

## Frank Larson and David Bradley, a UW Medical School Story

---

By Gordon Ridley

One of the pillars of the University of Wisconsin medical community died on December 25, 2007. Frank Larson (right) was first appointed as a research fellow in endocrinology in 1947, enrolled in the UW internal medicine residency program in 1948, joined the faculty in 1951 and served the University and the Hospital until his retirement in 1989. In 1958 he was appointed director of the University Hospital's first consolidated clinical laboratory, a post which he held for the next 30 years. Revered by students, colleagues and just about anyone who knew him, Dr. Larson ushered in the era of automated instrumentation and computerization of clinical laboratories, far ahead of most university hospitals. He advocated for the safe and effective use of radionuclides for medical diagnosis and treatment, chaired the University Radiation Safety Committee and made numerous other contributions to the Medical School and the larger University. I knew Frank during my time as an administrator at University Hospital in the 1980's.



A memorial service was held for Frank Larson on April 25th in Madison at which another intriguing part of his life was revealed. After growing up and attending college in Peru, Nebraska, he completed medical school at the University of Nebraska in 1944 and internship at Detroit Receiving Hospital in 1945. In 1945 Frank entered military service, where he was assigned to the Manhattan Project and Operation Crossroads, a project to test the effects of atomic bombs. The United States Army detonated more than twenty nuclear devices in the vicinity of Bikini Atoll, one of the Pacific Marshall Islands. The destructive effects of the atomic bomb were self-evident in 1945 but there was little understanding of their radioactive byproducts, the effect on humans of intense quantities of ionizing radiation, or the ingestion of radioactive material. First Lieutenants Frank Larson and David Bradley were among 31 physicians assigned to Task Force One's Radiological Safety Section – the group known to the enlisted men as “Geiger men.” Their assignment was to measure levels of airborne and marine radioactivity, determine methods for removing it from land, ships and materials, and other matters of scientific interest.

After detonations of two atomic bombs in July, 1946, Larson and Bradley monitored radiation levels from the air and carried their testing devices onto ships and other contaminated areas. The military's knowledge of radioactivity was so rudimentary that sailors were assigned to scrub the decks of radiation. Larson developed an experimental design for testing the decay of radioactivity associated with adherence to such materials as paint, metal and wood.

But what does all this have to do with the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health or to Madison? At the completion of his service to Operation Crossroads, Dr. Larson needed to enroll in a residency. He chose internal medicine but had no immediate prospects, as residencies were in limited supply and demand from discharged physicians was high. Frank and David Bradley had become close friends, and David proved to be quite helpful in this regard.

David Bradley grew up in Madison, the son of Dr. Harold Bradley, a faculty member of the Medical School's Department of Physiological Chemistry and chair of the department from 1921 to 1947. David prevailed on his father to arrange Frank's fellowship in endocrinology and admission to the UW internal medicine residency program, launching his career at Wisconsin.



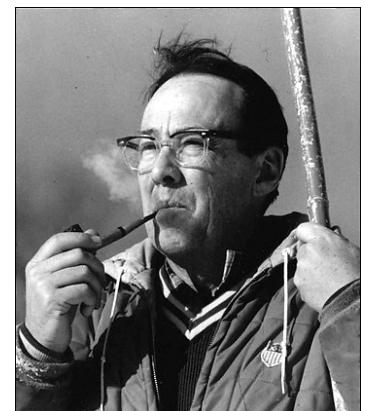
The Bradley family was well known in Madison. Harold Bradley married Josephine Crane, a member of the Crane family of Chicago, owners of Crane Plumbing Supply. The father of the bride offered a wedding gift to the couple, a house in Madison designed by famed architect Louis Sullivan. Constructed on Prospect Avenue in 1908-1909 and known then and now as the "Bradley House"

(above), it is among America's most distinctive residential structures, designated by the National Park Service as a National Historical Landmark.

The Bradleys had eight children, the first of whom was Mary Cornelia Bradley who died in 1915 at age 6 of measles complicated by spinal meningitis. The family memorialized her by donating funds for the University's first pediatric facility, the Mary Cornelia Bradley Memorial Hospital (right). The name was shortened over the years to the Bradley Building and is still in use by the University.



