

# INTERPRETIVE PLAN

## OREGON MILITARY MUSEUM

CAMP WITHYCOMBE, CLACKAMAS, OREGON 97015



**ALICE PARMAN, PH.D.**  
**TRACY THOENNES, CURATOR**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

### **New Directions**

Founded in 1975, the Oregon Military Museum (OMM) has built unique collections that document the role of the Oregon National Guard and Oregonians' military service and contributions to state, national, and world history. Through the years, the Museum has welcomed Soldiers and Airmen, Sailors and Marines, veterans, and their families, along with community members and travelers, to view the exhibits and share their stories. Researchers come from all over the country to study the collections and work in the archives. Dedicated volunteers spend countless hours restoring historic military vehicles and sharing them with Oregonians at parades, commemorations, and other community events. Living History Day at Camp Withycombe, home of the Oregon Military Museum, has drawn enthusiastic crowds to take part in hands-on family activities that interpret Oregon's military heritage.

The Department of Defense's base realignment and closure (BRAC) process at Camp Withycombe presented the Oregon Military Museum with a unique opportunity to expand and deepen its interpretive scope. In 2009, the Museum's collections and operations were moved to the 1954 Clackamas Armory, an outdated building requiring remodeling and reconfiguring. A new Historic Area was established, encompassing the decommissioned Armory, the National Register-eligible circa 1911 field artillery horse barn, the circa 1911 Quartermaster Storehouse, and a World War II Quonset hut.

These opportunities have enabled the Oregon Military Museum to become a venue for high-quality visitor experiences, commensurate with OMM's nationally significant collection. We invite all friends of Oregon military history, including all veterans, to join with us in making this vision a reality.

Initially in 2009, the Oregon National Guard (ORNG) commissioned Architects Barrentine Bates Lee AIA (BBL) to develop an architectural master plan, in collaboration with landscape architecture firm Walker Macy. The architectural master plan defined the scope and content of design and construction to transform the Clackamas Armory and its grounds into the new home of the Oregon Military Museum.

By 2013, the architectural team had evolved to include full time personnel from the Oregon Military Department's Installations Division, award-winning design architect Don Stastny, THA Architecture (now Hacker), and PLACE studio, along with contractors Precision Construction Company and numerous engineering firms. The newest architectural plan further refined the scope and content of the project, adding many new and innovative features that will make our vision for the site and facilities a reality.

The creation of visitor experiences for this state-of-the-art facility and site, including associated historic structures and outdoor interpretive features, will be guided by this interpretive master plan. Working closely with Museum Curator Tracy Thoennes and the Museum's exhibit committee, Alice Parman, Ph.D. authored the original draft plan. After careful review by Museum professionals, scholars, and Oregon National Guard officers and staff, Parman prepared a final interpretive master plan. Thoennes and the exhibit committee further revised the plan in

2015 and 2016, to reflect additions and changes to the site, additional proposed exhibits, the Museum's name, and a revised Museum mission statement.

These architectural and interpretive master plans guide subsequent planning, design, and construction of the Museum's buildings and grounds. They are also invaluable communications and fundraising tools during the Museum's capital campaign.

### **Mission and Goals**

To ensure that new exhibits and programs convey the unique identity and values of the Oregon Military Museum, the interpretive plan is firmly grounded in the Museum's mission:

The Oregon Military Museum was established in 1975 by the Oregon Military Department as the state's official military repository. Its mission is:

- ◆ To inspire and educate visitors about Oregon's military heritage and legacy to include the National Guard, the state's early militia, and all branches of the Armed Forces.
- ◆ To meet its professional stewardship obligations for the historical artifacts and archives entrusted to its care.

### *The Goals of Interpretation*

According to Freeman Tilden, author of *Interpreting Our Heritage*, the aim of interpretation is “to reveal meanings and relationships...rather than simply to communicate factual information.” Interpretation provokes attention and curiosity, relates concepts and facts to visitors' own lives, and reveals key messages in unforgettable ways. Making use of a variety of objects, experiences, and media, interpretive exhibits and programs appeal to as many senses as possible. Interpretive displays and activities seek to engage visitors intellectually, emotionally, and physically.

### *Take-Home Messages and Interpretive Goals*

Guided by the Museum's mission, the first step in interpretive planning is to determine the big ideas to be conveyed to all visitors. Working with interpretive planner Alice Parman, the Museum's staff, stakeholders, and key members of the Oregon National Guard have identified five core *take-home messages*:

- ◆ The military is an enduring part of Oregon's past, present, and future.
- ◆ Military service members are my neighbors and co-workers; they have volunteered for extra responsibility.
- ◆ Working together with respect, people can accomplish amazing things.
- ◆ History is interesting, important, and relevant.
- ◆ I am part of history.

Take-home messages provide the conceptual framework for organizing the visitor's experience of the Oregon Military Museum. *Interpretive goals* describe how these visitor experiences are intended to influence visitors' understanding, attitudes, and behavior. We expect that during and after their visit, many visitors will:

- ◆ Feel new or renewed respect for values associated with military service: duty, honor, service, endurance, and valor;
- ◆ Understand the meaning of "freedom isn't free";

- ◆ Express a personal connection to the past, including their own family history;
- ◆ Share their excitement about the Museum with friends and family, and make plans for frequent repeat visits.

### **Guiding Principles of Interpretation at the Oregon Military Museum**

*Citizen Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, and Marines are the stars of this exhibit.*

Personal stories bring images and artifacts to life. First-person accounts bear witness to the quiet heroism and devotion to duty made by the thousands of Oregonians who have served in the military. This testimony also conveys the camaraderie and tradition of military service. Visitors in turn will be inspired to share *their* stories.

*Visitors view Oregon's history through the lens of military experience.*

The military is revealed as a unique cultural institution with a proud history, tradition, and identity—expressed in uniform styles and colors, insignia, and weaponry through time. Visitors discover connections between military traditions and Oregon's history and popular culture. As they follow Oregonians to humanitarian missions and wartime duties throughout the nation and the world, visitors begin to think of Oregon history in national and world context. They become aware of historic military sites and resources, in Oregon and elsewhere, featured in OMM displays.

*The Museum interprets Oregon military history as lived by participants, and understood today.*

Visitors get a sense of what it has meant to go to war in different eras; they see how the nature of combat has changed because of technological innovation and conditions on the ground. Firsthand accounts express how military service members from all branches fight, cope, learn from experience, and keep working to make a difference. The distinct roles of the National Guard on the home front are a revelation to many visitors: the Guard's unique responsibility to maintain civil order, and its participation in humanitarian, firefighting, and rescue missions. People of all backgrounds relate to the experiences of family members: life on the home front, deployment and re-integration, casualties of war, and how families and communities support service men and women.

*A chronological pathway unfolds a fascinating story, rich in authentic objects and images, with unique opportunities to study, look closely, and even touch the past.*

Each time period has at least one centerpiece, ranging from a single artifact or photograph to a full-scale diorama. Whatever the scale, the focal piece is dramatically lit, drawing visitors in. Stage-set decor and graphic motifs reinforce the look and feel of each historic period. Headlines and quotes also play a role, with cultural references and dates to place visitors chronologically. When visitors choose to move randomly among time periods, they remain aware that a story is unfolding within the exhibit space.

### **Audience Development and Institutional Identity**

Through exhibits, special events, and volunteer programs in its previous location, the Oregon Military Museum reached an average of 4,000 visitors per year. Most have been veterans, and family members of veterans.

In the past, security and manpower issues forced the Museum to set strict limits on attendance. Because the Museum's exhibits displayed priceless artifacts in unprotected touch zones, visitors

could only tour the galleries under close supervision. An important goal for the new facility is to house all original objects securely and safely. This will enable the Museum to expand public hours and welcome many more visitors. These additional security and staffing resources will allow OMM to engage all of Oregon's service members, veterans, and their families, and increase additional target audiences of school and youth groups, non-military families, tourists, veterans' associations, and general visitors of all ages and backgrounds.

The desire to build and diversify the Museum's audience has influenced many of the visitor experiences proposed in this document. By presenting storylines, collections, and educational opportunities in personal and highly accessible ways, the Museum's exhibits can appeal to a multi-age audience, including families and school groups.

OMM displays will also create new opportunities for in-depth exploration. This potential will be best fulfilled by increasing staff capacity to present customized tours to special interest groups, and to recruit, train, and supervise volunteer guides. The exhibits proposed in this plan are self-guided with the exception of the Battery A Field Artillery Horse Barn and the World War II Quonset hut; but visitors' experience will be even more memorable when they can personally interact with knowledgeable museum resource people.

Through exhibits that intrigue, engage, and educate, we will offer rewarding experiences for all visitors. By building changeability and flexibility into exhibit design, the Oregon Military Museum will become a leading regional attraction, with ongoing repeat visitation by nearby residents and tourists alike. And by serving as a gateway to introduce visitors to military history sites and resources throughout the state, OMM will play a key role in Oregon's museum and cultural communities.

## **SITE OVERVIEW**

The Oregon Military Museum is experiencing institution-wide renewal. New exhibits in the remodeled Clackamas Armory and the 4-acre site will reflect an expanded, deepened interpretation of Oregonians' military service and the Oregon National Guard. The Museum's nationally significant collection will be the focus of engaging, in-depth exhibits for a multigenerational audience. All friends of Oregon's military history are invited to be part of realizing the vision outlined here.

Approaching and entering the grounds of the Oregon Military Museum, visitors encounter **three main thematic elements** that set the stage for a memorable visit: the Central Plaza, the Historic Park, and the Main Building. Guided by appropriate signage, visitors can explore the entire Museum grounds. During Living History Day and other special events, when re-enactors and live interpreters are present, these educational resources truly come to life.

### **Three Main Thematic Elements**

- ♦ **The Central Plaza** contains visitor drop off and parking zones, and provides the first view of the museum grounds. Just beyond the parking lot is the Honor Garden recognizing Oregon's veterans of all wars. Beyond the Garden is the Tracks and Treads vehicle pavilion that interprets large scale macro artifacts in a weather-protective setting.

