



touch history

Overview:

Teachers not receiving a guided tour of the *Paugh Family History Hall* exhibit are encouraged to review the following talking points for their self-guided tour of the history hall. Information included in this packet is a summary of the most important and interesting features of the exhibit. This guide was created to help teachers answer student questions without reading exhibit panels. Detailed information about each of these Talking Points can be found on exhibit panels within the *Paugh Family History Hall* exhibit.

Main Themes of the *Paugh Family History Hall* exhibit:

1. Exploration
2. Transportation
3. Gold Mining
4. Tourism Industry
5. What brought people to Montana and what keeps them here.

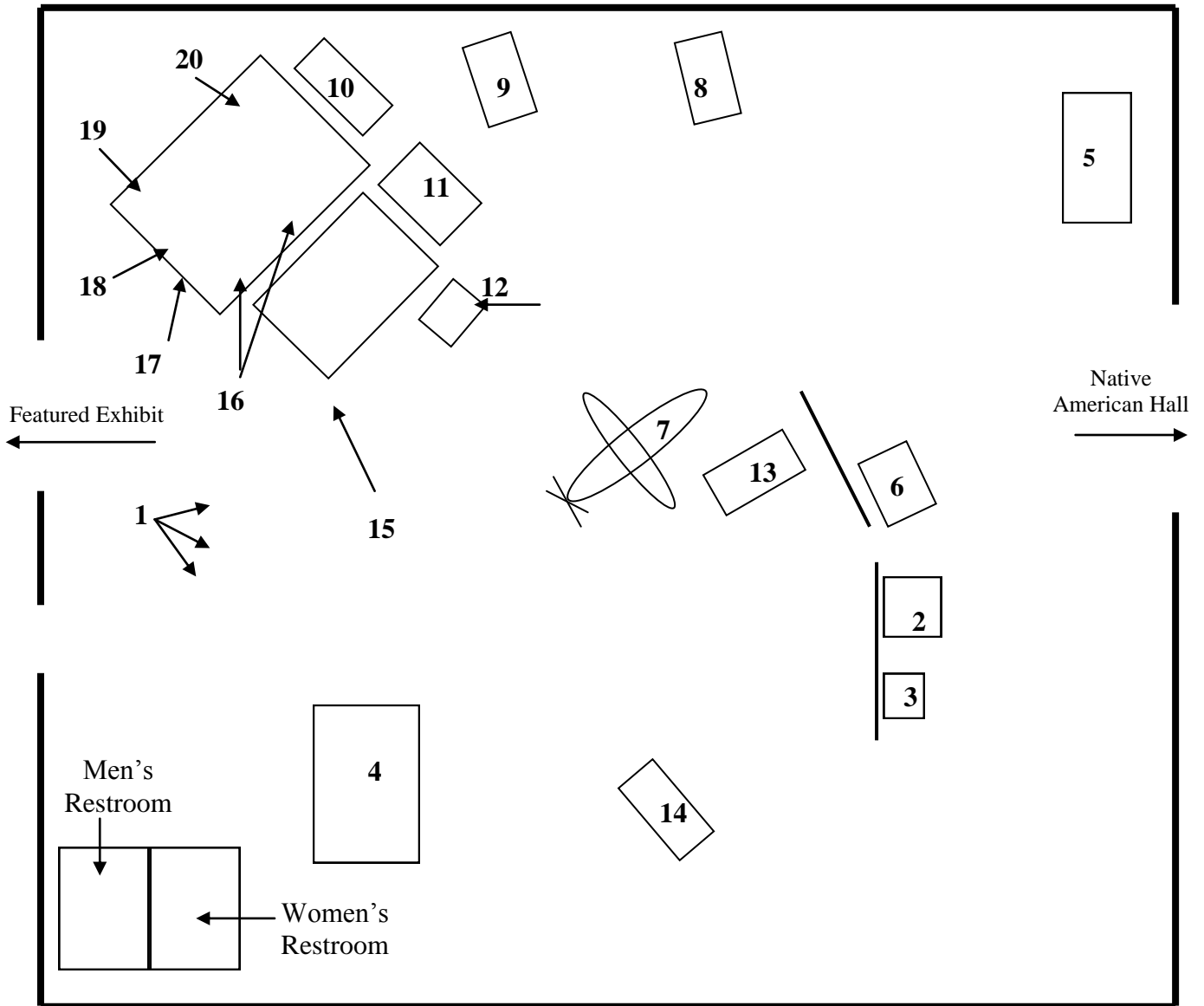
Vocabulary from the *Paugh Family History Hall* exhibit:

Ore
Ore Cart
Gold Assaying
Homesteading Act of 1862
Tar Paper Shack
Depression Era
Tourism
Transportation



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Note: Not all display cases are represented on this map. This map has been simplified to easily identify the Talking Points included in the following pages.



