



## CIVIL WAR TRUST

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*Saving America's Civil War Battlefields*

# Delaware

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Battlefield Preservation  
2015 Potential Funding Sources

## Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Saving Delaware's Battlefields	5
State Government Funding Programs	5
Private Funding Programs	6
Civil War Trust Contacts	8

# 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, 384 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](http://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 Delaware'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 Delaware, there is one principal Revolutionary War battlefield site, Wilmington, which is ranked as a site needing further study. Additionally, there are five associated historic properties. Delaware has no War of 1812 principal battlefields, but has one historic property associated with the war.

## **STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING PROGRAMS**

### *Open Space Program*

In 1990, the Delaware Land Protection Act established an Open Space Program. The Open Space Program protects designated State Resource Areas, including parks, fish and wildlife areas, forests, nature preserves and cultural sites. The program is funded through the Delaware Land and Water Conservation Trust Fund, established in June 1986. At the end of each Fiscal Year, \$10 million from the state's realty transfer tax is transferred into the fund. Of this total, \$9 million goes to the Land and Water Conservation Trust Fund Project Account for the Open Space Program. Funds are used to acquire or manage public outdoor recreation and conservation lands.

The accounts are as follows:

Endowment Account: the major account that generates interest for other accounts receives \$1 million each year from the realty transfer tax (for stewardship) until the endowment account reaches \$60 million. Project Account: this is allocated to the Open Space Program and is funded by \$9 million per year from the realty transfer tax; this will continue until the Endowment Account reaches \$60 million. Earnings Account: the first \$1.5 million in interest generated by the Endowment Account is used for the Greenway and Trail Grant program; of this amount \$750,000 is used for local park acquisition and development subject to a 50 percent match, and \$750,000 is used for local greenways projects, subject to a 50 percent match. Stewardship Account: any interest generated by the Endowment Account after the first \$1.5 million; this is used for the management (not staff) of lands purchased through the Project Account.

Office of the Secretary  
Secretary Ed Kee, Cabinet Secretary of Agriculture  
E. Austin Short, Deputy Secretary  
Mark Davis, Executive Assistant  
Lisa Wildermuth, Executive Secretary  
2320 South DuPont Hwy  
Dover, DE 19901  
Phone: (302) 698-4500  
Phone: (800) 282-8685 (Toll-free in Delaware Only)  
[www.dnrec.delaware.gov/OpenSpaces/Pages/OpenSpaceProgram.aspx](http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/OpenSpaces/Pages/OpenSpaceProgram.aspx)

### *Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Program*

The Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Program was formed in July 1991. There are two primary components to the program. First, landowners may create an Agricultural Preservation District, which contains at least 200 contiguous acres devoted to agricultural and related uses. Parcels smaller than 200 usable (and contiguous) acres within three miles of an established district can be enrolled into the program as a district expansion.

Landowners who place their lands into Agricultural Preservation Districts agree not to develop their lands for at least 10 years, devoting the land only to agriculture and related uses. In return, the owners receive tax benefits, right-to-farm protection, and an opportunity to sell an easement to the state, which keeps the land free from development permanently. There are now 129,163 acres in 519 Agricultural Preservation Districts and District expansions in Delaware. Out of the 129,163 acres currently in agricultural preservation districts, 307 properties encompassing approximately 64,830 acres have been permanently protected through the purchase of preservation easements for \$67.4 million.

Initial state funding for the program came from the 21st Century Fund settlement and has been followed by the state realty transfer tax. The fund was created in 1995 from proceeds of a court case between Delaware and New York. The settlement allocated almost \$160 million to land-use related programs, which was expended between Fiscal Years 1996 and 1999. The fund provided \$40 million for open space acquisition, \$40 million for preservation of agricultural lands through purchase of development rights and \$15 million for a state parks endowment. As of 2006, the program receives \$10 million annually in dedicated funds from a state realty transfer tax.