- ◆ **The Historic Park** is to the right (west) as visitors enter. The Park encompasses a pastoral setting of very large, old trees and two circa 1911 historical buildings: the Battery A Field Artillery Horse Barn and the Quartermaster Storehouse. These structures were rescued from demolition and relocated here in order to interpret the history of Camp Withycombe, a former military encampment site and a target range. Additionally, the “Walk of Honor” engraved brick pathway, set among the old growth trees within the park-like setting, invites visitors to investigate further and take time to reflect.
- ◆ **The Main Building of the Oregon Military Museum** is to the left (east) of the Central Plaza. Visitors enter the Lobby, and find the Museum Store and other welcoming visitor services. Founders’ and major supporters’ plaques salute the generous contributors whose farsighted vision made the new Museum a reality. The journey through military history begins in depth from here, through self-guided galleries of the Main Exhibit Hall, Temporary Exhibits Galleries, the Weapons Collection, and the Hall of Valor.

## **MAIN BUILDING SELF-GUIDED THEMED GALLERIES OVERVIEW**

### **Main Exhibit Hall - *Serving Oregon • Serving Our Country***

Following a dynamic overview of military service, visitors embark on a journey through time and enter a space that is rich in history. Lighting and signage lead them along a chronological pathway. Visual clues point ahead to areas that may be of special interest to some visitors. The story unfolds through several centuries, and many generations. The journey of discovery begins with the legacy of many generations of Oregon's Native peoples: since time immemorial, they were the original citizen warriors of Oregon.

**Our Roots** documents Oregon’s earliest military history, from Native American citizen warrior traditions, through Lewis and Clark’s first U.S. military venture into the Pacific Northwest, to the organization of Oregon’s earliest militia. Visitors learn about Oregonians’ involvement in the Civil War, and follow the course of protracted Indian Wars, with Native warriors involved on both sides. Historic photos and documents, and a few precious artifacts, attest to the central role of military effort in establishing Oregon as a territory and a state, culminating in 1887 legislation establishing the Oregon National Guard. The finale of *Our Roots* is an electronic shooting gallery where visitors can safely handle replicas of 19<sup>th</sup> century weapons.

**First Overseas Service** details the campaigns of the Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection, 1898-1899. A tropical look and feel, a magic lantern show, and original artifacts immerse visitors to headline news and rapidly unfolding events that led Oregonians to fight overseas for the first time. Souvenirs and personal memoirs provide evidence of the decisive role played in the Philippines by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Oregon U.S. Volunteer Infantry.

Here as throughout the timeline, special features and interludes portray the peacetime responsibilities and accomplishments of Oregonians in military service. In the period before World War I, the Oregon Naval Militia and the Coast Artillery Corps are in the spotlight.

**Doughboys** puts Camp Withycombe in the center of Oregon’s response to incursions into U.S. territory by Mexican revolutionary Pancho Villa. In *Guarding the Border*, period images and artifacts bring Soldiers’ memories of Mexican Border Service to life. Visitors gain appreciation



for this nationwide call-up as a training exercise that prepared the United States military for service in World War I. The centerpiece of *Over There* is a fully restored Liberty Truck. Uniformed mannequins represent an infantryman, a bilingual telephone operator, and a balloonist. Supported by artifact and photo collections as well as first-person accounts, these displays put both women and men in touch with the “war to end all wars” from three very different perspectives.

**A World at War** is the Museum’s largest display, reflecting the depth and breadth of its World War II collections. *Mobilizing for War* honors shipyard workers whose contributions were critical to victory in both the European and the Pacific theaters. Opening toolboxes and lunch pails, visitors find photos and memories of men and women throughout Oregon who contributed to the war effort. A photo essay with artifacts documents coastal defense units, and a Japanese attack on Fort Stevens. *War in the Pacific* begins with headlines and maps detailing an embattled nation, mourning Soldiers stranded in the Philippines and men and ships lost during Pearl Harbor. A centerpiece diorama of a destroyed Japanese HaGo tank invites visitors to follow the path of the Sunset Division Jungleers; authentic images and artifacts and an interactive game bring their island-hopping amphibious attacks to life.

*Oregon on a War Footing* showcases fascinating artifacts and photos to convey the involvement of ordinary men, women, and children in the war effort. Vintage calendar pages trace the *Continuous Combat* of the 104<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Timberwolves during the 195 days that took them from Cherbourg to the Elbe River. Visitors use binoculars and stereoscopic viewers to learn about the air war in *Oregonians Take to the Skies*. *Breaking Barriers* pays tribute to women and members of minority groups who overcame discriminatory laws to serve their country. *Exceptional Valor* honors all of Oregon’s Medal of Honor recipients, with a special focus on the selfless actions of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. David R. Kingsley, for whom the 173<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing’s Kingsley Field is named.

**The Motor Pool** recreates the ambiance of a working maintenance shop, with changeable military vehicles from diverse historic periods. Visitors are welcome to climb into the cab of a deuce and a half truck for an unforgettable photo opportunity. A garage door lets Museum staff move the vehicles in and out, to be part of parades and other community events. Before continuing along the timeline, visitors can relax and browse in the **Rest & Relaxation Area**. Comfortable benches are also available at strategic locations throughout the exhibit gallery.

**The Cold War** documents the period from 1945 to 1989: the Korean War, the Vietnam War era, and European conflicts through the demise of the Soviet Union. Centerpiece exhibits of the F-86 Sabre Jet as well as vehicles, photos, memorabilia, and quotes from oral histories show the roles played by Oregonians, both overseas and stateside, during these historic events.

**In Our Time** continues the story of Oregon’s military history through the present day. An artifact-rich feature on the Gulf War is followed by a chronology and changeable updates on the Global War on Terrorism since 2001. A special feature honors the role of the 142<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing, *Patrolling the Skies* over the West Coast. The timeline culminates in a web-based interactive experience, *Homeland Security*, where visitors are immersed in the ORNG’s unified emergency management and response system. They take roles, make decisions, and find out the consequences of those choices.

**We Are Family**, changeable (and very personal) exhibits by and for veterans and their families, reflects the daily lives of people who most unfailingly support their deployed loved ones. A memorial quilt, first-person stories, and excerpts from a theater piece written and performed by veterans are highlights of this special display.

**The Guard Today** offers a lively introduction to the challenging, rewarding daily lives of citizen Soldiers and Airmen. Visitors learn about key roles of the National Guard, and see where the ONG has been deployed, in *Where in the World is the Oregon National Guard? A Day in the Life* pairs mini-biographies with hands-on experiences, as visitors follow recruits through their first day of training. An obstacle course, *Do Your Best, Give Your Best*, lets adults and children measure their abilities against the Guard's fitness standards. The ORNG's humanitarian and civil defense activities are documented in *Serving State and Nation*. Visitors assess their knowledge of military etiquette and tradition in *Test Your ORNG IQ*, and use a touch-screen computer to learn more about *Opportunities* offered by the Oregon National Guard.

### **Temporary, Changing Theme Galleries**

Created to be flexible with rotating exhibits, these galleries are designed to inspire return visitation and complimenting educational programming, as well as to forge partnerships with other cultural and community organizations. Examples of exhibitions might include: *Notable Figures in Oregon's Military History*, *Walk a Mile in These Shoes*, *Aspects of Insignia*, *Oregon Painters of Military Themes...*

### **The Weapons Collection**

The Weapons Orientation and Weapons Rooms encompass state-of-the-art displays for the Museum's outstanding small arms and artillery collections, inviting visitors to preview collection highlights and view many of these rare artifacts in a display format that meets the security requirements for weapons. Interpretive displays along a reader rail offer fascinating facts for novices, and enough technical information to satisfy military history buffs.

### **Hall of Valor**

The Hall recognizes acts of valor and great courage in the face of danger performed by Oregon's Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines. It can also serve as a gathering place, small classroom, meeting room, or tour orientation room.

## **THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE AT THE OREGON MILITARY MUSEUM**

The exhibit ideas described below represent a *conceptual framework* for exhibit design. Typically, more ideas are offered than can be accommodated in the available space and additional ideas emerge during the design phase. Therefore this narrative description should be read as an *approach or concept*, a vision that will guide designers, the architect, fundraisers, and others who will work together to make the new Oregon Military Museum a reality.

### **Arrival and Entry**

As visitors approach the Oregon Military Museum, attractive signage directs them to the entry gate. Along a wrought-iron style fence in front of the Museum, decorative elements based on uniform colors and camouflage designs might be used to create a sense of history.

Entering the grounds and proceeding to the parking lot, visitors notice macro artifacts, historic structures in a park-like setting of old growth trees, and make a note to tour them later. Visitors walk along a pathway, through the Honor Garden that recognizes Oregon's veterans of all wars and commemorates the courage and sacrifice of those who serve. Interpretive graphic panels throughout the site orient visitors to elements within the museum grounds and introduce them to Camp Withycombe's history. Other interpretive elements could include an interactive sandbag filling station celebrating the Oregon National Guard's invaluable humanitarian service in their home state and throughout the nation.

In the Lobby, a friendly greeter welcomes visitors and invites them to sign in. An attractive brochure includes a floor plan, and information about membership, donation, and sponsorship opportunities. A changeable signboard shows upcoming events and volunteer openings. Appealing window displays preview the Museum store, stocked with unique merchandise. On the wall to the left of the restrooms, a founders' plaque pays tribute to contributors who have made the new building possible, and whose continuing support ensures its success.

### **SELF-GUIDED THEMED GALLERIES**

Four main exhibition areas within the main Museum building are the Main Exhibit Hall, Changing Theme Galleries, the Weapons Collection, and the Hall of Valor.

#### **Main Exhibit Hall – Permanent Exhibit: *Serving Oregon • Serving Our Country***

From the Lobby, visitors can see the entryway to the Museum's main exhibit gallery. Moving through the doorway, visitors enter the 9,000-square-foot former drill floor of the Clackamas Armory. Here they encounter an engaging and memorable exhibit, *Serving Oregon • Serving Our Country*. Through the magic of exhibit design, the drill floor is transformed into a journey that takes visitors all over Oregon, and throughout the world. Yet the shape and texture of the armory can still be seen. Visitors are aware of being in a spacious, solidly constructed building where generations of men and women have trained and prepared to serve.

