



CIVIL WAR TRUST

Saving America's Civil War Battlefields

Rhode Island

Battlefield Preservation
2015 Potential Funding Sources

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Saving Rhode Island's Battlefields	5
State Government Funding Programs	5
Private Funding Programs	8
Civil War Trust Contacts	11

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 Rhode Island's Battlefields

The American Revolution

In Rhode Island, there are three Revolutionary War battlefield sites listed through the studies completed by the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP). There are two Revolutionary War battlefields located in Newport, Rhode Island, for the Battle of Newport I & II. Both battlefield studies are rated as a Priority I battlefields and classified as Class B sites according to the ABPP. The third and final Revolutionary War battlefield is the Battle at Block Island. Located in the Block Island Sound, Rhode Island, the Battle at Block Island was a naval encounter that rates the location as a site in need of further study and classified as a Class B site according to the ABPP. Additionally, there are 27 historic properties in Rhode Island associated with the American Revolution.

There are no War of 1812 or Civil War battlefields on Rhode Island soil. Therefore, the following state, federal and private programs have funding opportunities for preservation efforts focused toward the previously discussed Revolutionary War battlefields within the state.

STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING PROGRAMS

Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission

In 2002 and 2004, the voters of Rhode Island approved bond issues to establish a historic preservation grant program operated by the Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission (RIHPHC) to fund capital preservation for renovation projects at public historic sites, museums and cultural art centers located in historic sites in the state of Rhode Island.

The State Preservation Grants Program was created because state lawmakers and voters recognized that many significant properties controlled by public agencies and nonprofit organizations need protection and maintenance essential to preserving landmarks that embody Rhode Island heritage; and that arts, culture and civic organizations face unique challenges in updating their historic facilities for new audiences and programs. Preserving these particular landmarks—theatres, museums, concert halls, dance spaces, art centers, public historic sites—contributes to the quality of life in Rhode Island and ensures that arts, culture and civic facilities continue to inspire new generations. The Program is a matching grant program, with a 30 percent match for small grants and 50 percent matching for large grants (more than \$45,000). It promotes careful planning for the restoration, rehabilitation and preservation of a variety of historic resources around the state. Through its matching requirements, the program stimulated broader support and participation in historic preservation projects statewide. Grants awarded have ranged from less than \$10,000 to \$100,000. The program became inactive in 2008.

Sarah Zurier
Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission
Old State House
150 Benefit St.
Providence, RI 02903
Phone: (401) 222-4142; Fax: (401) 222-2968
email: sarah.zurier@preservation.ri.gov
www.preservation.ri.gov

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Grants

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management State Land Conservation and Acquisition Program

This program operates to identify, assess, acquire and protect lands consistent with the Department of Environmental

Management's (DEM) responsibility to provide recreational lands, protect farmland and save environmentally sensitive open space for Rhode Island's future generations. This office also coordinates land acquisition with other state, federal and nonprofit land acquisition programs and leverages funding from these various sources. The land protection team works to acquire land consistent with state regulations for the acquisition of property and to develop funding sources for these acquisitions.

The Land Acquisition Committee oversees all other real estate acquisitions, including acquisitions for parks and recreation, fish and wildlife, forestland and watershed protection. Funding for these land acquisitions comes from the Open Space bond, local land trusts and The Nature Conservancy and from various federal programs, including the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Legacy program, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's State Wildlife Grant and the U.S. Park Service's Land and Water Conservation Fund. The Committee also reviews and makes recommendations on departmental leases, licenses and easements.

State Land Conservation & Acquisition Program

The State Land Conservation & Acquisition Program is administered by the DEM Land Acquisition Committee, which makes recommendations to the director regarding real estate transactions that will enhance the DEM's management areas, parks and forestlands. Funding for these real estate acquisitions is provided by State Open Space bonds, with contributions from municipalities and land trusts, from local partners such as The Nature Conservancy, and the Champlin Foundations and from various federal programs, including the U.S. Forest Services's Forest Legacy program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Federal Highway Administration and the National Park Service's Land and Water Conservation Fund. In addition, this program combines its funding with the Local Open Space Grants Program and the Agricultural Land Preservation Program to complement its conservation projects.

The Local Open Space Grant Program supports cities and towns, land trusts and nonprofit organizations in their protection and acquisition of natural areas deemed priorities on the municipal level. This critical partnership works to leverage funds from municipal, nonprofit and federal agencies for the protection of Rhode Island's resources. The DEM provides up to 50 percent funding to successful applicants and adds a layer of protection to the conserved parcels to ensure they remain undeveloped in perpetuity. All grant applications are reviewed and scored by the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Preservation Commission Advisory Committee according to the following criteria: habitat protection, greenway or regional linkage, planning consistency, resource protection, water resource protection and multicomunity application. Final awards are determined by the Natural Heritage Commission. The state's share of funding is provided by State Open Space Bonds.

