



**PORTER BOATHOUSE**





## PORTER BOATHOUSE

### GENERAL OVERVIEW & SUMMARY

#### INTRODUCTION

Located along the south shore of Lake Mendota, one of four Madison-area lakes, Porter Boathouse gives the University of Wisconsin rowing programs an unrivaled home in the world of collegiate rowing. Completed in 2005, the spacious on-campus facility provides room for the Women's openweight and lightweight programs, as well as the Men's program to train to compete for NCAA, IRA and conference championships on an annual basis. The boathouse features natural stone for the exterior walls and a lead coated copper roof. The building was designed to preserve and protect the beautiful mature oak trees in the neighboring lakeshore area.

The three-story boat house for the UW Men's and Women's rowing teams was constructed on the site of the former crew house at the end of Babcock Drive along the shore of Lake Mendota. The previous 15,000 gross square foot crew house, which was built in 1967, was demolished to make way for the new facility.

The new 52,000 square foot crew house cost \$8.56 million, which included Athletic Department program revenue bonding and \$3.25 million in gifts. The Porter Boathouse was named in recognition of a contribution of over \$1 million toward the facility made by the Ben and Cheslee Porter Family [9].

The Porter Boathouse was designed by KEE Architecture, Inc. of Madison and Vincent James Associates of Minneapolis. Construction of the Crew House began in September of 2003, with the substantial completion date in December 2004. The building was dedicated prior to the Midwest Rowing Championship on April 22, 2005.

#### GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The Porter Boathouse is a premier facility for Wisconsin Athletics and their championship Rowing program.

#### MASTER PLAN DESIGN CONCEPT / RECOMMENDATIONS

On the interior of the facility, adequate storage, locker cubbies, ventilation, and laundry facilities are improvements that need to be addressed. In addition, the administration area need to be reconfigured with possible systems furniture to realize spatial efficiencies. On the exterior, additional apron space is necessary to appropriately maneuver the crew shells.

