



# Beneficent Beauty: Refining the UW-Madison Campus

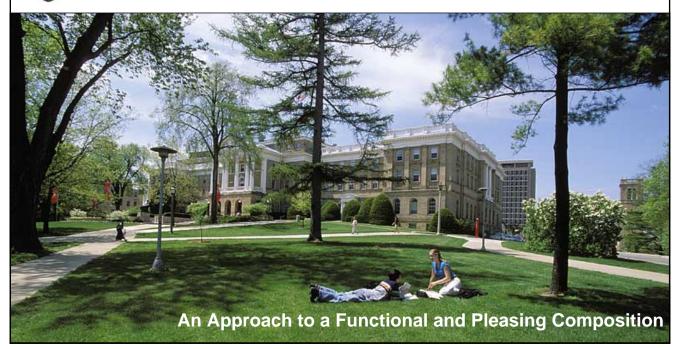
Dan Okoli, NCARB, AIA University Architect







# **Campus Design Guide University of Wisconsin-Madison**





## QUESTION

What should our campus look and feel like in the near and long term?



## GOOD EXAMPLES OF WHAT NOT TO DO





McFadden Hall, 1919



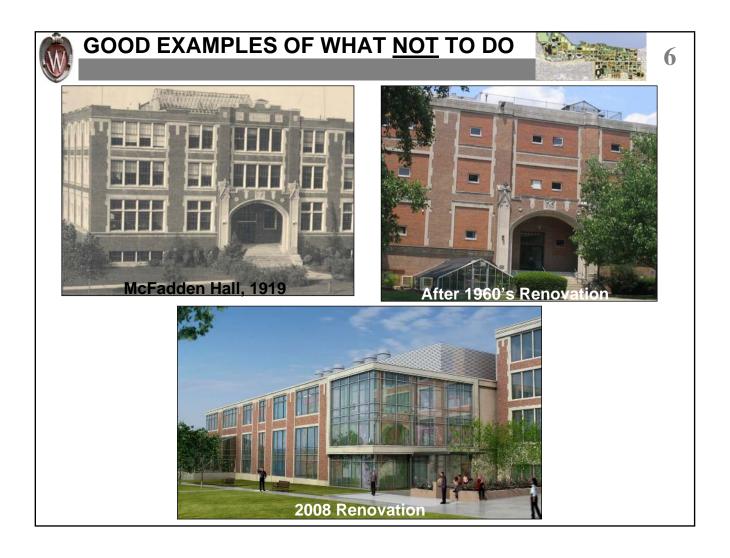
## GOOD EXAMPLES OF WHAT NOT TO DO



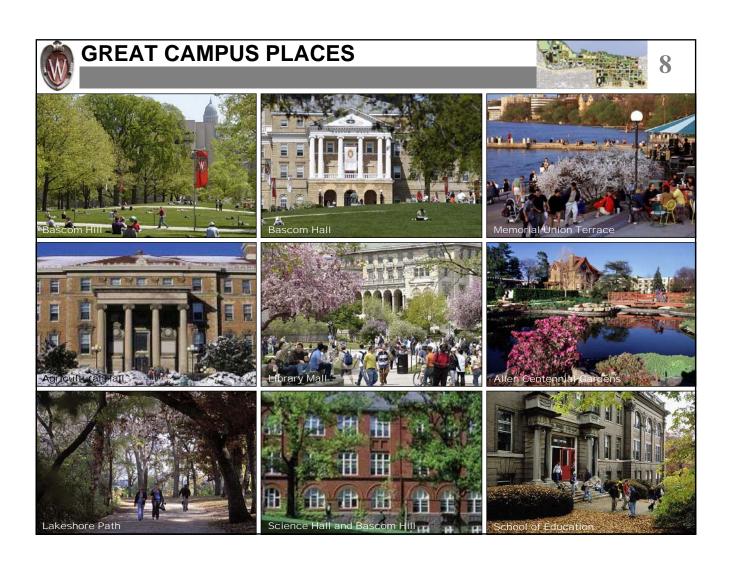


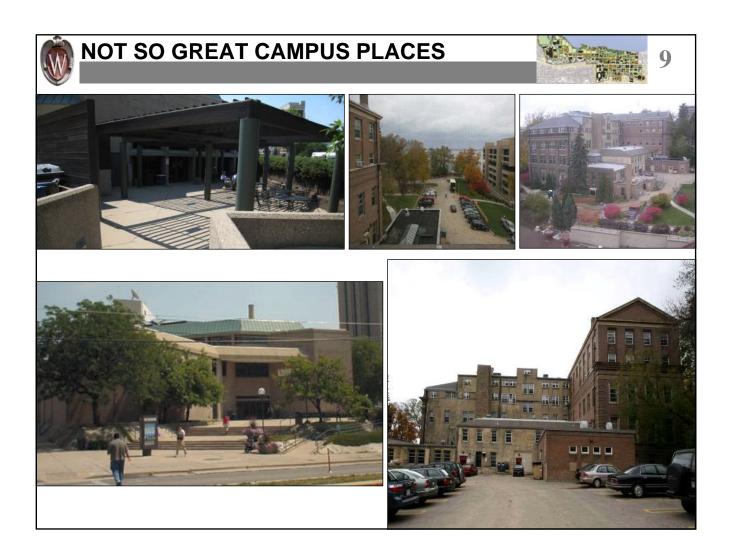


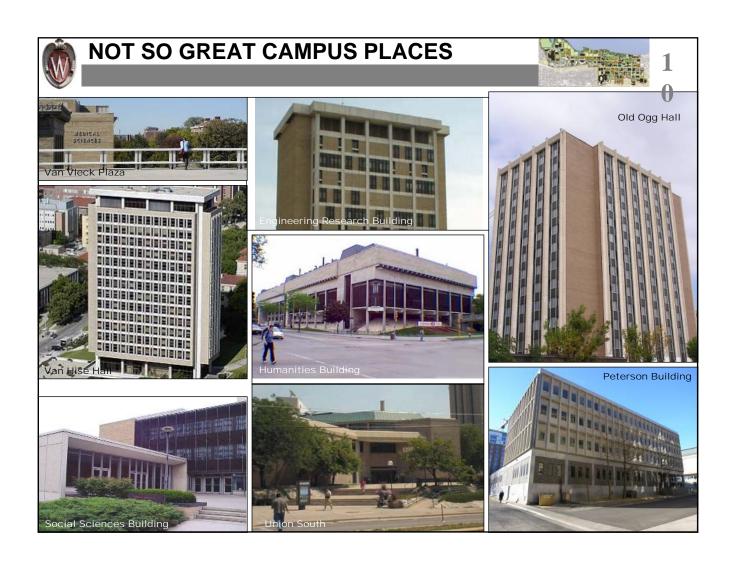














# EDUCATION BUILDING EXAMPLE



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Selected Design Option









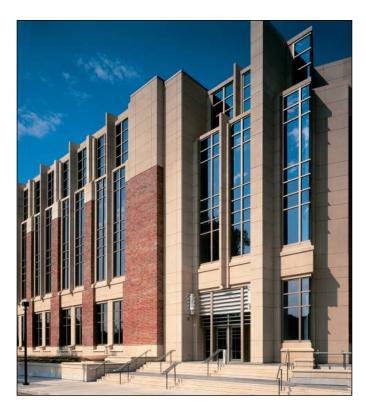


#### **BIOCHEMISTRY I EXAMPLE**











#### **BIOCHEMISTRY II EXAMPLE**







## **BIOCHEMISTRY I**









## BIOCHEMISTRY COMPLEX





















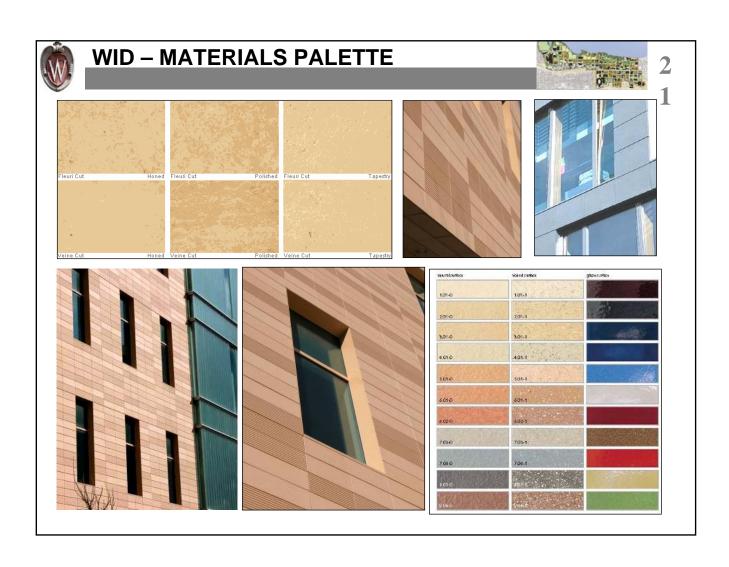










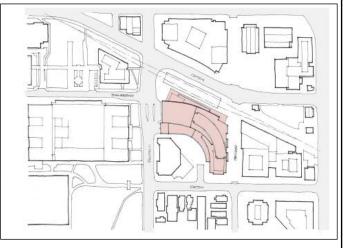




## UNION SOUTH PROJECT









































#### **ROAD MAP**



1

2005 Campus Master Plan

Campus Master Plan Implementation

- Design Review Board
- Design Review Guide
- •Hiring a University Architect



#### **PURPOSE**



2

The purpose of the Campus Design Guidelines is to serve as the framework for fruitful dialogue between designers, the Design Review Board (DRB), the campus community, the UW System, the Division of State Facilities, and other stakeholders as we collectively seek to interpret the intent of the 2005 Campus Master Plan.

The ultimate goal of such an effort is to create a well defined, functional, sustainable, beautiful and coherent campus environment that promotes intellectual and social exchange.

