



Announcement: 2025 Vermont Sampler Driving Tour

Who: The VT Sampler Initiative, a 501-c-3 entity, in cooperation with the national Sampler Archive (https://samplerarchive.xyz/sapbeta_prod/index.php) has been documenting Vermont 19th century schoolgirl samplers since November 2022. To date, close to 800 such samplers have been located and documented using volunteer documenters and professional photography.

WHAT: The VT Sampler Initiative is now producing a statewide driving tour, to view collections of these post-Revolutionary War samplers, in cooperation with the Nationwide celebration of the Semi-quincentennial celebration of the American Revolution.

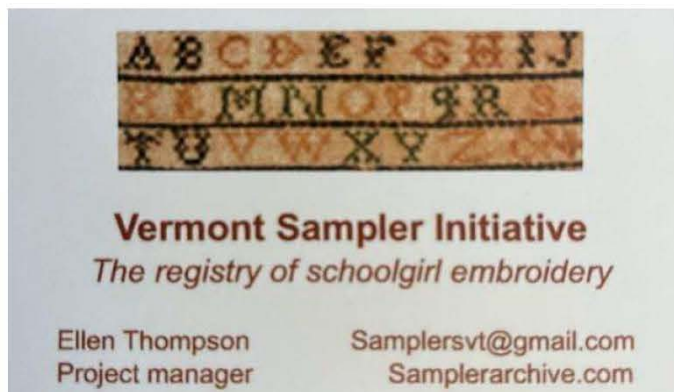
WHEN: The dates of the driving tour coincide with the statewide celebration of our national semi-quincentennial celebration, from May 2025, Columbus Day – Columbus Day October 2025.

Where: Beginning at a sampler exhibit at the Bennington Museum in 2025, 20 statewide pre-identified sites, such as museums, art galleries, libraries and historical societies will be added to this core exhibit, inviting Vermont visitors to the State to explore additional communities in Vermont, to view these examples of schoolgirl needlework. Please see the Vermont 250th website for more details:

<https://anniversary250.vermont.gov/>

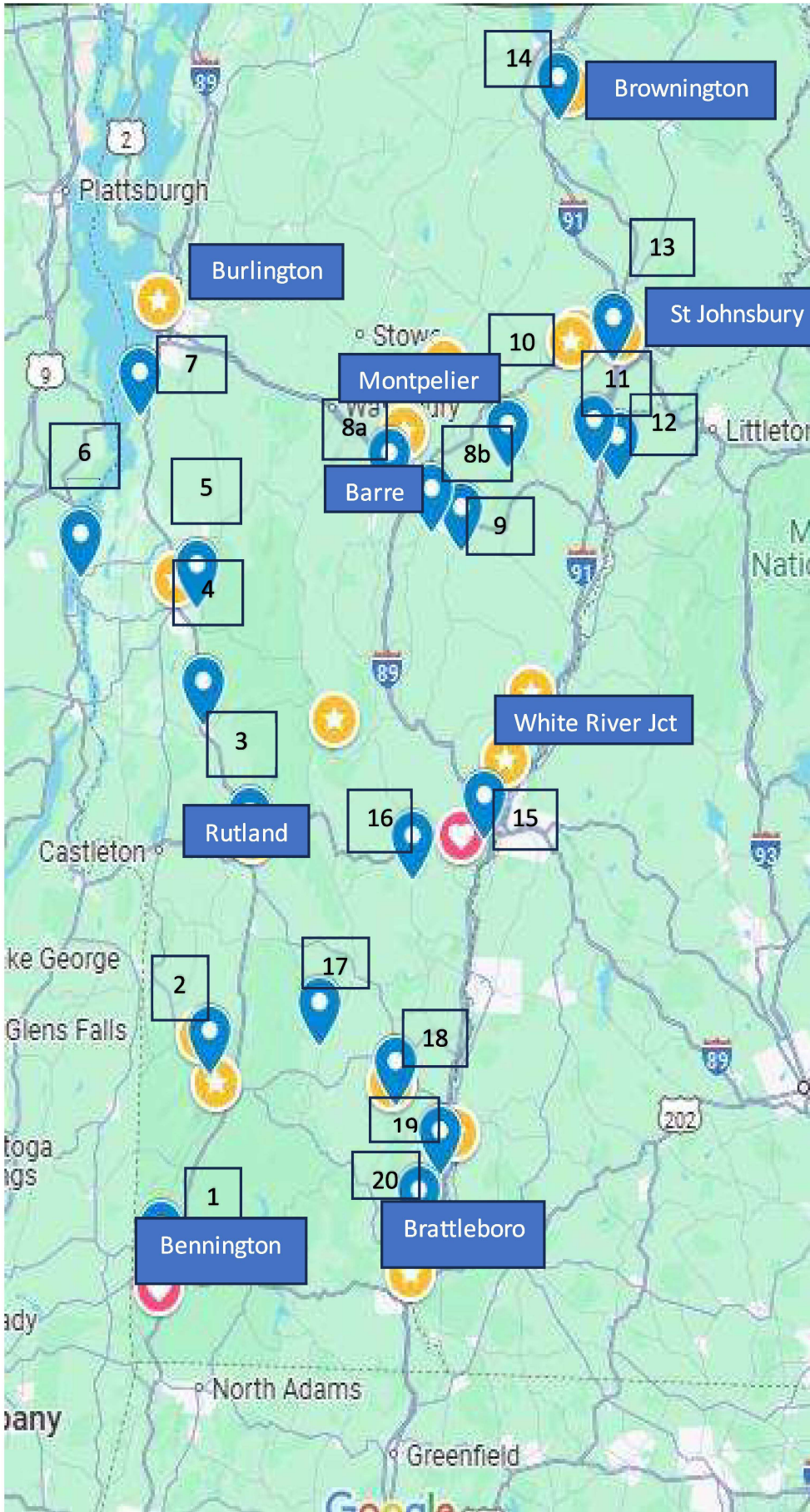
WHY: The story of our Revolutionary War generation having fought the war for our independence, and then having relocated to Vermont to live their lives, is one that can be illustrated by studying the lives of their descendants. The values, artistry and degrees of hardship and success of these families are often conveyed by the girls who produced these samplers. They are almost always the progeny – daughters and granddaughters - of the Revolutionary War generation.

See the attached map of the sites located throughout Vermont, and check their websites for their Hours of Operation.



Vermont Sampler Driving Tour

See websites for each stop for additional information.



1. Bennington Museum
2. Dorset Village Library
3. Chaffee Art Center, Rutland
4. Henry Sheldon Museum, Middlebury
5. Rokeby Museum, Ferrisburg
6. DAR John Strong Mansion, Addison
7. Shelburne Museum
8. A. Aldrich Library, Barre
B. Vt Historical Society, Barre
9. Ainsworth Library, Williamstown
10. Thetford Historical Soc.
11. Danville Historical Soc.
12. Peacham Public Library
13. St. Johnsbury History Ctr.
14. Old Stone House Museum, Brownington
15. Woodstock History Ctr.
16. Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, Plymouth
17. Weston Historical Soc.
18. Grafton Historical Soc.
19. Westminster Historical Soc.
20. Putney Public Library

