Massachusetts

Battlefield Preservation
2014 Funding Sources

www.civilwar.org
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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, 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 – 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 Massachusetts’s Battlefields

The American Revolution and the War of 1812

In Massachusetts, there are nine Revolutionary War battlefield sites listed through the studies completed by the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP). Four of these battlefields are considered priority battlefields in need of preservation. The Battle at Lexington and Concord was the first military engagement in the American Revolution. Located in present-day Arlington and owned by the National Park Service (NPS), the Lexington and Concord Battlefield is the state’s only Priority I battlefield and is classified as a Class A site according to the ABPP. The Bedford-Fairhaven Battlefield is located in present-day New Bedford and Fairhaven, Massachusetts. The Bedford-Fairhaven Battlefield, along with the Martha’s Vineyard Battlefield, is a part of Maj. Gen. Charles Grey’s raid during the American Revolution and is listed as a Priority II battlefield. Both are classified as a Class C site according to the ABPP and are unprotected. Today, at the National Park in Gloucester County, Massachusetts, the NPS maintains the Gloucester Battlefield, which is listed as a Priority III battlefield and classified as a Class C site according to the ABPP.

The other five Revolutionary War battlefield sites either need further study where condition and threats are unknown or have been destroyed or fragmented to such a degree that only commemorative opportunities exist. The only site in need of further study is the Schooner Lee & HM Ordnance Brig Nancy, which is a battlefield area located in the Boston Harbor and classified as a Class B site. Finally, the Battle at Bunker Hill, the Battle of Boston, the Battle at Dorchester Heights and the Nantasket Road Battlefield are all classified as battlefields that have been destroyed or fragmented to such a degree only commemorative opportunities exist and are also classified as Class A sites according to the ABPP. These three battlefields have also been combined under the Boston National Historical Park in Boston, Massachusetts, which showcases Boston’s role in the Revolutionary War and is owned by the National Park Service. Also in Massachusetts there are 41 additional historic properties associated with the Revolutionary War.

The Battle of Chelsea Creek is located in Suffolk County, Massachusetts, and is the only Revolutionary War battlefield not listed in the preservation study by the American Battlefield Protection Program. The Battle of Chelsea Creek, however, is the first naval engagement of the American Revolution and was granted $48,300 by the NPS in 2009.

There are no War of 1812 or Civil War battlefields on Massachusetts soil. There are, however, nine additional properties associated with the War of 1812. Therefore, the following state, federal and private programs have funding opportunities for preservation efforts focused toward the previously discussed Revolutionary War battlefields within the state.

STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING PROGRAMS

Community Preservation Act
The Community Preservation Coalition (CPC) is an alliance of open-space, affordable housing and historic preservation organizations working with municipalities to help them understand, adopt and implement the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act (CPA). The Coalition was formed in the 1990s, and with leadership and help from the Steering Committee, the Coalition works to preserve Massachusetts communities’ unique character by advocating for and supporting the Community Preservation Act, advancing smart growth and sustainable development for communities across the Commonwealth.
The CPA is statewide, enabling legislation to allow cities and towns to exercise control over local planning decisions, and provides new funding sources that can be used to address three core community concerns:

- Acquisition and preservation of open space
- Creation and support of affordable housing
- Acquisition and preservation of historic buildings and landscapes

Communities that adopt the CPA elect to raise taxes, which are then matched at some level by the Commonwealth. This funding pool has been adopted by more than 140 communities to secure valuable open space, preserve historic buildings and support quality affordable housing. Voters must approve establishment of a Community Preservation Fund (CPF) by vote in an annual municipal or state election. A minimum of 10 percent of the annual revenues of the CPF must be used for each of the three core community concerns. The remaining 70 percent can be allocated for any combination of the allowed uses or for land for recreational use. (The CPA is a legislative act, not a granting program; therefore, it is not listed in the state table.) See: http://communitypreservation.org

Agriculture Preservation Restriction Program
The Department of Agricultural Resources houses the Agriculture Preservation Restriction Program (APR), which began in 1979. The APR Program is a voluntary program that offers a nondevelopment alternative to farmers and other owners of “prime” and “state-important” agricultural land faced with a decision regarding future use and disposition of their farms. Toward this end, the program offers to pay farmers the difference between the “fair market value” and the “agricultural value” of their farmland in exchange for a permanent deed restriction that precludes any use of the property that will have a negative impact on its agricultural viability.

