

The Oregon Historical Society welcomes you to our museum. Located on the third floor is the Oregon, My Oregon exhibit. You will learn all types of interesting facts and information about the founding and history of Oregon. From the settlements of the Native Americans to the exploration by both Europeans and Americans (including Lewis and Clark) to the pioneers who blazed a trail to Oregon to settle. You'll get to experience history by feeling some of the artifacts that the museum has to offer.

The intent of this book is to provide you with some of the major highlights and items within the exhibit. As you can feel through the tactile map provided, the exhibit is broken down into multiple areas. We tried to identify some of the significant items in each of those areas as it pertains to Oregon's history. To try and list each item shown in the exhibit would make this book extremely heavy and you would probably spend more time reading than actually enjoying the exhibits. We hope that you are excited as we are to share this exhibit with you.

Portland State University student Terry Blosser worked with Denise Brock of the Oregon Historical Society to navigate the exhibit and to select key items which would be of interest to most museum guests, including you. With Denise's assistance, Terry used his guide dog and at times, his iPhone to navigate the exhibits. He found that his iPhone was a tremendous help for him. He has Retinitis Pigmentosa. If you have a smart phone with a camera, it may help you to view some of the items behind the glass partition. To protect the integrity of the items on display, we only ask that you do not use a flash.

Terry Blosser and the Oregon Historical Society would like to thank the Portland State University's Disability Resource Center for their help in creating this book in Braille format.

If you have any questions, feel free to ask any member of the Oregon Historical Society staff to assist you.

The Oregon, My Oregon exhibit starts on the third floor of the museum after you get off the elevator. You can follow the tactile map provided or the directions included in the narrative itself. We tried to be as accurate as possible but as you understand, one step for one person may be two smaller steps for another. We hope these directions are helpful in your exploration of our wonderful museum.

Directions: EXIT ELEVATOR, TURN LEFT—WHEN YOU ARE FACING THE NEON “F” SIGN, THE TOUR WILL START AT THIS POINT. GO TO YOUR RIGHT AND GO APPROXIMATELY 8 TO 10 STEPS TO THE STATE SEAL DISPLAY AREA.

THIS IS THE INTRODUCTORY ROOM. IN FRONT OF YOU IS THE OREGON STATE SEAL BEHIND GLASS.

The Oregon's state seal shows an American eagle (which is also on the U.S. seal) with its wings outstretched on top of a shield emblazoned with various symbols of the 33rd state. One such symbol shows the sunsets over the Pacific Ocean as a British man-of-war sails away. This represents the end of British influence in Oregon's affairs such as commerce and politics. Another symbol shows a ship, an American merchant, as it sails towards the shore. This represents the independence and power of America's ships and commerce. Another symbol shows Oregon's forests and mountains standing tall in the scene. The role of the state's pioneers and settlers is represented by a symbol showing a covered wagon and team of oxen. Another symbol, a magnificent elk, represents the state's wildlife resources. A sheaf of wheat (seen on many other states' seal) and a plow symbolize the state's agricultural potential, and a pickax represents its mineral wealth such as coal. A banner proclaims "The Union." An arc of 33 stars represents each of the states of the Union, and around the perimeter of the seal are the words "State of Oregon 1859."

Located in front of the state seal is a stuffed (taxidermy) beaver, Oregon's state animal. The Oregon Legislature designated the beaver (*Castor Canadensis*) as the official state animal in 1969. The beaver also appears on the reverse side of the Oregon state flag. Coincidentally, Oregon's nickname is "The Beaver State." This originated from the period in which beaver pelt was an important part of the fur trade in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Oregon's streams provided a substantial number of pelts to the trade.

In the mid-nineteenth century, the supply of beavers was exhausted by the early settlers, nearly eliminating them from their native habitat here in Oregon. Native Americans and early settlers also ate beaver meat. The trapping routes used by early settlers later became known as The Oregon Trail, traveled by thousands of pioneers in the 1840's. Through management and partial protection, the beaver is reestablished throughout Oregon.

