



**CIVIL WAR TRUST**

*Saving America's Civil War Battlefields*

**Civilwar.org**

# Michigan

Battlefield Preservation  
2015 Potential Funding Sources



## Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Saving Michigan's Battlefields	5
State Government Funding Programs	5
Private Funding Programs	10
Civil War Trust Contacts	12

# 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 Michigan's Battlefields

## *The American Revolution and The War of 1812*

In Michigan, there are six War of 1812 battlefield sites listed through the studies completed by the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP). In 1875, the site of the 1814 Battle of Mackinac Island became the first battlefield protected within a national park. This battlefield is the only Priority I battlefield listed with the ABPP. Classified as a Class B site, Mackinac Island Battlefield is located on Mackinac Island, Michigan, as part of Mackinac Island State Park Historic Parks, a National Historic Landmark owned and operated by the Mackinac Island State Commission.

There are three Priority II War of 1812 battlefields in Michigan. The first is the Battle of Fort Michilimackinac located in present-day Mackinaw City, Michigan, and is classified as a Class B site. This battlefield is also a part of Mackinac Island State Park Historic Parks and part of the National Historic Landmark area owned and operated by Mackinac Island State Commission. The second Priority II battlefield is the Brownstown Battlefield located in Brownstown, Michigan. This battlefield is classified as a Class C site and is not currently protected or governed by any entity. The third Priority II battlefield is the River Raisin Battlefield located in Monroe, Michigan. River Raisin Battlefield has been a Michigan Historic Site since 1956, but was officially added to the National Park Service (NPS) in 2009 as River Raisin National Battlefield Park, when the Monroe County Historical Society donated 45 acres to the NPS. River Raisin Battlefield is classified as a Class B site according to the ABPP.

The last two War of 1812 battlefield sites are classified as commemorative opportunities according to the American Battlefield Protection Program as they have been significantly fragmented or destroyed to the point that no land should be acquired for a battlefield, but there is potential for a commemorative marker. The first site eligible for commemorative opportunities is the Monguagon Battlefield located in Trenton, Michigan, which is classified as a Class B site. The second site eligible for commemorative opportunities is the Battlefield for the Siege of Detroit located in Detroit, Michigan, and is classified as a Class A site according to the American Battlefield Protection Program. Also in Michigan there are three additional historic properties associated with the War of 1812. While there are no principal battlefields from the American Revolution in the state, there are three additional properties associated with that war. No Civil War sites are in the state of Michigan.

## **STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING PROGRAMS**

### *Michigan Department of Transportation*

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) houses the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). Established in 2012, TAPS which is a competitive grant program that funds projects such as nonmotorized paths, streetscapes and historic preservation of transportation facilities that enhance Michigan's intermodal transportation system and provide safe alternative transportation options. These investments support place-based economic development by offering transportation choices, promoting walkability and improving quality of life. Eligible activities include:

- Facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists, including traffic calming and other safety improvements
- Safe routes for non-drivers
- Conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails
- Turnouts, overlooks and viewing areas
- Historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities
- Inventory, control or removal of outdoor advertising
- Vegetation management practices in transportation rights of way

- Archaeological activities
- Environmental mitigation activities
- Boulevards in the right of way of former interstates or other divided highways

The program uses federal transportation funds designated by Congress for these type of activities. Approximately \$23 million is available annually. Of this, approximately \$16.5 million is available through a competitive grant process administered by the MDOT Office of Economic Development (OED). Six and a half million is available through a competitive grant process administered by metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) in urban areas with populations greater than 200,000. The program is a matching grant, of which applicants are responsible for matching 20 percent of the project costs. Eligible applicants include county road commissions, cities, villages, regional transportation authorities, transit agencies, state and federal natural resource or public land agencies and tribal governments. MDOT may partner with a local agency to apply for funding and implement the project. Other organizations such as townships or trail groups, may work with an eligible agency to apply

The MDOT funded \$350,000 to the Mackinac Island State Park Commission to purchase development rights and scenic easements. Of those funds, \$178,500 are through the federal Department of Transportation program, and \$70,000 through MDOT combined with an already \$100,000 matching grant award from the Department of Natural Resources of Michigan Trust Fund.

