MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM TOUR BOOK AGGAN SAFETY FILM KGDAK SAFETY FILM



We warmly welcome you to the Milwaukee Public Museum and will do our very best to make your visit both enjoyable and memorable.

The Milwaukee Public Museum is one of the half-dozen largest and certainly one of the best known museums of natural and human history in the United States. Our visitors remember us especially for our lively exhibits, which represent the combined skills of highly trained scientists, inventive artists, imaginative educators and volunteer teacher-guides, specialized support staff, and, finally, the countless dedicated people throughout the community who give of their time, talents, and material possessions to make our museum the very best of its kind anywhere.

The Milwaukee Public Museum is a rich educational resource, with something to excite and challenge visitors of all ages and interests. We provide constantly changing exhibits and other educational and recreational programs consciously designed for all the varied groups in the community, and we pride ourselves on the fact that no matter how often our visitors come to the museum they will find something new and stimulating. In planning the programs, moreover, we strive not only randomly to amuse our visitors, but also to help shape their thinking, for the museum is not a passive agent, but a positive and very vital community force.

We are glad that you came to our museum and are certain that you will find it one of the most exciting museums that you ever have seen. We hope that you enjoy your visit, that you will gain a heightened appreciation of the wonders of nature and the arts of man, and of the delicate interrelationship between the two, and that you will come back to see us again soon.

ENVETH

Dr. Kenneth Starr Museum Director



MUSEUMHISTORY



From earliest times humans have collected natural objects and man-made artifacts that have drawn their attention for a wide variety of reasons, among them utilitarian purposes, intellectual curiosity, love of beauty, religious feelings, and sheer sense of wonderment. Random at first, collecting gradually became purposeful and in time gave rise to individual collections, private museums, and finally, public museums.

The collections of the Milwaukee Public Museum originated in just such fashion. Peter Engelmann, a mid-nineteenth-century school master systematically assembled a natural-history collection of 19,000 specimens which in 1881 the Natural History Society of Wisconsin, a scholarly organization that he helped to found, gave to the City of Milwaukee with the provision that the city establish and maintain a free public museum. The state legislature passed enabling legislation in 1882, and the Milwaukee Public Museum opened its doors to the public in 1884.

From the beginning, innovative exhibition and educational techniques paralleled the physical growth of the museum. In 1889, Carl Akeley, a staff taxidermist-artist, made the first habitat exhibition in the museum world. Until his creation of a muskrat diorama, museums displayed specimens as objects in themselves, in row after row of cases with little or no interpretation of their natural or human cultural context.

During the three-quarters of a century from its beginning in 1882 to the completion of its present building in 1963 the museum added "history" to its natural-history designation (1905), devised new exhibit approaches, developed a comprehensive school-class program in conjunction with the Milwaukee Public Schools, offered public travel and film programs, conducted field research on several continents, and, in general, became a pace setter among museums. With the new building came another inventive approach, that of providing a unifying theme for all the exhibits throughout the museum.

As you will notice in using this guide, the exhibits on the first floor of the building illustrate a trip through time, beginning with the origins of the earth and moving through the history of man in the Old World and the New World, ending with Wisconsin and turn-of-the-century Milwaukee. The exhibits in the west wing on the second floor provide an introduction to the "Wonders of Life," the scientific classification of life forms and their interaction with each other and their environment. These exhibits prepare the visitor for the remaining exhibits on the second floor and all those on the third floor that carry the visitor on a historical, cultural, and environmental tour of the world from ancient times to the present period.

The Milwaukee Public Museum now is one of the half-dozen largest museums of its kind in the United States. The basic purposes of the museum, however, remain the collection and preservation of collections, and the interpretation of those collections through scientific research, exciting and instructive exhibits, and imaginative educational programming.

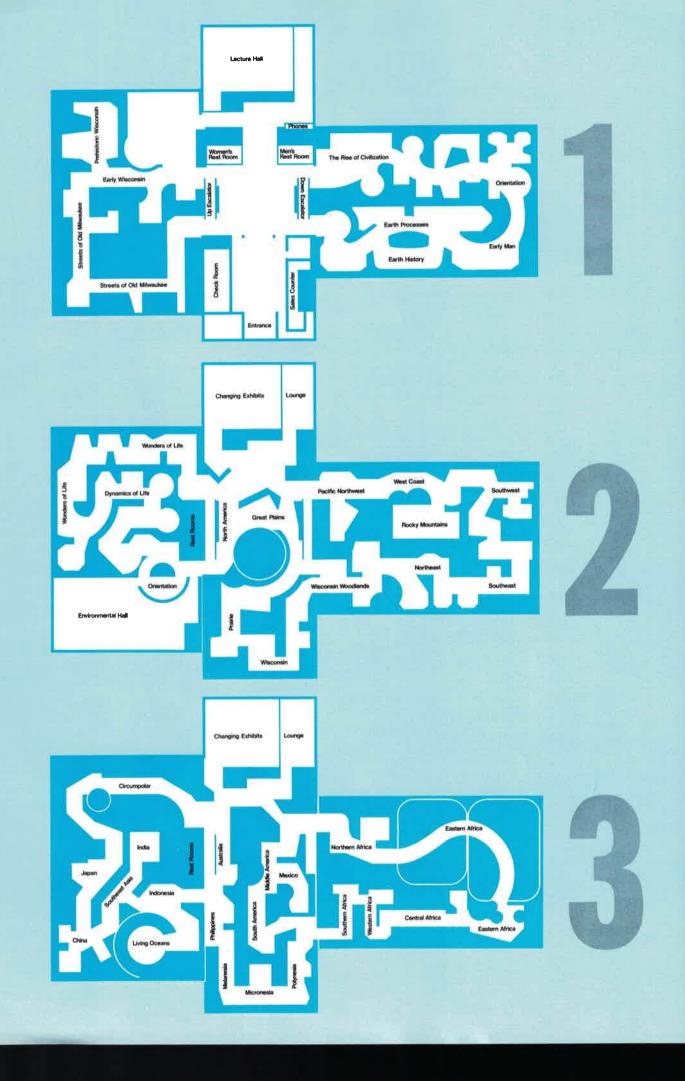




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MUSEUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES — F.O.M., INC. DIRECTORS



FLOOR PLANS

Two themes are followed on the museum's three exhibit floors and third floor mezzanine.

The east and west wings of the first floor present a time stream from the early geological days of earth to turn-of-the-century Milwaukee.

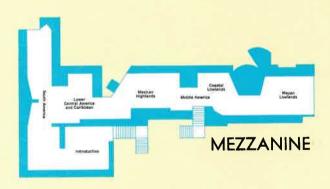
The west wing of the **second floor** presents the wonders of life — classifications, interrelationships and the environments in which they live.

The Wonders of Life Wing introduces an environmental and cultural tour of the North American continent, Circumpolar region, Asia, The Living Oceans, Oceanic Peoples, South America, Middle America and Africa.

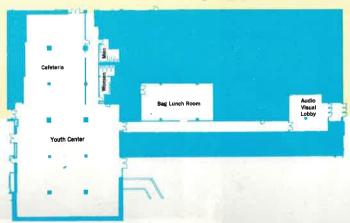
The third floor mezzanine presents Pre-Columbian America — the art and archeology of South, Central and Middle America.

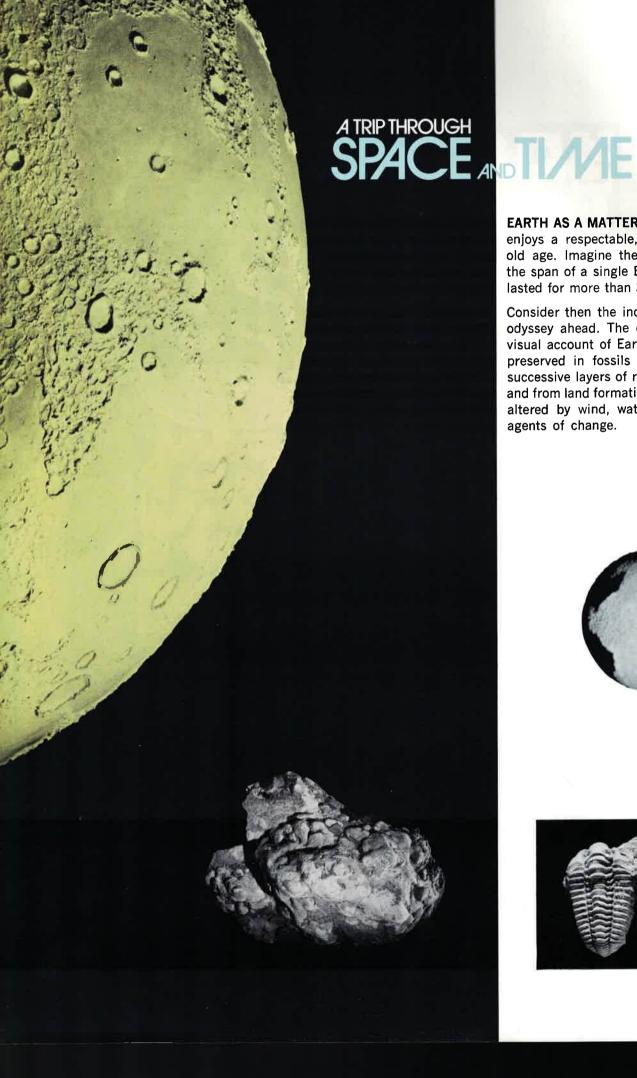
On the **ground floor** is the Youth Center, Haida House cafeteria and the unique Audiovisual Center.





GROUND FLOOR





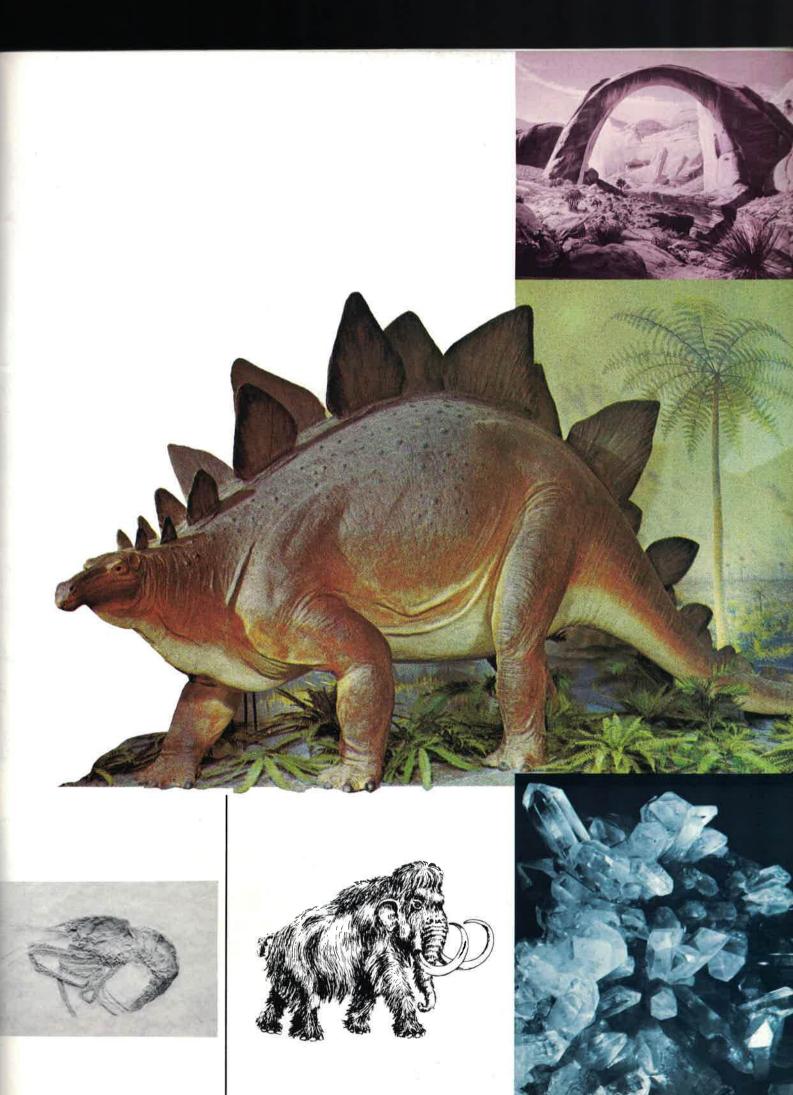
EARTH AS A MATTER OF FACT . . .

enjoys a respectable, even awesome, old age. Imagine the unimaginable the span of a single Earth era. One lasted for more than 350 million years!

Consider then the incredible museum odyssey ahead. The exhibits are a visual account of Earth history as preserved in fossils and read from successive layers of rocks and minerals and from land formations continuously altered by wind, water, and other agents of change.









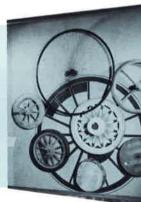
... some people turned from hunting and food gathering — from wandering to a settled life — cities weren't far behind.

