

# **BRONZEVILLE CENTER FOR THE ARTS RESEARCH SYNTHESIS**

**HESTER TITTMANN, RABBIT RABBIT STUDIO  
OCTOBER 2024**

*Prepared for Hood Design Studio regarding their  
development of a landscape strategy for the  
Bronzeville Center for the Arts at 2300 King Drive in  
Milwaukee, WI*

# RESEARCH PROCESS

This research review was developed by me, Hester Tittmann, of Rabbit Rabbit Studio, for Hood Design Studio regarding their work on the Bronzeville Center for the Arts (BCA). The mapped timelines that follow are intended to orient the Hood Design team to the history of the site they are working in, as well as provide inspiration for potential design schemes.

What follows is a spatial overview of my understanding of Milwaukee's Black commercial and cultural development since the early 19th century, when the first Black residents arrived in the area.

This overview is neither exhaustive nor novel as all of what is mapped here is commonly accessible in well-known texts and sources (which I list). Anything not commonly listed was derived from conversations with local artists and historians which I did my best to corroborate elsewhere.

I organized the mapped sites into political, cultural, infrastructural and industrial categories, seeking out what most impacted this region of Milwaukee surrounding the BCA site especially as it relates to the experiences of Black people.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

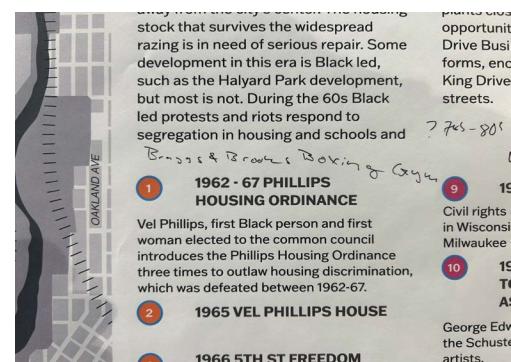
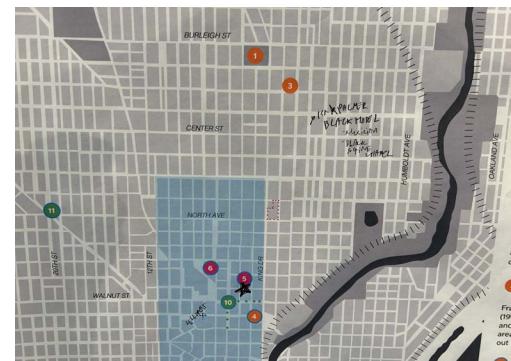
The map overlays were made in collaboration with Isabella Cosentino, Intern at Hood Design Studio, and the design was developed with feedback

from Hood Design Studio Partners Alma Du Solier and Walter Hood, and Designer Elliot Surber. I was hosted by Sara Daleiden at her and Wes Tank's Washington Park Media Center and supported in residency as a part of MKE>LAX. Sara graciously connected me to several of her local contacts for my research process.

## RESEARCH SOURCES & OUTPUT

The research I conducted included ethnographic, academic and archival processes. I visited Milwaukee twice in person, as well as conducted online and text based research from my home near Boston, MA. I visited Milwaukee July 25-29th, and September 24th-28th. During those trips, in addition to speaking 1-1 with folks, I spent time walking the site at 2300 King drive, doing photo documentation, and in the Zeidler Humanities Room of the Central Branch of the Milwaukee Public Library looking at maps, archival documents, and city directories. I was able to attend a Community Brainstorming event with Sara Daleiden.

I did my best to approach this research process with humbleness, curiosity, and rigor. The richness and complexity I was able to achieve is all thanks to the generosity of those who spoke with me in Milwaukee. I mapped what I found into a series of maps showing the



Timeline annotations from the community event



development of an area of the North side of Milwaukee roughly bounded by the Menomonee and Milwaukee Rivers, Capitol Drive, and 27th Street. Each map shows a different "snapshot" of the city's infrastructure development.

This graphic timeline was displayed at a community engagement event led by Hood Design Studio, in concert with Saiki Design and the Bronzeville Center for the Arts, at the America's Black Holocaust Museum. The timeline served to spark conversations with attendees and encourage edits and additions. Those edits and additions have been incorporated for this document.

A huge thank you to the local arts, culture and history leaders I was able to speak with 1-1. Their insight greatly impacted the following maps and what is included within them (in order of whom I spoke with). I was connected to these folks through Sara Daleiden and Deshea Agee, unless otherwise noted.

Sara Daleiden, Sara Daleiden Consulting, MKE>LAX, Washington Park Media Center

Dr. Robert Smith, Professor at Marquette University and Director of the Center for Urban Research, Teaching and Outreach

Mr. Clayborn Benson, leader of the Wisconsin Black Historical Society and Museum

Kirsten Thompson, Manager of Arts & Humanities at the Milwaukee Public Library

Dan Lee, Librarian, Milwaukee Public Library

Mutópe Johnson, Artist, Creative Director of the BCA

Deshea Agee, VP of Emem Group

Edgar Birdsong, Owner of Birdsong Distributers

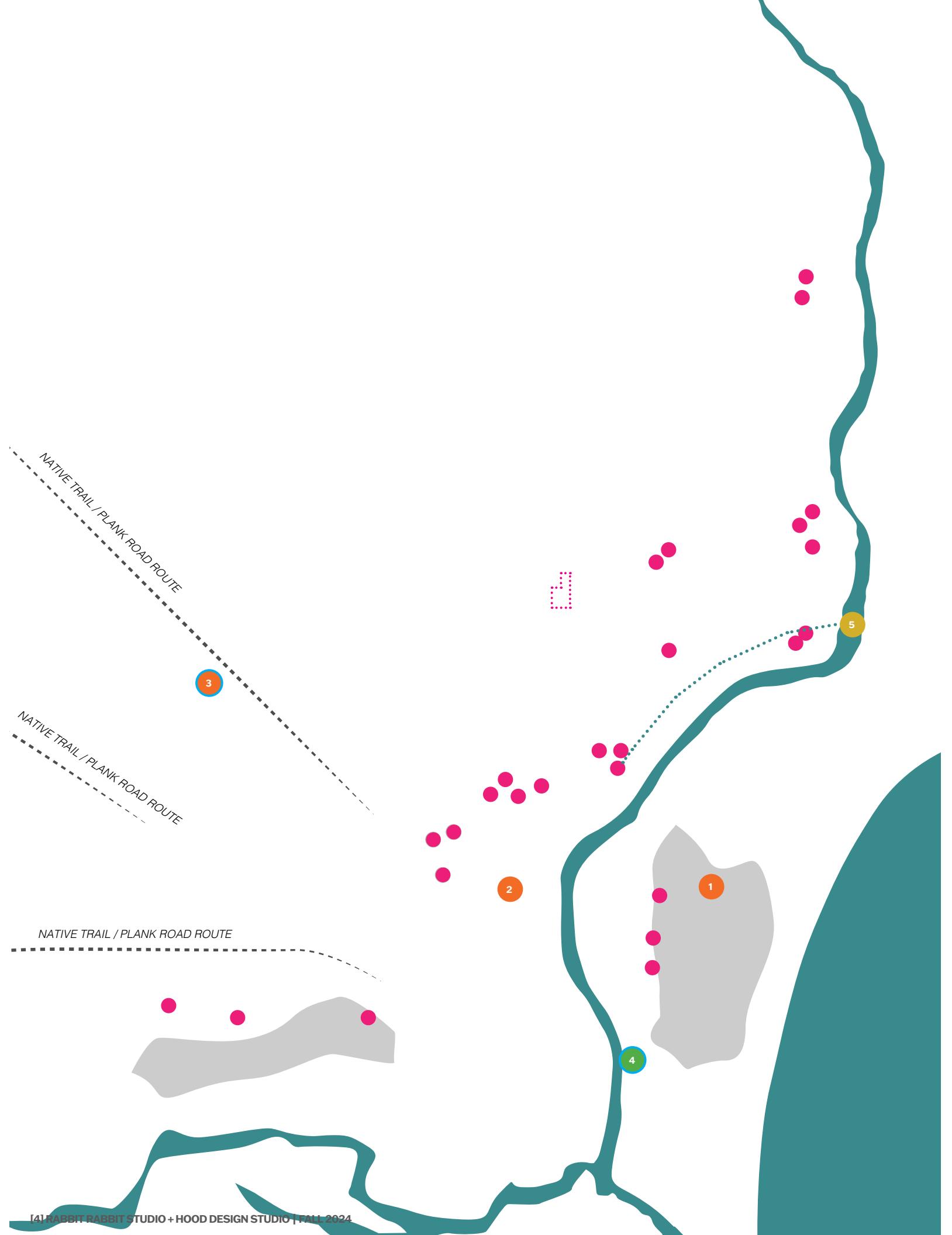
Della Wells, Artist and Board member of BCA

Teju Ologboni, Artist, Storyteller, Griot

Prof. Sheri Pannell, Thespian, Theater Professor at Peck School of the Arts at UW Milwaukee

Evelyn Terry, Artist (connected to by Della Wells)

Interactive timeline/maps on display at the engagement event at the America's Black Holocaust Museum



# 11,000 BCE - 1845 GATHERING PLACE

**BLACK POPULATION:** 25\*  
**TOTAL POPULATION:** 9,508\*\*  
\*1842 \*\*1846

Indigenous people established a gathering site on the land that is now known as Milwaukee after the end of the last Ice Age.

