

Appalachian Fair Museum Directory

Number 1 – Parlor

Parlors were very popular in the late 20's to 50's. People used parlors for guests, holidays, & special occasions. Since houses did not have central heat, an elaborate wood or coal burning stove was usually found in this room. No electricity, so battery operated radios, hand cranked record players, pump organs, & oil lamps were used.

Number 2 – Country Kitchen

This room was the most important room in farmhouses. All of the cooking, washing of clothes, ironing, & food preservation was done in the kitchen. In the wintertime the family gathered in the kitchen around the wood burning stove to keep warm.

Number 3 – Dining Room

This room was found in most early homes but was only used for holidays, Sunday dinners, and other special occasions. A woman who had a dining room felt very privileged.

Number 4 – Log Cabin

When early settlers came into upper East Tennessee, Southwest Virginia, and Western North Carolina they chopped down trees and built log cabins. Since they did not have fuel powered equipment and had to do everything by hand, they built small cabins. Using a broad axe and a primitive saw it was difficult to get enough material for large cabins. Sometimes the cabin had a crude fireplace, or a hole was left in the roof so a fire could be built inside the cabin in a fire pit. The family slept in the small cabin on floor mats, animal skins, or rope beds. Cooking was done in a fireplace or in a fire pit. When the weather was nice a lot of cooking was done outside in large iron kettles over an open fire. Early settlers had a difficult time keeping warm, finding food, and just hoped that they did not get sick because all they had for medicine was herbs and roots.

Number 5 –

In this area you see a moonshine still that was used in the Southern Appalachian Mountains. The people raised corn and so some of them figured out how to make moonshine (corn liquor). The large kettles were used for cooking and laundry. The sausage grinders, lard press, and kettles were used when hogs were 'killed'. Wooden kegs were used to hold nails that came in country stores or other businesses that sold these items. Barrels were usually found in the cooper shop. Coopering was an art that some people learned so they could have storage containers. The crocks were used for food storage and were usually made in a home pottery.

Number 6 – General Store

Before the age of television, cell phones, and computers with instant messaging, there was the general store where all manner of people from the community gathered, not only for supplies but also for news and gossip. The store usually had supplies people could not grow on the farm, like sugar, bananas, salt, soda, baking powder, cotton fabric, thread, medicine and sometimes candy. It was a place where farmers sat around a pot-belly stove, smoked their pipes, chewed tobacco, played checkers and most of all swapped news and farming tips. People did not have a lot of money so they would bring eggs, butter, or chickens and barter with the storekeeper to pay for the items they needed.

Number 7 –

When the automobile came along almost every community had a garage and a ‘shade tree’ mechanic. They would work on gasoline engines, farm machinery and fix flats. To operate the gas pump, you would shut off the valve located on the side of the pump and pull down the lever and pump gas into a glass top with gallon marks until you had the amount you wanted in the top. Put the hose into the fuel intake on the vehicle and pull the lever down. Put the hose back on the pump and close the valve.

Number 8 – Blacksmith Shop

A Blacksmith was a very important person in the community because if you needed nails, horseshoes, or cooking utensils you had to go to the blacksmith and get the items that you needed made. The craft of blacksmithing in its simplest terms is the bending and joining iron that has been heated in a forge until it becomes pliable. It required three basic tools: a forge with an air blowing device, an anvil, and a hammer. If you want additional information, look under the heading of ‘Art of Iron Forging’.

Number 9 – Old Barn

Earliest barns were crude structures fashioned with little more than an axe. As barns became larger, stronger, and more sophisticated some men began to specialize in the art of barn building. Barns were used to store hay, store animals, and store equipment farmers needed.

Number 10 – Farm Wagon

Wagons were used for transportation and to haul crops in from the fields.

Number 11 – Church going Buggy

Number 12 – Surrey

This was used when people had to make a longer trip.

Number 13 – Post Office

Number 14 – Surrey

Number 15 – Amish Buggy

Number 16 – On the top shelf is a horse drawn plow. Below the shelf is a horse drawn planter.

Number 17 – Tools used to hand-cut timber and section timber into short pieces.

Number 18 – Equipment used to make brooms.

Number 19 – Horse drawn plows, harvesting equipment and planting equipment.

Number 20 – Horizontal Grist Mill used to ground corn into cornmeal or wheat into flour.

Number 21 – Corn Sheller

Number 22 – Corn Fodder Cutter

Number 23 – Vertical Grist Mill

Number 24 – Platform Scale used in mills and warehouses to weigh large items.

Number 25 – Hay loader straddles windrow and pulls hay up to dump it into a wagon.

Number 26 – Grain Cleaner

Number 27 – Roller Mill Stand made flour in a water-driven grist mill.

Number 28 – Threshing Machine

Number 29 – Horse drawn Wheat or Barley Cutter from early to late 1800's.

Number 30 – Grain Binder

Used to cut wheat or barley. Bunched and bound with string. Bunches were stacked into shocks.

Number 31 – Flax Breaker breaks fiber inside flax stems to be woven into cloth.

Number 32 – Loom used to make cloth.

Number 33 – Winder used to wind yarn into skeins.

Number 34 – Jacquard Coverlets

Jacquard loom attachment was used to make these coverlets. The attachment was probably used by weavers in New York State in the 1820's. There is the wide range of motifs available in these intricately patterned pieces weave shops producing Jacquard-controlled woven coverlets existed at many crossroads & small towns throughout southeastern Pennsylvania German settlement through the 1860's but by the post-civil war period, the individual coverlet weaver had passed from the Pennsylvania scene. Other than the coverlets themselves there is very little evidence left of either these master craftsmen or the Jacquard mechanisms they used.

Number 35 – Cream Separator

Number 36 – Cider Mill

Number 37 – Cider/Vinegar Barrel

Number 38 – Lard Press

Number 39 – Fruit Press

Number 40 – Sausage Stuffer

Number 41 – Moonshine Still

Number 42 – Lard Press

Number 43 – Platform Scale

Number 44 – Froe

Number 45 – Maul

Number 46 – Broad Axe

Number 47 – Cross/Cut Saw

Number 48 – Double Tree

Number 49 – Yolk

Number 50 – Hand Sickle

Number 51 – Briar Scythe

Number 52 – De-Horner

Number 53 – Grain Cradle

Number 54 – Ox Yoke

Number 55 – Hay Fork

Number 56 – Side Saddle

Number 57 – Harness Sewing Machine

Number 58 – Vise

Number 59 – Skinning Board

Number 60 – Double Harpoon Hay Fork

Number 61 – Anvil

Number 62 – Grindstone

Number 63 – Drill Press

Number 64 – Drill

Number 65 – Wagon Tire Benders

Number 66 – Wooden Washing Machine

Number 67 – Anthony Wayne Washer

Number 68 – Gas Powered Plow

Number 69 – Push Lawn Mower

Number 70 – Cradle Churn

Number 71 – Drum Churn

Number 72 – Electric Churn

Number 73 – Milk Can

Number 74 – Shoemaker's Last

Number 75 – Fire Hose Cart

Number 76 – Linotype – Printing

Number 77 – Snow Sleigh

Number 78 – Three-legged Quilting Frame donated by Grace Jenkins.

Number 79 – Potato Plow