THE MUSEUM IS EXPANDING

A New Building on a Scale with the Collections and the Programs

After several years of planning, we are ready to announce our plans for a new Museum and are sharing them first with our friends, supporters, and visitors. You, better than anyone, know that we tell a big story in a small space.

While the collection is without equal – the only collection telling the global story – it is not preserved, displayed, or housed on a par with its quality. While our educational programs receive universal acclaim, including our Urban Schools Partnership for underserved students, we know that we could do so much more. Again and again, visitors exclaim how relevant the Museum is to today.

We cannot accommodate all the visitors and school groups that want to come. Our exhibition spaces are crowded and our other public spaces do triple and quadruple duty. To sustain the future of the Museum, to reach its potential, and increase our programming, the time has come to expand.
The new Museum will feature a dignified entry, similar to architecture of the 1930s and 40s, a global map and a Liberation Tower which takes its idea from a favorite poster seen in the rendering of the new lobby opposite.

Overall it will be 62,500 square feet on two floors, a significant increase from the present 10,000 square feet in a single story building.

**Other features**

- Three times as much exhibition space with appropriate technology and an enhanced presentation.

- A large educational center with classrooms, study areas, work spaces and state of the art technology.

- Secure access for research in the Library and Archives.

- A special exhibitions gallery for changing exhibitions.

- A great hall (meeting center) for lectures, movies, panel discussions, conferences, gatherings, and special events.

- A conservation laboratory.

- Visitor amenities, including a bookstore, café, and ample parking.

The two story lobby features a floor map of the world during the war and changing banners from the Museum’s collection of original propaganda posters. The stairs lead to the Shipley Educational Center, the Archives, Reading Room, Research Center, Special Exhibitions Gallery and the Great Hall (meeting center). The new exhibition galleries are to the left; visitor amenities are straight ahead and to the right.

**We will retain those features which make the Museum unique**

- A global perspective.

- The unparalleled collection of artifacts, letters and documents from all the home fronts and all the battlefronts, from ordinary people and great leaders. An immediate connection to and empathy with the war generation by being able to touch and handle many durable artifacts.

- An educational program which inspires students to think about the meaning of citizenship and leadership, values, and the war – and how the war relates to their lives.

- A sense of relevancy, often commented on by our visitors.

With these as our baseline, we are ready to grow.

**Expanding in place**

A year and a half ago we had the opportunity to acquire the property adjacent to the Museum. A supporter of the Museum, Arnold Haynes of Wellesley, held the property under agreement while we raised the $2.75 million purchase price, less the $500,000 he donated toward it.

Our appeal for funds led to an outpouring of support, from $10.00 to $1,000,000, which allowed us to meet the deadline for the transfer of the property. This was our first public appeal and we were enormously gratified by the overwhelming response we received. It signaled a broad and committed base of support.

Since then the Museum has secured permits from the town and drawn up architectural plans. Stephen Friedlaender, a founding partner of HMFA in Cambridge, MA, donated his services to conceive of a look and give us a functionality to serve our needs and aspirations.
Out of this came the idea of building the new Museum around the present one. This will enable the Museum to stay open during construction.

**The Museum's location in Natick, MA**

Visitors appreciate our location which is easily accessible by all New England highways, is two miles from the Massachusetts Turnpike, offers on site parking and can also be reached by public transportation.

To tourists it is a complement to other nearby sites which are symbolic of the American Revolution and the fight for freedom and liberty.

---

**Construction begins in 2017**  
**Doors will open in 2019**

---

**Two-thirds of the way there**

Since acquiring the land and securing the permits, the Museum has raised two-thirds of the $26 million required to construct the new building.

An independent national museum marketing company study estimates that annual visitors to the Museum will exceed 100,000 per year from the opening, and student and teacher visits will exceed 12,000 per year.

Every World War II museum throughout the world is experiencing a dramatic rise in attendance. As the most comprehensive and only global World War II museum, we are preparing for this increase.

---

**Our vision and yours**

With your support again, we can achieve a building worthy of the collections and programs we offer.

- The Pacific area will be greatly enhanced and many pieces will come out of storage, including material from China; the Russian section will be augmented by many artifacts now in storage.
- A complete Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, the only one known, and an original Higgins Landing Craft, a rarity, will be on display.
- A meaningful visiting experience will become even more so with exhibit galleries enhanced with appropriate technology, context, and areas for reflection.
- Visitors, who typically spend more than three hours touring the Museum, will welcome the ability to stay within the Museum for a break in the cafe.
- Researchers and scholars will have greater access to the Archives where more than 500,000 pieces – including fascinating maps, diaries, journals, photographs and more – await their skills and insight.
- The Museum will be able to offer a greater array of programs including special exhibitions, lectures, movies, seminars and conferences.
- The education program, already highly acclaimed, will grow exponentially.
- This scale will sustain the Museum for future generations.

Like other world class museums that preserve singular artifacts and documents, our new building will both protect and make accessible items of global historic importance.

