



The Artillery Officer Candidate School Heritage Hall



**Preserving the Legacy of Artillery Officer Candidate School
Fort Sill, Oklahoma
July 10, 1941 to July 7, 1973**

The Artillery Officer Candidate School played a crucial part in an important chapter of America's history. That story is now presented to the public inside a brand new addition to the Field Artillery Museum at Fort Sill.

The Artillery OCS Heritage Hall recognizes the significant contributions of Artillery OCS to our nation. If you attended OCS, it was likely a turning point in your life. Your support ensures that our history is known and our legacy preserved. Funding and sustainment for the Heritage Hall comes entirely from graduates, cadre, families and friends of the Fort Sill Artillery Officer Candidate School.

THANK YOU to 812 individuals and groups who have already provided financial support for the Heritage Hall project. That generous support makes this all possible.

If you have not already done so, a donation of \$250 or more will help us with sustainment. A contribution in any amount is welcomed and very much appreciated. Construction is complete and the Museum was granted beneficial occupancy of the building on December 12, 2023. This is something we can all be proud of.

The Heritage Hall is a joint project of the Alumni OCS Alumni, the Artillery Museum, and Fort Sill. The 40' x 80' addition to the South Gallery of the Museum will serve as a theater/classroom with wall space dedicated to the OCS story: the history, culture, and traditions of Artillery OCS; our heroes; our fallen comrades; and distinguished graduates. There are display cases, uniform displays, OCS history panels, and photos.

Kiosks with Hall of Fame Inductee photos and bios, Fallen Comrade biographical information, Class Photos and loads of OCS history will augment the displays. A 40' X 50' multi-purpose courtyard graces the east entrance.

The Heritage Hall will help the U.S. Field Artillery Museum fulfill its mission and significantly increase our exposure to the public. It is secure and open during regular Museum hours.

On April 25, 2024 we had accrued \$928,665 for the project: \$757,178 in contributions received since November 1, 2019 and \$171,487 from our General Fund that has been temporarily restricted by the Alumni Board of Directors for the Heritage Hall Project (construction, furnishings, displays, and sustainment).



The sidewalk to the courtyard and east entrance to the building addition Sod has been laid and Fort Sill was granted the building was turned over to Fort Sill ill soon be ready to turn over to Fort Sill

Payments to CDBL, Inc for construction management and subcontractors for work completed and materials total \$829,028 carried on our books as WIP (Work in Progress) - an asset. That leaves us with \$99,637 remaining on hand and available for the project. The building has been inspected by Fort Sill Directorate of Public Works (DPW), and the building and contents will be officially gifted to Fort Sill after we complete the signage on the front of the building. We have paid \$3,770 downpayment for the signage. The final payment will bring the value of our gift up to \$832,798.

The gift package was prepared in accordance with Army Regulation 1-100, the Army Gift Program. The final design details (construction plans and drawings) were prepared in consultation with the Fort Sill Directorate of Public Works (DPW). The gift package was approved by the Secretary of the Army on August 4, 2022. The letter from the Secretary made it out of the Pentagon on October 21, 2022.

The entire project was reviewed and consulted with the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office in a three-phase process and no issues were found. We are fortunate to have Frank Siltman consulting with our project team. He is the Western Region Director of Museums, U.S. Army Center of Military History.



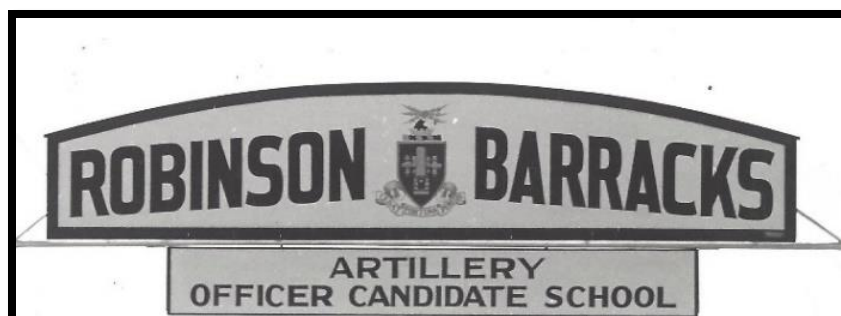
Future home of the Artillery OCS Heritage Hall 40'x 80' addition and 40' x 50' courtyard attached to the South Gallery of the US Field Artillery Museum at Fort Sill. (March 2023)

U.S. Field Artillery Museum Director/Curator Gordon Blaker worked tirelessly with our team on the exhibits, display cases, and OCS history information panels. To ensure everything is in order, we continue to coordinate our activities with the Fort Sill Museum Facility Operations Specialist Michele Mabry and the Fort Sill Directorate of Public Works (DPW). Every item that goes on display in the building requires approval from the Center of Military History.

