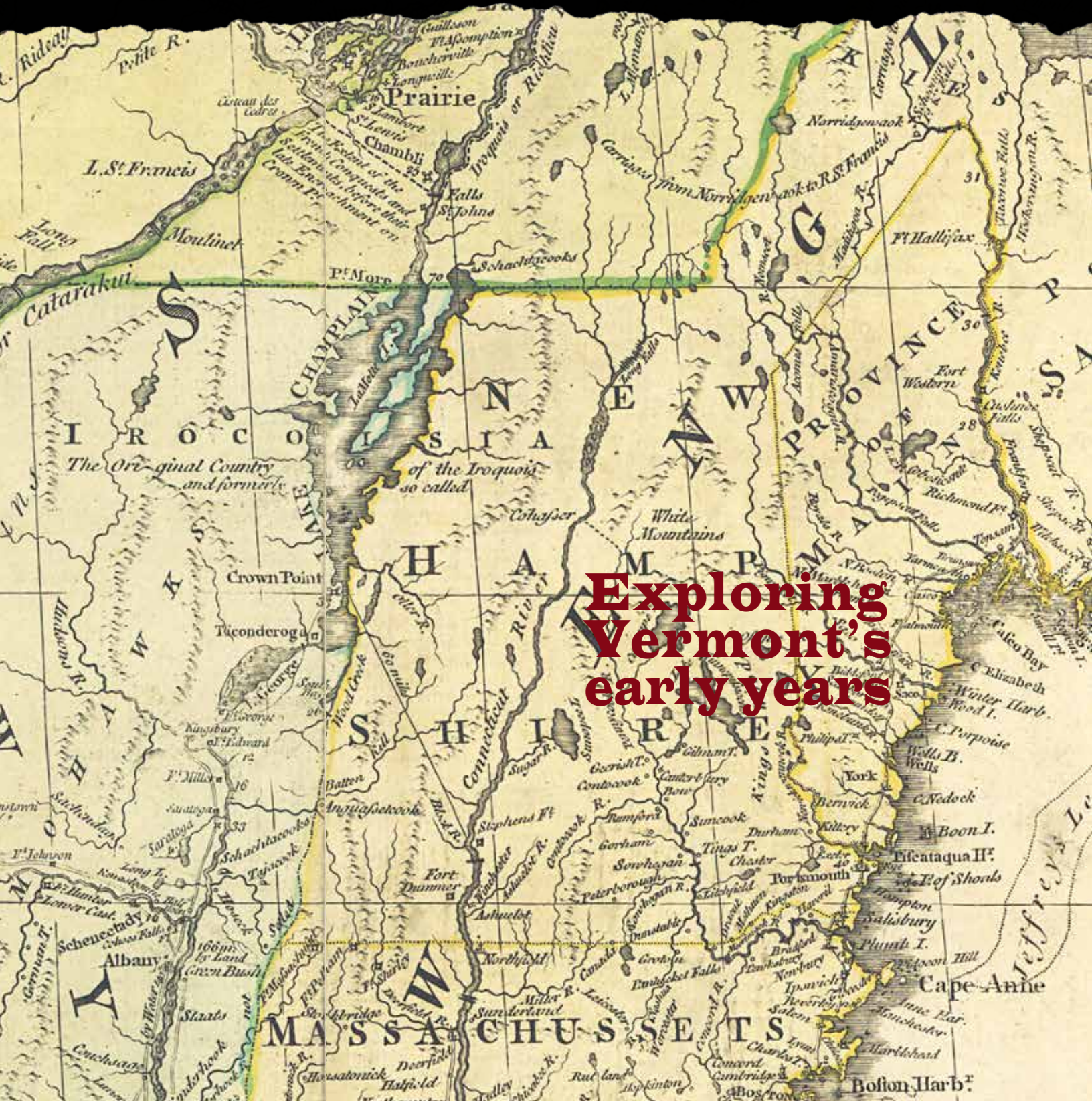




HISTORY CONNECTIONS

Vermont Historical Society News and Notes ■ Fall/Winter 2024



Exploring
Vermont's
early years



VOLUME 19 - Number 1

History Connections is published by the Vermont Historical Society.

Vermont Historical Society believes understanding the past changes lives and builds better communities. Our purpose is to engage Vermonters and Vermonters-at-Heart with outstanding collections, state-wide outreach, and dynamic programming.

Executive Director: Steve Perkins

Vermont History Museum and Store

The Pavilion Building, next to the State House
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Seniors, students, children: \$7
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info@vermonthistory.org

Editing: Andrew Liptak
Design: Laughing Bear Associates
Printing: Accura Printing
Cover image: Library of Congress, A map of the British and French dominions in North America, with the roads, distances, limits, and extent of the settlements, humbly inscribed to the Right Honourable the Earl of Halifax, and the other Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners for Trade & Plantations, 1774

In The Galleries

History Museum Special Exhibits

Francis Colburn - From the Collection of VHS

An examination of artist Frances Colburn's life and work through art held by VHS
On view in the National Life Gallery January through July 2025.

Photography Exhibit

An exhibit featuring previously un-seen photographs from VHS's Leahy Library.
On View in the Jackie Calder Gallery from January through July 2025.

Creative Women in Pittsford

Presented by the Pittsford Historical Society, this exhibition covers a period from 1870-1960 and features the works of artists Martha Wood and her partner Lucia Gilbert, Mary Randall, Hilda Belcher, and Katherine Crockett.
On view in the Local History Gallery through February 2025.

Rockingham Acropolis

The role of the meeting house as the center of the spiritual and civic life in 18th century Vermont communities, curated by the Town of Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission (CLG).
On view in the Local History Gallery from February to July 2025.

In the Galleries

Icons and Oddities

Vermonters have always been keen to reuse and recycle. For this newest iteration of *Icons, Oddities, and Wonders*, VHS staff sought items from our collections that show hundreds of years of clever adaptation and thoughtful reinvention.

Visit the gallery during Library open hours.