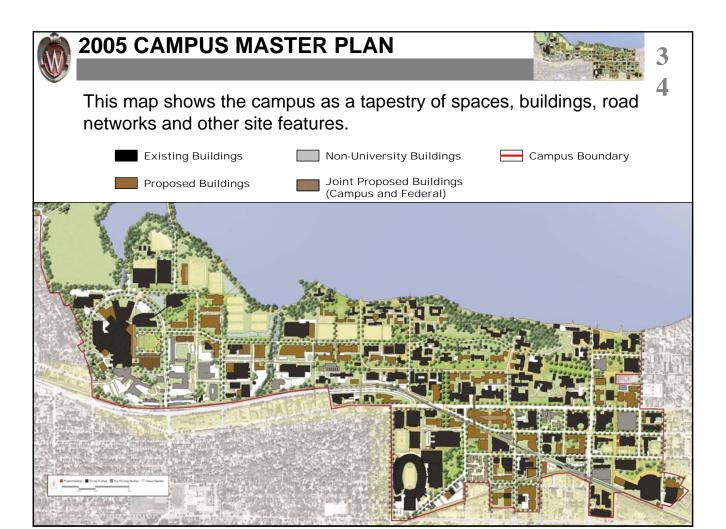


#### **APPROACH**



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The campus should be seen as one large and complex composition consisting of many neighborhoods. Each neighborhood, in turn, is a composition made of other compositions such as buildings, open spaces, and other site features. This represents a complex nested arrangement of compositions within compositions from the large scale down to the smallest perceivable details.



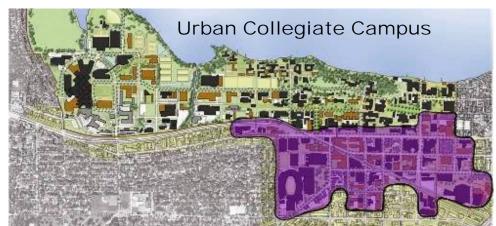


## TRADITIONAL VERSUS URBAN CAMPUS

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The neighborhoods on campus sit within the traditional collegiate and urban campuses.







#### **CAMPUS DESIGN NEIGHBORHOODS**



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These neighborhoods have discrete characteristics which need to be understood and respected.

#### Neighborhood Characteristics Depend on:

- Scale and Density (or Size and Massing)
- Topography/Landform/Natural Setting
- Urban Fabric/Neighborhood Setting
- History/Age
- Special Function
- Materials



#### **GUIDELINES BY SIZE**



3

The massing of campus buildings, that is the overall geometry of their perceived forms – footprint, height, and roof form, should demonstrate sensitivity to nearby buildings within their neighborhoods.

Campus buildings can be broken down into various scales depending on its role in the campus and or urban context. Buildings can be:

- Small (5,000 40,000 GSF)
  - residential halls, or specialized buildings such as observatories or outdoor classrooms.
- Medium (40,000 80,000 GSF)
  - typically the generic academic buildings such as classrooms or small research facilities.
- Large (80,000 150,000 gsf)
  - may include heavy research and medical facilities.
- Extra Large (150,000 GSF +)
  - typically include large event facilities for athletics and hospitals.







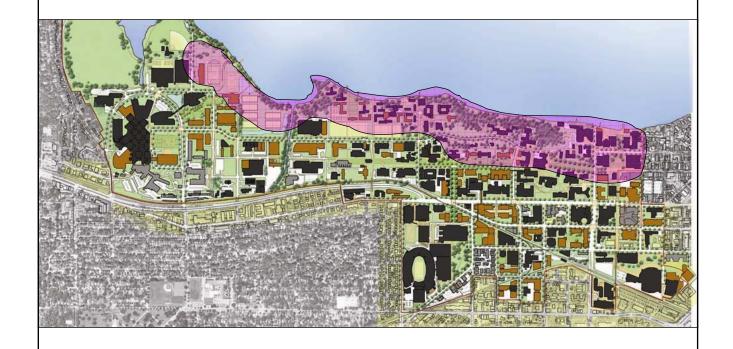




# SMALL BUILDINGS



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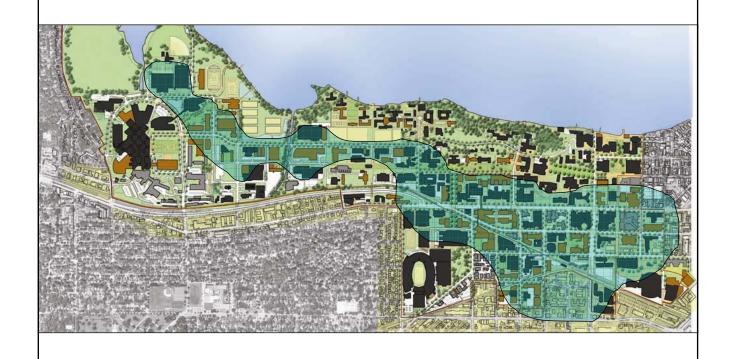




