

National Park Service Northeast Region



American Battlefield Protection Program

*Working Together to
Preserve America's
Historic Battlefields*

ABOUT HISTORIC BATTLEFIELDS

The United States has fought numerous wars on its own soil: civil wars, wars for freedoms, wars for territory. Each war profoundly affected the history and development of this nation. Today, these military struggles are represented by the fields of battle that remain. Historic battlefields evoke strong emotions of patriotism and dissention, sacrifice and waste, valor and cowardice, and brutality and humanity that marked American warfare. Unfortunately, battlefields are rapidly disappearing as urban and suburban development engulfs the landscapes that dictated troop maneuvers and positions, and ultimately, the outcomes of battles, campaigns, and wars. Battlefields are also threatened with natural erosion, human neglect, and vandalism.



House and cemetery associated with the Princeton battlefield, New Jersey

WHO WE ARE

The American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) 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.

PROGRAM PARTNERS

The ABPP encourages states, communities, non-profit organizations, and individual citizens to become the stewards of significant historic battlefields. The ABPP specifically enables communities near historic battlefields to develop local solutions for balanced preservation approaches for these sites. The ABPP's "planning and partnerships" approach to battlefield preservation allows for the protection of significant battle sites that currently cannot or should not be preserved in whole or in part by public ownership, but must nonetheless be saved in order for future generations of Americans to understand the importance of these irreplaceable sites.

HOW WE HELP

**National Park Service
Programs in the Northeast
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**Mary A. Bomar
Acting Regional Director**

The ABPP awards small matching funds to organizations sponsoring planning and educational projects at historic battlefields. The ABPP's historians, preservation planners, and archeologists also provide professional assistance to owners of battlefield property, battlefield friends groups, and state and local governments interested in preserving historic battlefield land and sites. These public-private partnerships save American taxpayers millions of dollars that would be required for federal fee simple acquisition, management, and interpretation of these historic places were they in public ownership. Protected battlefields provide educational opportunities for the public, tourism opportunities for nearby communities, and much needed recreational open space and wildlife habitats in urban and suburban areas.

TYPES OF PROJECTS FUNDED

RECENT GRANTS IN THE NORTHEAST REGION

Warren County Historical Society, New York:
\$22,000 to conduct archival research, a cultural resource survey, and mapping of the Colonial Military Road and associated battle sites

Shenandoah County, Virginia:
\$50,000 to prepare preservation plans for Fisher's Hill and Tom's Brook Civil War battlefields

Once a year as part of its grants program, the ABPP invites proposals for battlefield preservation projects. Since 1992, the ABPP and its partners have helped protect and enhance more than 110 battlefields by co-sponsoring more than 260 projects in 32 states and the District of Columbia. Individual project funding has ranged from \$1,000 to more than \$115,000; the average grant is about \$25,000. The ABPP encourages, but does not require, matching funds or in-kind services to these projects.

The ABPP supports partnership projects that lead to the protection of battlefield land and sites associated with battlefields.

Types of projects that support this goal may include:

- ◆ Historical research
- ◆ Cultural resources surveys
- ◆ Archaeological surveys
- ◆ National Register of Historic Places documentation and nominations
- ◆ Assessment of the condition of battlefields and potential threats to their continued survival
- ◆ Battlefield acquisition plans and preservation plans
- ◆ Local land use strategies for sensitive planning
- ◆ Technical assistance for organizations and governments needing help to protect battlefields
- ◆ Public education

The ABPP does not fund land acquisition or capital improvement projects. Projects associated with lands already owned by the National Park Service are not eligible for ABPP grants.

Seventy-one of the nation's most significant Civil War battlefields have been lost. Another 50 require urgent preservation.

Since 1992, the ABPP has awarded approximately \$4.4 million for 260 preservation and enhancement projects at more than 110 historic battle sites in 32 states and the District of Columbia.

The average ABPP grant is \$25,000. Most partners contribute matching funds or in-kind services.

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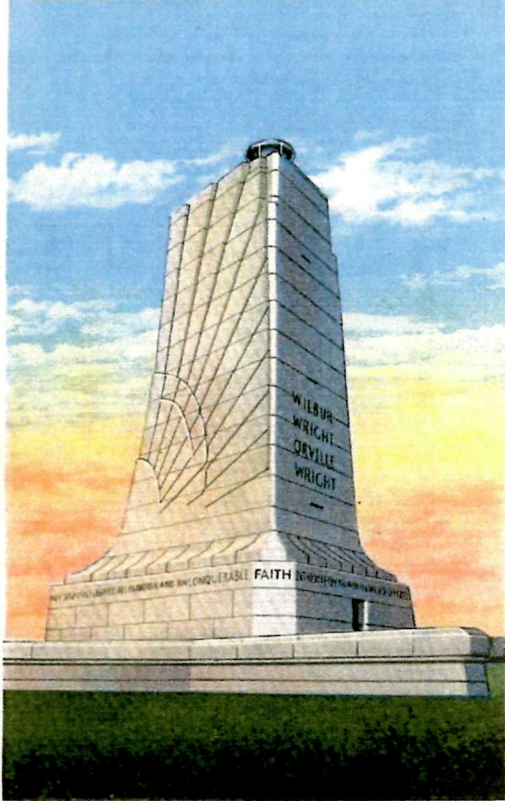
All photos NPS unless noted; March 2005

National Park Service Northeast Region



Monument Research and Preservation Program

THE WRIGHT MEMORIAL BEACON, KITTY HAWK, N. C.



