



# CIVIL WAR TRUST

*Saving America's Civil War Battlefields*  
[CivilWar.org](http://CivilWar.org)

# Vermont

## 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](http://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 Vermont's Battlefields

## *The American Revolution and the War of 1812*

In Vermont, there are four Revolutionary War battlefield sites listed through the studies completed by the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP). Located in Orwell, Vermont, the Mount Independence Battlefield is the only Priority I battlefield and classified as a Class B site according to the ABPP. The second Revolutionary War site located in present-day Hubbardton, Vermont, is the Hubbardton Battlefield, which is a Priority II battlefield and classified as a Class B site according to the ABPP. The third Revolutionary War site is located in Lake Champlain Basin in Vermont. The Battle at Lake Champlain is a Priority II battlefield and is classified as a Class C site according to the ABPP. Finally, Valcour Island, also located in New York, is Priority II site. Also there are three additional historic properties in Vermont associated with the American Revolution.

While there are no Principal War of 1812 or Civil War Battlefields in Vermont, there are two additional historic properties associated with the War of 1812. 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**

### *Outdoor Recreation Land and Water Conservation Fund*

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LWCF) became effective in January 1965 to create parks and open spaces, protect wilderness and forests and provide outdoor recreation opportunities. Funds are derived from federal recreation fees, Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) revenues from leasing oil and gas sites in coastal waters, federal surplus real property sales and a portion of federal motorboat fuel taxes. Funds are apportioned to federal agencies and to the 50 states and six territories through the U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service (NPS). In Vermont, LWCF is administered by the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation and the LWCF grants provide up to 50 percent matching assistance to the state and local governments. Project applications are scored and ranked by a five-member project application ranking committee following the Open Project Selection Process (OPSP) established criteria. Resulting recommendations are reviewed and approved by the ranking committee. All applications must meet an identified need within the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and address local and regional needs. Municipalities must agree to dedicate the park or area where the project is located for public outdoor recreational use in perpetuity. In addition, the grantee must also agree to develop, operate and maintain the development to acceptable NPS standards for public outdoor recreation. Grants are subject to approval by the NPS. Funds are for municipalities only (i.e., towns, cities, regional park districts, school districts and state agencies). Eligible projects include acquisition of land for parks and public outdoor recreation or development of new facilities and/or renovation of existing facilities for outdoor recreation.

Congress approved the Land and Water Conservation Fund in 1965. In 1969, the state of Vermont acquired acreage for the Lake Champlain Battlefield with \$15,810 of LWCF funds.

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The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation is the state historic preservation office. Its programs support the continued use of Vermont's historical assets and the integration of history into future planning and growth, job creation and communities' culture. Through grants, review and compliance and the operation of a statewide system of State-owned historic sites, the division fosters protection, research, education and interpretation of Vermont's historic resources. The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation has created a Funding Directory of funding opportunities for historic preservation projects within the state of Vermont. The opportunities listed below, were taken from this directory are directly related to battlefield preservation and land acquisition. See website at:

[www.ptvermont.org/help/FUNDING\\_DIRECTORY\\_2013.pdf](http://www.ptvermont.org/help/FUNDING_DIRECTORY_2013.pdf)

### ***Historic Preservation Fund***

Established in 1987, the Historic Preservation Fund is a State-funded program that helps political subdivisions of the state and nonprofit organizations maintain and preserve their historic properties. The Division for Historic Preservation, in cooperation with the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, awards 50 percent matching grants for building improvement projects that promote the public enjoyment of Vermont's heritage. The matching share must be in cash and must be in-hand at the time the application is submitted. Properties must be listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Eligibility for listing will be determined by the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The maximum grant available in 2014 is \$20,000. Because of limited funding and the large number of requests, only exceptional projects will be awarded the full amount. Grant requests for less than the maximum amount may be awarded, as well. The grant recipient is responsible for paying for the full amount of the project, and the state will reimburse the grant recipient once all the required paperwork is complete, and accepted by the Division for Historic Preservation.

