Buckstaff Planetarium

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - OSHKOSH

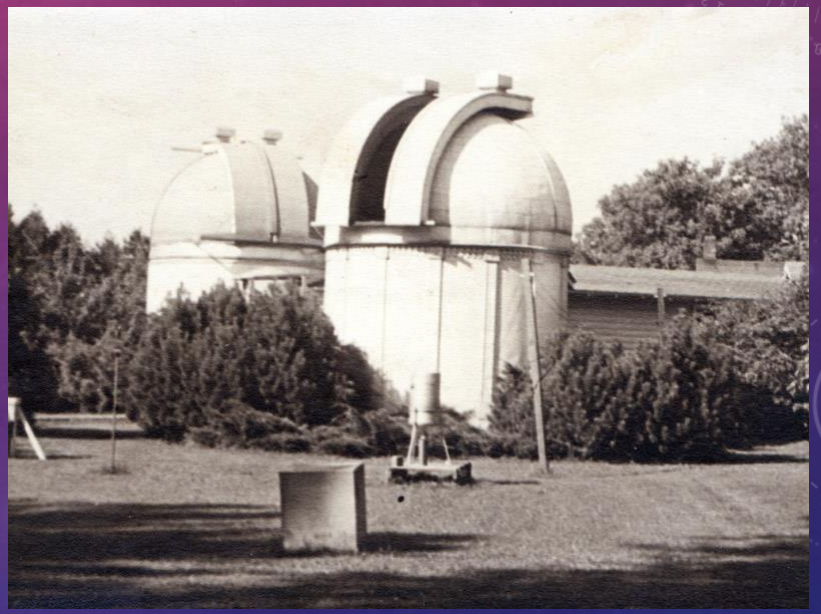
- Life & inspirations of Ralph N. Buckstaff
- Buckstaff Observatory
- Buckstaff Planetarium past, present, and future

RALPH NOYES BUCKSTAFF DISCOVERS THE NIGHT SKIES

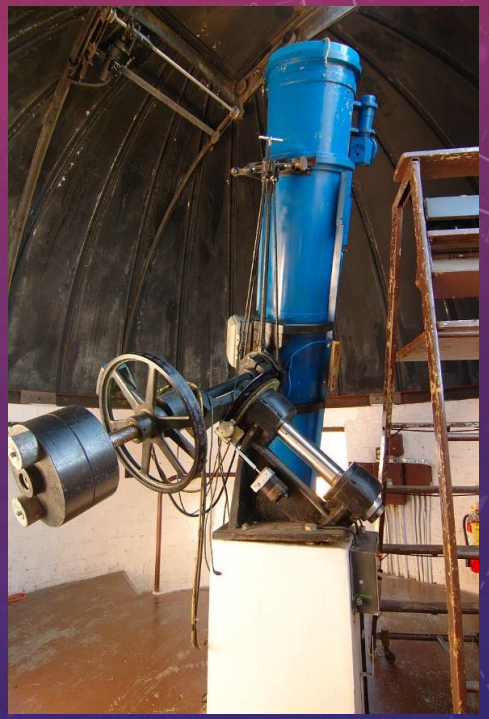
- 1887 born into a wealthy Oshkosh family
- 1910 inspired by Halley's Comet
- 1918 R. N. Buckstaff constructs his first observatory: 8" reflecting telescope

RALPH NOYES BUCKSTAFF – 1920'S AVID AMATEUR ASTRONOMER

- Lecturer at Oshkosh Normal School
- Builds a home on North side of Oshkosh
- Adds 2 more telescopes to his observatory
- Cooperative Weather observer for US Weather Service



RALPH NOYES BUCKSTAFF – 1950'S



- 1954 observed a snow storm on Mars and published in Wisconsin Academy Review
- 1959 appointed faculty at Wisconsin State College
- Active in MAS
- Donated 1/5 interest in Observatory to College

RALPH NOYES BUCKSTAFF – 1964 PLANETARIUM OPENS!