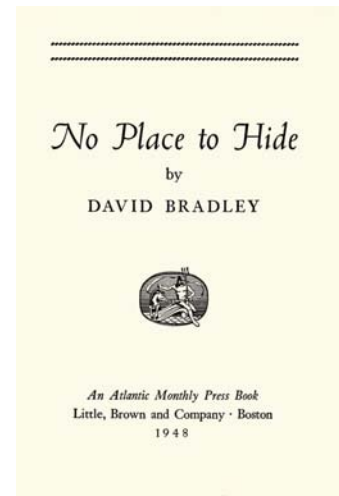
David Bradley (right) was born in 1915 and graduated from Dartmouth College in 1938, enrolled in the UW Medical School and after two years, transferred and graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1944. He practiced medicine in California for several years after his military service and then located in New England, working as a writer and authoring books about skiing, Finland and a biography of Robert Frost. He was also a U.S. Olympic ski jumping team coach and ski jump designer and a New Hampshire state legislator. Throughout his life he remained



an outspoken physician advocate for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

After the Bikini Atoll tests, Bradley wrote *No Place to Hide* in 1948 in which he described the atomic bomb testing and provided the American public with its first alert that there was much to fear in the release of atomic energy.

*We certainly have little idea what the long range effect in our lives would be from an all out atomic war, devastating our shores, our fish and our agricultural industries but at least at this time we do know that Bikini is not some faraway little atoll, pinpointed on an out-of-the-way chart. It is San Francisco Bay, Puget Sound, East River. It is the Thames, the Adriatic, the Hellespont and misty Baikal.*  
(p. 149)



Bradley's book remained on the *New York Times* bestseller list for 10 weeks, selling over 250,000 copies, and was reprinted in 1983.

According to Frank Larson's wife, Myrna Traver Larson, M.D., Director of the University Hospital Blood Bank and UW faculty member from 1966 to 1990, Frank Larson and David Bradley remained friends throughout their lives, often meeting on David's visits to his family in Madison.

David Bradley died on January 7, 2008, 13 days after Frank Larson.

*Gordon Ridley is Senior Associate Dean for Administration and Finance of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, gtridley@wisc.edu. The School's name was changed from "University of Wisconsin Medical School" in 2005. Contributions to this narrative were made by Paul DeLuca, Ralph Hawley, Robert Schilling, Dian Land and especially Myrna Traver Larson.*

July, 2008

Information Appended Below

- Frank Larson obituary
- *Oak Ridge Journal* 2/7/1946 re appointment of medical officers
- David Bradley obituary article in *Washington Post*
- Information on Harold Bradley
- National Park Service description of Sullivan House
- Information on UW Archives oral interview with the Larsons, 2002

Frank Larson Remembrances (from 4/25/2008 memorial service):

[https://mywebspace.wisc.edu/xythoswfs/webui/\\_xy-20522188\\_1-t\\_s9NkejVj](https://mywebspace.wisc.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-20522188_1-t_s9NkejVj)

Web Access to this document:

[https://mywebspace.wisc.edu/xythoswfs/webui/\\_xy-20520440\\_1-t\\_qIXFP2D8](https://mywebspace.wisc.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-20520440_1-t_qIXFP2D8)



# FRANK CLARK LARSON

*January 17, 1920 – December 25, 2007*



Frank C. Larson, MD, age 87, Emeritus Professor of Medicine and Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, died at the HospiceCare Center in Fitchburg on December 25, 2007, with his wife and his daughter at his side. He was born in Columbus, Nebraska, on January 17, 1920, to Albin V. and Wilhelmina (Herold) Larson. His parents soon moved their young family to Peru, Nebraska, where Frank spent his youth, graduating from Peru State College in 1941. He obtained his MD degree from the University of Nebraska College of Medicine in Omaha in December, 1944. From January to September 1945, he interned at Detroit (Michigan) Receiving Hospital and then was called to active duty in the U.S. Army.