Entering the main exhibit hall, visitors begin their journey with *Our Roots*, the first exhibit in the history timeline. As visitors travel through time, they encounter compelling authentic objects, richly evocative images, dramatic vignettes and dioramas, media presentations, and a wealth of first-hand quotes. The combined effect brings history to life. The look and feel of casework and graphics, within a defined range of materials and typefaces, reinforce visitors' sense of being in each specific time and place. Securely and safely protecting valuable (and potentially dangerous) artifacts from harm, exhibit components allow visitors to look closely, and (where appropriate) interact with replicas, and even with carefully selected original objects.

#### **Our Roots:**

##### **From Citizen Warriors and Militiamen to the Oregon National Guard**

*(500 square feet)*

##### *Citizen Warriors*

This exhibit will be developed in collaboration with designated representatives of Oregon Tribes. The description below is a “what if” that could serve as a starting point for those discussions.

A title panel is displayed on a replica tule mat, framed in cedar. Suspended from the ceiling, beautifully lit banners display portraits of American Indian men and women of the Oregon Country, whose lives became entwined with those of Euro-American newcomers in the 19th century. Interpretive panels with firsthand quotes give visitors a sense of the difficult choices faced by Native people during this period. Contemporary images and quotes honor American Indian veterans of recent decades. Beaded items, loaned by Native artists and tribal museums, trace the service and sacrifice of American Indian veterans through many generations.

Beneath the banners, framed period images portray individuals and families caught up in conflicts—and efforts to keep the peace—as ancestral lands were taken over by forts, military roads, and homesteads, defended in turn by citizen militias and Indian scouts. Mini-biographies, and a few precious artifacts, personalize a timeline that weaves together the military history of the Oregon Country with stories of settlement, commerce, territory, manifest destiny, and statehood.

### *The Oregon Militia*

The timeline continues with Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark and President Jefferson's Corps of Volunteers for North Western Discovery, the first U.S. military venture into the Pacific Northwest. Historic paintings and re-enactment photos depict key encounters in Oregon, the unique role played by Sacagawea and her son, and the construction of Fort Clatsop. (A sidebar shows ORNG members helping to rebuild the fort after a devastating fire in 2005.) A vintage mural reproduction depicts the "Wolf Meeting" that led to organization of Oregon's earliest militia. Mini-biographies of the Whitmans blend with eyewitness accounts of the shocking events at Waiilatpu, mobilization of a citizen militia, and concerted efforts to keep the peace. (Another sidebar portrays 21st century re-enactors from Milton-Freewater who commemorate this 1847 militia.)

Embedded in the timeline, an interactive map shows the vast area encompassed by "the Oregon Country" during the emigrant period. Visitors can compare subsequent territorial and state borders, the extent of lands ceded by Oregon tribes, and the borders of today's Indian reservations. Place names from the state's Native heritage are displayed on the map, along with forts, military roads, early settlements, and river and harbor development by military engineers.

Continuing along the timeline, visitors look through an album of Civil War era *cartes de visite*, portraying members of 1860s Oregon Volunteer Cavalry and Infantry Regiments and Oregon State Militia companies such as the Fenian Guards, Zouave Cadets, Light Battery A, and Marion Rifles. Quotes from newspapers and official documents trace the deeply controversial role of slavery in the vote for Oregon statehood. In a series of captioned photos, re-enactor Sgt. John Muller (ORNG) explains that many Oregonians are found among the estimated 100,000 Civil War re-enactors in the U.S. Visitors learn that the First Regiment, Oregon Cavalry, an all-volunteer unit, served on active duty from shortly after statehood until mid-1866.

A massive sideboard symbolizes the Oregon ties to the Union General and President Ulysses S. Grant. Though Grant acquired the piece during his sojourn in Washington, his gift of the sideboard to fellow Soldier Forrest Hathaway brought it to the Northwest—where Grant had been posted at Fort Vancouver in the 1850s. Hathaway's subsequent service in the Indian Wars provides a biographical thread, part of an account of important incidents and sites in that lengthy

series of conflicts. Visitors learn of roles played by Indian citizen warriors and scouts portrayed in the banners hung overhead. Sarah Winnemucca, spokesperson for the Paiute Tribe, and Winema Riddle, a Modoc tribal member who worked for peace between her people and the U.S. government, are prominently featured.

### *Birth of the Oregon National Guard*

A memorable photographic portrait honors Owen Summers, legislator and citizen Soldier, whose landmark legislation established the Oregon National Guard. Visitors can peruse a copy of the 1887 Summers Act. An interpretive panel, illustrated with historic images, spells out basic facts about the Oregon National Guard: the origin of the name in the Marquis de Lafayette's *Garde Nationale*; the all-volunteer makeup of the Guard; its dual mission at the federal and state levels; and its commander-in-chief, the Governor of Oregon.

### *Ready! Aim! Fire!*

The finale of *Our Roots* is an electronic shooting gallery. Visitors use specially modified replicas to "load" and "fire" a pioneer-era smoothbore musket, a rifled musket of the Civil War/Indian Wars era, and a Springfield 45 caliber rifle, such as was issued to ORNG units in 1889. Visitors can time themselves and find out how close they came (electronically) to hitting the target. Step-by-step photos of re-enactors show visitors how to load and fire. A six-pounder cannon, acquired in the 1870s as a deterrent against Indian uprisings, is on view nearby, along with a replica of the silk guidon of the Portland Light Battery.

### *Keeping the Peace*

In the first of several single-panel displays featuring ORNG operations in Oregon and the U.S., visitors learn how units of the newly formed Oregon National Guard were deployed within the state to protect jailed immigrant workers from lynch mobs in Vale, The Dalles and Roseburg.

## **First Overseas Service:**

### **The Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection, 1898-1899**

*(600 square feet)*

A title panel floats on a textured, bamboo-framed support. A curtain-like scrim presents period graphics of palms and beaches, and colonial scenes of Cuba and the Philippines. Within a darkened space, a second scrim displays translucent images of the explosion of the *Maine* in Havana harbor, and Admiral Dewey's entrance into Manila Bay. Intermittent sound and light effects evoke the flash and boom of battle.

### *At War on Two Oceans*

Visitors sit on camp stools under a palm-leaf shelter to view a "magic lantern show" of captioned period graphics, political cartoons, newspaper headlines, historic photographs, and period maps. They learn how emergence of the U.S. as the world's leading industrial power collided with the last days of the Spanish empire; how a bid for independence by Cuban revolutionaries inspired sensationalist "yellow journalism" in William Randolph Hearst's papers; and how the explosion of the battleship *U.S.S. Maine* in Havana Harbor led Congress to declare war on Spain. Half a world away, Admiral George Dewey entered Manila Bay and trapped the Spanish fleet. Eleven thousand U.S. Soldiers made common cause with Filipino insurgents, who then turned against them after President McKinley decided to annex the Philippines. The magic lantern show concludes with a somber recounting of U.S. and Filipino dead and wounded, from 1898 until the insurgents' defeat was declared in 1902. The storyline is interspersed with historic photographs

of citizen Soldiers of the 2nd Oregon U.S. Volunteer Infantry, and their commander, Brigadier General Owen Summers.

### *Battle-Tested*

Objects from the Spanish-American War (including some described in the magic lantern show) range from a shell casing fired from a Spanish ship, the *Cristobal Colon*, in the decisive battle of Santiago de Cuba to a projectile of the type fired from the 13-inch gun used on the *U.S.S.*

*Oregon*. A Soldier's equipment and personal kit (if available as originals or replicas) are accompanied by historic images of Soldiers in camp, and quotes from letters they sent home. A special feature contrasts the entirely unsuitable wool uniforms that were standard issue for 2nd Oregon Soldiers deployed to the Philippines, and the far more comfortable cotton uniforms made for them on contract by Hong Kong tailors. Quotes from letters and reports shed light on this snafu (a classic example of a communication lag between the front lines and the home front) and how it was resolved.

### *Among Our Souvenirs*

A changeable potpourri of trophies, booty, and souvenirs includes General Summers' elaborately carved wooden chair; Private Frederick Edmunds M1889 campaign hat and the remains of some baptismal records he collected from a church; a Spanish 9-pounder field gun, dated 1776; and one or more medals cast from a second Spanish gun, melted down for that purpose. Candid photos, family stories, and excerpts from letters and diaries enliven the recollections of the well-traveled 2nd Oregon U.S. Volunteer Infantry. A period quote pays tribute to the speed of "those Oregon greyhounds."

### **Interlude:**

#### **Between the Spanish-American War and World War I**

*(300 square feet)*

##### *The Road to Bataan*

An interpretive panel uses historic photos, brief text, and quotes to trace the connection between the declared defeat of Filipino insurgents in 1902 and the deaths of thousands of U.S. and Filipino Soldiers on the Bataan death march, forty years later. The decision to make the Philippines a U.S. protectorate meant establishment of a permanent garrison of American and Filipino Soldiers in Manila. These troops would be trapped, without the possibility of supplies or reinforcements, when Japanese forces invaded Manila (and other strategic Southeast Asian targets) soon after their devastating attack on Pearl Harbor. Significantly, most Filipino troops remained loyal to the United States, fought the invaders, and suffered alongside U.S. troops during the occupation.

### *Above and Beyond*

In the first of several special displays celebrating the valor and exceptional achievement of members of citizen Soldiers and Airmen, a remarkable collection of marksmanship awards won by Guardsmen Steve and Hugh Pearson is showcased. Photos of the two Soldiers, along with first person quotes, are accompanied by changeable images of more recent champion marksmen among Oregon's Soldiers and Airmen. A target lifter interactive, using a Springfield M1903 with a simulation of a 1000-yard range, gives visitors a sense of technological advances over the previous loading and shooting interactive.

