



CIVIL WAR TRUST

Saving America's Civil War Battlefields
CivilWar.org

Minnesota

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, 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 Minnesota's Battlefields

The Civil War

The 1993 Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) report identified two principal battlefield sites in the state of Minnesota. The historic tracts of these battlefields total more than 2,500 acres. Today, 100 percent of these battlefield lands retain their historic character and warrant protection. Using the priority ranking system of the CWSAC report, these two battlefields are:

Fort Ridgely (mn001) Class C

Wood Lake (mn002) Class C

The 2010 CWSAC update for Minnesota's Civil War sites found Wood Lake in excellent condition. The rural landscape has only a handful of modern buildings. The Battle of Wood Lake represents a unique moment in American history, joining two highly significant national experiences, the Civil War and U.S.-Native American relations. The Battle of Wood Lake represents the culmination of the U.S.-Dakota War in Minnesota.

Portions of the Fort Ridgely Battlefield are threatened from local mining. Of the battlefield's 1,307 acres, more than 400 acres are encompassed within the Fort Ridgely State Park, which consists of 649 acres total. Within the park, the Minnesota Historical Society administers 20 acres as the Fort Ridgely Historic Site. The remainder of the park is in recreational use with camping and picnic areas, as well as a 1920s nine-hole golf course refurbished in 2007. Fort Ridgely State Park is listed on the National Register. The listing is for the park, rather than for the battle event.

Through the Civil War Battlefield Acquisition Grants program, Congress has appropriated \$38.9 million to this program, protecting 16,600 acres in 67 battlefields in 14 states. Neither Civil War battlefield in Minnesota has received funding from this program. In 2008 and 2010, the American Battlefield Protection Program awarded Wood Lake Battlefield a total of \$89,478 for archaeological and preservation planning projects. These projects included an intensive cultural resource survey and a National Register nomination for the battlefield. The study included in-depth historical research on the battle and an assessment of the integrity of the property. The 2010 listing of the Wood Lake Battlefield on the National Register led to the application and approval of another grant by the American Battlefield Protection Program to create a preservation plan.

Nationally, in the effort to protect and interpret battlefield lands, battles between American forces and Native Americans have not received due attention. A study published by the U.S. Department of the Interior on historic places associated with Indian Wars in the Plains identified nearly 50 major engagements between U.S. troops and Native Americans. Only seven of these sites are currently listed on the National Register. One of those is the Wood Lake Battlefield Historic District, which was listed in 2010 and includes 1,113.38 acres. The Civil War Trust has helped to save 240 acres at Wood Lake.

STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING SOURCES

Legacy Funds

In 2008, Minnesota's voters passed the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment (Legacy Amendment) to the Minnesota Constitution to protect drinking water sources; protect, enhance and restore wetlands, prairies, forests and fish, game and wildlife habitat; preserve arts and cultural heritage; support parks and trails; and protect, enhance and restore lakes, rivers, streams and groundwater.

The Legacy Amendment increases the state sales tax by three-eighths of one percent beginning on July 1, 2009, and continuing until 2034. The additional sales tax revenue is distributed into four funds as follows: 33 percent to the clean water fund, 33 percent to the outdoor heritage fund (see below), 19.75 percent to the arts and cultural heritage fund (see below), and 14.25 percent to the parks and trails fund (see below). www.legacy.leg.mn/about-funds

Outdoor Heritage Funds



The Outdoor Heritage Fund “may be spent only to restore, protect, and enhance wetlands, prairies, forest and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife.” The Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council was established by the state legislature with the responsibility of providing annual funding recommendations to the legislature from the Outdoor Heritage Fund. The Fiscal Year 2015 Call for Request was issued on April 9, 2013, with a deadline for submitting on June 13, 2013. The Council received 56 proposals totaling more than \$269 million. The Fiscal Year 2015 Outdoor Heritage Council recommendation process will go through the 2014 state legislature.

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Parks and Trails Grants

The purpose of the Parks and Trail Grants program is to provide grants to local units of government to support parks and trails of regional or statewide significance. Eligible projects include acquisition, development, improvement and restoration of park and trail facilities of regional or statewide significance. All park projects must meet requirements for perpetual outdoor recreational use. Trail acquisition projects require a perpetual easement for recreational purposes. Trail development projects require a 20-year maintenance commitment by the project sponsor.