In Oregon, thirteen different Native American tribal languages were spoken, but they all spoke the common Chinook language in order to do trade.

Directions: TURN LEFT AND WALK STRAIGHT AHEAD A LITTLE TO THE LEFT UNTIL YOU FEEL THE TEXTURE OF THE FLOOR FEELS LIKE A DIRT FLOOR. YOU HAVE JUST WALKED INTO THE PLANK HOUSE.

Plank House:

Items that you can feel in this section include: cedar sample, digging stick, obsidian, Dentalium, and sage bark sandals.

Particular to coastal tribes, they preferred to use cedar because most cedar grows near the coast. Some found in the plateau, the Columbia River basin.

The significance is that these plank houses were only lived in throughout the winter months. There's an actual one in Ridgefield, Washington, which is about a half-hour north of Portland. The Indians in that house assisted Lewis and Clark during their Pacific Northwest expedition. They sold them canoes and gave directions. Seven or eight families lived in the plank house at any given time. The length of some of these plank houses could be as long as a football field.

Cedar clothing, beautiful woven hats, baskets, all made from cedar bark.

The young boys would make canoes as practice. As they got older, they would make canoes that would fit them. If you're in the plank house, note the floor, somewhat of a gritty dirt feel. Reach out to feel the real piece of cedar board on the plank house. It is on the right as you enter the plank house.

*Now experience history and feel the cedar sample's long vertical grain. If you took an axe, it would split evenly. This helped the Native Americans make the cedar plank houses easily.

They made a lot of craft work which they often traded with other tribes. They would hold a fair in the spring in Celilo Falls (where the Dalles Dam is located today). Indians from as far east as the Dakotas would come. Today, multiple Native American tribes still meet annually to trade. They also do activities such as canoe runs and there are multiple runs held throughout the spring/summer time. One such run is from Astoria to the San Juan Islands.

The Washington area Native Americans would create rock art, commonly known as pictographs, during their spirit quests.

When Lewis and Clark explored the Pacific Northwest in 1805, there were approximately 10,000 Native Americans in this area. When the pioneers began migrating to the area in the 1840s they exposed the Native Americans to smallpox. It decimated the Native American population and by the 1860s, there were only about 400 Native Americans left. Some ask: Why were there very few Native American uprisings or war in the Pacific Northwest? The answer is: because of the smallpox, the Native Americans had no desires to fight for their rights and land. They just accepted settlements where the Government's Bureau of Indian Affairs agents instructed them to

go to. Today, there are nine federally recognized Native American reservations left in Oregon.

Directions: AS WE'RE EXITING THE PLANK HOUSE, GO LEFT, FEEL THE GLASS CASE ON THE LEFT. THIS IS WHERE DUG OUT CANOE IS.

Notice the dugout canoe that was made from single cedar tree. It took about four or five months to make. The Native Americans would burn out the inside of the canoe then dig out the charcoal-like residue, fill with water, to make it more pliable and then they would make a gunwale to make it the canoe more stable.

*Experience history and feel the digging stick a few paces to the right— feel and reach for the two wooden poles—guide your hand down and you will feel a table which is where the tangibles will be located. The top part of the digging stick is an antler from an animal and the bottom part is a wood pole with a point at the tip. The Native Americans would use this for digging roots. One of the roots was called biscuit root. They would take these roots, dry them, and make a powder in which they would either make bread from it or sell or trade.

*Experience history and feel the obsidian: it was traded by Indians in Eastern Oregon... made from volcanic matters. Many tribes made arrowhead, hide scrapers, jewelry, mirrors, and knives from obsidian because of its durability.

*Experience history and feel the white shells which are known as Dentalium (*Antalis*) Pretiosum. These are mollusk found off the coast of San Juan Islands British Columbia. The longer the shells, the more it was worth and was used as money. Sometimes the Native Americans used the shells in their ceremonial clothing which signified that you had status.