During his tour of military duty, he was assigned to the *Manhattan Engineer District*—the joint effort of the United States, United Kingdom, and Canada to develop nuclear weapons for use in World War II. His military training in nuclear physics took him to Oak Ridge, the Fermi Laboratory, Berkeley, and Los Alamos. He participated in *Operation Crossroads*—the July, 1946, atomic bomb testing at Bikini Atoll in the mid-Pacific. His assignment was to fly into the area immediately after the explosion to monitor radiation levels. David Bradley, one of his comrades, wrote of their experience in the book *No Place to Hide*.

After completing military service he resumed his medical training at the University of Wisconsin, first as a research fellow in Endocrinology under Dr. Edgar Gordon, then as a resident in Internal Medicine. When the Madison Veterans Administration Hospital opened in 1951, he was one of its three original physicians. Frank's responsibilities were Head of Medical Research, Assistant Chief of Medical and Tuberculosis Services, and Acting Chief of Radioactive Isotope Services.

His previous experience with radioactivity influenced his early research on the use of radioactive isotopes in medical diagnosis. Through his role in the Tuberculosis Service, he worked with Dr. Helen Dickie in the clinical testing of the drug isoniazid, which revolutionized the treatment of tuberculosis. Pioneering research done with Dr. Edwin Albright provided insight into the structure, function, and metabolism of the thyroid hormone.

He was a member of the faculty of the University of Wisconsin Medical School from 1951 until his retirement in 1989. In 1958, Dean John Z. Bowers created the first consolidated hospital clinical laboratory service and appointed Dr. Larson as its Director. Frank held that post for 30

years. In addition to his administrative responsibilities, he routinely taught medical students, interns and residents, and continued his clinical practice in endocrinology and general internal medicine.

As Director of the Clinical Laboratories, his primary focus was laboratory medicine. He was one of the pioneers in introducing automated instrumentation and computers in the clinical laboratory. He worked with DuPont Instruments to develop highly innovative chemistry analyzers. Under his leadership, the University Hospitals Clinical Laboratory became one of the outstanding hospital laboratories in the United States.

With new laboratory automation available, he introduced a hospital policy whereby a patient being admitted to the hospital had blood samples taken before being sent to his hospital room. The result of this change was that laboratory test results were available to the physician nearly 24 hours sooner, and the average patient's hospital stay was reduced by one and a half days. Moreover, the screening revealed diseases before symptoms arose, which allowed earlier medical intervention and better health outcomes.

He was called upon to serve the University in many other ways: as Director of the School of Medical Technology, Acting Dean of the School of Allied Health Professions, Acting Chairman of the Department of Pathology, and as a member of numerous committees. For many years he chaired the University Radiation Safety Committee which reviewed all campus research projects that included the use of radioactive reagents. From 1987 to 1989 he served as mentor to the Medical School Class of 1991.

He was a Fellow of the American College of Physicians. He published many academic papers, contributed chapters for books, and received several national honors, including American Men of Science (Biological Sciences), Who's Who in America, and a Professional Achievement award from the DuPont Company. In 2004 he received the Clinical Sciences Emeritus Faculty Award from the University of Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association.

After his discharge from active military duty in 1947, he continued to serve in the Wisconsin Army National Guard, rising to the rank of

Colonel and commander of the 13<sup>th</sup> Evacuation Hospital. He retired from the National Guard in 1966.

His interests extended beyond medicine. He was a highly accomplished woodworker, designing and building contemporary furniture. He enjoyed literature, poetry, classical music, architecture, visual arts, cooking, gardening, raising orchids, visiting with friends, and most of all, time shared with his wife, family and beloved German Shepherd dog, Gigi. He was an extraordinary man who deeply valued his service in the army, yet during the Vietnam conflict welcomed conscientious objectors as members of the laboratory staff.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Helen Seiger, formerly of Silver Spring, Maryland. He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Myrna Traver Larson; his sister Leonore Graf of Easton, Connecticut; three children from his previous marriage to June Herling Quinn: Karen Larson, Alan (Laurie) Larson, and Donn (Patricia) Larson; 6 grandchildren; a nephew and three nieces.