Eligible applicants include cities, counties and townships outside of the seven-county metropolitan area as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 473.121, subdivision 2. Multi-organization collaboration is not required for this program.

Grants are reimbursed up to 100 percent of the total eligible project costs. Additional consideration in the selection process will be given to applicants that provide a non-state cash match. Project costs must be incurred and paid before reimbursement can be made. Project costs become eligible for reimbursement once a contract agreement is established between the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the grantee.

The minimum grant award is \$20,000. Grant funding available: Fiscal Year 2014 funds: \$3,391,680 for the grant program. Fiscal Year 2014 funds \$4,352,000 and Fiscal Year 2015 funds \$3,045,000 for 10 legislatively designated appropriations. The complete application is due on October 25.

Grant application materials for the Park Legacy Grants and Trail Legacy Grants are available at links found at:
www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/pt_legacy.html

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Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants



The Minnesota Historical Society is the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). It administers several historic preservation grants. Among them is the Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants program. The goal of the program is to preserve and enhance

access to Minnesota's cultural and historical resources and to support projects of enduring value for the cause of history and historic preservation across the state.

The Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants program has three categories: History Projects (Collections, Digitization, Public Education, Museum and Archives, Oral History and Research), Structured grants (Microfilm/fiche, Disaster Plan, Acquire Primary Resources, Minnesota Encyclopedia Content) and Historic Preservation Projects (Heritage Tourism, Historic Properties, National Register Nominations, Survey, Preservation Planning).

Under the third category, Historic Properties projects are those that plan for and/or stabilize, restore, preserve, reconstruct and/or make accessible buildings, structures or sites that are significant to national, state or local history and that are open or highly visible to the public. Properties must be listed on the National Register of Historic Places to be eligible. Eligible projects include but are not limited to:

- Acquisition of a historic property threatened by imminent loss or destruction;
- Pre-development work for a historic building
- Preparation of a Historic Structure Report (HSR)
- Completion of a reuse study of a historic property that is vacant, threatened or underused
- Exterior building preservation work on a National Register-listed building
- Interior systems work on a National Register-listed building
- Work to make a National Register-listed building accessible
- Restoration of a historic landscape on a National Register-listed property or landscape
- Damage assessment of erosion at a National Register-listed archaeological site
- Conservation and/or stabilization of a National Register-listed archaeological site

For documentation and application requirements see:

www.legacy.mnhs.org/grants/historic-properties and www.legacy.mnhs.org/grants/application-process/apply-grant

Eligible applicants are: nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations, government units, tribes, educational organizations and institutions. Noneligible applicants are: individuals, for-profit corporations and organizations, applicants with overdue Minnesota Historical Society grants, all others not falling under “eligible applicants.”

SMALL GRANTS (\$10,000 or Less)

Also called Fast-Track Grants, the small grants are awarded more frequently. These grants primarily fund projects that can be completed within 12 months. Small grants feature a streamlined review process and more rapid turnaround of applications.

MID-SIZE GRANTS (\$10,001 to \$50,000)

Mid-size grants, more competitive than small grants, require more rigorous applications and rigorous reviews. These grants typically fund projects that can be completed within 6-18 months. There is one grant round (pre-application and final application) offered each Fiscal Year.

LARGE GRANTS (\$50,001 or More)

Like the mid-size grant option, large grants are competitive and undergo a rigorous application and review process. Grants at this level are administered in accordance with negotiated terms of a grant agreement appropriate to a project’s needs. Large grants typically fund projects that can be completed within 12-24 months. There is one grant round (pre-application and final application) offered each Fiscal Year. Providing match funding for a project is an additional consideration as part of the grant review, but is optional.