Directions: MOVE FORWARD APPROXIMATELY 3 OR 4 STEPS ON RIGHT.

Behind the glass is a ceremonial Native American deerskin jacket with blue beads. The unique thing about this is the blue beads. They were made of glass. Glass was only available from the Europeans. This shows that the Native Americans were trading with the Europeans at the trading posts throughout the Pacific Northwest such as Fort Vancouver. In the early 1700s, the French coureurs de bois or voyageurs came down from Canada and began trading with the Native Americans for beaver and otter pelts. Later, the British came through and built Fort Vancouver for the Hudson Bay Trading Company and they traded beaver pelts and other agriculture products with the Native Americans.

Directions: MOVE UP APPROXIMATELY 10 STEPS, TURN LEFT AND CONTINUE APPROXIMATELY 10 STEPS UNTIL YOU FEEL VOCANIC ROCK WALL. WALK UP A SMALL RAMP AND TO YOUR RIGHT WILL BE A BOX WITH A PAIR OF SANDALS.

*Experience history and feel around; you'll feel rough textured material like rough volcanic rock. This would show how Native Americans in eastern Oregon would find Rock Caves. They were volcanic outcroppings which were located in very desert-like, high deserts region. In the 1980s, archeologists found a pair of sandals in one of these caves carved out of volcanic outcrops. These sandals were carbon dated to 9,000 years old. They belonged to the original aboriginal inhabitants who roamed eastern Oregon.

Although the original pair of sandals is located behind glass, out of touch of human hands, there is a replica copy which you can ask to feel.

*Experience history and feel the 9,000 year old sandals. They were initially discovered in Fort Rock, just south of Bend, Oregon, which is located in the middle of the state.

Directions: WALK OUT, TURN LEFT AND FORWARD APPROXIMATELY 7 STEPS.

There are four different ships located behind the glass. They represent the period of Discovery. These four ships are: The Resolution, The Chatham, HMS Discovery, and the Santiago. This is circa the 1500s through the 1790s when the mouth of the Columbia River was discovered. These ships represent huge investments of countries that financially backed explorers looking for the Northwest passageway to trade with countries in the East, like China. They thought that this passageway would take them from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. It was to save time and money. Previously, they would have to travel through the Strait of Magellan to get from one ocean to the other.

France, Russia, Spain, Britain, and the U.S. were competing to find the northwest passage. In 1792 Robert Gray from Boston was the first to discover and sail up the mouth of the Columbia to the Portland area. Realized then that there was no northwest passage and the water was flowing to the Pacific. A trader from Boston (Robert Gray named the Columbia River after his ship, the *Columbia Redviva*). Some archaeologists and historians suggest that the Nordic Vikings discovered North America... others have suggested that it was the Chinese who founded North America. It would not be located in your textbooks because it is not considered Western civilization.

These boats were oftentimes very slow due to the fact that they were overloaded with beaver pelts. Because of their slowness, these merchant ships often found themselves to be targets of the pirates who would be interested in stealing the beaver pelts.

On the wall, there's a large map circa 1539.

The art of creating maps was called cartography. A collection of these maps or documents were referred to as Cartario. It is the cartographer's job to provide accurate charts so that navigators can establish their position in latitude and longitude or in reference to landmasses or the hazards of rocks and shoals. This map was written in Latin, the language of knowledge at that time

On this map, one sees Ukraine, Russian area, China on the right hand side as a large land mass, Japan sort of in the right direction. The map shows just how much they

hadn't discovered. There is no United States, no California. Gives one the idea as to what it really felt like. Remember that when these people would trade in new areas, they would meet new people, new culture, and new language. It was an exciting time during the Exploration period. If one really thinks about it, these explorers were very brave. Italy was a major player in funding many of these expeditions.

