



AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST HERALDS PBS PRESIDENT JERRY HURWITZ

Newport News, VA, June 1, 2018: At its annual convention the American Battlefield Trust (ABT, formerly the Civil War Trust) heralded the achievements for historic preservation by Princeton Battlefield Society (PBS) and its president, Jerry Hurwitz. With the help of the ABT, PBS successfully concluded a 15 year battle to protect from development critical land adjacent to the current Princeton Battlefield Park.

As announced publicly last week, the ABT finally closed a deal to help PBS acquire 15 acres of "core" battlefield land adjacent to the current Princeton Battlefield State Park. Across this land George Washington launched his critical countercharge that reversed the American retreat, put the British forces on the run, and won Washington's first battle against British forces, which saved the American Revolution.

PBS' quest to save this hallowed ground began in 2003 when the Institute for Advanced Study announced plans to build single-home faculty housing on the land. For 13 years by public and legal action, the Princeton Battlefield Society managed to stall the development. Two years ago, the Civil War Trust, expanding its mission to save RevWar battlefields, joined the PBS struggle. With its national networks and unique fundraising capacity, the Civil War Trust successfully negotiated with the Institute to purchase the land and transfer it eventually to the State of New Jersey. The acquisition also led the Civil War Trust to launch its new division, called the Revolutionary War Trust, and to rebrand its entire operation as the American Battlefield Trust.

At his annual convention message before over 600 attendees, American Battlefield Trust's President Jim Lighthizer extolled Princeton Battlefield Society and its president, Jerry Hurwitz. "He's a bulldog!" Lighthizer remarked. "For 15 years Jerry and his colleagues hung in there." Such determination enabled the American Battlefield Trust to get involved and ultimately to complete the transaction. "It is one of the most extraordinary accomplishments ABT has pulled off," Lighthizer continued, "but we couldn't have done it... with Jerry Hurwitz!"

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kx12dbfHWkc>

Princeton Battlefield Area Preservation Society
P.O. Box 7645, Princeton, NJ 08534 (609) 389-5657
www.pbs1777.org info@theprincetonbattlefieldsociety.org

The Princeton Battlefield Society (PBS1777.org) is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, and the only Officially Recognized Friends Organization (ORFO) of Princeton Battlefield State Park. The PBS1777.org mission is to promote, interpret, conserve and protect Princeton Battlefield State Park and areas of the battlefield outside the Park. The Park is administered by the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Parks and Forestry, State Park Service, for the people of New Jersey and other visitors.