**Artifacts**

Don Troiani owns hundreds of original objects from the Revolutionary era, including muskets, swords, buttons, and clothing, some of which are included in this exhibit. His collection – along with objects in museums like this one – inspire and often appear in his paintings.

Among the most colorful and ornate objects in Troiani’s collection are the arms and insignia of the German troops who fought alongside the British during the Revolutionary War. German soldiers from the principality of Brunswick who served during the Saratoga Campaign, for example, wore uniforms that included brass caps decorated with horses and pompoms, and blue coats trimmed with lace. Officers wore gold and silver insignia, such as the gorget – a decorative adornment worn around the neck – exhibited here. A dragoon officer carried the broadsword decorated with gold also displayed here.

We only know about some things made and used during the Revolutionary War because of archaeology. Artifacts found in the ground at historic sites can be evidence of past activity, such as a battle or encampment, and can reveal information about people from the past. The cartridge box plate displayed here, worn on the ammunition pouch carried by a German soldier from Brunswick, was excavated near a farmhouse not far from the battles of Saratoga. It is one of only two known examples of its type to survive from the Revolutionary War. You can imagine the items displayed here in action by locating the broadsword, gorget, and cartridge box plate in Troiani’s painting of the Battle of Bennington.