Directions: WALK FORWARD APPROXIMATELY 10 STEPS AND BEHIND THE GLASS TO THE LEFT AND FRONT OF YOU WILL BE THE BEAVER AND SEA OTTER PELTS. THIS IS PART OF THE ROBERT GRAY EXHIBIT.

Sea otter – In the 1700s, fur traders prized the sea otter pelts. In certain times of the year, their fur would turn a champagne color. It was this color that was highly sought after by Europeans and the fur traders. In the fur trade, it was worth 10 times that of the beaver pelt. They were nearly hunted into extinction. It was estimated that there were between 150,000 and 300,000 sea otters living between Alaska and Baja California before this great hunt. By the 1900s, it was thought that the species was extinct. Fortunately, a small remnant population was found off the Big Sur coast of California in the 1930s. Today, there are approximately 3,000 of these animals all of whom are drawn from this small stock. The Southern sea otter was protected as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act in 1977.

North American Beaver:

Beavers are known for building dams, canals, and lodges (homes). They are the second largest rodent in the world. At one time, it was estimated that there were more than 60 million of these animals but fur trapping, hunting them for their gland (castoreum) reduced the population to somewhere around 6 – 12 million.

The Oregon Native American tribes would trade with the European traders for beaver pelts and castoreum, a yellowish, sticky, and pungent substance which the beaver would use to attract other beavers in the springtime. In Europe, it was used as a musk-base for the production of flower-scented perfume. Word spread amongst Native hunters that the Europeans would exchange pelts for European-manufactured goods that were highly desired in native communities. Axe heads, knives, awls, fish hooks, cloth of various type and color, woolen blankets, linen shirts, kettles, jewelry, glass beads, muskets, ammunition, and powder were some of the major items exchanged on a 'per pelt' basis.

In 1834, New York City merchant, John Jacob Astor founded the Pacific Fur Company. It became the largest American fur trading company. A trading post was established in modern day Astoria (named after Astor). By the 1700s, fur trade was on the decline due to a glut of pelts in Europe.

Next display case shows a model of the explorer, Robert Gray's ship, the *Columbia Redviva*. Also, there are artifacts from his home in Boston such as the Chippendale Chest and drawer, some coins he collected throughout his travels, beautiful china such as plates and cups in blue, green, and pinkish-reddish colors. He would often trade for

some of these items in his travels to China. Oftentimes, these China plates and cups were symbols of wealth and status for the people here in New World.

Also in the display case is a sextant. It represents the early telescope, early mathematics, and the early scientific revolution.

The development of the sextant occurred almost simultaneously by John Hadley in England and by Thomas Godfrey, a Philadelphia glazier, about 1731. The sextant works by holding the instrument vertically and point it toward the stars. Sight the horizon through a dull portion of the horizon mirror. Adjust the index arm until the image of the sun or star, which has been reflected first by the index mirror and second by the silvered portion of the horizon mirror, appears to rest on the horizon. The altitude of the heavenly body can be read from the scale on the arc of the instrument's frame.

Also in the display case is a little chest. It contains some beaver pelt and otter pelts. These items were used in Robert Gray's trade throughout the world.

Directions: WALK APPROXIMATELY 5 STEPS TO THE RIGHT AND YOU APPROACH THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXHIBIT

This is a display case containing artifacts from the Lewis and Clark expedition (known as the Corps of Discovery Expedition) to the Pacific Northwest. Capt. Clark was a soldier, outdoorsman, who mapped the expedition. Meriwether Lewis was Thomas Jefferson's personal assistant who was a Botanist by trade. He would be responsible for performing the scientific tasks such as collecting all of the specimens.

They were accompanied by a 15-year-old Shoshone Indian named Sacagawea. She was the wife of a French-Canadian frontier trader. They arrived in November of 1805. As the duo explored the great Pacific Northwest they would pick up specimens along the way and place them in jars. Many of these jars would be sent back to Washington, D.C. with some members of Lewis and Clark's expedition party. They returned back to Washington D.C. in 1806. This period of time was known as the Age of Enlightenment.

