

# PITTOCK MANSION DISCOVERY PROGRAM



Photo courtesy of Michael Henley



*Henry Pittock*

Pittock Mansion was finished in 1914 and was the home of Henry and Georgiana Pittock and their family. Henry and Georgiana both worked to build Portland into the community we know. Henry was the founder of *The Daily Oregonian* newspaper. Georgiana cared for their family, managed their household, and worked raising money for charities. Both helped organize the Rose Festival.

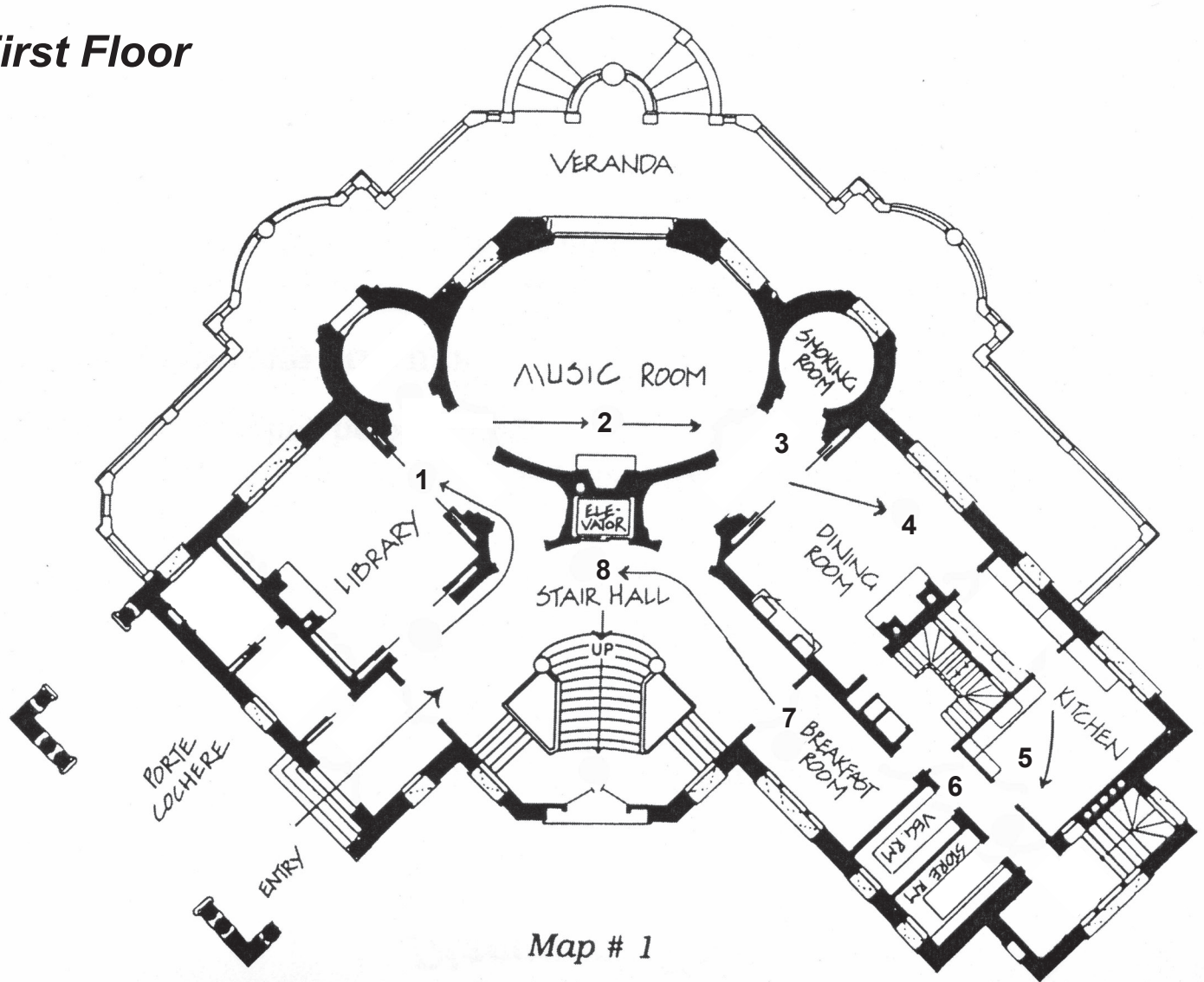


*Georgiana Pittock*

***Instructions for use:***

Start at the location number assigned to your group and continue numerically. You will explore 20 stations on 3 floors of the mansion. Follow the maps and instructions in this booklet as you go. Expect to spend about 2-3 minutes per location. As you explore, think about how life in Portland has changed over time!

# First Floor



Map # 1

### ***Location #1 - The Library***

This room is where the Pittock family gathered in the evening. **What might the family do for fun in this room?**

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Oregon did not have any radio stations until 1922, and TV and computers were not yet invented in 1914, but the Pittocks could have played with stereoscopes like the ones in this room. **Try a stereoscope for yourself. Discuss with your group how it compares to watching television or playing video games.**

### ***Location #2 – The Music Room***

This room was called the Music Room. **What instruments do you see?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Both of the Pittock daughters who lived here studied music. Lucy played piano, and her sister Kate studied singing. **Circle which ways you think the Pittocks could have listened to music in 1914.**

record player

iPod

live music

***Location #3 - Smoking Room:***

Unlike most houses, Pittock Mansion has rooms with different shapes. **Looking at the maps in this booklet, how many other round or oval rooms can you find?**

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***Location #4 - Dining Room:***

This room has many hidden doors including “pocket doors” that slide into walls. **How many doors can you find in this room?**

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Two of the doors lead to the kitchen area, where servants like the maid and the cook would prepare the meals. Many not-so-rich people in 1914 had a cook to prepare and serve food. **Why do you think there are fewer servants today?**