### *Fire and Flood*

En route to the next exhibit space, an interpretive panel with newspaper headlines, photos, and eyewitness quotes highlights the ORNG's response to memorable turn-of-the-century disasters that threatened thousands of lives. A medical unit dispatched to San Francisco after the devastating 1906 earthquake, and the Guard's first service on the fire lines, at Bull Run in 1909, are signal examples of continuous, steadfast humanitarian service by ORNG volunteers.

### *Citizen Sailors and Marines: The Oregon Naval Militia*

This small exhibit area has a nautical look and feel, with decking, ropes and halyards, a life buoy, and a ship's bell that visitors can ring. Models, line drawings, and photographs show the cruisers *U.S.S. Boston* and *U.S.S. Marblehead* and the destroyer *U.S.S. Goldsborough*—the successive ships of the Oregon Naval Militia. Historic photographs from Naval Militia publications, and from the Jefferson High School yearbook, depict some of the young men who made up the ranks of this volunteer force. An Oregon Naval Militia uniform is on display, along with first-person quotes about the unit in the years prior to its entrance into federal service with the U.S. Navy in 1917.

### *Defending the Coastline: The Coast Artillery Corps*

Period images commemorate the founding of the Coast Artillery Corps in 1911, with heavy artillery in place at Fort Stevens. Artifacts and reminiscences tell the story of the 249<sup>th</sup> Coast Artillery Regiment.

### **Doughboys:**

#### **Mexican Border Service and World War I: 1916–1918**

*(700 square feet)*

##### *Camp Withycombe*

Period photographs and artifacts highlight a small display about the history of Camp Withycombe, originally a temporary encampment named for the governor at the time, James Withycombe. Images show Soldiers arriving at the nearby railroad depot, the horse barn with its stables and the Guard's newly acquired horses, and Soldiers engaged in target practice with horse-drawn artillery weapons. Quotes and captions describe the role of Camp Withycombe in mobilization for Mexican Border duty and World War I.

##### *Guarding the Border*

A Model 1905 3 inch gun is flanked by photo cutouts of Mexican revolutionary (and brigand) Pancho Villa, and Brigadier General John "Black Jack" Pershing. A simplified period map of the U.S./Mexican border, with a timeline of quotes from news stories, traces the history of Villa's deadly border raids. Visitors learn about Lt. Henry Adair's death in battle, as he led African American troops in a cavalry charge; President Woodrow Wilson's order for a punitive expedition; and the mobilization of 7,000 U.S. troops under General Pershing's command.

Recruiting posters, a replica company flag, and historic photographs document the mobilization of two units of the Third Oregon Infantry and two separate units: Troop "A" of the Oregon Cavalry and Battery "A" of the Field Artillery. First-person quotes prompt visitors to study the photographs, comparing horse-drawn and motorized vehicles used by Oregon Soldiers during what turned out to be a mobilization involving National Guardsmen from many states.

A souvenir shell, photos, and Soldiers' reminiscences describe months of sheer boredom, relieved in this case by firing a shot across the border and then retrieving the spent shell. Visitors learn that although few troops encountered Pacho Villa or his followers, the citizen Soldiers who served on the Mexican border in 1916 received valuable training. World War I had been raging in Europe for two years already; after this exercise, the U.S. was better prepared for combat.

### *Over There*

A fully restored and operable Liberty Truck is the centerpiece of an artifact-rich interpretation of World War I. Because the Liberty Truck is often used in parades and other community events, it can be easily removed. When the truck is on display (as is the case most of the time), it is set against the background of a large photomural, printed on a portable panel. The color photomural shows Howard Ramsey, the last living U.S. World War I combat veteran and a longtime Portland resident, at the wheel of this same Liberty Truck, shortly before his death in 2007 at the age of 108. An inset image shows the Liberty Truck bearing Ramsey's coffin to the Willamette National Cemetery. (When the Liberty Truck leaves the building, the photomural can be moved slightly forward, to fill in the empty space. This arrangement is also used in other exhibits that include operating vehicles.)

A sidebar display shows volunteers restoring vehicles and other artifacts for the Oregon Military Museum. Snapshots of the Liberty Truck restoration, and quotes from volunteers, describe how parts were cannibalized from several Liberty Trucks to put this vehicle in working condition. Visitors learn that this replacement for the horse represented a significant technological breakthrough, capable of a maximum speed of 14 mph!

Nearby interpretive panels with inset cases let visitors trace the World War I service of Oregon volunteers. As they admire replica colors and insignia from Oregon's 3rd Regiment and the 41st Division, and study photographs of Oregon National Guard Soldiers, visitors learn that the 3rd was the first regiment in the nation to be ready. They follow the 3rd Regiment's reorganization as the 162nd Infantry, part of the new 41st Division, a replacement and training unit. Photographs, quotes from letters and diaries, citations and medals (including a roster of Oregonians who earned the Distinguished Service Cross), ephemera, and souvenirs represent the varied experiences of citizen Soldiers from Oregon, serving with diverse American units in many parts of France, both on the front and behind the lines. Brief text summarizes key battles and other events of "the war to end all wars", from the outbreak of hostilities in August 1914 to the U.S. declaration of war in 1917, up to Armistice Day, November 11, 1918.

Three uniformed mannequins present very different accounts of the American military experience during the "Great War." A uniformed doughboy (infantryman) is the focus of changeable personal stories of Oregon combatants; period illustrations, letters, and memorabilia (such as German pioneer bayonets, with and without saw teeth) make the horrific conditions of trench warfare vividly real. Period quotes draw visitors' attention to a standard issue weapon that was later banned by the Geneva Convention: poison gas. Another feature compares U.S. and German machine guns; eyewitness accounts describe the havoc wrought by the new automatic weapons, and the difficulty of gaining ground once troops were entrenched.



A bilingual telephone operator (known informally as a "Hello Girl") stands in uniform next to a period switchboard. When visitors pick up the earpiece of a wall-mounted telephone and turn the crank, they hear oral history accounts of how these volunteers served as translators for French switchboards within the combat zone, on General Pershing's orders. A sidebar credits Congress for 1977 legislation (introduced by Senator Barry Goldwater) that granted veteran status to surviving bilingual telephone operators who served in World War I. A quote from a historian pays tribute to women who were among the first to serve in the U.S. military, during World War I.

A balloonist in uniform is the subject of an interpretive panel and objects associated with the emergence of aerial warfare during World War I. Stepping into a stage-set "balloon basket", visitors take a closer look at an aerial drop bomb and a pair of aviator boots. An inset monitor or digital frame shows images of balloons and fighter planes in action, foreshadowing the formation of Oregon's Air National Guard within a generation.

War booty given to Oregon (as to all states) by Congress, based on the number of Oregonians who served, is represented by a German cavalry lance and a 210 mm Krupp mortar. Text explains that even as new technologies such as poison gas transformed the nature of warfare, some units continued to use traditional (and obsolete) war equipment, such as an Uhlan cavalry lance. A souvenir case displays the Museum's fascinating collection of trench art, including decorated shell casings, as well as gift items: handkerchiefs, postcards, etc.

A large display case, designed for easy change-outs, showcases the Museum's extensive collection of World War I artifacts. Thematic installations might include dress vs. combat uniforms; personal equipment and kits; newspapers and annuals produced by deployed units; decorations and citations; sidearms; locket, bibles, and other good-luck pieces, etc.

## **Interlude:**

### **The Inter-War Years**

*(300 square feet)*

#### *The Treaty of Versailles and Its Aftermath*

A sidebar panel links the aftermath of World War I to tragic events of the mid-20th century. Quotes and historic photographs depict the negative effects of the Treaty of Versailles, whose punitive reparations imposed on Germany led to inflation, destitution, and unemployment...and ultimately contributed to Hitler's ascent to power, as Germany re-armed in preparation for another World War.

#### *Home Front Duty*

An enlarged historic photograph shows Oregon Guardsmen nursing flu victims in an armory during the devastating, worldwide epidemic of 1918. A browsing album presents statistics and news items from one of the worst health crises of modern times. Period quotes describe the humanitarian role played by the ORNG when the epidemic broke out in Oregon.

Photos show members of an Oregon military unit on Prohibition enforcement duty. A bold quote from the 18th Amendment, temperance pledges, period beer and whiskey bottles (maybe even a still), and news clippings about raids and busts enliven a glimpse into the Guard's role in

maintaining civil order in Oregon during a mostly unpopular ban on alcohol that lasted almost 20 years. Another series of images and headlines shows Guard Soldiers on duty during a 1934 longshoreman's strike.

## **A World at War: World War II, 1939-1945**

*(1,800 square feet)*

A military historian has termed World War II "the most cataclysmic event in the history of mankind," with at least 62 million deaths and countless more displaced and disrupted lives. Because of the importance of these events for Oregon, the nation, and the world, as well as the extent and diversity of the Museum's related collections, *A World at War* is a major focus of visitor experiences at the Oregon Military Museum. The story unfolds in a series of chapters: a prelude in which a nation mobilizes for war despite its declared neutrality; island hopping in the Pacific; Oregon on a war footing, training thousands of Soldiers and Airmen on bases throughout the state; an Oregon-trained unit in continuous combat in the European theater; the increased and decisive roles of airborne reconnaissance and warfare; and in an inspiring finale, stories of men and women determined to serve their country by overcoming the barriers of prejudice and discrimination. Examples of innovation, adaptability, and valor are woven throughout.

### *Mobilizing for War*

A mural-size historic photo portrays shipyard workers, proudly celebrating the launch of a naval vessel in the Kaiser shipyards. Photos and quotes reveal that vessels built on the Columbia River would be used in amphibious landings by the Jungleers of the 41<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division. Children play a matching game to pair up images of ships being built with photos of the ships in action. Quotes from President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill attest to the strategic importance of the Lend Lease program in helping Great Britain hold out against Hitler and Germany from 1940 until the U.S. entered the war in 1941. A photo album of a war bond drive among shipyard workers is a special treasure.

