



Niagara-On-The-Lake (NOTL) Museum's Museum Assistance Application (MAA) User Manual (Staff version)

Welcome!

Hello new and returning users of the Niagara-On-The-Lake (NOTL) Museum's Museum Assistance Application (MAA). In this user manual, we hope to provide you with the steps to help you install the program, get started with it and introduce you to the more advanced features of the program.

The MAA was designed with enhancing the user's experience at the museum in mind. This also requires commitment from the staff's end in terms of making sure the contents on the map accurately reflect what is on display in real life. Thus, we have provided you (the staff) with features to help with managing the map's content so that together we can create a better experience for the museum's visitors.

For the user manual for non-staff users (i.e., museum visitors), please click [here](#).

Important Information

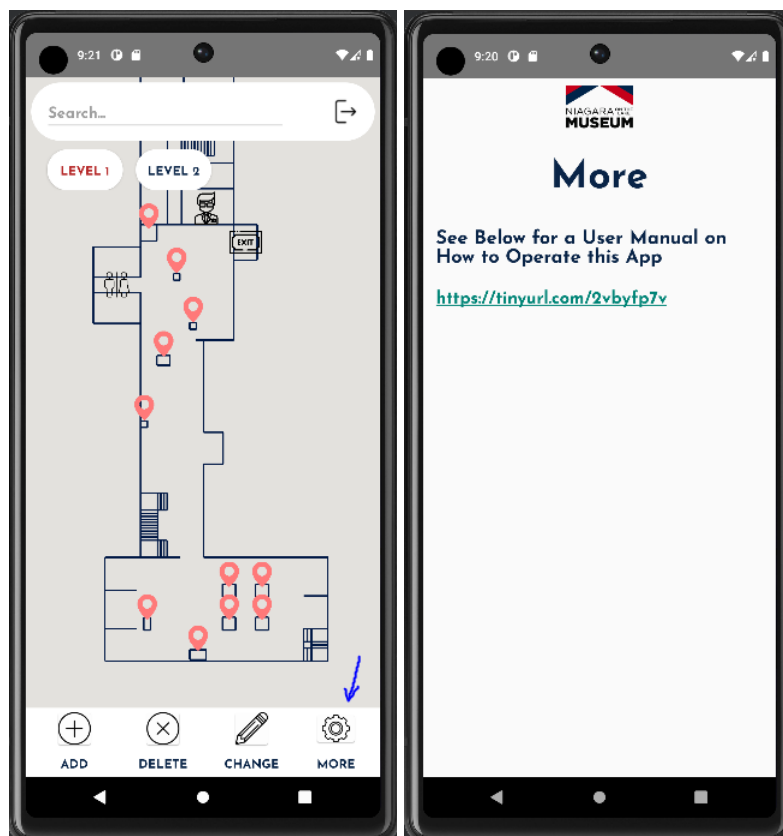
As a staff, you are able to get access to staff only functions which will **require** you to log-in. To log-in, please ask the database administrator to help you create an account or if you already have one then use the account given to you by the administrator. These staff features include the following:

- Ability to add new and remove existing exhibits to the map
- Ability to edit existing exhibits (also referred to as showcases)
 - Changing the items inside of exhibits
 - Changing the exhibit details (such as size and location)

Note that all of these staff features require an internet connection to work. This is because an internet connection is required to log-in, but is also needed to load all the exhibits so that you can save the changes you made to them.

Where the Manual is Located in the App

However, if you do have internet access, you may access this manual at any time from within the app after logging in. Just go to the “More” tab and the link is provided there:



Installation Guide

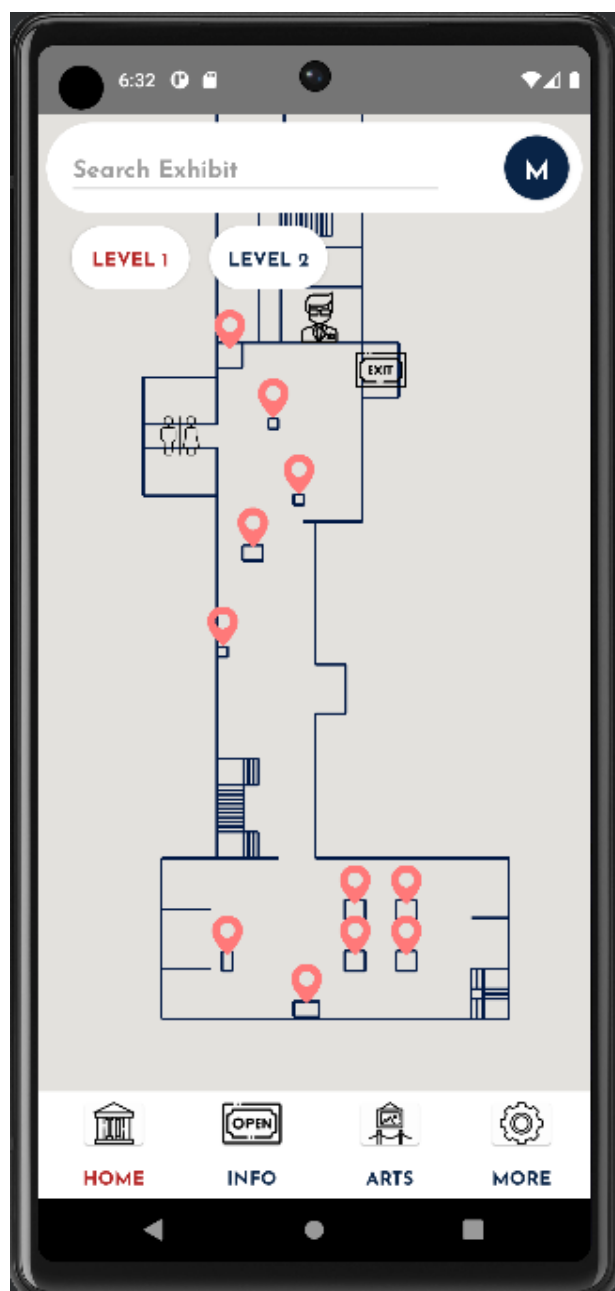
Currently, the program is only available for the Android platform and therefore can only be run within Android Studio using an Android emulator or by connecting a physical Android device and setting it up within Android Studio. To gain access to the code, please go to our [GitHub](#) and clone the repository onto your computer. Then, open and run it on Android Studio. If you do not have a physical device, we recommend using the “Pixel 6 API 30” emulator as it provides a good balance between stability and screen size. It also allows you to modify your internet access by turning off the wifi and mobile data to access the app in offline mode (which other device emulations may not be able to do).

Note: all screenshots in this document will be done with the Pixel 6 as the emulator.