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### ***Location #5 - Kitchen***

Each piece of the “puzzle” floor was cut out of rubber. Rubber was softer than stone and was more comfortable for the cook to stand on. **Guess how many pieces are in the floor.**

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When the Pittocks first arrived in Portland after crossing the Oregon Trail in the 1850s, they had to rely on burning wood to cook food. Electric power first came to Portland in the 1880s, and the Pittocks included electrical outlets when they built their mansion in 1914. Inventors at the time were busy creating new electric appliances like toasters.

**Find the toaster in the kitchen. How is this like or unlike the toasters we use today?  
What powers it?**

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### ***Location #6 - Pantry and Refrigerator Room***

There was no fast food in 1914, and not as many ready-to-eat foods, so the Pittocks purchased food to cook and stored it in this pantry.

<b>Do you think they had a garden?</b>	Yes	No	Maybe
<b>Kept chickens?</b>	Yes	No	Maybe
<b>Owned a cow?</b>	Yes	No	Maybe

The whole white-tiled room was a refrigerator. In 1914, many homes did not have a refrigerator, and used ice to keep food cold. **Look closely at the door to this room. Discuss with your group what's unusual about it.**

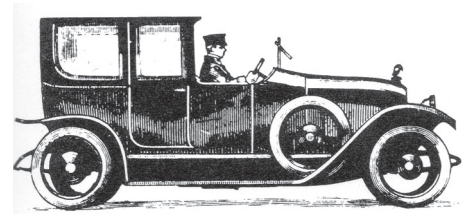
### ***Location #7 - Breakfast Room***

**Looking at the table, what do you think the Pittocks might have eaten for breakfast?**

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Through the window you can see the garage. Because automobiles had been invented by 1914, the Pittocks did not have horses or stables here. Instead, they used a car driven by another servant, the chauffeur. **How many cars could you fit into the garage?**

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***Location #8 - 1st Floor Landing***

Georgiana Pittock was not able to walk well when she moved into the mansion, so the Pittocks built an elevator into the house. **How many floors does the elevator reach?**

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The Pittocks had the latest inventions in their house, including a central vacuum system. Pipes to vacuum up dirt were built into the walls, with round, brass caps where the maid could plug in a hose. The maid did not need to carry a heavy vacuum cleaner around the house. **Can you spot the round brass vacuum tube cap on the wall in this area?**