Contact the proper regional grant coordinator for more information at:

[www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/MDOT\\_Economic\\_Development\\_Fund\\_Contact\\_263523\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/MDOT_Economic_Development_Fund_Contact_263523_7.pdf)

Michigan Department of Transportation  
State Transportation Building  
Phone: (517) 373-2090

### *Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund*



The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has a program dedicated to the public acquisition of lands for resource protection and public outdoor recreation. In 2012, the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) approved 22 land acquisitions totaling \$14.5 million dollars in grant assistance. The Trust Fund began as the Kammer Recreational Land Trust Fund Act of 1976 via P.A. 204 of 1976. Act 204 created the Michigan Land Trust Fund (MLTF) program to provide a source of funding for the public acquisition of lands for resource protection and public outdoor recreation. Funding was derived from royalties on the sale and lease of state-owned mineral rights. Approximately \$30–35 million is available for grants each year. Available funds are dependent on revenue, investment earnings and interest accruing to the Trust Fund in a particular Fiscal Year. Development project minimum/maximum grant amount: \$15,000 to \$300,000. There is no minimum/maximum limit on land acquisition grants. Both Development and Land Acquisition projects require a 25 percent match of total project cost from the applicant. Applications for MNRTF assistance are accepted annually and accepted from both local units of government and state agencies, including the land managing divisions of the DNR. Applications are due in April and are reviewed and scored by Grants Management of the DNR. Final grant recommendations are made by the MNRTF Board and submitted to the state legislature for approval and appropriation of funds.

Steve DeBrabander  
Grant Section Manager  
Department of Natural Resources  
Finance and Operations Division  
Grants Section

P.O. Box 30425  
Lansing, MI 48909  
Phone: (517) 373-9125

*email: Debrabanders@michigan.gov*

Or contact the proper regional grant coordinator for more information at: [www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/GRANT\\_COORDINATR\\_REGIONAL\\_REPS-2011\\_343049\\_7.pdf?updated=010213](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/GRANT_COORDINATR_REGIONAL_REPS-2011_343049_7.pdf?updated=010213)

---

### ***The Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program***

The State of Michigan's Department of Agriculture and Rural Development has a farmland and open space conservation program that can operate in the following capacities:

- Easements
- Farmland Development Rights Agreements: A temporary restriction on the land between the State and a landowner, voluntarily entered into by a landowner, preserving the land for agriculture in exchange for certain tax benefits and exemptions for various special assessments.
- Conservation Easement Donations: A permanent restriction on the land between the State and a landowner voluntarily entered into by a landowner, preserving the land for either open space or agriculture.
- Local Open-Space Easement: A temporary restriction on the land between the local government and a landowner, voluntarily entered into by a landowner, preserving the land as open space in exchange for certain tax benefits and exemptions for various special assessments.
- Designated Open-Space Easement: A temporary restriction on specially designated lands between the State and a landowner, voluntarily entered into by a landowner, preserving the land as open space in exchange for certain tax benefits and exemptions for various special assessments.
- Agricultural Preservation Fund: A fund established to provide grants to eligible local units of government for the purchase of agricultural conservation easements through Purchase of Development Rights programs (PDRs) to preserve farmland and provide funds for the state PDR program if a fund balance of greater than \$5 million remains after making grants to local units of government and providing for administrative costs.

A seven-member board, appointed by the governor, oversees the program and is responsible for the distribution of the grants. The board makeup includes: the directors of the Departments of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Environment, or their designees, two individuals representing agricultural interests and three individuals representing the general public. The Fund is funded by proceeds from the payback of property tax credit benefits when Farmland Development Rights Agreements are terminated.

