



PAMPLIN HISTORICAL PARK & THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE CIVIL WAR SOLDIER

6125 Boydton Plank Road, Petersburg, VA 23803 • 1-877-PAMPLIN/804-861-2408 • www.pamplinpark.org

Contact: Allan Altholz, Chief of Marketing, aaltholz@pamplinpark.org

NEWS RELEASE

June 6, 2005 PHP 05-04

Contact: Allan Altholz, Chief of Marketing and Communication

PAMPLIN HISTORICAL PARK BREAKS GROUND ON NEW EDUCATION CENTER

Dinwiddie, Virginia

The sight of new buildings rising out of the woods and fields at Pamplin Historical Park is nothing new. But unlike the reproduction barns and Civil War soldier camps that recently opened at the Virginia park, the most recent construction project is strictly modern.

The Park's Education Center, a \$900,000 complex of structures, is designed to serve a growing number of student visitors. Located behind the Battlefield Center on the Park's eastern edge, the Education Center will fulfill a number of critical functions. It is primarily a classroom building with the flexibility to accommodate one, two, or three groups at a time. It can also double as a theater with seating for 154 guests. The main building will be linked by an open frame timber element to expanded restroom and covered picnic facilities.

"Nearly half of the Park's visitors are students arriving in buses," explained Al Neale, the Park's Chief of Education and Visitor Services. "There has been no great sense of arrival for these guests as they begin their education experience at Pamplin Historical Park. The new Education Center will remedy that, while giving us expanded space in which to conduct programs."

Glave and Holmes of Richmond provided the architectural design of the Education Center. Canavan Construction of Richmond is the general contractor. "If the weather continues to cooperate, we expect to occupy the Education Center by October 1," said A. Wilson Greene, the Park's Executive Director. "We plan to hold our Symposium in that building on October 15-16."

The Education Center is the twenty-second building constructed, restored, or renovated since Pamplin Historical Park opened eleven years ago. The Pamplin Foundation of Portland, Oregon has invested nearly \$40,000,000 in Pamplin Historical Park during that time, perhaps the largest single-source historic site created since the Rockefeller family built Colonial Williamsburg.

Pamplin Historical Park is located near Petersburg, Virginia some 30 miles south of the Virginia State Capitol. The 422-acre campus features four museums, four historic buildings, more than three miles of walking trails through the April 2, 1865 Breakthrough Battlefield, the National Museum of the Civil War Soldier, and is home to the Civil War Adventure Camp. For more information, call 804-861-2408 or visit www.pamplinpark.org.