

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Wisconsin</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Dane</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	<b>FEB 23 1972</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON: **Bradley (Harold C.) House**      **Congressmen to be notified:**  
**Sen. William Proxmire**

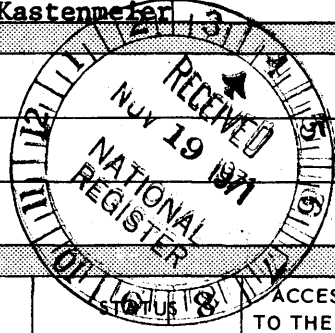
AND/OR HISTORIC: **Sen. Gaylord A. Nelson**  
**Rep. Robert W. Kastenmeier**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**106 North Prospect Avenue**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Madison**

STATE: **Wisconsin**      CODE: **55**      COUNTY: **Dane**      CODE: **025**



**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments <u>College fraternity.</u>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Alpha Chapter of Wis., Sigma Phi Fraternity**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**% George Ketterer, 4333 Britta Parkway**

CITY OR TOWN: **Madison**      STATE: **Wisconsin**      CODE: **55**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Register of Deeds  
City-County Building**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**210 Monona Avenue**

CITY OR TOWN: **Madison**      STATE: **Wisconsin**      CODE: **55**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**None**

DATE OF SURVEY:       Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:      STATE:      CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Wisconsin  
COUNTY: Dane  
ENTRY NUMBER  
DATE: FEB 23 1972  
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(Check One)		(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

In plan the Bradley house "is T-shaped, with the main facade fronting south, and a long wing extending northward from the middle of the back. The south facade is a long, low mass, [with] the horizontal lines...broken at intervals by strong vertical piers of brick, extending from foundation to cornice and projecting some eighteen inches from the wall surface. In the middle is a polygonal projecting bay, one story in height. The two ends of this main block offer the most extraordinary features of the house: large overhanging porches on the second story, supported by steel cantilever beams, encased in wood, with projecting ends elaborately sawed. The gable at the west end overhangs an open porch enclosed by a brick parapet; the gable at the east end, exactly the same in form, overhangs a side entrance on to the lawn. The wing extending toward the back is quite wide, and the roof consists of two gables, presenting twin gable-ends side by side over the rear facade. The main entrance is from a porte-cochère at the back of this wing, from which one enters a long hall. Built for a large family of children, the house has numerous bedrooms, two sleeping porches, and large playrooms, and since the Bradley family left it, has served admirably for a fraternity house."<sup>1</sup>

The original windows were multi-colored and subdivided into many smaller panes. Later replacement has not been done in the original style, so that today (1971) the house possesses original windows frequently alternating with recent large-paned replacements devoid of detail work. This is the only significant change in the exterior from the original 1909 design.<sup>2</sup>

In the interior, the architect also executed designs for the furniture, rugs, draperies, and all the fixtures. A good share of these can still be found in the house.<sup>3</sup>

1. Morrison, 204-205.

2, 3 Adapted from descriptions in City of Madison Landmarks Commission nomination form prepared by Jeffrey M. Dean.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**6. SIGNIFICANCE**

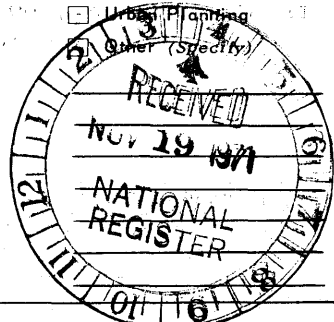
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1909**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Between the end of his skyscraper period in 1905 and his death in 1924, Louis H. Sullivan built only two residences. "Both were fairly elaborate buildings in which cost was a secondary consideration, and they are of particular interest for the comparisons which they afford with Frank Lloyd Wright's residences of the same years."<sup>1</sup> These are the Henry Babson residence in Riverside, Illinois, built in 1907, and the Harold C. Bradley house in Madison, Wisconsin, in 1909. Both commissions came at a time when Sullivan's practice and his business and personal affairs were at a low ebb. This is especially true of the Bradley commission, the only one Sullivan had to live on in 1909. But in relating this, Connely remarks, "Only the well-spring of his inventiveness never failed him. He drew a long low house with gigantic overhanging verandas, held up by cantilever supports which recalled the Biblical phrase "everlasting arms."<sup>2</sup> Adversity, then, lay in the results of financial depression, personal misfortune and lack of commissions; there was no corresponding poverty in the architect's ability to produce another masterful work.

