



CIVIL WAR TRUST

Saving America's Civil War Battlefields

Connecticut

Battlefield Preservation
2015 Potential Funding Sources

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THE CIVIL WAR TRUST

Preserving Our Battlefield Heritage

Every year, hundreds of acres of our nation's most important battlefields associated with the Civil War, the American Revolution and the War of 1812 are threatened by uncontrolled development. Preservationists struggle to save these hallowed grounds so that future generations can experience and appreciate the places where the nation's freedoms were won, expanded, and preserved.

The Civil War Trust (the "Trust") is America's largest nonprofit organization devoted to the preservation of our nation's endangered Civil War battlefields. The Trust also promotes educational programs and heritage tourism initiatives to inform the public of the war's history and the fundamental conflicts that sparked it.

To further support our state and local partners, the Trust, through a grant from the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP), have identified a multiplicity of national and state-level funding sources for the preservation of battlefields across the country recognized by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission and the Report to Congress on the Historic Preservation of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Sites in the United States. This information is being made available through both our website and within individual booklets for each of the 30 states with associated battlefields from these three wars. Each booklet offers an in-depth analysis of funding opportunities to save valuable battlefield properties. When available, stories of success are illustrated and past partnerships for funding explored.

This project is part of a collaborative effort in which ABPP relied on the Trust to use its extensive experience to identify a variety of state-centered preservation funding sources both for battlefields associated with the Civil War as well as the American Revolution and the War of 1812. The American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP), authorized by Congress and administered by the National Park Service, promotes the preservation of significant historic battlefields associated with wars on American soil. The goals of the program are 1) to protect battlefields and sites associated with armed conflicts that influenced the course of our history, 2) to encourage and assist all Americans in planning for the preservation, management and interpretation of these sites, and 3) to raise awareness of the importance of preserving battlefields and related sites for future generations. The ABPP focuses primarily on land use, cultural resource and site management planning and public education.

In 1991, Congress established the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission. The Commission was charged with identifying significant Civil War sites, determining their condition, assessing threats to their integrity, and offering alternatives for their preservation and interpretation. Classification of each battlefield is based on the level of military importance within its campaign and the war. Class A and B battlefields represent the principal strategic operations of the war. Class C and D battlefields usually represent operations with limited tactical objectives of enforcement and occupation. Some 10,500 armed conflicts occurred during the Civil War ranging from battles to minor skirmishes. Of those, 382 principal battles occurred in 26 states.

In 1996, Congress enacted legislation to examine the historical integrity of two of our nation's earliest wars – the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. Over the next ten years, the National Park Service identified and documented 677 significant places associated with these conflicts. The study examined the condition of 243 battlefields and 434 associated historic properties in 31 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The identification and assessment of these sites followed the same criteria as that used by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission.

In addition to these booklets, the Civil War Trust website - www.civilwar.org – provides preservationists with additional up-to-date information on funding in a concise format that we hope will lend guidance to those seeking opportunities for land acquisition and protection. The Trust’s online database, designed to equip preservationists with the essential information needed to pursue these resources, is an important part of our ongoing mission to save significant battlefield properties. On our website you will also find current information on battlefield preservation and other educational materials.

Today, the Civil War Trust is working with national, state and local individuals, organizations and agencies to preserve these nonrenewable historic resources; battlefields. We hope the material provided on our website and in each of these booklets will support your preservation efforts. With your help, we can all make a difference.

Saving Connecticut's Battlefields

The American Revolution and the War of 1812

The *Report to Congress on the Historic Preservation of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Sites in the United States* from 2007 identified battlefield sites from both the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. In the state of Connecticut, there are four battlefield sites from the Revolutionary War. One site, Ridgefield, is a Priority II site; New London is a Priority II site. Two sites, Danbury and New Haven, have been destroyed or fragmented to such a degree that only commemorative opportunities exist. Additionally, there are eight Revolutionary War-associated historic sites in the state. Connecticut has no battlefields from the War of 1812; however, three historic sites are associated with the war. Additionally, Connecticut has two Priority II historic sites associated with both wars.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING PROGRAMS

Community Investment Act

The Community Investment Act (CIA) provides funding for:

- Agriculture viability and dairy support
- Preservation of historic sites
- Creation of additional affordable housing programs
- Important municipal capital improvement projects
- Open space

The CIA became law in 2005. Funding for the CIA is derived from a \$40 fee for the recording of all documents on municipal land records. This revenue is distributed among four state agencies for specific purposes: the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Department of Agriculture (DOA), the Commission on Culture and Tourism (CCT) and the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA). Only the DEP and DOA are able to acquire land using these funds. The Act could generate \$10 million annually for open space and farmland conservation.

