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## Tour the Museum of History, Virtually, from Anywhere!



For images, follow this [Dropbox link](#). Captions and credits are listed after tour information.

**February 24, 2021 (RALEIGH, N.C.)** — The North Carolina Museum of History is proud to announce it has completed the initial production of 360° virtual tours of its largest exhibit, *The Story of North Carolina*!

### Top Five Takeaways for *The Story of North Carolina* 360° Virtual Tour

- Users can explore the Museum of History’s largest exhibit, *The Story of North Carolina*, virtually—from anywhere!
- Users have two options for touring the 3-D space: an overall walk-through of the entire exhibit or an in-depth exploration of shorter segments, one gallery at a time, in the Student Tour version.
- The Student Tour’s shorter segments provide enriched content such as additional information, images of artifacts in 360°, photographs, and videos.
- Users can “walk” inside various exhibit structures, even some that were previously roped off to in-person tours; these include the Martin County cabin that housed seven enslaved people in 1860.
- Users should watch for members of our staff throughout the virtual tours! They are waiting to introduce new sections.

To make the Museum of History’s main chronological history exhibit, *The Story of North Carolina*, accessible to online audiences across the state, and around the world, the museum has created two 360° virtual-reality tours of the exhibition: one that provides [an overall walk-through of the entire exhibit](#) and is geared to casual adult visitors and a [Student Tour](#) that consists of 13 shorter but more detailed gallery tours, to provide educators, students, and lifelong learners readily available, easy-to-use digital social studies resources on a focused theme or time period.

To accomplish those goals, the [Student Tours](#) feature a range of additional content—background information, views of artifacts in 360°, photographs, and videos that work together to provide new insights into 14,000 years of our state’s history—accessed through information dots. These tours also include introductory overviews from museum staff, to introduce important themes covered.

Ready to delve virtually into *The Story of North Carolina*? Be sure to follow us on social media for updates as the museum expands its virtual offerings. You can also stay up to date on all events and exhibits at the museum website: [ncmuseumofhistory.org](http://ncmuseumofhistory.org).

Even when the museum reopens at full capacity, such tours will enable schools to better prepare for field trips and will open up the exhibition to audiences outside the building who cannot travel to Raleigh for in-person viewing.

*The North Carolina Museum of History Foundation received funding for these virtual tours in an NC CARES: Humanities Relief Grant from the North Carolina Humanities Council, [nchumanities.org](http://nchumanities.org); funding for NC CARES was provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act economic stabilization plan.*



IMAGES: [Dropbox link](#), caption and credits

Image – 360° Virtual Tour logo and icon  
Courtesy of Matterport Inc.

Image – *The Story of North Carolina* 360° Virtual Tour – Young girl exploring (2 images)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History and Matterport Inc.

Image – *The Story of North Carolina* 360° Virtual Tour – World War II gallery (2 images)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History and Matterport Inc.

Image – *The Story of North Carolina* 360° Virtual Tour – Man learning about the Reconstruction era (2 images)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History and Matterport Inc.

Image – *The Story of North Carolina* 360° Virtual Tour – Student Tour (5 images)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History, Beyond the Exhibits, and Matterport Inc.

Image – National Endowment for the Humanities seal  
Courtesy of National Endowment for the Humanities

Image – North Carolina Humanities Council logo  
Courtesy of North Carolina Humanities Council

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**For information about the NC Museum of History**, a Smithsonian Affiliate museum, call 919-814-7000 or access [ncmuseumofhistory.org](http://ncmuseumofhistory.org) or follow the museum on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), or [YouTube](#).

### **About the NC Museum of History**

The North Carolina Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate, fosters a passion for North Carolina history. This museum collects and preserves artifacts of state history and educates the public on the history of the state and the nation through exhibits and educational programs. **Admission is free.** Last year, more than 465,000 people visited the museum to see some of the 150,000 artifacts in the museum collection. The Museum of History, within the Division of State History Museums, is part of the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

### **About the Smithsonian Affiliations Network**

Since 2006, the North Carolina Museum of History has been a Smithsonian Affiliate, part of a select group of museums, cultural, educational, and arts organizations that share Smithsonian resources with the nation. The Smithsonian Affiliations network is a national outreach program that develops long-term collaborative partnerships with museums, educational, and cultural organizations to enrich communities with Smithsonian resources. More information is available at [affiliations.si.edu](http://affiliations.si.edu).

### **About the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources**

The North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (NCDNCR) is the state agency with a vision to be the leader in using the state's natural and cultural resources to build the social, cultural, educational, and economic future of North Carolina. NCDNCR's mission is to improve the quality of life in our state by creating opportunities to experience excellence in the arts, history, libraries, and natural assets in North Carolina by stimulating learning, inspiring creativity, preserving the state's history, conserving the state's natural heritage, encouraging recreation and cultural tourism, and promoting economic development.

NCDNCR includes 27 historic sites, seven history museums, two art museums, two science museums, three aquariums, and Jennette's Pier, as well as 39 state parks and recreation areas, the North Carolina Zoo, the nation's first state-supported symphonic orchestra, the State Library of North Carolina, the State Archives of North Carolina, the North Carolina Arts Council, the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, and the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology, along with the state Division of Land and Water Stewardship. For more information, call 919-814-6800 or visit [DNCR.nc.gov](http://DNCR.nc.gov).

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