Research & Exhibition Gallery

The Research and Exhibition Gallery (REG) of the Vermont Historical Society is an open-storage gallery with hundreds of items from our collection. The gallery's first installation will focus on themes developed by the American Association of State and Local History for the 250th commemoration of the Declaration of Independence, including such diverse items as patent models, globes, and social movement signs.

Visit the gallery during the Vermont History Center's Open Hours.



Events & Programs

Want to learn more about upcoming events and programs? Visit our calendar at vermonthistory.org/calendar and follow us on social media.



Founding of the nation

With a once-in-a-lifetime event happening every few months or so, most people haven't given much thought to what happened 250 years ago. As I was reminded by one of our members at our Annual Meeting in October, we're rapidly approaching a number of significant milestones for the histories of both our state and our country. In 2026, we'll join colleagues from around the country in commemorating the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the acknowledged birthday of our country. Though Vermont was not an official entity on July 4th, 1776, Vermonters certainly joined the cause and ultimately organized as an independent republic in 1777.

Since 2019, Vermont's 250th Commission has met to begin planning a statewide framework for commemorating and contextualizing this momentous anniversary. The Vermont Historical Society, in turn, has a number of initiatives that tie into both the state and national commemorations.

We've already been hard at work: in October, we opened the long-awaited Research and Exhibition Gallery, which is organized along the national themes of the 250th commemoration and prompts you to think deeply about the Commission's themes, such as "The Power of Place," "The American Experience," "Unfinished Revolutions," and "We the People." We also published a biography of Ira Allen to augment our extensive published offerings on early Vermont, and we're the fiscal agent and educational partner for Rick Moulton Productions' new documentary on Ethan Allen, which should debut in 2026.

Our education team is working hard on a number of projects that will bring themes of America 250 into classrooms around the state. Our flagship education platform, Vermont History Explorer

(vermonthistoryexplorer.org) contains plenty of information for students, teachers, and parents, and we're adding 250th-specific content almost daily. Through the generosity of private donors and the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership, we are embarking on a project called All in Vermont, where all schools in our state will partner with local societies to put their unique projects on a digital 250th map.



National History Day is one of our largest student programs each year and we expect the 2026 version to break records. The entire competition, from state to national levels, will align with the themes of America 250. In addition, we hope to send Vermont History Day students to the Young People's Continental Congress in Philadelphia. Unlike in 1776, we Vermonters will be full participants!

In the past year, we have provided planning grants to local societies and other groups at the local level to prepare for the commemoration. The projects they've proposed are truly wonderful and exciting to see, and we will continue to provide support, guidance, and, fingers crossed, funding throughout the commemoration.

Over at the Vermont History Museum and Vermont History Center, we're planning our own exhibition from 2025 to 2026 that will explore how Vermonters have illustrated our history on paper and page. At the same time, we'll be hosting a number of 250th-specific exhibitions from various Vermont groups in the museum's Local History Gallery in both 2026 and 2027.

There's a lot coming in the next few years, and we can't wait for you to see it.