People migrated and traded along rivers and over land. Tribes in the area included, and include today: Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk, Menominee, Ojibwe, Oneida, Fox, Sauk, Odawa, and Mohican.

In the 1600s and 1700s, French and then English people began participating in these trade routes.

## 1600S INDIAN VILLAGES

Wigwams were built on bluffs by the Milwaukee and Menominee rivers, rice was grown in the Menominee river valley.

### 1 1818 JUNEAUTOWN

Solomon Juneau established Juneautown as a trading center on behalf of the American Fur Trading Co. Joe Oliver, a Black cook, worked in Juneautown and voted in the city's first election.

### 2 1835 KILBOURNTOWN

Land surveyor from Ohio had area west of the river included in a land survey despite being Potawatomi land where he established a settlement as a real estate investment.

### 3 1842 DEACON SAMUEL BROWN'S FARM

Abolitionist farm, sheltered Caroline Quarles as she escaped slavery. Brown purchased the lot in 1835, the first to purchase any land in Kilbourntown. Thousands of escaping slavery sheltered here.

### 800-1200 EFFIGY MOUNDS

Indigenous people built effigy mounds along waterways, created in abstract shapes or to evoke animals or birds. Most have been developed over.

### 4 1838 EMPORIUM OF FASHION

William Green opened a successful Barber shop, one of the first Black owned Businesses.

### 4 1840S MILWAUKEE HOUSE

The Milwaukee House employed Robert Titball, former slave, as a barber and a musician. His marriage to Sarah Abel Brown in 1842 was the first between Black people, and Titball sheltered Caroline Quarles, who was being hunted by slave catchers, on her way to Canada.

African and African-descended people came to the Midwest as both free and enslaved people.

What is now the city of Milwaukee was first a trading outpost, and then expanded to a trading center. The most commonly traded goods were furs and lead.



BLOCK



CIVICS



WATER



CULTURE



GREEN SPACE



INDUSTRY



COMMERCE



INFRASTRUCTURE



TRAIL



BCA SITE



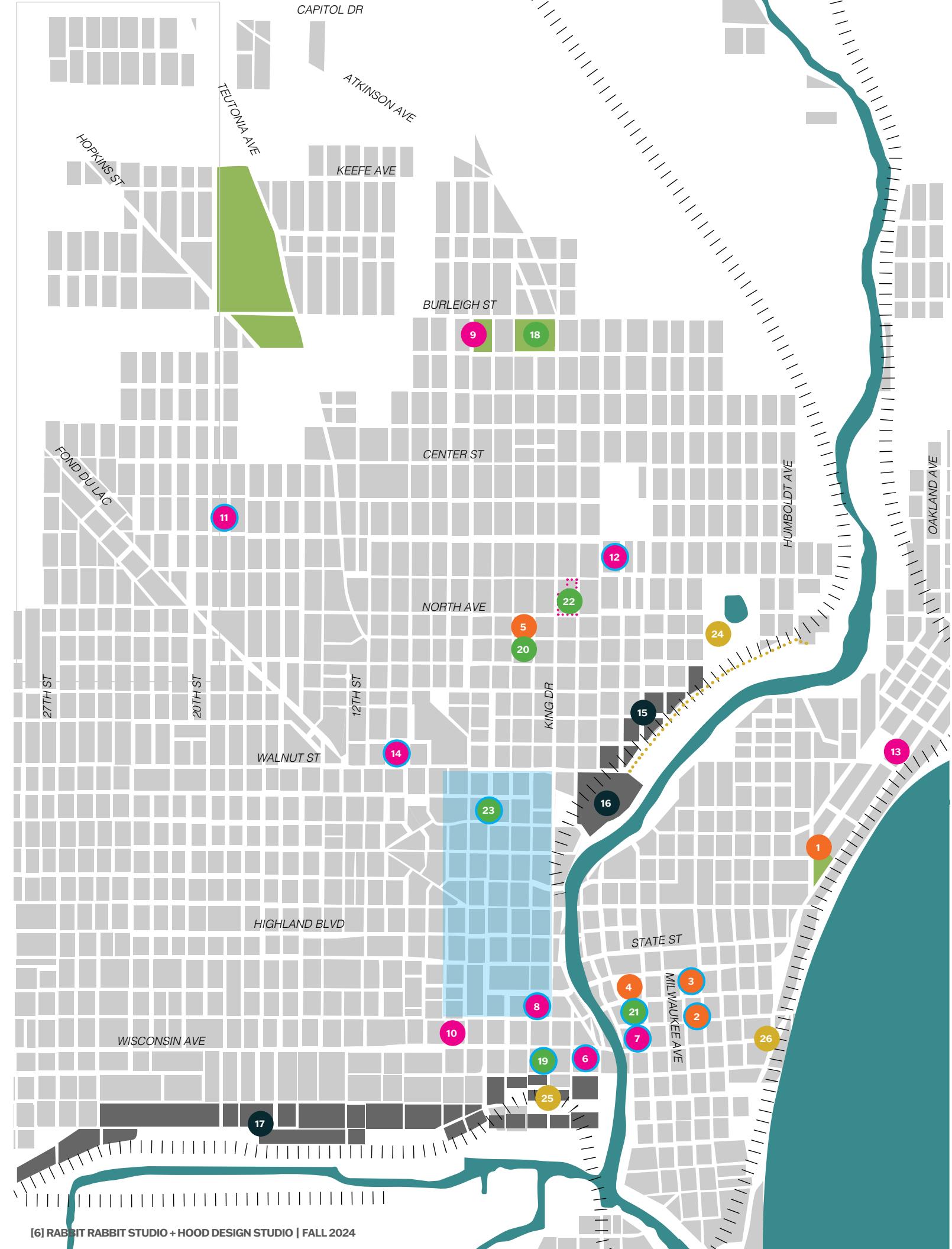
BLACK HISTORY

## 1600S NATIVE TRAILS

Several of Milwaukee's early roads and highways were widened and straightened paths already used by Indigenous people. Oak planks were laid over roads to make wagon and foot traffic easier. Many of these routes are still roads today bearing similar names

### 5 1838 KILBOURN'S NORTH AVE DAM & CANAL

Built to connect river to the Mississippi, instead powered industrial mills along the canal. (The construction of railroads made its construction less cost effective).



# 1846 - 1919 INDUSTRIALIZATION

**BLACK POPULATION:**  
TOTAL POPULATION:  
\*1920

Juneautown & Kilbourntown merged to create the City of Milwaukee in 1846. Milwaukee became an important site on the Underground Railroad due to its status as a major railway hub and a port city, as well as the presence of a concentration of engaged Abolitionists. Most Black residents arrive from the upper South, or other Midwest cities like Chicago.

Agricultural processing such as brewing, milling and meat packing expand, then are surpassed by

## 1 1847 FIRST WARD PARK

Donated by James H Rogers, later named Franklin Square now Burns Commons. One of Milwaukee's first parks.

## 2 1852 EZEKIEL GILLESPIE

Grocer, and later, a porter who escaped slavery. He sued for his right to vote, and in 1866 the Wisconsin Supreme Court grants Gillespie and all Black men suffrage.

## 3 1854 JOSHUA GLOVER

Thousands protested and freed Joshua Glover, who had escaped Slavery in Missouri, was re-captured and then held in Milwaukee County Jail.

## 4 1895 MILWAUKEE CITY HALL

## 5 1902 GARFIELD SCHOOL

## 6 1851 AMERICAN HOUSE

Lyman Benjamin, cook at the American House and a property owner – collects and brings art by Black craftsmen to the Crystal Palace Expo in London.

## 7 1859 JONATHAN MEYERS

Joined American Colonization Society, grocer, travels to Africa with his son, establishes museum of African art and culture.

## 8 1869 ST. MARKS

First AME church in Milwaukee founded.

## 9 1888 ATHLETIC FIELD

A baseball field , later called Borchert Field, opens. Frozen in winter for skating!

## 10 1898 PUBLIC LIBRARY AND PUBLIC MUSEUM

## 11 1904 2522 N 18TH ST HOUSE BUILT

## 12 1906 2463 N PALMER ST HOUSE BUILT

## 13 1909 ALLIS HOUSE BUILT

Charles Allis, heir to Allis-Chalmers money built his house. (father was first president of the company)

2,200\*  
457,147\*

manufacturing of iron, steel, and machinery. Socialists rise to power in the early 1900s and design the city's expansion. The city's Black population is small and is mostly employed in hotels and other service industries. King Drive (then 3rd Street) develops as a commercial center for a mostly German neighborhood with dry goods stores, saloons, butcher shops and bakeries. In 1890 electric streetcar service commences.



BLOCK



WATER



GREEN SPACE



INDUSTRY



COMMERCE



RAILROAD



TRAIL



BCA SITE



1880 COMMERCIAL STREET

Conversion to steam power, canal is filled.



1880 MILWAUKEE UNION STATION



Serves the "Milwaukee Road"



1890 LAKE FRONT DEPOT

## 14 1919 MILWAUKEE URBAN LEAGUE

## 15 1840S AGRICULTURAL PROCESSING

Flour milling, slaughtering and meat packing (especially of pork), tanning, and brewing (employed very few Black workers).

## 16 1870 SCHLITZ BREWERY

Moves from 4th & Juneau. By 1890 expands to several blocks.

