

Vermont State Historic Sites



VERMONT

Visit History— Where it Happened!

For more details about each site, visit:
HistoricSites.Vermont.gov



The State of Vermont has a rich cultural, historical, architectural, and archaeological legacy extending as far back as 13,000 years ago.

This significant heritage manifests itself in our Native American encampments, agricultural farmsteads with timber-frame barns and rising silos, white-spired churches and town halls marking the valley bottoms and maple-strewn hillsides, downtowns and villages centered at railroad depots and on the sites of early industrial centers, summer camps framing lakes and ponds, and ski resorts nestled within the slopes of green mountains. The stratum of history is a component of the natural and

built environments, recounting the stories of Vermont's buildings, economy, communities, and her people. Exceptional representations of this history can be found at the State Historic Sites that stretch the length of our state.

The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation encourages the discovery and appreciation of the state's rich heritage through the stewardship and interpretation of historic sites throughout the state. Vermont's historic sites evoke an authentic sense of time and place, providing young and old with the opportunity to step back in time to learn how a state and nation were formed and how the victories and challenges experienced by Vermonters of past generations relate to those we face today.





Visit us in
Bennington!

Scan the QR Code
for admission details.



Bennington Battle Monument State Historic Site

15 Monument Circle, Bennington
802-447-0550

The 306-foot monument of dolomite limestone is the second tallest unreinforced masonry building in the U.S.

Site Features

- ▶ Explore exhibits illustrating the history of the 1777 Battle of Bennington in New York and 1887 construction of the monument.
- ▶ Stand with Revolutionary War heroes Colonel Seth Warner and General John Stark, whose statues adorn Monument Circle.
- ▶ Ride the elevator to the Grand Observation Level 177.7 feet above and enjoy views of Vermont, New York, and Massachusetts.
- ▶ Visit the Museum Gift Shop filled with toy soldiers, military collectibles, souvenir apparel, Vermont products, maple syrup, and more.

Fun Facts About the Site

- ▶ The tallest man-made building in Vermont commemorates the 1777 Battle of Bennington, a pivotal victory for American forces on the New England front of the American Revolution.
- ▶ The Monument marks the site of the Bennington military supply depot.
- ▶ Design began in 1876 with J. Phillip Rinn serving as the architect.
- ▶ Ground was broken on June 4, 1887, the 110th anniversary of the battle.
- ▶ The two-tone capstone was set in 1889, followed in 1891 by a dedication that attracted tens of thousands of onlookers.

At the site, can you find?

Two time capsules?

Three mountain ranges?





Visit us in
Plymouth Notch!

Scan the QR Code
for admission details.



President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site

3780 Route 100A, Plymouth Notch
802-672-1195

This National Historic Landmark village transports you back in time to the formative days of a future United States president's youth in rural Vermont.

Site Features

- ▶ Explore the Museum & Education Center with exhibits and archives recounting Calvin Coolidge's private and public lives.
- ▶ Shop the Cilley Country Store and watch cheese be made at Plymouth Cheese Factory.
- ▶ Walk the trails providing views of the 216-acre property, and explore agricultural buildings with historic farm equipment.
- ▶ Enjoy the newly restored flower garden established by Coolidge's stepmother, Carrie Brown Coolidge, the first woman postmaster for Plymouth Notch.



Fun Facts About the Site

- ▶ Calvin Coolidge took the presidential oath in the parlor of his family home on August 3, 1923. The historic village of Plymouth Notch appears much as it was during his lifetime.
- ▶ The village includes homes of Coolidge's family and friends, 1840 church, 1890 schoolhouse and cheese factory, pre-1835 store with post office and dance hall, and historic agricultural structures and barns.
- ▶ The Summer White House office and tourists' cabins were added in 1927 for the first visitors that explored the rural environs that shaped the early life of the president.
- ▶ A journey to the Notch ends at the steep hillside cemetery where Calvin Coolidge rests amongst seven generations of his family.

At the site, can you find?

The "Rapid Dayton?"
Something Calvin
Coolidge made when he
was 10 years old?





Visit us in
Fairfield!

Scan the QR Code
for admission details.



President Chester A. Arthur State Historic Site

4588 Chester Arthur Road, Fairfield
802-933-8362

Site of Chester A. Arthur's family home was the first historic site owned by the State of Vermont.