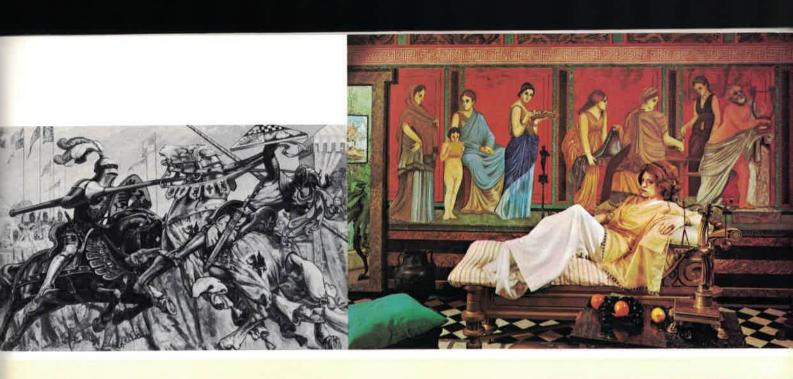
The museum restages these events as they happened in Stone-Age campsites, in farming villages, in wondrous urban centers of the ancient world, and in early cities and nations of Europe.

Urbanization stimulated immeasurable advances in technology, arts, sciences, systems of communication and trade. It reduced many old hazards of survival. It created new ones. Growing populations and their quests for resources sometimes nurtured warfare on a grand scale and fostered exploration and forceful colonization of new frontiers.

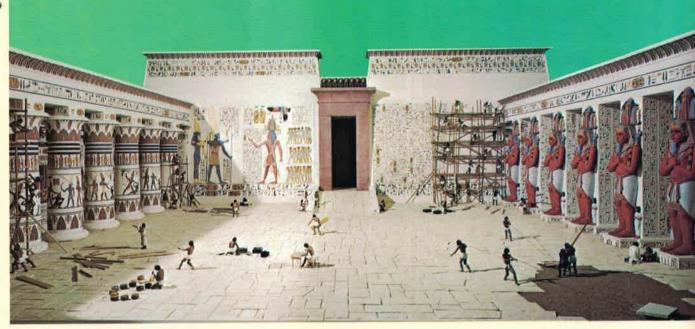




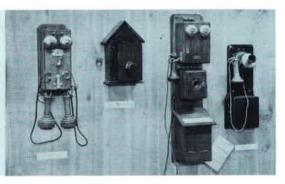




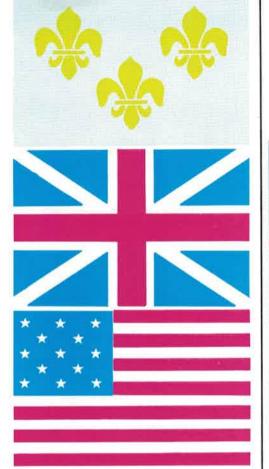












WISCONSIN UNDER 3 FLAGS

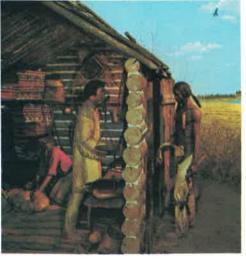
FRENCH . . . explorers came searching the Great Lakes region for a passage to the Far East and "The People of the Sea" whom they hoped might be Asian. Instead they found Winnebago Indians and a land rich in fur-coated mammals. France controlled the fur trade in Wisconsin until defeated by Britain in the French and Indian War.

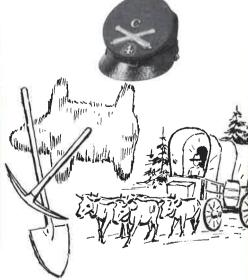
BRITISH . . . sovereignity reopened Wisconsin to French, English, and American traders from the colonies, but did little to change life in the wilderness.

AMERICAN . . . occupation, established after the War of 1812 encouraged emigration from eastern states and from Europe. Farmers, traders, lead miners, craftsmen, lumbermen — all manner of pioneers — readied the wilderness for statehood. A trading post, constructed by Solomon Juneau in about 1822, mushroomed from a frontier community into the state's largest city — Milwaukee.









STREETS OF OLD MILWAUKEE















NOSTALGIA IS HISTORY.

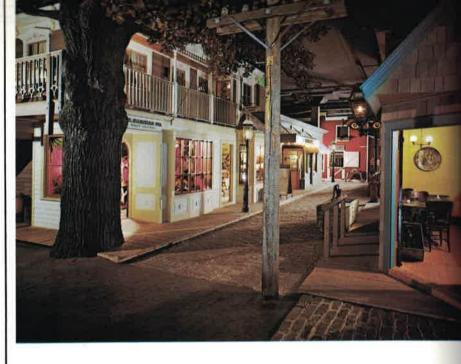
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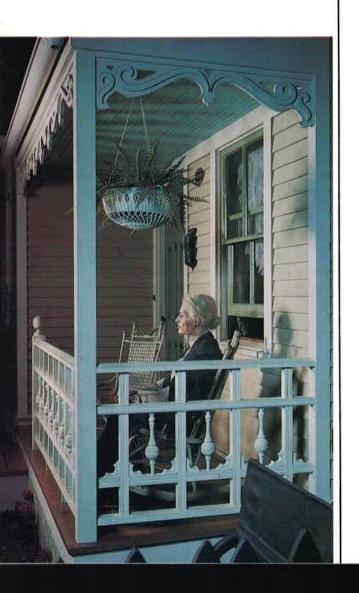
Most of all it's fun.
Because it's a see-touchhear-participate exhibit of
Milwaukee at the turn of
the Twentieth Century. It
whisks today's travelers back
to that time when horses
wore carriages, gaslights
glowed, sidewalks were
wooden, and twenty-five
cents bought a full course
meal and a ticket to the
movies.

Yet it's more than a charming archive of a city's memories. It's an urban center which like others of the time stood poised on the brink of the bewildering era of mechanized technology. Inventions — electric lighting, the automobile, telephone, phonograph, typewriter and motion pictures — already quickened the tempo of urban life. And they were just the beginning.

It takes a lot of cooperative people with diverse interests and skills to make a city work. It takes more of the same to make a city — inside a museum building.

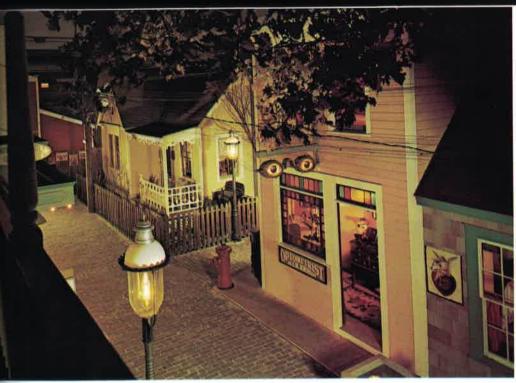
Designers, historians, collectors, taxidermists, sculptors, carpenters, brick masons, electricians, and local businesses and industries were among the many involved in creating this special museum and community experience.



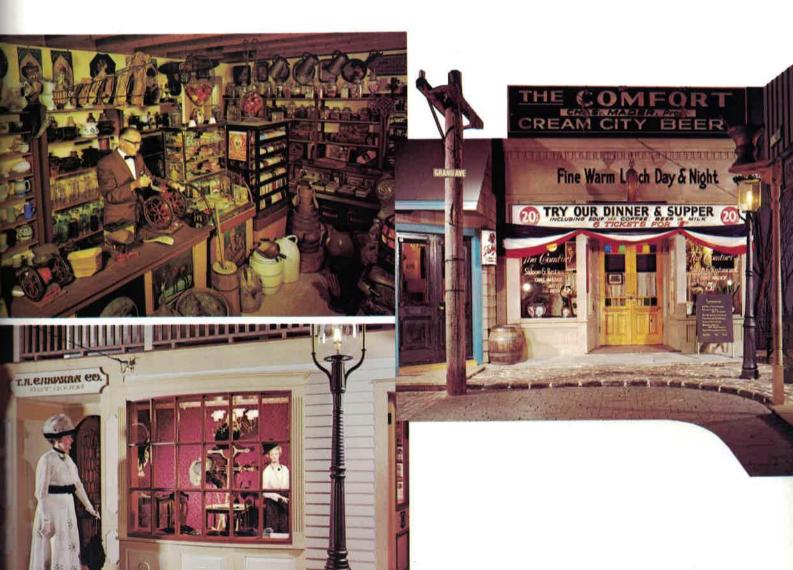












WONDERS OF LIFE

VITALITY FROM VARIETY.

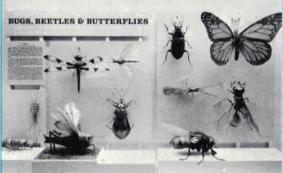
That's the Wonder of Life!
That Earth abounds with an infinite variety of plants and animals is no surprise to those who look. The interrelationships of this diverse life are vital to healthy, natural environments.

That's what this wing is all about — the diversity of life and its significance. The wing is a prerequisite for fully experiencing the biogeographical tour of Earth which fills the remaining exhibit areas.

To begin, the museum puts life on parade. Living species are classfied into groups on the basis of like form and structure. One-celled animals to mammals; algae to flowering plants.



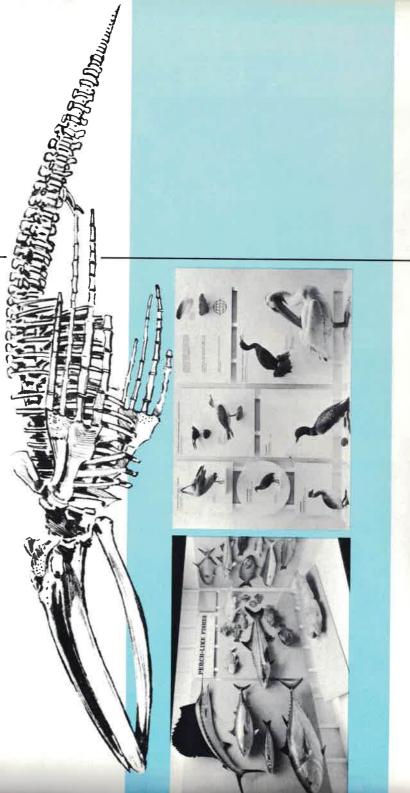






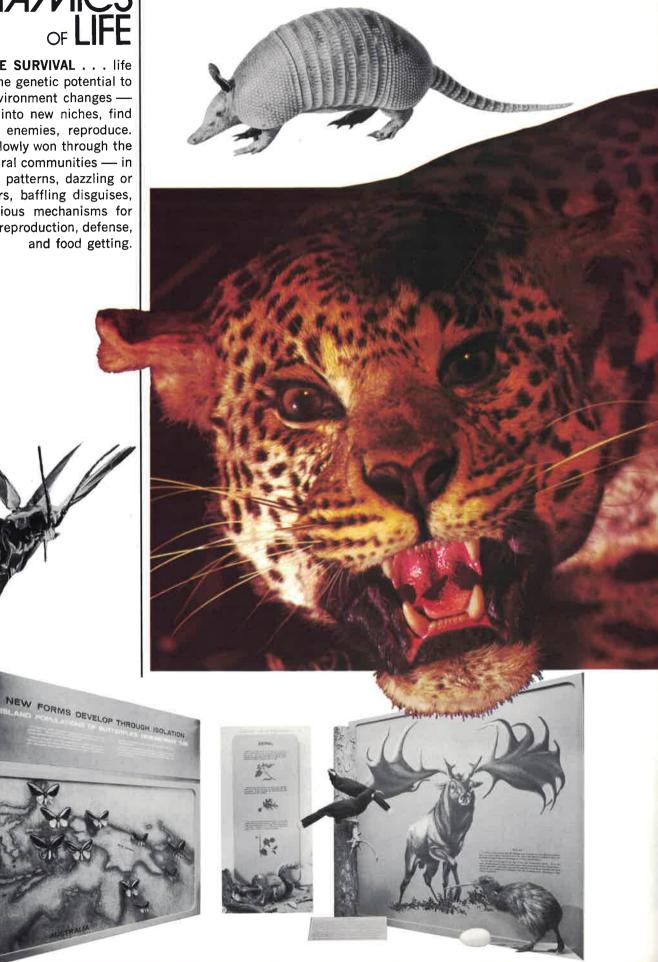


mammals and is united in a single species. Through hundreds of thousands of years human beings ventured into almost every realm of Earth, gradually acquiring the various physical traits and developing the distinct cultures which humankind stands among the In the Animal Kingdom assured survival.