---

*How can we understand the events of World War II – and we face today – without the areas are among the significant*
challenges America and the rest of the world faced then a global perspective? These galleries and exhibition t naming opportunities available in the new Museum.

A Layout Reflecting the Complexity of the Global War

The innovative exhibition design and floor plan preserve the complexity of the war as events unfolded in real time across the globe. There was no one narrative, so visitors are immersed in the war, chronologically, from many points of view.

Once the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, Americans went from official neutrality to a two-front war, in Europe and the Pacific. These simultaneous events, affecting other countries as well as the United States, added another layer of complexity to the global war. The layout is designed to bring visitors as close as possible to the complications, intricacies, and ramifications of these parallel courses, while adhering to a chronological time frame.

YOU CAN BE A PART OF THIS

The galleries and public spaces which you see in the renderings of the exterior, the lobby, as well as the layout above, offer naming opportunities. The archives, research center, library and special exhibitions gallery, which are not pictured, also present naming opportunities. If you are interested in learning more, please contact us.

PLEASE CONTACT KENNETH W. RENDELL, FOUNDER AND MUSEUM DIRECTOR, OR THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT
508-653-1944 • director@imwwii.org

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
46 Eliot Street • South Natick • MA • 01760
UNDERSTANDING THE ROOTS OF THEIR PROFESSION
MassBay surgical technician students visit the MASH tent

Twenty students and instructors from the MassBay College Surgical Technician training program explored the Museum’s Mobile Army Surgical Hospital this fall, comparing and contrasting surgery then and now. They recognized many of the instruments still in use today, and observed that some critically important parts of a modern OR had yet to be invented. Holding a piece of history in their hands has helped them understand the roots of their profession,” said Dolores Goyette, Mass Bay Instructor.

The students were fascinated to learn that surgical pioneer Michael DeBakey, whose tools they are learning how to use, was a critical force in the development of the World War II MASH tent.

The MASH tent will be on view to the general public when the new Museum is built; at the present time it is in an adjacent building.

NAME CHANGE:
Adding International to the Museum’s Name

THE INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF WORLD WAR II

The Museum’s new name reflects a longstanding truth. The International Museum of World War II is the only museum which tells the global story of the war, with all the countries and all the cultures, all the home fronts and all the battlefronts. How can you tell a global story from only one perspective? Our educational programming and our curatorial perspective reflects this global view.

The 75th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor:
Why We Still Remember

To commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, the Museum is presenting a powerful exhibition through January 7th, 2017.

It chronicles what transpired before, during and after the attack on Pearl Harbor, with rare insights into what the atmosphere was like in Japan leading up to “the day that will live in infamy.”

The exhibition includes the original first message warning all U.S. Navy ships: “AIRRAID ON PEARL HARBOR X THIS IS NO DRILL”; The Honolulu Star-Bulletin account of the attack on December 7th, 1941; Japanese postcards, photographs, and newspaper headlines celebrating the attack; and the first printed declaration of war by Japan on the U.S.
RECEIVING GRADUATE CREDIT FOR TWO-DAY WORKSHOP

Teachers use exhibits and archives to design curriculum

Over two full days this summer, middle and high school teachers from EDCO, a collaborative that supports professional development in 17 school districts in Greater Boston, were able to access the exhibits and archives in the Museum to develop new lessons for their students, and to hone their own skills in effectively using primary source material with their students.

Additionally, two distinguished scholars, Dr. Nina Tumarkin of Wellesley College and Dr. Gila Safran-Naveh of the University of Cincinnati, presented and led high level discussions on how war is remembered and studied from the post war period, to today.

The workshop, underwritten by a grant from The Foundation for MetroWest, is part of the Museum’s expanding professional development programs for teachers. The teachers received graduate credit through Worcester State University.

Founding Director of Education Marshall Carter said, "A primary goal of education here is to empower teachers to develop field experiences at the Museum that are highly customized to their courses, and to their students' needs. By inviting teachers into the archives, and by giving them unfettered access to the exhibits, each educator was able to do just that. We look forward to welcoming their students here this year."

National Geographic’s Secret War largely drawn from the Museum

The collections in the Museum proved to be a gold mine for the authors of National Geographic’s The Secret History of World War II: Spies, Code Breakers and Covert Operations. Authors Neil Kagan and Stephen G. Hyslop spent more time researching and photographing artifacts, letters and documents in the Museum than in any other institution – a sort of one-stop shopping for the core development of their 350 page, large format work. The Secret History of World War II will be available for purchase by late October.

Kenneth W. Rendell, the Museum’s Founder and Director wrote in the Foreword, “World War II was truly a secret war. Military operations shrouded in secrecy altered the conflict time and again, despite efforts of all sides to discover through intelligence or theft what the enemy was up to.

“Uncovering the secret history of World War II has long been an important part of my work as founder and director of The International Museum of World War II...... The museum displays everything that made up the mosaic of life during the conflict.... Many of them appear in this book, which features more than 240 secret weapons, documents, and devices from the museum’s collection, including a baby carriage used to conceal a radio and sabotage materials.”

imwwii.org