NEAR ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.

44387

Wish you were here! Historic post-cards not only amuse, they also tell us about....

The Monument Research and Preservation Program provides comprehensive assistance to parks and other constituents nationwide in the care of public sculpture and monuments. Typical services include assessment of preservation needs, art historical research, courses and workshops for managers and technicians, and production of publications, videotapes and other instructional materials.

CONSERVATION PLANNING ASSISTANCE

Monument Research and Preservation Program staff carries out condition assessments of monument and sculpture collections, provides assistance to set treatment priorities, plans long-term maintenance programs for monuments, and secures the services of qualified conservators to undertake specialized work.

For example, Program staff conducted an extensive assessment at Gettysburg National Military Park and designed a monument maintenance program for the Park's 400 monuments. The program featured the gentle cleaning of monuments, landscape maintenance, and the application of renewable protective coatings on bronze statuary. Staff training conducted during the summer of 1996 established conservation parameters, and provided maintenance staff with the knowledge and experience to carry out routine monument maintenance. Ongoing technical assistance helps Park staff to keep the maintenance program running smoothly.

PUBLICATIONS

The Monument Research and Preservation Program publishes materials that convey an understanding of the significance of public sculpture and monuments, and the need for their appropriate care. Among these are a guest edited special thematic issue of CRM [Cultural Resource Management], and the book *The Preservation of Outdoor Sculpture and Monuments*, now in its second edition, designed to accompany Monument Research and Preservation Program courses and workshops.



Bronze statues like this one in Green Mount Cemetery in Baltimore require specific maintenance... NPS provides the expertise for groups that want to preserve their statuary.

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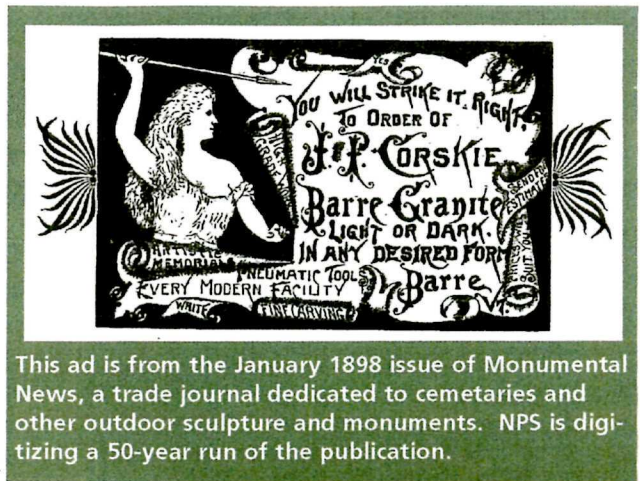
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Currently underway is The Monumental News Scanning Project through which staff is digitizing nearly 50,000 pages, a fifty-year run [1889-1938] of the leading monument industry trade journal in preparation for its re-publication on CD-ROM. Found within the pages of The Monumental News are a wealth of articles and advertisements by and for sculptors, foundrymen, quarrymen, architects and others working in the monument field during the heyday of public monument creation in the United States. Upon its completion, this project will make a key primary research source available for the first time to libraries, historians, park interpreters, conservators, and the public at large.

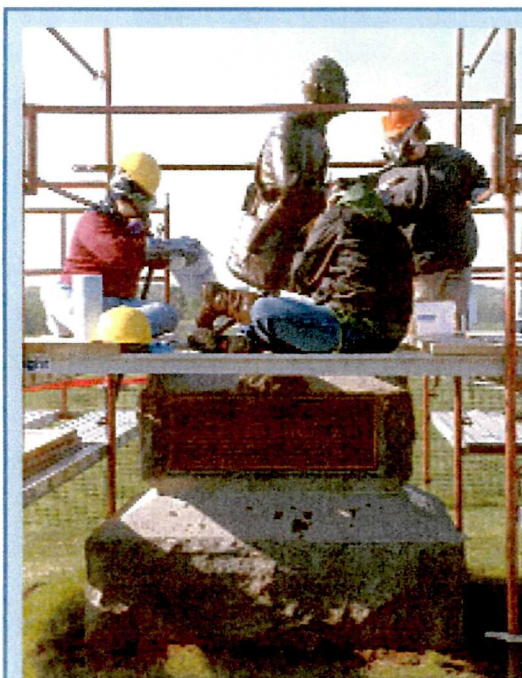
COURSES, WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING

Educational programs are designed to serve a wide range of audiences and needs. Week-long courses in monument preservation held in Washington, DC and Chicago addressed the specific needs of managers of monument collections in the public realm. An in-depth workshop on the care of historic cemeteries provided guidance to maintenance staffs. Held at Cambridge, Massachusetts' Mount Auburn Cemetery, the workshop made extensive use of training advantages to be gained by visits to many other historic cemeteries and burying grounds in the Boston area.