Lisa Primiano
Deputy Chief

State Land Conservation and Acquisition Program
Rhode Island Dept of Environmental Management
235 Promenade St.

Providence, RI 02908

Phone: (401) 222-2776 ext. 4307

email: lisa.primiano@dem.ri.gov

www.dem.ri.gov/programs/bpoladm/plandev/landacq/

Farmland Preservation Program

This program, administered by the Agricultural Land Preservation Commission (ALPC) and staffed by the DEM, preserves agricultural lands through the purchase of farmland development rights. Purchasing development rights from farmers enables them to retain ownership of their property while protecting their lands for agricultural use.

At the same time, it provides farmers with a financially competitive alternative to development. The state's farming industry, which contributes \$170 million annually to the local economy, is dependent on access to productive land. This program helps to ensure that farming remains viable in the state. All program applications are reviewed and scored by the ALPC according to parcel size; soil quality; agricultural operation and viability; protection of water supplies and quality; open space, cultural and scenic features; flood protection; relative development pressure; and consistency with state and local plans. Funding for this program is obtained through the Open Space Bond; The Nature Conservancy, through grants from the Champlin Foundations; and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program and through the leveraging of land trust and municipal funds.

Elizabeth Peterman
235 Promenade St.
Providence, RI 02908-5767
Phone: (401) 222-2781 ext. 7261; Fax: (401) 222-6047
email: elizabeth.peterman@dem.ri.gov

Local Open Space Grant Program

Since 1986, the wide range of projects funded by this grant program have helped expand the recreational opportunities available to Rhode Islanders, enhance the state's efforts to preserve open space and add to the quality of life in local communities.

There are three levels of grants awarded through this program:

- Large Grants: will be awarded for recreation acquisition and development projects. Grants will be for 50 percent of the project cost. The maximum grant award will be \$400,000.
- Small Grants: will be awarded for recreation development projects. Grants will be for 50 percent of the project cost. The maximum grant award will be \$75,000.
- Historic/Passive Park Grants: will be awarded for recreation development projects. Grants will be for 90 percent of the project cost. The maximum grant award will be \$100,000. These grants are awarded to municipalities for passive outdoor recreation or historical interpretation. Passive recreation activity is unstructured and nonorganized.



Newport Battlefield

Eligible applicants include any municipality of the state of Rhode Island, land trust, nonprofit or charitable trust incorporated in Rhode Island. A single application may include acquisition and/or development activities at one site within the applicant's jurisdiction. Applicants may request a waiver from the Recreation Resources Review Committee for multisite applications, but the sites must be interrelated. All applications are due May 27 and are reviewed by the Natural Heritage Preservation Commission and the Governor's Advisory Council.

Joseph G. Dias, Chief
235 Promenade St.
Providence, RI 02908-5767
Phone: (401) 222-2776; Fax: (401) 222-2069
email: joe.dias@dem.ri.gov

PRIVATE FUNDING PROGRAMS

The Champlin Foundations

Since 1932, the Champlin Foundations have distributed nearly \$480 million, almost entirely in the state of Rhode Island. The Champlin Foundations are private foundations as defined in Section 509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and are exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3). The Foundations make direct grants to tax-exempt organizations, substantially all in Rhode Island, almost exclusively for capital needs. Capital needs may consist of equipment, construction, renovations, purchase of real property and reduction of mortgage indebtedness. An important goal for the Foundations is to fund tax-exempt organizations within Rhode Island that will have the greatest impact on the broadest possible segment of the population.

Areas of Focus include:

- Youth/Fitness
- Hospitals/Healthcare
- Open Space/Conservation/Environment
- Education
- Libraries
- Social Services
- Historic Preservation
- Cultural/Artistic
- Animal Humane Societies

The Champlin Foundation awarded \$2,250,985 in Open Space/Conservation/Parks/Environment grants and \$1,264,385 in Historic Preservation Grants in 2012.