Acquisition of real property (historic property or collection) is an eligible grant activity only if the property or collection is threatened by imminent loss or destruction. The historic property or collection must be of exceptional significance to the applicant’s mission. One or more of the following scenarios must be true for the grants program to consider an application under this category:

- Imminent loss or destruction for historic properties
- Imminent structural or environmental risks (such as fire, flood, collapse, erosion, vandalism or relic collecting)
- Request for rezoning with intent to sell the property for redevelopment
- Proposed disposal of the property through public sale with intent to demolish
- Property is under a demolition order or has been declared a public nuisance
- A demolition permit has already been requested or granted

For all acquisitions:

- The applicant must seek to acquire the property through donation prior to applying for an acquisition grant.
- The applicant must identify previous failed attempts to fund the acquisition, including grants sought and fund-raising efforts.
- The cost for acquisition should be based on the fair market value of the property, documented through an appraisal less than six months old. If the cost for acquisition is less than fair market value, the grantee must submit a signed statement by the current owner stating knowledge of the fair market value (include actual value in the statement), satisfaction with the agreed-upon price and the reason(s) for accepting a lower price.

- The applicant must attest that there is an independent relationship between the seller and the applicant (i.e., there will be no actual or perceived conflict of interest or concerns about unjust enrichment between the parties)
- Costs incurred for interest on borrowed capital are not allowable costs
- The applicant must demonstrate the ability to immediately stabilize the resource (if needed)
- The applicant must describe the long-term plans for conservation, preservation and/or interpretation
- Applicant must have a purchase agreement with the seller disclosing terms to submit with the application

For historic property acquisitions:

- The applicant must explore donation of a conservation easement from the current owner to the applicant prior to applying for an acquisition grant. A conservation easement will provide protection to the property without the need for acquisition.
- Acquisition of historic properties previously receiving Minnesota Historical Society grant assistance is not allowed during the term of any standing Letters of Agreement Governing Use of Historic Sites.
- The applicant must acquire full title to the property. The Minnesota Historical Society must not be included within the chain of title.
- The acquisition must include the entire National Register boundary of the property. Deviations from the National Register boundary must be justified in the application.
- A historic property may not be acquired with the intent of moving the built resource.
- The acquired property must be publicly accessible for the term of the Letter of Agreement. Physical access to a historic property may be waived if access will incur substantial risk of harm, theft or destruction of the resource. In these instances, an alternative means of accessing the significance of the resource must be developed.

Applications for Small Grants (up to \$10,000) have rolling deadlines as shown below. Applications for Mid-size (\$10,001–\$50,000) and Large (\$50,001 and more) Grants will be awarded in two cycles, one for each Fiscal Year.

SMALL GRANTS DEADLINES

Fiscal Year 2015 Small Grants (up to \$10,000)

July 2015
October 2015
January 2015
April 2015

Fiscal Year 2015 Small Grants (up to \$10,000)

July 2015
October 2015
January 2015
April 2015

MID-SIZE AND LARGE GRANTS DEADLINES
Mid-Size (\$10,001–\$50,000) and Large (\$50,001 and more) Grants
Pre-applications due: May 2015
Final Applications due: June 2015
Review Committee meeting: August 2015

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Fort Ridgely

State Capital Grants

The Minnesota Historical Society also administers the State Capital Grants program, whose purpose is to support historic preservation projects of a capital nature. Generally, to be eligible for funding, the work must meet the following conditions:

- The expenditure funded must be for a public purpose
- The property assisted must be publicly owned
- The project expenditures funded must be for land, buildings or other improvements of a capital nature;
- The work must meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation

The primary recipients of state capital project grants are public entities as defined in state law, including county and local jurisdictions. Nonprofit organizations whose primary purpose is historical preservation and/or interpretation, and which have entered into a qualifying lease or management agreement with an eligible public entity sponsor, are also eligible to apply. State agencies or organizations primarily funded by the State of Minnesota are not eligible. The minimum grant is \$10,000, and the maximum \$100,000 to \$150,000 depending on the level of legislative funding. Funds must be matched at least 1:1. Matching funds may be cash, in-kind and/or donated services or materials contributed to the project. State funds may not be used as a match.

Pre-Application Deadline: July 2015
Final Application Deadline: September 2015
Grants Review Committee meets: October 2015

Additional information is available at: www.mnhs.org/shpo/grants/state_capital_grants/index.htm

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Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund



In 1988, 77 percent of Minnesota voters approved a constitutional amendment establishing a dedicated fund from a combination of Minnesota State Lottery proceeds and investment income. The purpose of the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) is to provide long-term funding to protect, conserve, preserve and enhance Minnesota's natural resources for public benefit. Since 1991, the ENRTF has provided more than \$360 million to more than 800 projects around the state.

