



American Battlefield Protection Program 2004 Grant Awards

The American Battlefield Protection Program announced in July 2004 the award of 12 grants totaling \$387,975 to assist in the preservation and protection of America's historic battlefields. Funded projects include battlefield surveys, site mapping, National Register of Historic Places nominations, preservation and management plans, educational materials, and GPS/GIS data collection.

The American Battlefield Protection Program funds projects conducted by federal, state, local, and tribal governments, nonprofit organizations, and educational institutions. The ABPP's mission is to safeguard and preserve significant American battlefield lands for present and future generations as symbols of individual sacrifice and national heritage.

Brief descriptions of each grant project follow, listed by grant recipient.

Buckland Preservation Society **Buckland Mills Battlefield, Virginia** **\$25,000**

The Buckland Preservation Society will coordinate a GPS survey and preliminary archeological assessment of the Buckland Mills Battlefield. The project will result in an assessment of the site's potential for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and in the production of an interpretive brochure. The Battle of Buckland Mills was among the Confederate cavalry's last victories of the Civil War.

Frontier Heritage Alliance **Ashkoota Binnaxchikua/Arrow Creek Battlefield, Montana** **\$45,485**

This grant will fund the first phase of a project to document the history of Ashkoota Binnaxchikua or the Battle of Arrow Creek. Frontier Heritage Alliance will gather oral histories from Crow, Sioux, and Cheyenne tribal members and will conduct archival research for information about the battle. Ashkoota Binnaxchikua was one of the largest intertribal battles on the Plains. Crow oral history indicates that their victory in this battle ensured the survival of the tribe, allowing the Crow to maintain possession of their traditional lands.

Georgia Department of Natural Resources **Ogeechee River, Georgia** **\$39,996**

The Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources will identify the submerged cultural resources associated with the Civil War naval operations on the Ogeechee River through a combination of archival research, underwater archeology, remote sensing, and systematic diver evaluation and mapping. With the advent of ironclad warfare in 1862, the Ogeechee River became the scene of many significant battles involving ironclads and sand forts and batteries.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources **Tippecanoe Battlefield, Indiana** **\$40,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will determine to what extent flooding along the Wabash River has disturbed three sites associated with the Battle of Tippecanoe. Using geophysical and traditional survey techniques, archeologists will examine how flooding and erosion are affecting the historic landscape and artifact patterns from the battle. Preservation and management recommendations will result. The Battle of Tippecanoe ended efforts by Shawnee brothers Tecumseh and The Prophet to form an Indian Confederation to resist white settlement in the mid-west. In 1840, the battle site became a rallying point for the presidential campaign of William Henry Harrison.

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Princeton Battlefield, New Jersey
\$8,800

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection will develop a virtual historical map of the battlefield using Geographic Information Systems. The GIS will include data about the property landscape of the 1770's and the military movements through that landscape during the January 3, 1777 battle. The GIS data will be used in future educational materials and for site planning projects. The Continental Army's morale-boosting victory at Princeton forced to British to relinquish control of central New Jersey.

Ohio Historical Society
Buffington Island Battlefield, Ohio
\$35,000

The Ohio Historical Society will develop a comprehensive preservation plan for the Buffington Island Battlefield. The plan will present strategies for using the battlefield to promote heritage tourism and other types of economic development, and will identify programs and activities to help educate school groups and others about the history of the battlefield. One of the few battles of the Civil War in which the cavalry, infantry, artillery, and navy all fought, the Battle of Buffington Island was the last major engagement of John Hunt Morgan's Great Raid of 1863 in which Southern forces raided parts of Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio.

Radford University
Saltville Battlefields, Virginia
\$43,246

Radford University will conduct archeological and cultural resource surveys to inventory, evaluate, and map the extensive Civil War features at Saltville, Virginia. The project is the first step toward developing a battlefield protection plan and a National Register of Historic Places nomination for Saltville's Civil War resources. During the Civil War, the saltworks at Saltville produced two-thirds of all the salt consumed by the Confederacy. Union forces attacked the vital and heavily fortified saltworks twice. The October 1864 battle is known for the determined Confederate defense of the saltworks and the post-battle executions of wounded African-American soldiers. A second Union raid in December 1864 resulted in the destruction of the salt works.

Reed's Bridge Battlefield Preservation Society, Inc.
Bayou Meto (Reed's Bridge) Battlefield, Arkansas
\$25,203

Through this project, a preservation and management plan will be prepared for the Bayou Meto (Reed's Bridge) Battlefield. Ongoing residential development, which has already claimed significant portions of the battlefield, continues to threaten the 360-acre historic site. The preservation and management plan will result in community-based priorities for protecting the battlefield and scenic views around the battlefield. Bayou Meto is the only intact battlefield associated with the Federal campaign to capture Little Rock in 1863.

Rutherford County Historical Society
Gilbert Town, North Carolina
\$2,700

This grant will fund phase II of a project to nominate the Revolutionary War site of Gilbert Town to the National Register of Historic Places. The project will help document the significance of the town as it related to the decisive military engagements between American and British forces at the battles of Kings Mountain in 1780 and Cowpens in 1781.

Town of Saratoga
Siege of Saratoga's Field of Grounded Arms/Fort Hardy
\$25,653

The Town of Saratoga will conduct research and archeological investigations to determine whether resources associated with the Field of Grounded Arms and Fort Hardy remain below ground. If resources are found, the grant will fund the preparation of a National Register of Historic Places nomination. The site is part of the battlefield associated with the Siege of Saratoga as well as the location where British troops lay down their weapons after surrendering.

University of South Carolina Research Foundation
Fort Motte, South Carolina
\$31,892

The University of South Carolina Research Foundation will conduct archival research and an archeological survey of the Fort Motte Battlefield. Project goals include gathering basic archeological and landscape data about the site, defining the extent of the battlefield, and nominating the battlefield to the National Register of Historic Places. The siege of Fort Motte was part of the summer 1781 American offensive that broke the British hold on the Carolina backcountry.

Village of Sackets Harbor
Sackets Harbor Battlefield, New York
\$65,000

In cooperation with local landowners and the Town of Hounsfield, the Village will survey and document much of the War of 1812 Sackets Harbor battleground. The work will include historical research, archeological investigations, cultural resource and landscape inventories, GPS/GIS mapping, and an update of the battlefield's National Register of Historic Places documentation. Sackets Harbor was the principal U.S. naval base and shipyard on Lake Ontario during the War of 1812. American forces repulsed a British attack there in May 1813, thus preserving American naval superiority on the lakes for the remainder of the war.

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