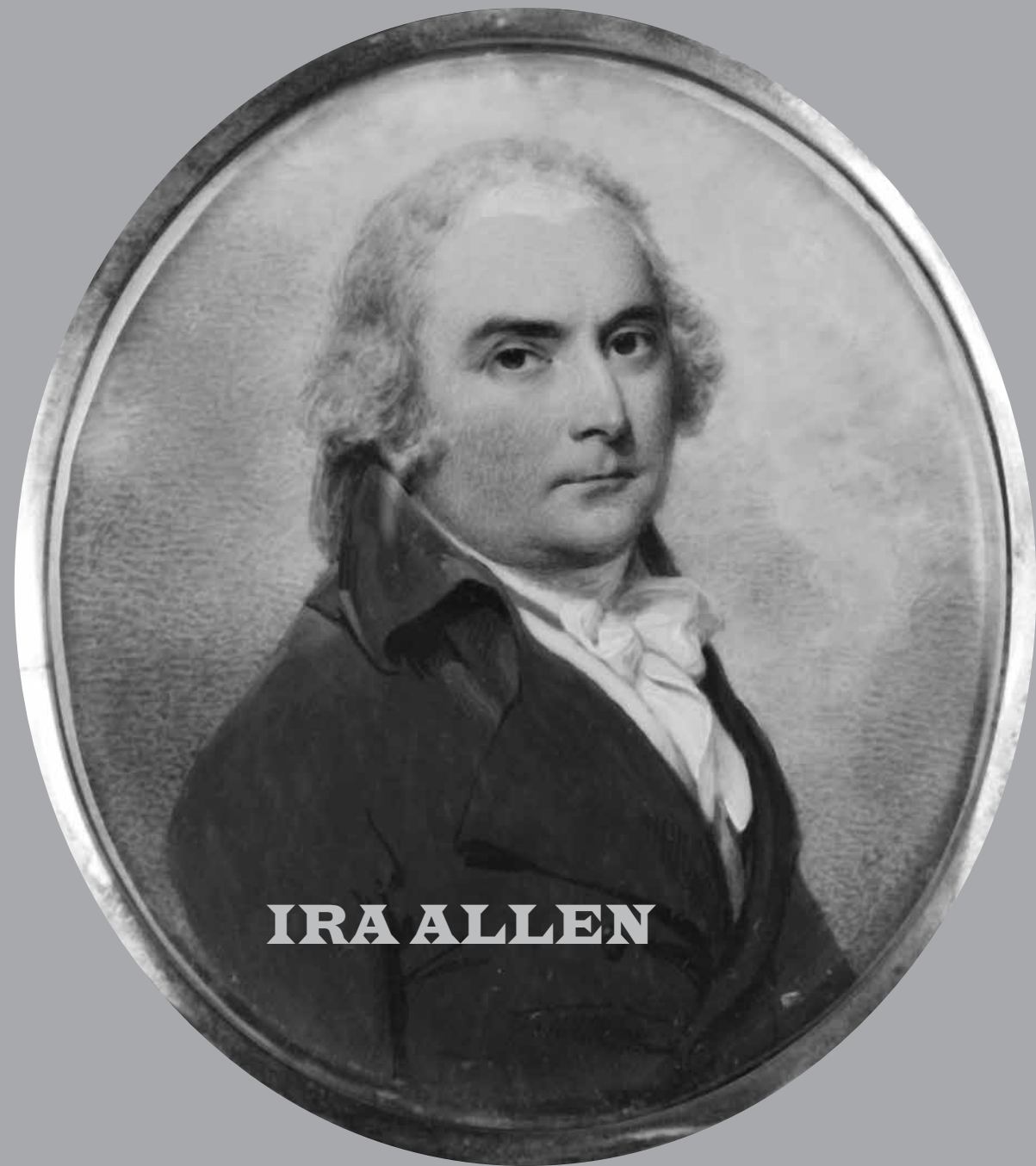

Steve Perkins, Executive Director

Photo: Vermont Historical Society



Complicated Legacies

Vermonters want to like, as well as respect, our Founding Fathers

By J. Kevin Graffagnino

Vermonters who study our state's eighteenth-century beginnings have mixed feelings about Ira Allen. We know he was an important player in many of the key developments in Vermont between 1770 and 1800—a major land speculator and founder of the Onion River Land Company; a key participant in the clandestine Haldimand Negotiations; Vermont's first state treasurer and surveyor general; a tireless author and propagandist for independent Vermont's right to exist; an enthusiastic developer of northern Vermont towns and Champlain Valley trade after the American Revolution; and a principal in the drive to create the University of Vermont and locate it in Burlington—who stood shoulder to shoulder with his older brother Ethan and first governor Thomas Chittenden atop the pyramid of early Vermont leaders. But Vermonters want to *like*, as well as respect, our Founding Fathers, and from his own day to the present, Ira Allen has never generated much affection from those familiar with his remarkable career. While we name banks, bowling alley, laundromats, military units, counties, and anything else you can think of after Ethan Allen or Thomas Chittenden, once you get past the towns of Ira and Irasburg, there's not much on today's Green Mountain landscape you can tie to the younger Allen. We give Ira our respect, but we withhold our approval.

We might have wanted Ethan Allen on our side in a bar fight; I'd welcome Thomas Chittenden to my corner in a political or government battle; and I'd want Ira Allen on my side in any kind of cause or contest—as long as I didn't have to trust him very far. Ira had moments where he could be brave, generous, visionary, and even selfless, but as his fortunes waned in the latter decades of his life, those sterling qualities faded and gave way to less admirable characteristics and practices.

Perhaps if Ira had succeeded in bringing his bold dreams and plans to fruition, he would have become the good man his behavior in his 20s and 30s hinted at, but it seems that the desperation of his efforts to remain afloat

financially took him in a different, darker direction by his mid-40s. The behavior of his Vermont contemporaries towards him speaks to his flaws. Members of his own family took him to court or fought with him over various issues and nearly everyone who engaged with him in politics or business kept a close eye on him.

Had he achieved the fortune and power that seemed within his grasp at 35, Ira might have eclipsed brother Ethan and Governor Chittenden in the Green Mountain historical hall of fame. Instead, the disappointments and failures that piled up on him after Vermont joined the Union in 1791 made him an exile and a forgotten man here by the time he went to a pauper's grave in Philadelphia in 1814.

I'd want Ira Allen on my side in any kind of cause or contest—as long as I didn't have to trust him very far.

But in the end, it doesn't matter whether we like Ira Allen or not; what is important is that we weave him into the tapestry of the early Vermont story. Ira was involved in so many Vermont affairs between 1770 and 1800 that you cannot paint a complete picture of those decades in our state without him. Ira was a frontier dreamer and visionary who saw a bright and expansive horizon while most of his contemporaries were focused on clearing their land, cultivating their farms, and hacking a living out of the landscape around them. That Ira never saw the future he knew was coming—Burlington as a thriving city, Lake Champlain teeming with waterborne commerce and trade, and a northern Vermont full of growing towns and villages—is immaterial. Throughout American history, it has always been the next generation that transforms the hopes and plans of the pioneer entrepreneurs into reality. There is honor in what Ira accomplished in and for Vermont, and respect due for what he attempted but did not achieve. We don't need a pure and saintly Ira Allen on a pedestal when there is considerably more of interest in him as a complicated, nuanced, inconsistent man whose checkered career tells us so much about the origins and formative years of our state.

Facing page: Edward Malbone, Portrait of Ira Allen, ca 1797. Courtesy of Silver Special Collections Library, University of Vermont.

REVOLUTIONS OF THOUGHT IN MUSEUM SPACES

AN OPPORTUNITY TO REEXAMINE OUR
COMPLEX RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PAST
AND ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT WE
CAN ACCOMPLISH IN THE NEXT 250 YEARS



By Danielle Harris-Burnett

For many, the Revolutionary War takes on mythic proportions. As we approach the 250th commemoration of the Declaration of Independence, historians and teachers alike are reexamining our relationship with the conflict. The 250th is an opportunity to reexamine our complex relationship with the past and ask questions about what we can accomplish in the next 250 years. How do we reconcile “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness,” with Thomas Jefferson’s ownership of human beings, or talk about Vermont’s role as an independent republic during the war? The Vermont History Museum is the place to ask those questions with students because of the interaction with physical objects.

When teaching about Vermont in the late 1700s, we can often fall into a trap of talking about Vermont exceptionalism. If we are to understand the United States as an ongoing experiment in democracy, then Vermont

is one of its many testing sites. History rarely gives us a straightforward answer. Yes, the Green Mountain Boys formed a militia group to split from New York and New Hampshire. No, this was not exclusively because they were a group of rugged individualists. Yes, Vermont abolished adult slavery in its 1777 constitution. No, this does not mean formerly enslaved people like Jeffery Brace received a warm welcome after moving to Vermont—or that other Vermonters did not own enslaved people. Our predecessors led their own complicated lives, just as we do today. We can’t expect them to fall neatly into one category.

