



AMERICAN
BATTLEFIELD
TRUST ★ ★ ★

When it comes to choosing which battlefields
we **MUST** save, this one is a **“no-brainer.”**
It's 11 acres at Antietam, in the middle of the battlefield!



Help us raise \$150,000 in the next 60 days and
receive our newly minted Antietam Challenge Coin.

Dear Patriotic Friend,

This may go without saying, but — I love history. I love talking about history. I love writing about history. I love visiting historic sites. I love sharing stories of what happened on these battlefields with you — *and telling you about our hard work to save them!*

There is a lot one can say about the Battle of Antietam — but today, I'm going to keep my letter to you brief ... I have a feeling that when you see the 11 acres we have the chance to preserve for all time, you're going to agree with me immediately that this parcel is a “no-brainer.”

Please take a look at the map I'm enclosing of Antietam. Do you see that “doughnut hole” of unprotected land right in the middle of the battlefield? *That's what we're trying to save today!*

For those of you who have visited Antietam or know about the battle, you'll likely be familiar with the Dunker Church. The tract we have the chance to save now is just a few steps behind that storied building and part of the West Woods. Without hesitation, I can tell you that these 11 acres are, by far, some of the most important acres left to secure at Antietam. They not only witnessed, but were at the center of, the surging attacks and counterattacks that defined the deadliest day in American history. To say that this tract — which we have a rare opportunity to acquire — is an absolute “must have” is an understatement!



Dunker Church was the site of a key battle during the Battle of Antietam. © Library of Congress

Today, we have a once-in-our-lifetime chance to save it. Forever! And for just \$150,000.

Before I get ahead of myself, I know what you're probably asking ... why isn't this land part of the park?

The simple answer is, it was in private hands for generations. We've been working with the family that has owned and cared for the property for many years, and now it has become available!

This is critical! Not only will this tract complete the protected core battlefield area by filling in this 11-acre hole, but it will also act as a safeguard against any future development that would threaten the historical integrity of a central part of the battlefield, as well as provide public access and new interpretation opportunities.

This key parcel of land witnessed critical parts of the battle. During their furious and costly charge to the Cornfield, the right flank of General John Bell Hood's Confederate division crossed this ground.

Shortly after, South Carolinians under General Joseph B. Kershaw worked to defeat Union soldiers involved in the fights for the West Woods and the Sunken Road. The 34th New York also occupied this land . . . as did Maryland and Pennsylvania soldiers from the Union Twelfth Corps for a time.



Soldier truce at the Dunker Church after the battle.
© National Park Service

And here's one more detail you should know. After the battle, photographer Alexander Gardner recorded some of *the most famous photos of the war here*. And what's more amazing — the trees on this tract appear in *every photo and sketch* of the Dunker Church!

I know as a student of history, this tract speaks fairly well for itself, but because this parcel is so important, I have a surprise that I hope will add even more excitement to this project. Since September 17 is the 162nd anniversary of the Battle of Antietam, I've asked my team to create a limited number of specially-designed *Antietam Challenge Coins*. They're being minted now, and one can be yours for a minimum gift of \$50!



Please hurry to make your gift to save this sacred land at Antietam, and I'll be honored to send you our latest Challenge Coin with my sincerest gratitude. **Can I count on you?**

Let's quickly raise the \$150,000 needed so we can fill in this 11-acre hole in the battle map and sleep easy knowing that the Antietam Battlefield is intact and preserved.

Remember, if you can send \$50 or more right away, I'll be sure to send you the latest Challenge Coin in our collection — the Battle of Antietam.

Please respond within the next 60 days so we can close on this purchase by mid-December, and we'll make certain the hallowed ground at Antietam can never be cleared or developed, *EVER!*



'Til the battle is won,

David N. Duncan

David N. Duncan
President

P.S. I would never take your generosity or commitment for granted. I am so grateful and humbled by your continued dedication to saving America's battlefields and our shared history. You make it possible for us to negotiate with private owners and save these hallowed grounds.

*Please make a gift of \$50 or more today
and I'll make certain you receive one
of the limited-edition Antietam Challenge
Coins. Thank you so much!*