Fort Sill DPW issued a license to our contractor in November 2022.

When the bids from sub-contractors came in during December 2022, we hit an obstacle (primarily inflation) that increased our projected cost substantially. We immediately reached out to our Alumni and Friends on December 20, 2022 for help and the response was overwhelming. Contributions for the last year topped \$290,000.

THANK YOU!!!!



If you have not already contributed, we hope you will seriously consider a donation to the Artillery Officer Candidate School Heritage Hall project. Each of us benefited from our own individual OCS Experience. We have a chance to share the history of that remarkable school with the public and preserve the legacy of OCS at Fort Sill. Thanks for being part of that history, and thanks for your support.

The best way to help us is a tax-deductible contribution to the Artillery OCS Alumni Chapter. Donations of any amount are welcome and very much appreciated. No amount is too small. Giving any amount you can to this project makes you a team player and helps preserve our legacy.

Every contributor becomes a lifetime member of the Artillery Officer Candidate School Heritage Society. The Heritage Society is an independent 501c3 organization created on October 9, 2019, to perpetuate the legacy of the Artillery OCS. There are no membership dues.

Please visit our website: www.artilleryocshistory.org

It is a work in progress - under construction.

There is a special page (*Find Your Way Website Visitor Guide*) to help familiarize you with the website layout and some tips on finding what you are looking for.

**Contributors to the Artillery OCS Heritage Hall
at the following levels will be recognized:**

The "Commandants" Level (\$25,000 or more) will be prominently recognized inside the entrance to the Heritage Hall.

The "Five-Star" Level (\$10,000 or more) will be acknowledged inside the entrance.

The following levels of recognition contribute significantly to our project and will be acknowledged on a wall panel inside the Heritage Hall:

Four-Star: \$5,000

Three-Star: \$2,500

Two-Star: \$1,000

One-Star: \$500

Our campaign to raise money for the project does not have an ending date.

If you choose to make more than one contribution during the campaign, the cumulative amount contributed will be used to determine your recognition level. Contributions "In Memory of" or "In Honor of" graduates will be shown at the appropriate recognition level.

Individual Classes may wish to pool their contributions to receive special recognition at the Three Star Level or above. Some graduates have made contributions and encouraged classmates and other alumni to contribute to this very worthwhile project. I encourage you to do the same.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please call or email:

admin@artilleryocsalumni.com

www.artilleryocshistory.org

Sincerely,

Randy C. Dunham (Class 10-69)

Artillery OCS Alumni Secretary

Click on the link below to go to our website page for the Artillery OCS Heritage Hall with separate links to the following information:

- a list of individuals making contributions of \$500 or more.
- a list of all contributors in alphabetical order.
- a list of all contributors in class order.
- picture albums of the building progress.
- drive-by videos of the building in progress from March to December 2023.

<https://artilleryocshistory.org/artillery-ocs-heritage-hall.html>

Thank You for your Generous Donation to the Artillery OCS Heritage Hall.

(Please send the donation form below with your check)

**The Artillery OCS Alumni Chapter is an IRS 501 (C) 3 charitable organization.
Donations are tax-deductible. EIN # 74-3052514.
Please make your check payable to "Artillery OCS Alumni"
Mail to PO Box 33612, Fort Sill, OK 73503.**

Name _____ **Class # and Year** _____ - _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ **ZIP** _____

Phone _____

Email _____ @ _____

Please find enclosed donation for \$ _____

For your convenience, we accept contributions to the Heritage Hall Project by credit card through PayPal. Our PayPal link is found here:

<https://artilleryocshistory.org/support-us.html>

THANK YOU!!!!