Getting Started

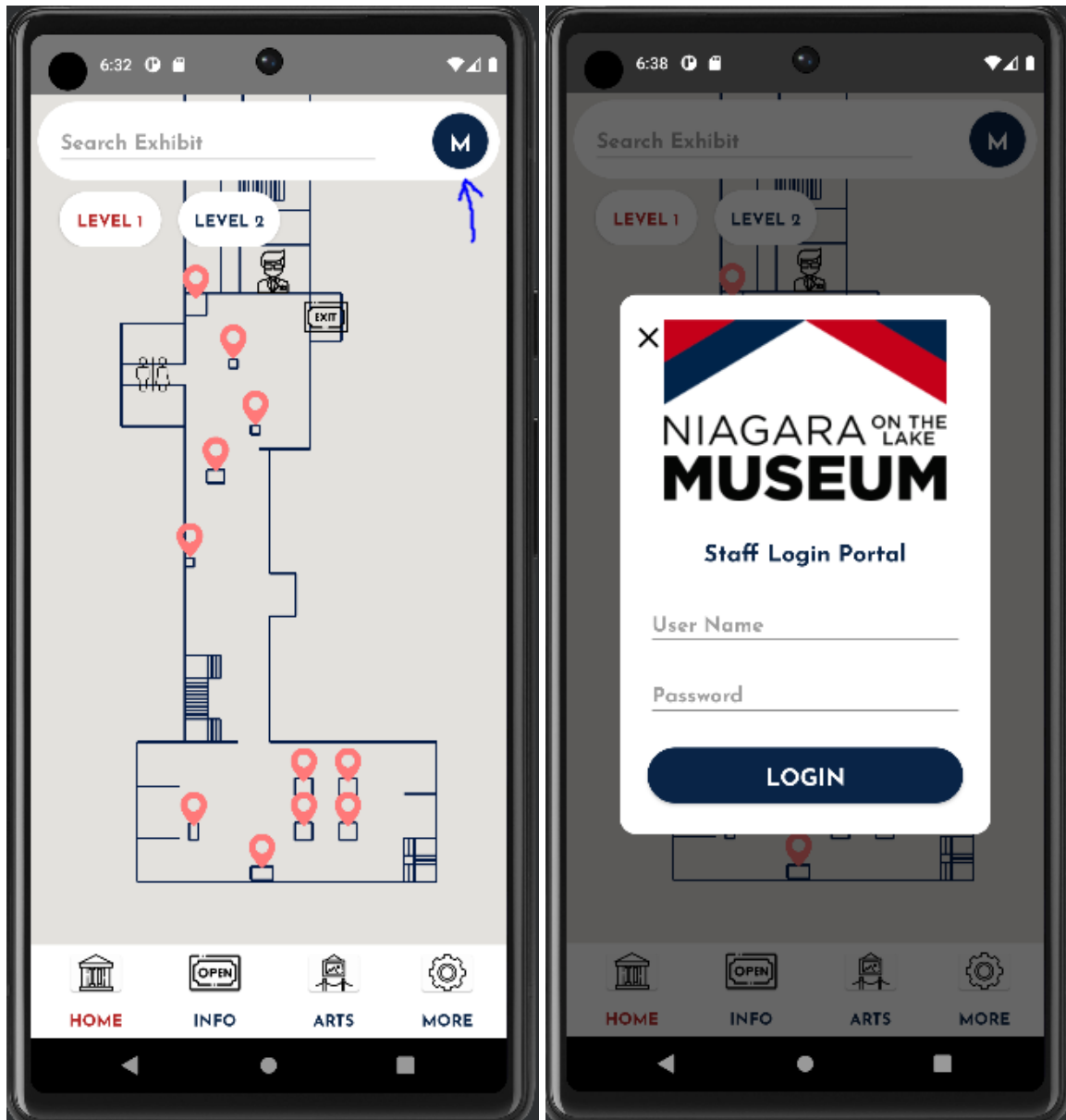
Home Screen

On the home screen, you will have access to our interactive map features. Notably, this includes searching for exhibits on the map directly, searching for them through the search bar, viewing each exhibit and the items inside of them, and the core interactive map features (moving the map around, zooming in and out, switching floors, etc.). As a staff member, you also have access to the ability to log in to gain access to staff-only features.



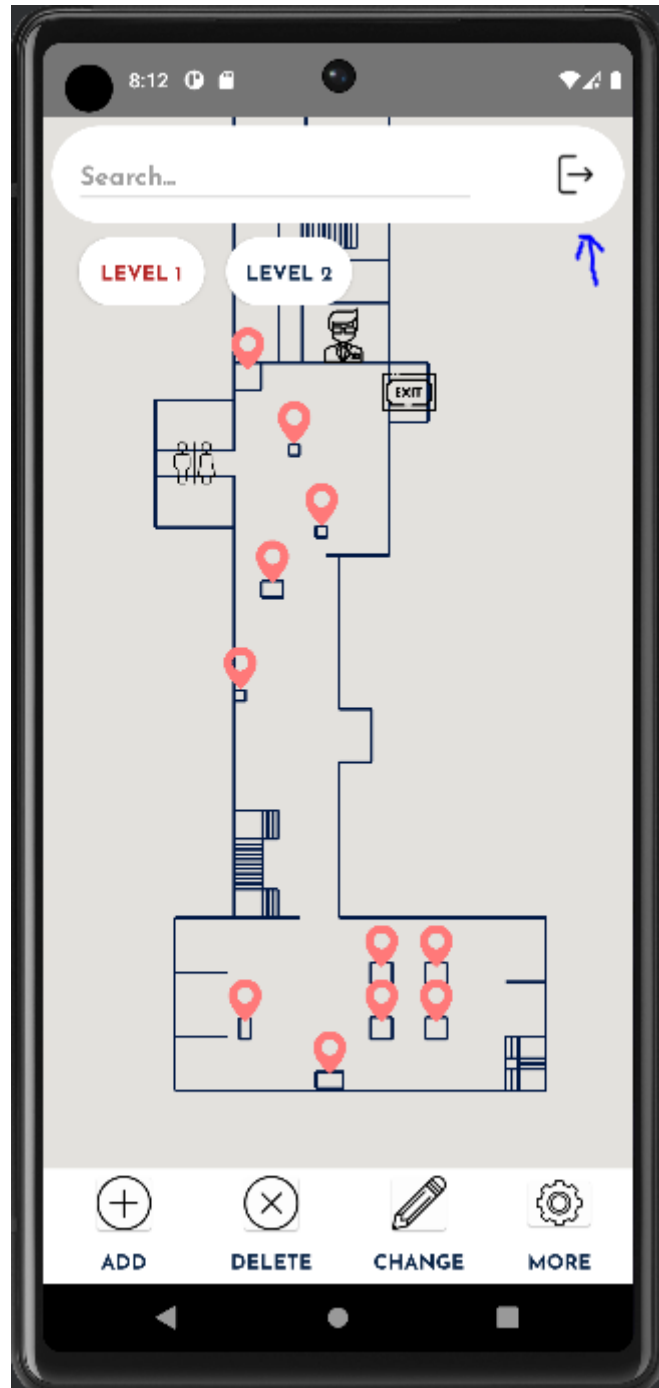
Logging in

To log in, press the round M button at the top right of the screen and enter the credentials given to you by the system/database administrator.