Opening period toolboxes and lunch pails, visitors find candid photos of men and women throughout Oregon whose jobs—paid or volunteer—contributed to the emerging war effort. Turning over each card, visitors find a quote and brief text; visitors find evidence of widespread mobilization, and even the nation's first peacetime draft, *before* Pearl Harbor. A map of Oregon's coastline is inset with working models of railroad-transported artillery used in coastal defense. Rounds from big guns used at Fort Stevens represent this important service of the Oregon National Guard, during both world wars. News clippings and period images show the aftermath of an attack on coastal gun emplacements by Japanese forces: a Japanese submarine shelled Battery Russell at Fort Stevens on June 21, 1942. Contemporary images portray bunkers, still in place on Camp Rilea, that were used to triangulate and estimate distance for the big guns.

An oversize image of the beautiful logo of the 41st Infantry Division, the "Sunset Division," introduces images and memorabilia from the pre-war mobilization of that unit, 15 months before the United States entered the war.

### *War in the Pacific*

Historic front pages from the *Oregonian* contrast Congressional and popular support for neutrality in 1940 with near-unanimous approval of a Declaration of War after the Japanese

attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941. A map of the Pacific Rim is inset with historic photographs of the bombardment of Pearl Harbor on Oahu, Hawaii, and coordinated Japanese attacks on Manila, Singapore, and Sumatra. A bold quote by Major General Jonathan Wainwright, commander of U.S. and Filipino troops in the Philippines, sums up his anguish at the surrender of 80,000 men, the largest single capitulation in U.S. military history. The quote is emblazoned over a collage of snapshots of American and Filipino Soldiers, taken before the surrender. A sidebar display compares warriors on opposing sides: General Douglas MacArthur's background in the Philippines, his forced departure, and his promise: "I shall return," versus Admiral Yamamoto's prophetic words after the destruction of the U.S. fleet at Pearl Harbor: "I fear we wake a sleeping giant."

• *Island Hopping: the Sunset Division "Jungleers"*

A showstopper diorama combines a historic photograph with skillfully executed environmental elements; the effect is to transport visitors back in time. Soldiers gather around a captured Japanese Ha-Go tank, with the actual remains of a destroyed tank extending in the foreground. Realistic mannequins blend into the scene, in both Australian and Jungleer uniforms. An original oil painting, candid snapshots, and memorabilia help to interpret the course of training for jungle fighting that earned the 41st Infantry their World War II nickname, the Jungleers. A quote and image call visitors' attention to a plexiglas dog tag made from the windshield of a downed Japanese plane.

Changeable examples of Japanese weapons and artillery are compared to their U.S. counterparts; visitors learn that hand-made vs. standardized parts made repairs in the field nearly impossible for Japanese soldiers, and mostly doable for the Jungleers. An experimental jungle uniform, displayed on a mannequin, is interpreted in a question/answer format; visitors evaluate its usefulness during combat and then compare their rating with quotes from Soldiers on the ground.

A combination map and board game introduces visitors to the strategy and tactics of island hopping. Taking the role of Allied or Axis troops, visitors move ahead or back, attacking or bypassing certain islands, holding out or starving on outflanked bases, calling in Navy and air support. By playing the game, visitors can follow the 41st Infantry from training camp in Australia in early 1942 to their occupation service in Hiroshima, Japan, in 1945. Overhead, visitors notice silhouettes of a plane and an open parachute. Below, a paracaisson loaded with ammunition is available for up-close viewing, along with a 1000 pound general purpose bomb. Nearby, visitors are drawn to Navy artifacts: a Mark 14 torpedo with the legend DESTINATION TOKYO, a depth charge, and an anti-aircraft gun. Period quotes, photos, and illustrations from popular magazines of the day attest to the crucial role performed by Sailors and Airmen in the Pacific theater.

Interpretive panels present highlights of the same period. Visitors learn about the *thirteen* amphibious assaults made by the Jungleers, an infantry unit. They can follow the story of the battle of Biak in detail, including the amphibious landings, the tank battle including the demolition of Japanese tanks, successive regiments sent in to Biak, the final securing of the island under Lt. General "Ike" Eichelberger, and the distribution of medals by "popular vote." A browsing album about the post-war occupation of Okinawa and Japan offers family photographs and stories about former enemies who became friends during the occupation, and even came home to the U.S. as war brides.

### *Oregon on a War Footing*

A sign from a World War II training camp, a kite used in anti-aircraft defense training, a map of Oregon with inset photos of recruits on maneuvers, and a large photomural of a packed troop train give visitors a sense of Oregon in wartime, preparing and supporting unprecedented numbers of combatants.

Binoculars, manuals, posters, and other memorabilia honor civilians who got involved in the Civil Air Patrol, the Victory Garden movement, and other home front support activities. Ration cards and war bond posters remind visitors of the sacrifices made by all civilians during World War II. An interpretive panel tells of an unsuccessful attempt in 1942 by a Japanese submarine fleet to set forests on fire near Brookings, and the 1945 deaths of civilians near Bly, killed by a Japanese balloon bomb. Subsequent apologies and restitutions by Japanese citizens who were involved in these attacks are a focus of this display.

### *Continuous Combat: the Timberwolves*

A vintage Timberwolf logo and an enlarged photo of recruits in training at Oregon's Camp Adair introduce the 104th Infantry Division of the regular Army. With a World War II "Bat Out of Hell" jeep as the centerpiece, a treasure trove of objects, photographs, and memorabilia from the European theater illustrates a timeline of the advance of the Timberwolves from Normandy to Germany in fall and winter, 1944-1945. A uniformed mannequin wears a helmet that tells one Soldier's amazing story of survival, symbolized by a bullet hole and a dent. Looking closely at the jeep, visitors can see an improvised wire cutter (inverted "cow catcher") mounted on the front, to protect Soldiers from decapitation by piano wire strung across roadways.

A sidebar story quotes from field reports, documenting the service of African American Soldiers in what became an integrated unit. The origin of the wolf head symbol is traced to the initiative of Felix, Count von Luckner, a German resident of Halle, who negotiated a retreat by German forces, saving the town from destruction, and then presented the commander of the 104th Infantry Division with a wolf head.

On replica "pages" from vintage calendars, quotes and images document the Timberwolves debarking at Cherbourg to begin 195 consecutive days of combat. A series of maps traces their path through the Battle of the Bulge, the Siegfried Line, and the Battle of the Dikes in Holland, to their historic meeting with Russian troops at Torgau on the Elbe River. Other images depict the liberation of concentration camp Dora Mittlebau, where enslaved prisoners had been forced to manufacture buzz bombs. Clustered around the Scout Car are bazookas, a field radio and telephone, an M1 Garand, a Browning automatic rifle, an M1 Thompson submachine gun, a German Solothurn anti-tank rifle, and an experimental Indian motorcycle. Photos, quotes from letters, and Timberwolf logo memorabilia honor the continuing legacy and tradition of this renowned combat unit.

A sidebar display features the book *Easy Company Soldier* by Salem resident and Easy Company veteran Don Malarkey. Photos, quotes, and memorabilia honor Malarkey's unit, the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne Division.

### *Oregonians Take to the Skies*

Visitors use binoculars to view airplane models, hung from the ceiling in action poses. These are planes flown by the 123rd Observation Squadron of the Air National Guard, later the 35th Photo Reconnaissance Squadron. A stirring historic photograph, enlarged to wall size, shows Airmen of the 123rd marching to Portland's Union Station, en route to Fort Lewis for training as pilots and aerial photography. An interactive station invites visitors to use a stereoscopic viewer to "read" aerial photographs. Quotes from unit members describe their difficult journey to China, via Algeria and India, in 1944. A quote from Major General Claire Chennault attests to the invaluable service of the pilot-photographers of the 35th, tracking Japanese troop movements in China for the 14th Army Air Force.

Special features honor Oregon aviators Ken Jernstadt of Yamhill, who flew with the Flying Tigers, and Marine Corps naval aviator Marion Carl, the most decorated marine aviator in Oregon. A dramatic painting shows Rex Barber of Culver, Oregon, and fellow Army fighter pilots during their April 18, 1943 interception and downing of a plane transporting Japanese Admiral Yamamoto. Yamamoto's death dealt a severe blow to Japan's prospects.

Photos and memorabilia commemorate the first U.S. air raid on Japan, also carried out on April 18, 1943, by volunteers from the 17th Bomb Group, originally stationed in Pendleton, current home of the ORNG Army Aviation Support Facility #2. The raid was carried out under the command of Lt. Col. James H. "Jimmy" Doolittle. Six of the volunteers were from Oregon. A special feature focuses on Oregonian Jacob "Jake" DeShazer of Salem and Madras who was captured in China after the raid and endured 40 months as a POW. After a guard loaned him a Bible, DeShazer became a Christian. In 1948, he returned to Japan, where he served as a missionary for 30 years.

### *Breaking Barriers*

A series of interpretive panels honor Soldiers and Airmen who were determined to serve their country and overcame barriers of racism and sexism to do so. Collages of photographs and first-person quotes, with memorabilia if available, tell stories of Oregonians who served with the Tuskegee Airmen; the all-black 555th "Triple Nickles" smokejumper unit stationed at Pendleton Army Airfield; the Women Airforce Service Pilots; and the Japanese-American 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

### *Exceptional Valor*

A portrait of 2nd Lieutenant David R. Kingsley is posted on a replica signboard for Kingsley Field in Klamath Falls, home of the 173rd Fighter Wing. Lt. Kingsley's posthumous Medal of Honor is displayed (or portrayed); the citation and a moving quote from a news report convey the airman's selfless actions.

A model of a B-17 accompanies this compelling story. "Carrying me in his arms, Lt. Kingsley struggled to get me through the door into the bomb bay," [tail gunner Mike] Sullivan told the *Oregonian* in an interview in 1945...."He told me to be sure and pull the rip cord after I had cleared the ship. I did, and as I was floating down I saw the bomb fall off and go into a spin. It crashed, exploded and burned. The last time I saw Lt. Kingsley, he was standing on the catwalk over the open bomb bay doors." A photo essay recounts Lt. Kingsley's sister's journey to a Bulgarian village where people still remember sheltering the survivors.

