



Vermont 250th Community Planning Grants

*Generously supported by Vermont Covered and administered by the
Vermont Historical Society as part of their work with the
Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission.*



Awarded Grants: April 2024

In Vermont, the years 2025-2027 will focus on the semiquincentennial (250th) of the founding of the United States. This grant program is intended to help communities plan and prepare for the 250th at the local level. Grants of \$1,000 were given to support a range of activities that help to define and move forward programs, events, and resources for 2026-2027. Eligible organizations were within select communities pre-determined by Vermont Covered.

Grants were awarded to eight organizations in this original round of funding.

Fairfield Historical Society, Fairfield

The Fairfield Historical Society will sponsor events and resources to commemorate the 150th Anniversary (2024) of the infamous murder of Marietta Ball, who was killed walking from Fairfield to Saint Albans in 1874, and whose case turned the region upside down with xenophobia and classism. Components would include author talks, permanent historic signage, and school programs about historic bias, legal process, and due court process.

Jamaica Historical Foundation, Jamaica

The Jamaica Historical Foundation will spearhead a multi-faceted project to encourage the village to “put themselves in Jamaica’s history” and commemorate 1776-1780. Components will include new historic signage around town, engagement of students, elders, and everyone in between to help research and “become” historic interpreters at different sites, and programs to welcome new families to town.

Morgan Historical Society, Morgan

The Morgan Historical Society will undertake a collection of programs and initiatives to highlight state and town residents and their contributions in the Revolutionary War, Civil War, WW1, and WW2. It will include talks, news articles, identifying & marking grave sites, and exhibits at the Morgan Historical Society.

Town of Pomfret, Vermont 250th Anniversary Committee, Pomfret

The Town of Pomfret, through its Vermont 250th Anniversary Committee, seeks to enhance citizen engagement and awareness of the upcoming historic anniversaries through a series of projects, events and other activities. This will include a new website for the Pomfret Historical Society, uploading new digital resources, and a community event to unveil the project and educate attendees about upcoming 250th anniversary programming in Pomfret and around

Vermont, and inspire others to join the Committee's efforts.

Tunbridge Historical Society, Tunbridge

The Tunbridge Historical Society will coordinate a guided bus tour of historic places within town. This would include stops at different Raid of 1789 sites, the first mill, the location of the original meetinghouse, the location of the first settlers home as well as other early homes in town built by Revolutionary veterans, and visiting and telling the stories of some of the Revolutionary soldiers who are buried in town.

Whiting Library, Chester

The Whiting Library will undertake a digitization project to make collections in the library's Vermont Room more accessible. The room houses a local history collection which includes town histories, family biographies, cemetery lists, photographs, postcards, cemetery records, and other objects. In addition, they will promote the project and the 250th anniversary with an open house and a Colonial-themed party.

Woodstock History Center, Woodstock

The Woodstock History Center will create a publication highlighting the many pivotal events in Woodstock's social, natural, political, and economic history— and place them within the context of Vermont's and the nation's history. The development of this publication will begin in 2024 and be published in 2025. It will be distributed at several high trafficked points in Woodstock. The goal of this project is to increase the community's sense of history and identity.

Worcester, Vermont Historical Society, Worcester

The grant will fund planning for a focused event at the annual Worcester Arts Festival, sponsored by the Worcester, Vermont Historical Society, dedicated during the anniversary year focusing on the 250th celebration. Local artists will be encouraged to contribute artistic endeavor of any genre, including performance, related to the theme. A division for children and youth will be included. After the main event, exhibits will be created to be displayed in public buildings in the Town.