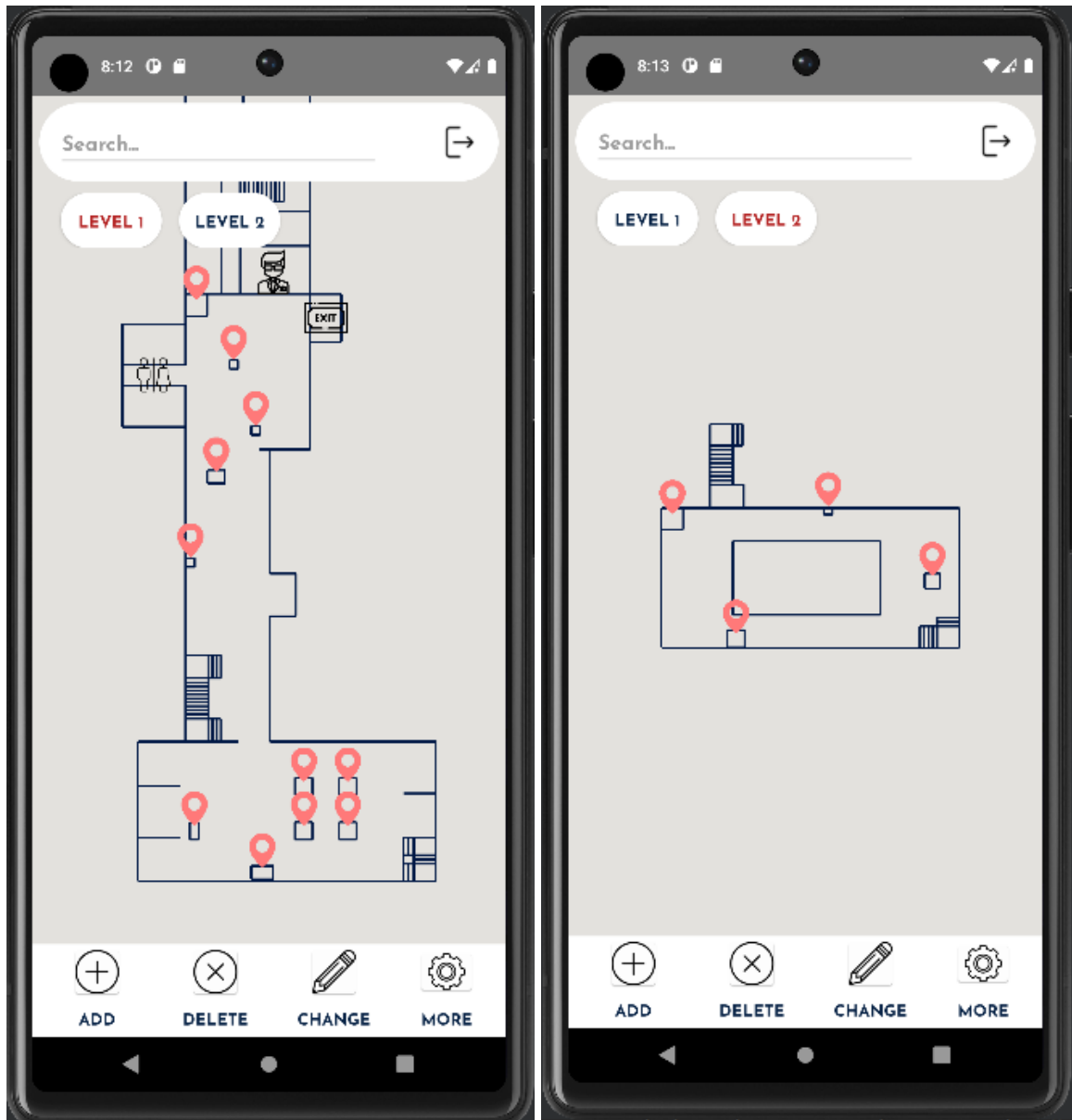
If you do not have access, please contact the current system administrator to give you login access.

After logging in, you will be provided with staff-only functions along the bottom. These features will be covered in another section below. If you wish to log out, click the button to the right of the search bar.



Switching Floors

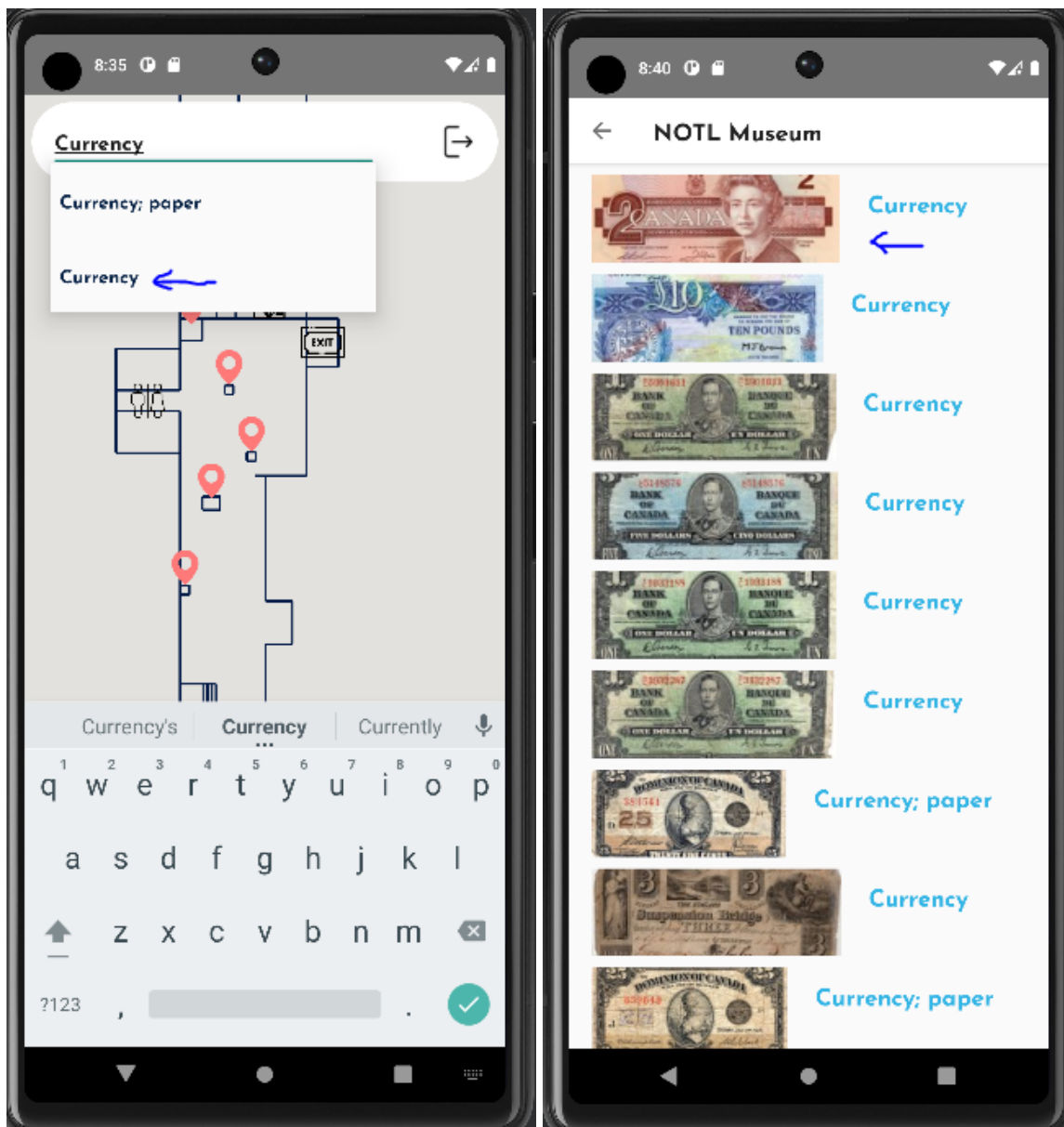
To switch between the floors, simply select the button for which floor you want (i.e., Level 1 or Level 2).



