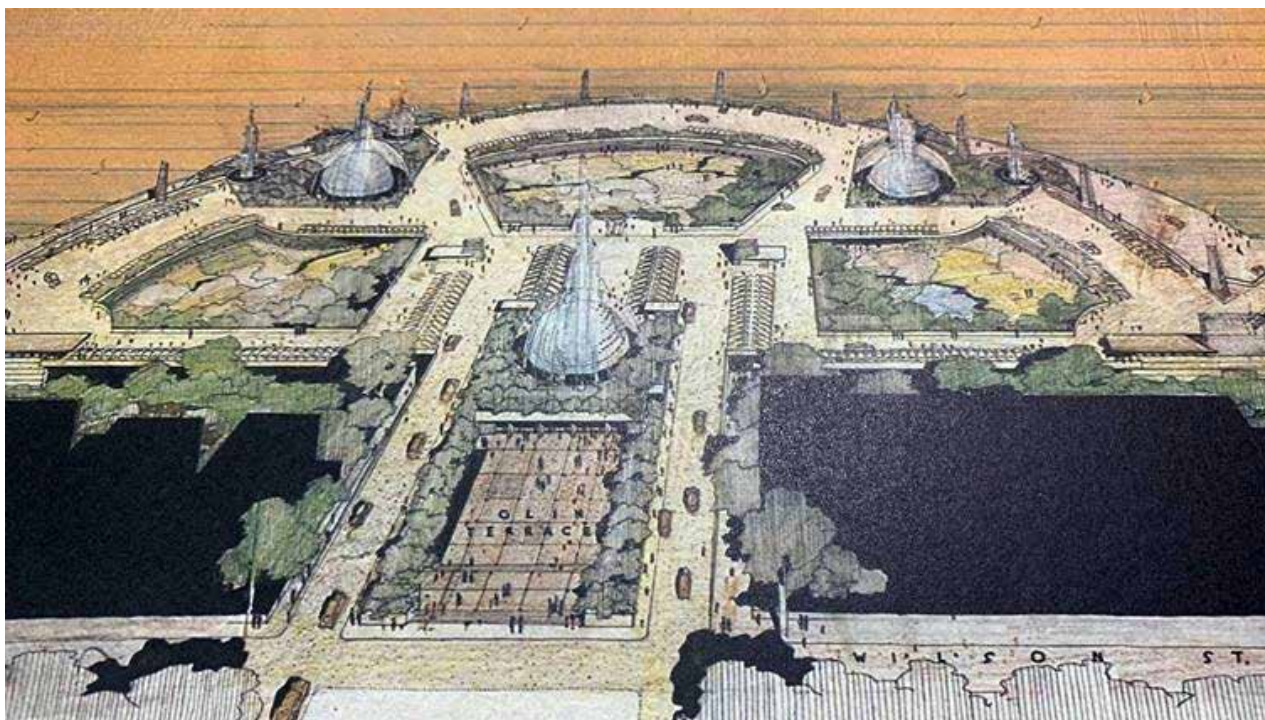
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But of all things, the mere thought of a War Memorial to commemorate the heroic sacrifices of our dead and living veterans---designed by Frank Lloyd Wright--- may the good Lord and our votes forbid it.

By all means, let us vote a great big "Yes" for the \$4 million dollar bonds. And it is my firm belief that we would be doing our best for Madison by voting an overwhelming "No" for the proposed Olin Terrace-Monona Ave. site and "No" for the proposed architect, Wright.



(Above) view of proposed site for Monona Terrace at the end of Monona Ave. (Below) Wright's 1953 aerial rooftop rendering.



Voice of the People

The Vote Came Out Right

The Capital Times November 4, 1954

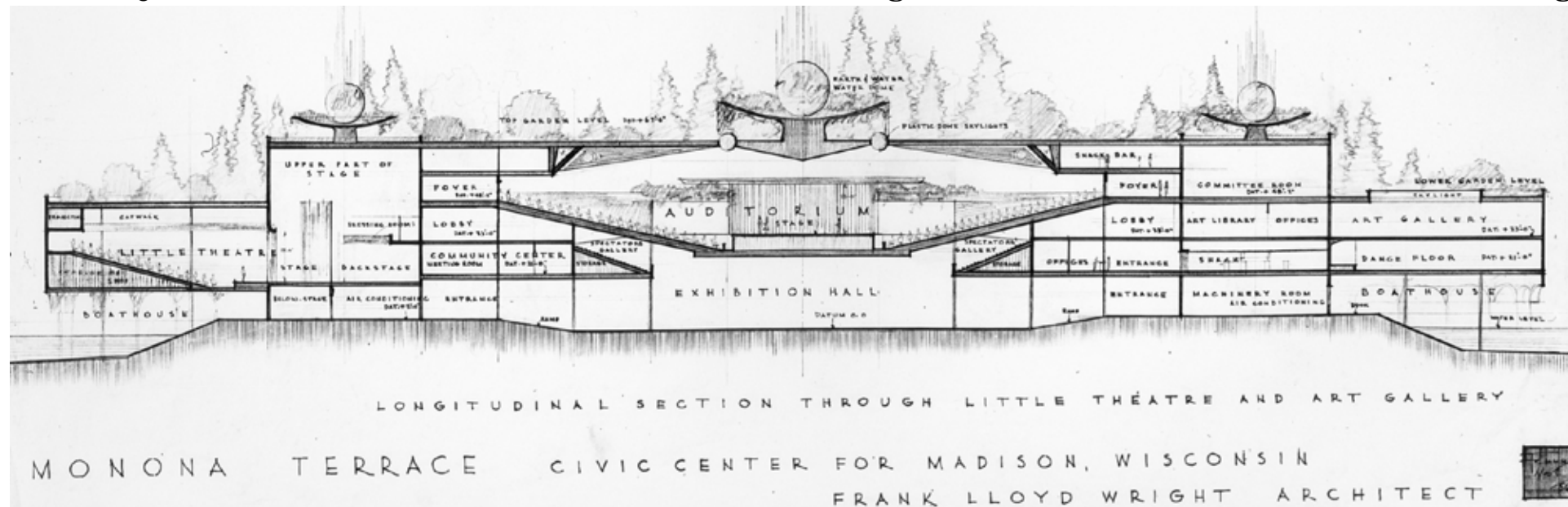
I have read with interest articles in The Capital Times concerning the Monona Terrace Plan for a civic center designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. I am aware of the splendid accomplishments of a number of Madison people in support of the plan; that through their concerted effort the Monona Terrace Plan will be placed in referendum before the Madison voters in the coming election.

It is my earnest hope that the citizens of Madison will have recognized what it will mean to them and to generations to follow, if Mr. Wright's magnificent plan is approved.

Several years ago when we in Chippewa Falls were considering a civic center Mr. Wright was consulted. Had there been a greater appreciation and un-

derstanding of his architecture we might now have a community center designed by Mr. Wright, adequate to meet our needs, both now and in the future. In its place we have a municipal building which houses the city offices, police and fire department and a small auditorium---in the basement. It is an ugly structure "a box with holes in it," meant to be modern but obsolete before it was built, lacking both in utility and esthetic appearance. I suspect and trust it will fall down sooner than the old city building which it replaced. As an "outsider" I can do nothing but hope the Monona Terrace Plan will succeed; that when the votes are counted the result will be "yes" and in its favor! ---Mrs. Martin Helm, Chippewa Falls, WI

Wright's 1954 Monona Terrace Section Drawing



MONONA TERRACE CIVIC CENTER FOR MADISON, WISCONSIN
FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT ARCHITECT