

Manchester Then & Now

Manchester Historical Society • Manchester, Connecticut

Project Details

Scope: 2000 sf gallery exhibit

Budget: \$34,000

Project Team

Development: Sarah Morris,
Edward Malouf, Sarah Ceiglo D'Avila
Smith, Susan Barlow (MHS)

Design: Edward Malouf

Graphics: DGI

Inspired by the famous Millyard, the landmark Manchester, New Hampshire museum, the Connecticut contingent set out to construct a Main-street style storefront window gallery motif. This presented the designer with challenges, such as view lines obstructed by window mullions and limited exhibit space.

So Sarah and I ran with it, and each case (or cases) became a discreet content area. This turned into an exercise in graphic-object choreography. With the correct lighting, the results turned out magical.

Under the leadership of Sarah Ceiglo, Society VP and professor at nearby Manchester Junior College, the Society included activism and real estate redlining and art created by minority artists newly recruited to the board. With this exhibit, the Society stepped out of its comfort zone to make new connections to the community.

Right, the East & Shop area is part of "Gathering Together," Below, Adeline Gray was a parachute tester at Paramount Parachute in Manchester during the 1940s.



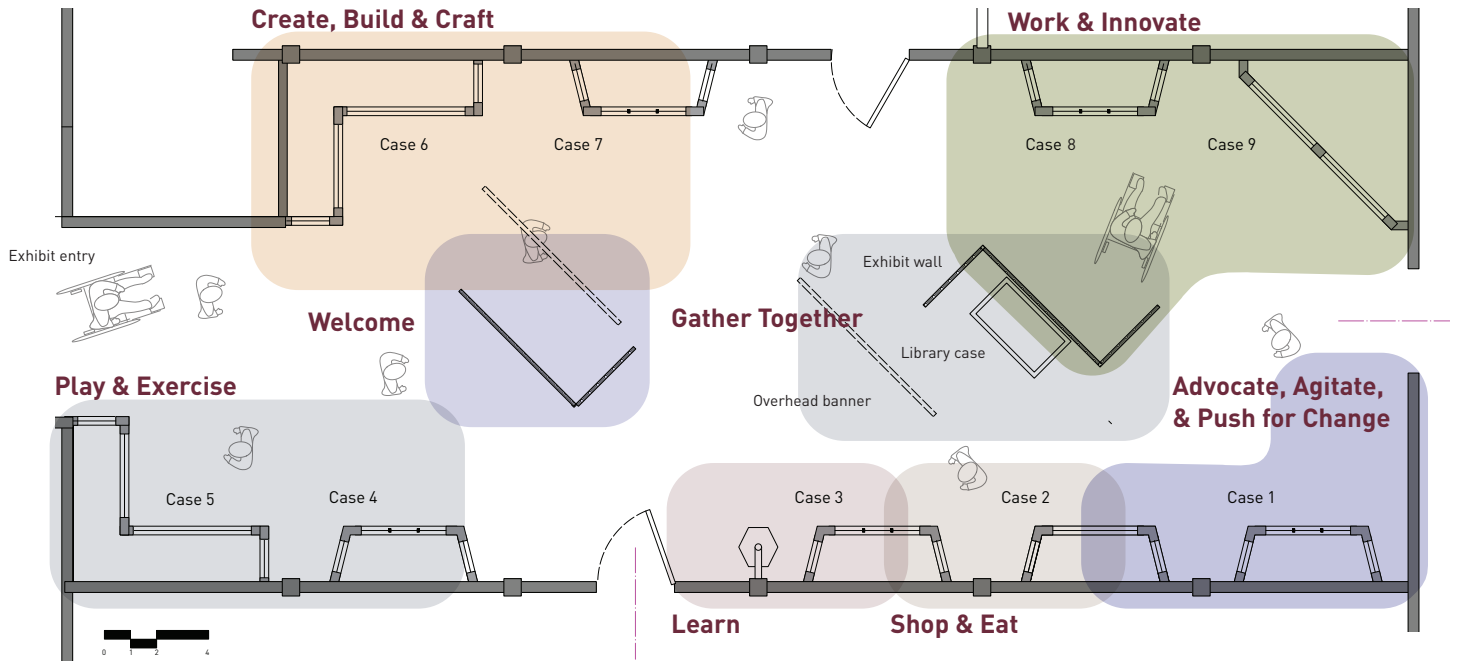
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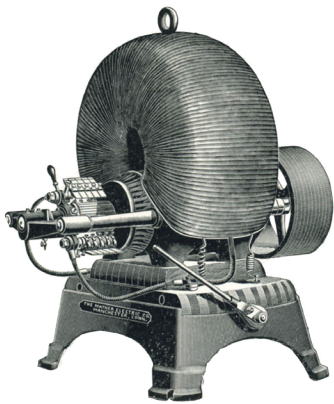
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As part of the Then and Now theme, burgeoning cricket teams are compared to past baseball. Below, Manchester saw the invention and development of early electrical devices, including the light bulb that competed with Edison and an early dynamo.



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This exhibit allowed the Society to reach into its collection for items that have never been exhibited. Above, a talk-back station was included in the exhibit.





Above, the title wall during installation left, activists beginning with Ednah Dow Littlehale Cheney (1824-1904), who founded several schools for women, to Keren Prescott, CEO of Power Up Manchester.