The Champlin Foundations
2000 Chapel View Blvd., Suite 350
Cranston, RI 02920
Phone: (401) 944-9200; Fax: (401) 944-9299
www.champlinfoundations.org/home.html
www.champlinfoundation.org

Land Trusts

There are 16 land trusts operating within the state of Rhode Island. 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 Rhode Island land trusts can be found here: http://fndalandtrust.org/states/rhodeisland44/land_trusts#statewide

Audubon Society of Rhode Island

The Audubon Society of Rhode Island, independent and unaffiliated with the National Audubon Society, was founded in 1897. Today, with 17,000 members and supporters, the Audubon Society of Rhode Island is dedicated to education, land conservation and advocacy. Audubon independently protects or owns almost 9,500 acres of woodlands and coastal property embracing diverse natural habitats. A voice in statewide ecological issues, the Society actively fulfills its environmental stewardship through preservation and protection of Rhode Island's natural heritage.

The Society protects nearly 9,500 acres of wildlife habitats throughout Rhode Island, making the organization the state's largest private landholder. Conserved lands shelter and preserve watersheds, coastline, meadows and woodlands, maintaining pristine habitats where multitudes of wildlife species thrive. The Audubon Society adds acreage to its refuge system through ownership and conservation easements. Conservation efforts preserve sensitive habitats for animals and plants, revitalize endangered species and save precious natural space from development. It manages and maintains its conserved land through staff and volunteer efforts that guard against invasive species and inappropriate human use. The Society regularly forms partnerships with government agencies and other nonprofit organizations to ensure the success of conservation efforts.

Scott Ruhren
Senior Director of Conservation
Audubon Society of Rhode Island
12 Sanderson Rd.
Smithfield, RI 02917
Phone: (401) 949-5454
email: sruhren@asri.org
www.asri.org

Little Compton Agricultural Conservancy Trust

The Little Compton Agricultural Conservancy Trust (LCACT) was established in 1986. The principal purpose of the Trust is to preserve farmlands and open space in town. This is accomplished through outright purchase of either fee interest in land or development rights, as well as donations of land and cash. Funds for these purchases have been raised during the Fiscal Year through a transfer tax on all real estate sales of more than \$150,000.00. The fee schedule, effective July 1, 2004, exempts the first \$150,000 of land value. Transaction amounts from \$150,000 to \$225,000 are taxed at the rate of two percent. Transaction amounts more than \$225,000 are taxed at a four percent rate.

The Town Council appoints five individuals to be Trustees. As provided by the enabling legislation, the Trust membership also includes two additional members appointed by the Little Compton Planning Board and the Conservation Commission, respectively. The seven trustees serve for five-year staggered terms. The Trust seeks additional funds through the DEM, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Conservation Service to match funds raised. In 2010, there were 66 tax transfers, totaling \$1,028,545.56. Additionally, private donations

totaling \$11,650 were received. Since its inception, the Trust has preserved or partnered with other organizations in preserving, 1,837.77 acres of land of which 646 are owned outright and the development rights of 986.9 acres have been acquired.

The LCACT often collaborates with the Sakonnet Preservation Association, Inc. (SPA), which is a member of the Land Trust Alliance. SPA was founded in 1972, the first private, nonprofit land trust in Rhode Island. The SPA accepts tax-deductible gifts of land and conservation easements, as well as monetary contributions, gifts of securities and bequests to further its mission of conserving and stewarding Little Compton's natural landscape and resources. The organization has received more than 60 properties totaling 400 acres in conservation easements and donations.

Town of Little Compton
40 Commons
P.O. Box 226
Little Compton, RI 02837
Phone: (401) 635-4400; Fax: (401) 635-2470
www.lcact.net

CONTACT

JIM CAMPI, Director of Policy and Communications
Civil War Trust
jcampi@civilwar.org

As Director of Policy and Communications at the Civil War Trust, Jim Campi is responsible for the organization's government and media relations. He serves as the Civil War Trust's spokesperson with the press as well as its point man with Congress, state legislators, and local elected officials. Jim joined the Trust in September 2000 after 14 years in political communications and administration. He is the author and contributing writer for several books and publications, including *Civil War Battlefields Then and Now*, *The Political Lincoln*, and *The Civil War 150*. Jim is also a member of the board of the Journey Through Hallowed Ground and Franklin's Charge.

MARK COOMBS, State and Local Relations Manager
Civil War Trust
mcoombs@civilwar.org

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

PHIL THOMASON, Principal
Thomason and Associates
Thomason@bellsouth.net

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

DAVID CURREY, Principal
Encore Interpretive Design
david@encoreinterpretive.net

David Currey is principal at Encore, a company that specializes in interpretive planning, exhibit design, and media development for historic sites, museums, government agencies and preservation organizations. Encore also produces independent documentaries, including works on Civil War Nashville, the Battle of Parker's Crossroads, the Civil War in Tennessee and, more recently, an hour-long biography on Ed Bearss, Chief Historian Emeritus for the National Park Service.



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

Front cover: Newport