“We are honored to be a part of this extraordinary effort to preserve the history of the thousands of Oregon Veterans who have served their state and nation so valiantly. The men and women who made Oregon’s military history deserve a special place for future generations to come and learn about their sacrifices and triumphs.”

— Victor G. Atiyeh, Governor of Oregon (1979-1987)
— Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor of Oregon (2003-2011)
Celebrating Oregon’s Military History

The new $6.5 million Oregon Military Museum will celebrate and commemorate Oregon’s military heritage: its past, present, and future. Every service branch will be included: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard. For generations, hundreds of thousands of Oregonians have served their country at home and abroad. Many sacrificed their lives in defense of liberty and freedom while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Persian Gulf War, Vietnam, Korea, World Wars I and II, the Spanish-American War, the Civil War, the Indian Wars, and many more. Their legacy continues.
The new museum will be named in honor of Retired Brigadier General James B. Thayer, Sr., one of Oregon's finest military and civic leaders. James Thayer joined the U.S. Army in 1942 as a young man, earning the prestigious Silver and Bronze Stars for his combat heroics in Europe during World War II. Second Lieutenant Thayer’s anti-tank mine platoon discovered and liberated a Nazi death camp, Gunskirchen Lager, near Wels, Austria, saving the lives of over 15,000 Hungarian Jewish refugees.

First Lieutenant Thayer is pictured above leading his troops in Günzburg, Germany, in June 1945.

Brigadier General James B. Thayer, Sr.

“General Thayer, like thousands of other Oregonians, served their country with honor. In true American fashion, he came home from the war, started a successful business, raised a remarkable family, and always found time to serve his community. General Thayer’s story is just one of many stories that will be told through the Oregon Military Museum. Preserving these valuable stories and artifacts is our honor and our responsibility.”

—Victor G. Atiyeh, Governor of Oregon (1979-1987)

—Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor of Oregon (2003-2011)

Family and friends gather to watch Third Oregon troops while training at Camp Jackson, Gearhart, Oregon, circa 1915.
Becoming a World-Class Museum

This project will transform the 32,000 square-foot Clackamas Armory and grounds into a state-of-the-art museum that will be the centerpiece of the Oregon Military Heritage Park at Camp Withycombe, home of the new 41st Division Armed Forces Reserve Center. It will become a major Pacific Northwest attraction and gateway to other historic military sites in Oregon. The park-like setting will feature the 1911 Battery A Field Artillery Horse Barn, the World War II Quonset Hut, and areas for educational outdoor exhibits.

- The Museum’s $6+ million collection will be showcased in visually stimulating and thought-provoking exhibits that bring personal stories to life and demonstrate that history is important, relevant, and fun.

- A 10,000 square-foot Exhibition Hall will tell Oregon’s military history from Native American citizen warriors, to the founding of the Oregon National Guard, to the present day.

- Exhibition space will quadruple, including a new “changing exhibit” gallery.

- The Weapons Vault will provide a unique, displayable, and secured exhibit of one of the largest firearms and artillery collections west of the Mississippi.

- Educational, interpretive programs will engage children and adults on a variety of topics, such as military service values: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage.

- Improved design and security will increase the Museum’s capacity for visitors and school field trips.

- The Museum’s nationally significant collection of artifacts and archives will be preserved through the modernization of building systems: air conditioning, humidity control, fire sprinklers, and security.

- The 30,000 volume Library and Archives will be centralized in one location to provide greater access for visitors and researchers.

- Attendance at the Museum is expected to multiply ten-fold to 40,000 visitors a year.

Portland Light Battery
Guidon circa 1866.
Oregon Military Museum Capital Campaign Timeline and Budget

The Brigadier General James B. Thayer, Sr. Oregon Military Museum is planned to open in 2014, following a successful $6.5 million capital campaign. The Museum will be the centerpiece of the Oregon Military Heritage Park at Camp Withycombe, home of the 41st Division Armed Forces Reserve Center.

