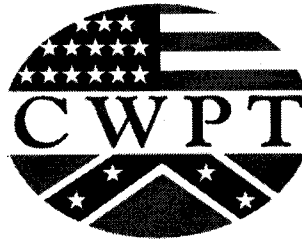


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National Parks Conservation Association®
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April 18, 2008

The Honorable L. Preston Bryant, Jr.
Secretary of Natural Resources
and Chairman, Fort Monroe Federal Area Development Authority
Patrick Henry Building
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Secretary Bryant:

We are writing to you on behalf of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Civil War Preservation Trust, APVA - Preservation Virginia, and National Parks Conservation Association to express our shared perspective on certain issues that will influence the redevelopment of Fort Monroe.

Fort Monroe is well known as a place of extraordinary significance and a designated National Historic Landmark, which is distinguished by its unique and irreplaceable historic, cultural, natural, scenic, and recreational values. The U.S. Army will vacate and close Fort Monroe by 2011, and this transition away from its historic military use poses a risk to and creates new opportunities for Fort Monroe. Consequently, Fort Monroe deserves all of our best efforts to assure the highest level of protection and best quality of interpretation as the next era of Fort Monroe's history is determined and implemented in years to come.

**Continued Productive Use, Adaptive Reuse, and Maintenance
of Historic Resources at Fort Monroe:**

When the Army vacates Fort Monroe and the 570-acre National Historic Landmark reverts to the Commonwealth of Virginia, Fort Monroe must be carefully preserved as a vibrant and economically self-sustaining, publicly accessible place where people live, work, and visit, and where visitors' understanding and appreciation of the nation's history is enhanced.