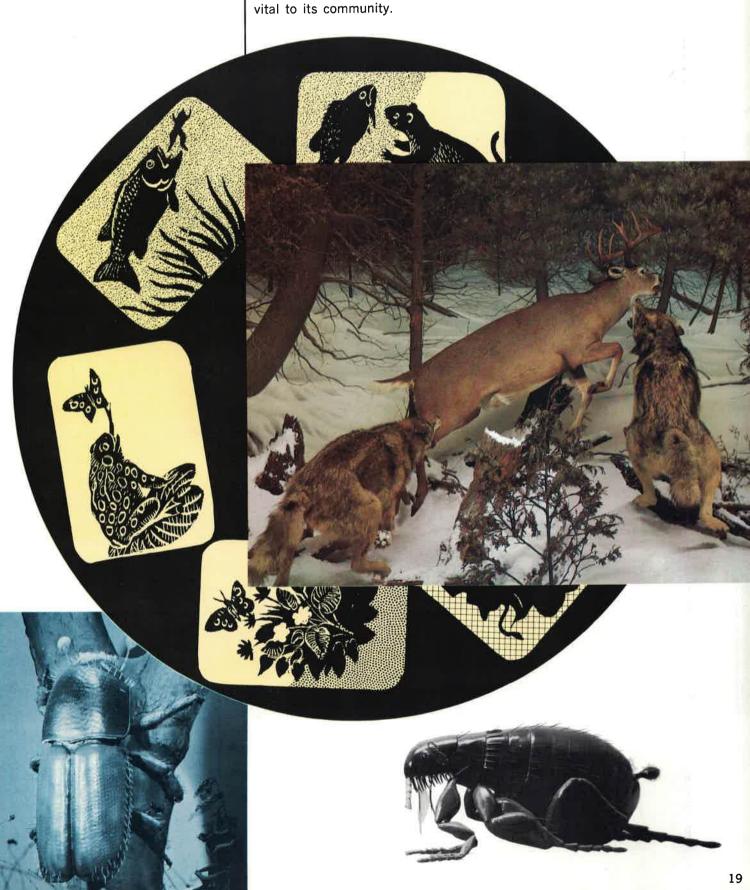
DYNAMICS of LIFE

TO SECURE SURVIVAL . . . life must acquire the genetic potential to change as environment changes to edge into new niches, find food, outwit enemies, reproduce. Victory is slowly won through the process of natural communities — in behavior patterns, dazzling or muted colors, baffling disguises, and ingenious mechanisms for reproduction, defense, and food getting.



WEB OF **LIFE**

ECOLOGY . . . "MEANS THE STUDY OF HOME." It is concerned with plants and animals in relation to each other and to the physical environment of their habitats — their homes. It is the synthesis of the life sciences. Through such study we readjust erroneous ideas. The "big bad" wolf of fairytale infamy may again become just a wolf acting out a role vital to its community.



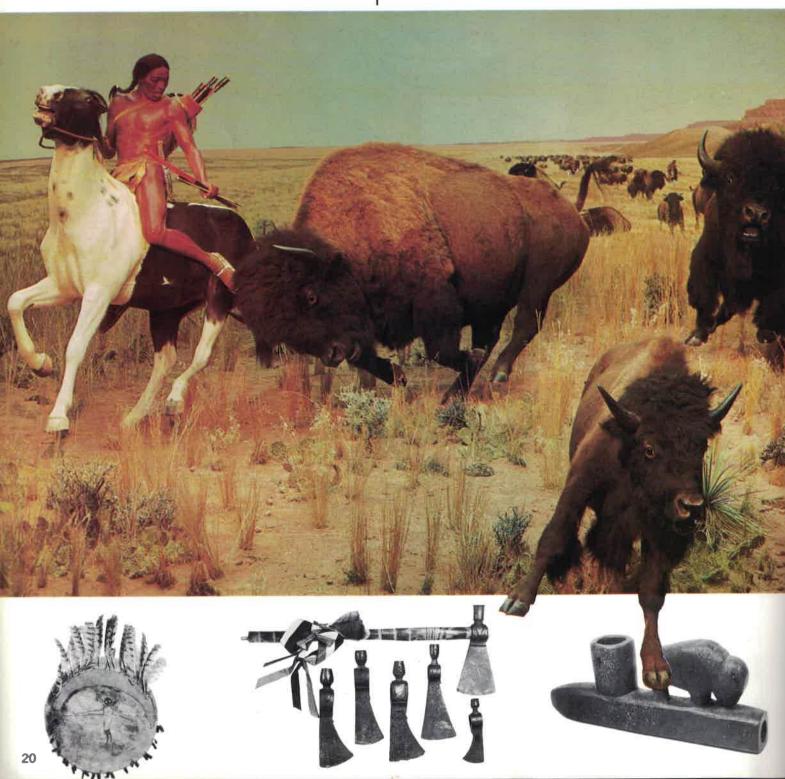


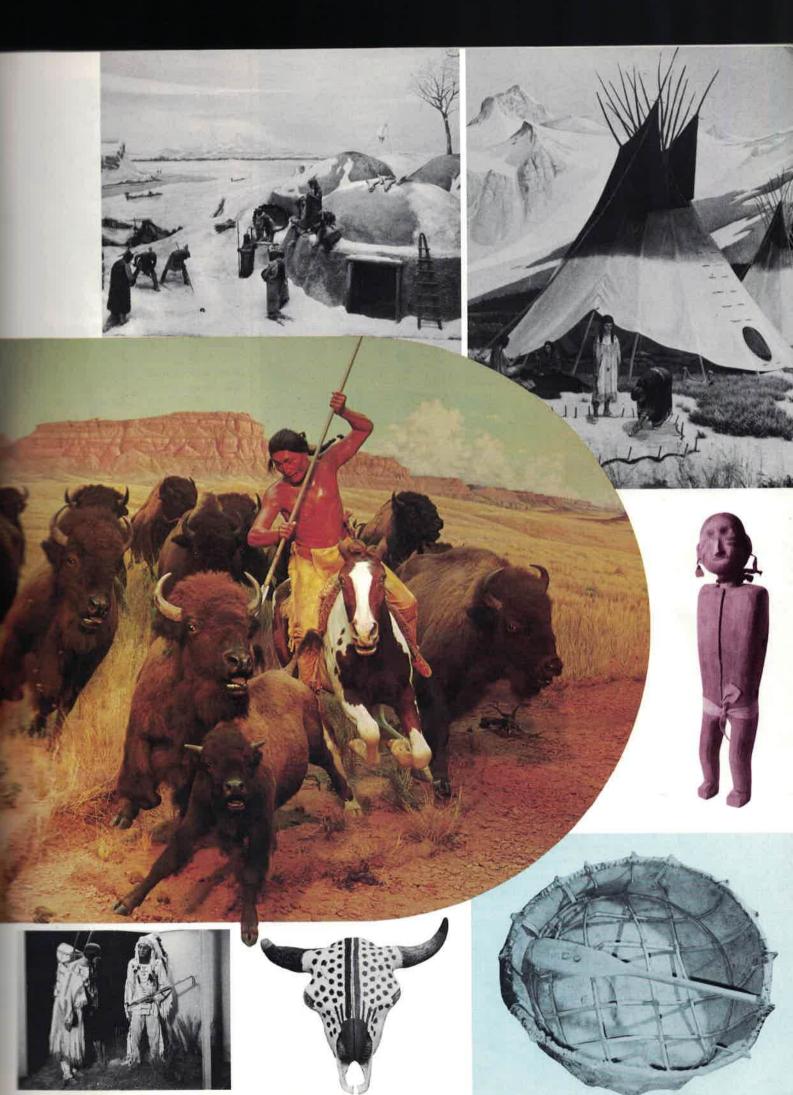
IN RETROSPECT...THE PLAINS, PRAIRIE, WOODLANDS, SEACOASTS, MOUNTAINS, LOWLANDS, DESERTS.

Europeans called it "New World." Native Americans knew it as a good and ancient homeland. It had shaped and supported their lifeways. The museum world tour begins in North America as it was when the Europeans first made contact.

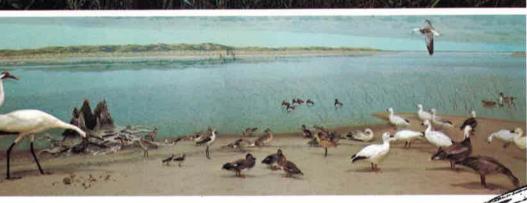
PLAINS

Basic to the well being of bison were the grasses. Basic to the well being of the Plains Indians were the bison. They used it all—skin, flesh, sinew, bone, horn, hoof. They revered it in prayer; praised it in song and dance. By the late 17th Century, the Plains Indians, having broken the wild descendants of Spanish mounts, were masterful horsemen and lords of the Plains.





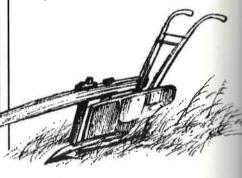






PRAIRIES

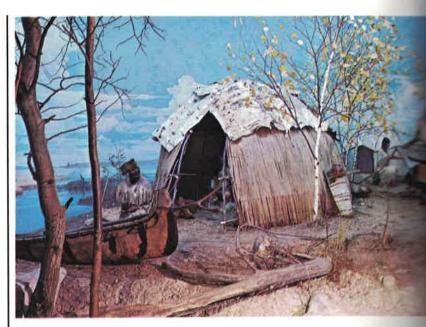
Early pioneers, accustomed to woodlands, avoided rolling seas of prairie grass. Latecomers, forced onto prairies as land became scarce, found a wonderfully fertile but defiant soil. Tough sod could be fashioned into homes, but it would not turn to the touch of cast iron plows. It took the invention of the sod-buster plow to finally break the prairie.

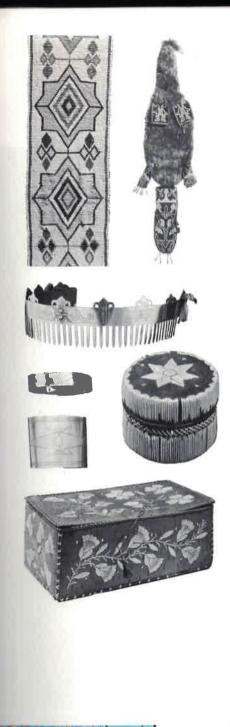


WISCONSIN WOODLANDS

In primeval Wisconsin a rendezvous of coniferous forest, deciduous forest, and prairie enriched the wilderness with diverse natural habitats and an abundant wildlife heritage. Wild plant products were especially important to the Indians of the Great Lakes area such as the Menominee, Winnebago and Chippewa (Ojibwa). An annual harvest of wild rice growing abundantly along the marshes of lakes and rivers enabled the region to support a fairly dense population.

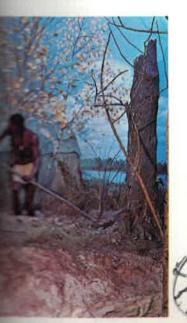
















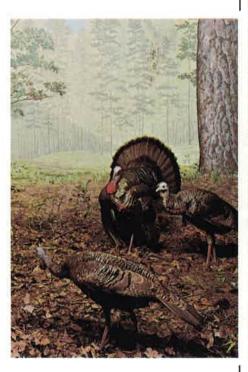
NORTHE AST SOUTHE AST

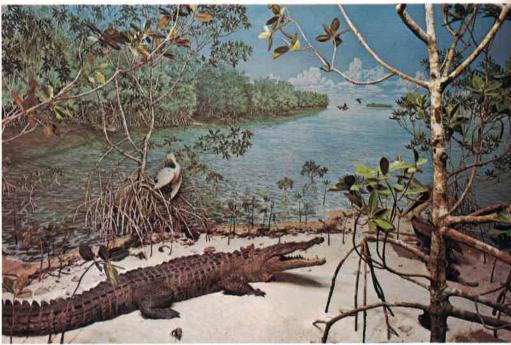
The canopy of a magnificent deciduous forest once roofed much of eastern United States. In its northeastern woodlands the League of the Five Nations of the Iroquois played a significant role in United States History. For Iroquois support of the British cause helped establish the supremacy of Britain over France in North America.

The forest, mixing with pines of the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts, advanced southward even into the peninsula of Florida. In the extreme southern tip the bogs and swamps of the semi-tropical Everglades dominated. Much of the Southeast horrified Spanish explorers in the 16th Century. Mired in alligator-ridden swamps and warred upon by Indians they had alienated, they saw "escape from such a place possible only through death."

