



### **About The New Gettysburg Museum and Visitor Center**

Opening in April of 2008, the new Gettysburg Museum and Visitor Center will help protect the resources of Gettysburg National Military Park, and help the nearly two million people who visit the park each year gain a better understanding of and appreciation for the events that occurred here.

This 139,000-square-foot facility has been designed to blend into the rural Pennsylvania countryside. It is adjacent to the battlefield, but sited at a low point in the terrain so it is not visible from the major interpretive points.

Located near the intersection of Hunt Avenue and Baltimore Pike, a short distance from the original visitor center, the new facility is on ground that saw no major battle action.

Within the new center, one of the world's largest and most important Civil War collections is brought to life, with:

- 12 galleries on the Civil War, its causes and consequences. Appropriately, the themes of the museum's 11 permanent galleries are based on phrases within Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.
- Original films throughout the galleries.
- Voices theaters, featuring readings of letters, diaries and newspaper articles by commanders, common soldiers, civilians and correspondents.
- Hands-on and interactive exhibits: high-tech experiences that put America's turning point into perspective.
- A new Refreshment Saloon, with samplings of foods reflective of the era.
- A new 22-minute feature film, *A New Birth of Freedom*, which will immerse viewers in the sights and sounds of the events leading up to the battle, the battle itself and its aftermath.
- A world-class museum bookstore.
- Dedicated accommodations for groups, including a separate entrance, bus parking area and bus drivers' lounge.