North Carolina

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 North Carolina’s Battlefields

The American Revolution and the War of 1812

In North Carolina, there are five Principal battlefield sites from the Revolutionary War. Of these, two are Priority I sites (Pyle’s Defeat and Guilford Courthouse) and four are Priority II sites (Moore’s Creek, Ramsour’s Mill, Cowan’s Ford and Wilmington). One site, Cherokee Middle Towns, needs further study to determine integrity, condition and threats. In Gen. Griffith Rutherford’s campaign against the Cherokees, 1,000 men were detached to destroy the Cherokee Middle Towns. The attack devastated these Cherokee villages within North Carolina. There are also 15 additional historic sites associated with the Revolutionary War in North Carolina. While there are no principal War of 1812 battlefields in North Carolina, there is one additional historic property, Fort Johnston Barracks, associated with the war.

The Civil War

The 1993 Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) report identified 20 principal battlefield sites in the state of North Carolina. The historic tracts of these battlefields total 240,000 acres. Today, 72 percent or 173,000 acres, retain sufficient integrity to warrant protection. Using the priority ranking system of the CWSAC report, these 20 battlefields are:

- Albemarle Sound (nc013) Class C
- Averasborough (nc019) Class C
- Bentonville Class A (nc020) (National Historic Landmark)
- Fort Anderson (nc010) Class D
- Fort Fisher (nc014) Class A (National Historic Landmark)
- Fort Fisher (nc15) Class C (National Historic Landmark)
- Fort Macon (nc004) Class C
- Goldsborough Bridge (nc009) Class C
- Hatteras Inlet (nc001) Class C
- Kinston (nc007) Class D
- Monroe’s Crossroads (nc018) Class D
- New Berne (nc003) Class B
- Plymouth (nc012) Class C
- Roanoke Island (nc002) Class B
- South Mills (nc005) Class D
- Tranters Creek (nc006) Class D
- Washington (nc011) Class D
- White Hall (nc008) Class D
- Wilmington (nc016) Class D
- Wyse Fork (nc017) Class D

The 2011 CWSAC update for North Carolina’s Civil War sites found only one Priority I Civil War battlefield in North Carolina. The Bentonville site remains rural and remarkably intact. The site has retained its integrity due to a combination of little development and proactive protection of 1,200 acres by the state.

Three Civil War battlefields in North Carolina, Roanoke Island, Monroe’s Crossroads and Wyse Fork, are Priority II sites. Roanoke Island has experienced development that has encroached on the battlefield, but several parcels are protected by the National Park Service and the State. Most of Monroe’s Crossroads is encompassed within the...
U.S. Army’s Fort Bragg Military Reservation. Wyse Fork, though currently in good condition, needs immediate attention to thwart the advance of development along U.S. 70 and a proposed Kinston bypass.

In North Carolina there are six Priority II battlefields, experiencing varying types and degrees of pressure. The Battle of Albemarle Sound was entirely a naval engagement, and residential development and construction of a bridge have occurred in the area. At the Averasborough site, subdivision of historically agricultural tracts has been and continues to be the trend. Averasborough, along with the South Mills and Tranter’s Creek sites, are prime candidates for immediate action. At Fort Anderson, little of the land portion of the battlefield survives in the area of the Neuse and Trent Rivers, though areas of the engagement are still evident. Most of the Fort Macon site is protected with the Fort Macon State Park or within the waters of the Rachel Carson Estuarine Sanctuary.

The remaining 10 battlefields in North Carolina are lost or severely fragmented. Only Cape Hatteras Inlet Batteries and White Hall remain intact. The former is either within the waters of the Atlantic Ocean or protected within the Cape Hatteras National Seashore. About 70 acres of the White Hall site are intact within the Cliffs of Neuse State Park.

As of 2009, 9,500 acres at seven Civil War battlefields sites in North Carolina were listed in the National Register. Three of these battlefields are also National Historic Landmarks. The updated report for North Carolina recommended nomination of the 13 additional battlefields, accounting for 163,200 acres.

The Conservation Fund (see national listings) has helped to protect more than 80 acres of what was the Confederate line at the Battle of Averasborough with a conservation easement funded by a grant from the North Carolina Farmland Preservation Program (see below). The Fund’s North Carolina partners also included the Averasboro Battlefield Commission, the Sandhills Area Land Trust and the Cumberland County Conservancy.

At Bentonville, the Conservation Fund and its partners have protected three critical areas, now within the Bentonville Battleground State Historic Site. Ross W. Lampe of Smithfield donated an acre, which includes rifle pits, to the Fund. In turn, the Fund donated the land to the battleground in 1991. A loan from the Fund’s Battlefield Revolving Fund, established by grants from the Gilder Foundation, enabled the Bentonville Battlefield Historical Association to purchase eight more acres near the Harper House, a field hospital during the battle, and add them to the battleground. The Fund worked with the State of North Carolina, which purchased an additional eight acres of Harper Farm to add to the battleground. The Bentonville battle was the site where Confederate Joseph E. Johnston engaged Maj. Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman. The adversaries had previously battled in May 1864 in north Georgia as Sherman advanced towards Atlanta. Johnston’s Confederates were again defeated in the battle of Bentonville on March 19 - 21, 1865, and Sherman continued to advance through the Carolinas.

