



1

00:00:06,440 --> 00:00:10,460

When visitors come to NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida, iconic facilities such

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00:00:10,460 --> 00:00:16,410

as the mammoth Vehicle Assembly Building and ocean side launch pads leave lasting impressions.

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00:00:16,410 --> 00:00:19,820

Another facility that has had a long-standing impact on America's human spaceflight

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00:00:19,820 --> 00:00:20,340

programs . . .

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00:00:20,340 --> 00:00:25,250

. . . recently was renamed in honor of astronaut Neil Armstrong, who has been hailed as one

6

00:00:25,250 --> 00:00:28,870

of the greatest heroes of America's efforts to explore.

7

00:00:28,870 --> 00:00:35,870

"That's one small step for (a) man, one giant leap for mankind."

8

00:00:39,519 --> 00:00:43,859

Originally constructed as the Manned Spacecraft Operations Building, the facility was renamed

9

00:00:43,859 --> 00:00:49,449

the Operations and Checkout, or O&C, Building prior to the start of the Space Shuttle Program.

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00:00:49,449 --> 00:00:55,059

On Jan. 21, 2000, the O&C was added to the U.S. National Register of Historic Places.

11

00:00:55,059 --> 00:01:00,379

The O&C was dedicated as the Neil Armstrong Operations and Checkout Building in ceremonies

12

00:01:00,379 --> 00:01:02,899

on July 21.

13

00:01:02,899 --> 00:01:08,030

NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, Kennedy's Director Bob Cabana, Apollo 11 crewmates Mike

14

00:01:08,030 --> 00:01:12,960

Collins and Buzz Aldrin, along with astronaut Jim Lovell and members of the Armstrong family,

15

00:01:12,960 --> 00:01:14,140

were on hand for the event.

16

00:01:14,140 --> 00:01:20,470

"It's altogether fitting that today we rename this facility the Neil Armstrong Operations

17

00:01:20,470 --> 00:01:21,840

and Checkout Building."

18

00:01:21,840 --> 00:01:27,390

"He along with his crewmates, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins, are a bridge from NASA's

19

00:01:27,390 --> 00:01:33,240

historic journey to the moon 45 years ago to our path to Mars today."

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00:01:33,240 --> 00:01:39,340

"I can't think of anybody better whose name could be on it than Neil Armstrong."

21

00:01:39,340 --> 00:01:44,140

"Neil was one of the finest gentlemen I've ever known. He was a superb engineering test

22

00:01:44,140 --> 00:01:44,880

pilot."

23

00:01:44,880 --> 00:01:49,540

The date coincided with the 45th anniversary of Armstrong and Aldrin completing the first

24

00:01:49,540 --> 00:01:51,360

exploration of the lunar surface . . .

25

00:01:51,360 --> 00:01:58,360

"After Apollo 8, specifically, when questioned, asked if he wanted me to go with him and he

26

00:02:03,170 --> 00:02:06,240

said, 'yes,' I will be ever, ever grateful."

27

00:02:06,240 --> 00:02:10,879

. . . and lifting off the moon to rendezvous with Collins in the command module for the

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00:02:10,879 --> 00:02:12,250

trip home to Earth.

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00:02:12,250 --> 00:02:19,250

"I think we all remember Neil's one small step. He took the process one step further,

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00:02:20,940 --> 00:02:27,940

again that powerful, powerful combination of curiosity and intelligence propelled him

31

00:02:28,950 --> 00:02:35,950

to the top of his profession. Over and over again, he took it one step further and that

32

00:02:36,780 --> 00:02:42,870

eventually brought him to the last rung on

the ladder of the Apollo 11 LM."

33  
00:02:42,870 --> 00:02:49,870  
"Neil Armstrong was a close friend, an icon  
that, I think, represented the best in America."

34  
00:02:52,160 --> 00:02:57,810  
A former Naval aviator, Armstrong flew the  
X-15 rocket-powered aircraft seven times between

35  
00:02:57,810 --> 00:03:00,280  
1960 and 1962.

36  
00:03:00,280 --> 00:03:05,150  
After being selected as a NASA astronaut,  
Armstrong served as command pilot for Gemini

37  
00:03:05,150 --> 00:03:11,330  
VIII in 1966, the first spacecraft to dock  
with another orbiting vehicle.

38  
00:03:11,330 --> 00:03:17,430  
In 1969, he became the first person to walk  
on the moon as commander of Apollo 11.

39  
00:03:17,430 --> 00:03:21,620  
Armstrong's last visit to Kennedy took place  
in April of 2012, when he had an opportunity

40  
00:03:21,620 --> 00:03:26,099  
to try out the commander's seat of space shuttle  
Atlantis. He died four months later at the

41  
00:03:26,099 --> 00:03:27,310  
age of 82.

42  
00:03:27,310 --> 00:03:32,520  
Today, the Neil Armstrong O&C Building's high  
bay is the site where the agency's Orion spacecraft

43  
00:03:32,520 --> 00:03:38,459  
is being assembled. Orion is designed to take humans farther than they've ever gone before.

44  
00:03:38,459 --> 00:03:42,819  
Orion is now being assembled into a flight-ready spacecraft for the unpiloted Exploration Flight

45  
00:03:42,819 --> 00:03:48,160  
Test-1 atop a Delta IV rocket, slated for December 2014.

46  
00:03:48,160 --> 00:03:53,239  
In the future, Orion will launch on NASA's new heavy-lift rocket, the Space Launch System.

47  
00:03:53,239 --> 00:03:57,739  
More powerful than any rocket ever built, SLS will be capable of sending humans to deep-space

48  
00:03:57,739 --> 00:04:01,879  
destinations such as an asteroid and Mars.

49  
00:04:01,879 --> 00:04:05,670  
It's possible that the first person to put boots on the Red Planet will fly there in

50  
00:04:05,670 --> 00:04:06,629  
a spacecraft. . .