The Bradley house is a Prairie house in design and it makes excellent use of the cantilever, of which Sullivans's former protégé, Frank Lloyd Wright, was to become the undisputed master. As indicated above, the Bradley house shows the influence of pupil on master. "The parallelism with Wright's projecting gables of this period is evident, but there is a superior vigor and force in the weight and salience of these features as compared with Wright's."<sup>3</sup> The work is Sullivan's, capable of standing by itself as one of significance and distinction. Actually, "It seems just to attribute the design of this house to at least an equal cooperation between Sullivan and Elmslie,"<sup>4</sup> which, however true, still takes nothing away from Sullivan. After leaving Sullivan later in 1909, Elmslie ~~continued to design houses in the Prairie idiom~~ went on to design houses in "the Prairie idiom" and the Bradley house may well have served as one of his prototypes (Gebhard, D., "William Purcell and George Elmslie and the Early Progressive Movement in American Architecture from 1900 to 1920," U. of Minn., Ph.D. dissertation, 1957).

Aside from being the last Sullivan residential commission, as well as being one of only two documented Sullivan buildings in Wisconsin, the Bradley house is a major work of architecture done at a critical time in the master's career, and one of Madison's major architectural landmarks.

1. Morrison, 202  
2. Connely, 249

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Connely, Willard, Louis Sullivan As He Lived, Horizon Press, New York, 1960, 249.  
 Duncan, Hugh Dalziel, Culture and Democracy, Bedminster Press, Totowa, New Jersey, 1965, passim.  
 Morrison, Hugh S., Louis Sullivan, Prophet of Modern Architecture, W. W. Norton & Co., New York, 1935 (1962), 204-205, 304 et passim.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		N43	04	08
SE	° ' "	° ' "		W89	25	17
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1.25**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Donald N. Anderson, Asst. Director, Historic Sites & Monuments Division**

ORGANIZATION:  
**State Historical Society of Wisconsin**

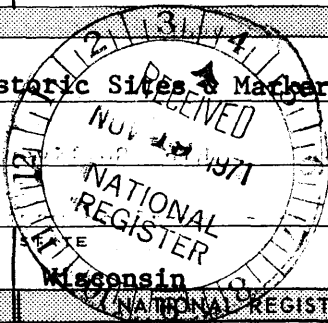
STREET AND NUMBER:  
**816 State Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Madison**

STATE:  
**Wisconsin**

DATE:  
**October 19, 1971**

CODE:  
**55**



**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name James Morton Smith  
**James Morton Smith**

Title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin  
**Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin**

Date NOV 12 1971

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connolly  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date FEB 23 1972

ATTEST:

William J. ...  
 Keeper of the National Register

Date FEB 1 1 1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

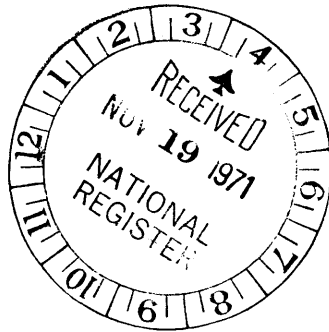
STATE <b>Wisconsin</b>	
COUNTY <b>Dane</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	<b>FEB 23 1972</b>