These are all questions that historians are grappling with. So how do we condense these massive and complicated ideas of an ongoing revolution into a museum exhibit?

The *Freedom and Unity* exhibit at the Vermont History Museum in Montpelier explores the role that Vermonters played in the Revolutionary War, and in one section, visitors can explore a recreation of the Catamount Tavern, where members of the Green Mountain Boys would meet.



Photo: Vermont Historical Society

This section has changed since it first opened in 2004. It originally featured a mannequin of Dr. Samuel Adams, a sympathizer to New York’s claims over the territories granted by New Hampshire who was publicly humiliated by members of the Green Mountain Boys in 1774. When the exhibit was updated and the mannequin removed to save space, we replaced it with a label that describes Adams’ story. Its removal demonstrated some changing attitudes towards teaching the past; rather than making a spectacle of a humiliating event, we now prompt visitors to explore the tavern on their own and put themselves in this historic moment. What types of conversations would they have around the table? Would they find Adam’s punishment and other similar events deserved or excessive? This immersive environment helps to shape the opinions that visitors might form.

Similarly, objects can play a role in helping convey these complicated situations for students and visitors alike. VHS holds many physical objects from the Revolutionary War and its aftermath in our collection, such as musket balls, sabers, teacups, and uniforms, all

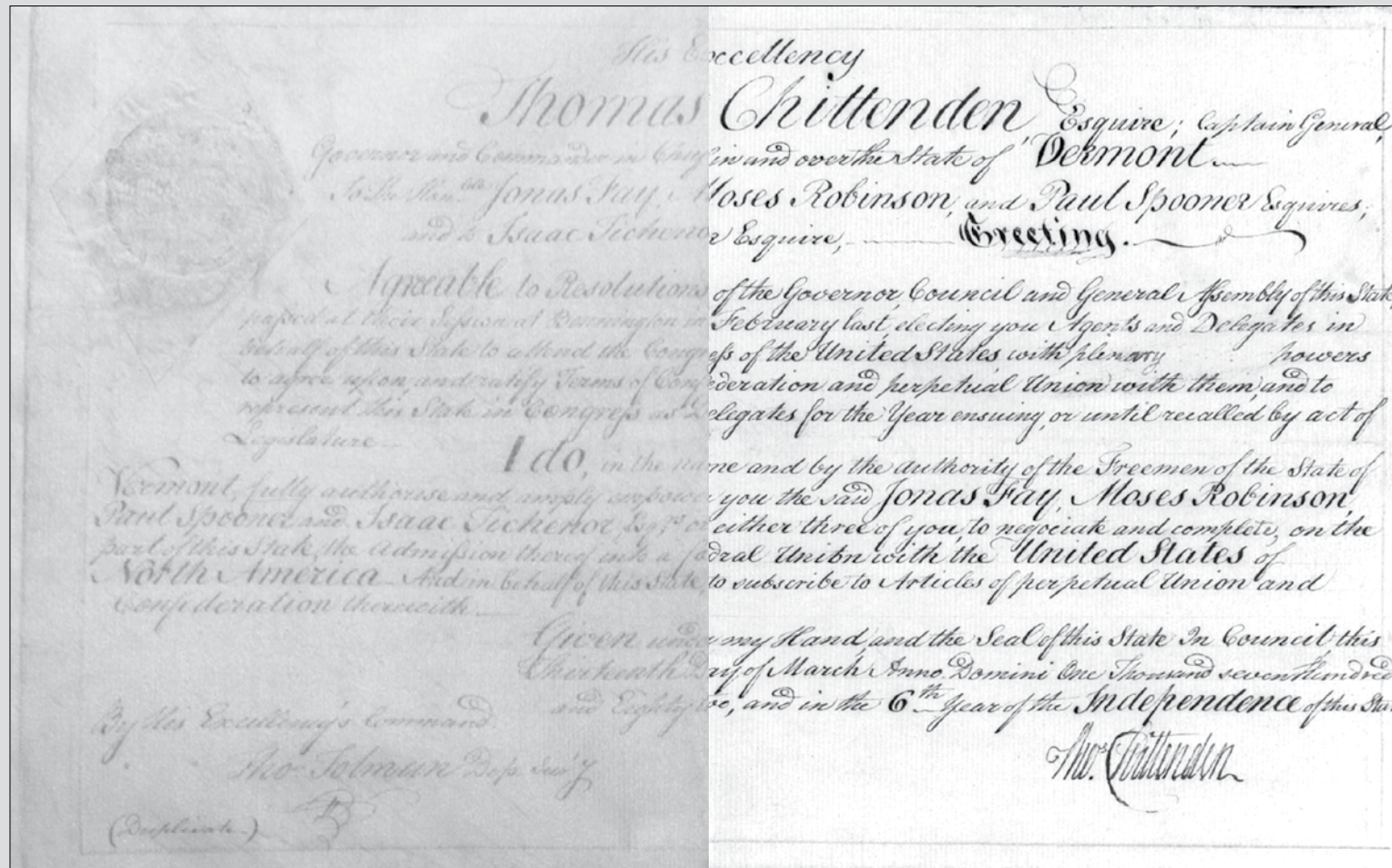
of which are tangible reminders of the past. With the proper context, they provide a window into the minds and culture of a nation seeking connections to their origins and past. For example: a powder horn used by John Carpenter while serving in the Vermont militia at Fort Defiance in Barnard shows scenes of wildlife and possibly of the Royalton Raid of 1780. Through this item, we get a first-hand interpretation of a complicated moment in Vermont’s history.

As we move into the 250th commemoration, it’s important as educators to recognize the value of encouraging students to think about our relationships with the past. Visitors and students may expect that they already know the main story beats that make up the Revolutionary War. Through these objects and spaces, history educators provide the necessary scaffolding for learners to form their own analysis. After all, our shared history is not a roadmap, but a record of where we’ve already been.

Above: the Catamount Tavern exhibit at the Vermont History Museum in Montpelier.