The primary purpose of the APR Program is to preserve and protect agricultural land, including designated farmland soils, which are a finite natural resource, from being built upon for nonagricultural purposes or used for any activity detrimental to agriculture and to maintain APR land values at a level that can be supported by the land’s agricultural uses and potential. Landowners with at least five-acres of land in agricultural production for the last two years are eligible for the program. The program has an average grant size of $400,000, and application deadlines are rolling.

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http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/land-use/agricultural-preservation-restriction-program-apr.html

Conservation Partnership Grant Program
The Conservation Partnership Program was authorized by the state legislature in 2002. It is a grant program that provides reimbursements to nonprofit organizations of up to 50 percent of the cost of acquiring land or interest in land for conservation or outdoor recreation purposes. All projects must grant a perpetual conservation restriction (easement), to either the city or town in which the project is located or a state agency or both. Funds are derived from bond expenditures.

The Conservation Partnership grants provide funding to assist nonpublic, nonprofit corporations in acquiring interest in lands suitable for conservation or recreation purposes. Potential projects fall into one of two categories: land or
a conservation restriction (CR) purchased by an eligible applicant and/or due diligence for land or a conservation restriction gift donated to an eligible applicant.

Eligible applicants include qualified IRS 501(c)(3) organizations that have been formed for one of the purposes described in Section 4 of Chapter 180 of the General Laws. The Conservation Partnership Program is available only during specific times of year, and funds are available only through an open process that includes a qualified response to a Request for Responses (RFR).

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**Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity Program**
The Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) Program (formerly the Self-Help Program) was established in 1961 to assist municipal conservation commissions in acquiring land for natural resources protection and passive outdoor recreation purposes. The LAND Program is a part of the governor’s administration efforts to protect undeveloped lands, unique ecosystems, rare species and habitats and working lands and to preserve the Commonwealth’s rich natural heritage for the future. The grant provides reimbursement funding for the acquisition of land or a conservation restriction, as well as for limited associated acquisition costs. Lands acquired may include forests; fields; wetlands; wildlife habitat; unique natural, historic or cultural resources; and some farmland. Access by the general public is required. Appropriate passive outdoor recreational uses such as hiking, fishing, hunting, cross-country skiing and bird watching are encouraged. This state program pays for the acquisition of land, or a partial interest (such as a conservation restriction), and associated acquisition costs such as appraisal reports and closing costs. Funds are derived from bond expenditures. Municipal Conservation Commissions are eligible to apply for the program with a July application deadline and maximum grant amount of $400,000.

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**Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Program**
The Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Program (formerly the Urban Self-Help Program) was established in 1977 to assist cities and towns in acquiring and developing land for park and outdoor recreation purposes. Any town with a population of 35,000 or more year-round residents, or any city regardless of size, that has an authorized park/recreation commission is eligible to participate in the program. Communities that do not meet the population criteria listed above may still qualify under the “small town,” “regional” or “statewide” project provisions of the program. Only projects that are to be developed for suitable outdoor recreation purposes, whether active or passive in nature, shall be considered for funding. Grants are available for the acquisition of land.
and the construction or renovation of park and outdoor recreation facilities. Access by the general public is required. Municipalities with Open Space and Recreation Plans are eligible to apply for the program with a July application deadline and maximum grant amount of $500,000.

