



Henry Sheldon Museum

1 Park St., Middlebury, VT

The Henry Sheldon Museum, founded in 1884, is the oldest community-based museum in the United States. Inside, you can explore objects, paintings, furniture, documents, and other artifacts collected by Henry Sheldon that tell the story of Vermont and Addison County. The Museum continues to collect, preserve, and share Vermont's history, including through the Stewart-Swift Research Center, where students and researchers can explore original historical documents.

Visit Protocol

- Visit our catalog [here](#) to learn more about our collections.
- Email archives@henrysheldonmuseum.org to schedule an appointment.
- The Stewart-Swift Research Center is open by appointment, Monday-Friday, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.
- Email a list of materials or the topic you are researching at least one week in advance.
- Pencils and electronic devices only. No pens.
- Food and drink are not permitted. Water bottles with secure lids are allowed.

Topic Ideas for Vermont History Day, 2027

- *Markham family papers, 1791-1884* - Includes the early drawings of power looms and other textile machines used by the United States cotton industry.
- *Records of the Middlebury Manufacturing Company, 1837-1862* - Papers relating to wool mills, including documentation on the workers, days worked, yarns woven, and wages paid.
- *Papers of John M. Weeks, 1800-1858* - Includes documents concerning his bee hive business.
- *An address to the public : Proposing a plan for improving female education* - Emma Willard, 1819.
- Patents, ephemera, photographs, ledgers, legal documents, and more relating to people and industry in Vermont!



Railroad Bridge, Middlebury, VT
Porter Collection



Double Silhouette:
Sylvia Drake and Charity Bryant



Village of Middlebury, Vt., 1814
by Ezra Brainerd