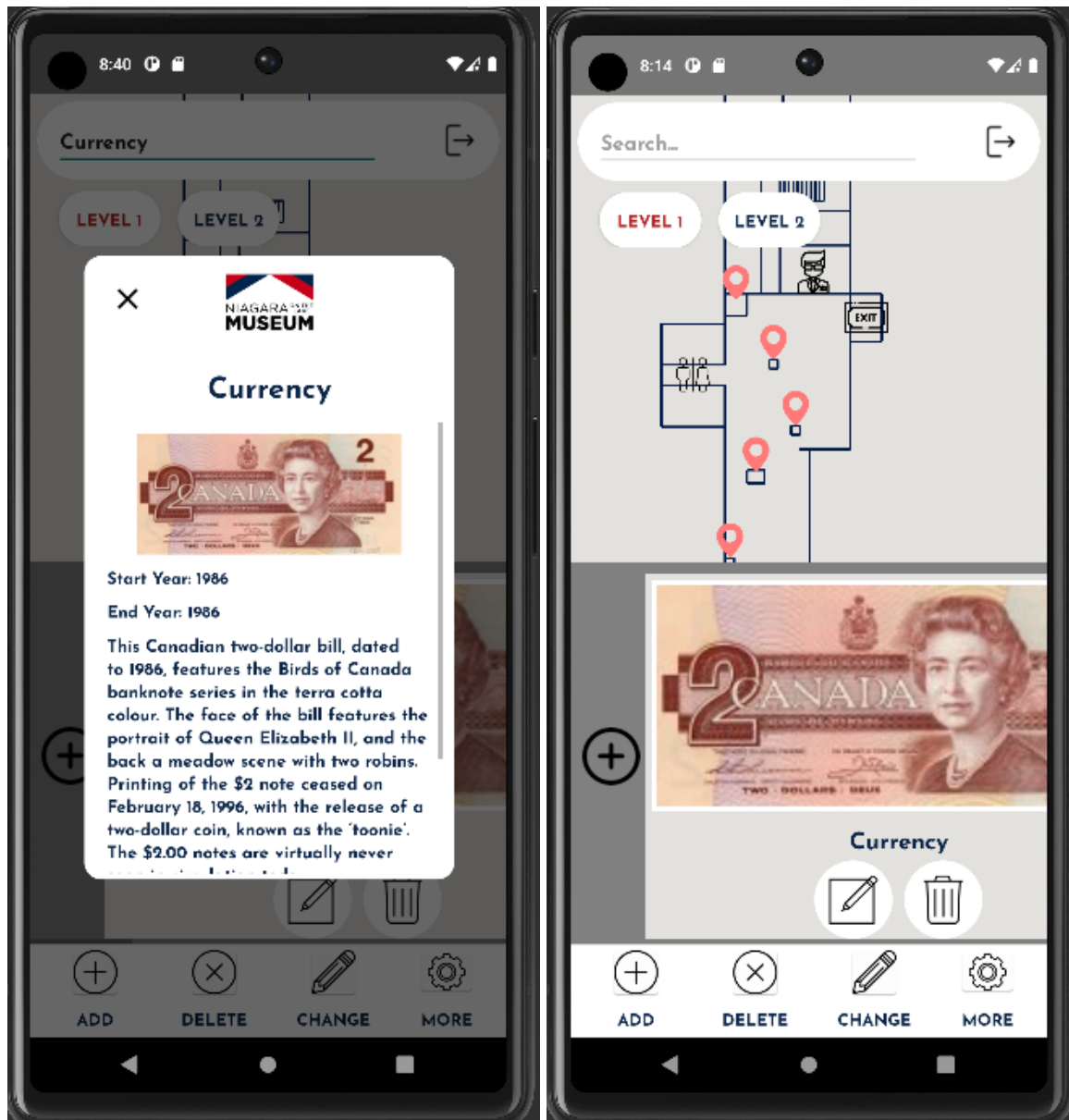
Search Bar

The staff mode's search bar functions in the same way as the visitor's search bar. However, the resulting list is different as it shows the staff features as opposed to the navigation functions seen in the visitor's version.

To search for an item (artefact) from the museum, please enter the name of the item you are searching for into the search bar and select the result that best matches what you are looking for.

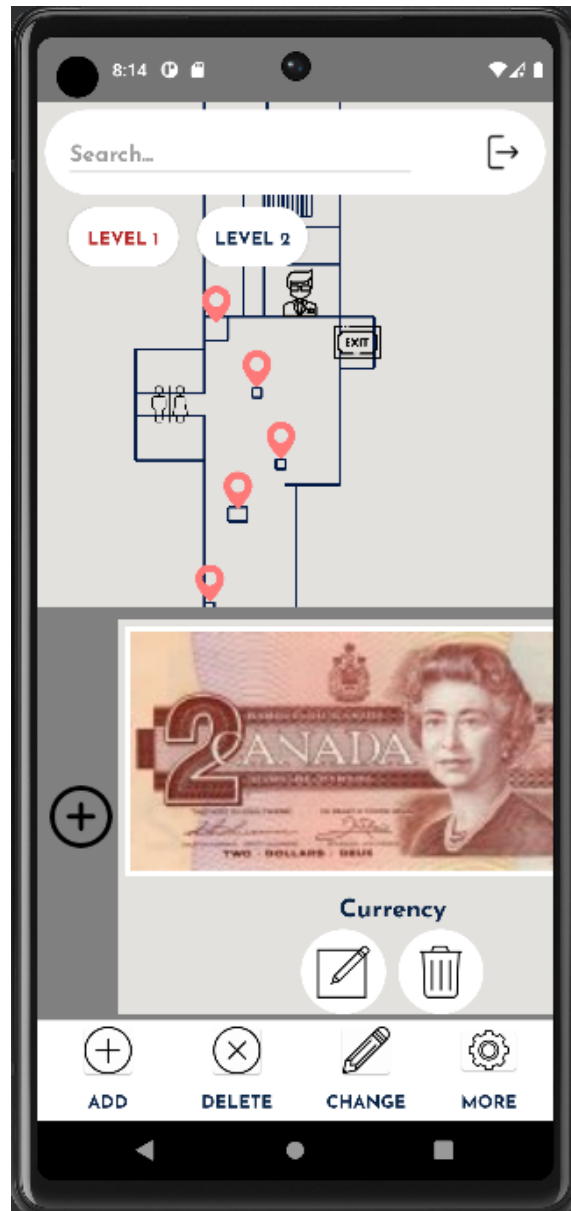


The left image below shows an example of what you will see when trying to search for an item that is currently on display. Upon closing the pop-up, you are presented with that exhibit's list of items. From there, you may also modify the items within the exhibit or modify the details of the exhibit itself. Refer to the below sections to learn how.



Staff Interactions with the Exhibit Items

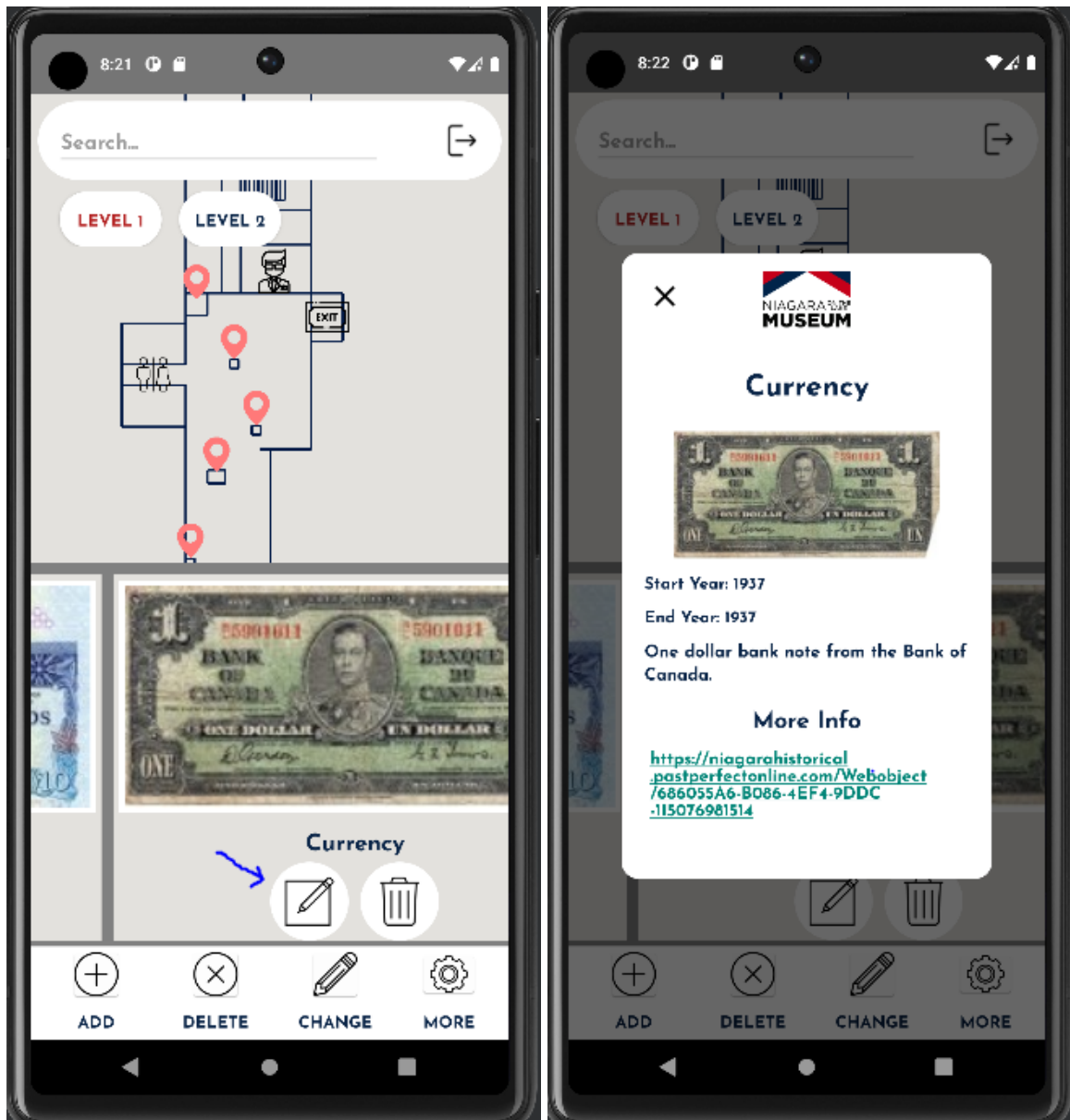
The pins (i.e., the orange drop icons) represent an exhibit. Each exhibit can contain zero to many items each. To examine an exhibit, click on the pin to open up an item list which shows the artefacts displayed within that exhibit.



