



CIVIL WAR TRUST

Saving America's Civil War Battlefields

Civilwar.org

New Jersey

Battlefield Preservation 2015 Potential 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 New Jersey's Battlefields

The American Revolution

In New Jersey, the state's 225th Anniversary of the American Revolution Celebration Commission ensures that "State government honors all pivotal events leading up to and including the anniversary of the Revolution's end in 2008." In New Jersey there are 23 Revolutionary War battlefield sites. Four are Priority I sites: Monmouth, Trenton, Princeton and Fort Lee Battlefields; three are Priority II sites: Fort Mercer, Mount Holly and Old Tappan. Four sites need further study: Wilmington, Piscataway, Springfield and HMS *Blue Mountain Valley*. Ten sites are destroyed or fragmented to such a degree only commemorative opportunities exist: Springfield I and II, Elizabethtown, New Brunswick, Paulus Hook, East River, Samptown, Rahway, Assunpink and Metuchen Meeting House. There are an additional 19 associated historic properties in the state. In New Jersey, no War of 1812 or Civil War battlefields or associated historic sites were identified.

STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING PROGRAMS

The Garden State Preservation Trust

In November 1998, voters approved a ballot initiative to preserve open space, farmland and historic sites with funding from state revenues guaranteed for the next decade via the Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund. After funds from the Garden State Preservation Trust were depleted, voters approved the Green Acres, Farmland, Blue Acres, and Historic Preservation Bond Act of 2007, authorizing \$12 million for acquisition of lands in the floodways of the Delaware River, Passaic River or Raritan River, and their respective tributaries, for recreation and conservation purposes. An additional \$24 million was approved by the voters in the Green Acres, Water Supply and Floodplain Protection, and Farmland and Historic Preservation Bond Act of 2009. The Garden State Preservation Trust provides capital and historic site management grants for a variety of preservation projects to improve and protect New Jersey's historic legacy. The Garden State Preservation Trust distributes funds to four programs: 1) the Green Acres Program, 2) the Farmland Preservation Program, 3) the New Jersey Historic Trust and 4) the Blue Acres Program. Each program has multiple components. See www.state.nj.us/gsppt

The Green Acres Program

The mission of the Green Acres Program is to achieve, in partnership with others, a system of interconnected open spaces, the protection of which will preserve and enhance New Jersey's natural environment and its historic, scenic, and recreational resources for public use and enjoyment.

Green Acres was created in 1961 to meet New Jersey's growing recreation and conservation needs. Green Acres provides funding to county and municipal governments, and nonprofit organizations to acquire land for open space and parks. Together with public and private partners, Green Acres has protected more than 650,000 acres of open space and provided hundreds of outdoor recreational facilities in communities around the state. The total acreage of protected open space across the State now exceeds 1.4 million acres. Several Green Acres Program success stories may be found at the following link: <http://nj.gov/dep/greenacres/success.html>

Green Acres provides low interest loans and grants to assist local governments in the acquisition and development of open space for recreation and conservation purposes. Green Acres non-urban acquisition loans are repayable at two percent interest over 30 years. Funds are provided for projects in several categories: Urban Aid Acquisition, Planning Incentive Acquisition, Site-Specific Incentive Acquisition and Standard Acquisition.

Urban Aid acquisitions: Urban Aid acquisition projects are eligible for a 75 percent grant and a 25 percent loan, up to the cap. Loans for Urban Aid acquisition projects are at zero percent interest, payable over 30 years.

Example: Garfield City is creating a linear park along the Passaic River, in the vicinity of the Dundee Dam, where Gen. John H. Post crossed the Passaic River during the Revolutionary War. Garfield is expanding this waterfront linear park by acquiring four parcels along the Passaic River. Future plans include the development of a passive park with a pedestrian and bicycle pathway along the river corridor, which is also being funded by Green Acres. The park will provide areas to view the Dundee Dam and abundant river wildlife. This project was utilized a \$187,800 matching grant under this program.

Planning Incentive acquisitions: This category is for local governments that have passed a tax for the acquisition of land for recreation and conservation purposes and have prepared the required Open Space and Recreation Plan to guide the expenditure of these funds. Applications are streamlined because the local government has done the required planning when preparing its Open Space and Recreation Plan, which basically serves as its application. Funding is in the form of a 50 percent matching grant up to an established cap.

Example: The Crossroads of the American Revolution Association utilized the Planning Incentive Nonprofit grant for preservation of lands within the federally designated Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area. The Association applied for a \$250,000 matching grant for land acquisition within the federally designated National Heritage Area, comprising 213 municipalities in 14 counties, extending from Bergen County to Gloucester County. The Crossroads of the American Revolution Association will partner with other preservation organizations to secure New Jersey's rare and threatened historic landscapes. The goal of the project is to create awareness of the state's distinctive Revolutionary War related cultural resources and act as a catalyst for heritage tourism and related economic development. This first application includes four projects from four heritage areas counties: Mercer, Monmouth, Hunterdon and Union Counties.

