



ULSTER AMERICAN FOLK PARK

Immerse yourself in the story of Irish emigration at the museum that brings it to life. Experience the emigrant adventure as you journey from the thatched cottages of Ulster, on board a full scale emigrant sailing ship, to the log cabins of a new homeland on the American Frontier. Meet an array of costumed characters on your way with traditional crafts to show, tales to tell and food to share.

MAP

This map will help you find your way around the museum and ensure that you have an enjoyable visit. The museum is divided into four sections: **Indoor Galleries, Old World, Ship and Dockside and New World.** Simply follow the numbered sequence on the map to find your way. The directional signs in the grounds will also help. You can also ask our staff in the Visitor Centre for advice on a route to suit your needs.

What to see

1. Matthew T Mellon Visitor Centre

Galleries

2. Temporary Exhibition Gallery
3. Emigrants Exhibition

Old World

4. Single Room Cabin
5. Forge
6. Weavers Cottage
7. Meeting House
8. Vestry

Please take care crossing the public road.

9. Mellon Homestead (chickens and ducks)
10. Viewpoint
11. Mellon Farm Landscape – NEW
12. Campbell House
13. Tullyallen Mass House
14. Turf Bank
15. Hughes House
16. Schoolhouse
17. Mountjoy Post Office
18. RJ Blair Printer

How long do you have? ⌚ Not to be missed

Old World

- Mellon Homestead (9)
- Campbell House (12)
- Hughes House (15)

- Ulster Street (18–25)
- Ship and Dockside Gallery (26)
- American Street (27–31)

New World

- Samuel Fulton Stone House (32)
- West Pennsylvania Log House (41)

Visitor Information

Stop and Shop

Whether you're looking for a gift or a souvenir of your visit, our shop carries a wide range of unique products to suit all ages. There's everything from local arts and crafts, children's toys and games to a variety of interesting books.

Time for Tea

With all the walking around, you'll surely work up an appetite. Our café offers a range of wholesome meals and is the perfect spot for a cuppa.

What's On Guide

Don't forget to pick up a copy of our What's On guide while you are here. It's jam-packed with information on all the fantastic events and exhibitions you can enjoy at National Museums Northern Ireland. Available at any of our visitor information points, it's just what you need for planning more great days out!

Membership

For those who love the museum as much as we do, become a member to support our work and you'll enjoy lots of great benefits.

Members enjoy unlimited free entry at the Ulster Folk & Transport Museum and Ulster American Folk Park, a discount of 10% in all our gift shops and catering outlets, and regular updates throughout the year.

You will also receive advance notice of upcoming events and exhibitions for all National Museums Northern Ireland sites.

New World Development

The next exhibit of the New World development to open will be the Rogan House from near Nashville in Tennessee. The opening of the Rogan House begins a programme of development that will see an American village, a covered bridge and five further farmsteads added to the museum over the next number of years.



How long will it take to walk?

- From Visitor Centre (1) to Campbell House (12) – 5 minutes
- From Mellon Homestead (9) to West Pennsylvania Log House (41) – 15 minutes
- From Ship and Dockside Gallery (26) to West Virginia McCallister House (42) – 10 minutes

- 📄 Tickets and Information Desk
- 🚻 Toilet Facilities
- ♿ Adapted Toilets
- 👶 Parent & Baby Room
- P Parking
- ♿ Disabled Parking
- 🛒 Shop
- ☕ Café
- 🍴 Picnic area
- 📷 Visitor Photographs
- 📖 Learning Centre
- 🏠 Residential Centre

Tell me more

1. Matthew T Mellon Visitor Centre

Your visit begins and ends at our Visitor Centre. With a ticket desk, gift shop, café, toilets and other visitor facilities, you'll find all the help you need here. If you need any assistance while in the outdoor museum, please ask a costumed guide.

When you are ready to begin your tour, make your way to the Exhibition Gallery through the entrance marked Gallery and Outdoor Museum.

2. Temporary Exhibition Gallery

Explore our programme of changing exhibitions and displays. Created to complement the museum's permanent collection, they cover a broad range of subjects that tell the story of emigration in interesting ways.

3. Emigrants Exhibition

Emigrants is a major exhibition that explains the story of over 200 years of emigration between Ireland and America.