**Circle**

**Yes**

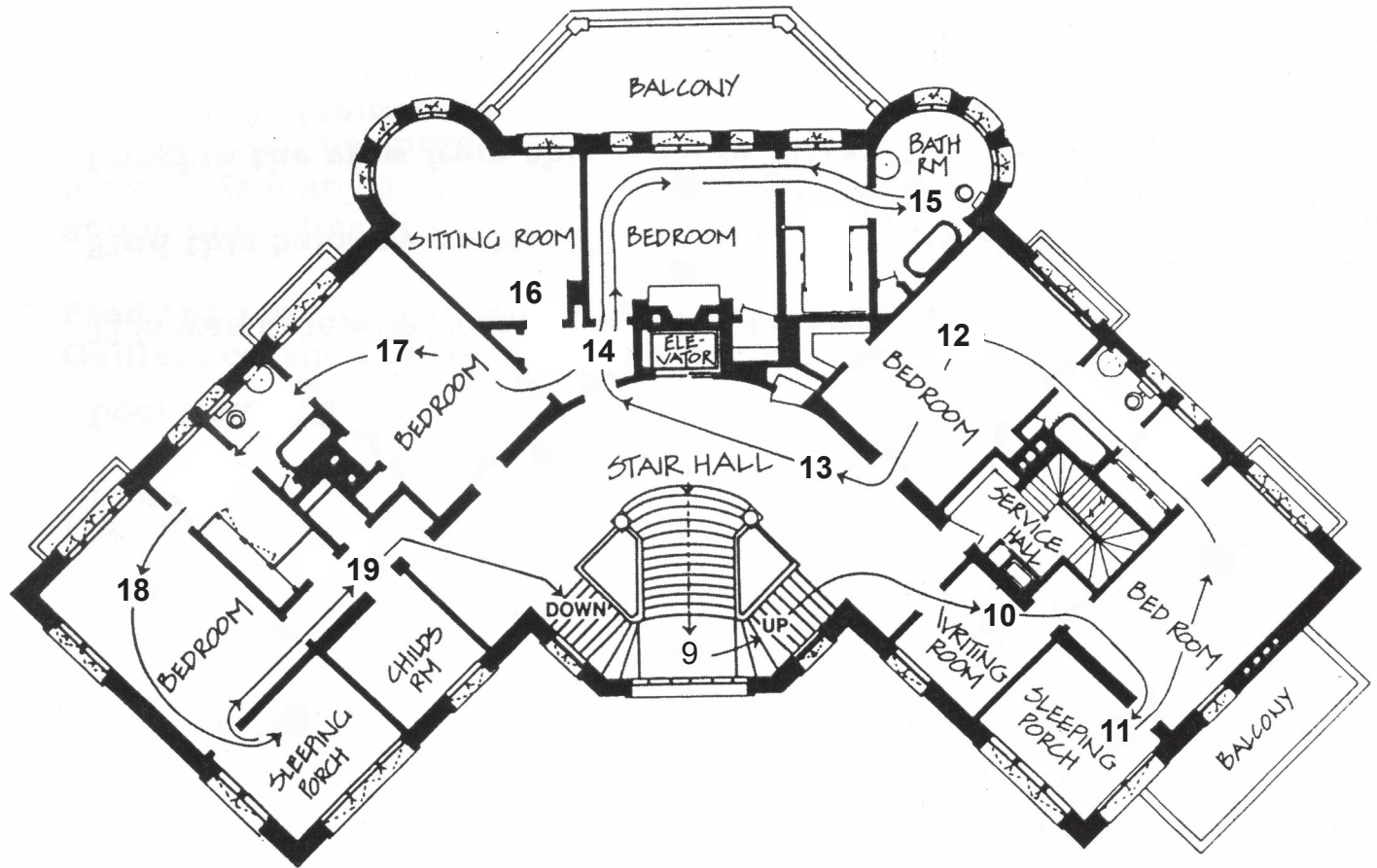
**No**



*Georgiana Pittock, circa 1870.  
Before vacuums, brooms and  
rugbeaters were used instead.*



