



Meaford Museum History

Built in 1895 by McQuillen and Co., the Meaford Museum was originally the town's Pumping Station. A few years following its construction, a brick chimney was added in an effort to make the facility more efficient. In 1924, an electric pump and auxiliary gas pump were added and eventually, the Public Utilities Departments was relocated to the pumping station and the building was, from then on, referred to as the "Power House" until the 1940's when it was vacated.

The Power House was converted into a museum in 1961, primarily through the efforts of the Kent Women's Institute. The first collections for the museum were donated by the Sing and Godfrey families.

The Meaford Museum quickly became a popular attraction with guests from all around the globe coming to see its unique and one-of-a-kind artifacts. Due to the ever expanding collections and variety of visitors, several upgrades to the building have taken place over the years.

Now owned and operated by the Municipality's Department of Community Services, the museum features four rooms to explore with history of Meaford as well as the Townships of St. Vincent and Sydenham, creating a large and diverse area from which to draw stories and artifacts.

Exhibits you won't want to miss!

Stop #6 Speaker of the House Chair (Thomas S. Sproule)

This unique treasure is the 'Last Speaker's Chair' from the House of Commons from 1911. In those days, the Speaker of the House was allowed to keep the chair at the end of their term. Notice the engraved initials and date below the arms and the beautiful engravings on the top.



Stops #11 and #44 Meaford Rock Snake

It is no secret that the COVID-19 pandemic had a devastating effect on the entire world. This exhibit is a wonderful example of the community coming together during difficult times. A simple idea that started with a 7 year old boy that brought joy from all over the world as visitors added to the snake to keep it growing.



Stop #27 Andrew Gawley: The Man with the Steel Hands

is an amazing story of a citizen of Meaford who at 16 lost both of his forearms due to a machinery accident. He did not let it stop him and proceeded to become famous worldwide for developing prosthetics that allowed him to write, button his shirt and fix bicycles in his shop.



Stop #29 The Scarecrow Festival

This annual, month-long scarecrow invasion takes over the town with scarecrow decorations and includes the ever popular Scarecrow Family Festival, parade and lots of other great activities for the entire family.



Self Guided Walking Tour

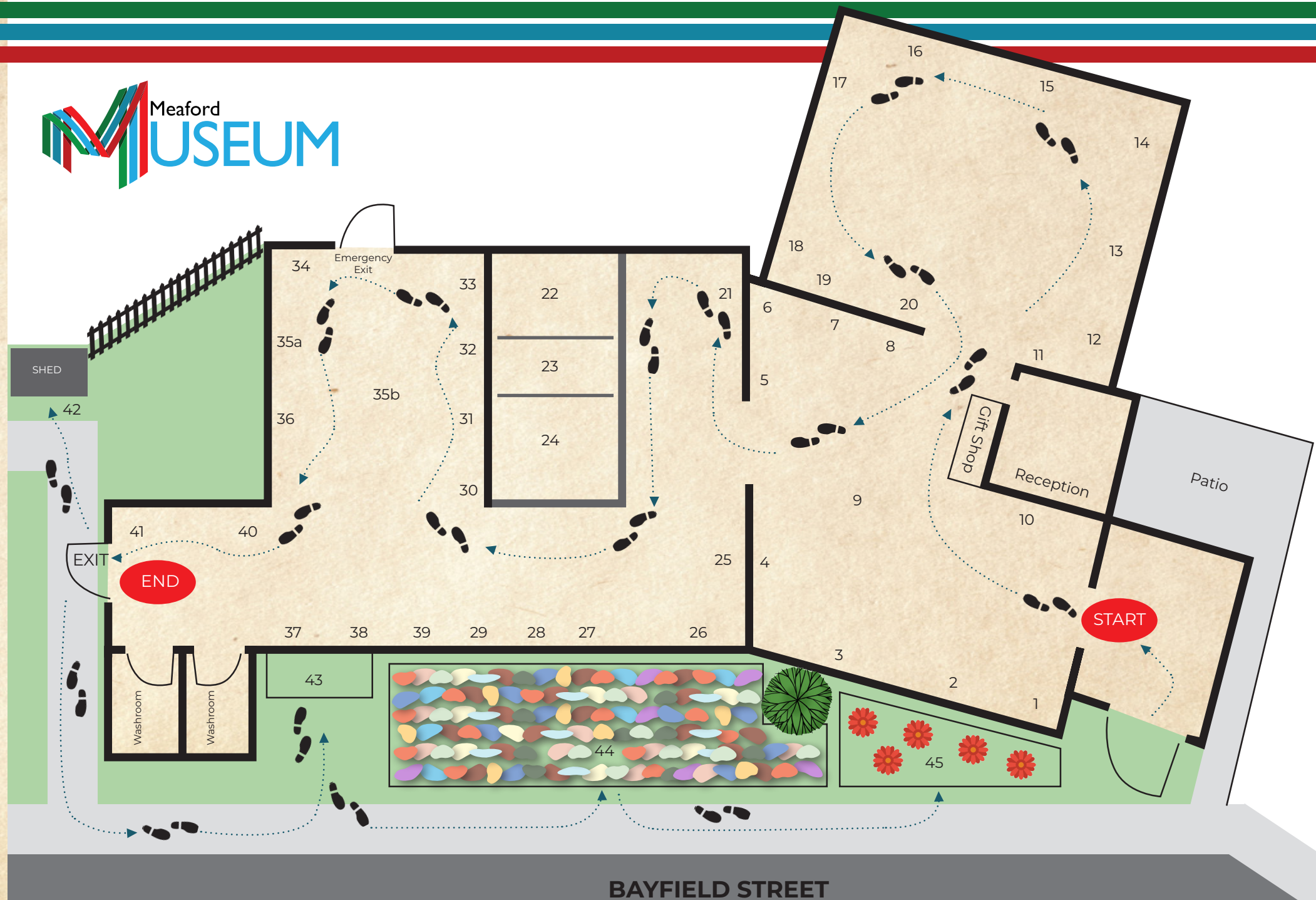


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EXHIBITS

1. Meaford Quilt Assoc
2. Instruments, musical
3. Meaford Hall
4. Paul's Hotel
5. Stained Glass Window
6. Speakers Chair
7. Mayoral Chain of Office
8. History of Meaford
9. John Muir
10. Train Station
11. Rock Snake
12. Photography
13. Beautiful Joe
14. Cursive writing
15. Youth Groups
16. Education
17. Weddings
18. Footwear
19. Hats
20. Indigenous History
21. WWI and WWII
22. Military uniforms
23. Fire
24. Police
25. Harbour
26. Maps
27. Andrew Gawley
28. Century Home / Synagogue
29. Scarecrow Festival
30. Pharmacy
31. Doctors
32. Midwives
33. Nurse
34. Dairy
35. A and B: Apple
36. Kitchen
37. Famous Artists
38. Commemorative China
39. Quilts
40. Meaford History
41. Sports
42. Farm Shed: Outdoors
43. Barn quilt: Outdoors
44. Rock Snake: Outdoors
45. Pioneer Garden: Outdoors



BAYFIELD STREET