Project Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main Building</td>
<td>$2,800,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Security, Lighting, Painting, Fire Safety, Structural Renovations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phase I of Exhibits and Displays</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exterior/Site Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Campaign Expenses</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,500,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant Opportunity!**

**Be a Part of History...**

Your support will help us become a world-class museum. The Oregon Military Museum has applied for a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Challenge Grant. When you make a gift to our capital campaign, your tax-deductible donation will help us meet the three-to-one matching requirements for the grant. The Historical Outreach Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that supports the Oregon Military Museum capital campaign. All capital campaign contributions should be payable to the Historical Outreach Foundation Museum Fund and mailed to:

Historical Outreach Foundation  
c/o Oregon Military Museum  
Camp Withycombe  
15300 SE Industrial Way  
Clackamas, OR 97015

www.historicaloutreach.com • 503.705.5965  
Tax ID#: 27-0716350 • The Historical Outreach Foundation is a qualifying Oregon Cultural Trust organization.
Commemorative Naming Opportunities

The $6.5 million capital campaign offers unique naming opportunities for Legacy Gifts of $20,000 to $1,000,000. Making a Legacy Gift offers an extraordinary opportunity to give back to our community while honoring a unique individual, family, company, or organization. Your gift will inspire others to give more generously and will affirm the Oregon Military Museum’s value to Oregon.

**EXTERIOR NAMING OPPORTUNITIES**

- Oregon Military Heritage Park: $1,000,000
- Entry Gate: $500,000
- Tracks and Treads Vehicle Display: $500,000
- Remembrance Garden: $250,000
- Memorial Walkway: $100,000
- Orientation Pavilion: $75,000

**INTERIOR NAMING OPPORTUNITIES**

- Exhibition Hall: $500,000
- Military Arms Vault: $500,000
- Library and Archives: $300,000
- Changing Theme Gallery: $300,000
- Learning Center: $150,000
- Entrance Foyer: $100,000
- Welcome, Reception, Gift Store: $50,000
- Exhibition Preparation: $25,000
- Volunteer Breakroom/Caterer’s Kitchen: $25,000
- Interactive Exhibit Station (5): $20,000 each

**ARTIFACT PRESERVATION**

- North Wing (Admin Wing): $75,000
- South Wing (Admin Wing): $75,000
- Weapons Preservation Room: $75,000
- Artifact Preservation Room I: $50,000
- Artifact Preservation Room II: $50,000
- Artifact Preservation Room III: $25,000

**INDIVIDUAL EXHIBITION AREA CONCEPTS**

- Our Roots—From Indian Wars and Citizen Warriors to the Oregon National Guard
- First Overseas Service
- Interlude Between the Spanish American War and World War I
- Doughboys—Mexican Border Service and World War I
- Interlude—The Interwar Years from 1919 to 1939
- A World at War—1939 to 1945
- Interlude—The Postwar Period
- The Motor Pool
- The Cold War—1945-1989
- In Our Time—1990s to Present Day
- We Are Family
- The Guard Today
- The Weapons Vault

*A current list of unfilled naming opportunities is available.*
**History of the Museum**

The Oregon Military Department established the Oregon Military Museum in 1975 as the official state repository for documents, weapons, and artifacts relating to Oregon's military history. Until 2009, the Oregon Military Museum collection was housed and displayed in several buildings located at Camp Withycombe. The Museum documents the role of Oregon’s military contribution to state, national, and world history. The outstanding $6+ million collection contains more than 14,000 artifacts, from rare weapons and prisoner-of-war relics to tracked vehicles and ribbon-laden uniforms. The library collection houses more than 30,000 library volumes, tens of thousands of photographs, and 750 cubic feet of archives dating back to the 1860s.

![Two historic displays within the former space of the Museum.](image)

**Educating and Inspiring Visitors**

A visit to the Oregon Military Museum will connect us to our own family history, will instill renewed respect for our neighbors and co-workers who defend our freedom, and will inspire us to share our experience with others. The Museum will engage all of our senses through its exhibits, living history, and interpretive programs. The annual Living History Day, community outreach, and other commemorations are a few of the planned educational events.

![The Historical Outreach Foundation brings history programs to the classroom.](image)

*“The best collection of Japanese artillery in the world. Spectacular!”*  
— Museum Visitor
Oregon’s Citizen Soldiers

The Oregon Military Museum will tell the story of the Oregon National Guard, from Oregon’s earliest military history to the present day. The Guard traces its roots back to a time that predates our Declaration of Independence, when groups of farmers, merchants, and fishermen took up arms to defend their homesteads from native tribes. These organized militias expanded throughout the 13 colonies and were later called upon to lead a Revolution that led to the birth of a new nation.