4. Single Room Cabin

Moved stone by stone from Altaghoney on the slopes of the Sperrin Mountains, the Devine family's single room cabin is an excellent example of the type of home that many of the landless poor lived in before the Great Famine in 1845. Dating from the late 1700s, the windows and door were only added in 1845. Before this time, animal skins or bushes would have been used to block entrances.

5. Forge

Step inside this typical blacksmith's forge from the 1800s which was a vital part of the countryside in years gone by. Our own blacksmith will be keen to talk to you and demonstrate his craft. The blacksmith or farrier shod and cared for horses although he would also produce valuable tools for the farm and home like ploughs and griddles. Under the hearth is a water trough where he cooled his tools. It is said that the water in the trough is a cure for warts!

6. Weaver's Cottage

Many homes were more than just places to live but also places to work. This weaver's cottage is a good example to explore. As you will see, a room is laid aside for a

handloom which would have been used to weave tweed or linen. It was here that the man of the house would spend the long evenings weaving, while his wife spun the flax fibres into yarn and his children carded and combed the flax in preparation for the spinning wheel.

7. Meeting House

This Meeting House is a replica of the Presbyterian Church from Mountjoy located at a crossroads only a few miles from the museum. Dating from the late 1700s, it is where Thomas Mellon worshipped as a boy. To hear more about this building, press the button on the pulpit from where the minister would have delivered many a lengthy sermon.

8. Vestry

The vestry is where the minister carried out his study. This replica sits in the corner of the square yard just like the one that partnered the Meeting House at Mountjoy. If you walk inside you can imagine the minister sitting at his desk preparing his sermon for the Sunday service.

Please take care crossing the public road.

9. Mellon Homestead

Standing on its original site, it was in this small farmhouse that Thomas Mellon was born in 1813. In 1818, at the age of five, he emigrated with his parents to Pennsylvania. Built by Thomas's father, Andrew Mellon, the cottage and its outbuildings are typical of the farmsteads which so many Irish people left behind as they looked for a new life in America. For young Thomas it did indeed prove to be a 'Land of Promise'. He became a lawyer and a judge and later in his life, he set up the Mellon Bank which is still a very important financial institution in the United States of America.



10. Viewpoint

Before leaving the Mellon Homestead, visit the viewpoint and enjoy the beautiful scenery of the River Strule and the Sperrin Mountains.

11. Mellon Farm Landscape NEW

Take a walk around the early 1800s Mellon farm landscape. The full walk should take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

12. Campbell House

This is the original, ancestral home of the Campbell family of Aghalane in Plumbridge, County Tyrone. As you can see from the writing above the door, it was built in 1786 by Hugh Campbell who owned and farmed a considerable amount of land. He had twelve children and his two youngest emigrated to America. Hugh left for New York in 1818 but settled in Philadelphia where he became a successful merchant. Robert emigrated in 1822 where he became a fur trader in the Rocky Mountains and later a successful merchant in St. Louis, Missouri.



13. Tullyallen Mass House

From Tullyallen near Dungannon in County Tyrone this was the place of worship for the Catholic parishioners of Killeeshill Parish. Built in 1768 and extended in 1830 as Catholics were allowed to practise their faith, it has been reconstructed in its original form with plain sash windows, whitewashed walls and thatched roof.

14. Turf Bank

The turf bank shows a bog bank built up over thousands of years due to waterlogged conditions. The turf is cut in the various stages of drying before being used in a fire.

15. Hughes House

Moved from Dernaved townland in County Monaghan, this is the boyhood home of John Joseph Hughes. John emigrated to America in 1817 where he eventually became the first Catholic Archbishop of New York. He laid the cornerstone of the famous Saint Patrick's Cathedral located on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan. Typical of houses in south Ulster at the time, a striking feature of this house is the 'jamb' wall, a single brick wall between the front door and the hearth that prevented draughts while also offering privacy.



16. Schoolhouse

This one-room National School was moved from the nearby townland of Castletown. The building is dated 1845 although records reveal that there was a school on the original site from the 1790s. Country children often walked barefoot to school where they learned to read, write and do simple arithmetic. When Castletown School opened it had an average daily attendance of 70 pupils.

17. Mountjoy Post Office

This building was moved from nearby Mountjoy village complete with Victorian letterbox. It will give you a glimpse into life in a rural Post Office from the late 1800s. In 1862, the house was listed under the Post Towns in Ireland as Mountjoy Post Office, 99 miles from Dublin. It functioned in the converted parlour of a private house occupied at that time by postmaster Nathaniel Maginnis and family.