Site Features

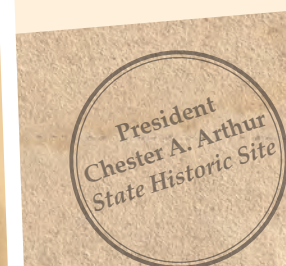
- ▶ Re-examine history that incorrectly said Chester Arthur was born in Canada and that this was the place of his birth.
- ▶ Explore the exhibit recounting Vermont's first president's life and career.
- ▶ Hike the Arthur Nature Trail, maintained by the students of Fairfield Elementary School.
- ▶ Learn more about Arthur's life in Vermont and his rise to the presidency at the Fairfield Town Hall Museum.

Fun Facts About the Site

- ▶ In 1903, a granite monument marking what was believed to have been the site of Chester A. Arthur's birth was dedicated by President Lincoln's son Robert Todd Lincoln.
- ▶ Boyhood home reconstructed from Arthur family photography in 1953.
- ▶ Vice President Arthur ascended to the presidency with the assassination of James Garfield in 1881.
- ▶ The legacy of our 21st president, albeit short, included elaborate alterations to the White House, civil service reform, lower tariff rates, and the first general federal immigration law.

Did you know?

President Arthur, also known as "elegant Arthur," is said to have changed clothes several times a day and to have owned more than 80 pairs of pants.





**Visit us in
Addison!**

Scan the QR Code
for admission details.



Chimney Point State Historic Site

8149 VT Route 17W, Addison
802-759-2412

Chimney Point explores the history of the area's three earliest cultures – the Native American, French Colonial, and early American.


Site Features

- ▶ Examine archaeological artifacts telling the history of Native Americans, French Colonial, English, and early American occupations.
- ▶ Examine an archaeology cabinet with artifacts dating from 6,000 year ago to 1,600 A.D.
- ▶ Tour the oldest tap room on Lake Champlain and relax on the porches of the 1785 tavern.
- ▶ Walk over the Lake Champlain Bridge to enjoy the scenic views of Lake Champlain, the Adirondack Mountain range, Crown Point, and Chimney Point.

Fun Facts About the Site

- ▶ Chimney Point has long been one of the most strategic and historically significant locations on Lake Champlain.
- ▶ Beginning 9,000 years ago, Native Americans encamped here, using the adjacent narrow strait for trade and exchange journeys.
- ▶ After the first Europeans arrived in 1609, this site was important for interactions between the Native peoples and Europeans.
- ▶ The French took a stand here in 1731, to keep the English off the lake and block access to Canada. This was the frontier of New France and start of the long-term French settlement.
- ▶ Site of military activity during the French and Indian War and American Revolution.



 **At the site,
can you find?**

A piece of the 1929
Lake Champlain Bridge?

The Chimney Point
post office?





Visit us in
Hubbardton!

Scan the QR Code
for admission details.



Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site

5696 Monument Hill Road, Hubbardton
802-273-2282

The Battle of Hubbardton, occurring on July 7, 1777, was the most significant Revolutionary War battle fought entirely in what would become Vermont soil.

Site Features

- ▶ Explore the 413-acre site, with the trails and interpretive signage marking the key aspects of the battle.
- ▶ Visit the Museum Gift Shop and permanent exhibits focused on this evocative battle.
- ▶ Climb Mount Zion to overlook the battleground and military road taken by the retreating colonial forces and pursuing British.
- ▶ Explore the adjacent Wildlife Management Areas, offering endless journeys for hikers, birders, and outdoor enthusiasts.

Fun Facts About the Site

- ▶ Hubbardton Battlefield, one of the most evocative battlegrounds of the period, presents a setting much as it was in 1777, with meadows and views of the Green, Taconic, and Adirondack mountains.
- ▶ Here British Lieutenant General John Burgoyne's Regulars met the resistance of brave colonists in combat for the first time.
- ▶ Although a British tactical victory, the battle is considered to be an American strategic victory in the larger Northern Campaign of 1777.
- ▶ Preservation of the battlefield was one of the earliest efforts to mark the hallowed ground of a Revolutionary War site, commencing with the placement of the 1859 marble battle monument.

At the site, can you find?

The names of the three
colonels who led the
Americans in battle?