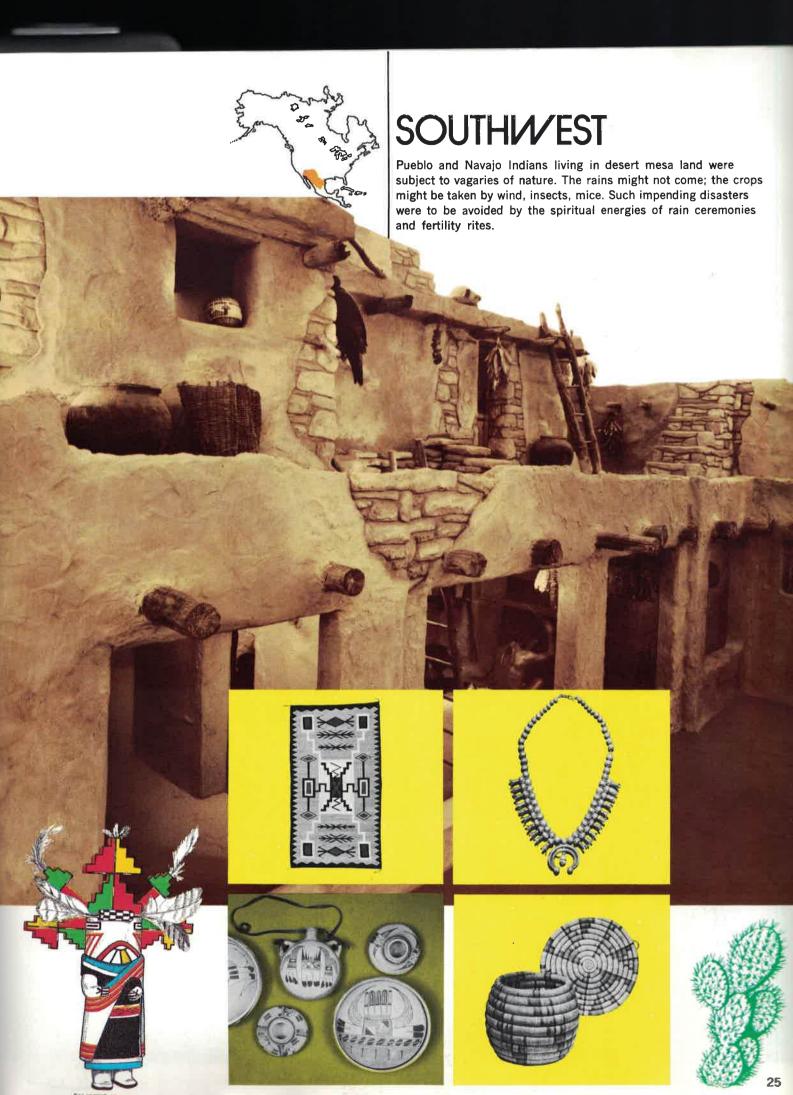










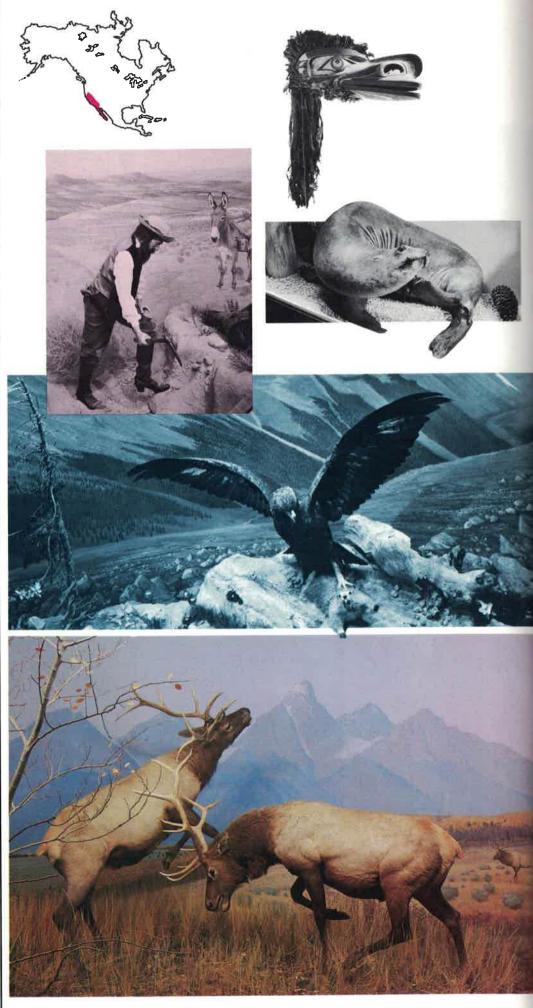


ROCKY MOUNTAINS TO THE SEA

Deserts and mountains — these dominated the wilderness west of the lofty Rocky Mountains. Much of the region was a great drainage basin of salt flats and saline lakes that rose in the north to merge with meadows and forests of a plateau. The scanty vegetation and game of the Great Basin supported small, scattered Indian populations compared to those of the less arid Plateau.

Westward the mostly semi-arid region that became California provided its people with an abundance of seafood along the Pacific Coast and groves of acorn-bearing oaks in its central valley. The Indians of this region, the Basin, and the Plateau shared economies based on gathering wild nuts and seeds, hunting, and fishing.







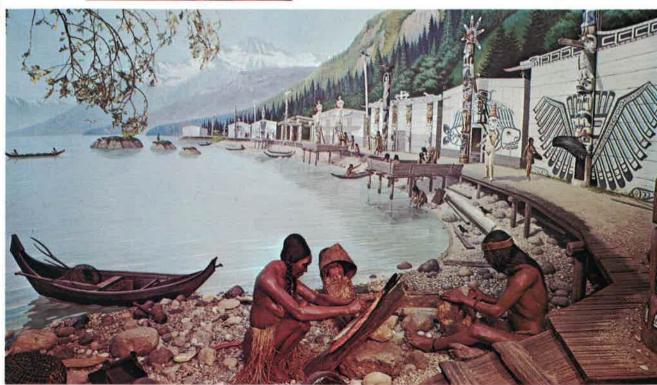


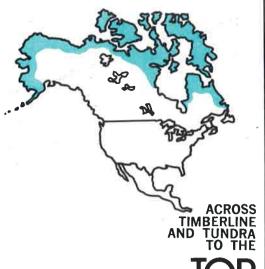
NORTHWEST COAST

Along the heavily wooded, fiord-like indented coast "Salmon and Cedar" people prospered from the bounty of land and sea. Great personal wealth, much of it reflecting a remarkable proficiency in carving wood, and the potlatch, a ceremonial means of distributing wealth to reaffirm social ties and loyalties, mirrored that prosperity.





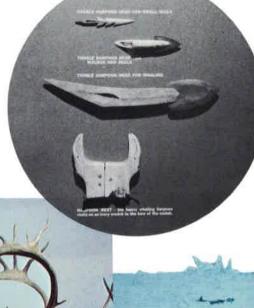




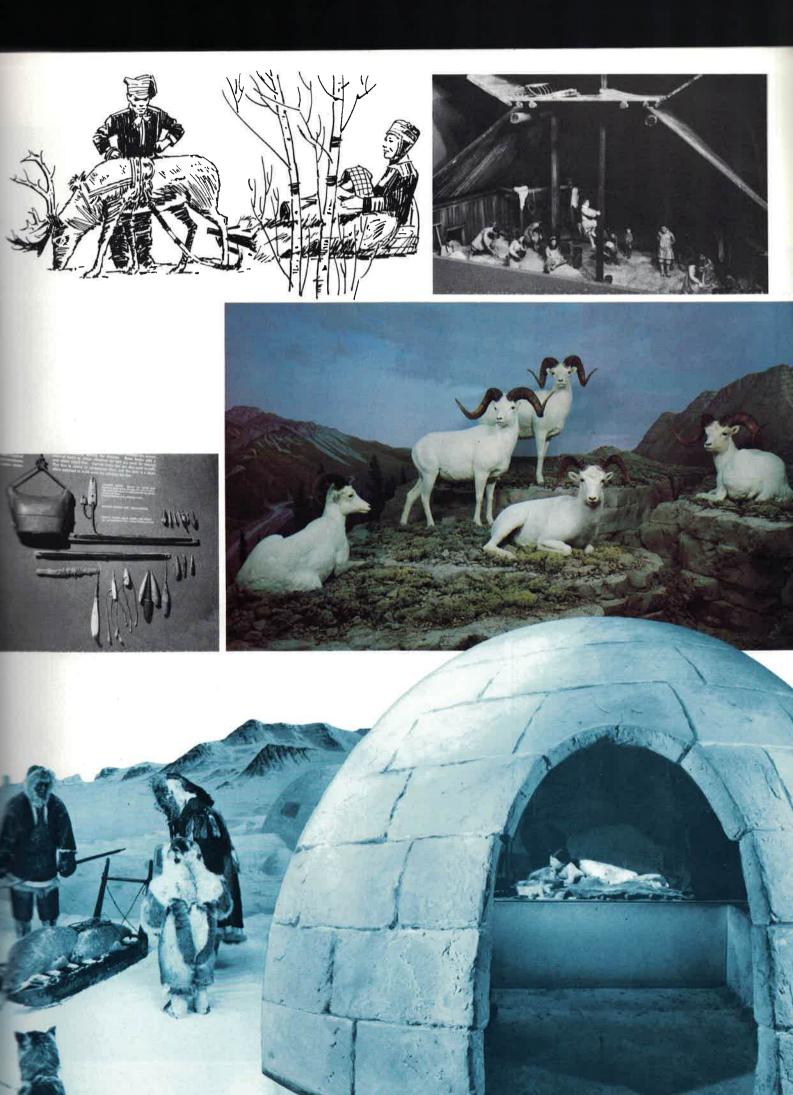
TOP OF THE WORLD

At the northern fringe of the boreal forest the treeless tundra begins. North to the Arctic Circle it blankets the land with mosses, lichens, sedges, and dwarfed shrubs. Tundra stretches around the top of the world, interrupted only by the Bering Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. In both hemispheres its plants, animals and people are comparable in physical, behavorial, and cultural adaptations to a difficult environment.









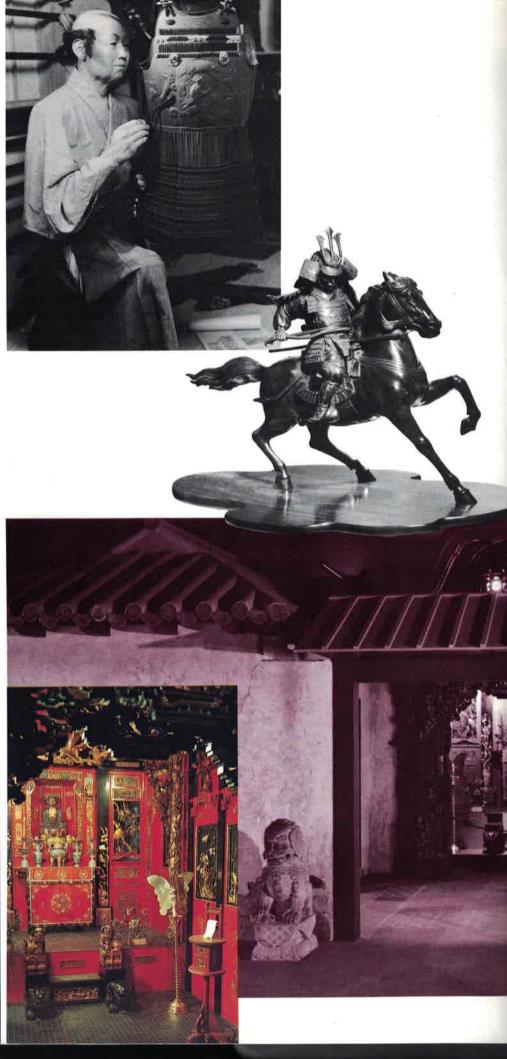


ASIA

THE ORIENT.

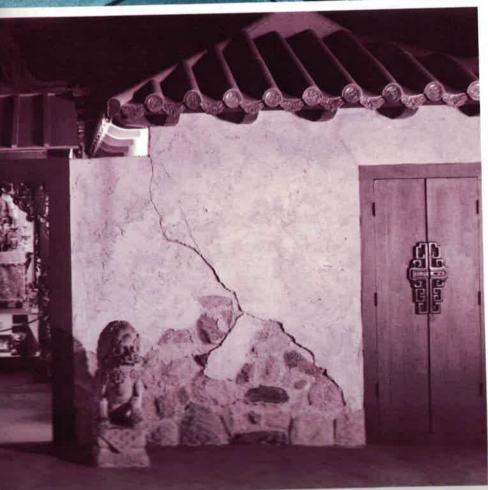
Over 1000 years before
Marco Polo arrived in Cathay
(A.D. 1275), Far Eastern silks graced
Roman market places in the West.
So strongly did the West covet the
wealth, treasures, and innovations
of the Far East that it strove to find
easier passages to the Orient — those
that avoided the sinister geographical
barriers of overland routes. That drive
gave impetus to an age of
exploration, the chance discovery
of that "New World," and a history
of aggressive attempts to control
the destiny of Far Eastern nations.