# MEDIUM AND LARGE BUILDINGS



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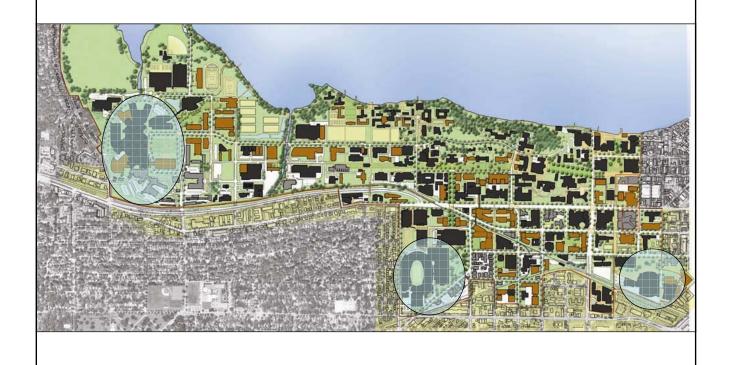




## **EXTRA LARGE BUILDINGS**



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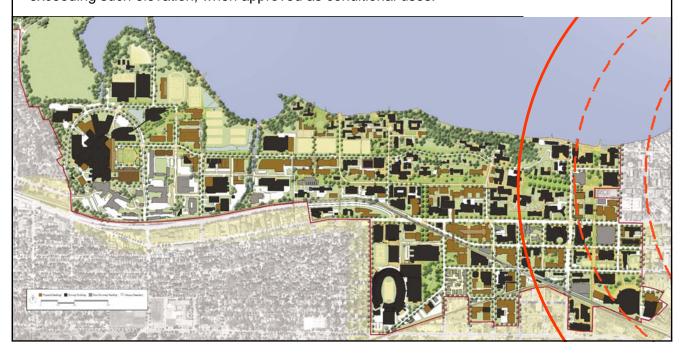


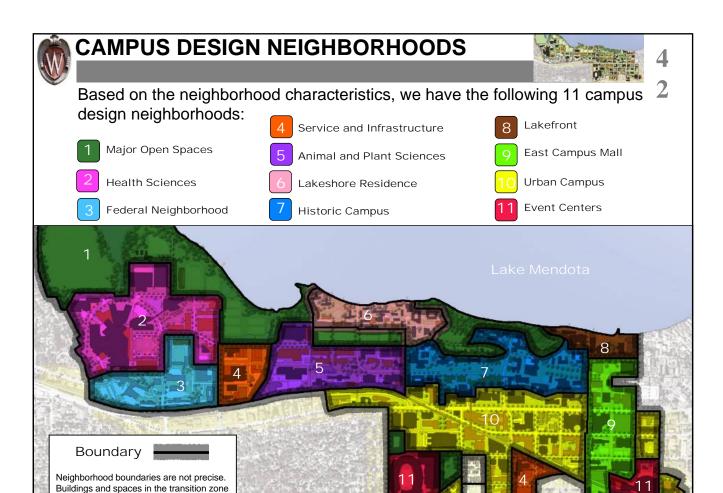
### **CAPITOL VIEW PRESERVATION**



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No portion of any building or structure located within one mile of the center of the State Capitol Building shall exceed the elevation of the base of the base columns of said Capitol Building or 187.2 feet, City datum. This prohibition shall not apply to any flagpoles, communication towers, elevator penthouses, screened air conditioning equipment on existing buildings and chimneys exceeding such elevation, when approved as conditional uses.





between neighborhoods may combine certain key attributes of both.

