



The University Of Wisconsin: A Pictorial History

Arthur O. Hove

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If you have ever spent part of your life on the shores of Lake Mendota—whether student or staff, whether personally or vicariously as a parent, whether then or now—you will immediately recognize *The University of Wisconsin: A Pictorial History* as a celebration of that time and memory, of that community. It is part of your family tree.

In eight lively, readable chapters Arthur Hove tells us the story of a tiny pre-Civil War land grant college that grew into the modern "multiversity" we know today (which, by itself, would be the sixth largest "city" in the state). But the text, engaging as it is, is really the frame for the book's most impressive feature—the exquisite album of nearly 400 photographs, thirty-two pages of them in full color, that capture the timeless moments and faces, the unforgettable characters and controversies, the high points (and the hijinks!) of 130 years of Badger lore.

The words and images tell countless stories:

- of Bascom Hall, which was originally domed. After a mysterious fire destroyed the dome in 1916 it was simply never restored.
- of the famous "sifting and winnowing" plaque. The regents of the time didn't care for it much—academic "freedom" was a radical idea. It gathered dust in a basement for years before it was finally mounted in 1915.
- of Pat O'Dea, who made a sixty-three-yard drop kick against Northwestern in 1899. Lost and presumed dead in World War I, he was "discovered" in 1934 living under an assumed name in California.
- of Harry Steenbock, who was offered \$900,000 (in 1925!) for commercial rights to his food irradiation process that eliminated rickets in children. Instead, he helped set up the WARF foundation to fund research from his patent proceeds.

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