BUCKSTAFF PLANETARIUM – 1970'S

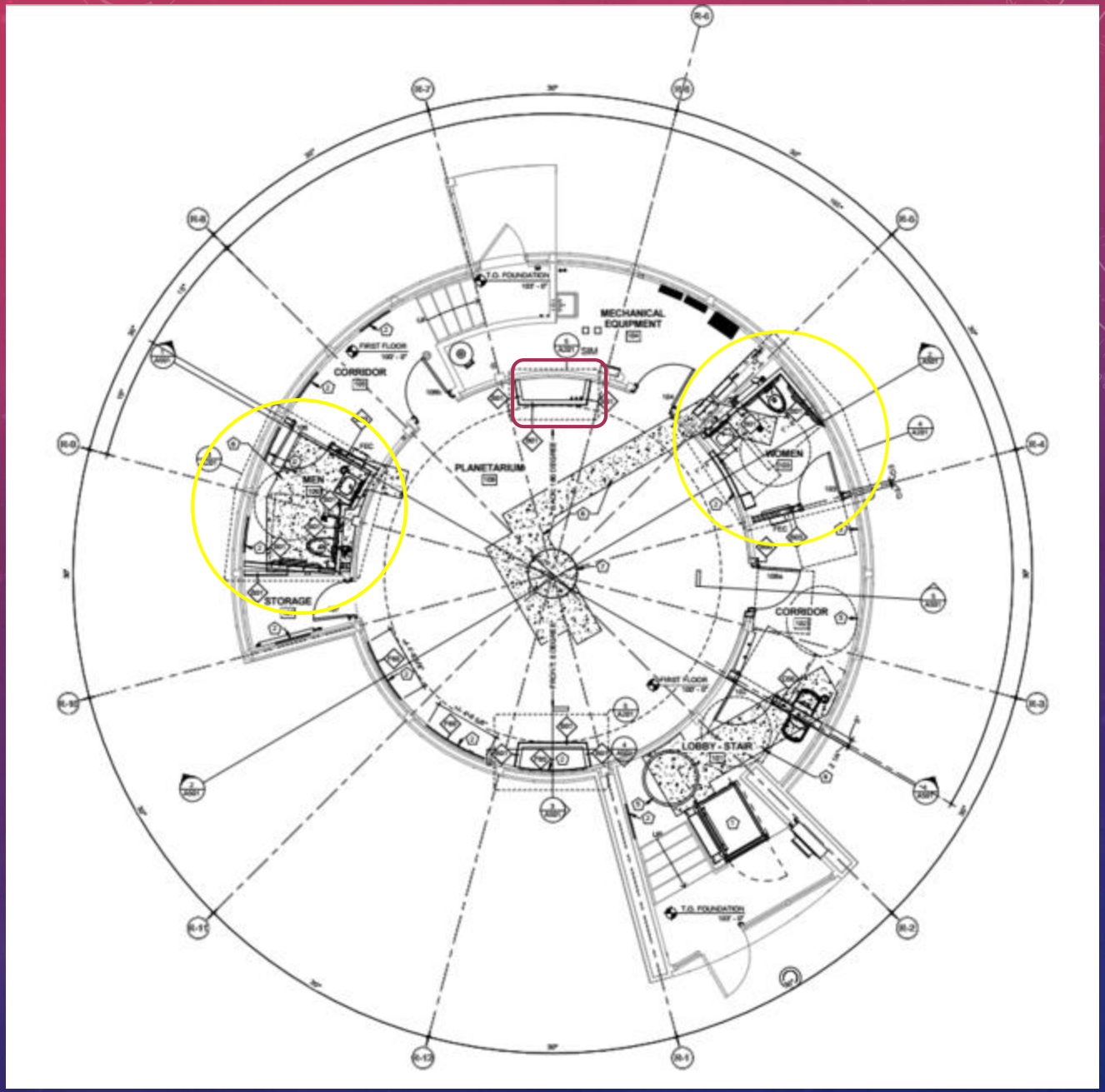
- Planetarium renovation
- Observatory on National Register of Historic Landmarks

THE END OF AN ERA…

- 1980 R.N. Buckstaff dies
- 1984 Observatory sold to a private party
- 2011 Observatory moved to Illinois!

EXIT

SOLARSCOPE
SOLARSCOPE


MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT
CORRIDOR
PLANETARIUM
MEN
WOMEN
STORAGE
CORRIDOR
LOBBY - STAIR

What starts as a passion for one young person can become a legacy for the State