If you are familiar with the visitors' version of the user manual, you will notice that the design of the item list is different. Along with viewing the items as usual, you may also add or remove items from the exhibit (showcase).

Viewing Items in the Exhibit (Showcase)

To view an item, simply locate the item you want to view and click on the left button below it.



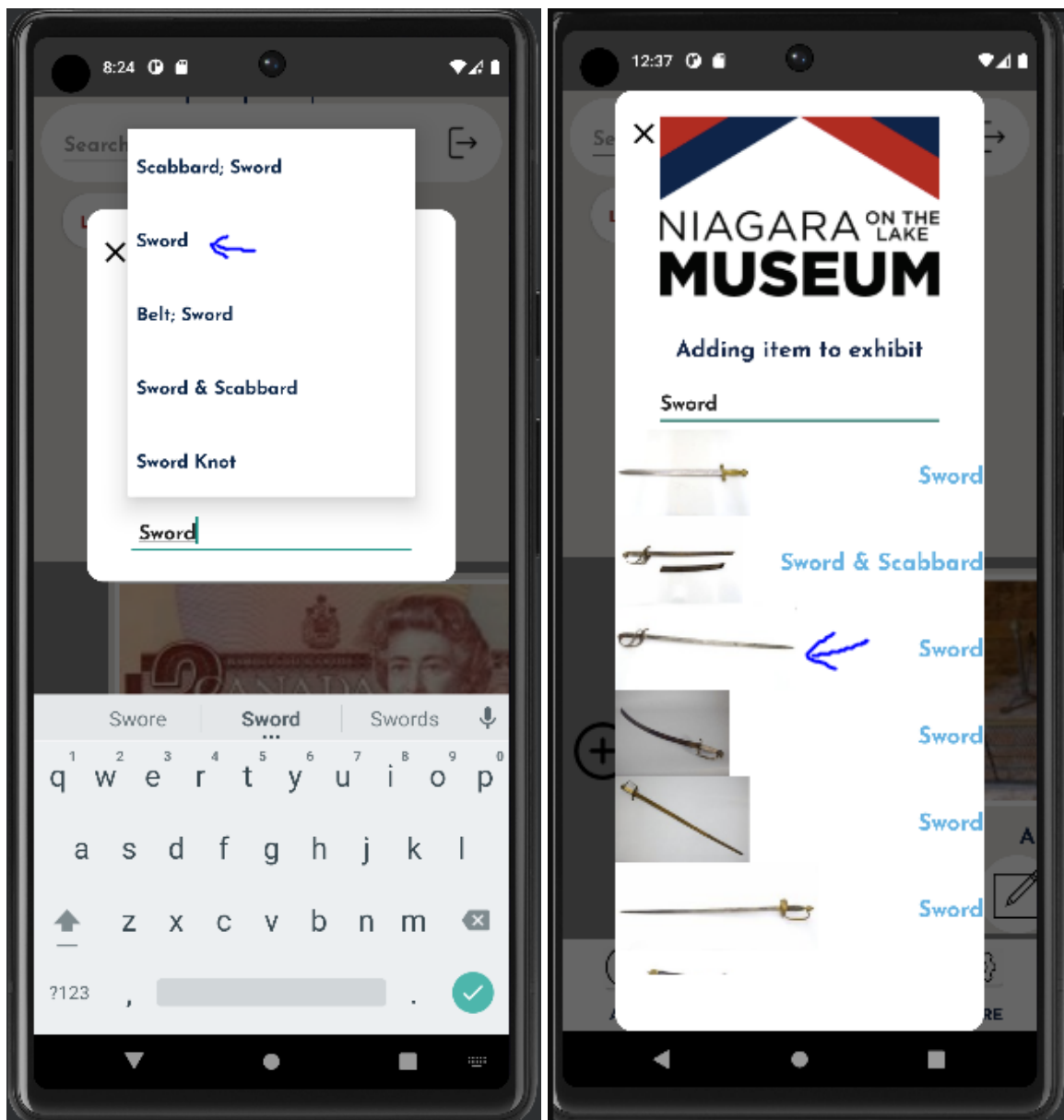
Currently, this button only serves as a viewing button. However, as indicated by the icon, this is supposed to bring up a menu that allows the staff to directly edit the information of the item within the app. This is a feature coming in a later version.

Adding New Items to the Exhibit (Showcase)

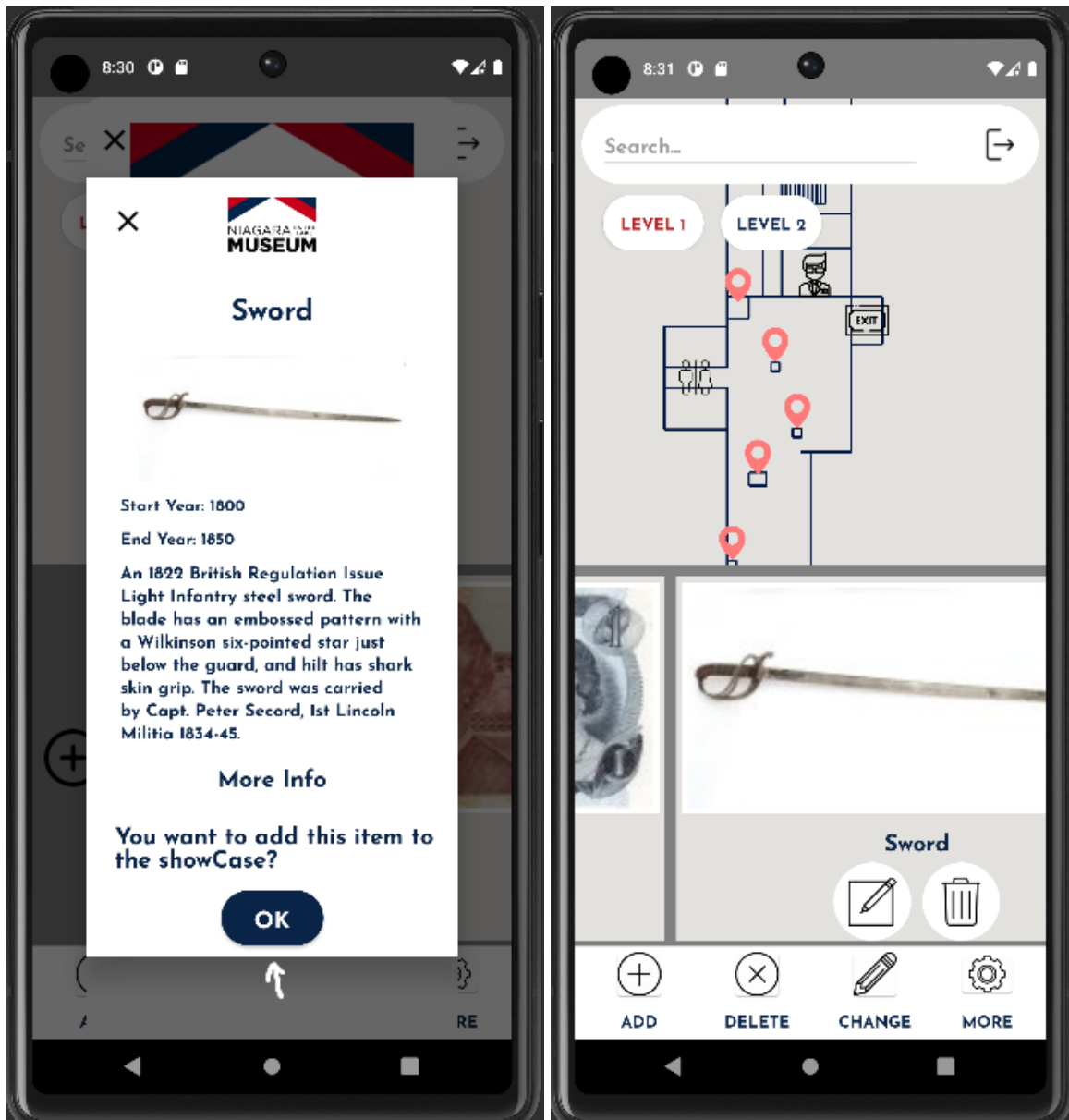
To add new items to the exhibit, scroll to the left of the list and click the plus icon.