This simple, powerful exhibit pays tribute to *all* of Oregon's Medal of Honor. Visitors can learn their names, view their photos, and view each citation in full.

### **Interlude:**

#### **The Postwar Period**

*(300 square feet)*

##### *Cold War Ahead*

White-bordered black and white snapshots, cigarette packs, and other souvenirs commemorate the historic meeting of battle-worn 104th Infantry Division Soldiers and their Russian allies at the Elbe in 1945. A quote from a U.S. commander compares the camaraderie of that encounter with the subsequent decay of Allied-Soviet relations, and the onset of a new "Cold War."

##### *Raging Waters*

In a postlude to the Portland shipbuilding story, visitors view images of the destruction of Vanport, a purpose-built community that housed shipyard workers, by devastating Columbia River floods of 1948. Dramatic images show the inundation of the Portland Air Base. Photos (and if available, newsreel footage) focus on the massive rescue effort coordinated by the Oregon Air National Guard.

##### *The Nuclear Threat*

Newspaper reports detail a successful evacuation drill, a rehearsal for a nuclear attack, that emptied downtown Portland in 20 minutes. Signs, booklets, survival kits and other memorabilia evoke the era of the fallout shelter. A Genie air-to-air missile and a model of an F101 airplane represent the tactical use of nuclear weapons. Training manuals and period illustrations show the intended use of this weapon system.

#### **The Motor Pool**

*(1,200 square feet)*

Filled with changeable vehicles from diverse eras of military history, this lively area has the look and feel of a working motor pool. Mechanics' equipment, tools, and clothing add to the period ambiance, along with vintage calendars, posters for parts and supplies, and photos of Museum volunteers working on vehicle restoration. Visitors can climb into the cab of a 2 ½ ton ("deuce and a half") truck for a photo opportunity.

On the Motor Pool floor, visitors can view the vehicles from all sides. Portable signage displays an image of each vehicle in action, with lively text describing its capabilities. Photos of the restoration process are also on view, with captions by volunteers who painstakingly restore OMM vehicles to operating condition.

Vehicles can be moved in and out of the Motor Pool through a garage door. Next to the doorway, a digital frame displays images of OMM vehicles being driven in parades, reviews, history celebrations, and other community events throughout Oregon. A group photo shows current members of the Oregon National Guard's Museum Detachment, whose members make these activities possible.

Exiting the motor pool, visitors follow a gently winding pathway through the remainder of the drill floor space. The path leads them into a gallery devoted to the Cold War era.

## **Visitor Rest & Relaxation Area**

*(200 square feet)*

Comfortable benches invite visitors to relax, reminisce, and talk about what they've seen so far. Coffee tables provide a browsing collection of books related to Oregon's military history. A computer invites visitors to sample historic websites and collections databases. Low walls enclose the visitor area, decorated with photographs of service members on leave during various military eras. A bulletin board displays photos and comments from service members who are currently deployed, showing the types of R & R activities they most enjoy.

A few benches are strategically located throughout the exhibit gallery, inviting visitors to rest and reflect. But the R & R area gives *all* visitors good reasons to take a much-needed break, part way through a very large exhibit space. With views of several galleries, the R & R area also serves as a way-finding landmark and group meeting place in a large exhibit space.

## **The Cold War, 1945-1989**

*(1,500 square feet)*

An enlarged reproduction shows a political cartoonist's depiction of the Iron Curtain in the late 1940s. A quote from Winston Churchill includes his first use of a term that became commonplace to describe the isolation of the USSR. A collage of period imagery conveys the breakdown of wartime alliances, with the emergence of the communist bloc as the enemy in a new, global "Cold War." Visitors follow an unfolding story of hot spots and shooting wars. At key points along the Cold War timeline, a signature world map locates major events and provides dates and basic facts. First-person quotes show Oregon connections. Highlights of the 1940s include President Harry S. Truman's doctrine of containment of communism, the official end of segregation in the Armed Forces, U.S. military aid to anti-communist governments in Greece and Turkey, the Russian blockade of Berlin and the massive U.S. airlift in response.

*At War in Asia:*

*The Korean War, 1950-1953*

A jeep is the focal point for a cluster of displays interpreting the first shooting war of the Cold War period. A special feature highlights the lifesaving role of nurses; these officers' pink and green uniforms represent service in World War II, Korea, and later in the Cold War—including 1st Lt. Faith Hunsdon, the first woman to join the Oregon Air National Guard, in 1958. In another display, artifacts from Marine units that served in Korea are captioned with personal stories from Oregon veterans of the Korean conflict.

• *Wings*

An F-86 Sabre Jet airplane anchors a multi-layered display on the Cold War service of the Air National Guard. Model planes with unit insignia, an oversize Red Hawk logo, and action-packed images of planes in flight illustrate stories of ORANG units activated during the Korean War. Visitors learn the lineage and honors of the 123<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Squadron. An interactive flight lab invites visitors to experiment with model planes from different eras used by the Oregon Air National Guard, in a low-tech, high-fun wind tunnel. A scrapbook filled with snapshots and ephemera commemorates the deployment to Alaska of the 142nd Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron. With personal memorabilia and quotes, ORANG Airmen who flew combat missions in Korea share their stories.

*Grunts and Guardsmen*

### *The Vietnam War, 1959-1975*

Continuing along the Cold War timeline, visitors pause at an introductory panel; photos and quotes document increasing U.S. involvement in Vietnam in the early 1960s. They learn of the ORNG roots of Senior Commander Herbert Butler Powell, commander of U.S. forces during the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis.

Then visitors encounter an evocative scene from the Vietnam era, featuring an M151 jeep and a mechanical mule. The vehicles are realistically equipped with gear, uniformed service members and weapons. An array of photos and illustrations shows the multiple uses of the mule. A montage of period maps and political cartoons traces the course of a long and difficult war. Changeable photos and captions contributed by Oregon Vietnam War veterans share individual stories of those who served in the conflict.

#### • *Back Home*

Relaxed personal grooming regulations during the Vietnam era are illustrated by photos of a guardsman whose long hair is hidden under a wig, and others sporting beards and mustaches. First-person quotes describe an ORNG at 100 percent strength, a popular place to avoid the draft. A browsing album shows the new all-Oregon 41st Infantry Brigade, training in Alaska for a national defense mission to protect the northernmost state.

Visitors of all ages can climb into a simulated cockpit of a rescue helicopter. Besides a special family photo opportunity, this experience offers footage of a rescue operation, projected onto the cockpit windshield. An album displays newspaper clippings from some of the more than 180 aerial search, rescue, and medical missions flown by ORNG aviation units in the 1970s.

1970s-style graphics blend posters, photos, and newspaper headlines to interpret an ORNG call-up for Operation Tranquility. Firsthand testimony contrasts the Oregon National Guard's role in a peaceful 1970 Vortex concert, and defused protests at a Portland American Legion convention, with tragic events at Kent State University just a few months earlier. A graphic panel uses photos and eyewitness accounts to illustrate humanitarian and peacekeeping operations by the ORNG during the Cold War period, such as rescue and cleanup after an explosion destroyed much of downtown Roseburg in 1959, and following the Columbus Day storm in 1962; spring break riot duty in Seaside throughout the 1960s; and response to massive floods during the winter of 1964-1965.

#### *Advisors and Peacekeepers*

The signature graphic of a world map combines with personal stories, marking continued involvement in the Cold War through the 1980s, by ORNG Guardsmen and Oregonians from other branches. Photos and memorabilia bring an eyewitness perspective to the Soviet-Afghan War (1979-1989) and later, Sinai peacekeeping duty.

The Cold War timeline ends with an evocative photomural of East and West Germans tearing down the Berlin Wall—heralding the demise of the USSR, and bringing the Cold War to an end.

### **In Our Time:**

#### **1990s to the Present Day**

*(800 square feet)*



The timeline continues, with exhibits that follow the Oregon National Guard's service, overseas and at home, from the end of the Cold War into a new era of global conflict.

### *The Gulf War:*

#### *Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm, 1990-1991*

A handmade sign, made of duct tape on plywood, marks the new home of ORNG units activated in Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War. A diverse ensemble of changeable artifacts and images documents the work of the 206th Air Terminal Movement Control Detachment and the 2186th Maintenance Company. Decorations and citations are evidence that both companies were recognized for their outstanding dedication and superior service.

Visitors can shake and turn over plexi-enclosed samples, to compare the density and weight of desert sand from the Persian Gulf (like talcum powder) with sand from an Oregon beach. Photos and reminiscences of Gulf War veterans convey the challenges of walking, driving, bivouacking, and fighting in desert heat and sandstorms.

Former Oregon Military Museum curator Terry Aitken and his team are featured in an interpretive panel, describing how they went about collecting over 10,000 Gulf War artifacts on location, including 400 now housed at the Oregon Military Museum. The familiar world map logo locates visitors in time and space, and reminds them that this brief war succeeded in most of its objectives...except for deposing Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein.

#### *Global War on Terrorism, 2001-*

An iconic image shows the burning World Trade Towers just before their collapse. A collage of newspaper headlines chronicles the subsequent invasion of Afghanistan in October 2001, and the invasion of Iraq in March 2003. A changeable panel is updated regularly with news from both places.

A uniform stiff with salt, from sweat in the grueling heat of Iraq, is an iconic object that draws visitors in. A background image shows citizen Soldiers on patrol. A quote from a Soldier directs attention to the identical 41st patches on both arms of the uniform: one for the Soldier's unit, one for the unit where the Soldier served in combat. Visitors become aware that the Iraq War is the first time since World War II that the 41st has seen combat.

A tank simulator enables visitors to get a taste of operating that big, indispensable vehicle. A photo essay shares an eyewitness account of a female Soldier who saw combat as part of a tank crew, and learned firsthand the crucial advantages of cross-training.

Graphic panels blend images of ORNG Soldiers and Airmen in Afghanistan and Iraq, engaged in warfare and humanitarian activities. A map of Iraq shows places where ORNG units have served and fought. A changeable bulletin board posts news stories, letters, and snapshots contributed by deployed and returning service members and their families.

