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≡ *Kindred Spirits* (sculpture)

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***Kindred Spirits*** is a large [stainless steel](#) outdoor sculpture in Bailick Park in [Midleton, County Cork](#), Ireland.<sup>[1][2]</sup>

Created by artist Alex Pentek, *Kindred Spirits* commemorates the 1847 donation by the [Native American Choctaw](#) people to Irish famine relief during the [Great Hunger](#), despite the Choctaw themselves living in hardship and poverty and having recently endured the [Trail of Tears](#).<sup>[2][3][4]</sup> While records of the exact amount of the donation vary, the figure usually given is [US\\$170](#)<sup>[5]</sup> (about \$5,600 in 2023 inflation-adjusted dollars, though some methods indicate it could have been as high as \$20,000 in 2015 dollars).<sup>[note 1]</sup> In the [U.S. coinage](#) of the time, U.S.\$170 meant 8.22 troy ounces of physical gold, or about US\$14,000 in 2020 prices.<sup>[*citation needed*]</sup>



Photo of Kindred Spirits sculpture,  
Midleton, County Cork.

The sculpture consists of nine 20-foot (6.1 m) stainless steel eagle feathers arranged in a circle, no two feathers being identical, forming a bowl shape to represent a gift of a bowl of food.<sup>[7][8][9]</sup> With over 20,000 welds and taking a year to make, it was created by Alex Pentek at the Sculpture Factory in [Cork, Ireland](#), with assistance to polish the finished work from students of the [Crawford College of Art and Design](#), and installed in Bailick Park in 2015.<sup>[5][1][10][2][11][12][9]</sup> The memorial was commissioned by Midleton Town Council,<sup>[13][14]</sup> and was officially unveiled and dedicated in June 2017 by Chief [Gary Batton](#), Chief of the [Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma](#), Assistant Chief Jack Austin Jr., and [Councillor](#) Seamus McGrath, County Mayor of [Cork](#), accompanied by a 20-strong delegation from the Choctaw Nation.<sup>[15][16][9][14][17]</sup>

A companion sculpture, *Eternal Heart*, was unveiled in [Tuskahoma, Oklahoma](#) in 2024 to further commemorate Choctaw-Irish relations.<sup>[18]</sup>

See also [\[ edit source \]](#)

- Feathers in religion and culture
- Native American and Irish interactions

## Notes [\[ edit source \]](#)

1. ^ The former according to the [American Federal Reserve Consumer Price Index](#) estimate,<sup>[6]</sup> the latter according to the *Sunday Times*.<sup>[5]</sup>

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Categories: Outdoor sculptures in Ireland | Monuments and memorials in the Republic of Ireland | Stainless steel sculptures | 2015 sculptures | Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma | Ireland–United States relations | Great Famine (Ireland) monuments and memorials | Trail of Tears

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