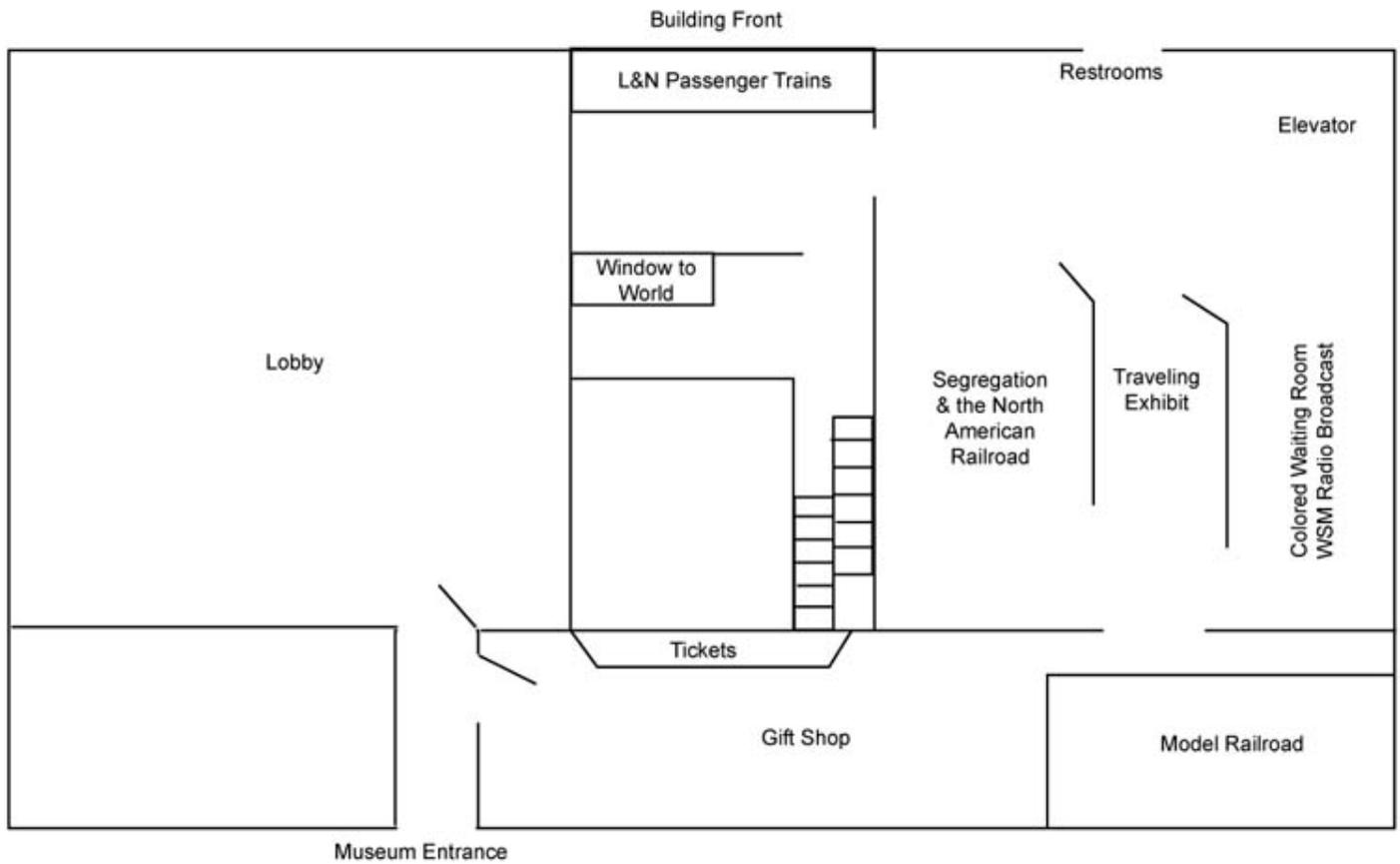




Tour of the Museum

First Floor



Gift Shop

- Books, Videos and CD's available for purchase
- Numerous Souvenirs

Model Railroads

- **Top Display – Portage Railroad, the first railroad in Bowling Green which originally carried goods into downtown Bowling Green shipped by boat on the Barren River**
- Shows Bowling Green to Park City area
- Many buildings in display are replicas of original buildings
- Limestone quarry shown quarried the limestone which was used to build this depot