The growth of these militias accompanied the westward expansion of the United States. As the number of settlements increased in the new Oregon Territory, there was a need for an organized military defense. In 1843, local settlers authorized a company of mounted riflemen, and these men were the nucleus of Oregon’s first militia. State legislator Owen Summers spearheaded the establishment of the Oregon National Guard, and the Summers Act was approved on May 20, 1887.

When We Are Needed, We Are There

The Oregon National Guard has a dual mission: to support the United States of America and to assist stateside in times of natural disaster or civil strife. They stand ready for prompt mobilization for war or national emergency. They also serve a humanitarian role and have responded to floods and fires in Oregon, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in the Gulf States, and the earthquake in Haiti.

“Everything is as I expected to see it, in splendid shape. This is one of my oldest and proudest divisions. Its achievements have been of the first order. I have the greatest affection for and pride in the 41st Division.”

—General Douglas MacArthur, after an inspection of the 41st Division in the Philippines, June 15, 1945

The 41st Division

One of the many units to be featured in the Museum is the 41st Division, which comprised National Guard units from Oregon, Washington, Montana, and Idaho. It was activated for service in World War I, and was one of the first to engage in offensive ground combat operations in World War II in the last months of 1942.
**A Soldier’s story…**

Howard Ramsey was the last living U.S. combat veteran of World War I. He donated his uniform and other militaria to the Museum, and regularly visited and shared his stories. Ramsey tried to enlist for World War I, but was told he was too skinny. After gorging on bananas and water to meet weight standards, he was placed in the Army’s Transportation Corps and served in France. Howard Ramsey was just shy of his 109th birthday when he died in 2007. His story is one of many told by the Museum.

![Corporal Ramsey’s uniform and dog tags.](image)

Howard Ramsey in 1916 while serving in the Oregon Naval Militia.

Governor Kulongoski with Private First Class Stephen Printup and his grandfather, Cayuse Chief Jesse Jones.

**Oregon’s Nine Federally Recognized Tribes**

1. Burns Paiute Tribe
2. Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians
3. Coquille Indian Tribe
4. Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians
5. Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community
6. Klamath Tribes
7. Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
8. Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
9. Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

“The Indians of the Oregon Tribes are proud of their warriors who fought for their homelands during the Oregon Indian Wars. Since treaty days, Oregon Indians have served in the U.S. Armed Forces in all the battles, conflicts, and wars of the U.S. in a higher per capita rate of any other people.”

—A Tribal Elder, Confederated Tribes of Oregon
Capital Campaign Leadership

**Honorary Chairs**
Governor Victor Atiyeh • Governor Ted Kulongoski

**Committee Members**
Jim Thayer, Jr. • John Thayer • Mike Thayer • Tommy Thayer • Jim Linkous

**Staff**
Alisha Hamel • Executive Director, Historical Outreach Foundation
Helen Gundlach • Director of Development, Historical Outreach Foundation
Tracy Thoennes • Curator, Oregon Military Museum
Kimberly Lippert • Public Affairs, Oregon Military Department

**Advisors**
Mr. James B. Thayer, Sr., • Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army (Emeritus) • Brigadier General (ORSDF), Retired
Major General Raymond F. Rees • The Adjutant General, Oregon
Brigadier General (ORSDF) Mike Caldwell • Deputy Director State Affairs, Oregon Military Department
Colonel (Ret) Donald F. Bond • Chief of Staff, Oregon National Guard

The Oregon Military Museum Mission—
• Tell the story of Oregon’s military heritage, with a focus on the Oregon National Guard and the state’s militia.
• Collect and ensure access to historical artifacts and archives.
• Preserve the items entrusted to its care.
• Educate and inspire visitors through exhibits, living history, and interpretive programs.

The Historical Outreach Foundation Mission—
The Historical Outreach Foundation has a dual mission: to bring history to life in the classroom through informative, interactive presentations—with special emphasis on the contributions of veterans and the military to our society—and to help build and sustain the Oregon Military Museum.

OREGON MILITARY MUSEUM • HISTORICAL OUTREACH FOUNDATION
Oregon Military Museum • Camp Withycombe
15300 SE Industrial Way • Clackamas, OR 97015

www.oregonmilitarymuseum.org • 503.683.5359
www.historicaloutreach.com • 503.705.5965

*Photo Credits: Tracings of petroglyphs courtesy of James D. Keyser and “Indian Rock Art of the Columbia Plateau.”*