KEEPING UP WITH THE CHANGES IN CONSERVATION TECHNIQUES

By Steven Picazio



Conserving the “Vermont Acts of Conventions and State Papers, 1775–1791” for the next 250 years

Seeing that these documents were slowly degrading and becoming less readable, the staff at VHS’s Leahy Library took action to prevent them from deteriorating further.

Edward Goddard, then new to his position as the Librarian of the Vermont Historical Society, reported in the 1902 *Proceedings of the Vermont Historical Society*: “I have brought together several manuscripts and papers... relating to the early history of the State. These documents have been carefully and neatly mounted on silk and bound in a substantial manner by the Emery Record Preserving Company of Taunton, Mass.”

Goddard named this collection of fourteen documents the *Vermont Acts of Conventions and State Papers, 1775 – 1791*. Discerningly chosen, they reveal key details about the early history of Vermont and its transition from disputed colonial territory to state. They expose the political tensions of the time, the actions of the state’s early leaders, and the resolutions they made. They include the words and signatures of

such notable figures as Ira Allen, Thomas Chittenden, John Hancock, and Thomas Jefferson and are instrumental in telling the story of Vermont.

For many years, VHS made this collection readily accessible to historians and school groups alike. Goddard chose a then state-of-the-art preservation method known as the “Emery Process” to keep the fragile papers safe from further tearing or creasing.

Patented in 1894, the process was a method of paper conservation. A document was coated in adhesive, before having sheets of silk fabric laid on both sides and pressed under high pressure. Next came an application of paraffin wax, which stiffened the paper and protected it from external damage. Once silked, the documents were mounted onto larger papers to make them uniform in size and then bound together.

Paper conservation has evolved in the intervening years, and the “Emery Process” has begun to show its faults. While the papers are protected from external threats, they were still vulnerable to acidification and other chemical threats that can cause documents to discolor and fade over time. In addition, the silk that was so crucial to the process can darken and fray, obscuring the text underneath.

Seeing that these documents were slowly degrading and becoming less readable, the staff at VHS’s Leahy Library took action to prevent them from deteriorating further. We contracted Works on Paper, a conservation studio in Bellows Falls, to completely undo the “Emery Process” and apply modern paper conservation techniques. To do this, they unbound and cut the documents from their paper mounts. From there, they carefully removed the wax, silk, and

adhesive, leaving the original documents as they were in 1902. Then, the studio cleaned and deacidified the papers, stabilized the inks, and deftly mended the tears. Finally, the papers were rehoused in an archival storage box – still together, but no longer bound to each other.

In the roughly 250 years since these crucial historical documents were first written, they have passed through many hands and been read and interpreted by many readers, and the need to access them remains constant. Keeping up with the changes in conservation techniques ensures that students and historians can continue to read them for the next 250 years in order to continue to contemplate Vermont’s founding.

Facing page: Document 10 from the collection prior to conservation efforts.

Above: Document 10 after treatment.

Gateway to the Revolution

Lake Champlain's strategic significance during the colonial era

By Andrew Liptak

At the dawn of the Holocene, the glaciers that covered North America began to retreat, leaving in their wake an inlet that stretched from the Atlantic Ocean to Ottawa to what's now known as the Champlain Valley. As the sea retreated in the thousands of years that followed, Lake Champlain and the far-reaching forested lands were appealing to the first Paleo-Indians who arrived around 13,000 years ago. They called the lake Bitawbagok, or "The Waters in Between," and found it to be a useful route that allowed for easy access to trade far beyond the valley.

As European colonizers began arriving in the fifteenth century, amongst the challenges they faced was the landscape: endless dense forests covering mountain ranges that terrified the Puritan settlers and made travel across the land difficult and dangerous. Rivers and watersheds became essential routes into the continent.

The elements that made Lake Champlain so appealing to its inhabitants over the millennia made it a critical strategic corridor for the various sides that fought during the American Revolution and drew the settlers living in the New Hampshire Grants into playing a critical role in the conflict. Writing in *Lake Champlain: An Illustrated History*, Russell Bellico notes that "no other lake in America has experienced the breadth of military activity as has Lake Champlain," and that "the pivotal battles

fought in the Champlain Valley determined the fate of the continent and political destiny of America."

European and Indigenous inhabitants understood the importance of these waterways. The French set up a series of fortifications along the Richelieu River Valley starting in 1665, and as they and England vied for control of the region during the Seven Years War, each relied upon the lake and neighboring waterways to move goods and troops throughout the region. In *We Go as Captives*, Neil Goodwin underscored the region's importance: "The Hudson River-Lake Champlain-St. Lawrence River-Great Lakes waterway was considered the most important transportation and communications route in North America," a straight shot from Canada into the heart of American territory.