Bottom Display

- Train model of actual one outside depot

Segregation and the North American Railroads Display

- Jim Crow Law
 - Separate but equal for whites and blacks, lasted until Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Reconstruction Act of 1877 ended progress of civil rights
- Railroad first employer to give blacks middle class wage
- Employed as cooks, porters, waiters

L & N Passenger Train Display

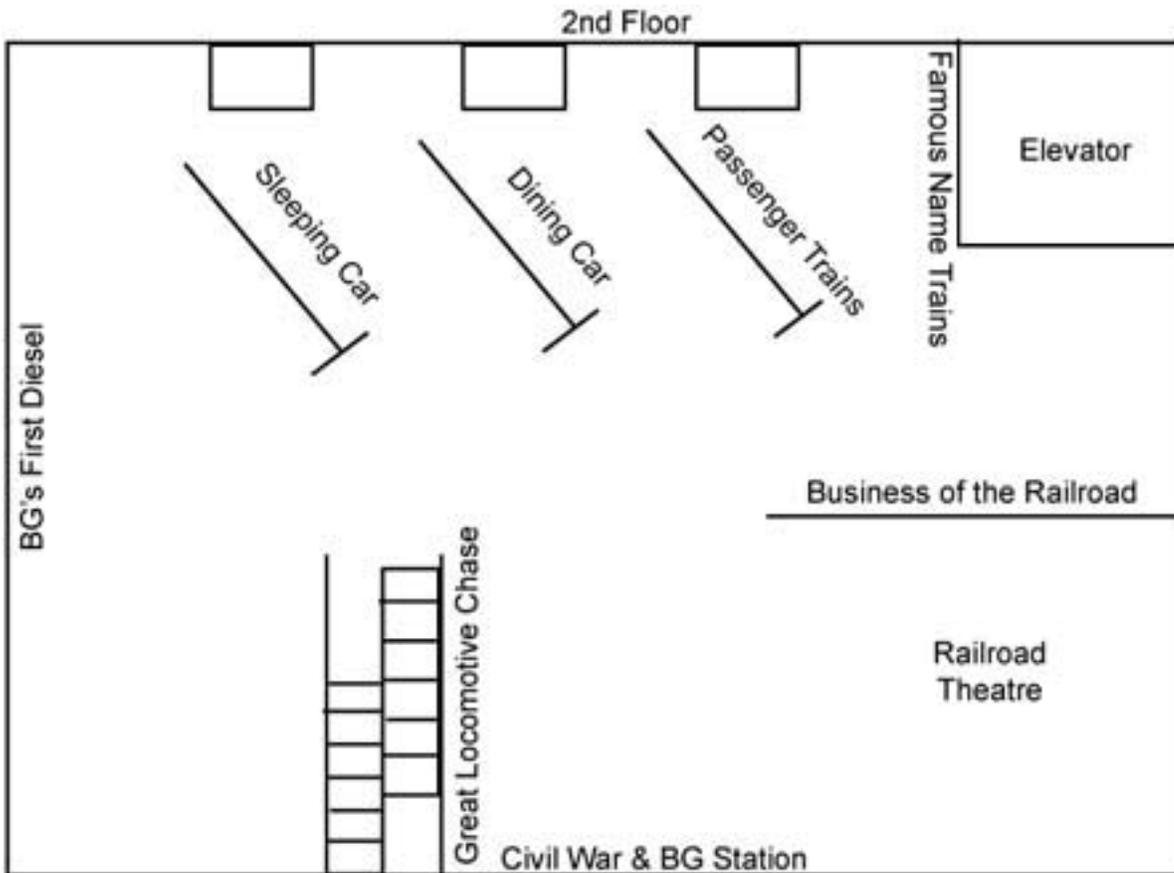
- Before trains only modes of transportation were horseback, coach, boats and foot.
- **First U.S. Railway Chartered to Transport Freight and Passengers February 28, 1827**
On February 28, 1827, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad became the first U.S. railway chartered for commercial transport of passengers and freight. There were skeptics who doubted that a steam engine could work along steep, winding grades, but the Tom Thumb, designed by Peter Cooper, put an end to their doubts. Investors hoped a railroad would allow Baltimore, the second largest U.S. city at the time, to successfully compete with New York for western trade. The first railroad track in the United States was only 13 miles long, but it caused a lot of excitement when it opened in 1830.