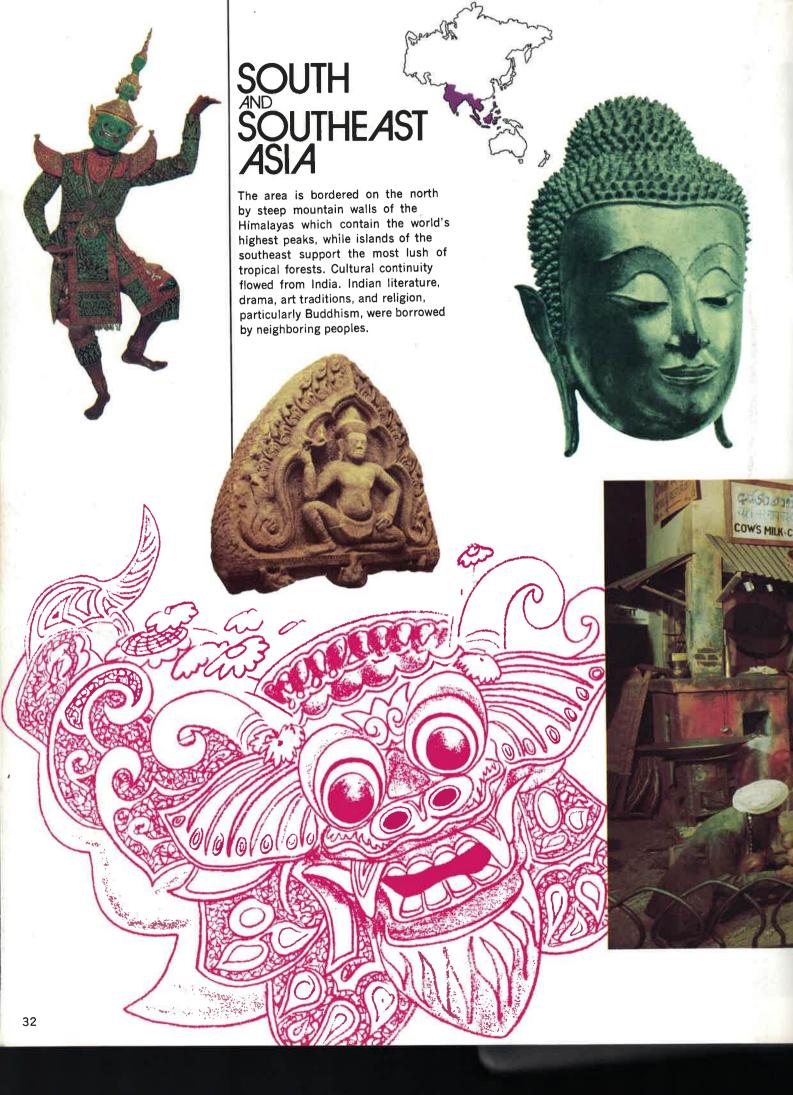


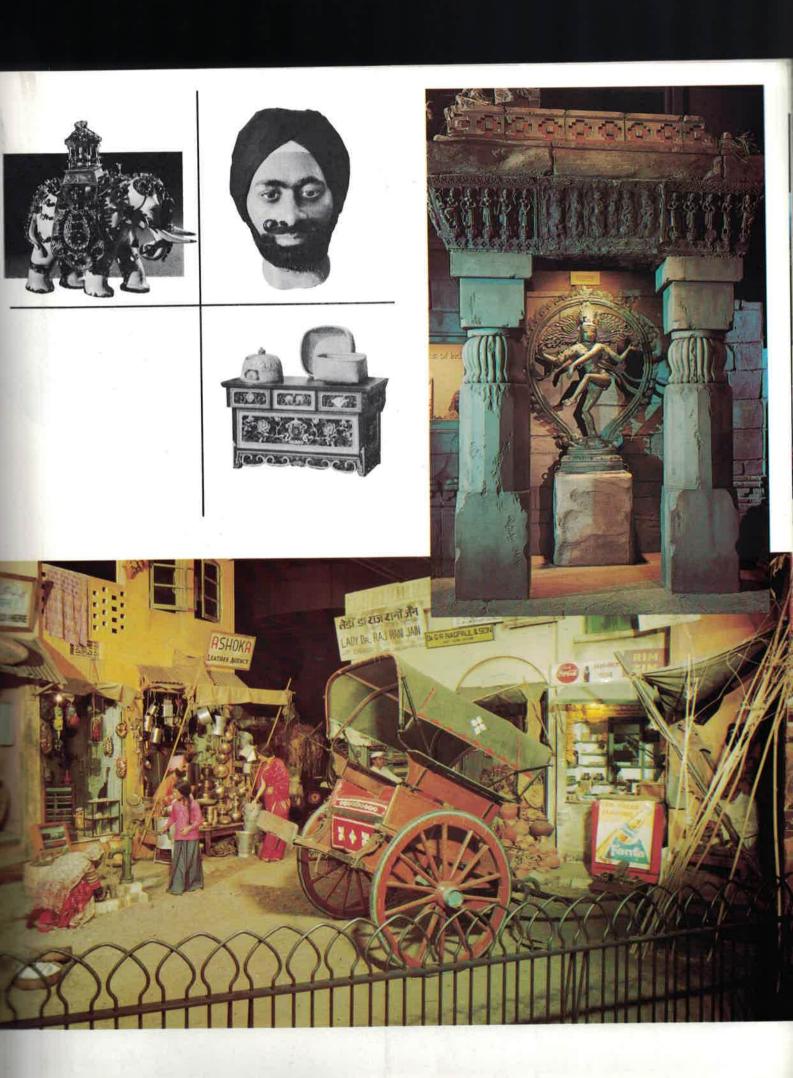










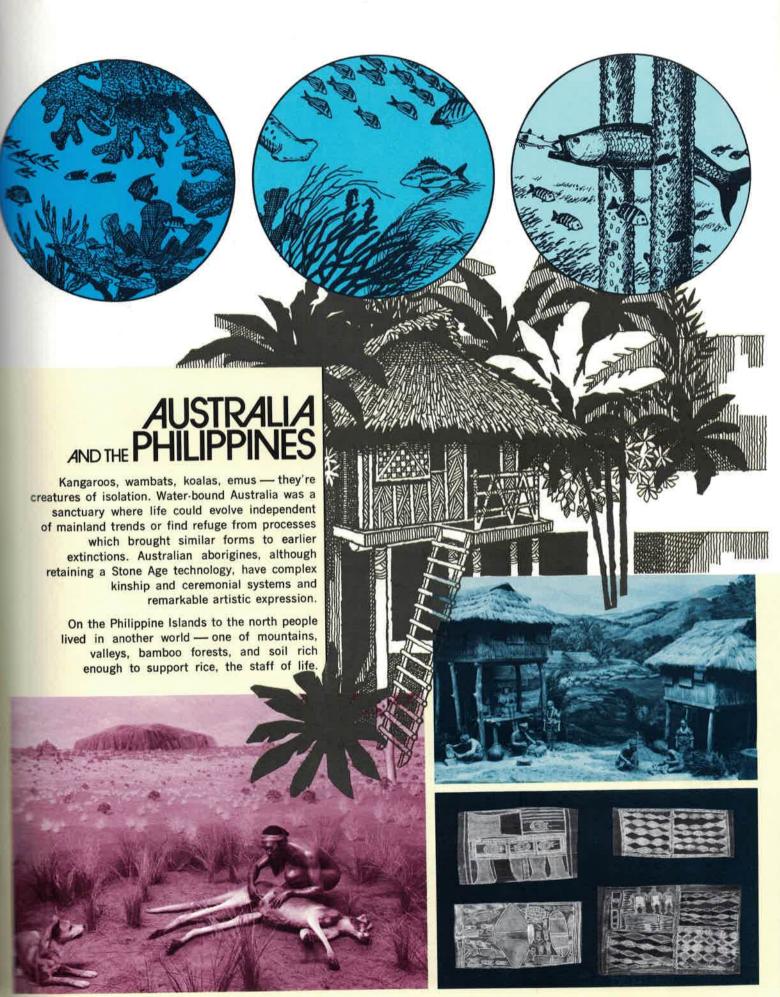


LIVING OCE*A*NS

Water covers three-fourths of Earth. And well it has served humankind as a source of food and highways of trade and commerce. Many have answered its haunting call to adventure.

Among the exhibits of the Living Oceans there are those along which one may walk from the eternal dark of the ocean floor, up through the various levels of life, and emerge on shore. The underwater excursion allows one to observe the make-up of various plant and animal communities as these are determined by such factors as light, temperature, oxygen, and pressure.