The Vermont Historic Preservation Grant Program is funded by the taxpayers of the state of Vermont, at the direction of the General Assembly, through the annual Capital Appropriations and State Bonding Act. The Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation reviews all grant applications and scores each application using the 11 Eligibility Criteria outlined in the application manual. Projects that propose to preserve existing historic features or to restore documented, missing historic features with similar historic materials are given much greater priority than projects that use non-historic materials. New additions, code improvements and utility systems work are not eligible for funding. Applications are due on October 7.

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### ***Vermont Housing and Conservation Board***

The Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) is an independent state-supported funding agency providing grants, loans and technical assistance to nonprofit organizations, municipalities and state agencies for the development of perpetually affordable housing and for the conservation of important agricultural land, natural areas and historic properties in Vermont.

Recreational land, working forest, farmland and important natural areas compose the state's rural landscape, and the character of these lands has long been closely tied to the activities of the people who live and work there. The VHCB's conservation program helps maintain that relationship by conserving many of the state's most important lands and providing Vermonters access to those resources both now and in the future. VHCB funds have helped

to conserve a total of 252,700 acres of natural areas and recreational lands since 1987. In carrying out its mission, the Board funds projects that best provide quality recreation to Vermonters, preserve public access to the state's water and woodland resources, conserve wildlife and plant habitat, protect watershed and water quality, add value to Vermont's travel and tourism industries and ensure the future stewardship of the state's natural resources. In addition to working with local and statewide nonprofit organizations on many projects, VHCB conservation projects also involve acquisition of land or easements by state agencies or towns. These properties become new state forests, parks, wildlife areas, or town recreational lands. Land conserved with VHCB funding is managed by towns and municipalities, nonprofit conservation organizations and state agencies such as the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

**Conservation of Land or Historic Resources of Statewide Significance:** Conservation projects of statewide significance (as determined by the VHCB using input from the Natural Heritage Program; Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, the Division for Historic Preservation and others) are eligible for VHCB Conservation Project funding. These projects are not required to provide local matching funds and are not limited to \$150,000 as are the Local Conservation Projects, although leverage in the form of in-kind services or donations of conservation easements is common. Conservation projects eligible for VHCB funding include acquisition of natural areas that provide habitat for rare or endangered species, acquisition of lands to provide public access to trails or water, greenways or acquisition of historic sites of statewide significance for public use. To apply, request an Application for Conservation Projects.

**Local Conservation:** Recreational or agricultural land, natural areas and historic properties: Under the VHCB Local Conservation Grant Program, grants of up to \$150,000, plus associated costs are available for the purchase of recreational lands, natural areas or historic properties. Grants of up to \$215,000, plus associated costs are available for the purchase of agricultural lands. Funding for associated project costs can be used for a portion of the expenses incurred for appraisals, options or closing costs. Projects funded under this program might include: land acquisition to provide access to water for swimming or boating, biking and hiking trails, greenways or conservation or expansion of town parks, forests and natural areas or acquisition of important historic sites for public use. Funding is not available for the construction or rehabilitation of buildings or the construction of recreational facilities. To demonstrate local support for the projects, applicants must raise at least 33 percent of the total project costs from other sources. This match may include cash, in-kind services and donations of land and easements that further the conservation goals of the project. All projects must demonstrate municipal support in the form of a letter of endorsement from the select board of the town where the project is located.

**Feasibility Grants:** VHCB projects in the early stages of development are eligible for Feasibility Grants of up to \$10,000 to cover the costs of appraisals, options, engineering and environmental studies or other predevelopment costs. Feasibility grants are considered on an ongoing basis by VHCB staff. All municipalities, nonprofit organizations and certain state agencies are eligible to apply for grants with multiple cycles per year.

**Farmland Conservation Program:** Agriculture plays a major role in shaping Vermont's economy, landscape and rural character. The VHCB Farmland Preservation Program is focused on retaining the state's quality agricultural land base in strong farming regions of the state. The purchase of conservation easements on farmland preserves Vermont's working landscape--the open farm fields, woodlands and farmsteads that comprise the third largest sector in the state's economy and help attract the visitors that make tourism the largest sector. Because of the Board's investment in conservation easements, some of Vermont's most productive farmland will remain undeveloped and available for farming in the future.