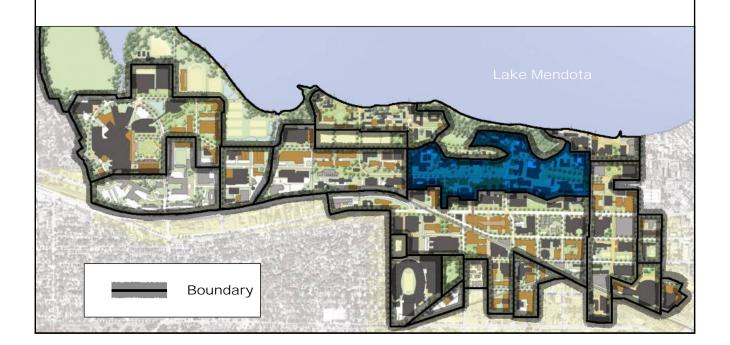


## CAMPUS DESIGN NEIGHBORHOODS



**Example of a Neighborhood Specific Guideline** 

# HISTORIC CAMPUS University of Wisconsin-Madison





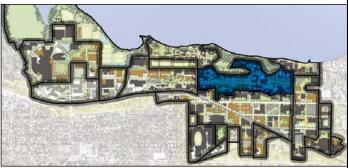
# HISTORIC CAMPUS



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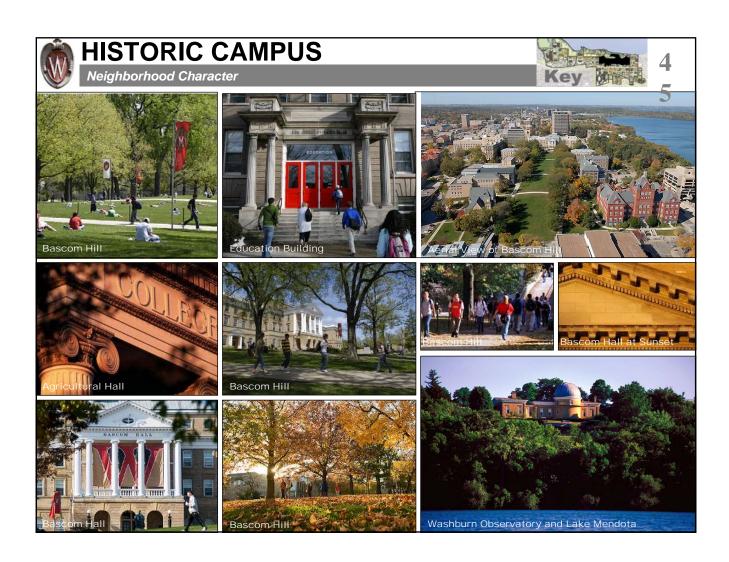
Historic Campus Neighborhood

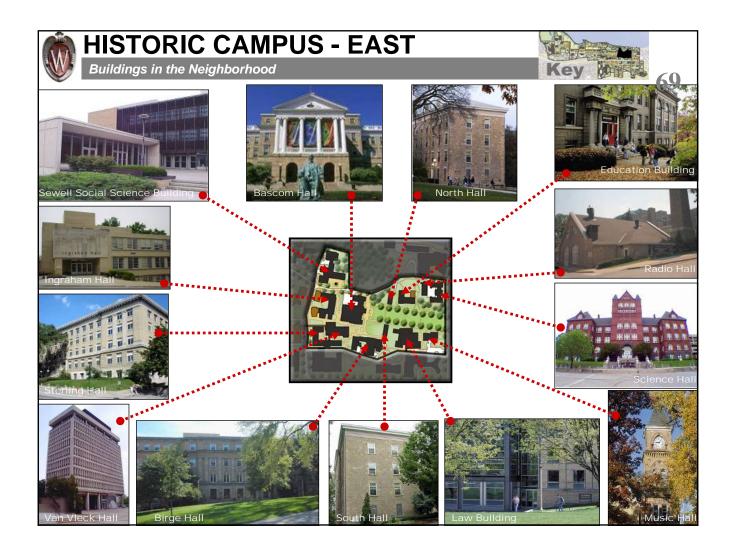
- An academic center, classrooms, faculty and staff offices. Oldest section of campus.
- Restore sense of scale, open space structure and building massing to more traditional campus relationships.