# Second Floor

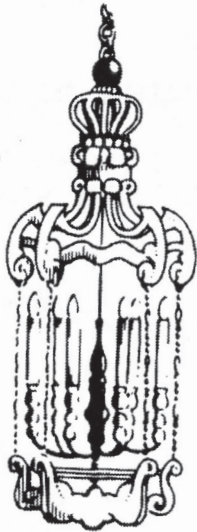


Map # 2

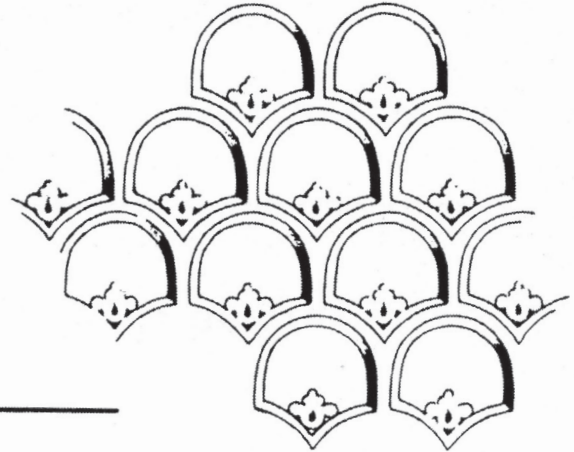
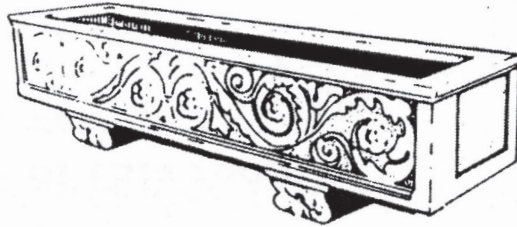
**Location #9 - The Stair Landing**

Craftsmen worked hard on the details of the Mansion. **Look for the details drawn below and circle the letters of the ones you find.**

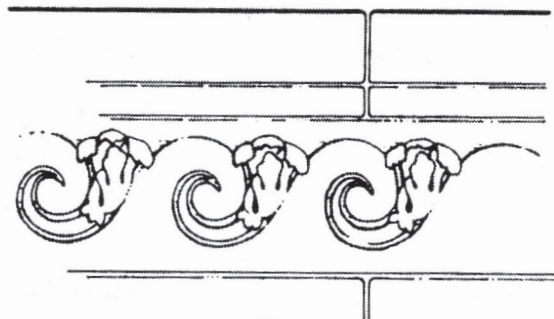
**A.**



**B.**



**D.**



**C.**

### ***Location #10 - Writing Room***

Before texting and email, letters were the only way of communicating with friends and family who lived far away. When the Pittocks moved to Oregon in the 1850s, letters had to be carried by foot or wagon back across the Oregon Trail or by boat on a long ocean voyage. By 1914, railroads could deliver letters to the East Coast in a few days, and telegrams could be delivered in a few hours. The first phone call across the country was made in 1915, but such calls were expensive.

**What tools for communicating with other people do you see in this room?**

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**How are these tools different from what we use today?**

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***Location #11 - South Sleeping Porch***

Many of the medicines we have today had not been invented in 1914. People worried about catching disease, and doctors recommended sleeping in fresh air to stay healthy. The Pittocks often slept on the porches with the windows open most of the year. **Instead of sleeping with the windows open, what do we do today to prevent illnesses?**

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***Location #12 - Nieces' Bedroom***

This bedroom was shared by the Pittocks' two teenaged orphan nieces. **Look out the windows and at the photographs below the window to compare. The top photo was taken in 1983, and the bottom photo was taken in 1903.**

**What's the same?**

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**What's different?**

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***Location #13 - 2nd Floor landing***