He will be dearly missed by his family, friends, and the many people whose lives he influenced.

The family extends its sincere thanks to the HospiceCare staff for the compassionate care and support given to Frank and his wife during the last month of his life.

A memorial service will be held at the First Unitarian Society Meeting House, 900 University Bay Drive, on Friday, April 25, 2008, at 4:30 pm, followed by a reception at Monona Terrace.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the University of Wisconsin Arboretum; the Dane County Humane Society; the Town of Madison Police Department K9 program; the A. V. Larson Scholarship Fund at Peru State College Foundation, Peru, Nebraska; HospiceCare, Inc.; or the First Unitarian Society of Madison.



# The Washington Post

David Bradley, 92; Warned of Health Risks of Atomic Weapons

The Washington Post - Washington, D.C. Author: Adam Bernstein - Washington Post Staff Writer Date: Jan 29, 2008 Start Page: B.7 Section: METRO Text Word Count: 820

David Bradley, 92, who as an Army medical officer in the 1940s was among the first to warn Americans about public health dangers posed by atomic weapons, died Jan. 7 at a rehabilitation center near his home in Norway, Maine. He had renal failure.

Dr. Bradley, a Harvard Medical School graduate, was sent to Bikini Atoll in 1946 as a "geiger man," or radiological monitor, during postwar atomic tests in the South Pacific. Bikini, in the Marshall Islands, was a major testing site for the United States' early nuclear ambitions, which required removing the area's native people.

After the tests in the summer of 1946, Dr. Bradley said he heard military peers speaking of the inevitability of nuclear war with the Soviets. He soon abandoned medicine to lecture for the United World Federalists peace movement and write "No Place to Hide" (1948), his diary of what he had seen at Bikini.

In a review, New York Times science writer William L. Laurence said the book "will be welcomed not only as a contribution to world peace but also as first-hand raw material for future historians of the early days of the atomic age -- and (last but not least) as a real contribution to literature, atomic or otherwise."

In one of Dr. Bradley's most quoted passages, he wrote: "We certainly have little idea what the long-range effect on our lives would be from an all-out atomic war, devastating our shores, our fish and our agricultural industries.

"But at least at this time we do know that Bikini is not some far-away little atoll, pinpointed on an out-of-the-way chart. It is San Francisco Bay, Puget Sound, East River. It is the Thames, the Adriatic, the Hellespont and misty Baikal.

"It isn't just King Juda [of Bikini] and his displaced native subjects about whom we have to think -- or to forget."

In a subsequent interview, Dr. Bradley said the Bikini tests were unlike the airborne explosions over Hiroshima and Nagasaki, where the rising heat lifted the radioactive particles to be "dispersed harmlessly" into the stratosphere.

The atomic detonations at the Bikini lagoon poisoned dozens of naval vessels, of which a handful were successfully rid of contaminants, he said. "The Navy referred to the others as 'survivors.' That's a cute way of putting it," Dr. Bradley said. "For my money, that lagoon will always be deadly."

In speeches and opinion pieces, he continued for decades to criticize the atomic blast at Bikini and what he called miserable treatment by the U.S. government of veterans exposed to radiation.

David John Bradley was born Feb. 22, 1915, in Chicago and raised in Madison, Wis. He was a 1938 summa cum laude English graduate of Dartmouth College, where he became captain of the school's formidable ski team.

In his senior year, he also was named the U.S. national champion in the Nordic combined, which involves ski jumping and cross-country skiing. He was chosen for the 1940 U.S. Olympic ski team, but the games were canceled because of war.

In 1960, he was team manager of the U.S. Olympic Nordic ski team, and he co-wrote an instruction book, "Expert Skiing," with champion skier Ralph Miller and Olympic ski coach Al Merrill.

In 1985, Dr. Bradley was inducted into what is now the U.S. National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame. Besides his early skiing accomplishments, the induction cited his work renovating 66 ski jumps in the eastern United States and his 28 years as jumping coach for the Ford Sayre junior skiing program in Hanover, N.H., which counted several championship jumpers among its alumni.