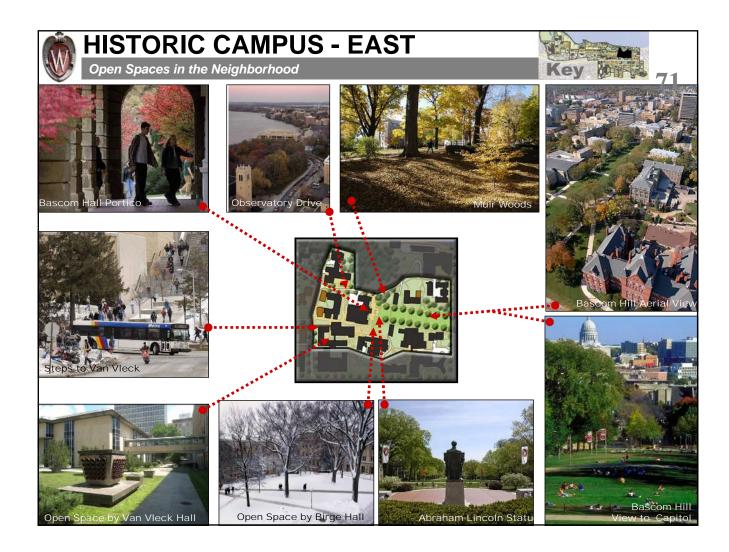






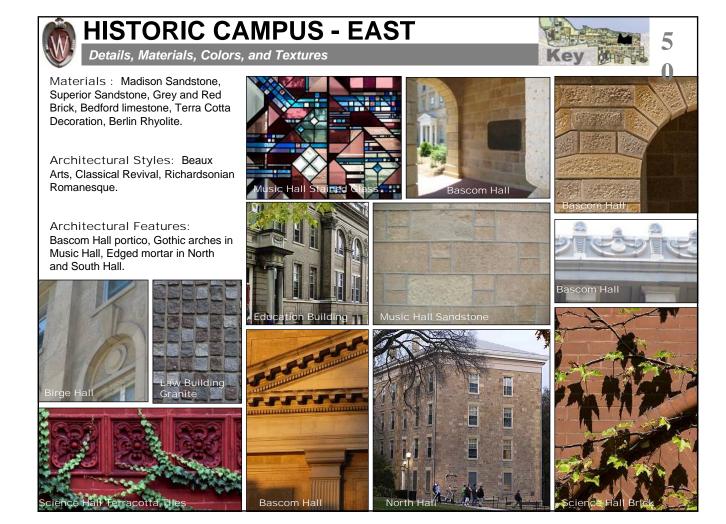


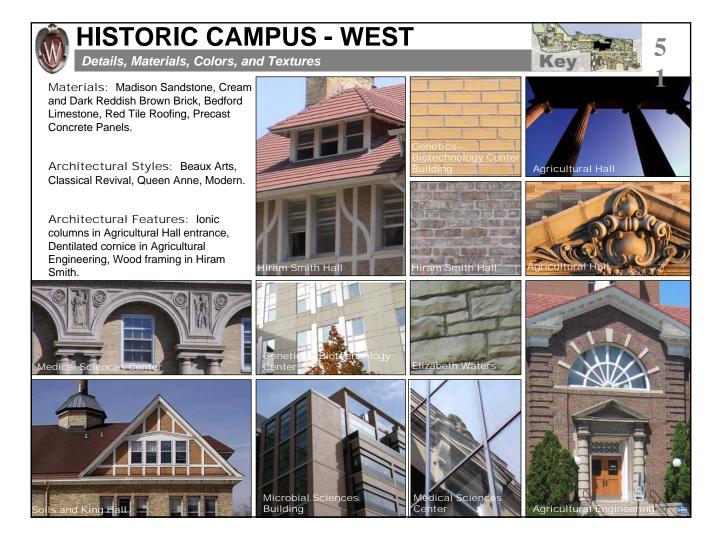


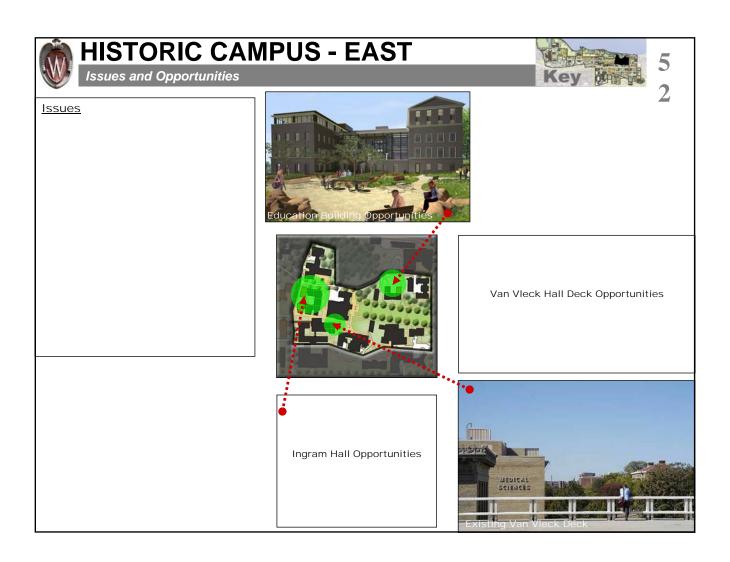




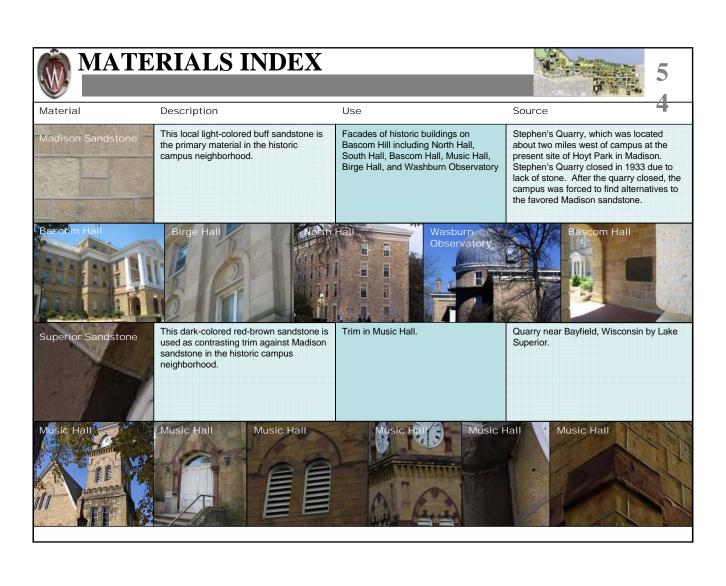








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Building Name	Date Constructed	Date Renovated	Architect(s)	Style	Materials	Design <b>5</b> Neighborhood
Agricultural Engineering	1907	1968	Arthur Peabody	Georgian Revival	Dark brown paving brick, red tile roof	Historic Campus
Agricultural Hall	1901	1928, 1969	J.T.W. Jennings	Beaux Arts	Brick, bedford limestone, terra cotta, copper metalwork, red tile roof	Historic Campus
Agronomy	1906		Arthur Peabody	Beaux Arts	Dark brown brick, red tile roof	Historic Campus
Bascom Hall	1857	1899, 1906, 1926, 1941, 1964, 1975	William Tinsley	Renaissance Revival	Madison sandstone	Historic Campus
Biochemistry	1912	1938, 1954, 1965, 1984, 1996	Laird & Cret and Arthur Peabody	Beaux Arts	Dark brown paving brick, red tile roof	Historic Campus
Birge Hall	1910	1931, 1948, 1955, 1961, 1980	Arthur Peabody and Jarvis Hunt	Renaissance Revival	Madison sandstone	Historic Campus
Bock Labs	1965	1997	Durrand & Bergquist	Post World War II	Steel, reinforced concrete, cut stone, precast concrete, face brick	Historic Campus
Carillon Tower	1936	1963	Arthur Peabody	Renaissance Revival	Madison rubble stone, turned stone balusters	Historic Campus
Education Building	1899	1910, 1951	J.T.W. Jennings	Beaux Arts	Grey pressed brick with pink mortar, bedford limestone, terra cotta trim	Historic Campus
Elizabeth Waters	1938		Roger Kirchoff		Lannonstone facing, red tile roof	Historic Campus
Genetics	1961		Siberz & Purcell		Precast concrete curtain wall panels, face brick	Historic Campus
Hiram Smith	1891	1901, 1909	Alfred & Clas	Queen Anne	Cream brick, wood framed upper floors, half timber and pebble finish, red tile roof	Historic Campus