**Visit us in
Strafford!**

Scan the QR Code
for admission details.



Senator Justin S. Morrill State Historic Site

214 Justin Morrill Highway, Strafford
802-765-4484

The Senator Justin S. Morrill Homestead was recognized in 1960 as a National Historic Landmark, the first such honorary designation in Vermont.

Site Features

- ▶ Tour the mansion with furnishings from Morrill's 1871 home that once stood at One Thomas Circle in Washington, D.C.
- ▶ Walk the gardens and apple orchard, with plants cultivated originally by the Senator.
- ▶ Explore the exhibit in the Homestead Galley on the origins and influence of the Gothic Revival style.
- ▶ Hike Colburn Trail or explore vintage Vermont walking through the Strafford Village Historic District highlighted by the 1799 Strafford Town House.

Fun Facts About the Site

- ▶ The self-taught Justin Morrill amassed an impressive library, studied architecture on his own, and designed his family home.
- ▶ Constructed in 1851 and enlarged seven years later, the house is an outstanding example of Gothic Revival architecture popularized in the early 19th century.
- ▶ The bucolic site includes a horse barn, carriage barn, blacksmith shop, icehouse, and ice pond with a system of underground channels that fed the buildings and gardens.
- ▶ The Senator was the longest-serving member of Congress in the first 160 years of its history, and recognized for sponsoring landmark legislation establishing public universities, equal protection and rights to freed slaves, and the nation's first income tax.



At the site, can you find?

All the pictures of
Justin Morrill's beloved
dog, Trump.





Visit us in
Orwell!

Scan the QR Code
for admission details.



Mount Independence State Historic Site

497 Mount Independence Road, Orwell
802-948-2000

Mount Independence is one of the largest and best preserved Revolutionary War archaeological sites in the United States.

Site Features

- ▶ Explore the interactive museum about the fight for independence on Lake Champlain.
- ▶ Hike six miles of trails over 300 acres, with interpretive signage and archaeological sites of the encampment, batteries, and star fort.
- ▶ Explore the outdoor wheelchair accessible 1.6 mile Baldwin Trail, with two spurs.
- ▶ Enjoy views of Lake Champlain, Champlain Valley, Mount Defiance, and Fort Ticonderoga.
- ▶ Visit the Museum Gift Shop, offering Revolutionary War and Vermont merchandise.

Fun Facts About the Site

- ▶ National Historic Landmark documenting critical efforts to defend northern New York, New England, and the cause for American liberty from July 1776 to July 1777.
- ▶ The three-tier defensive system designed by Lieutenant Colonel Jeduthan Baldwin, chief engineer of the American Northern Army, with assistance from Thaddeus Kosciuszko.
- ▶ This strong defensive position was first called East Point or Rattlesnake Hill and was renamed after the Declaration of Independence was read here.
- ▶ By late 1776, three brigades completed encampments and began a picket fort at the center of the Mount. The sight of combined fortresses at Mount Independence and Ticonderoga caused the British to retreat.

At the site, can you find?

The horseshoe battery?
What do you think it
was used for?



Visit History— Where it Happened!

For more details about each site, visit:
HistoricSites.Vermont.gov



Visit one of the Historic Sites located throughout the State.

- 1 **President Chester A. Arthur,** Fairfield
- 2 **Kents Corner,** Calais
- 3 **Chimney Point,** Addison
- 4 **Senator Justin S. Morrill,** Strafford
- 5 **Forest Dale Ironworks,** Brandon
- 6 **Mount Independence,** Orwell
- 7 **Hubbardton Battlefield,** Hubbardton
- 8 **President Calvin Coolidge,** Plymouth Notch
- 9 **Old Constitution House,** Windsor
- 10 **Eureka Schoolhouse/Baltimore Covered Bridge,** Springfield
- 11 **Bennington Battle Monument,** Bennington



Additional Sites— To Explore!

Explore the grounds of these other significant State Historic Sites not generally open for tours.

Old Constitution House, Windsor

The birthplace of Vermont, where the first Constitution of the “Free and Independent State of Vermont” was adopted on July 8, 1777. Closed temporarily for restoration.

Kents Corner, Calais

A high-style Greek Revival hotel and country store constructed in the 1830s that served travelers along the stage road between Canada and Montpelier.