The Community Investment Act will provide up to \$5 million annually to the CCT to provide support for Historic Restoration Fund Grants (see below) for the restoration, rehabilitation or acquisition of historic buildings, structures and objects as well as the investigation of archaeological sites, if the properties are on the State Register of Historic Places and are owned by nonprofit organizations or municipalities. CIA funds allocated to the DEP are represented inclusively within the statistics for the DEP's two major programs: the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program (see below) and the Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program (see below).

Historic Restoration Fund Grants

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) offers matching, reimbursement Historic Restoration Fund (HRF) Grants to Connecticut municipalities and 501(c)(3) nonprofits to be used for the restoration, rehabilitation, stabilization, archaeological investigation or acquisition of Connecticut's historic resources listed on the State or National Register of Historic Places.

A meeting with the Construction Grants coordinator is required to apply for this grant. The property must be owned by a municipality or a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and the grant awards are paid as a one-time reimbursement. Applications are accepted once a year.

- Grant awards range from \$5,000 to \$200,000
- Grant awards must be matched on a one-to-one basis with cash (no in-kind services allowed)
- Matching funds cannot be funds from the State of Connecticut. Federal funds or other nonstate funds may be used
- Facilities must be open to the public or work must be visible to the public
- A preservation easement of limited duration must be placed on the property following completion of the project
- Grant funds are paid to grantees on a single-payment reimbursement basis following the completion of the project and approval of all work by staff
- Project work must be consistent with the secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties

Grantees may only have one active HRF grant at a time. Any existing grants must be officially closed before a new application is submitted to the SHPO.

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Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program

The Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program (OSWLA) began in 1998 and is managed by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. The program provides financial assistance to municipalities and nonprofit land conservation organizations to acquire land that will add to a community's open space, enhance recreational opportunities, protect unique geographical features or conserve wildlife habitat.

Land acquired will be preserved in perpetuity: 1) predominately in its natural scenic and open condition, 2) for the protection or provision of potable water or 3) for agriculture. A permanent conservation easement will be provided to the State to ensure that the property remains in a natural and open condition for the conservation, open space, agriculture, green space or water supply purpose for which it was acquired. The easement will include a requirement that the property be made available to the general public for appropriate recreational purposes.

Funding for the OSWLA predominantly comes through a combination of state bonds and monies collected under the Community Investment Act. Between 1998 and 2008, the program purchased 3,837 acres for \$89.5 million.

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Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program

The Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust program (RNHT) was created by the state legislature in 1986 to help preserve Connecticut's natural heritage. It is the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) primary program for acquiring land to expand the state's system of parks, forests, wildlife habitat and other natural open spaces. The program is funded by the issuance of state bonds. Between 1998 and 2008, the program purchased 36,047 acres for \$187.3 million.

The DEP purchases land from willing sellers. In many cases, the property owners contact the agency. In other instances, the department or conservation organizations initiate contact.

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www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?A=2706&q=323840



Putnam State Park

Farmland Preservation Program

This program began in 1978 and authorizes the State to purchase agricultural conservation easements on qualifying farmland. Between 1998 and 2008, the program purchased 5,288 acres for \$18.3 million. Successful applicants to this program own active farms that contain a high percentage of prime farmland soils and are in established farm communities. These lands may also include any forestland and wetlands on the property. Participating landowners are required to have a plan with the Natural Resource Conservation Service.

The main objective of the farmland preservation program is to secure a food- and fiber-producing land resource base, consisting primarily of prime and important farmland soils, for the future of agriculture in Connecticut. This goal is accomplished by preserving active farms clustered with other farms, therefore stabilizing a viable farming region.