## 16 1880 F. MAYER BOOT & SHOE COMPANY

## 17 1870S MENOMONEE VALLEY

Digging Canals and dredging creates land for industrialization. Falk, Miller, Milwaukee Road brewing, some manufacturing.

## 18 1866 PABST PARK

First a shooting range, it develops into a beer garden and then, in 1890, an amusement park.

## 19 1867 PLANKINTON HOUSE HOTEL

Largest employer of Black workers alongside other hotels.

## 20 1884 SCHUSTER'S

Department store opens

## 21 1902 TURF HOTEL

Joe Slaughter, a pullman porter from Virginia, got into gambling, made some money, and opened the hotel with a white partner in the city's vice district known as "the badlands."

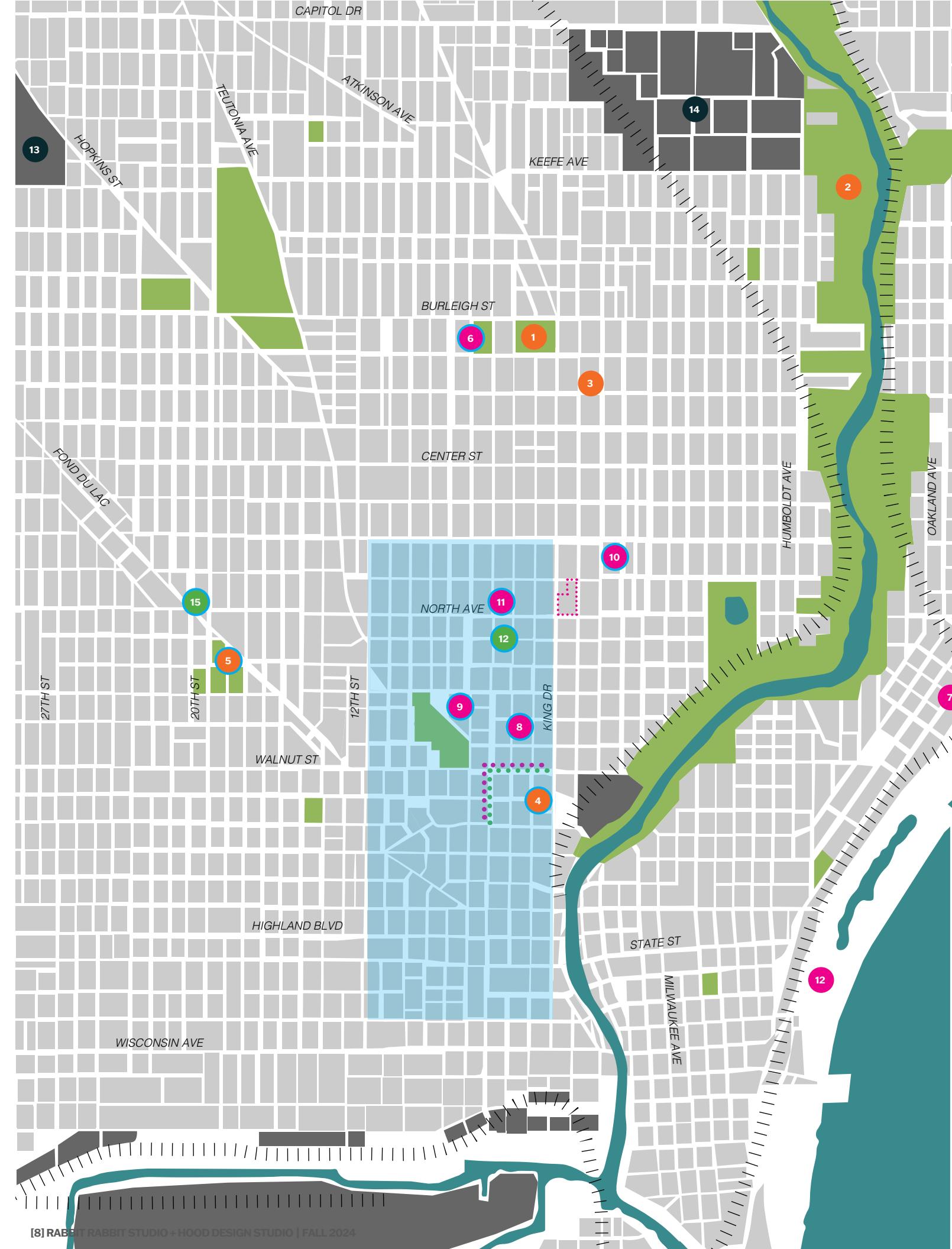
## 22 1911 FIRST WISCONSIN NATIONAL BANK

## 23 1918 BLACK COMMERCIAL BLOCK

Cluster of Black owned businesses

## 24 1873 KILBOURN RESERVOIR

Provides fresh water, rivers and lake are polluted with sewage. Connected with 58 miles of water mains



# 1920 - 1959 GREAT MIGRATION

**BLACK POPULATION:** 62,458\*  
**TOTAL POPULATION:** 741,324\*  
**\*1960**

Major industrial expansion, particularly in brewing and manufacturing, drive the city's economy and encourage an influx of migrants. Many are Black migrants escaping Jim Crow laws in the South. During World War II, weapons manufacturing booms. In the 20s and 30s, Walnut Street emerges as a central Black commercial and cultural district. Third Street continues to thrive as a commercial corridor until the Capitol Court mall is built in 1956. Housing stock begins to age and

become dilapidated. Redlining further deteriorated Black neighborhoods: government-backed mortgages were constrained by the Home Owner's Loan Corporation, which assessed neighborhoods in Milwaukee's inner core to be "high-risk" due to the presence of Black and Jewish residents. Electric street car service ends in 1958.

The first plans for an expressway are made in the 40s, by 1949 plans were considering the 16th street corridor for the north-south expressway. The 1956 National Interstate and Defense Highway Act is passed, creating funding opportunities.

## 1 1921 GARFIELD PARK

Pabst sells its theme park to the city after Prohibition passes, makes it into a park.

## 2 1923 CHARLES WHITNALL'S MASTER PLAN

Charles Whitnalls, a socialist, 1923 master plan established parks along water ways. Proponent of Garden City planning, and connected socialist ideals to city planning.

## 3 1946 TO 2006 FRANK ZEIDLER'S HOUSE

Frank Zeidler, social democrat, elected mayor (1956). Mayor's study committee on social and infrastructure problems in the inner core area of the city, "the Zeidler report" comes out in 1960

## 4 1950S ST MARKS AME CHURCH

## 5 1950S JOHNSON PARK

where deacon brown's spot on the underground railroad used to be, after houses were demolished for an expressway that was never built, now Clarence and cleopatra johnson park was built

## 6 1923 MILWAUKEE BEARS

Negro National League baseball team, lasted only one year

## 7 1924 LLOYD SMITH VILLA TERRACE BUILT

President of AO Smith Corporation has house built

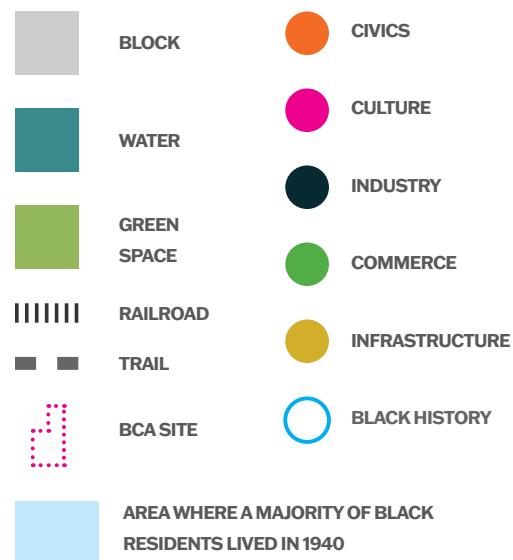
## 8 1930S MILWAUKEE URBAN LEAGUE

Buys Abraham Lincoln House. Previously a Jewish Community Center (address approximate)

## 9 1940 AL JARREAU MOVES HERE

bar in the basement, which provided after-hours music and rooming house for acts.

62,458\*  
 741,324\*



## 11 1955 OZELL'S 502 CLUB

Ozell Howard and Henry King Moore opened Ozell's 502 Club, considered by some to be the oldest licensed black-owned establishment in the city.

## 12 1955 WAR MEMORIAL CENTER

WWII veterans and visual art center, Art museum joins in 1957

## 13 1919 A.O. SMITH CO. FACTORY

AO Smith manufactured weapons during WWII, as well as auto frames, beer tanks, water heater units etc.

## 14 1920S SEAMAN AUTO BODY

Area north of Keefe Ave becomes an industrial district in the 20s, making cars, shoes, pianos, elevators, toys.

## 15 1920S TO 1940S BLACK CULTURAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

Black-owned businesses established restaurants, cafes, hotels, rooming houses, commercial laundries, shoe shine parlors, drug stores, real estate agencies, funeral homes, regular Black weekly. Specific institutions include:

- 1922 THE MILWAUKEE UNIVERSAL NEGRO IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
- 1925 COLUMBIA BUILDING & LOAN BUSINESS

Columbia Building and Loan business started in 1925 is Milwaukee's first black owned financial institution, established by Wilbur and Ardie Halyard (also leaders of local NAACP chapter).

## 16 1925 WISCONSIN ENTERPRISE BLADE

J Anthony Jonesy moved from Madison to Milwaukee and continued publishing his Black Weekly newspaper (1916-1944) challenging discrimination, segregation, and racism. Also participated in YMCA and lobbied for hiring of Black school teachers.