After his Dartmouth graduation, Dr. Bradley went to Europe as a correspondent for the Lee newspaper syndicate and covered the Russo-Finnish winter war of 1939-40. He had known many Finns from skiing and wanted to help them against the invading Soviets.

His subsequent visit to Finland decades later was the subject of "Lion Among Roses" (1965), an admiring look at the Nordic country and its people.

On his mother's side, Dr. Bradley had a private income source from the Crane plumbing supply company. Starting in 1962, he taught writing and public speaking at Kimball Union Academy, a boarding school in Meriden, N.H., as well as at Dartmouth and its business school. He served in the New Hampshire House of Representatives as a Democrat in the 1950s and early 1970s.

His other books included "Robert Frost: A Tribute to the Source" (1979), with photos by Dewitt Jones.

His marriage to Elisabeth "Lilla" McLane-Bradley ended in divorce.

Survivors include his wife, Sally Tucker Smart Bradley, whom he married in 1998, of Norway; six children from his first marriage, Kim Emmons of Norway, Darby Bradley of Calais, Vt., Wendy Morgan of Peacham, Vt., Bronwen Ballou of Hanover and Ben Bradley and Steven Bradley, both of Thetford, Vt.; a stepson, Kevin Smart of Norway; two brothers; 11 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

## Officers Study Area, Preparing For Bomb Test

**Doctors Responsible  
For Safety Of Test  
Now In Oak Ridge**

A group of thirty-one medical officers who will be assigned to the Task Force which will carry out the mission of testing atomic bombs used against naval vessels has been studying in Oak Ridge during the past several weeks.

These men will have the responsibility of arranging safety precautions in the forthcoming tests, Capt. Birchard M. Brundage, who is making arrangements for them in Oak Ridge, said this week.

**The group is made up of eight naval doctors, two public health doctors, two doctors assigned by the Air Corps, six doctors who are now members of the staff of the Oak Ridge Hospital and twelve Medical Corps doctors assigned to the Task Force by the Army.**

These doctors, now making an orientation study in Oak Ridge, have been amazed by the size of the project, and greatly impressed by the elaborate industrial precautionary measures taken in the plants to protect project workers, according to Capt. Brundage.

**After their study in Oak Ridge, the medical group will leave for a tour of the biologic research installations of the Manhattan District in Rochester and Chicago, will 'monitor' the site of the New Mexico experiment for effects of radiation, and join the Task Force in Berkeley, California, sometime after April 1.**

The doctors from the Oak Ridge Hospital assigned to this group include Capt. Francis E. Donoghue, Capt. William R. Clarkson, Capt. Herbert Phillipsborn, Capt. Douglas L. Wake, Capt. William K. Riley and Lt. Rodney Stoltz.

### **NAVY MEN**

Navy doctors include Commander Eugene P. Harris, Lt. Commander Robert A. Conrad, Lt. Eldred W. Barnes, Lt. Ervine S. Bills, Lt. William A. Wulfmann, Lt. Thomas G. Hennessey, Lt. Wayne A. Chadburn and Lt. Royce D. Tibbet.

Public health doctors, also with the Navy, are Commander Edwin G. Williams and Lt. Commander Allen B. Eschenbrenner. The Air Corps has assigned two medical men, Lt. Col. John M. Talbot and Capt. Daniel H. Cohoon.

Other doctors assigned to the Task Force are Lt. David J. Bradley, Lt. Grover C. Carter, Lt. Frank C. Larson, Lt. Thomas J. Madden, Lt. Joseph E. Coleman, Lt. Melvin A. Block, Lt. Charles K. Wells, Lt. Sheldon E. Krasnow, Lt. Willard A. Scantland, Lt. Meredith Mallory, Lt. Mortimer Moseley and Lt. Rex L. Huff.