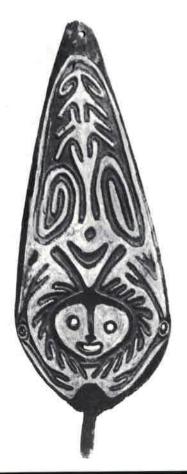


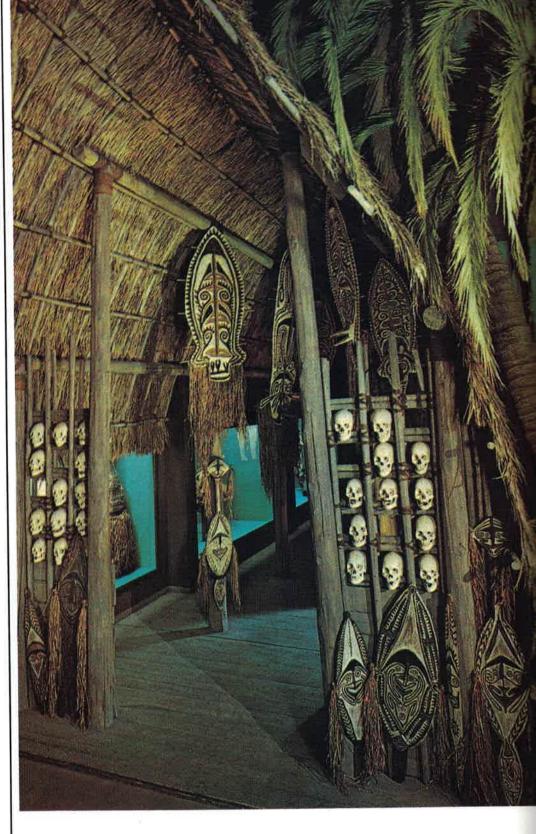


OCEANIA AAFI ANIFOLA

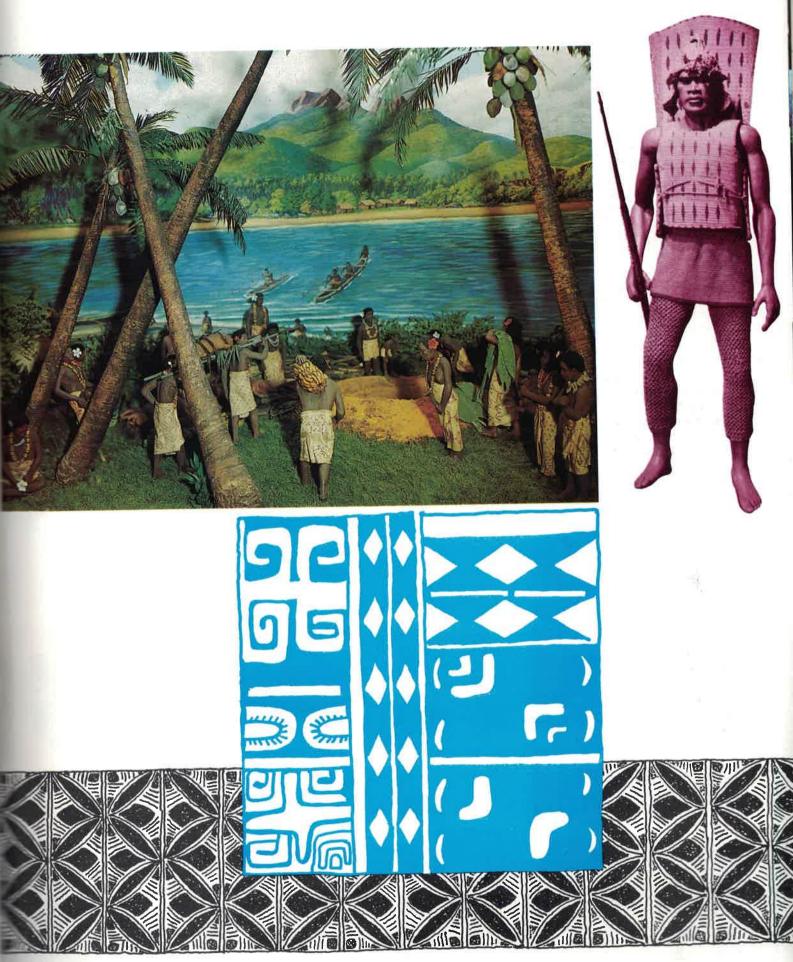
MELANESIA MICRONESIA POLYNESIA

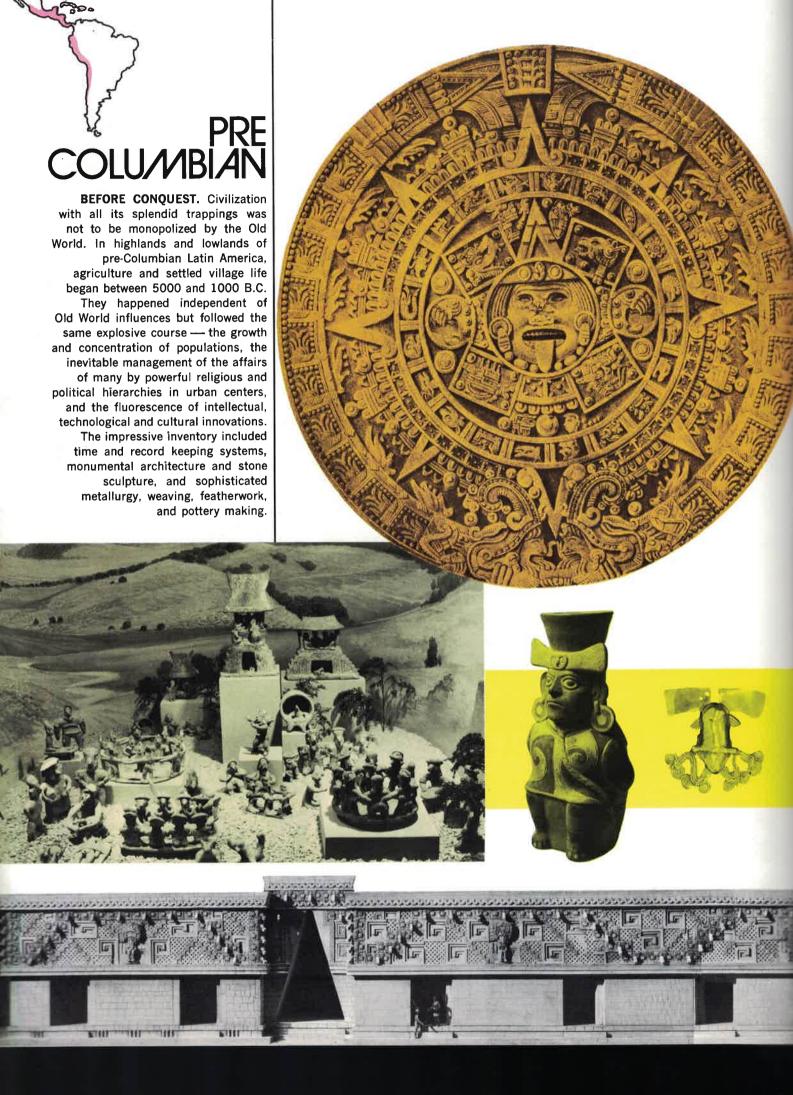
South Pacific islands, some infinitesimal, are grouped into three cultural realms — Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia. On islands born out of the upheaval of volcanic action, the soil and vegetation are rich and support farming lifeways, while islands created by tiny skeletons of coral polyps are generally bare and the people are seafarers taking their livelihood from the sea.









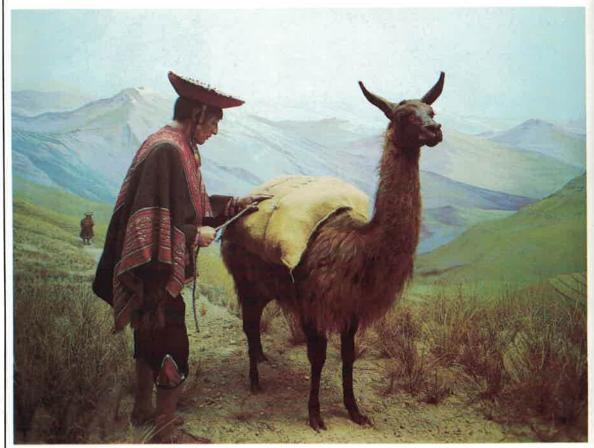






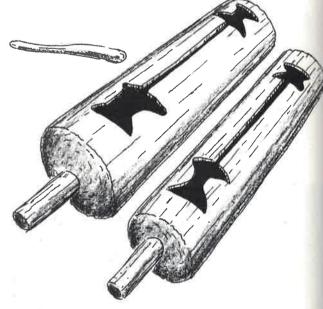
SOUTH AMERICA

CONQUERED AND UNCONQUERABLE. Spanish Conquest in the 16th Century forever altered South America when whole civilizations were annihilated and when aspects of Spanish culture were adopted by or forced upon the indigenous people.



South America experiences almost every environment known to Earth — bitter cold, high mountain valleys, searing heat, wet lowland forests, arid savanna and bush country, deserts, and productive farmland.





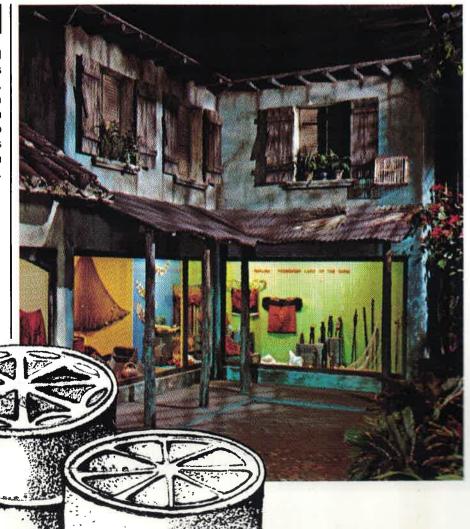


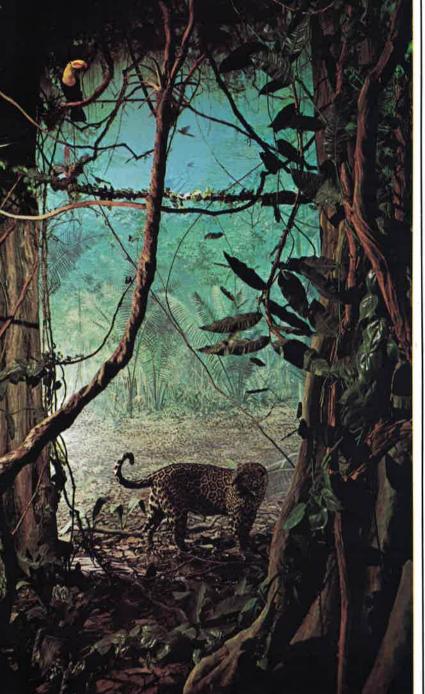




CARIBBEAN

Columbus saw them first and extolled their beauty. Descendents of original Indian inhabitants, emigrants and forced laborers from Europe, Africa, and Asia have each pieced the fabric of their lifeways into the colorful patchwork of languages and social customs which characterize the islands.





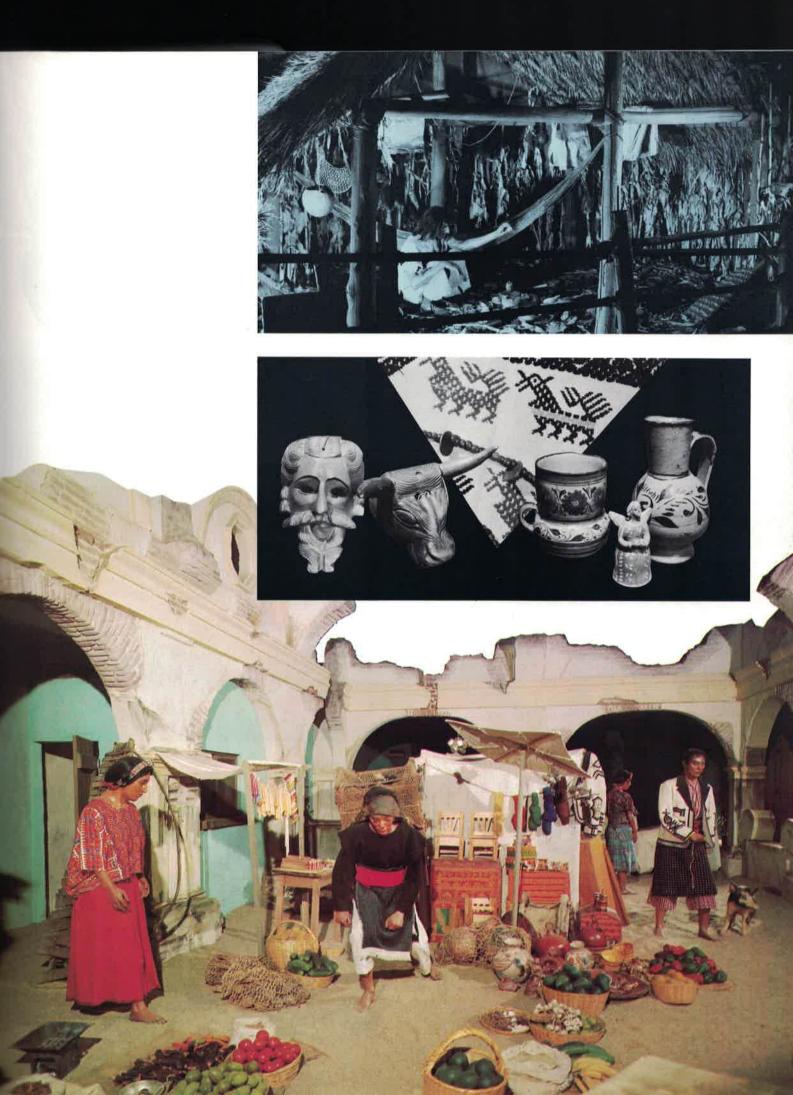


MIDDLE AMERICA

History in Middle America paralleled that of South America — the discovery of agriculture in pre-Columbian times, settled village life, the rise of civilizations in highlands and lowlands, 16th-Century Spanish Conquest, the altering and mingling of Spanish and Indian cultures.

One can see some of that history in the Guatemalan market. For it's often imprinted on the clutter of things and in the bustle of people — in those faces, languages, costumes, arts and crafts, and foodstuffs bearing elements of both Spanish and Indian origins.







AFRICA.

BEGINNINGS AND IMAGES.

For those with ill-conceived African images, the exhibits will rediscover the cultural past and explore the mighty environmental legacy upon which African nations are building the future.

ONCE UPON A TIME IN WESTERN AFRICA THERE WERE BLACK KINGDOMS CALLED GHANA...AND MALI... AND SONGHAY.

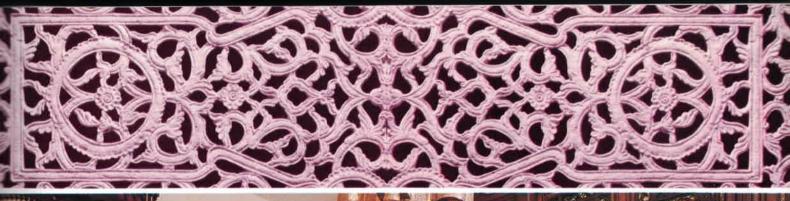
Rich and powerful they controlled the gold and salt trade and ruled such cities as Gao and legendary Timbuktu. These and other kingdoms were flourishing south of the Sahara, when European cities were struggling to survive the dark days of the Middle Ages.

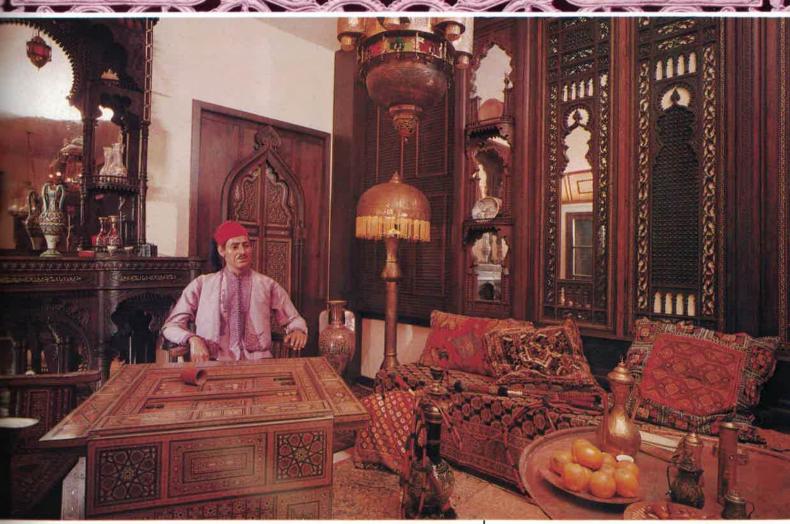












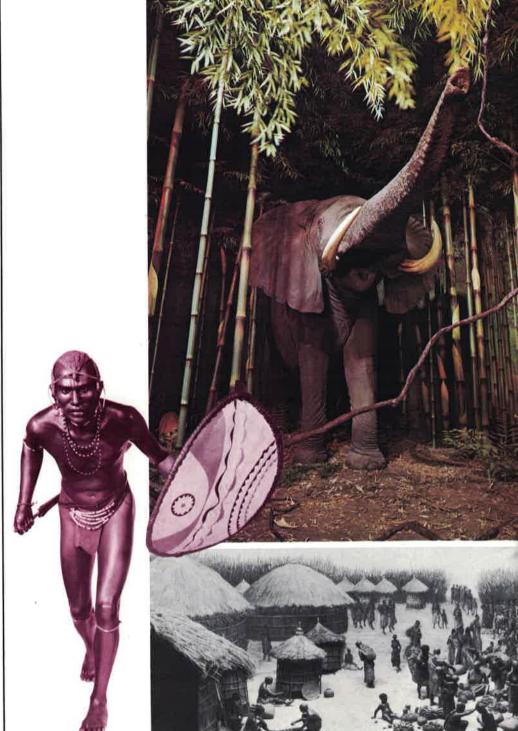
ISLAM IN NORTH AFRICA Riding the crest of a successful sweep

