

# Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

## Physical Accessibility Guide 2026

### General Notes

The Museum does not have a central exhibit building. Visitors must walk outside to access each building. A *flexi-pave* path connects most of the buildings. *Flexi-pave* is a semiporous, recycled ground rubber that is soft and springy. Additionally, a gravel path runs from the parking lot around the back of the Museum green. The path to the waterfront connects to this gravel walkway. There are varying levels of physical access due to the age of each building. Handicap accessible restrooms can be found inside the Hoehl Family Visitor Center and in the outdoor restrooms. Please continue reading to learn more.

#### 1. Hoehl Family Visitor Center

The entrance to the Museum is in the Hoehl Family Visitor Center. There is a handicap accessible parking spot in the gravel parking lot directly outside of the entrance. The gravel parking lot switches to flat stones which leads to the entrance. Inside the visitor center, there are ADA compliant restrooms. To access the Museum, you must exit through the gift shop doors onto a *flexi-pave* path. The Hoehl Family Visitor Center also houses the auditorium, which has spaces for wheelchairs in the seating.

#### 2. Stone Schoolhouse Gallery

The stone schoolhouse gallery is accessible via the *flexi-pave* path leading from the Hoehl Family Visitor Center. The path switches to a wooden deck. There is only one entrance/exit to the Schoolhouse. This is a narrow door with a short wooden ramp leading up and going down into the building to get over the high threshold. The door has a latched handle.

#### 3. Hazelett Small Watercraft Center

From the *flexi-pave* path, there are long wooden ramps that lead to both entrances of this building. The wide doors have short thresholds. The lower level is accessible via the *flexi-pave* path that leads to a steep gravel path.

#### 4. Fragments: Voices of the American Revolution on Lake Champlain

From the *flexi-pave* path, there is one wheelchair accessible entrance to Fragments on the north side of the building. The exhibit space is fully ADA compliant.

#### 5. Philadelphia II Replica 1776 Gunboat

*Philadelphia* is accessed from the *flexi-pave* path over grass. There is a flight of wooden stairs leading to the boat deck. The deck has uneven surfaces.

## **6. Steam to Gasoline**

This exhibit is located in an open-air barn. The *flexi-pave* path leads to an open barn door. The ground is mounded gravel. The light is dim in this exhibit.

## **7. Nautical Archaeology Center**

The *flexi-pave* path connects to a wooden ramp which leads to the entrance of this building. The doors are wide and have a low threshold.

## **8. The Roost**

This building is situated off the gravel path at the back of the green. The ramp at the back of the building is accessible over grass. There is a high threshold in the entrance of the ramp, but the doors are narrow to enter the building. Additionally, there is a step in the middle of the building between the main area and the fireplace level.

## **9. A Noble Failure: Prohibition in the Champlain Valley**

This is an outdoor exhibit accessible from the gravel path and over a portion of the lawn. The exhibit consists of three trifolds of signage that are spread about 20' away from one another.

## **10. North Harbor, Lake Champlain**

North Harbor can be accessed off of the gravel path that leads behind the Museum Green. The path to the waterfront is downhill and steep. At the base of the waterfront path is a fixed dock system that connects to our floating docks. There is 250 feet of fixed docks which are 4 feet 2 inches wide and have hand railings along them. After this, there is 180 feet of floating dock which are 8 feet wide.

## **11. Museum Green**

The Museum Green is a lawn and can be accessed from the gravel path and the *flexi-pave* path. The replica gunboat *Philadelphia* is located in the center of the green and is surrounded by picnic tables in the lawn.

## **12. The Clean Water Act**

This is an outdoor exhibit accessible via the gravel path at the back of the green. Visitor must traverse three feet of grass to access the wooden ramp.

## **13. Rhinehart Blacksmithing Arts Center**

Visitors can look inside the Rhinehart Blacksmithing Center from the gravel path. The interior of the building can only be accessed with staff supervision.

#### **14. Boat Shed**

The boat shed is accessed via the gravel and *flexi-pave* paths. The ground is mounded gravel and can be uneven and often contains large items like boats, buoys, or boat trailers, which can impede movement.

#### **15. Eighteenth Century Blacksmith Forge**

The forge sits off the *flexi-pave* path and is an open workshop door leading to a gravel floor. The interior is dimly lit to show how dark forges were kept during that time.

#### **16. Boat Shop**

The boat shop is generally not open to visitors but can be accessed via the gravel path and the *flexi-pave path* from multiple entrances. The entrances are narrow and have high thresholds. Boats and equipment usually impedes movement inside the building.