## 17 1937 BOOKER T WASHINGTON BRANCH OF YMCA

## 18 1937 PEOPLE'S COOPERATIVE STORE

Grocery store opened, effort led by Dr. CF Turney (phys.) invested in by community who fundraised \$1800 over 2 years

## 19 1940S 711 CLUB

Run by Clinton (Joe) Harris, one of city's wealthiest Black people, benefactor to many cultural institutions.

## 20 1940 THE GOODEN & ARD SMOKE SHOP

Known as policy headquarters. Run by Charles "Smoky" Gooden.

## 21 1945 - 1950S CASABLANCA HOTEL

Hosted major musical acts that came through to play in Jazz and Blues clubs such as Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington and Billie Holiday, as Black people couldn't stay in white-owned hotels.

## 22 1945 MAYOR OF BRONZEVILLE

Josey J Anthony Elected mayor of bronzeville Other people I found reference to who were referred to as the "mayor of bronzeville" include atty. James Weston Dorsey, passed bar in 1928 and set up a firm, Clarence R. Parrish—head of the local NAACP in the 1960s, and Atty. Leonard Brady who practiced ecclesiastical law since 1950s. Today, Rueben Harpole has been called Milwaukee's "other mayor."

## 23 1949 - 1954 NEGRO BUSINESS DIRECTORY

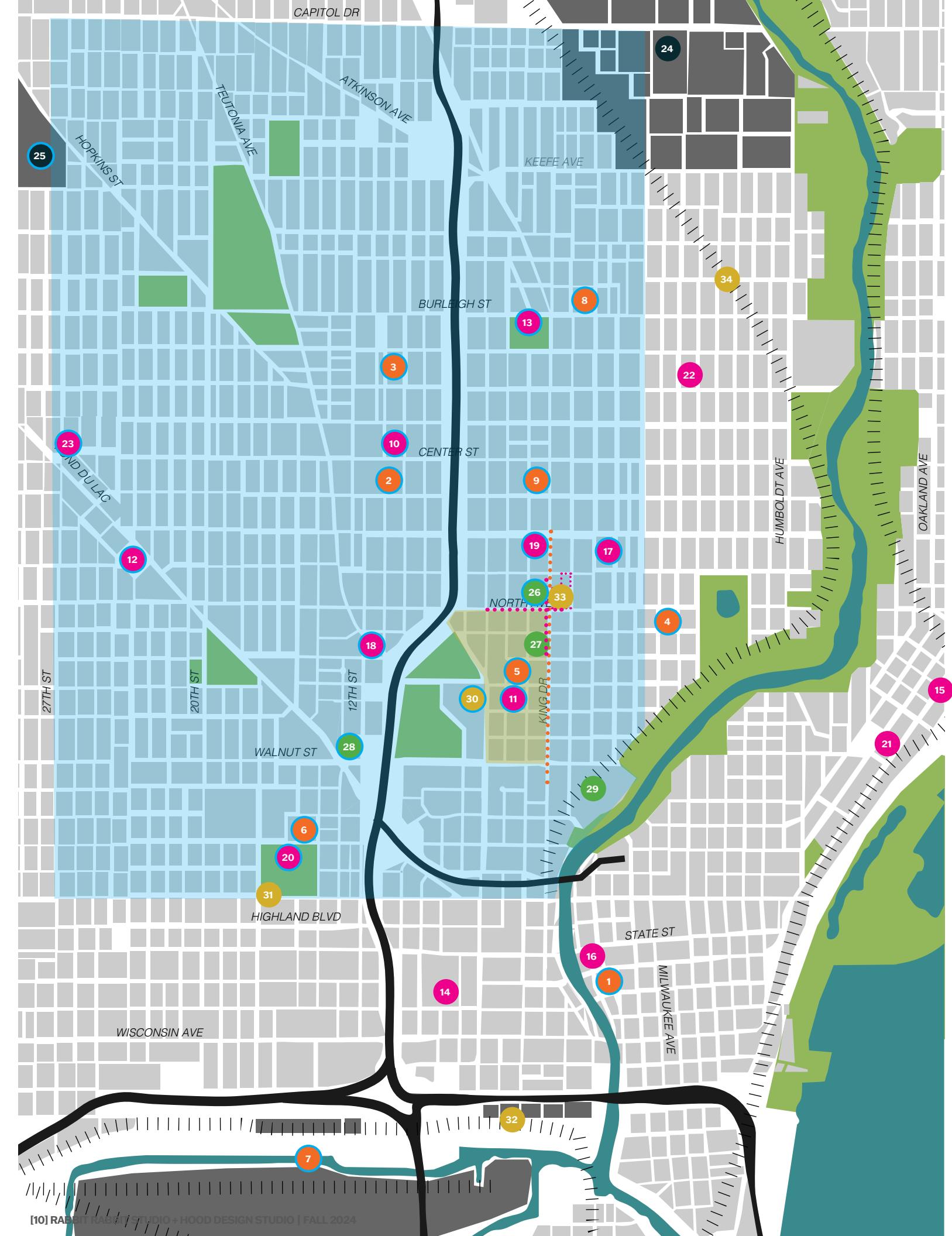
Published by Mary Ellen Shadd-Strong who also owned several other publications including the Milwaukee Courier.

## 24 1953 - 1967 GOLD COAST BAR

## 25 1956 SPEED QUEEN BBQ

## 26 1958 COLUMBIA SAVINGS & LOAN

Moves to 20th & Fond du Lac

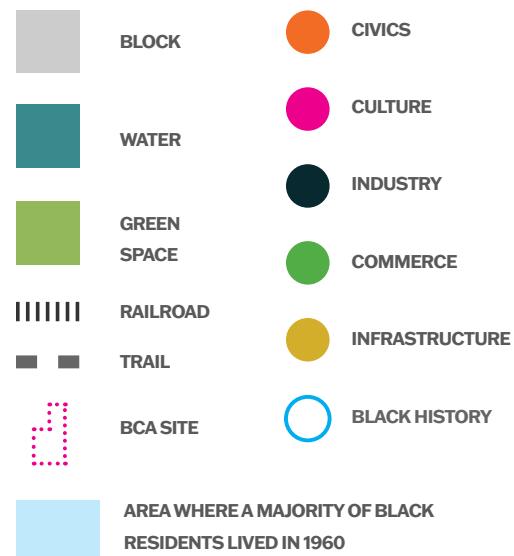


# 1960 - 1991 RAZING & DEVELOPMENT

**BLACK POPULATION:** 222,933\*  
**TOTAL POPULATION:** 595,991\*  
**\*2000**

In 1960, 14,000+ homes are razed both to make way for the I-43 highway (completed 1968) and as a part of clearance efforts to remove older housing stock. Over 50% of the people displaced are Black. White residents, able to secure mortgages and purchase homes outside the inner core, move away from the city's center. The housing stock that survives the widespread razing is in need of serious repair. Some development in this era is Black led, such as the Halyard Park development, but most is not. During

the 60s Black led protests and riots respond to segregation in housing and schools and to racist police violence. These actions precipitate enforcement of federal civil rights laws, as well as changes in local laws and policy. Third Street becomes a ghost of its commercial past. The Upper Third Street Association proposes urban renewal investment in an attempt to revitalize the district. Many industrial plants close, reducing economic opportunity. In 1992 the Historic King Drive Business Improvement district forms, encapsulating Schlitz Park and King Drive between McKinley & Locust streets.



## 1 1962 - 67 PHILLIPS HOUSING ORDINANCE

Vel Phillips, first Black person and first woman elected to the common council.

## 2 1963 ST BONIFACE CHURCH

Father Groppi's church, unofficial headquarters of Youth NAACP, organizing and community resources.

## 3 1964 - 1967 ST MATTHEWS CME CHURCH

Headquarters of Milwaukee United School Integration Committee (MUSIC).

## 4 1965 VEL PHILLIPS HOUSE

## 5 1966 5TH ST FREEDOM HOUSE

The Milwaukee NCAAP Youth Council Headquarters

## 6 1966 15TH ST FREEDOM HOUSE

## 7 1967-68 MARCH FOR HOUSING RIGHTS

Vel Phillips and the Milwaukee NAACP youth march for open housing bill, lasts 200 days through winter, joined by MUL and others.

## 8 1967 RIOTS

Starting due to rumours of Police violence. Police had a base at the Schuster building.

## 9 1969 HARAMBEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

## 10 1990S VICTORY OVER VIOLENCE PARK

Created by Jeanetta Simpson-Robinson

## 11 1960S MILWAUKEE URBAN LEAGUE

## 12 1964 MILWAUKEE COURIER

Established by Mary Ellen Shadd-Strong

## 13 1977 SATIN DOLLS LOUNGE

## 14 1960S-70S GALLERY TOWARDS A BLACK AESTHETIC

George Edwards began a gallery, across from the Schuster building, that showed Black artists.

## 15 1960S-90S MILWAUKEE INNER CITY ARTS COUNCIL

In the old firehouse on north ave, a mural by Reynaldo Hernandez was painted in the 80s

## 16 1960S MILWAUKEE STAR

Civil rights newspaper "voice of the negro in Wisconsin." Later combined with the Milwaukee Courier, and operated until 2005.

## 17 1966 - 86 ECHO MAGAZINE

Black arts and culture magazine begun by Virgina Williams.