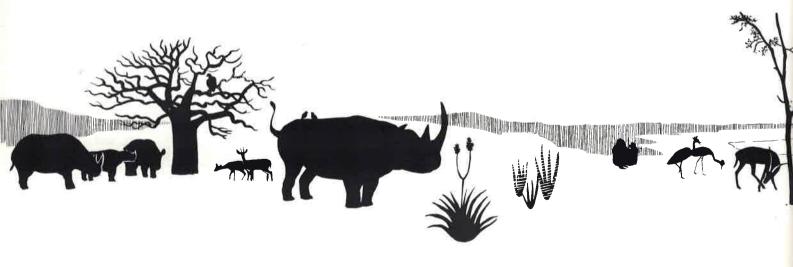
ISLAN

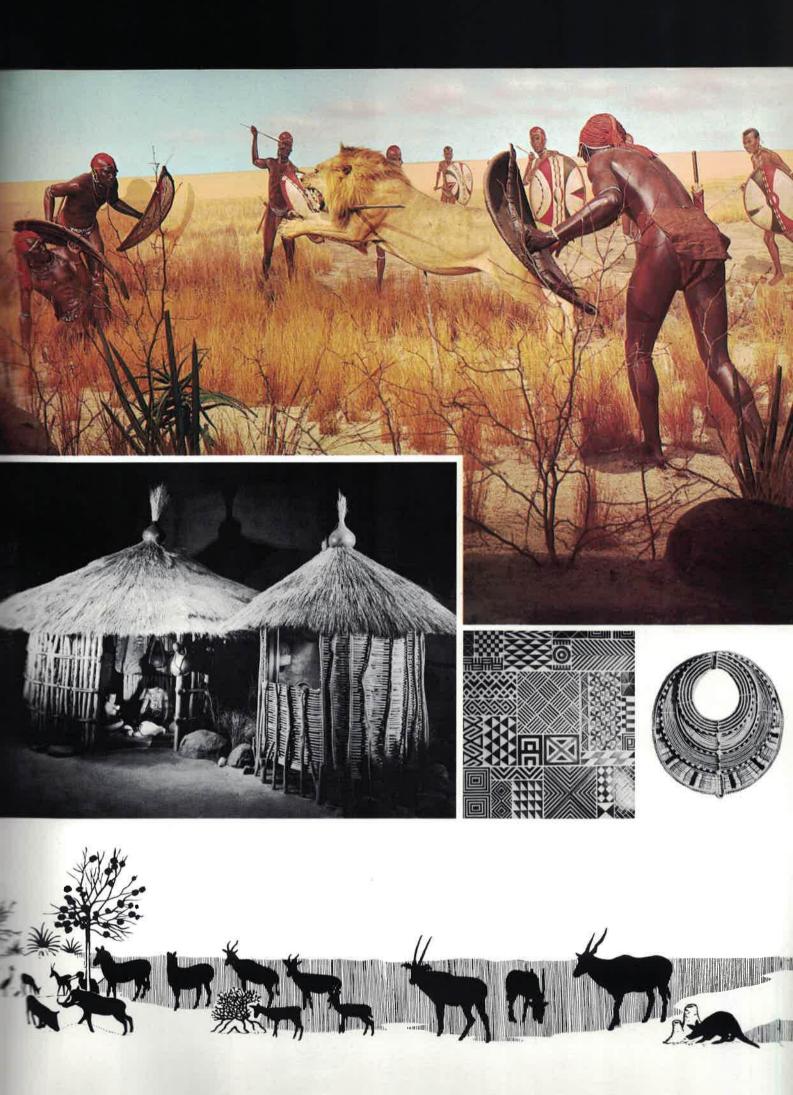
Riding the crest of a successful sweep across Arabia, Moslem armies advanced across Africa in the 7th and 8th Centuries. On the coastal plains they encountered descendants of earlier conquerors — Phoenicians, Greeks, and Romans. In the Sahara beyond the coastal hills they met nomadic herdsmen and warriors, the veiled Tuareg, and eventually made contact with the trading cities of the Black Kingdoms.



There are bamboo-forested mountains, but mostly Eastern Africa is a majestic, timeless expanse of grassland and savanna. Water is seasonally scarce and generally salt is too. Nevertheless the savanna has nurtured unique varieties and remarkable herds of wildlife - and some of the earliest ancestors of humankind. Generations of herders, farmers, and hunters have used it without seriously altering the ancient ecological balances. But now technology and pressures of the 20th Century have come bringing more people and mechanized tools, ending the old ways, the ancient relationships.









One would expect the tangled forest of the Congo Basin in the equatorial rain belt to secrete marvels of the eye — and it does. A great plant and animal diversity luxuriates here, dispersed not only throughout the forest but zoned in the treetops as well. For the rain forest is stratified into distinct stories, each delineated by the crowns of tree and shrubs of many species growing closely together. And each story may shelter wildlife different in adaptations from that directly above or below.

MBUTI AND WATUSI: SUPERLATIVE PEOPLE!

The Mbuti pygmies of the Congo Basin are the world's shortest people. The Watusi who live about 300 miles to the east are the tallest of people.

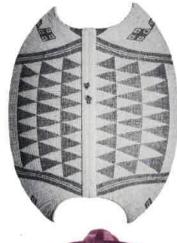
CENTRAL AFRICA















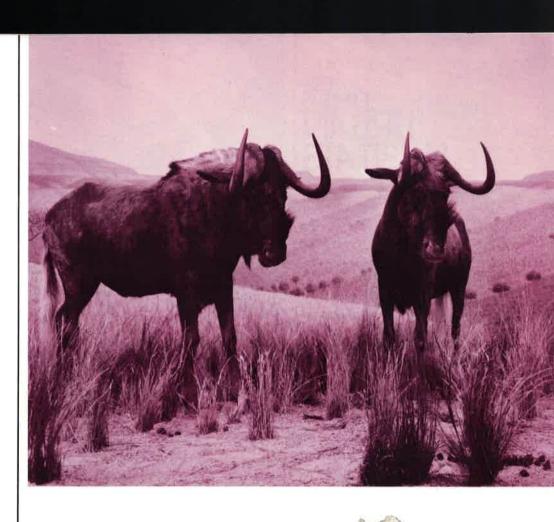


WESTERN AFRICA

Gold, ivory, slaves — Western Africa, site of ancient Black Kingdoms and immense agricultural societies, fired the colonial appetite of Europe. Lifeways vary, but most Western Africans have intimately woven art into ceremonial and everyday matters. Non-Africans find it difficult to distinguish between sacred objects and those which serve as ornaments, utensils, or conveniences. The art is not limited to creations in wood or metal. Weavers, storytellers, basketmakers, potters, dancers, musicians - each, varying in importance from area to area, are part of the rich artistic tradition.



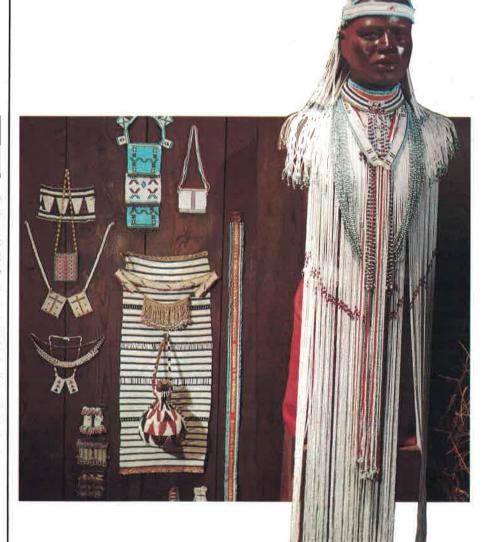




SOUTHERN AFRICA

Trekking from east to west travelers cross savanna, grasslands, and a semidesert that becomes the almost lifeless Kalahari of the west coast. Bushmen of the western Kalahari,

once claiming richer homelands, were sent into desert exile by wave after wave of Bantu people advancing south from Eastern Africa. The meager possessions of the Bushmen, who devote their lives to wrestling an uncertain livelihood from the desert, contrast dramatically with the exuberant material culture of the Bantus.



URBAN HABITATS

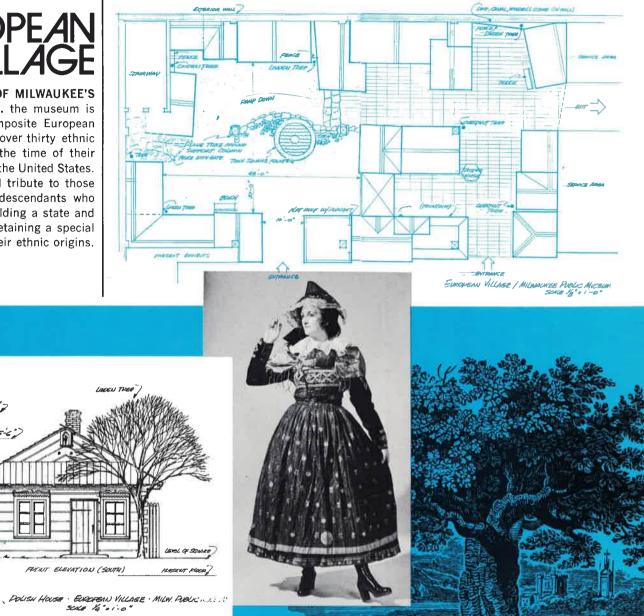
... CITIES THEN AND NOW, INSIDE AND OUT ...

will star in the environmental hall, The Urban Habitat: The City and Beyond. The exhibit story line features humankind's relationships to the resources of Earth as they began in Stone Age campsites and intensified in early cities where acceleration of learning and technology inspired the evolution of the sprawling, industrial megalopolises and worldwide environmental crises of the 20th Century.



EUROPEAN VIII AGE

IN SEARCH OF MILWAUKEE'S **HERITAGE** . . . the museum is constructing a composite European village depicting over thirty ethnic cultures at the time of their immigration to the United States. It is a special tribute to those pioneers and their descendants who cooperated in building a state and a city while retaining a special pride in their ethnic origins.



The Milwaukee Public Museum continues to pursue the prospect of developing a science center to augment current programs and exhibits in natural science, social science, and the humanities. Exhibits and educational programs would be pertinent to the chemical and physical sciences.

BEHIND THE SCENES

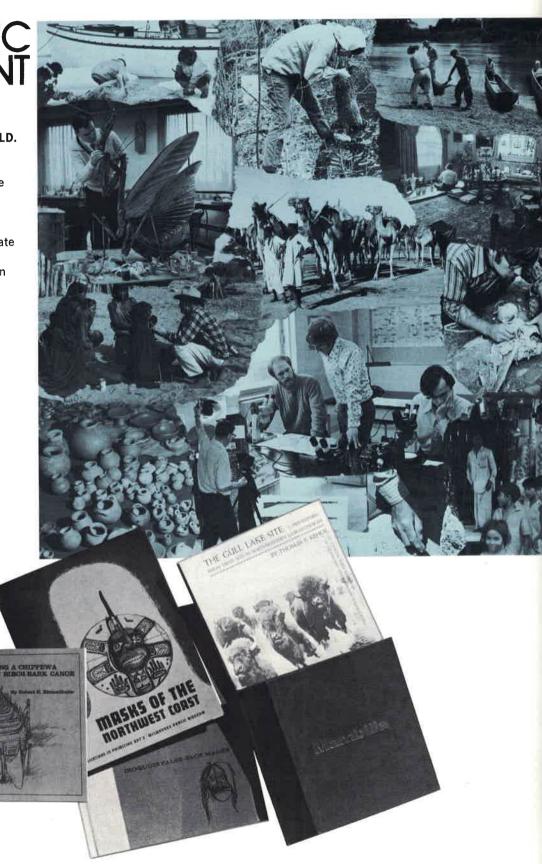
THE ANATOMY OF A WORKING MUSEUM ...