- Troops and materials were moved by trains in Civil War, World War I, and World War II
- **In Kentucky**
 1. First L & N train trip 1859
 - Steam engine
 - 187 miles from Louisville to Nashville
 - 36 hours by coach
 - 9 hours by train
 - 18 hours by freight
 - first train had bells
 2. Pan-American train in 1921
 - Steam engine
 - Cincinnati to New Orleans
 - Luxury travel began
 - Had radios and showers
 3. Hummingbird and Georgian in 1946 to 1969
 - First diesel engine
 - St. Louis to Atlanta
 - Cincinnati to New Orleans
 4. Pan-American 1942 to 1971 (all cars outside on the tracks are models of the era train)
 - Diesel engine
 - In 1953 Pullman Sleepers were named after trees
 - Railcars now 85 ft. long instead of 50 feet
 5. Amtrak 1979
 - Last train to stop at depot
 - Ending 120 years of passenger train service in Bowling Green
 - 3 hours from Louisville to Nashville

Colored Waiting Room and WSM Radio Broadcast

Timeline – Lets students see the progression of development of rail transport from 1st train until last

Second Floor



Business of the Railroad

- Communication System
 - Telegraph to radio
 - Railroads start the time zones in America to standardize time schedules for the trains
- Revolutionized
 - Packages
 - Mail delivery
 - Delivery of goods – still the most economical deliverer of goods today, especially heavy/massive productions
- Promoted and developed a “mobile society”
 - Offered travelers luxury that has not been equated since, even by today’s airlines
- Railroads were the first major industry which promoted a growth in all industries
 - “Building Railroads was Building America”
- Industries that grew because of the railroads existence

- Coal
- Steel
- Flour
- Milling
- Commercial farming
- Delivery of perishable goods
 - Chicago to San Francisco train route in winter was known as the “Salad Train” because it brought fresh fruits and vegetables from California
- Before trains, land travel was slow and uncertain, depended on the seasons of the year
- Brought entertainment to America
 - Minstrel shows
 - Circuses

Track #3 Passenger Trains

- First passenger service 1830 – 13 miles from Baltimore to Ellicott Mills in Maryland (later to become Baltimore and Ohio Railroad)
- Traveled on wooden ties over stone said to “thunder along”
- By 1840 there were 3,000 miles of track
- By end of Civil War 35,000 miles of track
- Transcontinental railroad completed in 1869
- By 1889, 165,000 miles of track
- Modernized America
 - Railroads invented the following:
 - Electric lights
 - Flush toilets
 - Central heating and air conditioning
- By 1916, 250,000 miles of track, hardly a town in America that could not be reached by rail
- Pullman Sleeping Cars with complete service anytime day or night
- Services offered with rail travel
 - Barber and/or beautician
 - Manicure
 - Telephone

- Fine food
- Showers/bath
- Theaters
- Lounges
- Observation decks
- Hertz's rental car service

Track #4 Dining Cars

- 1842 first meal on Baltimore-Ohio Train
- Civil War led to the development of efficient systems to cook and feed large groups
- Many trains used as hospital transports during the wars
- By 1942, serving 50 million meals annually
- Dining cars were named after famous eating establishments, example-Galt House
- Kitchen measures 5 feet by 16 feet
 - Worked 4:30 A. M to midnight
 - After World War II, storage and placement of food and supplies on trains adopted technology used by submarines
- Developed in rail kitchens:
 - Bisquick- premix made it quicker to get biscuits started in the early morning
 - Square loaves of bread (before that time only round, square loaves stored better than round)
 - Duraflame (compressed sawdust)
 - Union Pacific Railroad needed good source of wood to burn when they were trapped during the winter in the mountains by avalanches
- Today many street diners are converted old rail dining cars
- Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall worked in the dining car of the Baltimore-Ohio train

Track #5 Sleeping Cars

- 1863 George Pullman developed the Pullman Palace Sleeping Car after suffering through a train trip with only a chair to sit in
- President Lincoln's funeral train brought notoriety to the Pullman Sleeping Car
- Unlike other cars, the sleeper cars were under the supervision of the George Pullman Company rather than the railroad they ran on

- Pullman was first to use the newly freed slaves as a readily available employment resource which gave the black man his first middle class wage
- Pullman controlled every aspect of his employees' life
- At one time Pullman employed 10,500
- During World War II, railroad transported 125 million passengers and soldiers, 5.5 million veterans traveled home in the Pullman

Great Locomotive Chase

- In 1862, the Union decided to attack Chattanooga. James Andrews and eighteen Union soldiers' mission was to destroy the railroad tracks south of Chattanooga so the Confederates could not get troops and supplies to it.
- Very first Medal of Honor was awarded to Jacob Parrott.