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**Landscape Partnership Program**

Starting in 2010, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) offered a new grant opportunity called the Landscape Partnership Program. This program offers competitive grants to municipalities, nonprofit organizations and EEA agencies to help fund partnership projects that permanently protect a minimum of 500 acres of land. The Landscape Partnership Program seeks to preserve large, unfragmented, high-value conservation landscapes, including working forests and farms; expand state; municipal; private partnerships; increase leveraging of state dollars; enhance stewardship of conservation land; and provide public access opportunities. The program also funds the development of Natural Resource Protection Zoning in partner municipalities. This grant is a matching grant at 50 percent with a maximum award of $1.5 million. Application deadlines fall in October.

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**Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund**

The Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF) is a state-funded 50 percent reimbursable matching grant program established in 1984 to support the preservation of properties, landscapes and sites (cultural resources) listed on the State Register of Historic Places. By providing assistance to historic cultural resources owned by nonprofit or municipal entities, the Massachusetts Historical Commission hopes to ensure their continued use and integrity. The program is administered in accordance with 950 CMR 73.00. Eligible activities include pre-development projects, development projects and acquisitions projects related to cultural resources, each ranging in various grant amounts. The owner of a property funded for a development or acquisition project must enter into and record a preservation restriction and maintenance agreement in perpetuity. Owners of properties funded for pre-development projects shall enter into a preservation restriction for a term of years, depending on the grant amount awarded. Acquisition projects also must be listed or eligible for listing on the State Register of Historic Places whether they be National Historic Landmarks, National Register properties or local historic districts. Selection criteria for each proposed project include:

- Level of historical significance of the property
- Potential for loss or destruction of the property
• Administrative and financial management capabilities of the applicant
• Appropriateness of proposed work for the property
• Demonstrated financial need
• Extent of public support and benefit from users, professionals and community leaders
• Consistency with state and local preservation and community revitalization plans
• Use of traditional materials and building techniques

In regards to acquisition projects, grant requests may range from $7,500 to $100,000. The average grant amount rewarded in the 2013 award cycle totaled $41,052. Eligible applicants must be a municipality or nonprofit organization. The Round 19 grant cycle has closed. No future rounds are authorized at this time, but check back with the program administrator for program updates.

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Minute Man National Historical Park
PRIVATE FUNDING PROGRAMS

Olde Colony Civil War Roundtable
The Olde Colony Civil War Round Table (CWRT) is a 501(c)(3), nonprofit organization and is incorporated in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Olde Colony CWRT is the oldest and largest in Massachusetts, with more than 100 members. The Olde Colony originally referred to the Plimoth Plantation Colony, the first successful and continuous settlement of the English-speaking people in North America. This organization advocates for Civil War battlefield site preservation through fund-raising and consciousness-raising (i.e., education). Recent Battlefield Preservation Fund recipients include the Civil War Trust for preservation work at Brandy Station, Virginia Battlefield and preservation work at Gettysburg Battlefield National Park.

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National Park Trust
The National Park Trust (NPT) is dedicated to preserving parks today and creating park stewards for tomorrow and is the nation’s only private, nonprofit organization dedicated to the completion, and the full appreciation, of the American system of local, state and national parks through the identification of key land acquisition and preservation needs. As people spend more time indoors and as successive generations grow up with less of a connection to nature a need to build greater awareness and appreciation for the importance of the country’s public lands and parks. The NPT’s vision is based on the belief that there is a necessity to engage young people with treasured natural areas.

Since 1983, the NPT has worked on more than 200 projects and will continue to be at the very heart of the nation’s efforts to preserve, protect and enhance its system of parks at the local, state and national level. For the past three decades, the NPT has supported and assisted in acquiring inholdings and in developing public and private partnerships to promote the acquisition and protection of parks, wildlife refuges, historic landmarks, public lands and waterways. The NPT is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All donations are tax deductible.

In 1991, National Park Trust acquired 24 acres of land for the Minute Men National Park in Massachusetts for the Lexington and Concord Battlefield of the Revolutionary War.