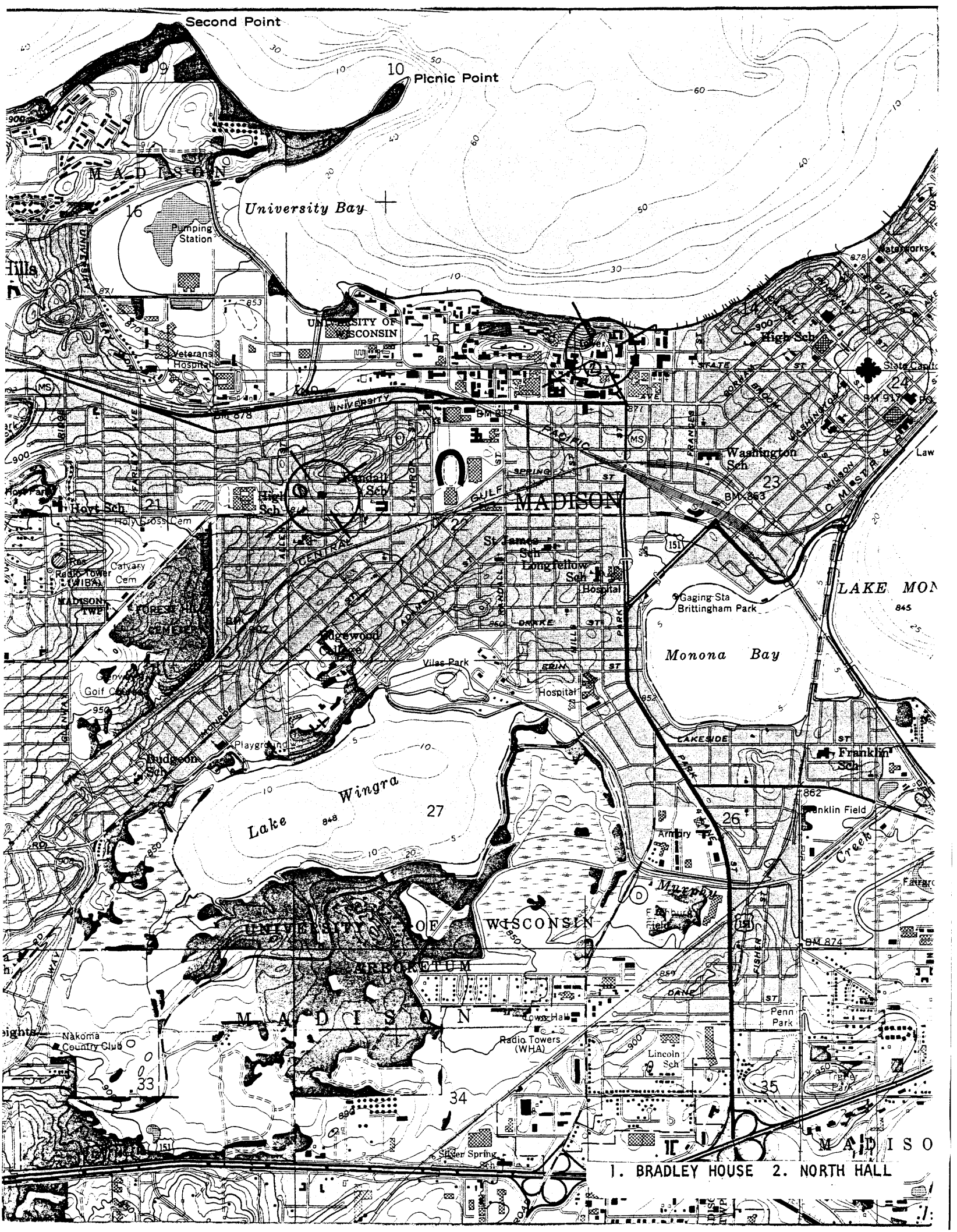
(Number all entries)

BRADLEY (HAROLD C.) HOUSE

8.

- 3. Morrison, 205
- 4. Ibid.





Second Point

Picnic Point

University Bay

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

MADISON

LAKE MONONA

Monona Bay

Lake Wingra

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
MADISON

MADISON

MADISON

1. BRADLEY HOUSE 2. NORTH HALL