The Civil War Trust has also been involved with protecting battlefield land at Bentonville. In 2013, the Trust preserved 67 acres at the site of the Army of Tennessee line on the first day of battle. In total, the Trust is responsible for protection of 1,629 acres of the Bentonville Battlefield. The Trust has protected battlefield land at three other North Carolina Civil War sites. It helped to preserve 492 to Averasborough, 26 acres at Wyse Fork and 25 acres at New Bern.

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. Four Civil War battlefields in North Carolina have received funding from this program. For the purchase of 1,134 acres collectively at Averasborough, Bentonville, Kinston and Wyse Fork, $2.91 million were matched with $2.83 million in leveraged funds. Since 1992, the American Battlefield Protection Program has awarded more than $207,000 among several North Carolina Civil War battlefields for preservation planning projects.
STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING SOURCES

North Carolina's former state source of funding, the Natural Heritage Trust Fund (NHTF), has been discontinued and folded into the Clean Water Management Trust Fund (see below), a division of the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR). The state is currently drafting criteria for funding under the newly reconstituted program. Funding should be available in early 2014.

The NHTF has awarded more than $335 million to 528 projects to help protect more than 300,000 acres of lands with outstanding natural and/or cultural heritage value. For some projects, the NHTF is the only funder.

The primary source of funding for the NHTF was the state excise tax on real estate conveyances. The NHTF received 25 percent of the state’s portion of the $2 per $1,000 value deed stamp tax. Each county retained half this tax, while the state received 50 percent, minus allowable administrative costs. The deed stamp tax provided 65 percent of the funding for the NHTF.

The Trust fund’s second major source of funding was a portion of the additional fee charged for personalized license plates. The NHTF also received a portion of the fee for three specialty license plates: “First in Forestry,” “State Parks” and out-of-state college specialty license plates. The fees from these license plates provided 35 percent of the funding for the NHTF.

As the NHTF becomes folded into the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, the program’s priority will continue to be protection of land having outstanding natural or cultural heritage values and identified as having state or national significance.

Clean Water Management Trust Fund

The Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF) was established by the General Assembly in 1996. The Natural Heritage Trust Fund has been repealed, and the CWMTF has been authorized to acquire lands with ecological, cultural and historic significance to the state of North Carolina. The program provides grant assistance to conservation nonprofits, local governments and state agencies for the protection of surface waters, significant ecological, cultural and historic sites and buffers around bases to protect the military mission.

In the 2013 grant cycle, the program received 91 applications of which 38 were for acquisition. Applications for funding are due by close of business on February 1 of each year. A state agency, a local government or a nonprofit corporation whose primary purpose is the conservation, preservation and restoration of North Carolina’s environmental and natural resources is eligible to apply for a grant. For application information: http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/ifs/ftp/cwrf/

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1651 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1651

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Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund

The Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund helps to protect North Carolina’s agricultural economy by providing grants to county governments and nonprofit groups for conservation easements. The state General Assembly passed legislation establishing the Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund in 2005. These grants ensure that working lands stay productive while also providing necessary water recharge areas, wildlife habitat and open landscapes.

Application deadline varies based on availability of funds. Grants are 80/20 matching. Funds may be coupled with federal farm and forest protection programs. Maximum grant amount is $100,000.

In 2012 (Grant Cycle V), the Trust Fund awarded grants totaling more than $2 million to support 10 easements protecting 939 acres across the state.

The Trust Fund shall consist of all monies received for the purpose of purchasing agricultural conservation easements or funding programs that promote the development and sustainability of farming and assist in the transition of existing farms to new farm families, or monies transferred from counties or private sources. Between 2013 and 2015, $1 million each year shall be included in this fund for the following counties: Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga and Yancey.