TALKING POINT 1: Tour Introduction and Montana History

- People have been exploring Montana for centuries including Native Americans, fur trappers and traders, settlers, and gold miners.
- This tour will focus on why people came to Montana, how they got here and why they stayed.
- Montana has gone through many changes in the way people used transportation as you can see from all the different types of vehicles in this exhibit.
- The way new settlers to this area lived, changed throughout time as well. We can see this by the different styles of houses represented in this exhibit.



TALKING POINT 2: Gold Mining

- In 1862, the first significant gold strike occurred at Grasshopper Creek near Bannack City, MT.
- The news of gold brought people to the territory in large numbers. Another major gold strike in 1864 at Alder Gulch near Virginia City brought 10,000 resident miners the first year.
- Big boomtowns, like Virginia City and Bannack were the exception. Smaller boom towns like Red Bluff were more common (Mural behind ore cart)
- Between 1850 and 1950, millions of dollars worth of minerals were extracted from Montana's mountains. Small carts, such as this one, hauled most of the ore out of the mines. Carts were pushed by hand or pulled by horses or mules.



TALKING POINT 3: Gold Assaying

- Assay Offices sprouted in nearly all gold mining towns in Montana.
- Assay Offices would test rock samples that miners brought to them to determine the purity and value of his ore.
- Assayers would crush and melt the prospector's ore with lead in the furnace. Lead would attach itself to the gold and then become "lead buttons."
- Lead buttons would then be reheated in the cuples where the lead would separate from the gold.
- Finally, molten gold would be poured into ingot molds to be weighted and evaluated by the assayer.



TALKING POINT 4: Settling in Montana – Tar Paper Shack

- The original Homestead Act of 1862 was signed by President Lincoln and allowed, with certain provisions, individuals to claim 160 acres of land in the west for very little to no cost.
- Provisions included living on the land for five years and improving the property by building a house (i.e. Tar Paper Shack), putting in a well, planting grains etc.
- In the later years of the homesteading era, more goods became available to Montana by trains such as tarpaper, small stoves, and fold up beds as you see inside this shack.



TALKING POINT 5: Tourism in Montana

- This passenger stage coach delivered travelers to Yellowstone National Park’s west entrance near the Idaho border
- Travelers would make the 70 mile trip that lasted six to eight days depending on weather and road conditions.
- The thick leather thoroughbraces cushioned the ride for guests and was often described as a “boat-like” ride.
- The photomural behind the stagecoach is taken at Mammoth Hot Springs in Yellowstone National Park.



TALKING POINT 6: Transportation in Montana: Part I

- The Cutter, with its parallel runners, made it easier to travel around Montana’s snow covered streets and the countryside in the early 1900s.
- This stylish sled was the direct descendent of the much older form of transportation...the horse drawn sled.



TALKING POINT 7: Air Transportation

- The Pietenpol Air Camper was one of the first of its kind as a mail order plane.
- Aviation came to Montana with World War I and by the early 1930s ranchers and farmers were building their own plans.
- Tom and Ben Helmerichs of Rygate, MT, decided to build this airplane in the winter of 1931-32.
- Because their workshop was not heated, most of the plane construction was done in their farmhouse kitchen.
- Ben’s wife, Sylvia, was conscripted to sew the airplane’s fabric coverings.
- The plane’s maiden flight was cut short when Tom, with only a few flying lessons, hit a gopher hole at the end of the pasture runway jarring both plane and would be pilot sufficiently enough to cancel the flight.
- On July 1932, the plane took air with a hired pilot and was reported to be sound and airworthy.



TALKING POINT 8: Transportation in Montana: Part II

- The Police Chief in Helena, MT used this Columbus Buggy around 1900.
- This buggy featured hard rubber tires and was built by one of the nation’s largest manufacturers of horse-drawn vehicles.
- Harvey Firestone of Firestone Tire fame pioneered the rubber tires.



TALKING POINT 9: Transportation in Montana: Part III

- The Studebaker Bros. Surrey provided speedy travel around the City of Bozeman and across the Gallatin Valley.
- This buggy was designed to carry passengers rather than freight.
- The Studebaker brothers adapted to the popularity of the new invention, the automobile, and initiated their first experiments with an electric vehicle in 1897.
- The grace and beauty of the Studebaker Surrey was translated into the Studebaker vehicles.



