2013 CVNHP Local Implementation Grant

150th Anniversary of the Jane Stickle Quilt

Project Summary
The year 2013 marked the 150th anniversary of the Jane Stickle Quilt, which was created in Vermont during the Civil War. Each year for a six-week period, the quilt—comprised of 169 five-inch blocks, each in a different pattern, containing altogether a remarkable 5,602 pieces surrounded by a unique scalloped border—is put on exhibit at the Bennington Museum.

The CVNHP provided the museum with a 2013 CVNHP Implementation Grant to develop a more powerful exhibition of the Stickle Quilt that develops deeper connections to the period in Vermont during the Civil War and a more complex understanding of the Shaftsbury woman who created it. A new textile board and gallery space was created for this purpose.

Funding also allowed the museum to attend the Vermont Quilt Festival and the Bennington Quilt Festival where staff could discuss and interpret the Stickle Quilt. Rack cards for the 2013 exhibit were distributed at these events. In addition, the Bennington Museum was able to update and improve its curriculum for visiting students though this grant funding.

The Stickle Quilt, on its new quilt rack, was on view during its 100th anniversary from August 31-October 14, 2013.
The project supports the following action(s) and task(s) of the Cultural Heritage and Recreation chapter of *Opportunities for Action*:

**Supports OFA Action 9.1:** Provide support for needed historical and archaeological research and accelerate the identification, evaluation, protection, and interpretation of heritage resources, including ethnographies of the cultures within the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership.

**Task 9.1.3 LCBP** – Use new and existing research and documentation to support the evaluation, conservation, and interpretation of natural and cultural heritage resources.

**Supports OFA Action 9.9:** Connect, promote, and improve cultural and natural heritage sites through interpretation.

**Task 9.9.1 LCBP** – Continue to provide design services for interpretive materials.

**Supports OFA Action 9.10:** Support the use of interpretive themes to link resources within the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership.

**Task 9.10.3 LCBP** – Collaborate with partners to develop an interpretive plan for the CVNHP that thematically links sites while preserving their individual identities and interpretive goals.

**Task 9.10.4 LCBP** – Support initiatives that highlight the relationships among stakeholder sites and programs through interpretation, while maintaining the individual character of those sites.

**Supports OFA Action 9.12:** Produce coordinated educational programs for students.

**Task 9.12.5 LCBP** – Work with state education departments to integrate CVNHP education into classrooms.

**Task 9.12.6 LCBP** – Provide opportunities for teachers and students to participate in CVNHP-related field trips and restoration projects.

**Task 9.12.7 LCBP** – Provide CVNHP-related presentations to schools.