Since 1987, nearly 600 farms comprising 143,000 acres of agricultural land have been conserved with VHCB funds. The purchase of development rights has contributed to renewed vitality in agriculture by enabling young farmers to purchase farms at an affordable price and by helping established farmers to reduce long-term debt, to invest in infrastructure and to make operations more profitable and efficient. By focusing on conserving contiguous blocks of

farmland in traditional farming communities, VHCB's Farmland Preservation Program helps ensure that farms are not isolated by residential development and that communities can continue to support a healthy range of businesses that serve and rely on neighboring farms.

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### *Vermont Agency of Transportation Enhancement Grants*

The Vermont Agency of Transportation Enhancements Program is a program for nontraditional, transportation-related projects managed by the Vermont Agency of Transportation. This program can be a funding source for such activities as new sidewalks, bike paths, historic preservation, environmental mitigation and more. It can aid in the creation of a multimodal and environmentally sustainable transportation system that encourages nonmotorized use and enhances Vermont's historic landscapes and human scale of development. The applicant must commit to a local match of at least 20 percent of the total project cost. At least one-half of the required local match (10% of the total project cost) must be in cash. For example, a project with a \$125,000 total cost, applicants must apply for up to \$100,000 in Federal funds and commit to \$25,000 in local match, \$12,500 of which must be in cash.

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## ***PRIVATE FUNDING PROGRAMS***

### *Vermont Community Foundation*

The Vermont Community Foundation was established in 1986 as a permanent source of support for the state. It is a family of hundreds of funds and foundations created by Vermonters to serve charitable goals. The Foundation's provides advice, investment vehicles and back-office expertise. The Vermont Community Foundation has provided more than \$12 million a year in grants in Vermont and beyond. The Foundation offers three grant programs that would be suitable for battlefield preservation purposes.

The Crosby-Gannett Fund: The Crosby-Gannett Fund was established at the Vermont Community Foundation in 2009 with the assets of the Crosby Foundation, which was dissolved in December 2008. The Crosby Foundation was founded in December 1951 by Charles R. Crosby, a native of Brattleboro, to help serve community needs in the broader Brattleboro area. The name Gannett was added to the fund in 2012 by the Advisory Committee in honor of Sen. Robert T. Gannett, who had guided the Crosby Foundation as secretary-treasurer for more than 50 years. The purpose of the Crosby-Gannett Fund is to support endeavors that contribute to the betterment and vitality of the Brattleboro area. The fund's local advisers are interested in supported projects that rely mainly on local financial support. Eligible projects and organizations will focus on innovation, capital improvements and historical renovation/preservation. Grant size ranges from \$250 to \$1,000.

The Dunham-Mason Fund: The Dunham-Mason Fund was established at the Vermont Community Foundation in 2009 with the assets of the Dunham-Mason Foundation, which was dissolved in 2008. The purpose of the Dunham-Mason Fund is to support endeavors that contribute to the betterment and vitality of the Brattleboro area. The fund's local advisers are interested in supported projects that rely mainly on local financial support. Eligible projects and organizations will focus on innovation, capital improvements and historical renovation/preservation. Grant size ranges from \$250 to \$500.

The Walter Cerf Community Fund (WCCF): The Walter Cerf Community Fund makes grants to address charitable needs in the state of Vermont. Priority interests are the arts, education, historic preservation and social services ,reflecting the pattern of giving established by Mr. Cerf over many years. The WCCF highly values the input of the Preservation Trust and strongly suggests grant seekers for historic preservation projects consult with the Trust before submitting applications. Grants are made to organizations that either have a statewide constituency and make a unique contribution to Vermont, or are located in Addison County where 70 percent of funds are awarded, or Brandon where 30 percent of funds are awarded. Grant awards range from \$500 to \$5,000, with one grant available for \$25,000. Nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply for all size grants.

