Schmucker Hall

Historic Renovation
61 Seminary Ridge
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Total Project Costs:
$16,000,000
NMTC Allocation:
$14,450,000
Closing Date:
First Quarter 2012
NMTC Investor:
PNC
Status:
Complete

The purpose of the project is to renovate Schmucker Hall into a state-of-the-art Civil War Museum. The museum will be a national attraction. Its construction and subsequent operations and visitor spending will also have significant economic benefit to the project, as well as the surrounding area.

The project is sponsored by the Lutheran Theological Seminary of Gettysburg, which has formed a joint venture with the Adams County Historical Society for the purpose of the renovation of Schmucker Hall on the Seminary’s campus. The site played a pivotal role in United States history. From its bell tower, Union Army General John Buford spotted the advancing Confederate Army, and on its grounds the struggle of the first day of the Battle of Gettysburg was played out.

Additionally, Schmucker Hall is an original structure on the grounds of the oldest U.S. Lutheran Seminary in continuous use. The seminary was founded by Samuel Schmucker, a progressive who offered use of the Seminary as a stop on the Underground Railroad. In addition, Schmucker was an advocate of non-segregated education, and the seminary hosted integrated classes as early as 1835. The building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974.

Estimated project costs including placement and legal are anticipated to be roughly $16 million. The proposed structure calls for CCG to employ $14.45 million of allocation resulting in NMTC investment at the fund level of approximately $3.9 million.

Project Details
- Renovation of Building on Historic Civil War Battlefield to house museum

Distress Criteria
- Qualified Census Tract: 42001031502
- Rural, NMTC Eligible
- Poverty Rate: 17.2%
- Unemployment Rate: 6.0%

Community Impacts
- Renovation to preserve historic battlefield site estimated to attract 80,000 visitors annually
- New museum provides education and cultural experiences regarding Civil War battles and Underground Railroad
- Estimated creation of 150 construction jobs and 13 full-time staff positions, including 10 expected to be filled by low-income persons.