

Within each life-zone I arranged the mammals according to good balance and artistic composition. Most of the mammals in their new positions had to be anchored thru the false floor.

I first provided plants, grasses, shrubs & trees, and mammals near the background wall, being sure that no shadows were cast on walls. Mr. Dickinson then painted the walls to blend in with the elements of the exhibit. I advised on the scientific and artistic composition of the background painting. I built and changed the scaffolding used for background wall painting, being complicated after Mr. Dickinson fell on freshly painted floor and later continued painting from a wheelchair on the scaffolding. Color photographs from my files were used as references.

For each of the life-zones I researched the natural plant-animal communities we were to duplicate in the panorama. I collected samples of vegetation for replication and then by first making a plaster cast of the vegetation which in turn was the source of a metal cast used to press images of the vegetation by hydraulic pressure. The plastic imprints in turn were cut, petioles affixed and then painted their natural color. The large trees, vines & bushes were natural and dried in their characteristic life-form. The entire process of making artificial vegetation, except 10% student help in affixing some petioles to leaves, was my personal responsibility.

The large trees covering structural supports in the Kansas deciduous forests were fashioned, one in plaster and the other natural bark. All of the leaves on these trees as well as the other trees and this exhibit as also were the trees in fall color in the moose & Minnesota exhibits including the shrubs and bracken ferns were all my efforts.

I collected the substantial amount of mosses and lichens, ferns and trees on the Churchill, ^{and} Northern Minnesota collecting expeditions.

Organized the housing, collecting and transporting the buffalo grass and sod from western Kansas.

I personally laid all of the buffalo grass in the grasslands exhibit consisting of some 2114 sq. feet of sod.