Elizabeth Juras  
Agricultural Preservation Fund/Conservation Easement Donations  
Michigan Department of Agriculture  
Environmental Stewardship Division  
P.O. Box 30449  
Lansing, MI 48909

Phone: (517) 373-3328; Fax: (517) 335-3131

[juarase@michigan.gov](mailto:juarase@michigan.gov)

[http://www.michigan.gov/mdard/0,4610,7-125-1599\\_2558-10301--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdard/0,4610,7-125-1599_2558-10301--,00.html)

### *Washtenaw County Natural Areas Preservation Program*



The Washtenaw County Natural Areas Preservation Program (NAPP) purchases unique natural areas to ensure their preservation for the benefit of all county residents, plants, animals and people. The NAPP was established in 2000 by the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners through the passage of Natural Areas Ordinance No. 128. The ordinance provides procedures and standards for the purchase and protection of natural areas by the county. In 2010, voters chose to renew the county-wide, one-quarter mill tax that funds the program. Funding will continue through 2021. The Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission (WCPARC) manages the program, identifying and caring for lands with special ecological, recreational and educational benefits. The program goal is to identify lands which, through long-term preservation, will:

- Protect and preserve the natural, ecological diversity/heritage of Washtenaw County
- Complement the existing network of publicly and privately protected lands
- Maximize the public benefit

Since the program's inception, 2,241 acres have been saved. The acquisition process begins when landowners nominate their property to the program. Properties recommended by the Natural Areas Technical Advisory Committee (NATAC) or the Agricultural Lands Preservation Advisory Committee (ALPAC) are reviewed by the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission and the local unit of government where the land is located. If the Commission decides to proceed with the acquisition, the landowner will be made an offer at fair market value, as established by a certified appraiser.

Lands purchased with NAPP funds are owned and maintained by the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. The WCPARC also partners with other land preservation organizations to find creative ways to protect and preserve natural areas.

Robert Tetens, Director

Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Department

2230 Platt Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48104

P.O. Box 8645, Ann Arbor, MI 48107

Phone: (734) 971-6337

*email: [parks@ewashtenaw.org](mailto:parks@ewashtenaw.org)*

*[http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/parks\\_recreation/napp/pr\\_natac.html](http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/parks_recreation/napp/pr_natac.html)*

---

### *Michigan Historic Preservation Fund*

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 provides federal government funds for projects designed to identify, assess, designate and protect districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects significant in the history, architecture, archaeology, engineering and culture of the United States. The funds, received annually from the National Park Service of the U.S. Department of the Interior, are administered by Michigan's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Michigan Historical Center. The Historic Preservation Fund is the source of a 60-40 matching grant-in-aid program. The federal funds provided through the grant must be matched by the grant recipient with private funds, local government funds, in-kind services, state funds, certain federal funds (limitations apply), donated services and/or donated equipment or material. Each year the SHPO staff



develops broad goals for the Historic Preservation Program, based upon the Michigan Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan. Projects that effectively address these goals in the following areas are eligible for funding:

**Survey Projects:** The inventory of historic and archaeological sites may be conducted as intensive-level research or thematic identification.

**Nominations:** Preparation of single site, historic district or multiple property nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, the official listing of the nation's cultural resources worthy of preservation.

**Planning:** Planning projects establish historic contexts as the basis for resource identification, evaluation and registration. They also establish management goals and set priorities for preservation efforts.

**Public Education:** Activities may include providing information to the community about local historic resources and strategies for their protection.

**Restoration Planning:** Projects include plans and specifications, feasibility studies, historic structures reports, facade recommendations and marketing studies for buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**Development:** Projects include the protection, stabilization, preservation, restoration or rehabilitation of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



*Fort Michilimackinac*

Such projects, however, may be funded only when the conditions regulating the annual federal appropriation will allow this activity.

Eligible applicants include all certified local governments in the state of Michigan. Applications are due December 1 and reviewed by the Michigan Historic Preservation Review Board.