## 18 1968 THE PEOPLE'S THEATER CO.

Gerald Wallace built a 40 seat theater in the basement of his office for rehearsals and some performances, at the time the only Black theater company in the state.

## 19 1977 BOOBIE'S PLACE

A black club that took over ozell's. pLayed jazz & blues

## 20 1988 AMERICA'S BLACK HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

Founded by James Cameron, survivor of a lynching attempt.

## 21 1964 - 2000S AL MORELAND

Boxing coach and promoter who trained fighters at his gym, the King center, and Garfield park

## 22 1963 PUBLIC MUSEUM OPENS

## 23 1966 VILLA TERRACE DECORATIVE ARTS MUSEUM

Smith family donates house

## 24 1966 MARCUS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

## 25 1967 CASABLANCA HOTEL MOVES

## 26 1969 NORTH SIDE BRANCH OF YMCA

## 27 1972 UNIVERSITY OF ISLAM

Of a network of schools established by Clara, wife of Elijah Mohammed, Nation of Islam leader.

## 28 1976 KING CENTER

Parks and Rec. Dept developed the Dr. MLK Community Center

## 29 1978 CHARLES ALLIS ART MUSEUM

## 30 1979 WOODLAND PATTERN

Woodland Pattern is a poet- and artist-run nonprofit book center, gallery, and performance space.

## 31 1987 WISCONSIN BLACK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Opened by Clayborn Benson III

## 32 1988 AMERICAN MOTORS CLOSES

## 33 1997 TOWER AUTOMOTIVE

AO Smith Aquired by Tower Automotive, sends many jobs overseas, held by Black people (good wages).

## 34 1965 LENA'S FOOD MARKET

Black owned grocery chain opens first store

## 35 1969 GIMBELS CLOSES

## 36 1975 SPEED QUEEN BBQ MOVES

## 37 1983 SCHLITZ PARK DEVELOPED

Schlitz Brewery closes and is redeveloped as an office park

## 38 1964 LAPHAM PARK PUBLIC HOUSING

## 39 1967 HIGHLAND PARK PUBLIC HOUSING

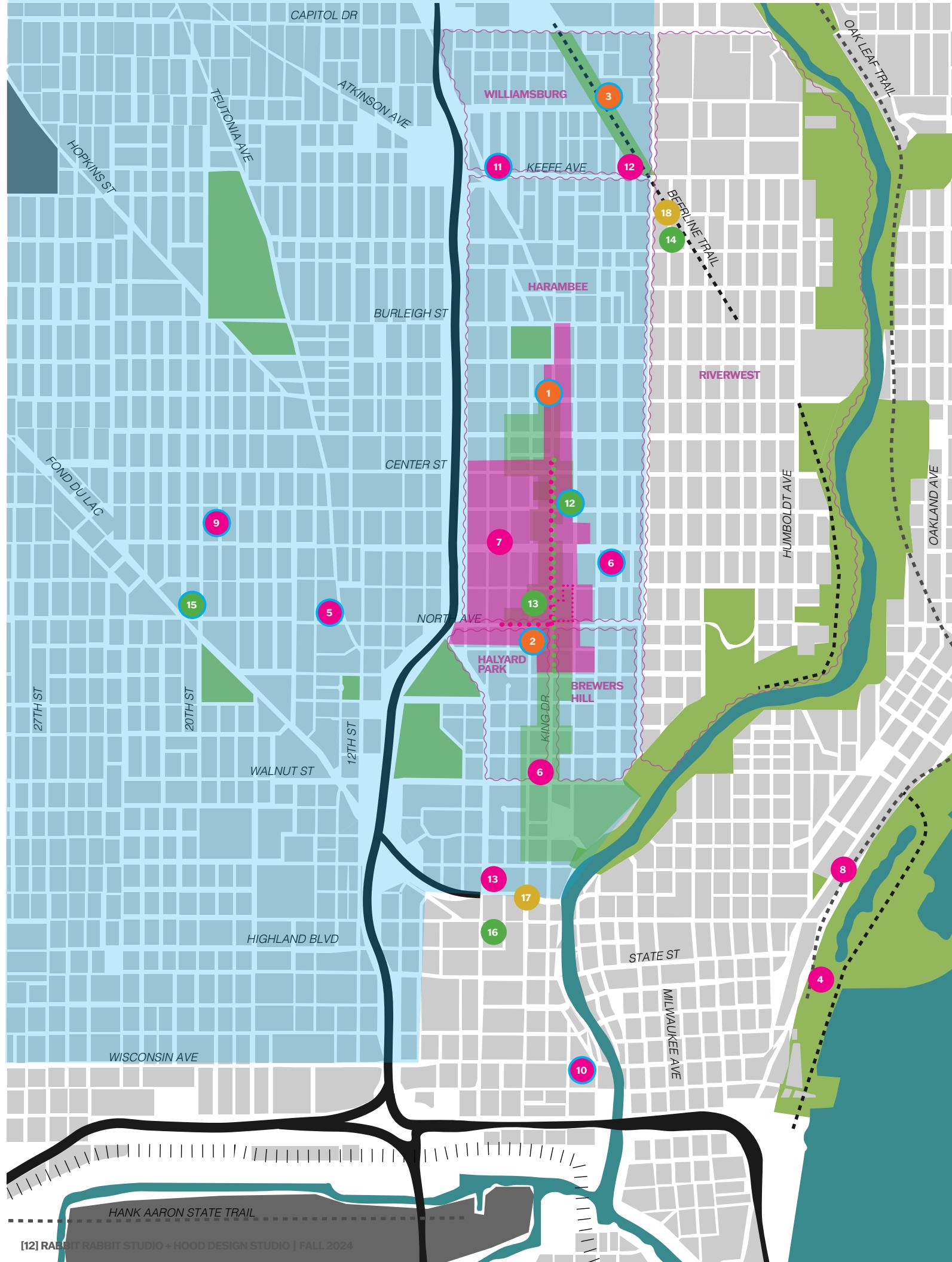
## 40 1965 MILWAUKEE INTERMODAL STATION

## 41 1972 HALYARD PARK DEVELOPMENT

Black realty group takes over abandoned urban renewal site, builds 43 homes, all purchased by Black individuals and families in the 1980s

## 42 1983 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES BUILDING BUILT

## 43 1990S RAILWAY RIGHT OF WAY ABANDONED



# 1992 - 2024 REINVESTMENT

(SOME)  
NEIGHBORHOODS

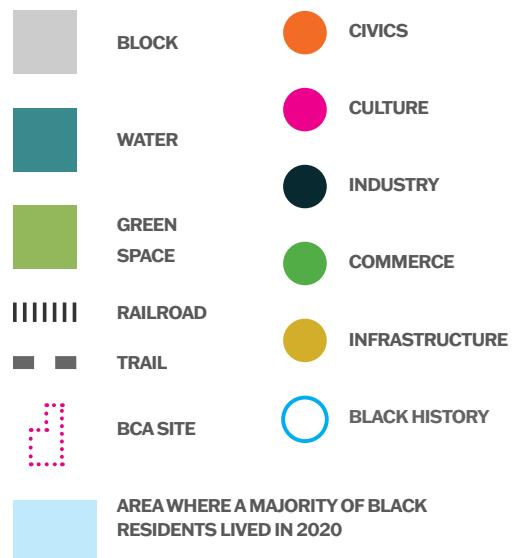
**BLACK POPULATION:**  
**TOTAL POPULATION:**  
**\*2020**

The redevelopment of Bronzeville, initiated with efforts like the creation of the King Drive BID and the Halyard Park redevelopment, are bolstered in the early 2000s. In 2002 the Park East section of I-43 is removed, opening up 24 acres of land and reconnecting the central business district to neighborhoods to the north.

In the 1990s, railway tracks were abandoned, and in the 2000s many were removed and converted into pedestrian and bicycle routes such

**217,698\***  
**576,301\***

as the Beerline Trail, Oak Leaf Trail and Hank Aaron Trail. In 2005 the city creates a redevelopment district called Bronzeville, overlaying parts of Harambee, Halyard Park, and Brewers Hill. Black led development efforts from various sectors take advantage of this city plan and by the late 2010s new housing and businesses join the area especially along King Drive near North Ave.



## 1 2020 GEORGE FLOYD PROTESTS

## 2 2024 HOWARD FULLER CHARTER SCHOOL

## 3 2015 BEERLINE TRAIL LINEAR PARK

Area from Richards to Keefe opens for public use. Hood Design Studio hired to create plan for landscape strategy.

## 4 2001 MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM

Calatrava designed building opens

## 5 2002 NORTHSIDE YMCA OPENS

## 6 2003 GREENWOOD PARK ART GALLERY & FRAMING

(Off map) Created by Mr. Fred Robinson to provide affordable framing & African American Art.

## 7 2003 GREER OAKS GALLERY

African and African-American Art house museum opened by Calvin Greer, wood turner artist, and Dorothy Greer. Hosts shows by African Americans Beginning to Educate Americans about African American Art (ABEA) founded 2002 by Della Wells and Mutópe Johnson among others.