Then select which item you wish to add by searching for it. Let's try adding a sword.

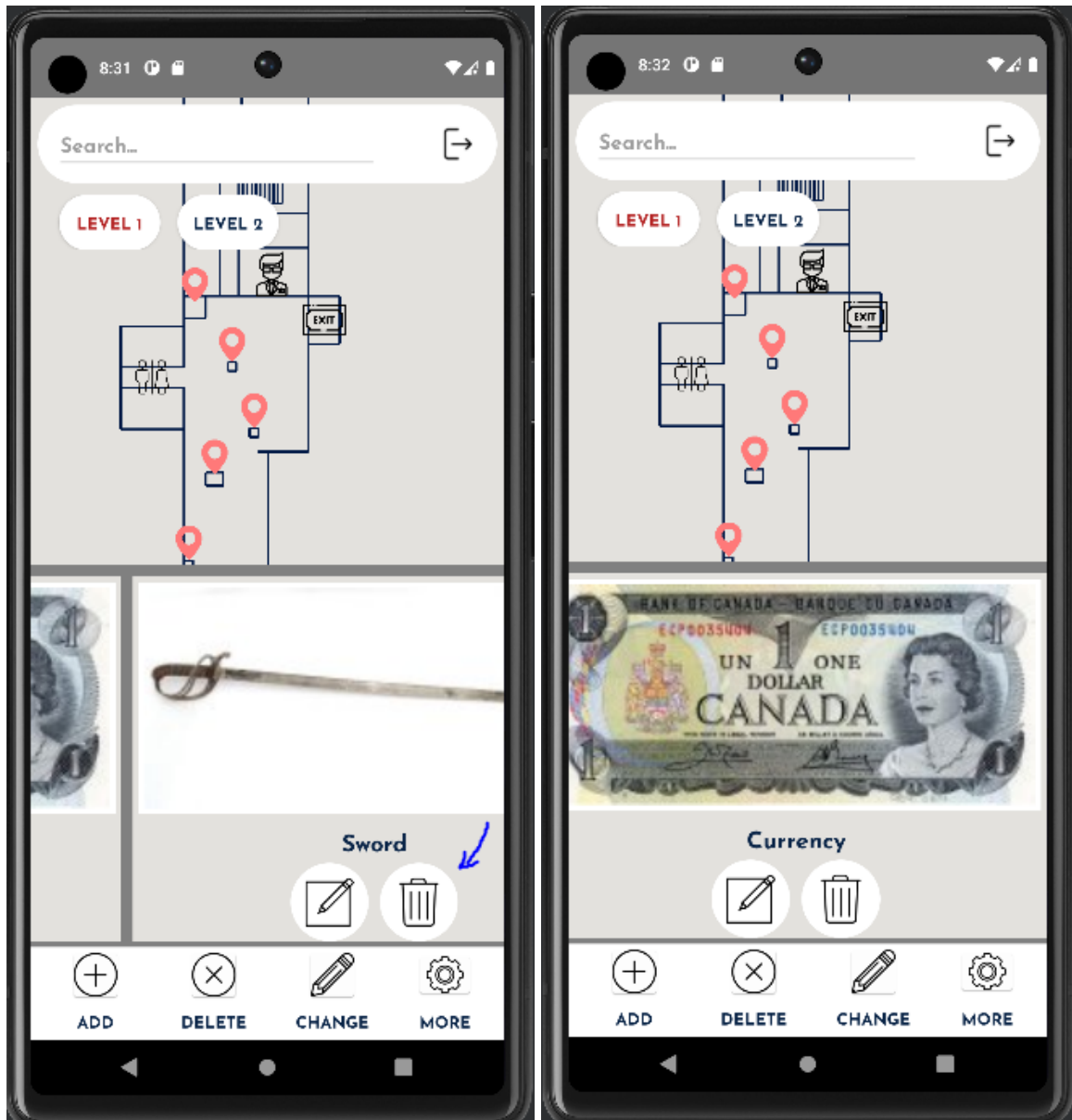


Once you have selected the item you wish, click “OK” to add it to the exhibit. As seen on the right screenshot, it is added to the end of the list.



Deleting Items from the Exhibit (Showcase)