A special feature focuses on the role of the medic. The 1042nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance) is shown evacuating Afghan National Army soldiers and civilians to a base hospital at Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan. Surprising statistics show how survival rates for wounded

service members have steadily improved through the years, thanks to medics' know-how and improved technologies.

### *Patrolling the Skies: the 142nd Fighter Wing*

An aerial view shows the Portland, Oregon Air National Guard Base, home of the Redhawks. Here, 1,000 Airmen of the 142nd Fighter Wing are responsible for the air defense of the Northwestern portion of the United States, in support of Operation Noble Eagle (ONE). An inset monitor shows a five-minute video, taking visitors along on one of the daily flights out over the Pacific Ocean. The role of flight controllers at Camp Rilea, the key role of weather forecasters, and the skills and experience of pilots and crew are some of the stories told in this brief but fascinating introduction to the Oregon Air National Guard from the 1990s into the 21st century.

### *Breaking Barriers*

Changeable photo essays honor Airmen and Soldiers who have achieved milestones: Sergeant Tracy Robinson, a woman servicing Blackhawk helicopters for the 1042nd in Afghanistan who became crew chief; Chief Warrant Officer 2 Anna Martinez, the first Hispanic female Chinook pilot in ORNG history; Colonel Deborah C. Messecar, Oregon Air National Guard's first female colonel; and many others.

### *Above and Beyond*

A photo shows Staff Sergeant Brian Dooley being presented with the Purple Heart, awarded for wounds he sustained in action near Mosul, Iraq, on September 11, 2003. A bold quote from Dooley headlines the display: "I was just doing my job." Visitors learn that Sergeant Dooley was the first member of an Oregon National Guard unit serving on active duty to have received the medal since World War II.

### *Homeland Security*

Visitors participate in a web-based interactive experience for up to five players; other visitors can watch the action unfold on an overhead monitor. The focus is Oregon's unified management and response system, facilitating prompt, coordinated response to emergencies within the state: natural disasters, fires, mountain rescues, civil disturbances, biological/nuclear incidents, etc. Visitors take roles within five decision-making centers: the Governor's office, a Mayor's office, The Adjutant General, the State Emergency Operations Center, and the Civil Support Team. Following protocols and making decisions within two or three emergency scenarios, visitors get a firsthand look at a finely tuned system.

### **We Are Family**

*(400 square feet)*

#### *Mail Call*

A collage of letters between service members and their families shows the evolution of writing through three centuries. Pen and paper gives way to typed missives, condensed into telegrams (and transmitted with Morse code), or photographically reduced to V-mail for air transport; a laptop and cell phone represent the ephemeral email and texting of the 21st century. "Married to the Military," a feature story from the June 2002 *Azuwur*, puts the letters in the timeless context of people serving far from home, and families coping with their absence.

### *Taking Care of Our Own*

• *Honoring Our Veterans*

A changeable bulletin board posts snapshots of recent Veterans' Day parades and ceremonies, along with comparable historic images. A volunteer gallery features faces and names of veterans of the ORNG and other branches who contribute their expertise and energy to the Oregon Military Museum.

- *POW and MIA*

Historic images and first-person stories honor service members who became prisoners of war and those listed missing in action. Special features focus on POWs Vivian Weissblatt and others captured in the Philippines; 1st Lieutenant Orval Tandy, ORNG F-51 pilot shot down over Korea; and others.

- *The Supreme Sacrifice*

A memorial quilt, specially made for this OMM exhibit, commemorates those who died while serving their country. A loose-leaf binder lists their names.

### *Remember*

Comfortable chairs surround a small monitor, within a contained zone of sound. Here visitors can watch excerpts from *Telling*, a moving theater piece based on interviews with veterans. Nearby, visitors can share their own stories. At times, a volunteer may be available to record an oral history; or visitors can write their remembrances on cards, and leave them to be posted on a changeable bulletin board.

## **The Guard Today**

*(500 square feet)*

Plunging visitors into the day-by-day realities of citizen Soldiers and Airmen, *The Guard Today* is a dynamic and colorful exhibit. Multi-media, interactives, and touchable props create a contemporary, accessible ensemble of exhibits. Modular elements (readily changeable artifact displays, computer-generated graphic components, web-based media) keep the content fresh. An introductory panel features dynamic images of citizen Soldiers and Airmen in action. Succinct text conveys the state and national roles of the National Guard: to protect the state during civil disturbance and national disaster, and to defend the nation from foreign enemies.

### *Where in the World is the Oregon National Guard?*

Visitors are drawn to a magnetic world map. Moveable markers pinpoint locations throughout the world where the ORNG has been deployed during historic conflicts, training exercises, and civil emergencies. Under the subhead "Where We Are Needed, We Are There," visitors can find information about Guard activities by location on an alphabetical "rolodex." A glassed-in bulletin board posts news clippings, letters and snapshots sent to families back home, etc. A map of Oregon shows where units are currently located. A historical sense of community and connection with place is conveyed through a photographic exhibit of Oregon's armories, past and present.

### *A Day in the Life*

A photo essay with interactive components conveys typical experiences of contemporary Guard recruits during their first day of training. In an introductory segment, visitors meet four men and women; firsthand quotes reveal what motivated each to sign up. At nearby stations, interpretive panels are paired with hands-on interactives. One recruit gets fitted for his first uniform; visitors try on a shirt, flak vest, and boots. Another recruit learns drill and ceremonies; visitors practice

with a dummy weapon. A third recruit disassembles her M16 A-2 rifle; visitors take apart a portion of a safely displayed weapon. Another recruit learns the basics of land navigation; visitors solve an orientation problem with a compass and compare the result with GPS findings. A wrap-up display portrays each recruit at a subsequent stage of his/her ORNG career.

### *Do Your Best, Give Your Best*

A mini-obstacle course challenges visitors to test their mettle against physical requirements of ORNG basic training. They do pushups and sit-ups, put on a fully loaded pack (safely mounted on the wall) and lift it a few inches, and strap on a parachute harness to make a simulated jump. Overhead, visitors can see part of a ropes course; at special times when trained volunteers are present, a rappelling opportunity may be part of a visit to the Oregon Military Museum! Throughout this experience, photos of recruits on the physical training course inspire visitors to try their best.

### *Serving State and Nation*

A vertical panel displays an illustrated timeline of some of the Guard's home front activities. Visitors become aware of the Guard's humanitarian service to fellow Oregonians in times of natural disaster, and operations to keep order during civil strife, through many decades. An inset monitor shows "The Year in Review," a summary of Oregon National Guard activities during the previous year. Visitors can sit at a nearby table to browse in four loose-leaf albums of reproduced photos, clippings, and ephemera: *Fighting Fire, Raging Waters, ORNG to the Rescue*, and *Keeping the Peace*.

### *Test Your ORNG IQ*

Hands-on interactives offer quick quizzes, matching games, puzzles, and fill-in-the-blanks, based on visitors' knowledge of insignia, rank, military acronyms, unit numbers, and other insider information. While having fun, visitors learn the basics of military organization and nomenclature, and find out why rank, membership in a unit, and abbreviations are vital to military effectiveness.

- *Stars and Bars*: Studying photos of Soldiers and Airmen in uniform, visitors use a chart to identify the rank, unit, and combat experience of each one. Colorful artifact displays compare ORNG insignia, decorations, and other symbols to those displayed by members of other military branches.
- *Who Salutes Whom?* A field guide with line drawings shows insignia worn by service members. Quotes convey the importance of rank in the makeup of any military organization. Images show the proper way to salute; visitors can practice while looking at themselves in a mirror. Historic signs and quotes provide guidance about when and when not to salute.
- *In Brief*: Alphabet blocks are stenciled with acronyms in military-style letters on one face; turning each block, visitors find out what the letters stand for.
- *By the Numbers*: Graphic representations of numbers of people show the relative sizes of historic and contemporary military units: platoon, company, battalion, brigade, combat team, regiment, division, corps, squadron, wing, group, air force, etc. A simple graph lets visitors

compare the total numbers of ORNG Soldiers and Airmen over time, and in comparison with other states.

### *Opportunities*

A collage of objects showcases the multiple roles played by ORNG Soldiers and Airmen, including chaplains, mechanics, planners, cooks, Military Police, pilots, weapon system officers, musicians, supply sergeants, historians, logisticians, etc. An inset touch-screen computer allows visitors to access information about recruitment and training programs. An accompanying photo essay focused on personal stories highlights the obligations of a citizen Soldier, and the special conditions and compensations of deployment.

## **Temporary Changing Theme Galleries**

*(2,137 square feet)*

Presented with the option to leave the chronological pathway of history exhibits, visitors have the option to explore the temporary, changing theme galleries and the Weapons Collection areas. Here they first encounter a cluster of displays interpreting changing themes relating to military service. Next, they enter an orientation area that sets the stage for the crowning glory of the Oregon Military Museum: the Weapons Rooms.

## **The Weapons Collection**

### **Orientation**

*(200 square feet)*

Hands-on examples, period illustrations, simple diagrams, and quotes from veterans and military historians preview the extraordinary contents of the Oregon Military Museum's weapons collection. A broad overview of the history of military weapons sets the context for up-close examination of a world-class collection.

Moving along a weapons timeline, visitors can pick up and handle tethered, safely disarmed weapons from different eras: a smoothbore musket, a rifled musket, a Springfield rifle, an M1 Garand, an M16, and more. Diagrams and action images show how each type of weapon loads and fires. Text explains how each new type of weapon improves over previous technology, and what new opportunities and challenges it brings to the combat situation.

A diagram of the weapons display, illustrated with photographs of "don't miss" objects, serves as an advance organizer. Within the weapons room, visitors will find corresponding interpretive panels telling fascinating stories about the weapons on view.

### **The Weapons Rooms**

*(730 square feet)*

Behind bulletproof glass, secure cases display some of the most interesting and valuable examples of the Museum's outstanding weapons collection (750 small arms from 35 different countries, as well as mortars, guns and howitzers from diverse eras of warfare). The public displays are built to standards of maximum security.