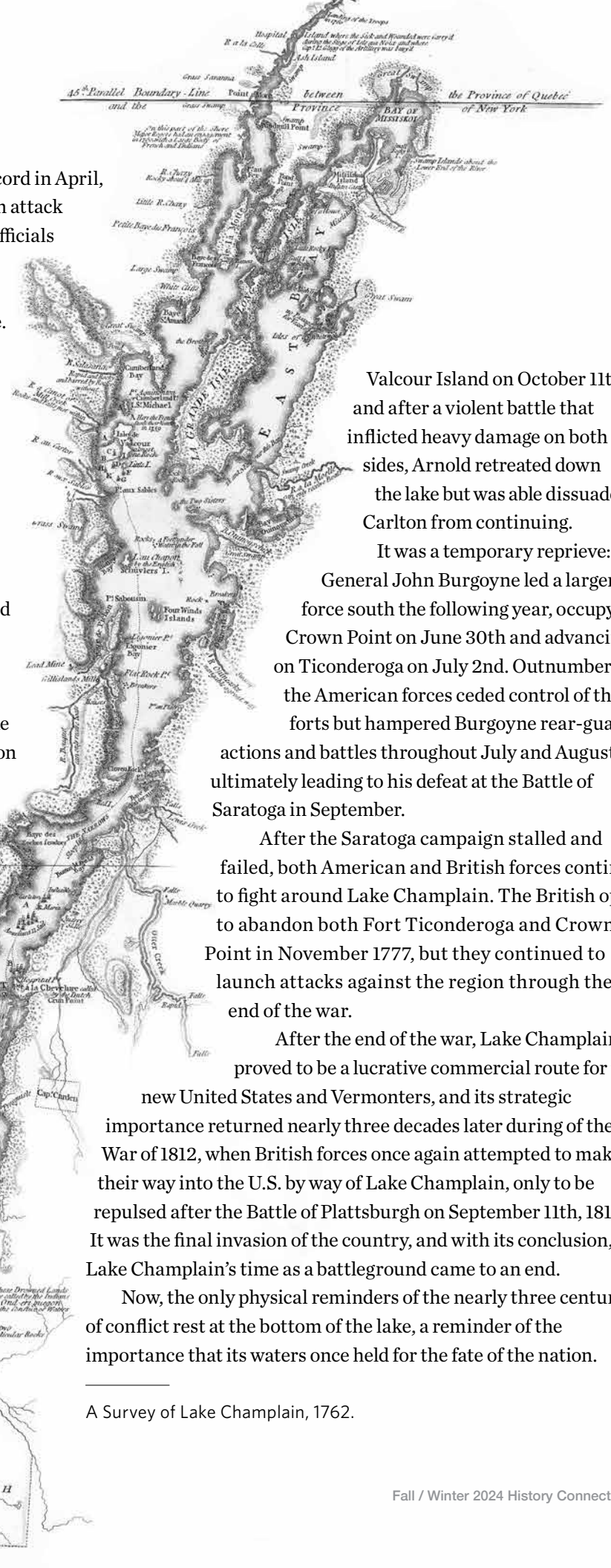
As the American colonies prepared for war in 1775, its leaders recognized Lake Champlain's importance early on. In March 1775, John Brown, a lawyer from Pittsfield, MA, who was dispatched to Montreal to gauge support from their northern neighbors, reported in a letter that Canada wouldn't join the American cause, and that "the Fort at Ticonderoga must be seized as soon as possible, should hostilities be committed by the King's Troops. The People on the New-Hampshire Grants have engaged to do the business and in my opinion are the most proper persons for the job."*

*Read the original letter here: <https://ndar-history.org/q-node/389/>

After the attacks in Lexington and Concord in April, Connecticut officials committed funds for an attack against Ticonderoga, while Massachusetts officials dispatched Captain Benedict Arnold to mount an invasion. The British were also well aware of the lake's strategic importance. In April 1775, Colonial Secretary Lord Dartmouth, issued orders to General Thomas Gage in Boston that all forts in North America were to be reinforced.

His orders arrived too late. Ethan Allen and members of the Green Mountain Boys, along with Arnold and Massachusetts volunteers, crossed Lake Champlain and captured Ticonderoga on May 10th, while to the north, Seth Warner and his men captured Crown Point. A third contingent captured the town of Skenesborough the next day. Capitalizing on the assaults, Arnold and a small group of his men took a ship up the lake to St. Jean, "where he seized its small garrison and the heavily armed British sloop *Enterprise*," which Michael Sherman, Gene Sessions, and P. Jeffrey Potash note in *Freedom & Unity: A History of Vermont*, "gave the patriots total control over the lake."

As the Revolution ignited, control over the lake would be essential, as an invasion could split the colonies into two. After the Americans mounted a disastrous invasion of Canada in the winter of 1775, the British launched their own in 1776. General Guy Carleton led his fleet of 33 ships into Lake Champlain on October 9th with the intention of reaching the Hudson Valley. They were met by Arnold and his smaller flotilla off



Valcour Island on October 11th, and after a violent battle that inflicted heavy damage on both sides, Arnold retreated down the lake but was able dissuade Carlton from continuing.

It was a temporary reprieve: General John Burgoyne led a larger force south the following year, occupying Crown Point on June 30th and advancing on Ticonderoga on July 2nd. Outnumbered, the American forces ceded control of the forts but hampered Burgoyne rear-guard actions and battles throughout July and August, ultimately leading to his defeat at the Battle of Saratoga in September.

After the Saratoga campaign stalled and failed, both American and British forces continued to fight around Lake Champlain. The British opted to abandon both Fort Ticonderoga and Crown Point in November 1777, but they continued to launch attacks against the region through the end of the war.

After the end of the war, Lake Champlain proved to be a lucrative commercial route for the new United States and Vermonters, and its strategic importance returned nearly three decades later during of the War of 1812, when British forces once again attempted to make their way into the U.S. by way of Lake Champlain, only to be repulsed after the Battle of Plattsburgh on September 11th, 1814. It was the final invasion of the country, and with its conclusion, Lake Champlain's time as a battleground came to an end.

Now, the only physical reminders of the nearly three centuries of conflict rest at the bottom of the lake, a reminder of the importance that its waters once held for the fate of the nation.

A Survey of Lake Champlain, 1762.



250TH COMMUNITY PLANNING GRANTS

In the fall of 2024, the Vermont Historical Society, alongside the Vermont 250th Commission and with generous funding from Vermont Covered, launched the Vermont 250th Community Planning Grants program. This program is designed to help local communities plan and prepare for commemorating the upcoming 250th anniversary of the United States.

These \$1,000 grants support a range of activities. Some are for immediate programming, such as an 18th Century historic bus tour in Tunbridge, the creation of

new signs and banners for an expanded walking tour in Jamaica, and a 25th-themed arc contest in Worcester, while others support more long-term programs and resources for 2026 and beyond.

These grants were an essential part of VHS's work to encourage a diverse and wide-ranging commemoration of the 250th anniversary here in Vermont, and we will continue to look for ways to support further such local programming and events as we move into the commemoration years.

