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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 Ohio’s Battlefields

The American Revolution and the War of 1812

In Ohio, there are six Revolutionary War battlefield sites listed through the studies completed by the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP). There is only one Priority I Revolutionary War battlefield. The Gnadenhutten Battlefield is located in Gnadenhutten, Ohio, and is classified as a Class A site for preservation as it is an unprotected site. There are three Priority II Revolutionary War battlefield sites. The first is Fort Laurens Battlefield located in Bolivar, Ohio. Classified as a Class C site, Fort Laurens Battlefield is owned by the Ohio Historical Society and is part of the Fort Laurens State Memorial. The second Priority II site is the Piqua Battlefield located near Springfield, Ohio, just outside of the George Rogers Clark Park (not related to George Rogers Clark National Battlefield Park). The Piqua Battlefield is classified as a Class B site according to the ABPP and is maintained by the Davidson Interpretive Center, but owned by the Ohio Historical Society. The third Priority II Revolutionary War battlefield site is the battlefield for Crawford’s Defeat in 1782. Crawford’s Defeat site is classified as a Class C site and is located in present-day Wyandot County along the Sandusky River in north-central Ohio. The battlefield site for Crawford’s Defeat is not currently maintained or protected by any entity. In Ohio, there is one Priority III battlefield, Fort Randolph, a Class C site. The final Revolutionary War site is the Lichtenau Battlefield located in Coshocton, Ohio. Lichtenau Battlefield is a site in need of further study and is classified as a Class C site according to the ABPP. Also in Ohio there is one additional historic property associated with the American Revolution; Fort Laurens, an archeological site.

There are four War of 1812 battlefield sites located in the state of Ohio. The first site is the only Priority I War of 1812 battlefield in the state and was also the location of two separate sieges in April and July of 1813. This battle site is known as Fort Meigs I and II according to the ABPP and is classified as a Class B site. The Fort Meigs Battlefield is located in present-day Perrysburg, Ohio, and lies within the Fort Meigs State Memorial Site, a 65-acre site owned by the Ohio Historical Society and operated by the Fort Meigs Association. The second War of 1812 battle site is the site of Dudley’s Defeat, which occurred during the first siege of Fort Meigs. The site for Dudley’s Defeat is located near Maumee, Ohio, just one mile northwest of Fort Meigs. The Ohio Historical Society placed a Historic Landmarker at the Maumee Public Library to commemorate the event, but the site itself is considered to be in need of further study and is classified as a Class C site according to the ABPP. The third War of 1812 battlefield is the Battle of Lake Erie, presently located six miles northwest of Put-In-Bay, Ohio. The Battle of Lake Erie was a naval battle exchange, and the site is in need for further study, but classified as a Class A site according to the ABPP. The fourth and final War of 1812 site is the Fort Stephenson Battlefield located in present-day Fremont, Ohio. The battle site has been significantly fragmented or destroyed to the point that no land should be acquired for a battlefield, but it is considered a commemorative opportunity and classified as a Class C site according to the ABPP. The Birchard Library in Fremont is located on the site of Fort Stephenson. The Ohio Historical Society, in collaboration with the Sandusky Historical Society and the City of Fremont, has placed plaques, monuments and “Old Betsy,” a cannon used in the battle, on the grounds for commemoration. Also in Ohio there are seven additional historic properties associated with the War of 1812. Finally, Fort Miami, an archeological site, is associated with both the American Revolution and the War of 1812.