Supporting training materials include comprehensive books to guide monument managers, and magazine articles and videotapes on bronze and stone preservation. The videotapes examine the materials and construction methods used to produce monuments, the performance of materials in outdoor environments, conservation theory and treatments, and systems for providing long-term maintenance.



This ad is from the January 1898 issue of Monumental News, a trade journal dedicated to cemeteries and other outdoor sculpture and monuments. NPS is digitizing a 50-year run of the publication.



COLLABORATION BENEFITS PARK, UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND THE PUBLIC

Students from the University of Delaware have worked with NPS to preserve three monuments in the past several years at Gettysburg National Military Park, with more projects planned for the future.

This collaboration allows students accustomed to working on small objects in a laboratory to treat artworks of a very different scale and setting while also helping the park care for its monuments. The park benefits through improved maintenance of its statuary. And visitors get to enjoy the fruits of this collaboration when visiting the park.

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National Park Service Northeast Region



Save America's Treasures

Through this public-private partnership, the National Park Service is helping to ensure that our irreplaceable cultural heritage will survive to help educate, inspire, and enrich the lives of this generation as well as future generations.

*— Fran Mainella,
NPS Director*

As of 2004, 94 projects in the Northeast Region have been awarded grants through Save America's Treasures.

Since the inception of this program in 1999, over 40% of its NPS projects have been located within the Northeast Region's 13 states.

National Park Service Programs in the Northeast Region

Mary A. Bomar
Acting Regional Director

The Save America's Treasures program addresses the urgent preservation needs of the nation's most significant historic sites and collections. Grants are administered by the National Park Service in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities.

Since Fiscal Year 1999, 726 grants totaling \$218 million have been awarded to preserve nationally significant and endangered historic buildings, structures, places, and archival and art collections.

SELECTING THE PROJECTS

Selection criteria require that each project be of national significance, demonstrate an urgent preservation need, have an educational or otherwise clear public benefit, and demonstrate the likely availability of non-federal matching funds. Each grant requires non-federal matching funds, which has stimulated contributions from states, localities, corporations, foundations and individuals who value our shared heritage.



Stearns Farm in Vermont. Photo: Marshall Webb

In 2004, grants were awarded to 60 projects in 24 states and the District of Columbia. By law, each award requires a dollar-for-dollar non-Federal match. A large number of states, localities, corporations, foundations and individuals who value our shared heritage pledged to support these important projects through financial contributions, donations and in-kind services.

A FEW RECENTLY FUNDED PROJECTS:

STAR SPANGLED BANNER FLAG HOUSE

Baltimore, Maryland

It was here that Mary Young Pickersgill designed and fabricated the huge American flag that flew over Fort McHenry during the British attack of 1814. Seeing that its "broad stripes and bright stars" still waved in the "dawn's early light," Francis Scott Key was inspired to compose "The Star-Spangled Banner." The house, now owned by the city, is maintained as a museum and contains Mary's \$405.90 invoice for her work. The flag itself, measuring 42 by 30 feet, was the world's largest flag when it was completed. It now hangs in the National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C.

Funds will be used to address invasive moisture problems. This project was awarded \$200,000.



The Star Spangled Banner House in Baltimore (above) was the home of the seamstress who sewed an inspirational garrison flag for Fort McHenry. Also pictured is a flag modeled after the original star-spangled banner, which had fifteen stars and fifteen stripes, one for each state in the union at the time it was made in 1813. The original Star Spangled Banner received Save America's Treasures funding in 1999 for preservation work. Photos: NPS

SHELBURNE

HOUSE, SHELBURNE FARMS

Shelburne, Vermont

One of the many estate properties built for wealthy American industrialists during the Gilded Age, Shelburne Farms was considered an "ideal country place" for its exemplary model stock farm and horse breeding service, architectural and technological achievements, and scenic landscape. It is now a National Historic Landmark working farm and education center.

Grant funds will be used to upgrade the antiquated and inadequate electrical system that poses a risk to the intact house and its finishes and furnishings. Save America's Treasures awarded \$215,000 for this project.

CHARLES I. D. LOOFF CAROUSEL

East Providence, Rhode Island

Built circa 1895, this National Historic Landmark is the earliest, and probably best-preserved of the few remaining carousels built by Charles I.D. Loeff, one of the foremost manufacturers of carousels in the United States. It served as a "showroom" when Loeff's operations were headquartered in East Providence from 1905-1910. In 1985, this carousel was designated as a state symbol of American Folk Art for Rhode Island.

Failing foundations that threaten the stability of the carousel and its pavilion will be repaired with this grant. This project was awarded \$150,000.



The Charles I. D. Loeff Carousel in East Providence, RI. Photo: Gail Durfee

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