•



# Bradley Learning Community

## Harold C. Bradley, 1878 - 1976



Professor Harold Cornelius Bradley was a "champion of the student community", according to UW-Madison's history books, and was a well-respected member of the faculty. He was wealthy of both spirit and finances - contributing actively to the life of undergraduate students and to Medical education. The Bradley Learning Community could not have been named for a better person: Bradley was an early and strong advocate for faculty and student out-of-class interaction, being one of the founders and designers of Hoofers, University Health Services, the Lakeshore Residence Halls, and the Memorial Union's student governance system. Born in California in 1878, Professor Bradley came to the University of Wisconsin as a junior professor of biochemistry and physiology in 1906, having just received his doctorate in physiological chemistry from Yale. In 1907, Professor Bradley initiated instruction in physiology and physiological chemistry, which became an independent department in 1921 and was headed by Bradley until 1947. He was extremely outgoing, forthright, and personable, suiting him well to take leadership on campus and in his scientific organizations. Some aspects of Bradley's out-of-class student-faculty interaction could only have occurred when they did: within two years of coming to Madison, Professor Bradley met, fell in love with, and married an undergraduate in her junior year. Mary Josephine Crane became an accomplished organizer and philanthropist in her own right; the fact that she was completely deaf from age two did not appear to slow her down. The bride's father, wealthy Chicago industrialist Charles

Crane, was a personal friend of Chicago architect Louis Sullivan, then at the end of his career. Crane hired Sullivan to design and build a house for the newlyweds, to occupy all of block 19 of a fancy new western suburb of Madison. This house is the huge and now famous Bradley house in University Heights (now at 106 N. Prospect Ave.) The Bradleys' first child, Mary Cornelius, was born in 1909. Seven other children, all boys, were to follow. Tragedy struck the Bradley family when 6 1/2 year-old Mary contracted spinal meningitis and pneumonia and died in January 1916. As a means to cope with Mary's death, the Bradleys donated \$50,000 towards the construction of a memorial hospital to research childhood diseases. The Mary Cornelius Bradley Memorial Hospital still stands today, facing Linden Drive. Because of his outgoing personality, his strong connection and commitment to undergraduates, and his reputation for saying exactly what was on his mind, Professor Bradley was an effective advocate both for students and with administrators. He envisioned faculty-student interactions that were based on healthy and responsible extracurricular student-focused activities. Professor Bradley had a hand in shaping many of the major student life programs on campus that we now take for granted. After a 1908 outbreak of typhoid on campus that killed several students, Bradley took up the charge to bring a student health service to campus - a health facility that was not only easily accessible to university students, but that would be tailored specifically to their needs. The University Health Services opened in 1910. Bradley was an avid skier and outdoors enthusiast, and often took students with him to ski in northern Wisconsin. On one such trip that included then President Glen Frank, Bradley convinced Frank that these outdoor activities should be institutionalized by the university - they were exactly what promoted faculty-student relationships based on mutual interests and responsibility. In 1926, the Hoofers Outing Club was formed. Professor Bradley was appointed to the 1932 Brown Commission, which studied the growing professional and commercial character of intercollegiate sports. What was specifically a problem at the time was "the relation of intercollegiate athletics to the educational activities and policies of the University and the proper balance to be maintained between the same." The Brown Commission report became a blueprint for UW-Madison athletics for the next 20 years. President Frank and Professor Bradley shared a vision of student life "integrated" into the values of an undergraduate education. He named Bradley chair of a broad-based committee, whose forty members included alumni as well as faculty, students and administrators, to plan for the governance of the Memorial when it was to open in 1928. Two important issues were to be taken up by this committee: the inclusion of women in the Union activities (up to that point, women were excluded from student unions across the country), and the extent to which students should control the Union's programming and management. Including women fully in Union activities and programming proved to be a relatively easy issue compared to the much more contentious one to determine the role of student governance. But, as Chair of the committee, Bradley's vision to develop opportunities for student leadership and responsibility won out. Professor Bradley played a key role in the development of our lakeshore residence hall system, and led the



