



***“History doesn't
repeat itself,
but it does rhyme”
--Mark Twain***

Introducing a carbon-neutral transport initiative connecting
the farms and forests of Lake Champlain with the Lower
Hudson Valley

A collaboration between local farmers and the Willowell Foundation

Our Goals:

- Develop and prove a modern method of cargo distribution using sail power
- Involve students and the community
- Enhance area farmers' livelihoods through access to superior markets
- Generate excitement and inspiration for creative energy innovation
- Demonstrate a constructive community-scale approach to energy descent



How can freight watercraft add to urban sustainability?

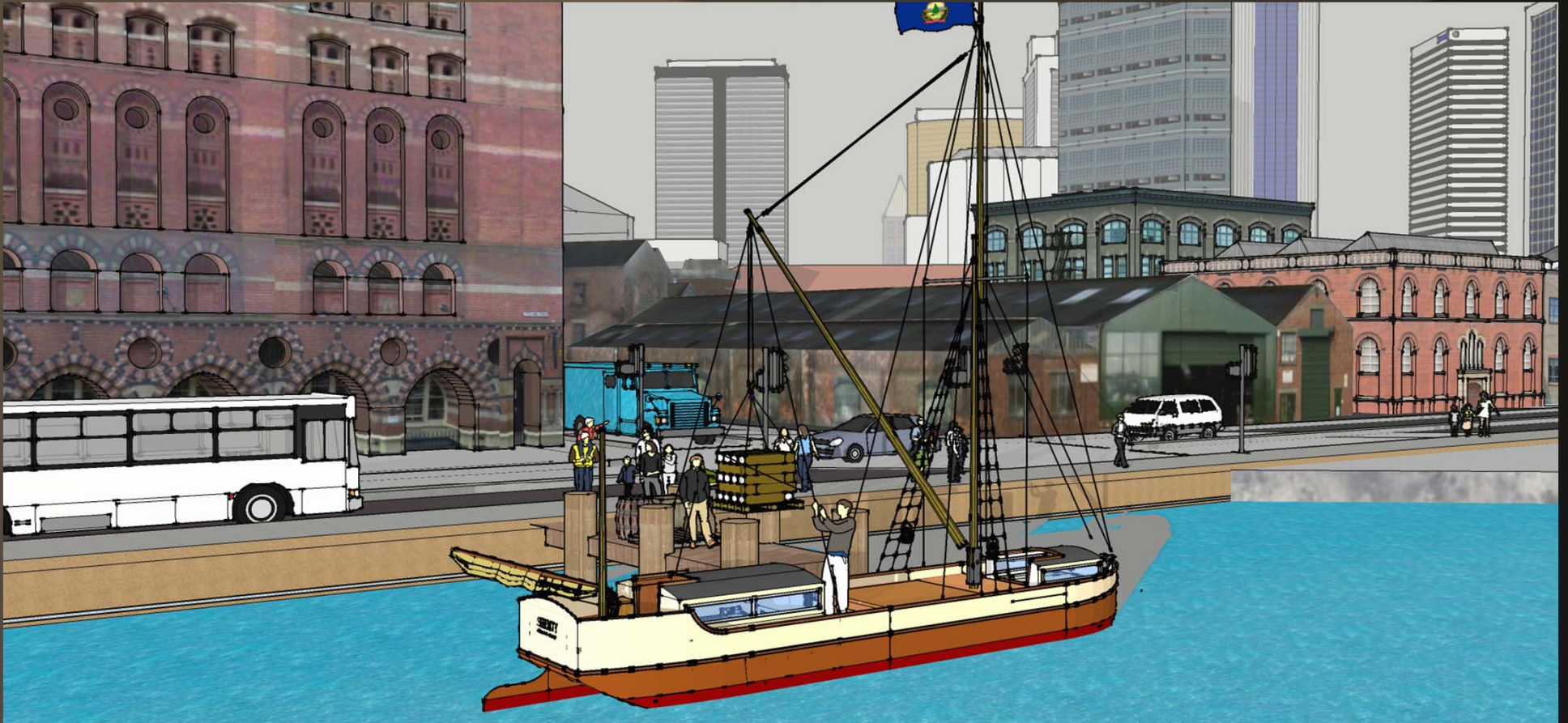
- Utilize pre-existing city layout features and infrastructure (low redeployment costs)
- Lowest carbon cost per ton mile
- Foster civic engagement at the waterfront



What kinds of foods can we transport by sail?

- Grains, flours, and beans
- Sauces, jellies, hot sauce, preserves, pickles, saurkraut
- Hard cider and wine
- Dry beans
- Shelf stable fresh produce like apples and cabbages
- Root vegetables like potatoes, carrots, onions, garlic
- Coffee, sugar, chocolate

***15 tons of food. 330 miles.
VSFP is a new take on the
Vernacular Merchant Marine Tradition!***



www.vermontsailfreightproject.org

The Whole Ball of Wax

- Brought about nearly entirely by volunteers
- Based on a systems-thinking approach
- Farming and Food System-Centered
- Regional in Scope
- Based on time-proven technologies
- Adaptive to contemporary economic constraints
- Adaptive to today's tendency to live life online
- Part of a worldwide rebirth of working sail
- Supported by grants and donations
- Expected to become self-sustaining within a 2-year timeframe



Trading Concept

- Internet pre-orders / waterside pickup
- Cash sales of onboard inventory while en route
- Wholesale to NYC resellers who can then use our delivered by sail label



Ceres

LOA: 39'6"

Beam: 10 1 1/2"

Rig: Spritsail (can be lowered)

Displacement: 38,000 lbs

GRT: 14.92 Tons

Classification: Cargo ship, uninspected

Home Port: Vergennes, Vermont

Construction Budget: \$20000

Hull Material: AC fir plywood with
epoxy fiberglass sheathing

Crew complement: 2-3



Implications

- A revival of inland working sail can generate employment while moving goods around the region without fuel cost or carbon emissions
- Simplified designs executed with common, low-cost materials will be easily executed by a variety of communities, and adaptable to particular needs
- Population centers are already located on working waterways. The infrastructure for working sail already largely exists.
- Working sail can find ways to function economically in the world as it is while simultaneously preparing for approaching changes.
- Sail is an ancient, beautiful and compelling technology