There is a map which shows a route taken by Lewis who went north and Clark, who continued south and these routes are uniquely identified with different colors. The duo met up and created Fort Mandan, present day near Washburn, North Dakota where they set up winter quarters and waited until the following spring to head back to Washington, D.C.

President Thomas Jefferson sponsored the trip because he wanted to explore west of the Louisiana Purchase territory which ended at the Rocky Mountains. He knew that a considerable amount of beaver trade was taking place and wanted to learn more. He had the U.S. mint prepare special silver medals with a portrait of Jefferson and on it; it had a message of friendship and peace. These coins were called Indian Peace Medals and they were about twice the size of a U.S. silver dollar. The soldiers of Lewis and Clark's expedition party were to distribute these medals to the various Native American nations that they would meet along the trip. These medals were symbolic in that

Jefferson wanted the Native Americans to know that the United States had sovereign rights over them and their land.

Some of the specimens that Lewis collected were animals, birds, bugs, plants, eels (from the river since they were major staple diets for Native Americans) volcanic rock, and dirt.

Also in this case, one sees a tiny shark mouth, and a skeleton of salmon

Directions: TURN TO YOUR LEFT AND WALK APPROXIMATELY 5 STEPS AND TURN RIGHT AND YOU'LL BE IN THE SIMULATED SHIP GALLEY. WALK APPROXIMATELY 3 MORE STEPS AND FEEL THE CHAIN ON THE LEFT. TRACE YOUR HAND DOWN THE CHAIN AND YOU'LL FEEL A BEAVER PELT

The beds on these ships were not on the floors. The sailors would sleep in hammocks. This allowed the sailors to sleep as the hammock would follow the flow of the ship and swing gently.

There is a trading post or store set up in the ship.

Directions: THERE ARE DISPLAY CASES IN BOTH DIRECTIONS OF WHERE YOU ARE STANDING.

There is a picture of a trading post, Fort Vancouver. It was named after British General Vancouver who helped the Hudson Bay Trading Company to establish this trading post on the Pacific coast. This post would trade beaver and otter pelts for blankets, brass bells, knives, nails, sugar, tobacco, teas, axes (The large scale retail operation of the early 1800s)

The other side of the ship or exhibit, we see the fancy beaver felt hats. These hats were a status symbol of European aristocracy and wealth. Only the wealthy people could afford these hats. These hats were made from the beaver hair. This would be done by removing the hair from the skin. The hatter would then blow the beaver hair onto a mixture of glue to form these hats. It was said that oftentimes while working with the glue, many of these hatters would go mad or crazy, hence the term "mad as a hatter" which later became mad hatter.

Also behind the case is a picture of John McLoughlin (1784-1857), known as the father of Oregon. He was originally from the Quebec Province of Canada. He first trained as a medical apprentice and tested to become a doctor. He decided to enter the lucrative beaver pelt business. He came to the Pacific Northwest as a representative of the Hudson Bay Trading Company. He was stationed at Fort Vancouver. He later became a U.S. citizen and moved to Oregon City where he remained until his death. While in Oregon City, he was instrumental in the establishment of the sawmill, the orchards, and the trading post there. There was a woolen mill in Salem which was owned and operated by the Hudson Bay Company, where modern day Willamette University is

situated today. It was originally started by a missionary who brought sheep with him from the east. The woolen mills today are located in Pendleton, Oregon.

In the glass case, one sees the red woolen blankets. These are authentic blankets. On the blankets themselves, there are black stripes or codes. These codes represent the price tag. The more bars on the blankets, the more valuable the blankets and therefore, the more it would cost to acquire the blankets.

Directions: NOW GO APPROXIMATELY 10 STEPS FORWARD AND YOU WILL BE IN THE MISSIONARIES ROOM

There are artifacts which came from a Methodist missionary who settled in the Salem area where Willamette University is today. In the exhibit, there are also two ladders.