Denise Sachau  
Grants Manager and Budget Analyst  
Michigan State Historic Preservation Office  
702 W. Kalamazoo St.  
P.O. Box 30740  
Lansing, MI 48909-8240  
Phone: (517) 373-1904

*email: SachauD1@michigan.gov*

*[http://www.michigan.gov/mshda/0,4641,7-141-54317\\_19320\\_61958---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mshda/0,4641,7-141-54317_19320_61958---,00.html)*

## ***PRIVATE FUNDING PROGRAMS***

### ***Michigan Historic Preservation Network***

Founded in 1981, the Michigan Historic Preservation Network offers a preservation easement program for property owners interested in preserving the natural character of a place. Properties eligible for easement donation include agricultural, industrial, commercial or residential structures and historically important acreage. In addition, properties must meet one of the following requirements: listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places or Potential National Register Properties. Buildings, structures or sites considered eligible for the National Register, or located within a National Register Historic District and certified by the secretary of the Interior as a contributing element of that district or deemed to constitute a “historically important land area” or Other properties. Other buildings, structures or sites can be considered for easement donations if considered to be of local architectural or historical significance.

Nancy Finegood  
Executive Director  
Michigan Historic Preservation Network  
313 East Grand River Ave.  
Lansing, MI 48906  
Phone: (517) 371-8080; Fax: (517) 371-9090  
*email: [info@mhpn.org](mailto:info@mhpn.org)*  
*[www.mhpn.org](http://www.mhpn.org)*

---

### ***Civil War Round Table of Ann Arbor***

No Civil War battles occurred in the state of Michigan. However, Michigan-based groups have worked for several decades to help preserve Civil War history. These organizations raise funds through monthly raffles or other events to donate to the Civil War Trust to aid in preservation of Civil War battle sites. Active donating organizations include the Abraham Lincoln Civil War Round Table of Michigan and the Ann Arbor Civil War Trust Round Table which recently donated funds to the Civil War Trust in acquiring land at Brandy Station, Virginia.

Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table  
Meeting Place: St. Joseph Mercy Hospital  
Administration Building Auditorium

5305 Elliott Dr.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48197  
*email: alincoln@comcast.net*  
*www.aacwrt.org*

### *Land Trusts*



There are 33 land trusts operating within the state of Michigan. 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 Michigan land trusts can be found here: [www.findalandtrust.org/states/michigan26/land\\_trusts#statewide](http://www.findalandtrust.org/states/michigan26/land_trusts#statewide)

### *Raisin Valley Land Trust*

The Raisin Valley Land Trust (RVLT) is a local, private, nonprofit corporation dedicated to the preservation of natural areas and farmland in the River Raisin watershed. Founded in 1992, the Trust relies on donations of time, money, conservation easements and property to meet its goals. The Trust also participates in local efforts aimed at maintaining Raisin Valley rural communities. The RVLT is recognized by the State of Michigan and the IRS as a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization that offers individual landowners a legal, voluntary and independent way to control land development. The donation of property or conservation easements to the RVLT guarantees valuable natural and historic resources are preserved for future generations. The RVLT's board is made up of residents from communities within the River Raisin watershed and assumes guardianship of easements and properties donated to the RVLT. The Trust is also interested in donations of property or conservation easements that qualify under one or more of the following guidelines:

- Property in Lenawee, Washtenaw, Jackson or Hillsdale Counties that are within or near the River Raisin watershed
- Property contains a significant amount of primarily natural open space or farmland.
- Property provides significant wildlife habitat and/or scenic views
- Preservation of the property will assist in maintaining or improving surface water quality
- Property includes an important historical feature
- Land is free of toxic waste, incompatible deed restrictions, and problems that make easement enforcement difficult

Raisin Valley Land Trust  
126 E. Church St.  
Adrian, MI 49221  
Phone: (734) 428-8108  
*email: skolon@rvlt.org*  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Raisin-Valley-Land-Trust/178567332212715>



## *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.



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