

# Work begins on what will be SoBro's tallest building



Gary Everton of Everton Oglesby Architects holds a shovel at the July 11 groundbreaking of The Pinnacle in the developing SoBro district south of Broadway. DIPTI VAIDYA / THE TENNESSEAN

By JENNY SONG  
*Staff Writer*

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Work has begun on The Pinnacle at Symphony Place, a project that will change the skyline in the developing SoBro district south of Broadway.

Workers are digging the foundation and will start building in about five months, according to a spokesperson for developer Barry Real Estate

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The Pinnacle will be the tallest building in SoBro.

When the building opens in 2009, it will stand 28 stories, or 430 feet tall, and house the headquarters of Pinnacle Financial Partners and the law firm Bass Berry & Sims.

Barry Real Estate will apply for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

Jim Barry, senior director of development at Barry Real Estate, said Bass Berry & Sims requested LEED certification when it began discussions of the project.

"We're focusing all of our new projects to at least be LEED certified," Barry said. "We feel like that's the way things are moving these days."

The Pinnacle will feature a roof planted with vegetation on its parking garage. The vegetation will be irrigated using rain collected from runoff water.

The building also will be made from eco-friendly materials such as limestone or granite.

Barry said The Pinnacle would cost \$170 million, about \$4 million more than it would have if the developer used traditional building techniques. "It's costing us a pretty penny," he said, but "it will be paid back through the leasability of the building."

Materials similar to those used in building the Schermerhorn Symphony Center will be used, Barry said.

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