Office of the Secretary  
Secretary Ed Kee, Cabinet Secretary of Agriculture  
E. Austin Short, Deputy Secretary  
Mark Davis, Executive Assistant  
Lisa Wildermuth, Executive Secretary  
2320 South DuPont Hwy  
Dover, DE 19901  
Phone: (302) 698-4500  
Phone: (800) 282-8685 (Toll-free in Delaware Only)  
<http://dda.delaware.gov>  
<http://dda.delaware.gov/aglands/lndpres.shtml>

## ***PRIVATE FUNDING PROGRAMS***

### ***Preservation Delaware, Inc.***

Preservation Delaware, Inc. (PDI) is the statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of Delaware's architectural heritage and historic settings through education, public policy initiatives and technical assistance. Founded in 1993, PDI administers a grants program through the Delaware Preservation Fund.

The Fund was established and incorporated by PDI in December of 2000. Seed money for the Fund was provided through the generosity of the General Assembly of the State of Delaware and the Longwood and Welfare Foundations. The Fund is administered by its own board of directors and a part-time project director.

The Delaware Preservation Fund provides financial assistance to owners of historic properties through acquisition of unwanted and threatened properties and through related support programs.

All the Fund's programs target buildings that are on, or eligible for listing on, the National Register or that are located in a designated historic district. Assistance is provided in the form of:

- Small grants
- Short-term loans
- Acquisition of threatened properties

### Property Acquisition and Resale:

One of the original goals in establishing the program was to have funds available to acquire at-risk properties. The Fund may also accept donations of properties or acquire property in other ways, like options to buy.

For any acquisition, the object is to find a new owner as soon as possible. If the Fund holds on to a property, this ties up funds that could be allocated to other projects. Any proceeds realized from the resale of a property go back into the Fund to finance future loans or purchases. This maintains the Fund as a revolving fund. When a property is resold, the Fund places an easement on the property. The Fund presently monitors two easements.

Delaware Preservation Fund: Board of Directors  
President – Abdullah Muhammad  
Vice President/Treasurer – James A Whisman, Jr.  
Secretary – Margo J. Reign  
Controller General Designee – Michael Morton  
State Budget Office Designee – Bryan Sullivan  
Governor’s Designee – Leslie Davis  
Daniel Griffith (representing Preservation Delaware)  
Robert H. Robinson, Jr.  
Donald H. Whitworth  
Project Director  
Vince Murphy  
Phone: (443) 504-2049  
*email: dpf@dca.net*  
*http://preservationde.org*

### *Delaware Nature Society*



Established in 1964, the Delaware Nature Society manages more than 1,000 acres of land statewide and has protected more than 480 acres through conservation easements and deed restrictions. The Nature Society provided the leadership for the Preservation Coalition, consisting of 330 groups working with the governor and the General Assembly to provide the maximum amount of annual funding for the Delaware Open Space and Agricultural Lands Preservation programs.

The Society’s Land Preservation Program focuses on Delaware’s biodiversity and water quality through conservation of outstanding natural areas, stream corridors, woodlands, working lands, connectors between protected lands and small sites with unique features. Private landowners of significant natural areas are encouraged to consider permanent conservation easements and gifts of their land.

The Society owns and manages four nature preserves. One, Burrows Run Preserve, consists of 352 acres of meadows and woodlands of the Coverdale Farm. The farm includes a historic dwelling and an 18th-century barn.

Other land trusts conserving lands in the state of Delaware have offices located in neighboring states. For a list of these land trusts, go to: [http://findalandtrust.org/states/delaware10/land\\_trusts#statewide](http://findalandtrust.org/states/delaware10/land_trusts#statewide)

## *CONTACT*

JIM CAMPI, Director of Policy and Communications  
Civil War Trust  
jcampi@civilwar.org

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  
Civil War Trust  
mcoombs@civilwar.org

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.

PHIL THOMASON, Principal  
Thomason and Associates  
Thomason@bellsouth.net

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  
Encore Interpretive Design  
david@encoreinterpretive.net

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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*Front cover: Brandywine Creek*