18-25. Ulster Street

The Ulster Street is the type of street that thousands of emigrants passed down before boarding ships to America. It is the finest collection of original, traditional 19th century Ulster shop fronts in the world. Brought in from local towns and villages, the shops on the Ulster Street include Hill's Chemist and Blair's

Printers both from Strabane and Reilly's Spirit Grocers from Newtownbutler. You can also explore a Saddler's shop from Cavan and a Ropeworks from Dungannon as you stroll along the street.



26. Ship and Dockside Gallery

Lying in the dock, waiting to take you to your new homeland on the American Frontier is a replica of an early 1800s emigrant sailing ship. It has been modelled on the Brig Union which carried members of the Mellon family to Baltimore in 1816. Always a hive of activity, the dockside buildings are original. The Merchant's office is from Great George's Street in Belfast while a 1700s house from Bridge Street in Derry represents the type of boarding house available before setting sail for the east coast of North America. Collect your ticket and board the ship to experience the conditions of a six to twelve week crossing. Then exit between decks into the Arrivals Area where a new world awaits.



27-31. The American Street

This American street scene is typical of those which would have greeted many thousands of emigrants in ports such as Baltimore, New York or Boston. It features a General Store with an original interior from North Virginia, Tinsmith's exhibition, Wheelwright's workshop and a replica of the first Mellon Bank.



32. Samuel Fulton Stone House

This original stone building came from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. It was the home of Samuel Fulton who emigrated from Donegal and settled in Lancaster County in 1724. Samuel built this one and half storey house using field stones he found on his land, a method of building which he had been familiar with from his life in Ireland. He built the house over a spring so he had a place to keep milk and other perishable foods fresh.



33. The Log Cabin

This small, two room log cabin is the type of house built and occupied by early emigrants such as the young Thomas Mellon and his family when they first arrived in America. They would spend years living in dwellings similar to this until they had the time and money to build a more spacious and permanent home.

34. The Pennsylvania Log Barn

This multi-purpose outbuilding on the frontier farm was used for housing animals and storing animal feed and crops. Its large central area allowed wagons to be moved easily.

35. Corn Crib

This building would have served as a small store for housing Indian corn or maize.

36. Smokehouse

This building would have been used for smoking meat and fish.

37. Springhouse

The cool spring water that ran through this house helped keep milk and other perishable foods fresh.

38. Pennsylvania Log Farmhouse

This two storey house is a replica of the one which Thomas Mellon and his family lived in four years after their arrival in Pennsylvania. With six rooms, its greater size and appearance indicated increasing success and prosperity. The original still stands to this day in the town of Export, Pennsylvania.

39. The Herb Garden

The Herb Garden provided fresh vegetables and herbs as well as plants that could be used for medicinal purposes in a time before modern health care.

40. Cunningham Springhouse

Part of the original Cunningham farmstead from Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, the cool spring water that ran through this house helped keep milk and other perishable foods fresh.

41. Western Pennsylvania Log House

This house was originally built on the Cox family farm, Greene County, Pennsylvania by Uriah Hupp in the 1800s. One of his descendants, Benjamin Franklin Hupp married Clara D. Kelley, whose family had emigrated from Armagh in 1719. The porch at the front is a common feature of American log houses from the middle of the 1800s and this three room log house is a well-preserved example of the style.



42. West Virginia McCallister House NEW

This house was built in 1827 by Richard McCallister in the hills along Tyler Creek near the town of Salt Rock, Cabell County, West Virginia. Richard was born in Bath County, Virginia. His grandfather James is believed to have emigrated from Ulster in the 1720s. Richard married his first wife Sarah in 1814 and they built this house for their growing family to live in. Richard was

a farmer and according to the 1860 US Census, he could read and write, owned land and property to the value of \$1000 as well as personal belongings to the value of \$200. The house and land was purchased by the county in the 1850s and turned into Cabell County Poor Farm.

43. The Centre for Migration Studies / Library

If what you see in the outdoor museum makes you want to find out more about any aspect of Irish migration, including the migration story of your own ancestors, then a visit to the Centre for Migration Studies is a must. The centre supports the museum by providing reference resources for studying the history of both the United States and Ulster in the 18th and 19th centuries. Everyone welcome.

Visit us online www.nmni.com

Don't forget to visit the museum website where you can find out more about our events, exhibitions, opening times and collection highlights.

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