

New Museum Highlights 400 Years Of American Culture In Hampton, Virginia



“Assault On Port Hudson” by F.B. Schell, June 11, 1863. One of 175 first-hand accounts in the exhibit “The Civil War: Our Nation Divided,” presented at the Hampton History Museum through March 2004.

(NAPSA)—Imagine the collection of artifacts you might acquire over 400 years. In Hampton, Virginia’s case, those objects number to 400,000 and represent our nation’s oldest continuous English-speaking settlement. The collection can now be seen for the first time as the Hampton History Museum opens ten permanent galleries that bridge the past with the present, spanning from its inhabitation by the native Kecoughtan Tribe to the city’s role as founding site for the U.S. space program.

Exciting tales like the arrival of Captain John Smith to Old Point Comfort in 1610, the demise of Blackbeard the Pirate and the burning of Hampton in 1861 are

recounted in interactive exhibits. “The Civil War: Our Nation Divided,” a series of original prints dating to 1862, is displayed in the museum’s changing gallery. The collection features the actual war-time accounts of Winslow Homer, Currier & Ives, Edwin Forbes, William T. Crane and Joseph Becker, among others, and is touted as the only authentic pictorial history in existence. The exhibit will be presented through March 2004.

The museum located at 120 Old Hampton Lane is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and closed on Sundays. Call 757/727-1610 for details.