The Civil War

The 1993 Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) report identified two principal battlefield sites in the state of Ohio but were not surveyed by the CWSAC or evaluated for their condition; therefore, they were not assigned priority rankings. In 2005, the ABPP surveyed these two battlefields and provided new information about
both battlefields in the updated report submitted in 2009 by the CWSAC. Using the priority ranking system of the CWSAC report, these two battlefields are:

Buffington Island (OH001) Class C
Salineville (OH002) Class D

Before the 2009 updated report by the ABPP, Buffington Island had a four-acre tract of land listed on the National Register, but no attempt for National Register nomination for Salineville has been made to date. The 2009 updated report established study boundaries for these two battlefields. The historic Buffington Island Battlefield totals 14,130 acres, and Salineville Battlefield totals 8,424 acres, for a total of 22,554 significant acres. Due to local mining and residential development, neither battlefield is completely unaltered; however, Buffington Island has suffered little alteration to its overall landscape. Salineville has been altered considerably more. During the time of the Civil War, Salineville was considered a rural landscape; however, today less than half the area is used for agricultural purposes, and nearly a quarter has been stripped for mining purposes. Most of the acreage for Salineville is privately owned and has limited protection; 11.4 acres of Buffington Island, on the other hand, is owned by the State of Ohio; the four-acre tract of land listed on the National Register of Historic Places is maintained and operated by the Ohio Historical Society.

Many nonprofits often step in to support battlefield preservation efforts when public funding is absent. There is no nonprofit taking ownership of the Salineville Battlefield; however, a newly structured organization, Buffington Island Preservation Foundation is working to support and advocate the battlefield’s preservation. Buffington Island and Salineville have not received funds through the Civil War Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants program, through which Congress has appropriated $38.9 million to this program, protecting 16,600 acres in 67 battlefields in 14 states. However, the State of Ohio has received grants from the ABPP for a preservation plan and an archaeological survey of Buffington Island. The total grant amount given for these two projects is $75,000.
STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING PROGRAMS

NatureWorks
Funded by the Ohio Park and Natural Resources Bond Issue approved by voters in 1993, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources operates the NatureWorks grant program. The program provides up to 75 percent reimbursement assistance for local government subdivisions (townships, villages, cities, counties, park districts, joint recreation districts and conservancy districts) for the acquisition, development and rehabilitation of recreational areas. At least 20 percent of the 25 percent matching funds must come from non-state or non-federal funds or may be in-kind donations. The agency must have proper control (title or at least a 15-year nonrevocable lease) to be eligible for a development or rehabilitation grant. Eligible applicants include municipalities, townships, counties, joint recreation districts, park districts and conservancy districts. Once an annual program, the NatureWorks grant program went to a biannual cycle after 2013. The next application cycle is in May 2015. Applicants may apply for NatureWorks grants and Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grants for the same project to combine funds. There is no stated minimum or maximum that can be applied for, but the average grant amount awarded in the 2012–2013 grant cycle totaled $23,787. Since NatureWorks’s inception, more than 1,300 applications have been funded totaling more than $63 million. This program also operates along with the LWCF, so any applications submitted are reviewed for both programs.

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Ohio Historical Society
A division within the Ohio Historical Society (OHS) is the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office. This office nominates properties to the National Register of Historic Places, reviews rehabilitation work to historic buildings for tax credits, reviews federally assisted projects for effects on historic properties, qualifies communities for the Certified Local Government program and provides technical assistance and advice to the public. The OHS offers two grant programs that may assist local governments and nonprofits with funds for land acquisition and/or battlefield preservation efforts. These two programs are the Certified Local Government Grants and the History Fund.

Certified Local Government Grants: Funding for grants to Certified Local Governments comes from the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Historic Preservation Fund, administered by the National Park Service, which provides financial support to State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs). Under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 10 percent of annual appropriations to Ohio is set aside for Certified Local Government (CLG) grants. A CLG may designate a third party to administer a grant, in which case the grant would be awarded directly to the third party who would then be responsible for administering the project.
Eligible activities include:

- Preparing or updating a preservation plan for a neighborhood or community
- Writing or amending preservation ordinances
- Identifying historic properties or archaeological resources through geographically or thematically based surveys
- Designating or nominating local buildings and sites to the National Register of Historic Places
- Providing workshops for property owners or technical training for community officials
- Publishing historic site inventories, design guidelines, walking tour brochures and other educational materials
- Allocating staff resources for historic preservation commissions
- Preparing pre-construction projects such as feasibility studies, drawings and specifications or historic structure reports
- Acquiring or developing properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places

Ohio CLG Grants are matching grants in which the applicant must provide the remaining 40 percent of project funds through any combination of cash, in-kind and donated services and materials. Applications are due in February, and grantees are announced in March.

