

POLICE AND SECURITY



Fig. 1. Police and Security Building, 1995. [Author Photo, AP-58]

Built in 1988 to replace old, undersized and outmoded quarters on Charter Street, the new police and security facility went into use in January 1989.

The University protection and security (P&S) force grew from a total of one officer (Joe Hammersley) in 1937, working out of an office in an old house at 420 North Charter Street, to nineteen in 1961 in the same quarters. After the planning of the psychology building on the Charter Street site, P&S moved in 1962 to another old house at 101 Mills Street. This three level apartment building (see Fig. 2) provided greatly expanded space, and maintained a central position on the expanding campus. But by 1972, with the increase in size to 37 officers in response to campus unrest and increased enrollment, and the increasing number of women officers, the Mills Street building became dramatically unsuitable. In 1983 a request was made to the campus planning committee to provide new quarters for P&S.¹

A P&S facility was placed at priority position number two on the 1986-87 capital building program list. Because the program proposed a new facility rather than remodelling or expansion of existing ones, the project was subjected to considerable scrutiny and official examination. After very negative reports regarding the state of existing facilities, and some airing of the problem in the press, the project began to develop momentum.²

By November 1984, after looking at four locations around campus, a site was selected in the



Fig. 2. This 6,912 square foot vintage 1925 apartment building was home to the University Protection and Security department from 1962 to 1989. By the early 1970's it was extremely crowded. The Mills Street facility was about half the size needed, and lacked handicapped access, had makeshift locker and rest-rooms, inadequate storage and ventilation. Parking was very deficient and some records were stored at another old house at 919 Spring Street (since demolished). The women's locker room had no shower facilities. The property and evidence room could only be reached through the men's locker room. After the new building was finished this building was sold, and is now in use as a private apartment building. [Author Photo, AP-59]

1400 block of Monroe Street. Among the advantages of this site were good traffic circulation, the fact that the University already owned the land, and that the land was an eyesore that needed to be cleaned up. The site contained one building that would be retained, the Art department's glass laboratory. The estimated project cost was \$1.9 million. In early 1985 the state asked the University to reduce the size of the building and approved a budget of \$1.65 million. The architectural firm Potter Design Group was selected for the project in August 1985. The building was designed with the glass lab in place against the east wall of the P&S building but not connected. In November the regents approved a land deal whereby the Mills Street property was exchanged for two storage warehouses on Gerry Court, with the understanding that P&S could stay at Mills Street until the new building was finished. In June 1986 the state approved the University's proposal. The same month the regents approved the budget of \$1.6 million. It was anticipated that the building could be completed in the fall of 1987.³

Bids were received in May 1987, but were almost a half million over budget. The building committee and the architect made revision to the plan to bring the cost down. The main items deleted were the garage, a second communications console, and security fences. A second round of bids were received in November 1987.⁴

After some negotiations with the lowest bidders, the contracts were awarded on January 28, 1988. The general contractor was P. G. Miron Construction Company of Menasha Wisconsin for \$755,000. Total contracted amount was \$1.60 million. These contracts included the foundation for the garage. Ground-breaking took place on March 10, 1988. Construction proceeded without incident through the summer and fall of 1988, and in December 1988 the building committee reported that the major contractor finished his part of the building on December 9, 1988. The following report states that the department moved into the new facility on January 9, 1989. The Mills Street facility was "abandoned except for the garage". In February 1989 a problem appeared with the new alarm system that slowed response of the department in case of a fire alarm. This problem was traced to the alarm system budget reduction during building planning and was resolved in July 1989.⁵

A formal dedication and open house was held at the University Police and Security Facility on April 21-22 1989. Chancellor Donna E. Shalala "cut the ribbon", and speeches were made by chief Ralph Hanson, and Mark Musolf, deputy attorney general of Wisconsin.⁶

The building is 62 by 111 feet, two stories of concrete block walls, sheathed with face brick and glass block windows. The partial basement hold utilities only. The first floor contains the entry lobby, offices, records area, conference rooms and interview rooms. On the second floor are classrooms, men's and women's shower and locker rooms, a break room with kitchen, and other offices.

The 25 by 71 foot six-stall garage was funded in August 1989 with \$52,000 of unused funds from the main building budget.

- 1) *Wisconsin Alumni Magazine*, March 1949, p. 8; *Daily Cardinal*, February 6, 1963 p. 7; University Directories; Police Annual Report, 1985, series 17/1/1 box 1; Shain to Bauer et al. June 28, 1984.
- 2) Police and Security Facility, December 5, 1984, Valeria to McGown, February 22, 1984, Memorandum, Fulop to Gerhard, October 18, 1984, Barroilhet to Van Ess, June 22, 1984, Memorandum, Macari from Kennedy, November 28, 1984, series 4/31/9--3 box 6.
- 3) Addendum to Building Program Dated June 1984, Fact Sheet, February 6, 1985, Agency Request for State Building Commission Action, December 1985, Agency Request for State Building Commission Action, June 1986, Agency Request for State Building Commission Action, May 1987, series 4/31/9-3 box 6; Police Annual Reports, 1985 and 1986, series 17/1/1 box 1; *Regent's Minutes*, November 8, 1985, June 6, 1986, May 8, 1987.
- 4) Police Annual Reports, 1987, series 17/1/1.
- 5) Police Annual Reports, 1989, series 17/1/1; Progress Reports - Police and Security Facility, November 1, 1988, December 5, 1988, January 23, 1989, Dennis to Foley, January 27, 1989, series 4/31/9-3 box 6.
- 6) Dedication program, April 21-22, 1989, series 4/31/9-3 box 6.