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### *Land Trusts*

There are 20 land trusts operating within the state of Vermont. 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 Vermont land trusts can be found here: [http://findalandtrust.org/states/vermont50/land\\_trusts#statewide](http://findalandtrust.org/states/vermont50/land_trusts#statewide)



*Hubbardton Battlefield*

### *Lake Champlain Land Trust*

The Lake Champlain Land Trust work on both the Vermont and New York sides of Lake Champlain. Its mission is to save the scenic beauty of a variety of landscapes, including significant islands, lakeshore, forests, river shore, wetlands, natural communities and farmland. In addition, the Trust conserves land that may have significant impact on the health of Lake Champlain, such as rivers and streams. Landowners can donate or sell land for preservation/conservation purposes.

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### *Vermont Land Trust*

The mission of the Vermont Land Trust is to conserve land for the future of Vermont. The Trust's objectives include:

- Conserve land that supports or enhances the vitality of the communities and economy of Vermont
- Support farm and forest enterprises that foster consumer-producer connections, especially enterprises that increase product value through processing such as milling lumber, producing cheese and making maple syrup
- Promote thrifty, responsible, long-term, productive use of land
- Increase the opportunity for a diversity of people to own or use working farms and managed forestland
- Support settlement patterns that give residents a sense of place, heritage and continuity, where vital villages and community centers retain the open space that surround and define them
- Protect natural communities, biological diversity and aquatic resources when achieving community land, farmland and forestland protection goals

Since 1977, the Trust has permanently conserved more than 1,650 parcels of land totaling more than 500,000 acres or 8 percent of the private undeveloped land in Vermont. The conserved land includes more than 700 working farms, hundreds of thousands of acres of productive forestland and numerous parcels of community land. Landowners can donate or sell land for preservation/conservation purposes.

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## *VERMONT NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS*

### *Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership*

Lake Champlain flows through Canada, Vermont and New York as part of the Champlain Valley and drains more than 8,000 acres of mountains, farmlands and local communities. The valley is part of the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership managed by the Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP). The LCBP works in partnership with government agencies from New York, Vermont, and Quebec, private organizations, local communities and individuals to coordinate and fund efforts that benefit the Lake Champlain Basin's water quality, fisheries, wetlands, recreation and cultural resources.

The Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership (CVNHP) includes the interconnected waterways of Lake Champlain, Lake George, the Champlain Canal and portions of the Upper Hudson River in Vermont and New York. The region is the ancestral homeland of Algonquin and Iroquois peoples and, over the past 400 years, has played a vital role in the establishment of the United States and Canada. It has served as a route of exploration, military campaigns and maritime commerce. It was the setting for innovations in business and technology, invasions and armed insurrections, new directs in religion and politics, long periods of peace and prosperity and the beginnings of the conservation movement. Themes for the Champlain Valley National Heritage Conservation and Community focused on the relationship between the people and the natural resources the region were suggested early in the initial scoping of the CVNHP.

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### *CVNHP Commemoration Grants*

The events leading to the War of 1812, the military activities during the conflict and the Battle of Plattsburgh had profound effects on the communities along Lake Champlain and the Richelieu River. The war had lasting political, social and economic implications for the United States and Canada in places far from the battlefields. Some of those implications led to and affected the events associated with the American Civil War, which also had profound effects on the people and communities of the Champlain Valley. Historic sites, re-enactors, learning institutions and state/provincial and local governments are working together to mark the anniversaries of the conflicts—commemorating the wars and examining their lasting effects, including a celebration of the 200 years of peace between the United States and Canada. The 2014 CVNHP Commemoration Grants will provide resources to these organizations and municipalities to mark the anniversaries and develop new research and interpretation on the conflicts. The CVNHP and the LCBP issues the Request for Proposals for local heritage grants to mark the bicentennial of the War of 1812 and the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War. The CVNHP/LCBP will provide grants of up to \$5,000 to promote additional research and interpretation of these conflicts, to promote the anniversaries and support bicentennial/sesquicentennial programs and events. Total amount of funding available for this grant category: up to \$50,000

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## *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*.

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

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

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



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*Front cover: Hubbardton Battlefield*