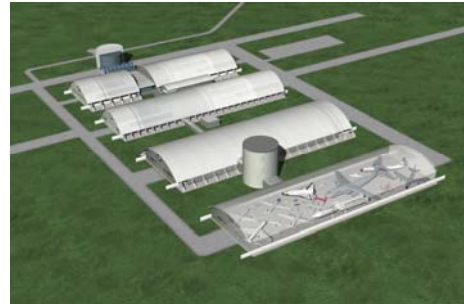




Museum Expansion Project

The National Museum of the United States Air Force is in the midst of a multi-phase, long-term expansion plan, which includes the completed Cold War Gallery (2003) and Missile Gallery (2004).

The museum currently showcases more than 400 aerospace vehicles in over 17 acres of indoor exhibit space, but the ever-growing historical collection presents a pressing need for more gallery space. Identifying the Air Force's space mission as its most important exhibit priority, the museum has embarked on the next major program initiative, a new **Space Gallery**.



The Air Force Museum Foundation is supporting this major capital construction program, which will expand the museum's current one million square feet of exhibit space with a new 200,000 square foot building, in which the story of the Air Force's involvement in space may be preserved and presented. This facility will also house the **Presidential Aircraft Interpretive Center** and the **Global Reach Gallery**.

Proposed Space Gallery Highlights



- The gallery will house the museum's growing space collection, including a recently acquired Titan IV space launch vehicle and Mercury, Gemini and Apollo capsules.
- Central to that story is the important relationship that developed between the USAF and NASA, especially with regard to the development of the space shuttle. The Air Force was deeply involved in determining the orbiters' design and capabilities, and many shuttle astronauts have been Air Force members. Recognizing that the U.S. space shuttle fleet is nearing retirement, a formal request has been made to NASA by the Air Force for a shuttle orbiter for exhibit in the museum's Space Gallery.



- These spacecraft exemplify the close ties between the Air Force and NASA in manned spaceflight. A range of satellites and booster systems, spanning the entire history of the space age, illustrate the Air Force's vast reconnaissance, early warning, communications and other space capabilities.
- The Space Gallery will provide opportunities to educate the public about the rich history of the Air Force's space programs and vital Air Force, NASA and aerospace industry partnerships.

Presidential Aircraft Interpretive Center

- The Presidential Aircraft Interpretive Center will allow the National Museum of the United States Air Force to relocate and expand one of its most popular exhibits.
- The museum is the repository for Air Force aircraft that have been retired from the Presidential aircraft fleet. Currently the presidential aircraft reside in a hangar located one mile from the main museum campus in a secure area on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Visitors must be transported by bus to this facility and with limited service only a small portion of the visitors are able to see the collection.
- Providing an interpretive center at the main facility will allow all visitors an opportunity to see the presidential aircraft and related memorabilia, providing greater public understanding and appreciation for the Air Force's role as an integrated aerospace force and support for the role of the Air Force in presidential transport.

Global Reach Gallery



- An important element of Air Force history will be told in the Global Reach Gallery. Providing airlift remains a major mission of the U.S. Air Force and it forms a critical part of the Air Force's ability to maintain Global Reach.
- To tell this vital story, the Global Reach Gallery will afford the opportunity to house large aircraft currently in its collection such as the C-141 *Hanoi Taxi* and those anticipated to become part of the collection such as a C-5 Galaxy and KC-135.

Point of Contact

The Air Force Museum Foundation, an IRS 501 c 3 organization chartered to provide the National Museum of the United States Air Force the development and expansion of facilities, is in the process of raising the funds to meet the growing requirements of the National Museum of the United States Air Force.

Estimated cost of the new facility is \$42 million. Currently \$15 million is available for the project.

To make a donation please contact:

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