



Stevens Construction Corp. crews install a new steel structure inside the façade of an 85-year-old building at 408 W. Gorham St., Madison. The building will soon be home to the Brickhouse BBQ.

Building from the inside out

The work being done at 408 W. Gorham St. in Madison won't make sense to some people.

The 85-year-old property is being completely redone — except for the outside walls. Everything else will change. Even the basement has been re-poured.

Brickhouse BBQ is set to open in October.

"We're going all the way down to the foundation walls," said Geoffrey Vine, president of Stevens Construction Corp., the company working on the project.

Why create such a delicate balance, trying to maintain the building's historic shell while reconstructing everything else from the inside out?

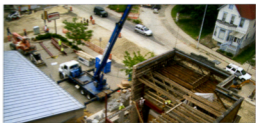
"People in the neighborhood felt strongly about retaining that," Vine said. "They wanted to respect that."

The building is being retrofitted for Brickhouse BBQ, a three-story restaurant and bar.

"It had been set up as multiple apartments before," Vine said. "The space was all broken up and didn't make any sense."

While restoring the original façade, Stevens Construction is completely redoing the 11,430-square-foot interior and building an addition at the rear of the property to house a full-service kitchen.

Brickhouse BBQ is set to open in October, Vine said.



Construction workers use a mobile crane to set beams for a new floor structure in June at the Madison building. The property is being converted from apartments to a bar/restaurant.



Stevens crews lower a beam into the historic building to create a new floor structure for the retrofitted property. The historic building will retain its 85-year-old façade.