Eureka Schoolhouse and Baltimore Covered Bridge, Springfield

The oldest one-room schoolhouse in Vermont, and one of the few surviving 18th-century public buildings. The Baltimore Covered Bridge, a Town lattice truss bridge built in 1870, was relocated to North Springfield in 1970.

Forest Dale Iron Works, Brandon

An early-19th-century iron smelting facility constructed in 1824 to replace the furnace erected in 1810 by John Smith to process iron ore that came from nearby ore beds.

Roadside Historic Site Markers

Unveiled in 1947, the Roadside Historic Site Marker Program commemorates Vermont’s people, events, places, and stories, including birthplaces and homes of U.S. presidents and legislators; Red Sox players; founders of world-family organizations like Cadillac, Lincoln, Rotary International, and Alcoholics Anonymous; and homes of authors and artists like Rudyard Kipling, Pearl S. Buck, Robert Frost, and Norman Rockwell. Vermont’s contribution to one campaign of the Civil War is memorialized by a marker at Cedar Creek in Virginia.

The oldest markers record Native American villages, Revolutionary War battlefields, the meeting places of the Green Mountain Boys, and America’s first ski tow. Newer markers recognize a distinctive floating bridge, woman suffragists, the first African American graduate of the University of Vermont, the largest marble company in the world, and Vermont’s place as the first state to legalize same-sex marriage.

Visit the Roadside Historic Site Marker website for an interactive map and thematic trails.

accd.vermont.gov/historic-preservation/roadside-markers



Annual Events— To Enjoy!

For complete event details, visit:
www.HistoricSites.Vermont.gov

Bennington Battle Monument

June 14: Flag Day

Celebrate with flag-making activities.

July 4: Declaration of Independence Reading
Children's activities and flag demonstration.

Mid-August: Battle Weekend
Revolutionary War reenactors with military drills.

President Calvin Coolidge

July 4: Birthday Celebration

Celebrate the President's birthday. Includes a wreath laying at the cemetery.

Labor Day: Plymouth Folk & Blues Concerts

Early October: Antique Apple Festival
Apple tastings and wagon rides.

Early December: Holiday Open House
Holiday sleigh rides, old-time music, crafting.

President Chester A. Arthur

October 5: Birthday Celebration

Celebrate the President's birthday. Play period games and join a history treasure hunt.

Chimney Point

Late September: Northeastern Open
Atlatl Championship

Participate in or watch the ancient spear-throwing hunting technique. Workshops on atlatl and dart construction, flint knapping.

Bennington Battle Day

Free Admission to the
Bennington Battle Monument.



Hubbardton Battlefield

Late May: Memorial Day Remembrance
Battle flags raise at noon to pay tribute to soldiers who fought here.

Early July: Revolutionary War Encampment
Living history event commemorating the July 7, 1777 battle. Reenactors, tactical military demonstrations, drilling lessons, guided camp, and battlefield tours and maneuvers.

Senator Justin S. Morrill

Late June: Gallery in the Garden
Art Exhibit Opening Reception and viewing of Mini Paintings to be auctioned.

Late September: 19th-century Apple and Cheese Harvest Festival
Make cider in an antique press and taste heirloom apples, artisan cheeses, Vermont ice cream, and homemade apple pie.

Mount Independence

Early September: Soldiers Atop the Mount
Step back to 1776 and 1777 with reenactors demonstrating Revolutionary War camp life, military tactics, colonial crafts, and interactive walkabout on trails.



Vermont Days

Second Weekend in June

Free Admission to State-owned
Historic Sites and day use at
State Parks.

VermontDays.com

Save on Admission

Visit during these Free Admission Days:

2nd Weekend in June: Vermont Days

August 16: Bennington Battle Day.

Additional ways for eligible Vermonters to explore at free or reduced rates:

Any Vermonter can check out a Free Pass from their local library. Each pass provides access for up to eight people.

Veterans and seniors can obtain a Green Mountain Passport from their town clerk's office, for a one-time fee of \$2.

The Passport allows free access to State Historic Sites if you are a legal resident of Vermont, and 62 years of age or older OR a veteran of the uniformed services.

All veterans and active military personnel (and immediate families) are admitted free.

Thank you for your service!



VERMONT

DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
(802) 828-3051 / www.HistoricSites.Vermont.gov

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