

# EXHIBIT EXPLORER

First Floor



## Streets of Old Milwaukee

Step back in time as you trace the founding of Milwaukee and then embark on a nostalgic look at the city during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

**1. Juneau's Fur Trading Post:** Enter the *Streets of Old Milwaukee* near the top of the Up escalator from the ground floor. Down the corridor on your left, you'll see a reproduction of the type of fur trading post that would eventually become the foundation of Milwaukee, opening supply lines for explorers and settlers as they headed into America's unexplored West. When were these first trading posts established? \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Pioneer House:** Continue down and around the corner to your left. You will encounter a real pioneer house from the 1830s. Originally housing an entire family, this actual home was taken apart and completely rebuilt here at MPM. Looking inside you will see artifacts and furniture dating from the mid-1800s. Do you see any unfamiliar objects, or things that you don't have in your house? \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Signs and Symbols:** Across the street you'll see a barber shop with a traditional barber pole in front of the store. Immigrants from around the world settled in Milwaukee as it grew into one of America's great port cities. With all the blending of cultures, few people spoke the same language. Symbols like the barber pole (with the red, white, and blue representing a place for grooming or first aid) showed what the stores were for. As you continue forward through the streets and take a left at the next corner, look above the doorways of the businesses on the right side of the street where you will see two more big symbols used to help people identify what service the business provided. What kind of businesses are these? \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Schloemer Wagon:** Across from the Nickelodeon movie theater you'll see an older woman rocking in her chair on the front porch. In her yard is the Schloemer wagon. The shop next door belonged to local locksmith Frank Toepfer. Toepfer was responsible for the innovation of this early motor-powered wagon. Was this the first car in the United States? \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Print Shop:** Continue down the street to the Print Shop exhibit. Here you'll see another Milwaukee innovation, the typewriter, that introduced the "QWERTY" sequence, named for the top row of letters on the left hand side of a keyboard. This is the same layout used on computer keypad and electronic devices today. Have you ever used an actual typewriter? \_\_\_\_\_

### What will you find around the next corner?

Many of the cultures that settled Milwaukee can be found in the European Village. What will you find as you peek into the homes of the many cultures represented? You may be surprised at some of the similarities and differences of the homes of the village compared with your homes today.