Along the front of the shallow exhibit cases, a sloped reader rail at waist height displays interpretive panels. Photos and text call visitors' attention to remarkable stories and special features, such as a Liberator pistol from World War II; an M1 carbine used by Ed Hart to hit 195 out of 200 bullseyes; the M14 that Jonathan Nelson Shew used to win the President's Trophy in

1988; a folding stock carbine used by Vivian Weissblatt's brother Phil Shriver, a P-39 Airacobra pilot with 120 missions; a M3grease gun of the type favored by helicopter pilots in Vietnam; a World War I anti-tank rifle; a broomstick Mauser from World War I and a World War II Luger; and much more.

Returning to the Lobby, visitors stop at the Museum Store to stock up on quality books, DVDs, and educational toys and games related to Oregon military history.

### **The Hall of Valor**

*(1,227 square feet)*

In 2012, the Oregon Military Museum established the Hall of Valor program to honor those Oregonians awarded our nation's most prestigious valor awards. The Hall, located near the Lobby's front entry, recognizes acts of valor and great courage in the face of danger performed by Oregon's Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines. Each inductee must be the recipient of one of the top two Armed Forces valor awards: the Medal of Honor (all branches), the Distinguished Service Cross (U.S. Army), the Air Force Cross (U.S. Air Force), or the Navy Cross (U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps).

The Hall can also serve as a gathering place, small classroom, meeting room, or tour orientation room. The east side of the room is lined by glass windows facing out toward the Honor Garden, providing an aesthetic and appealing view of the site.

### **OTHER INTERPRETIVE FEATURES ON THE GROUNDS**

Returning outdoors, visitors will want to take the time to explore other areas on the grounds, including the Historic Park, the historic buildings of the Quartermaster Storehouse, Battery A Field Artillery Barn, the Honor Garden, the Tracks and Treads vehicle pavilion, and the World War II Quonset Hut. Interpretive panels throughout the grounds tell stories about Oregon military history and Camp Withycombe as an early encampment site and a target range. Visitors will step back in time as they enter the Quartermaster Storehouse and be engaged in stories about supply, subsistence and training of Oregon's military service members.

During living history days and other special events, when re-enactors and living history interpreters are present, these educational resources truly come to life. On special days, when volunteer or staff docents are available, the Museum will offer additional interior tours of two historic buildings: the circa 1911 Battery A Field Artillery Barn and the World War II Quonset hut.

### **Historic Park**

*(1 acre / 43,650 square feet)*

The Park encompasses a green pastoral setting of very large trees and two circa 1911 historical buildings rescued from demolition and relocated in order to preserve and interpret the history of Camp Withycombe. Additionally, the "Walk of Honor" engraved brick pathway is set among the old trees within the park-like setting, inviting visitors to investigate further and take time to reflect.

## **Camp Withycombe and the Clackamas Range**

A major interpretive element within the Park grounds celebrates Camp Withycombe's history, giving visitors a clear vision of where they are standing today and what has occurred here. Photos and text tell the story of Camp Withycombe, its origins and present-day functions. Details about the Camp's century of military use is presented through engaging graphics, quotes and replica artifacts.

Originally encompassing 100 acres with its first summer encampment held in July of 1909, the "Clackamas Rifle Range" (now known as Camp Withycombe) would eventually grow to just over 250 acres. It featured one of the finest 1,000-yard rifle ranges on the West Coast, ample storage space for federally provided military equipment, and served as the mobilization point for Oregon Troops called into federal service on the Mexican Border in 1916, and World War I in 1917. The story of the Clackamas Range and subsequent 21<sup>st</sup> Century range clean-up includes an interactive target lifter with target, and replica Maggie's Drawers, behind a re-created section of the 1,000 yard Known Distance range that was once on this site at the base of the Mt. Talbert.

## **Quartermaster Storehouse**

*(4,606 square feet)*

Known for years as Building 6100, this building was originally the "Quartermaster Storehouse." It is one of the first buildings constructed by the Oregon National Guard between 1910 and 1911, along with the Battery A Field Artillery Horse Barn (Building 6525). The Storehouse was substantially modified over time, and has now been de-constructed and relocated. It has been returned to its original design to the extent possible. Open raftered, and without heating and other modern systems, it contains a lighting system appropriate to the building's vintage while still being appropriate to viewing displays.

The Quartermaster Storehouse features large, wide, open porches on three sides that allowed supplies to be delivered and issued during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century military use of the site. Upon entering the building, an enclosed porch or breezeway on the south end of the building provides visitors the amenity of two clean restrooms. As they explore more, they will see the immense, 3,000 gallon turn-of-the-century water tank. They will note a story about a field surgeon who used the tank for defensive cover during 1909 field training, prior to the building's construction around the tank in 1911.

Entering the restored building, a friendly greeter may welcome visitors and invite them to sign the guest registry. When a greeter is not available, an attractive brochure will be available that includes a site plan, and information about membership, donation, and sponsorship opportunities. Nearby, a display will familiarize visitors to the entire Museum project and provide campaign information. A changeable signboard shows upcoming events and volunteer openings. This area may also provide an appealing preview of the Museum store, with a limited stock of unique merchandise for sale when a greeter is present.

The initial impact of the inside of the building reflects a circa 1911 Quartermaster's storehouse look and feel, to immerse visitors. They will follow the unfolding events that led Oregonians to training for the first time, the establishment of one of the best firing ranges in the West, and the initial use of this historic structure for supply and subsistence. Text, photos, and display props will introduce the evolution from temporary training encampments to the eventual building of

permanent sites and armories needed to support training for military personnel. The exhibits include a full scale diorama of an early encampment Sibley tent and hands-on touchable objects.

### **Battery A Field Artillery Horse Barn**

*(1,576 square feet)*

Graphic panels around the exterior of the circa 1911 Barn will showcase the building's use and history. Visitors gain an appreciation that before mechanization, artillery units used horses. On days when volunteer or staff docents are available, the Museum will offer tours of the interior. Inside the Barn, visitors learn the story of Oregon's field artillery, from the activation of the 1866 Portland Light Battery through today's 2nd Battery 218th Field Artillery Battalion. Under supervision, they can personally inspect a wide range of historic artillery pieces, from a Model 1841 field gun to a modern M101 howitzer, and learn the difference between direct fire and indirect fire. A keyed display will provide examples of inert rounds of the artillery pieces.

The Barn itself will fascinate visitors with its historical look and feel. The horses' names are still visible over the stalls. Evidence of cribbing (chewing) on the windowsills is still visible. Inside the equipment room, replica tack, horseshoes, and a restored M1910 Schaller Forge will help tell the military farrier and blacksmith's story as both the shoeing expert and perhaps the occasional repairman of artillery pieces. An example of a Jackson hay fork suspended overhead along with a graphic panel will explain how the horses got feed.

### **Honor Garden**

*(.3 acre / 13,068 square feet)*

The Garden invites the visitor to reflect on Oregonians' service to state and nation in times of war and peace. It is meant to be a contemplative place, with a sense of respect and commemoration for Oregon's veterans of all wars, honoring the courage and sacrifice of those who served.

### **Tracks and Treads Vehicle Pavilion**

*(5,852 square footage)*

With covered bays large enough to accommodate macro artifacts from the museum's vehicle collection, and with ample space around them for viewing, the Pavilion accommodates up to six vehicles at a time. Vehicles from the collection can be rotated for display and might include a World War II weapons carrier, a Korean War era self-propelled gun, Vietnam tank, or a HUMVEE.

### **World War II Quonset Hut**

*(1,156 square feet)*

Yet another building rescued from demolition and relocated to the Museum grounds, the World War II Quonset hut may feature changeable exhibits such as *The Oregon Air National Guard*, *Oregon Military Academy*, or *Versatile and Unique Architecture - Quonset Huts*, with which many service members can truly relate, having spent time in them while in military service.

### **CONCLUSION**

With enthusiasm for all they have encountered and sentiments running high, visitors take what they have learned from their experiences at the Museum home with them. They want to share



these experiences with friends and family. They make plans to return at an early date, to be sure to not miss the next event or program, and to bring back others whom they know would enjoy the Museum as much as they did.

**SUMMARY OF SQUARE FOOTAGE OF INTERPRETIVE SPACE**  
**OREGON MILITARY MUSEUM**

**MAIN BUILDING:**

**Main Exhibit Hall – Permanent Exhibit: Serving Oregon • Serving Our Country 9,144 s.f.**

From Citizen Warriors and Militiamen to the Oregon National Guard	(500 square feet)
First Overseas Service: Spanish-American War / Philippine Insurrection	(600 square feet)
Interlude: Between the Spanish-American War and World War I	(300 square feet)
Doughboys: Mexican Border Service and World War I: 1916–1918	(700 square feet)
Interlude: The Inter-War Years	(300 square feet)
A World at War: World War II, 1939-1945	(1,800 square feet)
Interlude: The Postwar Period	(300 square feet)
The Motor Pool	(1,200 square feet)
Visitor Rest & Relaxation Area	(200 square feet)
The Cold War, 1945-1989	(1,500 square feet)
In Our Time: 1990s to the Present Day	(800 square feet)
We Are Family	(400 square feet)
The Guard Today	(500 square feet)

**Temporary Changing Theme Galleries (Hall 1 and 2) 2,137 s.f.**

**The Weapons Collection (Hall 3 and 4) 930 s.f.**

Orientation	(200 square feet)
The Weapons Rooms	(730 square feet)

**The Hall of Valor 1,227 s.f.**

**TOTAL MAIN BUILDING 13,438 s.f.**

**OTHER INTERPRETIVE FEATURES ON THE GROUNDS:**

**Historic Park 1 acre / 43,560 s.f.**

Quartermaster Storehouse	(4,608 square feet)
Battery A Field Artillery Horse Barn	(1,576 square feet)

**Honor Garden .3 acre / 13,068 s.f.**

**Tracks and Treads Vehicle Pavilion (six bays) 5,852 s.f.**

**World War II Quonset Hut 1,156 s.f.**

**TOTAL INTERPRETIVE SPACES 77,074 s.f.**