way to create the innovative house fellow system that is now the norm across the country. In 1922, new dormitories were to be constructed on the lakeshore area of campus, the first student residences to be built in almost 40 years. The regents appointed Bradley to a three-member Dormitories Committee to oversee the physical planning as well as the student programming that these structures would contain. In the words of the Committee, dormitories "should make student living conditions less costly, more comfortable, more thoroughly decent ... lessen social distinctions in student society ... and help to develop a vigorous and healthy morale." These open-quadrangle style dormitories opened as Tripp and Adams Halls in 1926. They were meant to provide a "neighborhood feel" to student living. Bradley championed the idea that older students, house fellows, should live in the undergraduate houses to provide leadership and peer counseling and to serve as role models to foster well-rounded social and intellectual interests. Bradley fought to have house fellow selection and training "professionalized" - it was to be made uniform across campus, the selection and training was to be done by professionals within the housing system, and house fellows were to be paid a wage commensurate with their duties. President Frank appointed Bradley to a commission to study "the problems of the articulation of the University in its several parts;" its charge being an early incarnation of what we now call "integrative learning" - the blurring of the boundaries between in-class and out-of-class learning and experiences. One program that occupied this commission was the creation and overseeing of Alexander Meiklejohn's Experimental College. Professor Bradley continued his advocacy on behalf of an integrated student life until he retired from the university in 1949, and died in 1976. By then his vision of a university providing rich opportunities for student leadership and responsibility was largely realized. The programs that he helped create were so much a part of student life that UW-Madison is unimaginable without them. In 1976, the regents honored Professor Bradley's contributions to the university by giving his name to one of the lakeshore residence halls. That the Bradley Learning Community was founded in his hall twenty years later would have made him very proud.



## Wisconsin National Register of Historic Places

[National Register Home](#) | [Search](#)

[Disclaimer](#) | [Send Feedback](#)

### View Summary/Photo Page

[Back](#)

Harold and Josephine Bradley House  
106 North Prospect Avenue, Madison, Dane County  
Architects: George Elmslie and Louis Sullivan  
Date of construction: 1909

This large house, with its cantilevered sleeping porches and distinctive overhangs, was one of Sullivan's last residential commissions and is a prime example of Prairie School design. Steel beams encased in wood support the large cantilevers that support a balcony and dominate the exterior composition. The cantilever ends are terminated by signature Sullivanesque ornamentation. The house is T-shaped in plan, with its main block running along the side of the property. The exterior of the house is organized around massive, brick faced piers that rise from the foundation to the cornice. Some historians attribute much of the design and interior furnishing of the house to George Elmslie, Sullivan's chief draftsman at the time.

The house was built as a present from Richard T. Crane to Josephine Crane Bradley and her husband Harold, a professor at the University of Wisconsin. The Bradleys lived in the house for several years, moving next to a house designed by Purcell and Elmslie in the newly opened suburban neighborhood of Shorewood Hills. The Bradleys found the Prospect Avenue house both too large and too expensive to maintain.

The house suffered a devastating fire in March 1972, resulting in the loss of a substantial portion of its roof. The house has been fully restored and is currently home to the Sigma Phi Fraternity at the University of Wisconsin. The National Park Service designated the house a National Historical Landmark in 1976. The building is not open to the public; please respect the privacy of the residents.



Bradley House (J. Dean photo, 1975)



Bradley House (J. Dean photo, 1981)

## UW Archives Oral History Interview with the Larsons

<http://archives.library.wisc.edu/ORAL/oral.htm>

### **591. LARSON, Frank (1920 - )**

Professor, Department of Medicine; Director, Clinical Laboratories; Director, School of Medical Technology; Medical director, Program in Medical Technology, School of Allied Health Professions

*At UW:* 1947-89

### **and LARSON, Myrna Traver ( - )**

Associate professor, Department of Pathology

*At UW:* 1966-1990

*Interviewed:* 2002

*Length:* 1.5 hours

*Interviewer:* Ann Peckham

Frank Larson's medical training and service in the army; His observation of atomic bomb tests at Bikini Island; His appointment and the positions he held at the UW; Myrna Larson's appointment as acting director of the university hospital's blood bank; Blood component therapy; Blood screening for infectious diseases; Retirement.