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) is a 17 member appointed board whose purpose is to propose funding recommendations to the legislature for special environment and natural resources projects, primarily from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. The LCCMR has a competitive, multistep proposal and selection process. Each year a Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued for selected funding priorities based upon an adopted six-year strategic plan and ongoing information-gathering activities, including expert-led issue seminars and visits to natural resources sites around the state.

There are seven project categories, including land acquisition, delineated in the program. Land Acquisition for Habitat and Recreation proposals must address fee title or permanent conservation easement acquisition of strategic lands with high-quality natural resources, habitat, ecological value and/or recreational value and the greatest capacity to contribute multiple conservation benefits to wildlife, humans and water quality. All lands to be acquired should be part of an adopted state, regional or local natural resource plan, and a restoration/enhancement or management plan for the site must be created. Proposals should provide an explanation as to how such plans will be developed, implemented and funded. Priority will be given to projects that address one or more of the following requirements pertaining to this category:

- Efforts based on precision conservation methods and analysis that quantifiably identify the lands most critical to acquire. Precision conservation compiles and integrates data relating to terrain analysis, soil productivity, habitat potential, economic analysis, erosion potential and proximity to surface water, maximizing conservation benefits.
- Efforts involving Scientific and Natural Areas (SNA) or that aim to protect unique ecosystems or rare, endangered or threatened species.

- Efforts that enhance habitat connectivity, improve access for natural resource management or increase public access for recreation, particularly in areas of the state with limited protected public lands.
- Efforts expanding outdoor recreational opportunities by expanding on an existing state or regional park or trail.

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www.legacy.leg.mn/funds/environment-natural-resources-trust-fund

PRIVATE FUNDING SOURCES

Minnesota Land Trust



The Minnesota Land Trust is a member-supported, nonprofit conservation organization whose mission is to protect the natural and scenic heritage of Minnesota through public-private partnerships. Since 1991, the Minnesota Land Trust has been working with landowners and local communities to protect Minnesota's increasingly threatened lands and waters. The Trust works to:

- Protect high-quality natural and scenic land, permanently
- Assist communities, organizations and grassroots groups in conservation efforts— from land restoration to the creation of trails and open spaces
- Teach, train and engage others to ensure that Minnesota's "culture of conservation" remains strong and well funded.

The Minnesota Land Trust has identified priority areas around the state and works with willing landowners to conserve parcels of privately owned farms, forests and undeveloped properties. The Trust also works with local communities and park districts to protect their open spaces forever through conservation easements. Additionally, the Trust has completed numerous conservation design projects with developers and the local communities to help create conservation developments. In more than 35 of these residential communities the Trust holds conservation easements over the shared trails, shoreline and open space. Website: www.mnland.org

Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota

The Parks & Trails Council is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to acquire, protect and enhance critical lands for the public's use and benefit. Since 1954, the Council has been instrumental in adding more than 10,000 acres of land valued at \$31 million to key areas within the state's vast network of parks and trails. The 3,400-member organization has become the state's most powerful voice for parks and trails, thanks to its working relationships with grassroots community groups, legislators and local governments throughout the state.

The Parks & Trails Council utilizes monies contributed to the Samuel H. Morgan Land Acquisition Fund. Essentially, the fund functions as a revolving account as land owned by the Parks and Trails Council transfers to a public agency. The land is sold at the purchase cost so that funds can be returned to the account, where they are used to purchase the next critical parcel. The public agency pays only the direct expense and principal balance while

the Parks & Trails Council absorbs related costs and makes an occasional donation of land when it can be used for leveraging additional funds or when it is necessary for completing a transaction. Volunteer attorneys and their firms from around the state generously donate all legal expenses.

There are six land trusts operating in the state of Minnesota. 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 Minnesota land trusts can be found here: www.findalandtrust.org/states/minnesota27/land_trusts#statewide

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.

PHIL THOMASON, Principal
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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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Front cover: Wood Lake Battlefield