



# Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership



## 2014 CVNHP Local Heritage Grant

### Trapping Boats of Lake Champlain

#### Project Summary

The Henry Sheldon Museum of Middlebury, Vermont received a \$4,900 2014 CVNHP Local Heritage Grant to document and build traditional Lake Champlain trapping boats. Until the 1980's, trapping was an important economic activity throughout the Champlain Valley. Boats were integral to this activity and research to date has shown that many, if not most, of these boats were built by the trappers themselves. The result was the development of a boat type specific to trapping and the local waters, designed, refined and built by amateur craftsmen. This project engages students in documenting two types of these boats—in Vermont and New York—through first-person interviews, research, and the replication of historic trapping boats, all in an effort to expose the students to the interplay of environment, economics, and craft that characterize the culture of Lake Champlain.

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Two traditional trapping boats— from Vermont and New York—were researched and recreated for the project by students at the Hannaford Career Center in Middlebury .

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|---------------------------|-------------|
| <b>NEIWPC Code</b>        | L-2014-071  |
| <b>Date Complete:</b>     | 3/11/2015   |
| <b>Grant Amount:</b>      | \$4,900.00  |
| <b>Non-federal Match:</b> | \$6,200.00  |
| <b>Total Amount:</b>      | \$11,100.00 |