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By STAFF REPORTS  
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Virginia's commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War will have \$950,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to use for exhibits and educational programs.

"An American Turning Point" is the theme for a major museum exhibition, a traveling exhibition, a panel exhibition, a permanent online Web exhibition, and related educational and public programs. The project was also recognized by NEH's "We the People" program for encouraging and strengthening the teaching, study and understanding of American history and culture.

The exhibition will open at the Virginia Historical Society in February 2011.

Union, Confederate and African-American perspectives will be included in a balanced portrayal of the war, according to the minutes of the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission. Programs and exhibitions will examine the social and cultural legacies of the conflict, as well as the battlefield and the home front from 1861 to 1865.

Plans for the traveling exhibit include a 3,000 square-foot exhibition for museums, a panel exhibition for smaller venues, and, tentatively, a tractor-trailer exhibition.