History Fund: The History Fund was created to support the preservation and sharing of Ohio's heritage by funding local, regional and statewide projects, programs and events related to the broad sweep of the state's history and pre-history. The Fund is made possible by the voluntary contributions of individual Ohioans who donate a portion of their Ohio income tax refund or donate directly to OHS. The number and size of grants varies according to the amount donated. All Ohio-based, nonprofit organizations in good standing; public entities in Ohio, such as local government, public libraries and education institutions; and organizations operating Ohio Historical Society sites under “site management agreements” are eligible to apply for the History Fund. History Fund grants support projects in three categories: Organizational Development, Programs and Collections and Bricks and Mortar.

Bricks and Mortar examples include:

- Rehabilitation, restoration, protection or acquisition of historic properties and archaeological sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places or designated by local ordinance
- Building work related to the preservation of historical or archival collections, regardless of the building’s historic status
- New construction dedicated to the preservation of historical or archival collections

Grants range from $2,000 to $20,000, with a project length maximum of two years. The grant also requires that the applicant be responsible for 40 percent of the project cost in matching funds. The funds will be distributed with 20 percent at the beginning and the rest dispersed over the project’s life on a reimbursement basis. The applications will be reviewed by a panel of professionals who represent the grant program’s constituencies (local historians, historic preservationists, museum professionals, archaeologists, archivists, genealogists, etc.) and are selected by the OHS.
Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program
The Ohio Department of Agriculture and its Certified Local Sponsors partner with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) on many agricultural easements that are purchased through the Clean Ohio Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP). The Farm and Ranch Protection Program (FRPP) provides matching funds to help purchase development rights to keep productive farm and ranch land in agricultural use. Working through existing programs, the USDA provides up to 50 percent of the fair market easement value of the conservation easement. Funds for the FRPP will be awarded to the highest ranked eligible applications through a statewide competitive process. All proposed easement applications are ranked individually on their own merit. Funds will be used to reimburse the entities for up to 50 percent of the appraised fair market value of the conservation easement on approved applications.

Any state or local unit of government or nonprofit organization in Ohio can apply for FRPP funds by submitting an Application for Federal Funding (SF-424, SF-424a and SF-424b). Eligible land for the program must:

- Be privately owned
- Contain at least 50 percent prime, unique, statewide or locally important farmland
- Be subject to a pending offer or option to purchase
- Contain cropland, grassland, pasture land or forestland that contributes to the economic viability of an agricultural operation
- Not include forestland of greater than two-thirds of the easement
- Possess onsite and offsite conditions that will allow the easement to be effective in achieving the purposes of the program

The eligibility of the land and the landowner for each proposed easement must be established at the time the application is submitted for potential funding.

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www.agri.ohio.gov/farmland/docs/FRPP_Information_20100709.pdf
PRIVATE FUNDING PROGRAMS

Heritage Ohio

As Ohio’s official historic preservation and Main Street nonprofit organization, Heritage Ohio fosters economic development and sustainability through preservation of historic buildings, revitalization of downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts and promotion of cultural tourism. Heritage Ohio offers a Historic Conservation Easement Program. The Program offers a legal structure of an easement, which allows the owner to retain rights of ownership, while giving Heritage Ohio the responsibility to prevent present and future owners from making changes to the historic resource that could compromise its historic integrity. A legal agreement is filed in the deeds office of the courthouse in the county where the property is located, and the easement becomes part of the deed record, binding in perpetuity. An owner of any property listed on the National Register of Historic Places, located in a certified local historic district, or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, is eligible to receive a tax deduction when donating a historic conservation easement. An easement can be donated before, during or after rehabilitation of a historic building; however, the timing of an easement donation may have substantial tax consequences and should be reviewed by an accountant or tax lawyer with knowledge in easement procedures.