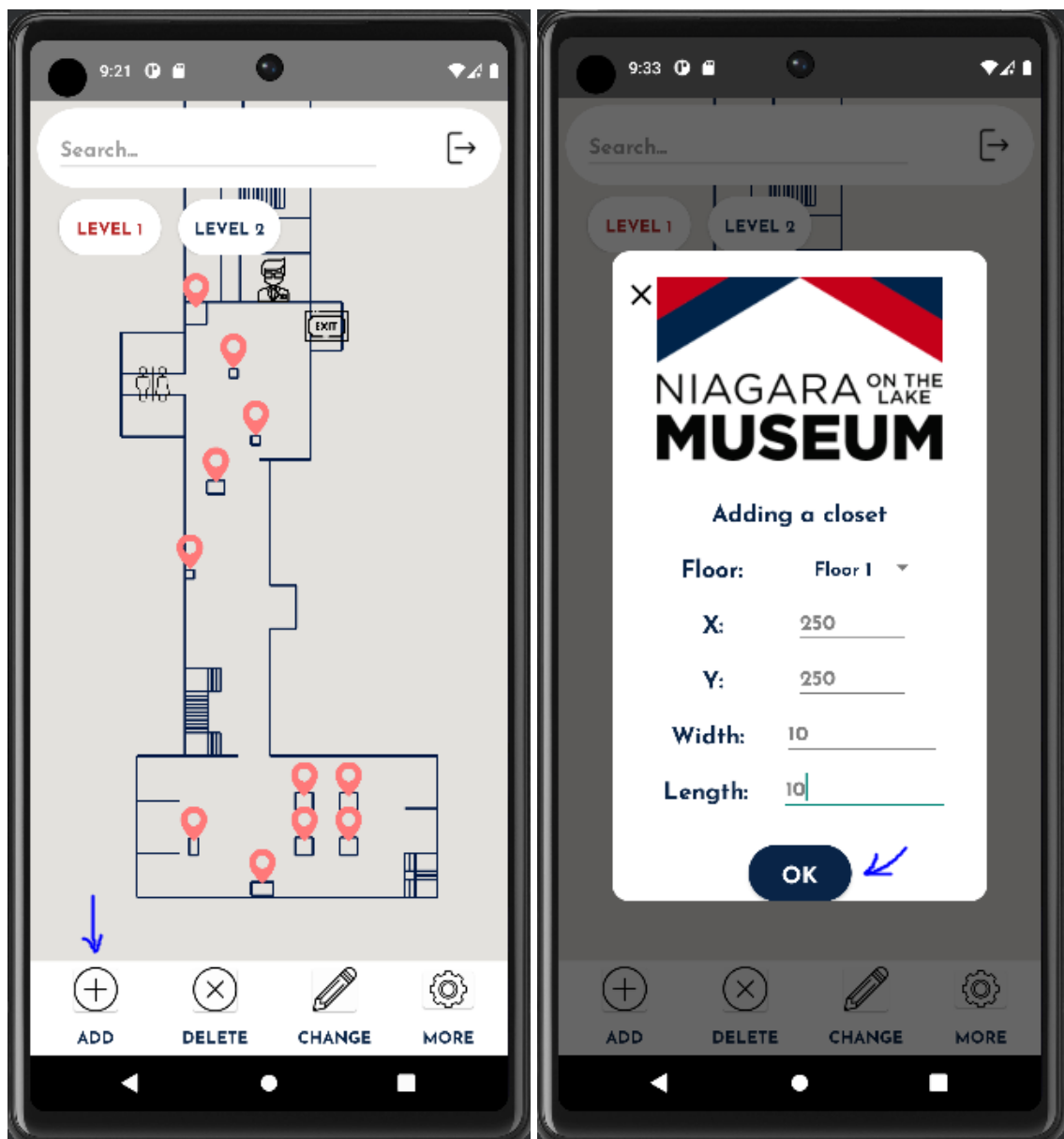
To delete an item from the exhibit, press the right (bin) button below the item you wish to delete. As seen in the right image, it is now deleted.



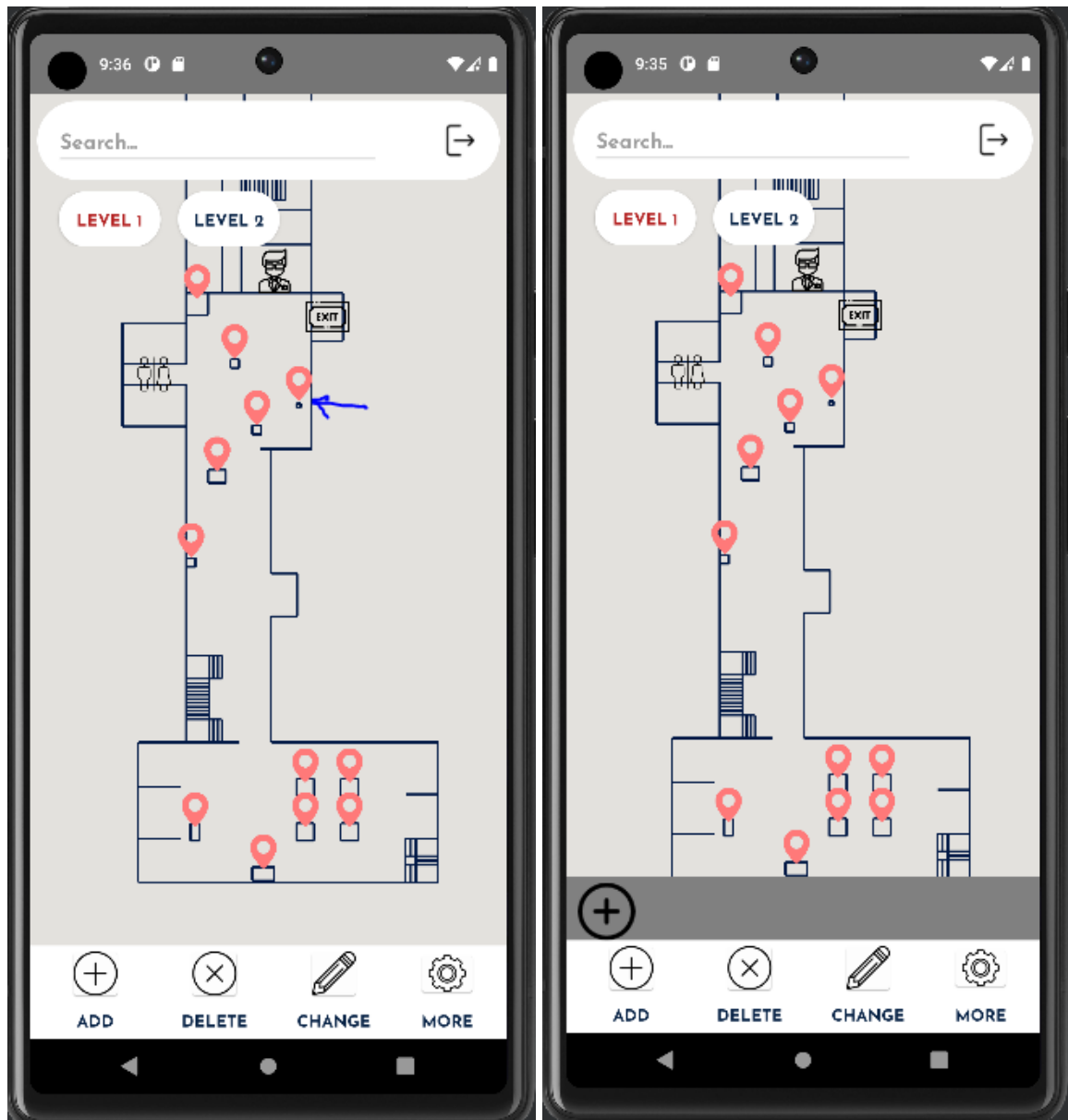
Staff Interactions with the Exhibits

Adding an Exhibit to the Map

To add an exhibit to the map, click on the add button at the bottom and fill in the pop-up menu that comes up. The X and Y coordinates are based on the distance from the top left corner of the screen (i.e., where the top-most pin is currently located). After entering the information, click ok.



As seen here, the new exhibit has been added. Note that the border is very small as I have indicated that the exhibit is only 10x10 inches.