## 8 2005 MILWAUKEE YOUTH ARTS CENTER

## 9 2005 BRONZEVILLE REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

## 10 2008 JEWISH MUSEUM MILWAUKEE

## 11 2000 - 2024 CULTURAL & COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR

A surge of cultural institutions move to or open on King Drive & North Ave

## 12 2000S GREATER MILWAUKEE URBAN LEAGUE

## 13 NAACP MILWAUKEE

## 14 2004 BIRDSONG DISTRIBUTION

Purveyor of scented oils, among other products, Edgar Birdsong first operated out of the now demolished Brooks Plaza (location of Pete's

Fruit Market) and recently purchased the 1965 location of Lena's grocery store.

## 15 2006 GARFIELD 502

Purchased old Boobie's location (closed around 2003), redeveloped it, and created a new bar. Hosts R&B festivals

## 16 2013 ART IS FOR LOVERS

## 17 2016 COPYWRITE MAGAZINE

## 18 2017 THE GRIOT

Garfield School Closes in 2006. Between 2016 - 2017 Garfield School building is redeveloped alongside new construction of "The Griot" building next door. The complex is affordable/artist apartments.

## 19 2016 BLACK & WHITE BARBERSHOP OPENS

## 20 2017 GEE'S CLIPPERS COMBINES MOVES

## 21 2017 PETE'S FRUIT MARKET

BID & community work to get a grocery store, eases food desert conditions in surrounding neighborhoods.

## 22 2018 RISE & GRIND CAFE

## 23 2018 HOMEWORKS: BRONZEVILLE

Homeworks' first live-work space opens. Homeworks launched in 2016 and supported creation of ARCH (Artist Collaborative Hub Program) co-created by Alderwoman Milele A Coggs City sells tax-foreclosed properties for a dollar to arts-focused redevelopment & matching loans up to 25k.

## 24 2018 BRONZEVILLE COLLECTIVE

## 25 2019 THRIVEON KING DEVELOPMENT

announced multi use redevelopment of the old Schuster's building

## 26 2022 PEPPER POT JAMAICAN RESTAURANT

## 27 2023 BRONZEVILLE KITCHEN &

## 28 LOUNGE.

## 29 2022 AMERICA'S BLACK HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

The Americas Black Holocaust Museum, having been without a physical location since 2008, relocates into the ground floor of the Griot, in the same location as its first free-standing building.

## 30 2022 GALLERY 507

Bronzeville Center for the Arts began developing gallery 507, set to open in 2024

## 31 2022 BRONZEVILLE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

BCA purchases state-owned DNR site for future Art Museum

## 32 2009 TERRY MCCORMICK FINE ART AND FOLK GALLERY

Evelyn Terry created a home art gallery after the death of her partner in 2009.

## 33 2012 AYZHA FINE ARTS GALLERY & BOUTIQUE

## 34 2018 5 POINTS ART GALLERY AND STUDIOS

Utilized the ARCH program

## 35 2024 KUUMBA JUICE OPENS

## 36 2024 PUBLIC MUSEUM

Groundbreaking for new natural history museum—set to open 2027.

## 37 1992 HISTORIC KING DRIVE BID

## 38 1992 RIVERWORKS DEV. CORP

## 39 1999 BLACK OWNED LEGACY BANK, 2017 SEAWAY BANK CLOSES

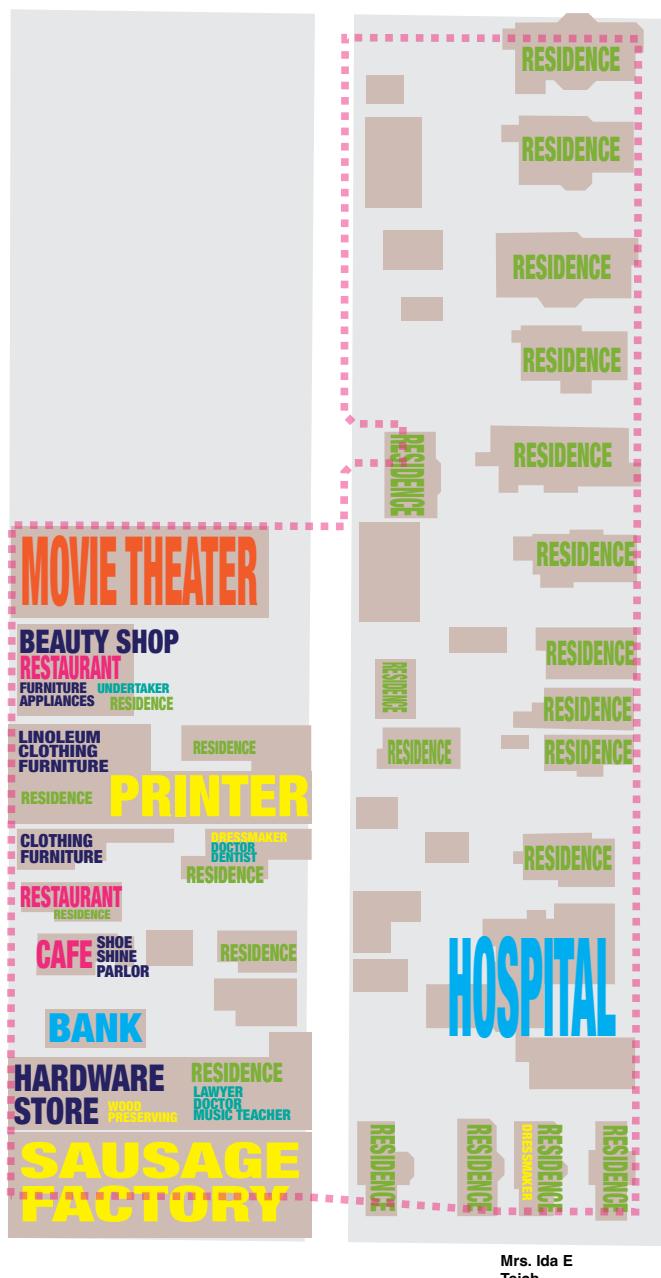
## 40 2018 FISERV FORUM

## 41 2002 PARK EAST TEAR DOWN

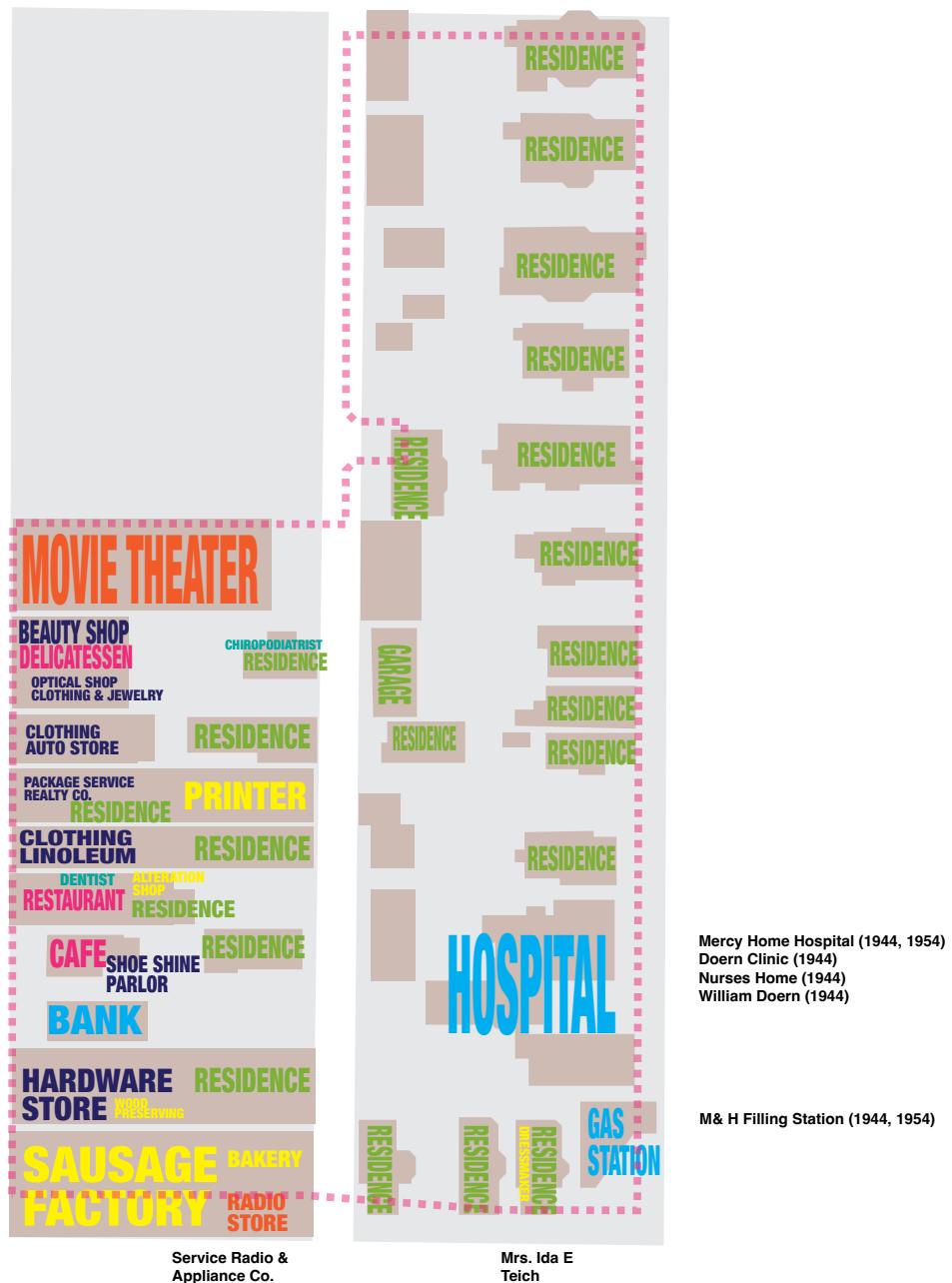
## 42 2002 RAILWAY REMOVAL

Residents together with the City of Milwaukee began to remove the railroad to make way for the Beerline Trail. Similar efforts were made throughout the city.