#### **17. Nathan R. Owen Center**

There is a ramp on the west side of the building to enter. There are also entrances on the north and south side of the building that involve stairs (south side has two steps, north side has two sets of steps with 3 steps each)

#### **Shipwreck Simulator**

This activity is accessible over a lawn and a pine grove with exposed roots.

#### **Outdoor Restrooms**

The outdoor restrooms are accessible via the *flexi-pave* path and are ADA compliant. There is also a bathroom with an outdoor entrance at the back of the Nautical Archaeology Center, facing the Prohibition exhibit, which is also ADA compliant.

#### **Shipwreck Tours**

Shipwreck tours occur weekly and meet on the Museum green. We walk as a group to the Basin Harbor club over the gravel parking lot and a half mile of pavement. If folks are unable to walk, they are welcome to drive to the Basin Harbor parking lot, or they can be dropped off. The pavement transitions to a gravel path that leads downhill to the waterfront at Basin Harbor. Guests must maneuver down a pier and ramps to get to the EEscape. The EEscape is wheelchair accessible, but there are no ADA compliant restrooms on EEscape. Visitors should use the accessible restrooms on land before boarding EEscape.



|   | Number | Building  | Entrance   | Interior Notes  | Exit                  |
|---|--------|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| ✓ | 1.     | <b>Hoehl Family Visitor Center</b>                          | Stone path leading from gravel parking lot   |   | Level exit            |
| ✗ | 2.     | <b>Schoolhouse Gallery</b>                                  | Ramp on the south side, the door is narrow .   |   | Same as the entrance  |
| ● | 3.     | <b>Hazelett Watercraft Center</b>                           | Ramp to the first floor on the east side<br>Entrance to the lower floor accessible down a graded gravel path.          |   | Same as the entrances |
| ✓ | 4.     | <b>Fragments</b>  | Ramp on north side of building.  |   | Same as entrance      |
| ✗ | 5.     | <b>Philadelphia II Replica 1776 Gunboat</b>                 | Stairs from Museum Green.  | Uneven wooden surfaces  | Same as entrance      |
| ✗ | 6.     | <b>Steam to Gasoline</b>                                    | Flat gravel.   | Uneven gravel surfaces  | Same as entrance      |
| ✓ | 7.     | <b>Nautical Archaeology Center</b>                          | Ramp on south side.  |   | Same as entrance      |
| ✗ | 8.     | <b>The Roost</b>  | Ramp on north side, stairs at main entrance on south side.   | Narrow door inside that opens into the main room. The main room has a split-level floor with one step, no ramp. | Same as entrance      |
| ✗ | 9.     | <b>A Noble Failure: Prohibition in the Champlain Valley</b> | Outdoors, accessible via a short walk over grass from the gravel path.   |   |                       |
| ✗ | 10.    | <b>North Harbor, Lake Champlain</b>                         | Outdoors, accessible from the gravel path down a steep hill. The docks are connected to the dirt path via metal piers. |   |                       |

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|---|-----|--|---|--|-------------------|
| ✘ | 11. | <b>Museum Green</b>                        | Outdoors, grass accessible via the <i>flexi-pave</i> path.  |  |                   |
| ✘ | 12. | <b>The Clean Water Act</b>                 | Outdoors, ramp is accessible over a patch of grass.   |  |                   |
| ✘ | 13. | <b>Rhinehart Blacksmithing Arts Center</b> | Outdoors, accessible via the gravel path.   |  |                   |
| ✘ | 14. | <b>Boat Shed</b>                           | Outdoors, accessible via the gravel and <i>flexi-pave</i> paths.  |  |                   |
| ✘ | 15. | <b>18<sup>th</sup> Century Forge</b>       | Outdoors, accessible via <i>flexi-pave</i> path that opens into the exhibit's gravel floor.               |  |                   |
| ✘ | 16. | <b>Boat Shop</b>                           | Entrances via the <i>flexi-pave</i> path.   | Equipment and boats usually impede movement. | Same as entrance. |
| ● | 17. | <b>Nathan R. Owen Center</b>               | Ramp on the west side of the building.  |  | Same as entrance. |
|   |     | <b>Basin Harbor Shipwreck Tours</b>        | Gravel path leading down to the boat dock. EEscape is wheelchair accessible. No ADA restrooms on EEscape. |  | Same as entrance. |

Accessibility symbols:



Not accessible



First floor access only



Fully accessible