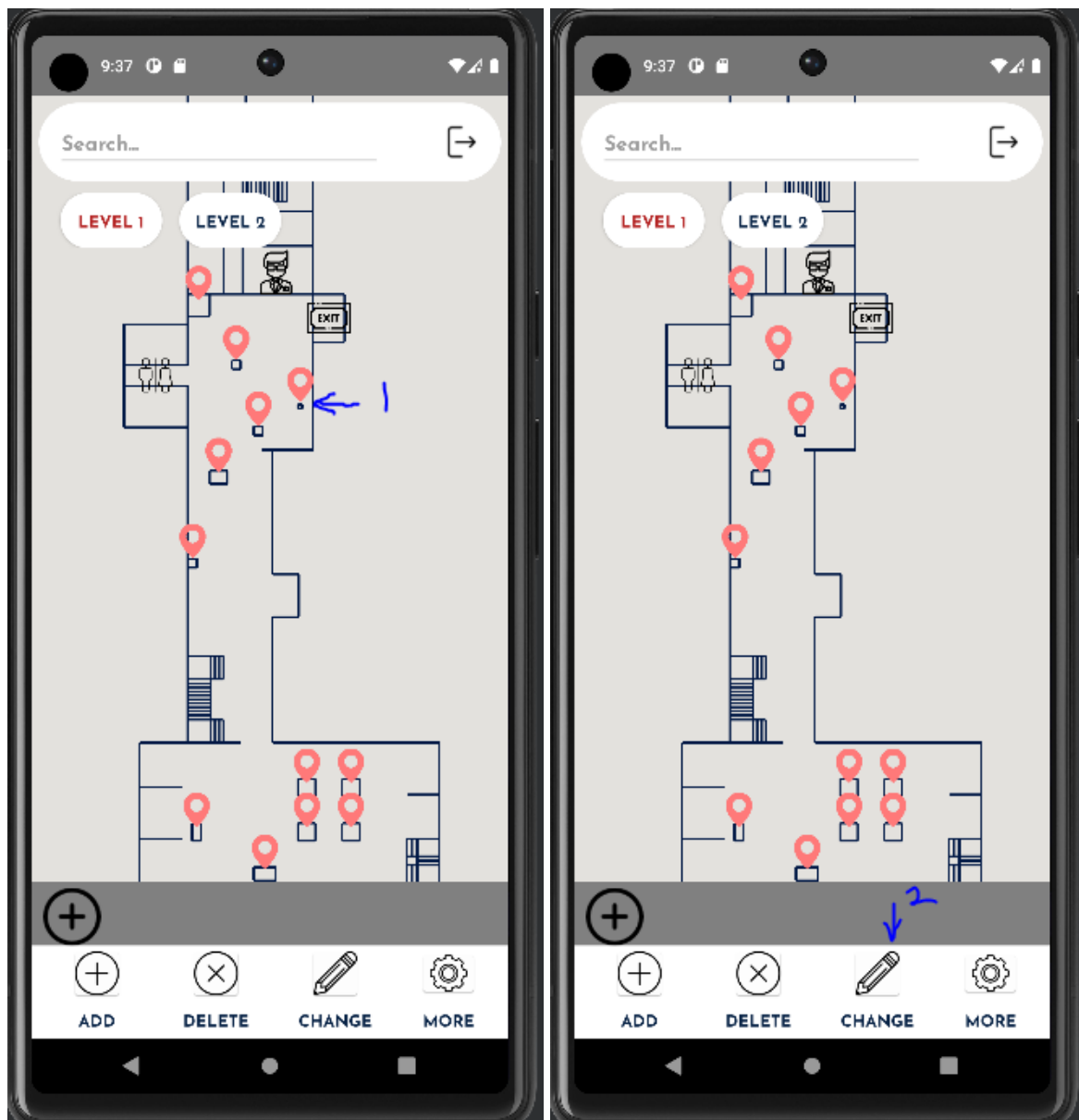


As we can see, this is a new exhibit meaning no items are currently in it. To add items, click on the plus button in the grey zone on the screen. See the above section on adding items to learn how to do that.

Editing an Existing Exhibit

Modifying an exhibit requires an exhibit to be selected. If you do not select an exhibit (by pressing on the pin) prior to pressing “change”, you will attempt to modify the most recently selected one - which might not be the intended one. Thus, to make sure you are editing the correct one, click on the desired exhibit before editing it.

After selecting the desired exhibit (step 1), press change (step 2).



Let's say I want to change the size of the exhibit to 75x25 because 10x10 is too small. I have made the adjustments accordingly in the left screenshot. The right image shows what it would look like after pressing "ok".

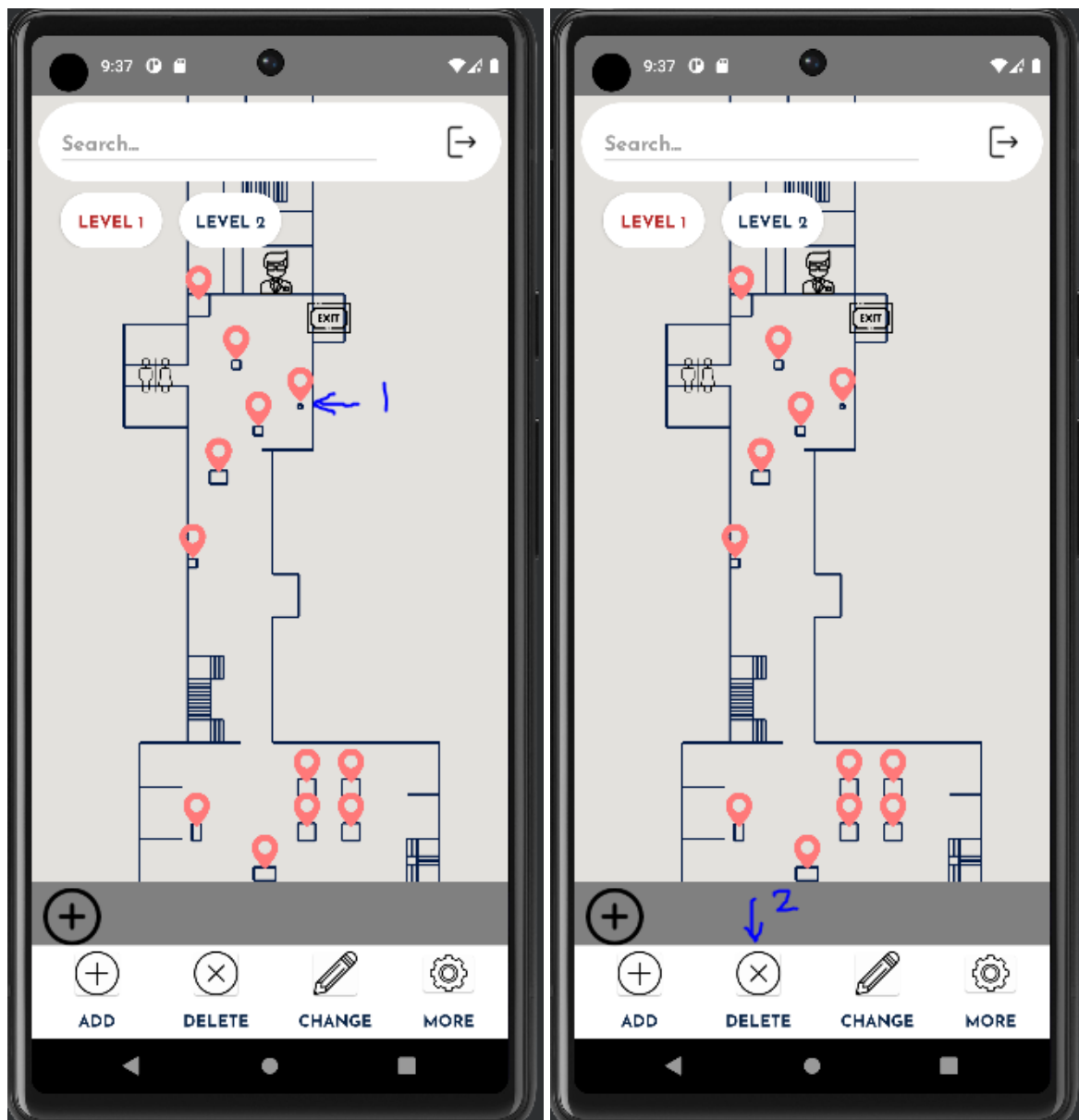


You can also move the exhibit's position on the same floor by changing the X and Y coordinates or move it to another floor using the floor selector.

Removing an Exhibit from the Map

Removing an exhibit requires an exhibit to be selected. If you do not select an exhibit (by pressing on the pin) prior to pressing “delete”, you will attempt to delete the most recently selected one - which might not be the intended one. To make sure you are deleting the correct one, click on the desired exhibit before deleting it.

After selecting the desired exhibit (step 1), press delete (step 2).



After you confirm that you want to delete the exhibit, it will be removed from the map.



Features that are NOT Available to Staff

Navigation Feature

The navigation feature is not available in staff mode. Please log out (i.e., return to the visitor mode) to use it.

Offline Mode

Once downloaded, the application is also available in offline mode. However, users will be limited to only what is available to visitors in their offline mode meaning staff features will not be available in offline mode (as stated in the introduction).