Site Specific Incentive Acquisitions: Local governments that have a dedicated open space tax but do not yet have an approved Open Space and Recreation Plan, may qualify for a 50 percent matching grant. These awards are made for a specific project site and future acquisitions require a new application.

Standard acquisitions: Local governments that have yet to pass an open space tax may qualify for a 25 percent matching grant with the balance made in a low interest loan up to the established cap. These applications are for a specific parcel.

State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program
Mail Code 501-01
P.O. Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

Farmland Preservation Program

The Farmland Preservation Program is administered by the independent State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC), which works to acquire the development rights on privately owned farmland to maintain the viability of agriculture. Through the Farmland Preservation Program, the SADC provides grants to counties, municipalities and nonprofit groups to fund the purchase of development easements on farmland and to landowners to fund up to 50 percent of the cost of soil and water conservation projects.

Sale of Development Easements : Landowners who want to continue farming their land can sell their development easements. When landowners sell development easements, they still own their land but sell the rights to develop it for anything other than agriculture. Those deed restrictions remain in force for any future owners. Most farms have entered the Farmland Preservation Program through the sale of development rights.

Donation of Development Easements : Some farmers and landowners may want to donate the development rights for all or a portion of the land they own. In certain cases, this can provide significant income and estate tax benefits. Landowners should consult an attorney, accountant or financial planner to determine how this option would affect them.

Sale of Entire Property : If a landowner wants to sell a farm outright, the SADC can purchase it at fair-market value under its fee simple program. The SADC then auctions the farm to a private owner with agricultural deed restrictions in place that ensure its permanent preservation. This option also provides other farmers with opportunities to purchase land at reasonable prices that reflect only farmland values, not development potential.

Eight-Year Preservation : Landowners can choose to voluntarily restrict development on their land for a period of eight years. Although landowners receive no payment for this, they are eligible to apply for cost-sharing grants for soil and water conservation projects, as well as for the Farmland Preservation Program's other benefits and protections.

Examples of successful projects can be found at the following link: www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/news/press/2009/index.html

Farmland Preservation Program
Phone: (609) 984-2504
Fax: (609) 633-2004
email: sadc@ag.state.nj.us
www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/farmpreserve/

Blue Acres Program

The Blue Acres Program, also administered by the Department of Environmental Protection, helps to acquire flood-prone private property in the Delaware River, Raritan River and Passaic River watersheds. Properties (including structures) that have been damaged by or may be prone to incurring damage caused by storms or storm-related flooding, or that may buffer or protect other lands from such damage, are eligible for acquisition from willing sellers.

State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program
Mail Code 501-01
P.O. Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

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Land Acquisition Chief
Phone: (609) 984-0609
email: Fawn.McGee@dep.state.nj.us
www.state.nj.us/dep/greenacres/blue_flood_ac.html

PRIVATE FUNDING PROGRAMS

Monmouth Conservation Foundation



The Monmouth Conservation Foundation (MCF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization formed with the mission to acquire, hold, preserve and protect the open lands in Monmouth County. The MCF has been preserving land and protecting the natural resources of Monmouth County for more than 36 years and has worked to protect more than 6,500 acres of open space and farmland. The Foundation itself does not own or hold land. An example of the MCF's work is Princeton Nurseries. Located in Upper Freehold Township of western Monmouth County, this 1,200-acre parcel is the single largest piece of property of existing farmlands in the county. The MCF facilitated an arrangement that added the property to county's Crosswicks Creek Park for a new state wildlife management area.

Monmouth Conservation Foundation
P. O. Box 4150
628 Middletown Lincroft Road
Lincroft, NJ 07738
Phone: (732) 671-7000, Ext. 101, Fax:(732) 671-2667
<http://monmouthconservation.org/>

Land Trusts

There are 25 land trusts operating in the state of New Jersey. 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 New Jersey land trusts can be found here: http://findalandtrust.org/states/newjersey34/land_trusts#statewide

NEW JERSEY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS

Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area

Much of the state of New Jersey is encompassed within the boundary of the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area (NHA). The Crossroads of the American Revolution Association (XRDS) is the not-for-profit organization created in 2002 to manage the NHA. Included in its boundaries are three battlefields: Monmouth Battlefield State Park, Princeton Battlefields State Park, and Red Bank Battlefield State Park. All three are National Historic Landmarks. The Monmouth and Princeton sites are administered by the New Jersey Division of Parks and Forestry; the Red Bank site is administered by Gloucester County. The American Revolution Association's mission is to increase awareness of the American Revolution in New Jersey. The organization promotes open space, historical preservation and an enhancement of economic development in the state.

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Phone: (609) 633-2060
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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
Thomason and Associates
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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
Encore Interpretive Design
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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: Monmouth