



LOCATION	South Milwaukee, WI
ARCHITECT	Zimmerman Architect Studios
DISTRIBUTOR	LaForce
GENERAL CONTRACTOR	CG Schmidt
YEAR BUILT	2021

Bucyrus Club

An old-time center of social life in South Milwaukee is back in business. The historic Bucyrus Club has been completely renovated into a bar, restaurant, events space, and the Bucyrus Museum.

The building, erected in 1892 is called the Bucyrus Club in honor of its longest usage: as an employee center for the Bucyrus Company (later called Bucyrus-Erie). In 1907 Bucyrus bought the building from the Racine Fire Engine and Motor Company, a manufacturer of brass horse drawn fire pumps. It became the “West Engine Machine Assembly Shop” producing the steam shovels that dug the Panama Canal. They were rail mounted, 38 foot long and weighed 95 tons. In 1919 the building was remodeled and transformed into a cafeteria and social club for workers. Bucyrus sold the building in 1994 and it then went through several owners.

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By 2015, the building was abandoned and slated for destruction. After forming the South Milwaukee Industrial Museum nonprofit, Bob Jelinek, a 40-year Bucyrus employee partnered with Ernie Wunsch of Skyline Catering to create the Bucyrus Club. Their vision was to couple the Bucyrus Museum with a spectacular new events space turning the historic building back into a community social venue.

The renovation was completed in 2021 and the building was outfitted with PDQ products including MR Series mortise locks, 7100 Series door closers, and 6200 Series exit devices.

“The PDQ door hardware balanced the security and life safety that was needed, we couldn’t be more satisfied,” said Ernie Wunsch.

Product(s) Used:

- MR
- 6200 Exit Devices
- 5301 Closers
- 5501 Closers
- 7101 Closers
- STS Sliding Door Hardware