Directions: THIS IS A LITTLE BIT TRICKY. MOVE TO THE LEFT AND WALK APPROXIMATELY 10 STEPS AND REACH FOR THE LEFT WALL UNTIL YOU FEEL THE GLASS LADDERS.

The first ladder is the Catholic ladder. It shows how the Jesuit orders taught the Native Americans their religion. The Protestant ladder shows how the Protestant churches created stained glass art which would tell stories. Because the people in the area were illiterates, the stained glass was able to explain stories. The Catholic missionaries showed more respect to the Native Americans and the Protestant missionaries were rather aggressive in their approach to force convert the Native Americans to their religion. When the missionaries first appeared, they were here to aid the Native Americans however, they brought smallpox with them and it killed off a large number of Native Americans (8 out of 10 died from the smallpox). In light of this, many Native Americans were very skeptical in dealing with the missionaries as they feared that they too may die.

Directions: Now walking to the Third Section – Pioneer Section. TURN TO YOUR RIGHT AND WALK APPROXIMATELY 15 STEPS. YOU SHOULD BE IN FRONT OF THE SCHOONER WAGON. THIS IS WHAT MOST OF THE PIONEERS USED TO BRING THEIR BELONGINGS WITH THEM AS THEY MIGRATED TO OREGON.

It is a replica to scale. It is a smaller size of the old fashioned Conestoga wagon that many used to cross the Oregon Trail. Some have referred to these wagons as the Prairie Schooner because of their white tops which looked like ship sails as they crossed the open plains. They are similar to the Conestoga wagon. The larger Conestoga wagons required the use of six horses. The Prairie Schooner could be pulled by four horses and sometimes oxen. Most settlers walked the whole trail since most of the wagons were filled with all of their possessions.

One thing to remember... Pioneers were the people who blazed a trail to come west towards Oregon. Once they were either given tracts of land through the land grant or

they found home sites through other means, they then became known simply as the settlers. One needs to differentiate between the two.

Directions: THE SETTLERS' TOOLS ARE DIRECTLY BEHIND YOU

The display case shows the different types of implements that the Oregon pioneers brought with them when they migrated from the East. Some of the items shown are rifles, cast iron cookware, regular cookware, medical instruments, apothecary medicine, dentist tools (even a lovely tooth puller), grandfather clock.

Directions: APPROXIMATELY 5 STEPS TO THE RIGHT ARE THE AUTHENTIC RIFLES USED BY THE SETTLERS

Many of the pioneers who came across the Oregon Trail would trade rifles with the Native Americans. Ironically, when these Indians were settled on reservations, they used these rifles in their insurrections against the United States government. One such incident occurred in Walla Walla Washington where the Paiute tribe believed that the missionaries were trying to kill them (smallpox) and the Paiutes set out and killed eleven of these missionaries.

The United States government would send U.S. soldiers to this area where they would set up forts to protect the pioneers or settlers and the Native Americans. They worked to enforce treaties signed with the various tribes.

Directions: We are moving into the Settlement section. MOVE ¼ TURN TO THE RIGHT AND WALK APPROXIMATELY 13 STEPS. IT IS ON YOUR RIGHT

There is a movie showing with no voice but you may hear music. These are clips from the mid-twentieth century which told the stories about Oregon and the pioneers who settled to the area. As we move left into the last part of the exhibit, there is a display case on the right that shows other industries that developed here in Oregon. Besides agriculture, there was nickel and copper mining, logging, shipping, and railroad.

In the 1840s through the 1860s, many of the pioneers were attracted to the U.S. Government's Homestead Act. If you were married, you'd be given 640 acres to clear, farm, and own. As these land grants were taken up, it allowed for other industries to prosper. Those included the nickel and copper mines. Gold was discovered in some areas of Oregon. Some gold was found in the Rogue, Illinois, and Umpqua River.

Directions: WALK FORWARD APPROXIMATELY 4 STEPS, TURN LEFT, AND WALK APPROXIMATELY 5 STEPS. TO YOUR LEFT IS THE DISPLAY CASE.