Environmental Enhancement Grants

The Environmental Enhancement Grants (EEG) Program was incepted in January 2003 as a result of consultation between Attorney General Roy Cooper and Smithfield Foods, Inc. The EEG program awards grants to projects that reflect the goals of the Smithfield-Attorney General Agreement to improve and preserve the natural resources of North Carolina and to develop and implement environmentally superior swine waste management technologies. The EEG Program funds immediate restoration or improvement projects to restore and protect impaired, degraded or endangered surface waters, groundwater and other natural resources. In addition, the EEG Program promotes long-term environmental enhancement programs to conserve and protect targeted natural areas. EEG proposals for projects located throughout North Carolina will be considered; however, consistent with the Smithfield Agreement, priority will be given to projects that directly improve the water quality in the Cape Fear, Lumber, Neuse, Tar Pamlico and White Oak River Basins.
The applicant must be either a nonprofit organization or institution with documented 501(c)(3) status whose primary purpose is the conservation, preservation and restoration of North Carolina’s environmental and natural resources or part of the federal, state or local government. The EEG Program identifies two environmental enhancement program areas determined by the attorney general to be important steps toward protecting and restoring the environment of North Carolina. The program areas are: (1) aid for environmental areas that need immediate restoration or improvement and (2) protection of North Carolina’s natural resources through long-term conservation programs. Applicant organizations may submit multiple proposals. Each proposal, however, must address one of the two Program Areas.

Each proposal must address four content areas:

1. Organizational structure and management information
2. Project description and technical specifications
3. Results measurement process
4. Project costs and estimated budget

The EEG Program distributes grant funds as reimbursements to organizations for funds spent in the course of the project. It is the policy of the EEG Program not to disburse funds in advance of work completed. Letters of intent for 2013 EEG grants are due by December 2. Proposals for EEG grants due by 11 a.m. on January 17, 2014. Applicants may request up to $500,000 for their proposed project. The EEG Program distributes grant funds as reimbursements to organizations for funds spent in the course of the project.

All proposal materials must be submitted electronically to EEG@ncdoj.gov. Applicants should direct all questions regarding this RFP or the EEG Program to:

M. Shawn Maier
Associate Attorney General
Phone: (919) 716-6600
email: EEG@ncdoj.gov
www.ncdoj.gov/EEG.aspx

Bentonville
North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund
The North Carolina General Assembly established the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) on July 16, 1994, to fund improvements in the state’s park system, to fund grants for local governments and to increase the public’s access to the state’s beaches. The Parks and Recreation Authority, a 15-member appointed board, was also created to allocate funds from PARTF to the state parks and to the grants program for local governments. PARTF is the primary source of funding to build and renovate facilities in the state parks as well as to buy land for new and existing parks.

The PARTF program also provides dollar-for-dollar grants to local governments. Recipients use the grants to acquire land and/or to develop parks and recreational projects that serve the general public.

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PRIVATE FUNDING SOURCES

North Carolina Coastal Land Trust
Founded in 1992, the North Carolina Coastal Land Trust is a nonprofit organization that works with landowners who wish to conserve lands with scenic, recreational, historic and/or ecological value. The North Carolina Coastal Land Trust focuses on lands along the coast. These lands have included beaches that become state parks, clean water supply, wildlife habitat, working farms and beautiful nature parks. Since establishment, the Trust has saved close to 50,000 acres of land.

Among the Coastal Land Trust’s success stories is Foscue Plantation. In 1999, the Trust preserved 648 acres of woodlands and cypress gum swamp surrounding the 1824 house at the plantation. Located on the Trent River in Pollocksville, the antebellum dwelling retains a high degree of architectural integrity, as well as its original furnishings. Built by Simon Foscue, Jr., the home was one of the first in the state added the National Register of Historical Places in 1971. The property was presented the Governor’s Award for Forestry Conservation by the North Carolina Wildlife Federation in 2010. Tours are available on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and by appointment.

For other conservation projects by the Coastal Land Trust, see the following link: www.coastallandtrust.org/places-to-visit

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There are 30 land trusts operating in the State of North Carolina. 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 North Carolina land trusts can be found here: http://findalandtrust.org/states/northcarolina37/land_trusts#statewide
NORTH CAROLINA’S NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area

Designated by Congress in 2003, the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area celebrates the cultural history of the state’s mountain area. Themes reflecting this mountain heritage include music, agriculture, crafts, natural landscapes and Cherokee culture. The Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Partnership manages the Heritage Area and offers grants to eligible entities within the 25 counties plus the Cherokee Qualla Boundary. While these grants may not be used to acquire real property, there is a component for preservation planning for farmland and open space by cities, counties or region. Since its inception in 2003, the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Partnership has awarded ninety grants totaling nearly $1.5 million and leveraging another $2.7 million in matching contributions from local governments and the private sector. These grants have funded projects in all 25 counties of western North Carolina.

Several war-related sites are located within the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area. The Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail commemorates the campaign that led to the Battle of Kings Mountain, a pivotal victory for the American colonies during the Revolutionary War. Also in the Heritage Area is Fort Defiance, the home of Gen. William Lenoir, a major general in the North Carolina militia, who gained fame through his written account of the Battle of Kings Mountain. Before the war, General Lenoir built a fort on the banks of the Yadkin River to protect settlers against the attacks of Cherokee Indians. The National Park Service’s report to Congress identified the Cherokee Middle Towns in the Blue Ridge Mountains as a Principal site needing further study. Cherokee heritage is a major theme of the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area.

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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.

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 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 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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