GRANTS AWARDEES

- Aldrich Public Library (Barre)
- Bixby Memorial Library (Vergennes)
- Brookfield Historical Society
- Danville Vermont Historical Society
- Ethan Allen Homestead Museum (Burlington)
- Ethan and Mary Baker Allen Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (Cornwall)
- Fair Haven Historical Society
- Fairfield Historical Society
- Franklin Historical Society
- Guilford Historical Society
- Hartford Historical Society
- Henry Sheldon Museum (Middlebury)
- Jamaica Historical Foundation
- Lincoln Historical Society
- Morgan Historical Society
- Orwell Historical Society
- Pownal Historical Society, Inc
- Sunderland 250 Commemoration Committee
- Town of Bennington
- Town of Newbury
- Town of Pomfret, Vermont 250th Anniversary Committee
- Town of Wilmington
- Tunbridge Historical Society
- Weathersfield Proctor Library
- Whiting Library (Chester)
- Woodbury Community Library
- Woodstock History Center
- Worcester, Vermont Historical Society

Above: A guided tour from the Tunbridge Historical Society.

VERMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNOUNCES RESEARCH AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Vermont Historical Society is pleased to announce the recipients of two awards: the Weston A. Cate Jr. Fellowship and the Richard O. Hathaway Award. These awards seek to recognize, support, and expand scholarship into Vermont's history. The awards were announced during this year's Annual Meeting on October 17th, at the Vermont History Center in Barre.

The Weston A. Cate Jr. Fellowship is a \$1,200 fellowship awarded every other year to encourage research into Vermont history, with a particular emphasis on exploring under-studied aspects of the state's story. This award supports research for one calendar year in any aspect of Vermont history, from which grantees produce a written project upon its completion. This year's recipient is Miles McCallum of Burlington. A graduate student studying history at UVM, McCallum's project is titled "Blackface Minstrelsy in the Green Mountain State."

Vermont Historical Society Executive Director Steve Perkins says, "I was very impressed by the depth and breadth of proposed projects for this year's Cate Fellowship. Vermont Historical Society is an incredible

repository, but repositories are no good if they aren't used for original study that moves us forward as a society. Miles McCallum's project certainly speaks to our mission: we believe an understanding of the past changes lives and builds better communities."

The Richard O. Hathaway Award is an annual award presented to an individual, group or organization that has made outstanding contributions to the study of Vermont's history. This year's recipient is Alice M. Evans, author of *Our Suffering Brace: Waitsfield Boys and the Men in the Civil War*. A resident of Waitsfield, Evans' book is an extensive examination of the 163 individuals from the town who joined the Union Army and fought during the American Civil War.

On the award, Perkins says that "it's always a joy to see the output of Vermont's historians each year and know that there is a consistent and passionate interest in our collective past. This year's winner proves that we always have more to learn about our nation's Civil War."

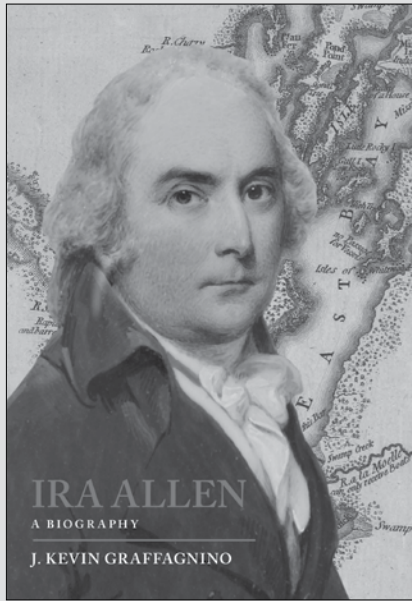
Below: Alice M. Evans, Peter Griffin, Second Vice President, VHS Board of Directors, and Miles McCallum.





Booklist 2024-5

Featured VHS Publications



Ira Allen: A Biography

By J. Kevin Graffagnino

In *Ira Allen: A Biography*, J. Kevin Graffagnino examines the life of one of Vermont's most important founding fathers, exploring how the land speculator, revolutionary, pamphleteer, politician, and empire builder helped create and sustain the independent State of Vermont.

Paperback, 324 pages, \$24.95

"Vermont for the Vermonters": The History of Eugenics in the Green Mountain State

Mercedes de Guardiola

In *"Vermont for the Vermonters": The History of Eugenics in the Green Mountain State*, Mercedes de Guardiola examines how the state's eugenics movement emerged out of the public policies of the nineteenth century and led to state-sanctioned programs of institutionalization, sterilization, family separation, and education aimed at the most vulnerable Vermonters.

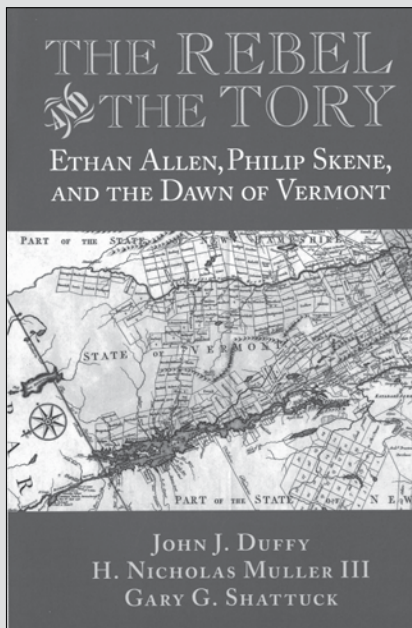
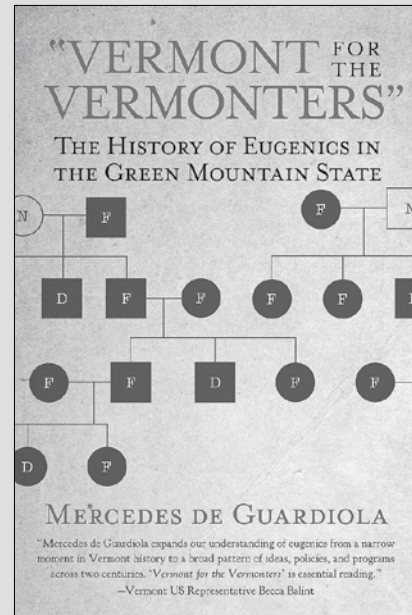
Paperback, 284 pages, \$22.95

