The Knox Cannon Trail begins at Crown Point and travels down to Kinderhook, New York, then over the Berkshire Mountains across Massachusetts into Boston. Painting by Tom Lovell, Courtesy of Dixon Ticonderoga National Museum & Fine Art Gallery

Visit the Sword Surrender Site in Schuylerville, New York, where British General John Burgoyne surrendered his 8,000-man army to American General Horatio Gates in 1777. Painting by John Trumbull, Courtesy of the Architect of the U.S. Capitol.

The Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership invites you to follow in the footsteps of invading armies, see the landscapes that became battlefields, visit four forts, and experience a special place that forged a nation.
Controlling the strategic Richelieu-Champlain-Hudson corridor was crucial to American independence. If Great Britain could control the waterways, they would have cut the New England states off from the rest of the new country. The Americans struck first in 1775 with an invasion northward into Québec with hopes that their Canadian neighbors would join the rebellion. The effort failed. The British countered the following year, only to be turned back by a scrappy fleet of gunboats led by Benedict Arnold and fortifications to the south. In 1777, the British pushed past Lake Champlain only to be stopped at the Battle of Saratoga, the turning point of the American Revolution.