Peek through the glass door near the Writing Room and look at the stairs leading up to the servants' quarters. It was common for servants to live in the house in which they worked. The photo next to the door shows what the maid's room on the 3rd floor looked like. **How are these different from the Pittock family bedrooms**

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*Maids, circa 1910*

Look at the portraits of Henry and Georgiana Pittock in this hallway. Think about how the clothing in the portraits is different from what we wear today. **Which outfit looks more old-fashioned, Georgiana's or Henry's?**

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## Location #14 - Henry's Bedroom

Henry Pittock made his fortune running *The Daily Oregonian* newspaper. Look at the copy of *The Oregonian* newspaper hanging just outside this room. In 1914, most people learned the news reading the newspaper. Can you name 3 ways people learn about news today?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

# THE OREGONIAN.

Equal Rights, Equal Laws, and Equal Justice to all Men.

PORTLAND, O. T. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1850.

suddenly in her rapid race, she turned upon her heel, and threw herself, with a ringing laugh, into Nick's outstretched arms.

A shout of triumph announced the success of Nick's suit; and to all, save one, the completion appeared to give great satisfaction. This was an Indian youth, an undeclared lover of the trapper's bride. In secret he had worshipped the idol of his affection, trusting that time would enable him to gain the prize, and when his hope seemed ripening, he saw her thus suddenly lost to him, and lost forever.

"May the great spirit strengthen my arm!" said he, dashing forwards with all his savage nature roused within him; and

rising from the side of the dead body of his wife, over which he had mourned for hours, "I'll have such revenge, as in a tale and story none can equal. I'll be more bloody than a panther; more cruel than beast or savage of any kind or time." "Revenge!" continued he, with a convulsive laugh. "The white man's vengeance shall at least match the red."

Mounting his small but fleet horse, and driving his head towards the west, and driving his heels into his flanks, galloped, like one reckless of life and limb, to the valley of the Mohawk. There as he anticipated, he found the tribe from whom his Indian

was said—but ever in a whisper—by the hunters of the far west, that the horse may still be seen scouring the plains, where the foot-fall of man is seldom heard, with his load of the living and the dead.

### The Fashionable Church.

I scarcely dare attempt to portray the Fashionable Church; but, let us venture there—even there, "where a convenient pew, commanding a full view of the organ, and within hearing of the Rev. Dr. Five-Thousand-a-Year's most eloquent appeals, his for sale—terms, \$800 cash, or \$1000 in copper stock at par."

beard all tangled and matted, his face scamed by premature wrinkles; yet they gave a strange expression in his eye, and a calm sublimity of resolution on his high forehead.

Poor, weary, and neglected, he approached brother Zebulon. The well-fed and complacent Christian beheld the Stranger stride slowly along the aisle.

Was there a pew door opened at his coming? Did fair forms arise, did smiling faces greet him with looks of sympathy and compassion?

I trow not. He cast his deep, unfathomable eye from side to side—he looked upon the soft face

***Location #15 - Henry's Bathroom***

Pittock Mansion was built with 6 bathrooms. In 1914, many Portlanders still relied on outhouses, but new homes usually included indoor plumbing and toilets. Portland has had publicly supplied water since 1857 (when water was piped from Caruthers Creek through hollowed-out logs), and has relied on water from Bull Run Reservoir since 1895. **How many ways can you count for Henry Pittock to wash up in this bathroom?**

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In 1914, inventors were figuring out how to make things from plastics, and most things were made of glass, metal, wood, cloth, or ceramics.

**Can you spot some things that would be made of plastic if you bought them today?**

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***Location #16 - Sitting or Sewing Room***

Find the sampler (the framed cross-stitched fabric piece) hanging on the wall. In the 1800s and early 1900s, girls were expected to learn how to sew and some made samplers as practice. **How old was the girl when she made the sampler?**

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***Location #17 - Georgiana's Bedroom***