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Land Trusts
There are 99 land trusts operating within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. While many land trusts work strictly in nature conservation, some have resources and partner with other nonprofit organizations, municipalities and small groups to conserve land containing historically significant cultural resources. A full list of Massachusetts land trusts can be found here: www.findalandtrust.org/states/massachusetts25/land_trusts#statewide

The Trustees of Reservations
The Trustees of Reservations preserve for public use and enjoyment, properties of exceptional scenic, historic and ecological value in Massachusetts. Since 1890, the Trustees have worked to protect the distinct character of Massachusetts communities and inspire a commitment to a special place. Areas of interest include land, history and culture, community, the natural world, learning and discovery and sustainability. The organization has helped save nearly 25,000 acres within the state through donations of land and conservation easements. There are many options when giving land to the trustees— including giving land that might not be worthy of conservation but which can be resold to benefit land conservation. A donation can provide significant income tax, estate tax and capital gains tax benefits. Land can be given during a lifetime or it can be left through a will and can be donated in whole or as a small parcel of the property in question.

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MASSACHUSETTS NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS

The Freedom’s Way National Heritage Area
The Freedom’s Way National Heritage Area includes communities in Massachusetts and New Hampshire that share unique historical, natural and cultural resources. The region is home to a series of historic events that influenced democratic forms of governance and intellectual traditions that underpin concepts of American freedom, democracy, conservation and social justice. The 45 cities and towns within the National Heritage Area share common themes that have contributed toward this special landscape of American history. The National Heritage Area promotes three specific themes: Native Landscape, New England Landscape and Landscape of Democracy— all managed by the Freedom Way Heritage Association.

The first theme, Native Landscape, is about the land: the geological events that shaped the landscape of the Native Americans for thousands of years. It is also the story of the changes wrought by the past 300 years and the development of a conservation movement that includes Henry David Thoreau, Benton MacKay and the present-day efforts of people like Marion Stoddart and John Hansen Mitchell. The second theme, New England Landscape, is about the ways people shaped the landscape to their use and, in turn, how the landscape shaped their society. From early trading posts grew small villages with houses clustered together for protection and common needs. These clusters included churches, inns, general stores and taverns. The third theme, Landscape of Democracy, is defined by the history of the ideas formulated by some of America’s visionaries and experimenters who lived in Freedom’s Way. The Freedom’s Way area has a long history of social and intellectual innovation including: the emergence of a democratic vision that led to the American Revolution; a tradition of religious freedom and experimentation; and nationally influential movements for conservation, social justice, abolitionism and the American Renaissance of the 19th century.
Essex National Heritage Area

The Essex National Heritage Area encompasses the 34 cities and towns of Essex County, a 500-square, mile region just north of Boston, Massachusetts. The county was officially designated a National Heritage Area by an act of the U.S. Congress in 1996, in recognition of the important role that the county played in American history and the significant heritage resources that still exist in the region. It also authorized the establishment of the Essex National Heritage Commission as the nonprofit steward of the Area. Its mission is to preserve, promote and enhance the historic, cultural and natural resources of Essex County for the benefit of all who live, work and visit the Area. To achieve this, the Commission works collaboratively with community leaders and organizations throughout the Area to ensure that the authentic story of Essex County has meaning and value for current and future generations.

The Commission develops public/private partnerships that support the hundreds of heritage organizations and sites in the 34 communities within the Heritage Area. Bringing together organizations diverse in size, budget, mission and experience, Essex Heritage provides a structure that respects, promotes and sustains regional resources and works to make those resources integral to residents’ lives and visitors’ experiences. The Essex National Heritage Area preserves and interprets three themes of national significance to American history: Early settlement and the first contact between native peoples and colonists (17th century); Great Age of Sail and America’s rise as an international trading power (18th and 19th centuries); Industrial Revolution—with an emphasis on textile and shoe manufacturing and the birth of the labor movement (19th–20th centuries).

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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.
This project was funded in part through a grant from the American Battlefield Protection Program and the National Park Service.