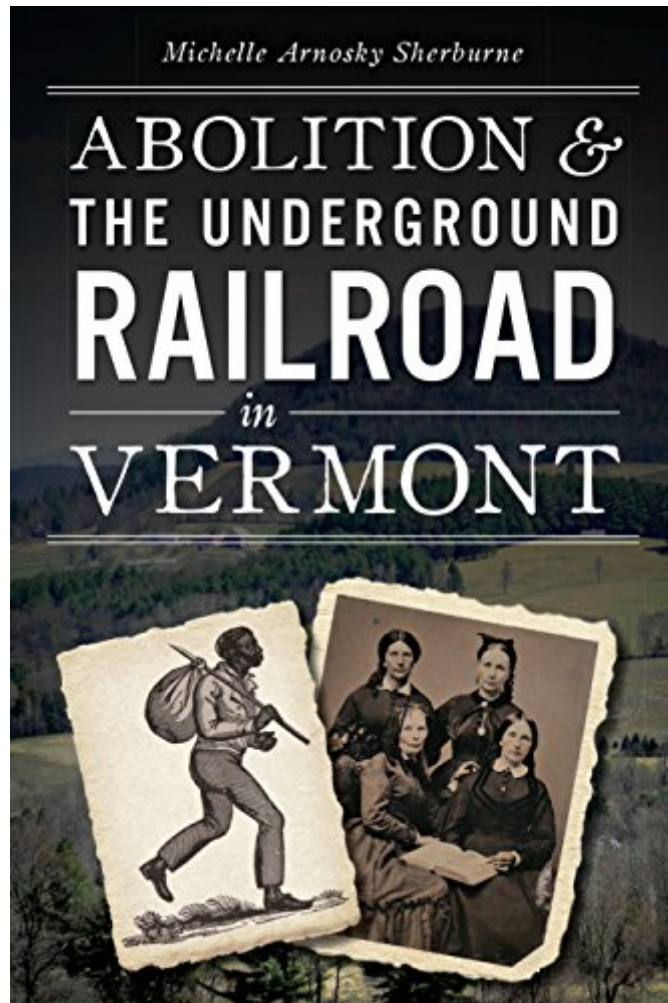


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# Abolition & The Underground Railroad In Vermont (Civil War Series)



## Synopsis

Many believe that support for the abolition of slavery was universally accepted in Vermont, but it was actually a fiercely divisive issue that rocked the Green Mountain State. In the midst of turbulence and violence, though, some brave Vermonters helped fight for the freedom of their enslaved Southern brethren. Thaddeus Stevens--one of abolition's most outspoken advocates--was a Vermont native. Delia Webster, the first woman arrested for aiding a fugitive slave, was also a Vermonter. The Rokeby house in Ferrisburgh was a busy Underground Railroad station for decades. Peacham's Oliver Johnson worked closely with William Lloyd Garrison during the abolition movement. Discover the stories of these and others in Vermont who risked their own lives to help more than four thousand slaves to freedom.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book not only explains and describes the underground railroad movement, it brings history alive by vividly detailing the abolitionist movement and circumstances surrounding the quest for

freedom by slaves and the efforts of those who aided them. Gripping details are provided about features in actual homes like hidden passageways, tunnels, and how home owners took steps to secretly help the slaves. The photos provided help the reader connect with the setting as well. Additionally, the local culture of that day is nicely woven into the book so the reader not only learns of the railroad movement, but also catches glimpses of what life was like in New England towns and villages back then. Research by the author was obviously passionately pursued and thorough.

Interesting book. My familiarity with the towns and actual houses make it a good read for me, but perhaps somebody who is not a New Englander may not be so interested in the way it is written - very factual.

Being a long time Vermonter, I am proud to read this can't put down book on our participation in the History of the Underground Railroad.

This is a truly disappointing effort because there are no sources for what appears to be good information the author accumulated. Bibliography yes, but no notes or sources of information.

Does one man really have the right to own another man?? It also shows the great price some paid for freedom. It leaves us asking am I free of racial prejudice, or as an issue left over from slavery, am I not too prejudiced??

Excellent resource

"Many a dusky, trembling fugitive paused overnight near the end of his flight from the Southland, to be given food and a place to sleep before proceeding once more on his journey." For 21 years, the author and historian Michelle Aronsky Sherburne, dug deep into the history of Vermont's Underground Railroad. She read just about everything she could find about the Underground Railroad, and everywhere she looked there always was some link to Vermont and fugitive slaves coming into it. Be it from New York state or New Hampshire. Slaves on the run moving up through the invisible network on their way to Canada, or out of the country. These hearty souls sought just one thing, freedom, and the brave Vermonters who helped them to seek it, stood tall and risked their own lives to help more than four thousand slaves walk the road, climb through the tunnel, hide in the

crawl space, and finally to cross that border free. The book tells a totally absorbing account of those divisive days. Although Vermont was the first state to abolish slavery in 1777, not all Vermonters were in favor of abolition, and the times were fearful for those who helped the fugitives by hiding them, feeding them and transporting them. There are many stories and lives recounted in this fine book. It is a tremendously impressive work, carefully researched and masterfully told. It is one I totally immersed my self in. Michelle Aronsky Sherburne's book is the rarest of things; good reading and good history. In short a marvelous work.

While doing genealogy research on my family name, I discovered through this book that my fifth great grandfather, Captain Richard Rowland, sheltered slaves in a small, windowless room located behind the fireplace on the second floor of his home. Pages 138-139 on Corinth, Vermont, the author writes about the Rowland Day House that Captain Richard Rowland built and lived in until his death in 1823. Thanks for the great news about my ancestor, Ms. Sherburne!!

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