

The Battlefields of the Pequot War (1636-1638)

Frequently Asked Questions

Does anyone have to participate in the program?

- No, it is completely voluntary.

Can private property be taken by the National Park Service or the Pequot Tribe?

- No, private property can not be taken by any means.

How do you plan on surveying my property?

- We would like permission to simply view your property to decide what potential there may be to find evidence of the battle.
- If your property is of interest we would like permission to survey your property using metal detectors. Most all of the evidence of battle we hope to find will be metallic.
- If your property yields particularly strong evidence of battle we would like permission to conduct a limited archaeological investigation.

If I allow anyone to dig on my property will it ruin my yard?

- No. It is standard professional archaeological practice to return the excavated area to its original state which means backfilling units and reseeding the area with grass.

What if evidence of a battlefield is discovered? What does that mean for me and my property?

- Even if evidence is found, you will not be restricted in your rights of private property in the use, development or sale of your property.
- Landholders are under no obligations whatsoever to participate in the Battlefield Protection Program. Again, participation in a survey is voluntary.

What if any artifacts are found on my property?

- Artifacts, notes, and any records amassed by the Fairfield Museum ABPP grant will be donated to the National Park Service and will be permanently maintained by a National Park Service approved institution such an appropriate local museum or university.

Are there any restrictions to private lands or land use if the property is designated as part of a battlefield?

- None. If the property is modified or the integrity is negatively affected the property is simply no longer part of the battlefield.