TALKING POINT 10: Agriculture in Montana

- Along with ranching, agriculture was also a supporting industry throughout Montana's history.
- This "water wagon" could hold 1,050 gallons of water.
- In the early 1900s, farms and ranches did not always have an easily accessible water source. Therefore, many farmers and ranchers relied on the water wagon to water crops and animals



TALKING POINT 11: Sheep Wagon

- A large part of Montana history has foundations in ranching. Sheep ranching was a significant industry during the early 1900s all the way to the late 1960s.
- Shepherders would have to take their flock to nearby mountains during the summer months so that the sheep would have enough food for grazing.
- Shepherders would have to stay with their flock the entire time to protect the sheep against predators.
- This sheep wagon was used as a place to eat, sleep, and get out of the weathers for months at a time for shepherders.
- Shepherders often cared for a band of about 1000 sheep at a time.



TALKING POINT 12: John Bozeman Display Case

- In 1863, John Bozeman teamed up with John M. Jacobs to establish a shorter route to the new gold mining districts in Idaho and Montana Territories. This trail shaved 400 miles off the original route but cut through Native American land.
- This “short-cut” provoked a series of skirmishes that lead up to the Battle of Little Big Horn.
- John Bozeman was a major player in establishing the town of Bozeman, which was named for John Bozeman in 1864.
- John Bozeman’s mysterious death in 1867 remains an unsolved mystery. John Bozeman is currently buried at Sunset Hills Cemetery on the east end of Main Street in Bozeman.
- This case contains John Bozeman’s pocket watch, his powder horn that was used to hold black gunpowder and was made from hardened buffalo horn, a photo of John Bozeman and his Colt revolver.



TALKING POINT 13: Hand Pulled Chemical Extinguisher

- In 1919 the town of Logan, MT was swept by fire started by a cigarette.
- Nearly all the townsfolk, men, women and children, voluntarily started a “bucket brigade” to help put out the fire and prevent the fire from burning down more buildings in town.
- Firefighters from Manhattan and Three Forks also helped to put out the Logan fire. These volunteer firefighters had a Chemical Fire Extinguisher like this one.
- After the fire was contained and extinguished, the town of Logan purchased this fire extinguisher to help protect their town from future fires.
- The extinguisher was filled with a solution of water and soda. An operator turned the crank at the back and sulfuric acid spilled out causing a chemical reaction, which generated carbon dioxide gas, which would suffocate a fire.



TALKING POINT 14: Cannon – 3 inch Ordinance Rifle

- This wrought iron rifle was one of about 1100 manufactured during the Civil war.
- This cannon could fire a 3-inch elongated projectile up to 2000 feet with great accuracy.
- This cannon was one of two cannons distributed to Fort Ellis, just outside of the Bozeman City limits, for the military to use during the late 1860s.



TALKING POINT 15: 1930s House

- This house represents a common style of living in Montana during the 1930s.
- This house also represents the common occurrence in rural Montana when depression and drought forced residents to convert their homes to a filling station to help make ends meet.
- This home is considered a “balloon construction house” because it was a simplistic way to build a home as opposed to the European construction style homes that required skilled laborers to build.
- Skilled labors called this construction a balloon construction house because they thought the house would blow away during a high wind.
- This type of inexpensive and fast built construction was an important aspect during the formation of boom towns and farming communities



TALKING POINT 16: 1930s House – Looking through the front door/front window

- The coal stove was a source of heat for the whole house. The small isinglass-covered window permitted observation of the condition of the fire without opening the door.
- The sink is a typical 1930s style of basin sink that was found in most kitchens during this period
- The “National Cash Register” would have been used by residential filling stations to make change for customers buying fuel.
- The oak, crank style telephone worked by cranking the handle, which would produce voltage that would signal an “operators” switchboard. The operator would then pick up the line and connect you to your requested line.



TALKING POINT 17: 1930s House – Looking through side window to living room

- The overstuffed chair was covered with a material called “mohair.” This was by far the most popular material and style of living room chairs and davenports during the 1930s
- The rocking chair was also a popular style of chair in the 1930s. The afghan throw on the arm of the chair is a traditional pattern made with “Granny Squares.”



TALKING POINT 18: 1930s House - Bathroom

- The tub is made from tinned copper and a wooden molding around the top.
- The toilet is very similar to what you would see in today's bathrooms but the wooden seat and cover was typical during this era.
- Above the sink, you will notice a shaving mug and safety razor for shaving.



TALKING POINT 19: 1930s House - Bedroom

- The white iron bed would have been common in the early 1900s but undoubtedly, people in the 1930s would have used this style of bed as well.
- The chest of drawers is a typical style found in the 1930s as well.
- The ironing board on leaning up against the chest of drawers was a common style in the 1930s. The wooden top was covered with recycled flour sacks.



TALKING POINT 20: 1930s House - Kitchen from the back

- The range is a "Westinghouse Automatic" electric stove
- The refrigerator is a "General Electric Monitor." The round top is the condenser in which the warm refrigerant gas is cooled and liquefied.
- The kitchen cabinet is a compact, efficient piece of equipment that was used in houses that did not have built in cabinets.