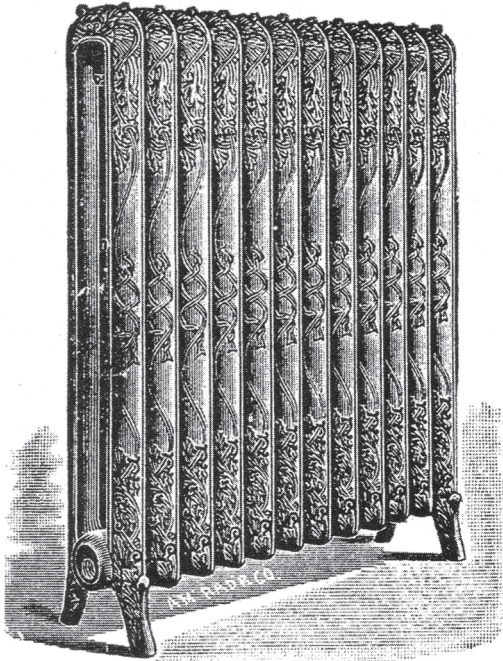
**Scan the walls to find a telephone-like box.** This is an intercom – it was like a telephone, except you called from room to room instead of house to house. It was used by the family to call for a servant. **What might Georgiana Pittock have wanted when she called the maid?**

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***Location #18 - West Bedroom***

**This room includes three ways to stay warm at night – can you spot them?** The bed has a canopy and curtains, which could be closed to keep heat in – a method of staying warm popular 200 years ago. A fire in a fireplace was popular for heating homes in 1850. By 1914, people used radiators like the one in the corner of the room. With radiators, you did not need to build and tend smoky fires in each room. **How do we stay warm in our homes today?**



*Domestic Engineering, April 15, 1901*

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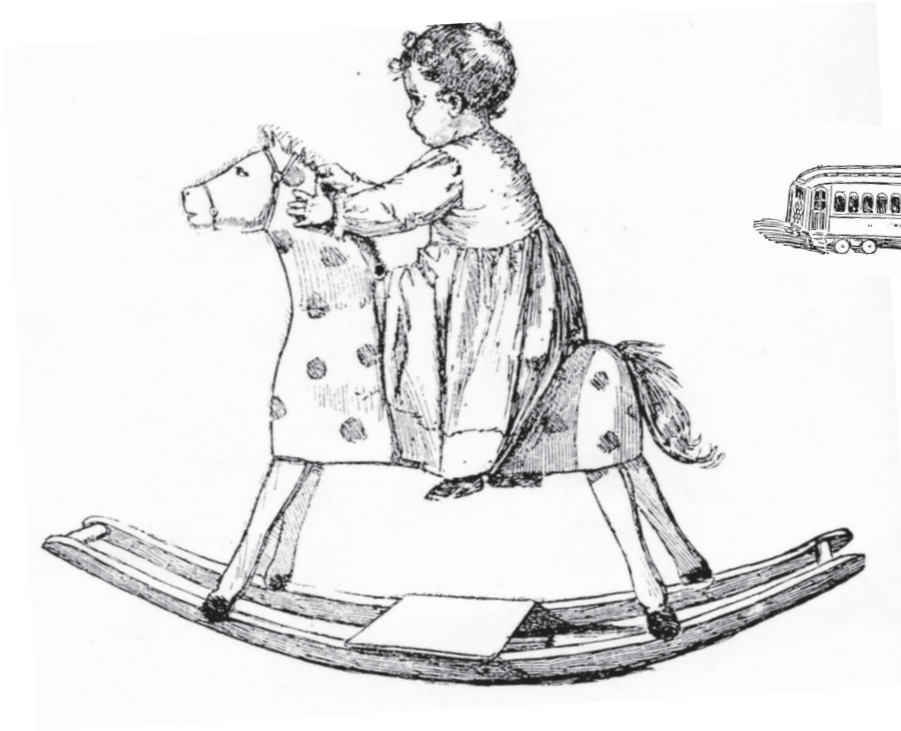
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***Location #19 - Child's Room***

**Think about whether these toys are like toys today. Can you name a toy that kids play with today that kids in 1914 did not have?**

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**Location #20 - Laundry Room**

Look through the glass door to the laundry room. **What tools do you see for doing the laundry?**