## THE DESIGNER'S ROLE



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## What is the role of the designer?

The task of the designer is to create a well functioning and sustainable composition that is pleasing, at the detail scale and at the building scale, in a way that is in harmony with the larger urban scale within the neighborhood and campus at large. Buildings and campus places should contribute more, to their neighborhoods and to the larger campus, than their own inherent aesthetic value. In other words, the whole should always be superior to the aggregate of its parts; so that every new project progressively perfects the whole.



## **PLEASING COMPOSITION**

What makes a composition pleasing?

Whereas the functional and sustainability requirements of buildings and campus places are more easily explained and understood because standards about them exist, it is the notion of achieving a pleasing composition on our campus that needs to be addressed more clearly in this guide.

For the purpose of this guide, the composition is pleasing when it is: **Rich, Balanced, Unified** 

















## **RICH COMPOSITION**

Richness is exhibited by such works on campus that employ diversity of *compositional elements* such as:

- Details
- Transitions
- Patterns
- Colors
- Textures
- Scales and Proportions
- Materials
- Solid and Void
- Layers of depth and connections
- Contrasts in Light and Shadow







#### **BALANCED COMPOSITION**

The appropriate placement and use of these *compositional elements*, in space and in two dimensions, creates balance by conveying a sense of visual equilibrium. This requires sound judgment about size relationships, appropriate use of scales and proportions, colors, patterns, textures, contrasts in light and shadow, solid and void, relating interior and exterior, and balancing small parts against larger forms. Although the concept of balance is most readily evident in a symmetrical arrangement, our campus buildings and places are mostly asymmetrical. Therefore, the task of appropriately distributing visual weight presents greater challenge for designers, but also provides opportunities to create more dynamic arrangements that embrace the desirable pattern of activities on our campus.









#### **UNIFIED COMPOSITION**

The composition is unified when it is perceived as a whole. The University of Wisconsin-Madison has neither advocated stylistic consistency nor prescribed particular roof forms, colors or materials throughout it campus; instead it is our expectation that buildings and campus places should be designed to be sensitive to their neighborhood context. Clearly such intimate dialogue between new projects and their context will take account of materials, colors, quality, scale, proportions, massing, and overall character of existing buildings and spaces in the neighborhood. Unity also demands scaling coherence such that there is a perception of an inherent natural scaling factor that pervades the composition, and relates it to the human scale.









## **SUSTAINABILITY**



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"Development is sustainable when it meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs."

- United Nations World Commission on Environmental Development, 1987

















#### **STRATEGY**



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In implementing the 2005 Campus Master Plan, these criteria: richness, balance, and unity, should be applied to the treatment of open spaces, buildings, and primary interior spaces. Open spaces on our campus are deemed as important as the buildings that help to frame them; so they should both be designed in an integrated fashion. In designing the buildings, special attention should be given to the volumetric treatment of exterior architecture as a whole, as well as the architectural treatment of the building facades. Finally, the primary interior spaces should be considered in relation to the exterior architecture, open space, and patterns of movement around the site and campus.

So what architectural style should we employ? What are the heights of buildings? What about colors and materials? Answers to questions such as these are not prescribed; instead the guideline focuses on a process, through dialogue that would lead to answers that are appropriate for our campus. It suffices to say that every project on campus should be acutely sensitive to its immediate and larger contexts, and contribute to a greater sense of coherence, even as it expresses its uniqueness and embodies the spirit of its age.

#### SUSTAINABLE

Components  Components	Open Spaces	Building Exterior	Primary Interior Spaces
Richness	•	•	•
Balance	•	•	•
Unity	•	•	•

## FUNCTIONAL



## THE DESIGN REVIEW BOARD



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What is the role of the Design Review Board (DRB)?

