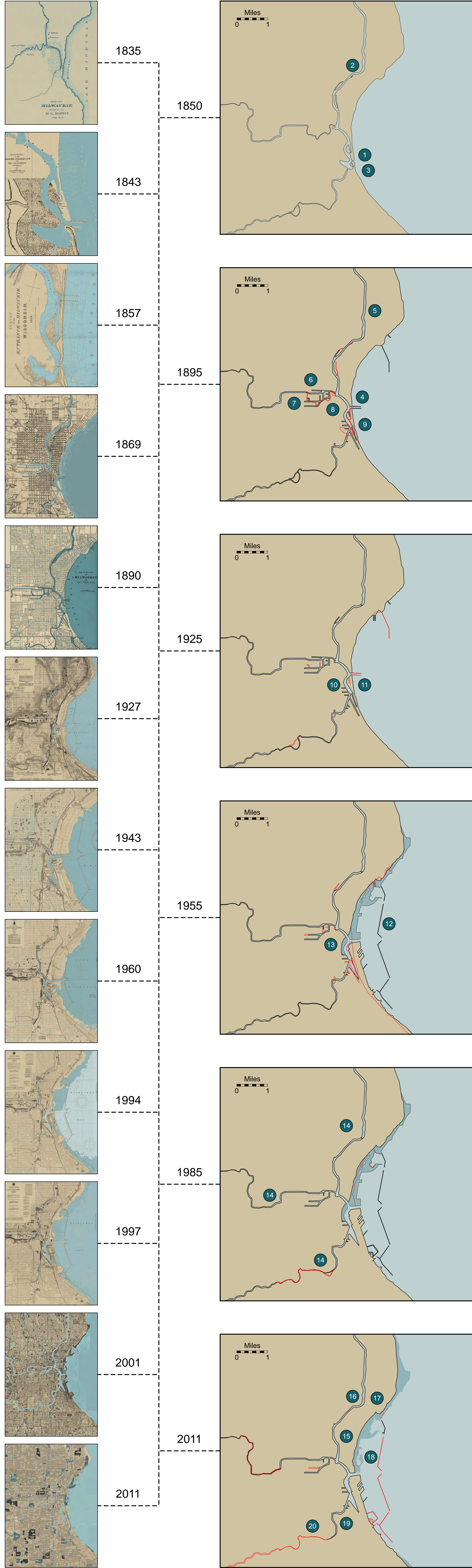


Milwaukee, Wisconsin Historical Edge



- 1 1835 Beginning of Milwaukee as a Great Lakes port.
- 2 1843 Milwaukee River Dam completed construction with stacked whole trees covering 100,000 cubic yards of gravel led by Byron Kilbourn. Raised the upstream water level 12' to produce hydraulic power. The river was lined with sawmills, flour mills, woodworking plants, etc. using the "Water Power."
- 3 1843 Harbor peninsula tapered to less than 100 yards with dredged channels and built piers by US Army Engineers. The harbor mouth improvements were approved in the wrong place and the upstream voyage was almost impossible for sailing vessels.
- 4 1857 The "Straight Cut" relocated harbor entrance was completed with a dredged channel 12' deep and 260' wide reinforced with stone filled wooden piers reaching 1120' into the lake. The original mouth was abandoned and a new outlet was constructed 1/2 mile to the north which breached the slenderest point of the sandbar at the river's mouth.
- 5 1866 Floods on the Milwaukee River made flour companies move downstream and switch to steam power.
- 6 1869 Beginning of Menomonee River improvements dredging a network of canals and slips with dry land in between. Required massive fill including dredge soil, gravel from adjoining bluffs, and garbage.
- 7 1890 Menomonee River landfill project that started in 1869 offered six miles of dock frontage with rail service for lumber yards, coal yards, Pfister and Vogel tannery complex, Pabst brewery, sash and door factories.
- 8 1914 Removal of obstructing corners on the Menomonee River and South Menomonee Canal
- 9 1920 Harbor became practically useless as ships grew too large in size for the narrow mouth. Bulk cargoes including grain, coal, sand and stone still needed lake ships to transport the freight. Plans for an outer harbor on Jones Island are approved.
- 10 1926 The revetment on the inside of Jones Island was reinforced by two additional rows of anchorage
- 11 1927 Dredging and filling a portion of Jones Island as the first step in developing the Jones Island carferry terminal.
- 12 1929 Corps of Engineers completed the outer breakwater for harbor refuge beginning in 1881.
- 13 1943 Inner harbor dredged for use as a mooring basin. River muck deposited behind a seawall on the lake side.
- 14 1960 The Kinnickinnic, Milwaukee and Menomonee Rivers are lined with concrete to minimize flooding.
- 15 1994 First downtown riverwalk was completed including the Milwaukee Center, 100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Riverfront Plaza, Michigan Avenue to Clybourn Avenue and Bank One.
- 16 1997 North Avenue Dam removed.
- 17 2001 Beginning of Beerline B Riverwalk construction of more than 1000 linear feet. When complete, the riverwalk will extend from Pleasant Street to the North Avenue Dam.
- 18 2004 The nearly one mile long boardwalk within the Historic Third Ward opened to the public connecting to the Downtown RiverWalk was completed
- 19 2007 Kinnickinnic River listed as the 7th most endangered river in US.
- 20 2009 Dredging of Kinnickinnic River removed 167,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment creating a safer and deeper navigable river