Behind the glass case are some scales, a harness for the donkeys for when they went into the underground mines. Also in this case is a miner's cap and lantern.

Directions: 90 DEGREES TO YOUR RIGHT TO LEARN ABOUT THE RAILROADS

There is a picture of the railroads. It was during the time that the railroad started building in Oregon that the multi-ethnic period started. Pioneers of German heritage, others of Irish heritage came via the Oregon Trail to settle and farm in the region. Many of the workers who worked on the building of the railroad were contract workers from China and Japan. Many of the Japanese left the railroad and went into fruit farming where many of the Japanese moved to the Hood River area where they still farm to this day. There is a large contingent of Japanese farmers in the Hood River area. Sadly, when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor and World War II broke out; these farmers were forced to relocate to settlement camps because of their Japanese heritage. In doing so most lost their farms as they had to oftentimes sell their business/farms to European-Americans at a very low price. Once the war was over, these Japanese-Americans had to start over again. At the time, ill feelings toward the Japanese still existed so it took quite some time for them to rebuild confidence and today, they're a thriving segment of the Oregon agriculture society.

Directions: TURN AROUND 180 DEGREES AND WALK APPROXIMATELY 3 STEPS: SALMON AND CANNERY EXHIBIT IS ON THE RIGHT AND TIMBER EXHIBIT IS ON THE LEFT

The exhibit shows two other major industries that existed in Oregon. In the late 1800s, salmon and timber was king. Astoria contained multiple salmon canneries. Today, you can go to Astoria and visit the Bumblebee Cannery Museum. America consumers loved canned salmon and Astoria's canneries worked hard to fulfill the demands. In the Celilo Falls area during the salmon run when the fish would swim upstream, Native Americans would just reach in and grab them by hand or dip net. This was a very lucrative fishing spot.

In the display case, there are pictures of Chinese workers in a cannery. There is also a gasoline powered saw which was used in the timber industry. A logging pioneer by the name of Simon Benson made his fortune in the logging and railroad business.

Simon Benson made his fortune taking logs, chaining them together into a cigar-shaped flotilla and then float them down the Columbia to the Pacific Ocean then to San Diego California where they would be processed, cut into lumber and then put on the railroad where they would be transported for trade. During the Prohibition era, Benson, being a philanthropist that he was, gifted Portland with the Benson Bubblers. They were installed throughout downtown Portland where they still function and exist today. Tourists and townspeople alike can stop and get nice cold water from the bubblers. A point of interest is that there are several types of these water fountains throughout Portland today. The two-bowl bubblers and the four-bowl bubblers. The two bowls are not part of the original Benson Bubblers. One of Benson's Bubblers is located out in front of the Oregon Historical Society Museum.

Directions: TURN LEFT, WALK APPROXIMATELY 7 STEPS, VEER RIGHT AND WALK APPROXIMATELY 5 STEPS AND FEEL FOR THE CHANGE IN FLOOR. THIS IS THE ENTRANCE TO THE LAST DISPLAY, THE LUNCH COUNTER. WALK FORWARD UNTIL YOU FEEL THE SEATS AT THE LUNCH COUNTER

You are now in an award-winning mockup of the Newbury Drug Store lunch counter. The flooring has black and white checkered tiles. The seats at the lunch counter is very much retro to the period. On the counter are juke boxes. Go ahead; press some of the buttons to listen to stories about controversial Oregon. Some of these stories include logging rights, physician-assisted suicide, Indian-gaming casinos, and others.

*Experience history and feel the stools around the lunch counter. Today, these stools are called retro stools. Sit down, relax, and play some of the juke box buttons. There is a large-screen TV behind the counter on the wall. If you enter codes on the juke box, it will trigger the TV to play a video clip which discusses important issues facing Oregon today.

This concludes the tour. If you have any questions, feel free to ask any museum attendant or request a docent to assist you.

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