The Rebel and the Tory: Ethan Allen, Philip Skene, and the Dawn of Vermont

By John J. Duffy, H. Nicholas Muller III, and Gary G. Shattuck

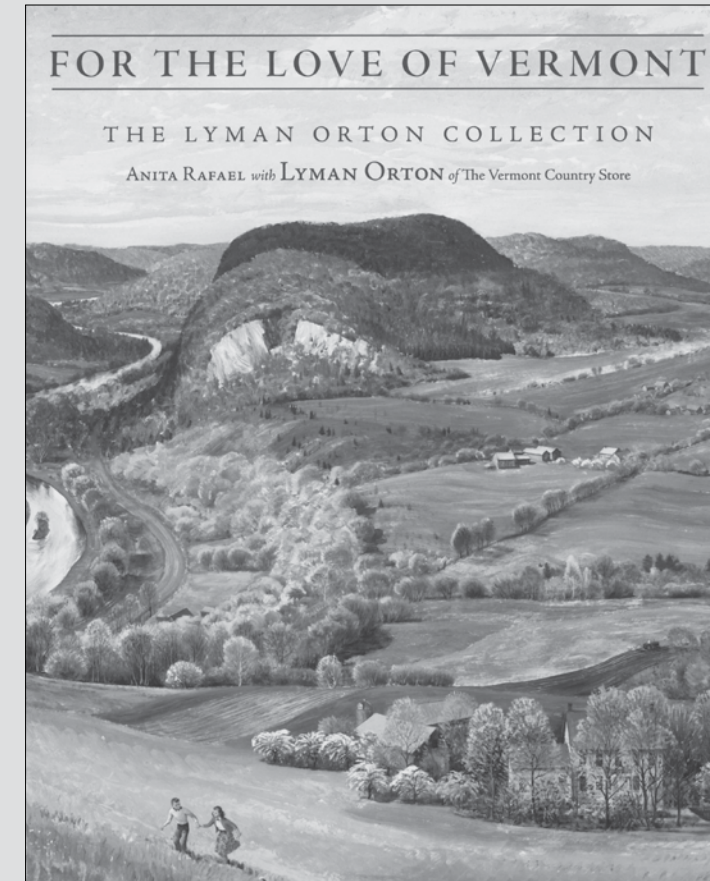
The Rebel and the Tory: Ethan Allen, Philip Skene, and the Dawn of Vermont shines a fresh light on the long-accepted origin story of Vermont, which has remained static for about 200 years. The Ejectment Trials of 1770, when settlers and leaders of the New Hampshire Grants turned from petitions and court proceedings to violent resistance against legitimate New York authority, are considered a critical inflection point by many historians.

Paperback, 2020. \$22.95



Other Great Publications in Our Store

More great titles are available online at vermonthistory.org/shop



For the Love of Vermont: The Lyman Orton Collection

By Anita Rafael and Lyman Orton

The companion book to exhibitions of The Lyman Orton Collection tells the story of how he saves the art of Vermont from leaving his home state and, at the same time, repatriates dozens more artworks that have been scattered across America during the last century.

Hardcover, 2023, \$29.95

The Beginner's Guide to Cemetery Sleuthing: Scavenger Hunt & Workbook

By Erin E. Moulton

Bring your curiosity and this workbook with you as you walk through those hallowed gates. Get ready to seek out images and symbols—such as death's-heads, soul effigies, beehives, willow trees, and more. Take your time to search, scribble, and sketch. Next, bring this book to the archives to explore the life stories of the local dead. Prepare to discover something old, learn something new, and have fun doing it.

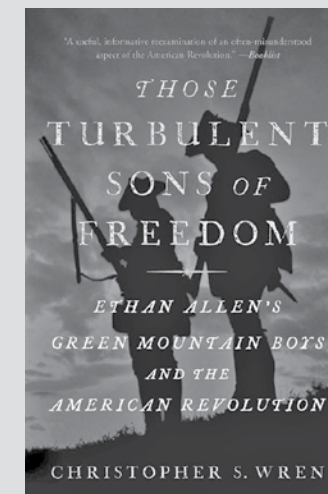
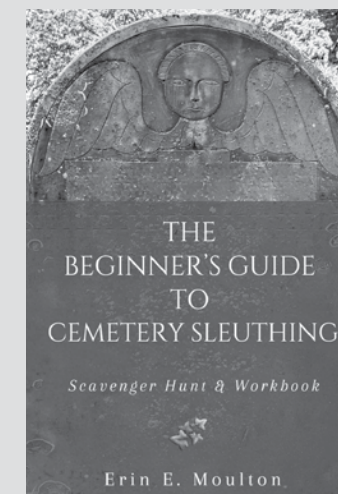
Paperback, 2024, \$17.95

Those Turbulent Sons of Freedom: Ethan Allen's Green Mountain Boys and the American Revolution

By Christopher S. Wren

Wren overturns the myth of Ethan Allen as a legendary hero of the American Revolution and a patriotic son of Vermont and offers a different portrait of Allen and his Green Mountain Boys. They were ruffians who joined the rush for cheap land on the northern frontier of the colonies in the years before the American Revolution. Based on original archival research, this is a groundbreaking account of an important and little-known front of the Revolutionary War, of George Washington (and his good sense), and of a major American myth.

Paperback, 2018, \$18.99





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Planning for the future of Vermont history.

This fall, the Vermont Historical Society received a lovely and generous gift. We learned that Alden Rollins, a long-time user and supporter of the Leahy Library, remembered us in his will. Alden was a member of VHS for years and donated a number of items to the Library. His bequest was a surprise to us, and we are so grateful that he wanted to support us after his passing.

Please consider including the Vermont Historical Society in your estate planning. Planned gifts like Alden's are an incredible way to carry your support of our work forward. If you have included us in your will, please do let us know so that we can thank you during your lifetime. Email stewardship@vermonthistory.org or call (802)479-8516 with any questions or to share your estate plans with us.

As always, we are grateful for all our supporters and for your commitment to making history with us.

