

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### FREE PARKING

All events are family-friendly with food and beverages available for purchase.

### DEPOT BEER GARDEN **May – October**

Enjoy a rotating selection of craft beers from Wisconsin's top microbreweries, along with Milwaukee's famous canned beers, ciders, seltzers, and non-alcoholic drinks. The Depot Grill offers delicious burgers, brats and hotdogs, hot pretzels, pizza, and ice cream. Plus, on special dates, food trucks will be on site. Bring the whole family and enjoy free admission, free popcorn (while supplies last), board and card games, and corn hole. Our park is perfect for kids and dogs to run and play, and historic building tours are available at 4:30 pm. Special events include Dog Day, Wine Days and Fire Department Day.

### CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT

Two-day event to experience the ways of life and war of our American history with demonstrations and history speakers. Battle reenactments and skirmishes.

### HALLOWEEN FAMILY FUN **October**

Trick or treat safely throughout Old Falls Village during this two-night event.

### SILVER TEA & CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE **December**

This event is the historical society's longest running event! Celebrate the holidays and tour the festively decorated historic Miller-Davidson House. The Homebaked Christmas Cookie Sale takes place in the Publick House.

### GUIDED TOURS

School, scout, church, youth organizations and community groups of all ages and sizes are welcome! Tours scheduled by appointment, April through October. Email [mfhistory@yahoo.com](mailto:mfhistory@yahoo.com) or call (262) 250-3901.

### RENTAL FACILITIES

A spacious setting in a 17-acre park featuring historic buildings including the following amenities:

- The Publick House, equipped with a meeting room, restrooms, bubbler, and a kitchen with sink, microwave, refrigerator, coffeemaker, and freezer. Capacity 50.
- Reis Outdoor Pavilion & Depot Outdoor Stage
- Fire pit and picnic tables

See the Tours / Rentals page on our website for detailed information.

## SUPPORT OUR WORK, BECOME A MEMBER!

### PRESERVING OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE

- Restoration and upkeep of the buildings on our 17-acre park property.
- Accumulating, preserving and displaying artifacts and records unique to our community.
- Providing family-friendly, fun events throughout the year, and your membership gives you free admission.

*Old Falls Village is owned and maintained by the Village of Menomonee Falls. It is operated and developed by the Menomonee Falls Historical Society, a non-profit, volunteer organization.*



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8/23



# Old Falls Village

MENOMONEE FALLS, WI

## MUSEUM GUIDE

Featuring a variety of historic homes and buildings, this living history museum includes a log home, school house, barn, railroad depot and caboose, log cabin, and a small dairy. The centerpiece of Old Falls Village is the 1858 Miller-Davidson House, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Each of the buildings features antiques and artifacts from its historical period.

Special Events and Guided Tours are held on the grounds throughout the year and all are welcome.

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# STEP BACK =IN= TIME

## MILLER-DAVIDSON HOUSE (1)



Built in 1858 in the Greek Revival style of the time, the house is built of locally quarried limestone.

Original to the site, its uniqueness begins with an unusual arched

foundation. In 1935 it was selected by the Federal Government's Historic American Building Survey, and in 1973 the National Register of Historic Places listed this beautiful farm home among those to be preserved for future generations. It is presented as a house improved as lifestyles improved.



## BARN (8)

Built soon after 1850, the barn is one of the two original buildings remaining on the farm site. Time-honored pioneer craftsmanship

can be seen in the framework of the building. The construction timbers were hewed and fitted by old-world hand-tools. Inside, the barn is home to an exhibit of small farm, industrial and household implements. A mural was added to the east side of the barn in 2021.



## MILWAUKEE ROAD DEPOT (9)

Built in 1890, the same year that the railroad came to Menomonee Falls, the Depot brought with it new

commercial and industrial prosperity. The Depot handled four passenger and freight trains each day, shipping local products such as stone, lime, ice, milk, and sugar beets.

## UMHOEFER CABIN (7)



This two story log cabin was built by newlyweds Gregory and Anna Marie Umhoefer in 1856. Together they raised eight sons and

two daughters in this tiny home. A hand print in the stairwell plaster is that of Anna's brother returning from the Civil War. As the story goes, he didn't know the plaster was fresh.

## SCHOOL HOUSE (6)



This one room school house was built in 1851 at a reported cost of \$55.00. All eight grades were taught by one teacher. Inside, a wood burning stove provided

needed warmth while water was pumped from an outdoor well. Initials and names from bygone days can be seen carved into the original dado walls.

## KOCH HOUSE (3)



Built in 1873, the house is rather primitive in style despite the fact that the logs were not hand hewn but rather produced in a local sawmill. A few years after its

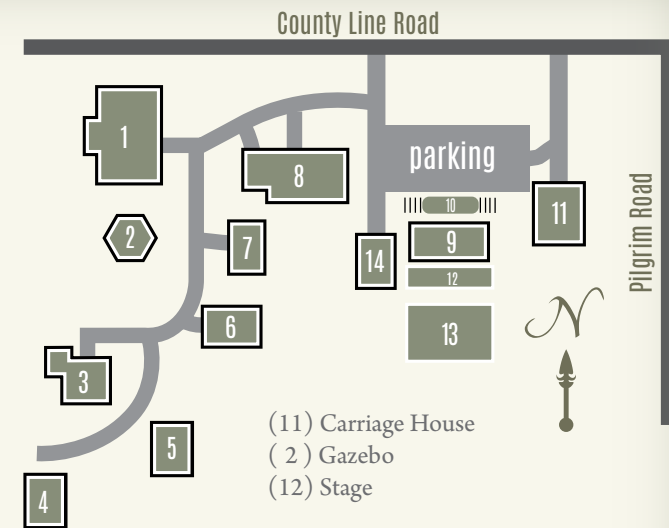
construction an addition was attached to the building, and the entire structure was covered with clapboard siding. In later years a wing was added to the back of the dwelling where a small bottling dairy was started which became known as the Koch Dairy.

## STEICHEN HOUSE (5)



This home was owned from 1904-1915 by the parents of Edward Steichen, who is considered America's most celebrated photographer. His

sister, Lillian, met Carl Sandburg through the Socialist Party in Milwaukee and they communicated via love letters. Lillian invited Carl for a visit at her parents' home in Menomonee Falls, where they spent a week together and married on June 13, 1908.



## WALKER-SPARROW CABIN (4)



Built around 1849, formerly located on Silver Spring Drive where the cabin was hidden under clapboard siding, it is made of heavy Tamarack logs and weighs approximately 15 tons. A full

fieldstone basement was built from rock cleared from the field, the majority of which was granite. It is built in German style with half dovetailed corners.

## CABOOSE (10)

A 1956 Chicago & Northwestern caboose was brought to Old Falls Village in August 2020 from Boone, Iowa. It has its original interior and fittings, complete with oil stove, actual icebox, and its own generating unit. The caboose was the working office for the train's conductor and brakeman.

## REIS PAVILION (13)

Built in 2020, the pavilion was erected thanks to the generous donation by Joseph and Louise Reis of Menomonee Falls. It has become the hub of outdoor activities and the Saturday Depot Beer Garden.

## PUBLIC HOUSE (14)

The building includes meeting space, restrooms, a kitchen, and an office.