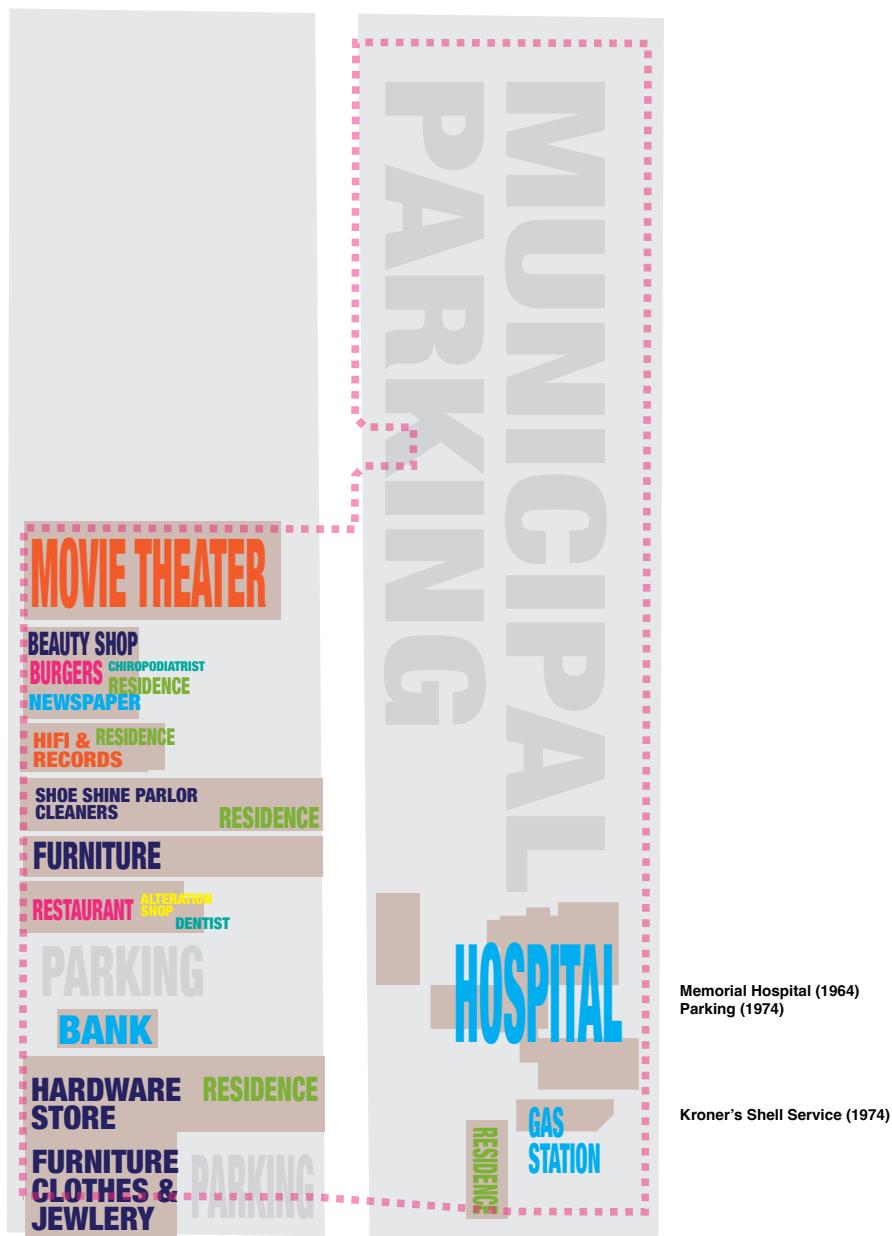
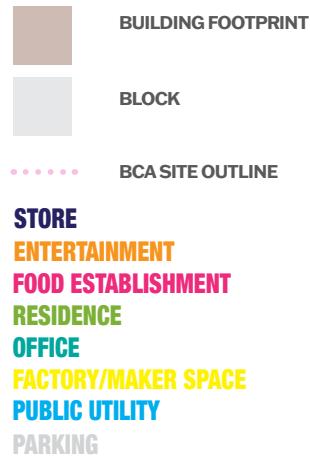
# 1924 - 1934 SITE USES



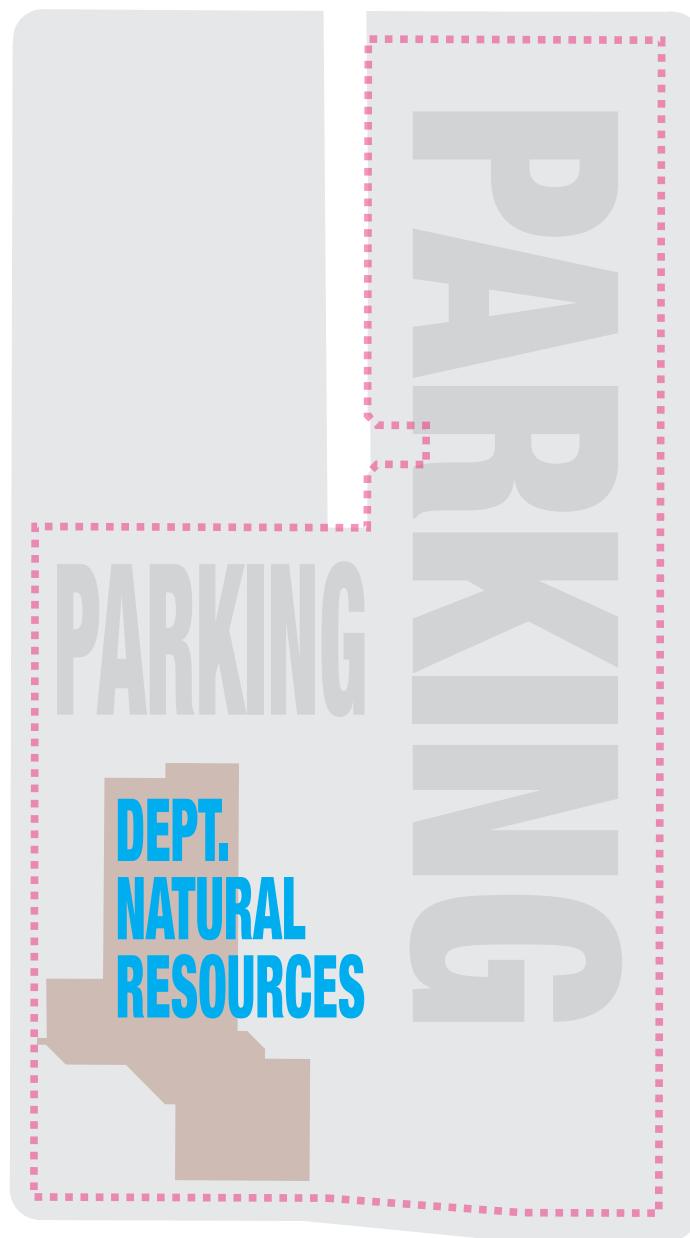
# 1944 - 1954 SITE USES



# 1964 - 1974 SITE USES



# 1984 - 2024 SITE USES



# BIBLIOGRAPHY

## Archival Sources

- City Directories of Milwaukee, Zeidler Humanites Room, Milwaukee Public Library
- Sanborn Fire insurance maps of the 2300 King Drive area
- Upper Third Street Commercial district publications

settlers, WUWM 2022

Ezekiel Gillespie, Lost & Found, Wisconsin magazine of history 1977

## Books

Black Milwaukee: The Making of an Industrial Proletariat, 1915-45, by Joe Trotter

The Selma of the North: Civil Rights Insurgency in Milwaukee, by Patrick D. Jones

Continually Working: Black Women, Community Intellectualism and Economic Justice in Postwar Milwaukee by Crystal Marie Moten

Milwaukee: City of Neighborhoods by John Gurda

## Online Sources:

Milwaukee Public Library online archives

UW Milwaukee's archives, March on Milwaukee

The Encyclopedia of Milwaukee (online)

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Shepherd Express

The Wisconsin Historical Society's online archives

The Wisconsin Black Historical Society's learning center

Milwaukee County Historical Society online Archives

Maps are based on USGS Topographic Surveys

Articles & online documents:

Milwaukee built on 200 Indian mounds, Milwaukee Journal, 1923

The Antiquities of Wisconsin, Increase Lapham, 1855

Central Business District, Historic Resources Survey

A look at Milwaukee's early Black

# ADDRESSES USED

(Modern addresses, as of Fall 2024. In order of appearance in this document.)

## 1600s Indigenous Villages

Locations described in "Milwaukee built on 200 Indian mounds" Milwaukee Journal, 1923

## 1818 Juneautown

North Water St. & East Wisconsin Ave

## 1835 Kilbourntown

1110 North King Drive

## 1842 Deacon Samuel Brown's Farm

16th Street and Fond du Lac Avenue

## 800-1200 Effigy Mounds

Locations sourced from map in *The Antiquities of Wisconsin*, Increase Lapham, 1855

## 1838 Emporium Of Fashion

Marine Plaza, Wisconsin St.