For information: <http://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=3260&q=399016>

PRIVATE FUNDING PROGRAMS

Connecticut Farmland Trust

Connecticut Farmland Trust (CFT) is the only land trust in the state dedicated to the protection of family farms. Since its founding in 2002, CFT has protected more than 2,100 acres of farmland and has helped its partners protect nearly 1,000 additional acres. While the bylaws of the organization permit the outright purchase in fee of appropriate properties, in practice the group has limited itself to the acquisition of agricultural conservation easements. Initially, much of this protection was accomplished via donation. Very quickly, however, the majority of work began to come through purchase agreements. Those purchases became partnership projects using large grants from state and federal sources to match one another and modest inputs from the CFT. The Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Connecticut Department of Agriculture are the CFT's most important public collaborators.

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There are more than 80 land trusts operating in the state of Connecticut. While many land trusts work strictly in nature conservation, some have resources and often partner with other nonprofit organizations, municipalities and small groups to conserve land containing historically significant cultural resources. A full list of Connecticut land trusts can be found here: http://findalandtrust.org/states/connecticut9/land_trusts#statewide

CONNECTICUT NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS

Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor

The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor encompasses approximately 695,000 acres in northeastern Connecticut and south central Massachusetts. Despite the proximity to large metropolitan areas, this National Heritage Corridor is rural in character. The 1,085-square-mile area is defined by the Quinebaug and Shetucket River systems and the rugged hills that surround them. For this reason, northeastern Connecticut and south central Massachusetts have been called "The Last Green Valley" in the sprawling metropolitan Boston-to-Washington Corridor.

The Last Green Valley, Inc., (TLGV) is the member-supported, nonprofit stewardship organization working locally to conserve natural resources and working lands in this National Heritage Corridor. The role of TLGV is to promote and facilitate public-private partnerships to further that mission.

Its board of directors is elected by the membership at the annual meeting. Members participate in all committees, which is where the work of the organization is conceived and executed. Members include individuals, families, businesses, nonprofits, corporations, regional and state entities, congressional delegations and the area's 35 towns.

Among the organization's past projects is a successful grant program that distributed more than \$3.1 million to more than 200 projects in every part of the region.

Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor, Inc.
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CONTACT

JIM CAMPI, Director of Policy and Communications
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As Director of Policy and Communications at the Civil War Trust, Jim Campi is responsible for the organization's government and media relations. He serves as the Civil War Trust's spokesperson with the press as well as its point man with Congress, state legislators, and local elected officials. Jim joined the Trust in September 2000 after 14 years in political communications and administration. He is the author and contributing writer for several books and publications, including *Civil War Battlefields Then and Now*, *The Political Lincoln*, and *The Civil War 150*. Jim is also a member of the board of the Journey Through Hallowed Ground and Franklin's Charge.

MARK COOMBS, State and Local Relations Manager
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As State and Local Relations Manager at the Civil War Trust, Mark Coombs serves as the organization's advocate in historic communities across the United States, cultivating public and political enthusiasm for battlefield preservation and organizing grassroots activists in support of the Trust's mission. A veteran of political and public affairs campaigns at all levels, Mark is a 2008 graduate of Cornell University, where he was Co-President of the Alpha Beta Eta Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society.

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Phil Thomason is Principal of the historic preservation planning firm of Thomason and Associates. Founded in 1982, this company provides services such as historic preservation plans, cultural resource surveys, Section 106 review and design guidelines for historic districts. During the past decade the company has completed eight battlefield preservation plans and numerous other studies for the American Battlefield Protection Program in Arkansas, Tennessee, Virginia, Minnesota, Missouri and Georgia.

DAVID CURREY, Principal
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David Currey is principal at Encore, a company that specializes in interpretive planning, exhibit design, and media development for historic sites, museums, government agencies and preservation organizations. Encore also produces independent documentaries, including works on Civil War Nashville, the Battle of Parker's Crossroads, the Civil War in Tennessee and, more recently, an hour-long biography on Ed Bearss, Chief Historian Emeritus for the National Park Service.



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