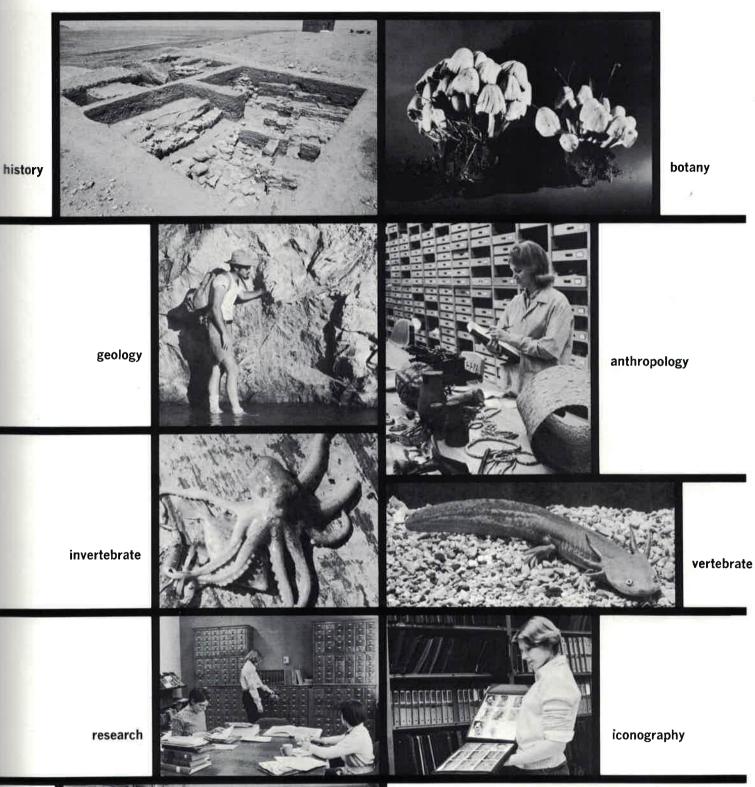
is an intricate network of internal programs and operations that have created a unique institution enjoying national and international recognition.

SCIENTIFIC INVOLVE/MENT

IN EXHIBIT, LABORATORY, PRINT, AND FIELD.

The exhibit programs and collections involve six sciences. The staff of each of these scientific divisions participate in research and exhibit planning in their respective disciplines.





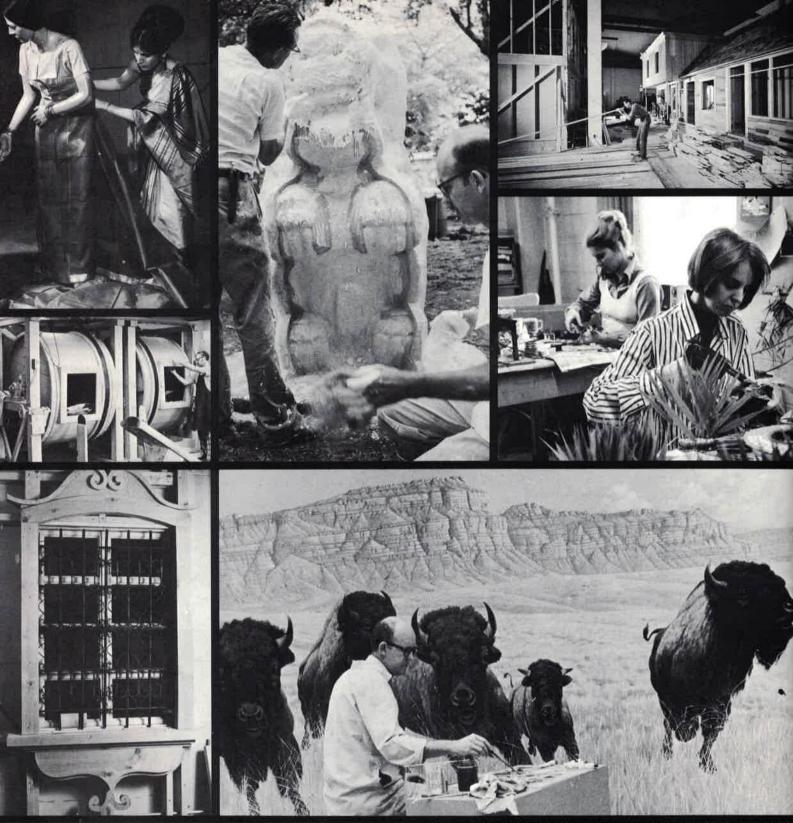


THE STEWARDSHIP OF COLLECTIONS.

In most museums, seventy-five percent of the specimens are not on public display, but serve as a study collection for research.

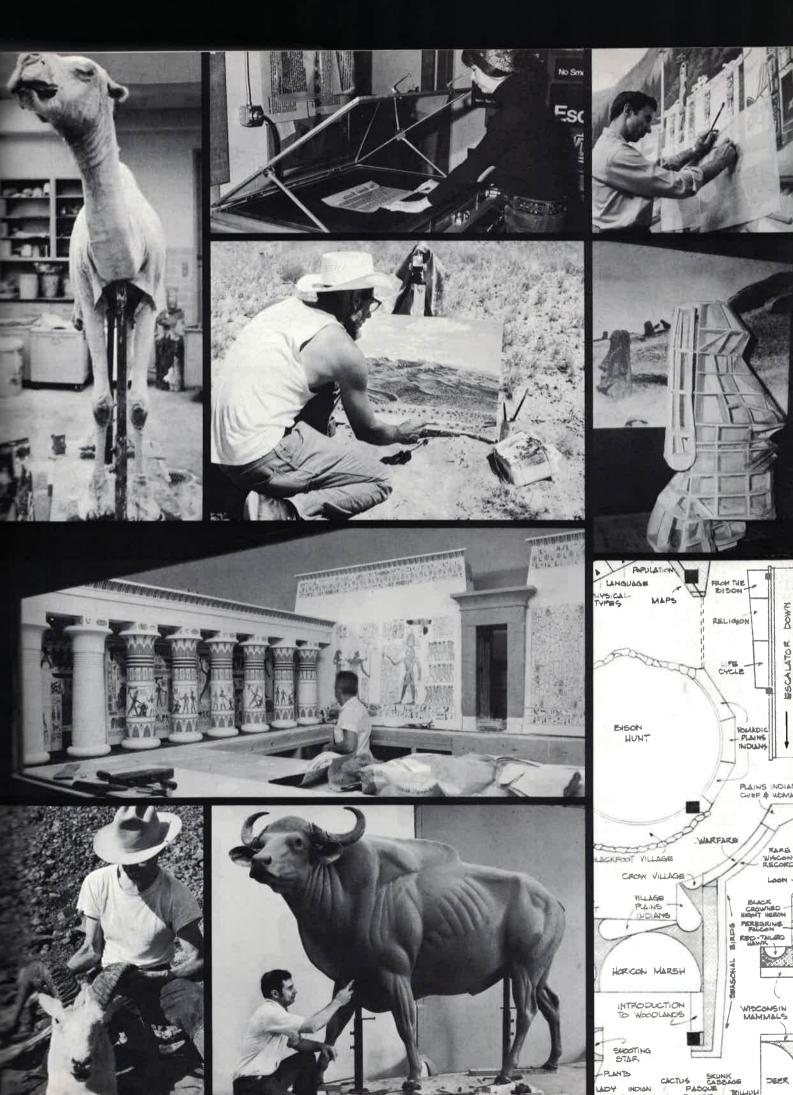
The identification, documentation, care, maintenance, and preservation of all specimens is supervised by the curators of the scientific departments and the museum conservator.

taxidermy



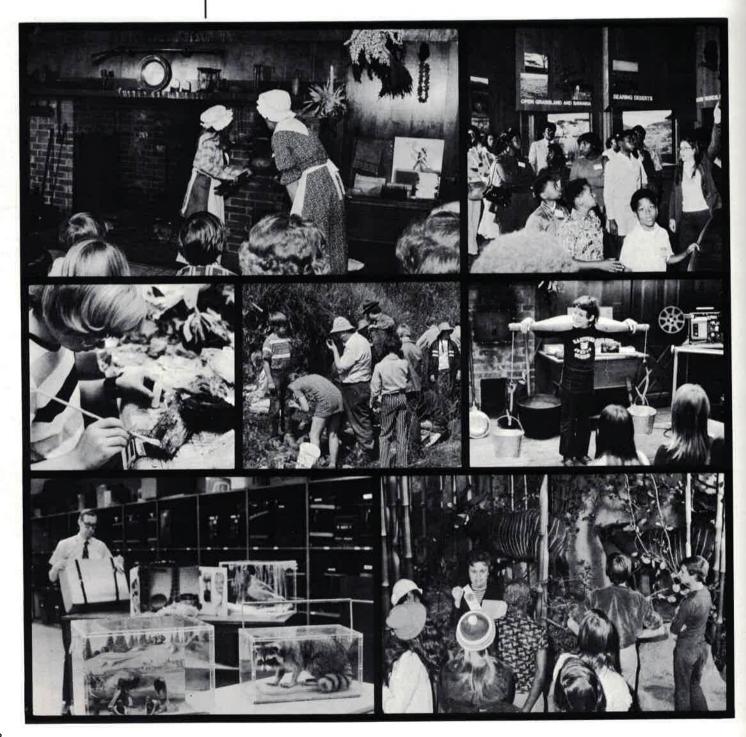
THE EXACTING ART OF EXHIBITING SCIENCE . . . requires the expertise of planning committees and artists, taxidermists, photographers, carpenters, painters, and electricians.





PROGRAMS SPECIAL EVENTS HOSPITALITY THE FULL SERVICE MUSEUM

THE EDUCATION DIVISION . . . traces its origin back very nearly to the genesis of the museum itself. It began offering programs to school children in 1887 and very shortly after that loaned the first museum specimens to schools for classroom use. Since then the Education Division has consistently and actively pursued the development of innovative educational opportunities for all ages, and has provided extensive educational materials through the Audiovisual center in the multi-media approach to learning.





THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

office... keeps the museum in tune and touch with the public. The Office schedules special exhibit openings, temporary exhibits, and city, state, or national events involving museum participation. It also promotes the museum by scheduling radio and television appearances and serving as liaison with volunteer organizations and other special interest groups of the community.



















VOLUNTEERS AND FRIENDS THE PERFECTED ART OF GIVING

SPECIAL SERVICES
AND HOSPITALITY
... to museum
guests include:
shop international
and haymarket
publications
wheelchair and
stroller service
haida house
cafeteria
braille tour

nickelodeon









THE GREENHOUSE GARDEN CLUB... operates from the greenhouse perched on the very top of the museum, but what it accomplishes brings living beauty throughout the building. In addition to assisting in the museum's horticultural program, the Club maintains live plants in exhibit halls and creates many of the floral centerpieces which grace major museum events.







THE FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM, INC.

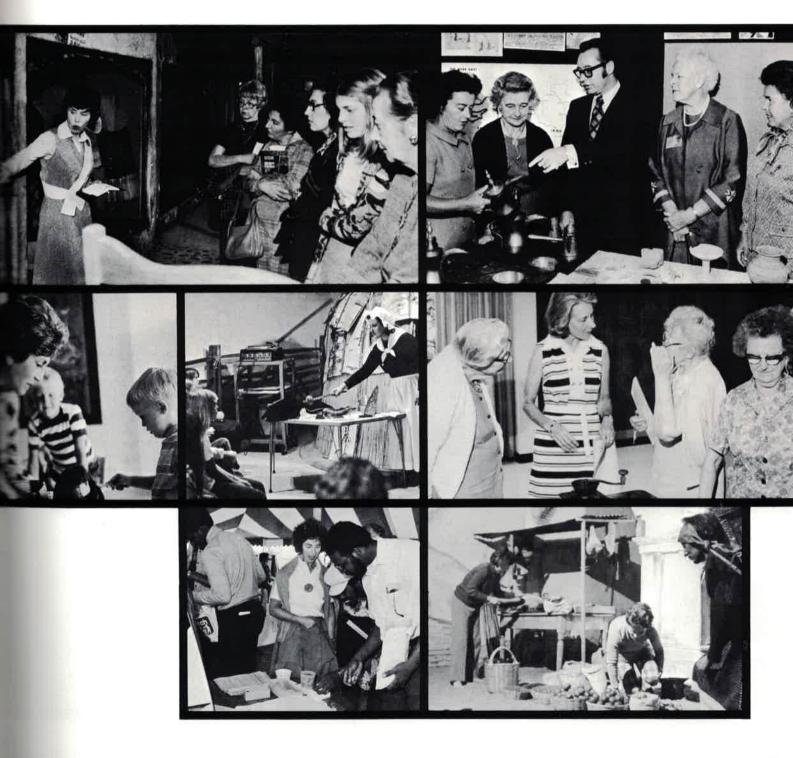
Friends of the Museum, Inc. was organized in 1959 — a group of individuals, families, Corporations and Foundations that support MPM enrichment through contributions and dues and by sharing their time, talent and interest as volunteers. A wide variety of special programs appeal to an ever growing membership.





THE MUSES OF MYTH

Founded in 1969 as the women's association of FOM and designs a regular program around member interest. Volunteers contribute thousands of hours annually in Museum curatorial service, educational programs (Docent) and general secretarial, and in exhibition and graphics.





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