Old Sturbridge Village showcases over 40 antique buildings from New England, each restored to show how they would have been furnished and used during the early 19th century.

Allen Piggery Under reconstruction. Built in Sturbridge in the 1830s, this structure allowed a more efficient means of raising swine, the early New Englander’s chief source of protein.

Asa Knight Store Built in Danvers, MA, this country store brought in goods from all over the world through seaports like Boston and Providence.

Armed & Equipped Militia Exhibit Learn about the changing technology of firearms and the role of the militia in the early 19th century.

Bixby House Blacksmith Emerson Bixby and his family lived in this home in Barre, MA. To supplement their income, his wife and daughters made butter and cheese, braided straw for hats, and sewed shoe uppers.

Bixby Garden A less formal kitchen garden that demonstrates how many New Englanders, busy with a craft or a trade, would have likely kept their garden.

Blacksmith Shop Step into the shop of a farmer/blacksmith who made and repaired tools for his community. Watch the sparks fly as smiths work at the forge.

Bullard Tavern Taverns welcomed both travelers and locals for refreshments and social gatherings. Carrying on in that tradition; our tavern serves the needs of our visiting public.

Cabinetmaking Shop Cabinetmakers were skilled woodworkers making a range of different pieces, from fancy home furnishings to basic wooden pieces used around the house and farm.

Center Meetinghouse Congregational worship services, town meetings, and other civic gatherings and celebrations were hosted here.

Cider Mill and Orchard In the fall, the mill was used to crush and press apples and collect juice, which would be fermented into cider so it would keep throughout the year.

Cooper Shop Coopers made round wooden containers including pails, tubs, and barrels for their neighbors.

Country Bank Visitor Center Find out where to visit here. Visit the J. Cheney Wells Clock Gallery and explore one location of the New England on Parade exhibit.

David Wight Community Gallery This changing gallery showcases exhibits created by students and the Village’s community.

Dennison Building This gallery features rotating exhibits that highlight original textiles from our museum collection.

District School Most New England neighborhoods had a tax-supported district school where children learned to read, write, and do arithmetic.

Early Lighting Exhibit Highlights the history and use of early lighting devices, which were of particular fascination to OSV founder A.B. Wells.

Fenno House This farmhouse was built in Canton, MA, in 1725. Learn how a rowdy and her daughter could maintain their farm by renting fields and pastures, taking in boarders, and spinning, weaving, and drying woolens.

Fenno Barn Find farm animals in the pens and fields surrounding this working barn.

Fitch House Like many, the Fitch House from Willimantic, CT, grew and changed over time. Shown as the home of a full-time craftsmen’s family, like others in the center village it included boarders. One boarder makes her living by sewing.

Fitch Barn Most of our collection of 19th-century agricultural tools are displayed and stored here.

Fitch Garden Based on Joseph Breeck’s 1853 book The Young Florist, this delightful flower garden has a birch arbor at its center.

Freeman Farm The Freemans were a modest farming family from Sturbridge. Learn about everyday life and the changing seasonal rhythms of work on a traditional farm.

Freeman Garden Here you can find many of the staple crops and varieties grown to support a healthy 19th-century diet.

Friends Meetinghouse The Society of Friends (also known as Quakers) was a small but influential Christian denomination. Their worship services, called “meetings,” involved quiet reflection and individual testimony.

Gebhardt Barn The first building moved to Old Sturbridge Village. Today it is outfitted as a space to showcase performances.


Goods from the Woods New Englanders relied on their forests for food, fuel, building materials, other products, and of course recreation.

Gristmill Farmers brought corn, rye, and other grains to gristmills where they were ground into fine meal for baking.

Herb Garden See over 400 heirloom species that were significant to New England food culture, wellness, industry, and economy.

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Hillside Law Office Rural lawyers dispensed advice, collected debts, settled estates, argued court cases, and wrote contracts, deeds, and wills.

Miner Grant Store and Bake Shop Doctor and merchant Miner Grant built this store in 1802 in Stafford, CT, where he and his descendants operated it well into the 20th century. Enjoy fresh-baked cookies, hot and cold beverages, Village-malted gifts, and more.

Miner Garden The Young Florist An ornamental garden boasts a stunning array of heirloom herbs and flowers.

Sawmill Find a shoemaker “bottoming” men’s and boy’s work shoes for wholesale distribution to other parts of the country.

Sawmill Over the winter, farmers slidded logs to sawmills and paid to have them milled into lumber.

Shoe Shop Find a shoemaker “bottoming” men’s and boy’s work shoes for wholesale distribution to other parts of the country.

Simple Machines Greek philosopher Archimedes identified six useful simple machines. Try them here.

Small House Based on the 1782 house of Jabez Rice, the Small House is the only reproduction home fully built at Old Sturbridge Village. Small houses like these were occupied by a wide variety of people, including families of color, immigrants, and couples just starting out.

Small House Garden This garden showcases a variety of indigenous and African plants. Learn how these plants made it into the New England diet through the global food system of the 1830s.

Thompson Bank Country banks provided short-term business loans to merchants, prosperous farmers, and manufacturers. Their paper “banknotes” often served as cash.

Tin Shop Experience our tinners creating authentic reproductions of household items made from tin and sheet tin.

Town Pound Livestock that may have stayed up there after the pasture could wind up in the town's pound.

Vermont Covered Bridge A roof and walls protected wooden bridges from the elements and helped them last longer.

Woodland Walk A stroll through the Purgatory Brook and then up to a wooded viewing platform.

Printing Office Small printing offices like this one often worked for publishers in Philadelphia, New York, or Boston, printing books that were sold throughout the country. They also printed smaller custom jobs like advertising forms, and pamphlets.

Richardson House This house is from East Brookfield, MA. Rent to a Congregational minister and his family. It was both their home and the hub of church activities. The minister and his wife were active in many community organizations.

Richardson Garden A progressive kitchen garden showcasing some of the most advanced techniques and varieties available to 19th-century New Englanders.

River Boat Ride A relaxing narrated ride on the Quinebaug River.

River Walk Best views of the West Quabitch and a peaceful setting to enjoy the Quinebaug River.

Salem Towne House and Barn This well-appointed home of a progressive farming family is from Charlestown, MA. Mrs. Towne managed the household, and with her husband often away on business the farm was worked by her family and hired hands.

Salem Towne Garden Our most formal ornamental garden boasts a stunning array of heirloom herbs and flowers.

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Welcome to Old Sturbridge Village! As the largest living history museum in New England, Old Sturbridge Village brings history to life through costumed educators, preserved buildings, households and tradeshops, a working farm, amazing objects in our vast collections, and incredible stories from life in the early 19th century. We invite you to experience all that Old Sturbridge Village has to offer: a wealth of connections to the past, adventures in hands-on learning, and opportunities for fun and discovery for all ages. We are more than a museum; we are Old Sturbridge Village.
New England on Parade Exhibit

Inspired by the Village’s 75th-anniversary celebration and Jane Nylander’s book, the New England on Parade exhibit examines the history of parades and parade traditions in New England from 1776 to 1940.

Look for the icon above on the map for locations.