## 1840s Milwaukee House

Wisconsin and Broadway Streets

## 1600s Indigenous Routes

Locations sourced from map in *The Antiquities of Wisconsin*, Increase Lapham, 1855

## 1838 Kilbourn's North Ave Dam & Canal

North Ave/ Milwaukee River and Commercial Street

## 1847 First Ward Park

1300 N Franklin Pl

## 1852 Ezekiel Gillespie

Milwaukee & Mason St (residential address)

## 1854 Joshua Glover

Cathedral Square Park

## 1895 Milwaukee City Hall

200 E. Wells St.

## 1902 Garfield School

2205 Vel R Phillips Ave

## 1851 American House

161 W. Wisconsin Ave

1859 Jonathan Meyers

Water St. and Mason St.

1869 St. Marks

4th Street and W Kilbourn Ave

1888 Athletic Field

8th, 7th Street, Chambers and Burleigh

1898 Public Library And Public Museum

818 & 814 West Wisconsin Av

1904 2522 N 18th St House Built

2522 N 18th St

1906 2463 N Palmer St House Built

2463 N Palmer St

1909 Allis House Built

1801 N Prospect Ave

1919 Milwaukee Urban League

904 w Vine St.

1840s Agricultural Processing

Commercial Street

1870 Schlitz Brewery

King Drive and Walnut Streets

1880 F. Mayer Boot & Shoe Company

King Drive and Walnut Streets

1870s Menomonee Valley

Menomenee Valley

1866 Pabst Park

King Drive & Burleigh

1867 Plankinton House Hotel

331 West Wisconsin Ave

1884 Schuster's

2151 N. King Drive

1902 Turf Hotel

217 Wells St.

1911 First Wisconsin National Bank

2312 N King Dive

1918 Black Commercial Block

6th between Cherry & Vliet

1873 Kilbourn Reservoir

Kilbourn Park

1880 Commercial Street

Commercial Street

1880 Milwaukee Union Station

West Everett St. between 2nd & 4th streets

1890 Lake Front Depot

918 East Wisconsin Avenue

1921 Garfield Park

King Drive & Burleigh

1923 Charles Whitnall's Master Plan

Parks along Milwaukee River

1946 - 2006 Frank Zeidler's House

2nd & Locust

1950s St Marks AME Church

1517 N 4th st

1950s Johnson Park

1919 W Fond du Lac Ave

1923 Milwaukee Bears

8th, 7th Street, Chambers and Burleigh

1924 Lloyd Smith Villa Terrace Built

2220 N. Terrace Ave.

1930s Milwaukee Urban League

Abraham Lincoln House - Halyard Park, address unknown, 904 w vine st in 1950s

1940 Al Jarreau Moves Here

336 W Reservoir St.

1953 Jones-Hill House

2463 N Palmer St

1955 Ozell's 502 Club

502 W. Garfield Ave

1955 War Memorial Center

750 N Lincoln Memorial Dr.

1919 A.o. Smith Co. Factory

3533 N 27th St

1920s Seaman Auto Body

Keefe & Richards & Holton

1922 The Milwaukee Universal Negro Improvement Association specific address unknown	1967 Riots King Drive, epicenter at 3rd & North, sparked at 3rd & Walnut	1972 University Of Islam 317 w Wright St
1925 Columbia Building & Loan Business <i>6th &amp; Reservoir, then 6th &amp; Vliet</i>	1969 Harambee Community School 110 W Burleigh St	1976 King Center 1531 W Vliet St
1937 Booker T Washington Branch Of Ymca <i>734 West Walnut in 1937</i>	1990s Victory Over Violence Park 2625 N Doctor M.L.K. Jr Dr.	1978 Charles Allis Art Museum 1801 N Prospect Ave
1937 People's Cooperative Store 1800 N 7th St	1960s Milwaukee Urban League 936 W Center St	1979 Woodland Pattern 720 E Locust St
1940s 711 Club <i>711 West Walnut</i>	1964 Milwaukee Courier 936 W Center St	1987 Wisconsin Black Historical Society 27th & West Center street
1940 The Gooden & Ard Smoke Shop 1426 N 6th Street	1977 Satin Dolls Lounge 2337 W Fond du lac	1988 American Motors Closes Keefe & Richards & Holton
1945 - 1950s Casablanca Hotel 1641 North 4th St	1960s-70s Gallery Towards A Black Aesthetic Garfield & Vel R Phillips (parking lot now)	1997 Tower Automotive 3533 N 27th St
1945 Mayor Of Bronzeville 715 w Somers St	1960s-90s Milwaukee Inner City Arts Council 642 North Ave	1965 Lena's Food Market 338 W. North Ave
1949 - 1954 Negro Business Directory 2126 N 7th St	1960s Milwaukee Star 2334 N King Drive	1969 Gimbel's Closes 2151 N. King Drive
1953 - 1967 Gold Coast Bar 638 w Walnut	1966 - 86 Echo Magazine 2200 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive	1975 Speed Queen Bbq Moves 12th & Walnut
1956 Speed Queen Bbq 5th & Vliet	1968 The People's Theater Co. 2208 North King Drive	1983 Schlitz Park Developed King Drive & Walnut
1958 Columbia Savings & Loan 20th & Fond du Lac	1977 Boobie's Place 502 W. Garfield Ave.	1964 Lapham Park Public Housing 1901 N 6th St
1962 - 67 Phillips Housing Ordinance Milwaukee City Hall 200 E. Wells St.	1988 America's Black Holocaust Museum 401 W North Ave	1967 Highland Park Public Housing 1110 N 17th St
1963 St Boniface Church 1122 W Clarke St,	1964 - 2000s Al Moreland Rose Park	1965 Milwaukee Intermodal Station 433 West Saint Paul Avenue
1964 - 1967 St Matthews CME Church 2944 N 9th ST	1963 Public Museum Opens 800 West Wells	1972 Halyard Park Development Halyard Park Neighborhood
1965 Vel Phillips House 2237 N. Booth St.	1966 Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum 2220 N. Terrace Ave.	1983 Department Of Natural Resources Building Built 2300 King Drive
1966 5th St Freedom House 2026 North Fifth Street	1966 Marcus Performing Arts Center 929 N Water St	1990s Railway right of way abandoned Beerline Trail
1966 15th St Freedom House 1316 North Fifteenth Street	1967 Casablanca Hotel Moves 2463 N Palmer St	2020 George Floyd Protests W Locust & King Dr
1967-68 March For Housing Rights 16th St Viaduct	1969 North Side Branch Of YMCA 12th & Garfield	2024 Howard Fuller Charter School 2212 N. Vel R. Phillips Avenue
		2015 Beerline Trail Linear Park Beerline Trail between richards & Keefe Sts

2001 Milwaukee Art Museum	2236 N Doctor M.L.K. Jr Dr
700 N Art Museum Dr	2019 Thriveon King Development
2002 Northside YMCA Opens	2151 N. King Drive
1350 W. North Ave. Milwaukee	2022 Pepper Pot Jamaican Restaurant
2003 Greenwood Park Art Gallery & Framing	2215 N Doctor M.L.K. Jr Dr
233 W Fond du Lac Ave	2023 Bronzeville Kitchen & Lounge
2003 Greer Oaks Gallery	2053 N Doctor M.L.K. Jr Dr
2463 N. Palmer St.	2022 America's Black Holocaust Museum
2005 Milwaukee Youth Arts Center	401 W North Ave
325 W Walnut St	2022 Gallery 507
2005 Bronzeville Redevelopment District	507 North Ave
from city redevelopment plan	2022 Bronzeville Center For The Arts
2008 Jewish Museum Milwaukee	2300 King Drive
1360 N Prospect Ave	2009 Terry McCormick Fine Art And Folk Gallery
2000s Greater Milwaukee Urban League	2522 North 18th Street
435 W North Ave	2012 Ayzha Fine Arts Gallery & Boutique
NAACP Milwaukee	161 West Wisconsin Ave
2745 N. Dr. Martin Luther King	2018 5 Points Art Gallery And Studios
2004 Birdsong Distribution	3514 N. Port Ave
338 W North Ave	2024 Kuumba Juice Opens
2006 Garfield 502	274 E Keefe Ave
502 W Garfield Ave	2024 Public Museum
2013 Art Is For Lovers	Sixth and McKinley streets
2228 N Dr Martin Luther King Dr	1992 Historic King Drive BID
2016 Copywrite Magazine	1992 Riverworks dev. corp
2201 N Doctor Martin Luther King Drive	526 E Concordia Ave
2017 The Griot	1999 Legacy Bank
2235 N Vel R. Phillips Ave	2102 W. Fond du Lac Avenue
2016 Black & White Barbershop Opens	2017 Seaway Bank Closes
2201 N Doctor M.L.K. Jr Dr	2102 W. Fond du Lac Avenue
2017 Gee's Clippers Combines Moves	2018 Fiserv Forum
2200 N Doctor M.L.K. Jr Dr	1111 N Vel R. Phillips Ave
2017 Pete's Fruit Market	2002 Park East Tear Down
2323 N Doctor M.L.K. Jr Dr	
2018 Rise & Grind Cafe	
2737 N Doctor M.L.K. Jr Dr	
2018 Homeworks: Bronzeville	
2408 N. Vel R. Phillips Avenue	
2018 Bronzeville Collective	