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Greater Toledo Civil War Round Table

The Greater Toledo Civil War Round Table (GTCWRT) is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to provide a forum where anyone with an interest in the American Civil War, regardless of a person’s level of expertise, can gather to study, discuss and learn about the various facets of this period of American history. The GTCWRT also promotes the preservation of Civil War–related historic sites and objects, including battlefields, monuments, flags, statues, historic homes and buildings. The GTCWRT is committed to the preservation of artifacts and tracts of land with historical significance. The GTCWRT has a mission to aid in saving Civil War heritage by donations from its members and fund-raising opportunities. To aid in this mission, the GTCWRT is a member of, or has donated money to, various preservation groups and organizations, both nationally and locally oriented. Some of the Civil War battlefields and groups that have benefited from donations by the GTCWRT include: Antietam, Gettysburg, Chickamauga and Chattanooga and Perryville. For more information contact: gtcwrt@att.net.

Land Trusts

There are 29 land trusts operating within the state of Ohio. 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 Ohio land trusts can be found here: http://findalandtrust.org/states/ohio39/land_trusts#statewide
Three Valley Conservation Trust

Three Valley Conservation Trust partners with people and communities to conserve the cultural heritage and natural environment of southwest Ohio for the benefit of future generations. The core values of the Trust are:

• Watersheds, forests, farmland and the cultural landscape are important components of a natural environment
• Protection of the natural environment is beneficial to a community
• A land trust’s efforts to protect the natural environment respect private ownership and land-owning family tradition and recognize the importance of citizen support
• A land trust welcomes diverse viewpoints and approaches to the common goal of farmland and open space preservation and water protection
• A land trust conducts business professionally, transparently and sustainably
• A land trust succeeds when easements are well-written, celebrated, cherished and legally sound, with transactions confidential to the extent permitted by law
• A land trust is a resource for information and source of pride for the community
• A land trust supports, honors and respects its board, staff, volunteers, members, donors, partners and community
• A land trust is committed to implementing its mission in perpetuity

Three Valley Conservation Trust offers a comprehensive easement program in which landowners can donate a conservation easement, seek funding through state programs to aid in bargain sale easements and donate fee-simple easements to the Trust.

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Tecumseh Land Trust

Founded in 1990 by citizens in Yellow Springs and Miami Township, the Tecumseh Land Trust is a nonprofit conservation organization serving Greene and Clark Counties of Ohio and surrounding areas. The purpose of the Tecumseh Land Trust is to preserve agricultural land, natural areas, water resources and historic sites, in voluntary cooperation with landowners, and to educate the public about permanent land preservation. The Trust assists landowners in navigating state and federal easement programs, as well as accept donated easements on farmland and natural areas. Landowners interested in protecting their land have options that include perpetual land conservation agreements, land donations and bargain sales of land, although most landowners who work with Tecumseh Land Trust protect their land with a perpetual land conservation agreement. The Trust has successfully preserved more than 29,000 acres in their working areas through the easement program.
**CONTACT**

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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.

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As State and Local Relations Manager at the Civil War Trust, Mark Coombs serves as the organization's advocate in historic communities across the United States, cultivating public and political enthusiasm for battlefield preservation and organizing grassroots activists in support of the Trust’s mission. A veteran of political and public affairs campaigns at all levels, Mark is a 2008 graduate of Cornell University, where he was Co-President of the Alpha Beta Eta Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society.

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Phil Thomason is Principal of the historic preservation planning firm of Thomason and Associates. Founded in 1982, this company provides services such as historic preservation plans, cultural resource surveys, Section 106 review and design guidelines for historic districts. During the past decade the company has completed eight battlefield preservation plans and numerous other studies for the American Battlefield Protection Program in Arkansas, Tennessee, Virginia, Minnesota, Missouri and Georgia.

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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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