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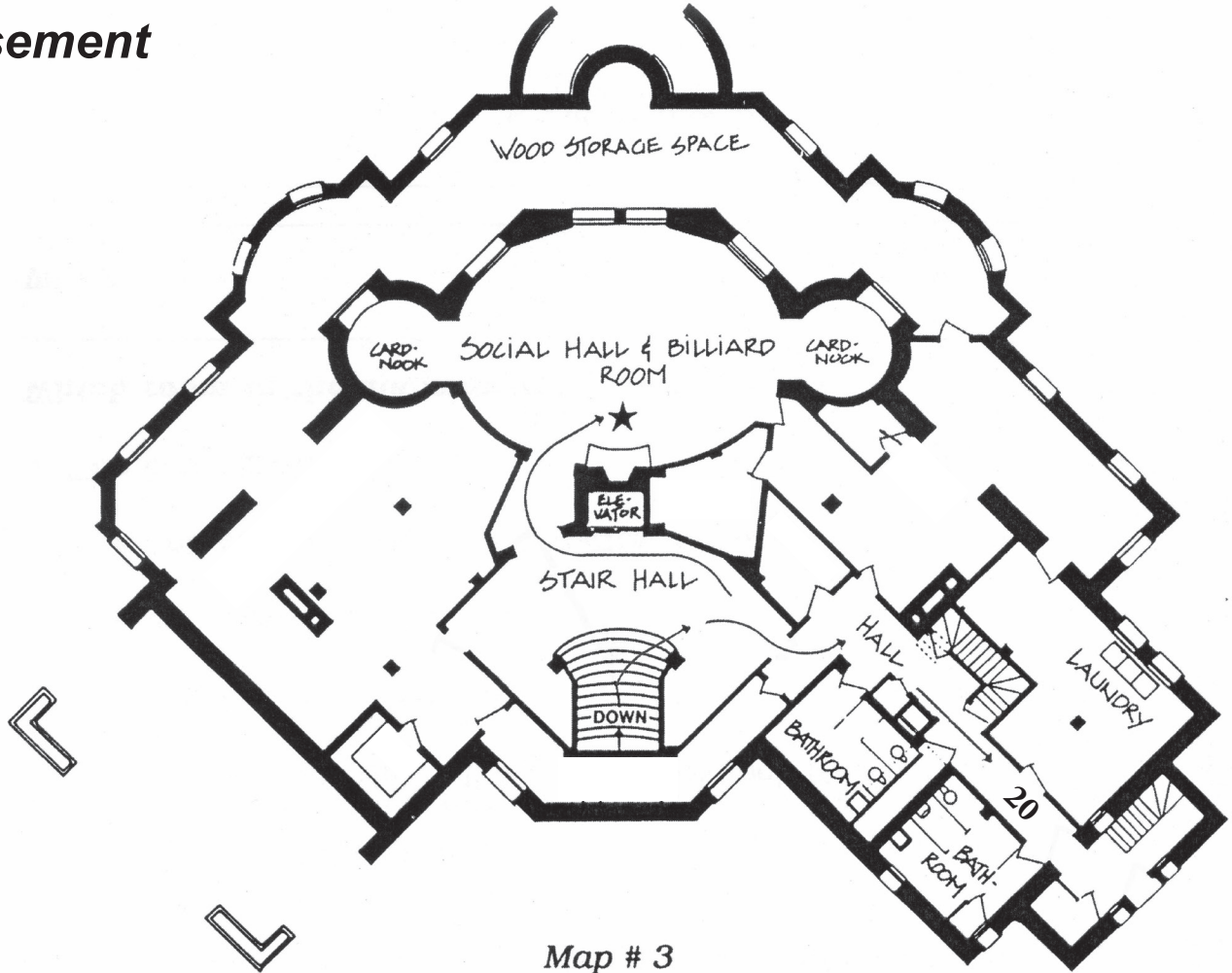
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**Looking at the tools, why do you think it took longer to do laundry in 1914 than today?**

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# Basement



Map # 3