The Design Review Board Serves essentially as the facilitator of the conversations that must take place in order to accurately interprete the intent of our 2005 Campus Master Plan



# **EDUCATION BUILDING EXAMPLE**



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**Existing Education Building** 









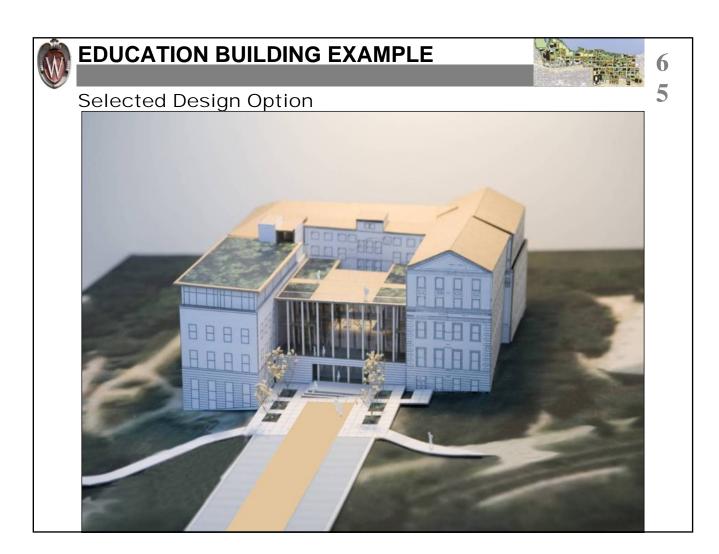
# EDUCATION BUILDING EXAMPLE

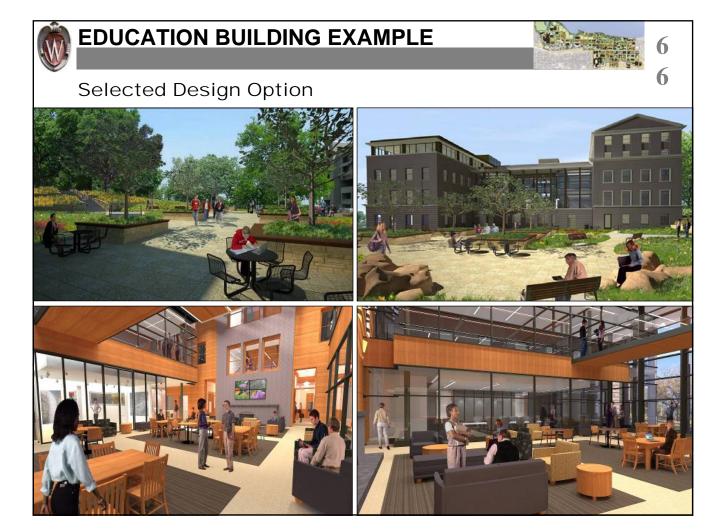


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Proposed Design Options









# **EDUCATION VERSUS LAW BUILDING**

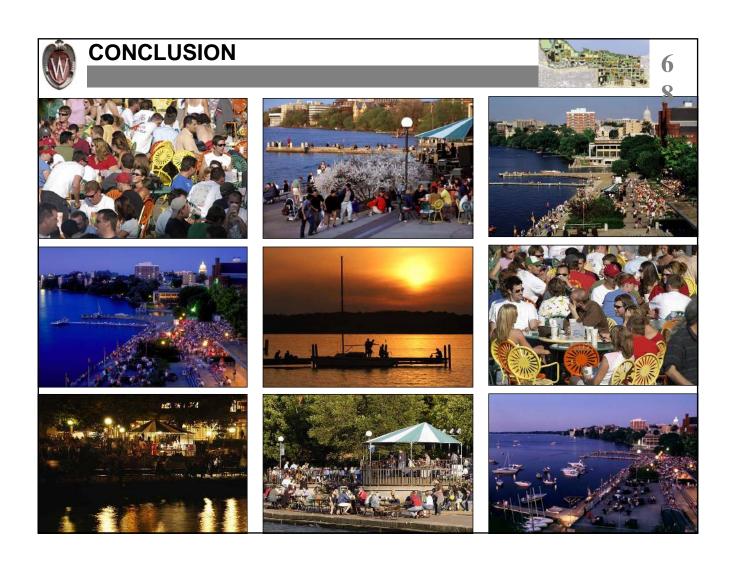


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Education Building Versus Law Building Design









#### CONCLUSION



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Buildings and campus places must function well and adequately meet the needs of users. We must design sustainable facilities so that we can meet our needs without jeopardizing the ability of future generations to meet theirs. It is equally important that the physical learning environment we create be pleasing. Therefore it must be rich, unified and balanced.

The academy is enriched, intellectually and socially, by its embrace of diversity in all its forms; but it is unified by a common purpose centered on its mission. It thrives when it achieves a harmonious balance between unity and diversity. The physical campus should reflect this ideal; so that it not only supports learning but encourages us to learn from it.

In the end, the way that our campus community and visitors experience our campus is very important. They must see it as sublime and functional at the same time. It must also be sustainable and make them feel comfortable. The designers' role is to help create appropriate stage sets for the plays that take place every day in our campus community. These plays, or patterns of events and activities, infuse the campus with energy; therefore buildings and campus places should incorporate draws that could support and enhance these patterns. Ultimately, our campus must be a place the campus community and visitors want to be rather than just a place they have to be. When we succeed in transforming our campus within its boundary, then our success will influence similar transformations across the state and beyond. This is the Wisconsin idea!



# QUESTIONS



# Questions?

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