



# Peggy A. Whitson, Astronaut

Science & Technology  
born 1960

Born in Mount Ayr and raised in nearby Beaconsfield, Peggy Whitson spent 377 days in space over two missions, establishing a new record for women.

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## Peggy A. Whitson, Astronaut



Peggy Whitson attended school in Ringold County and graduated from Iowa Wesleyan College in Mount Pleasant in 1981. She later received a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Rice University. Whitson joined the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in 1989.

She flew her first Space Shuttle mission in 2002. In 2008 she commanded the International Space Station, the mission designated Expedition 16. In September 2009, she received the appointment as the thirteenth Chief of the Astronaut Office, a position she held until July 2012.

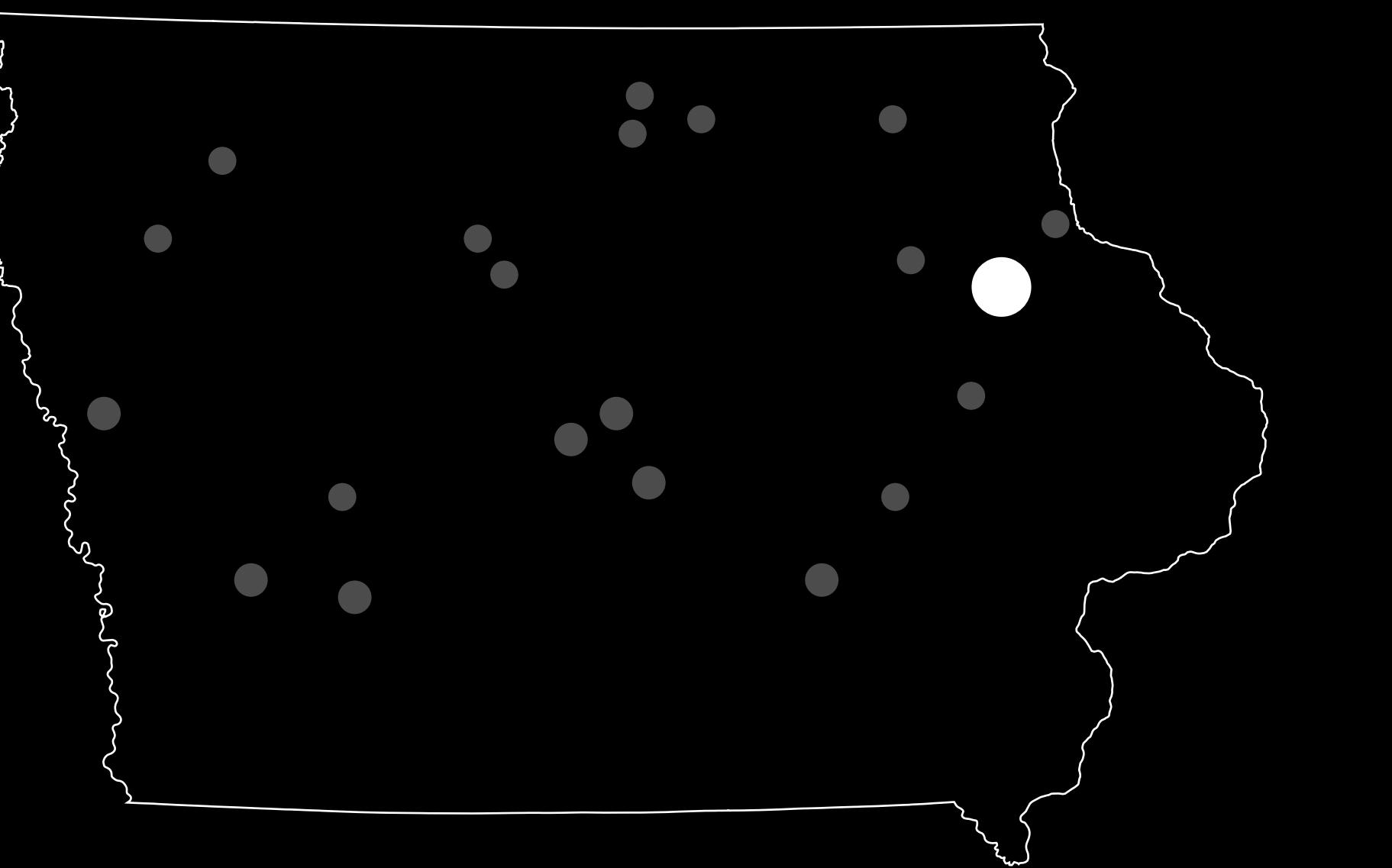


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wall of iowans  
science & Technology  
arts&education  
leadership  
athletics

START

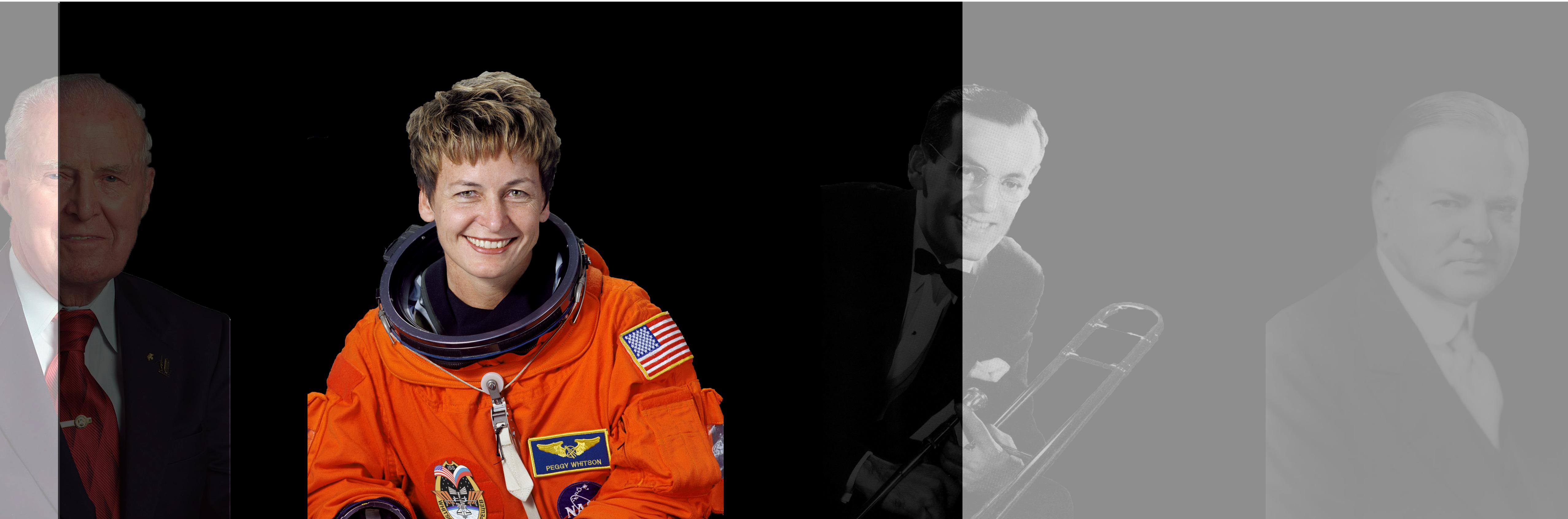
# Peggy A. Whitson, Astronaut Mount Ayr

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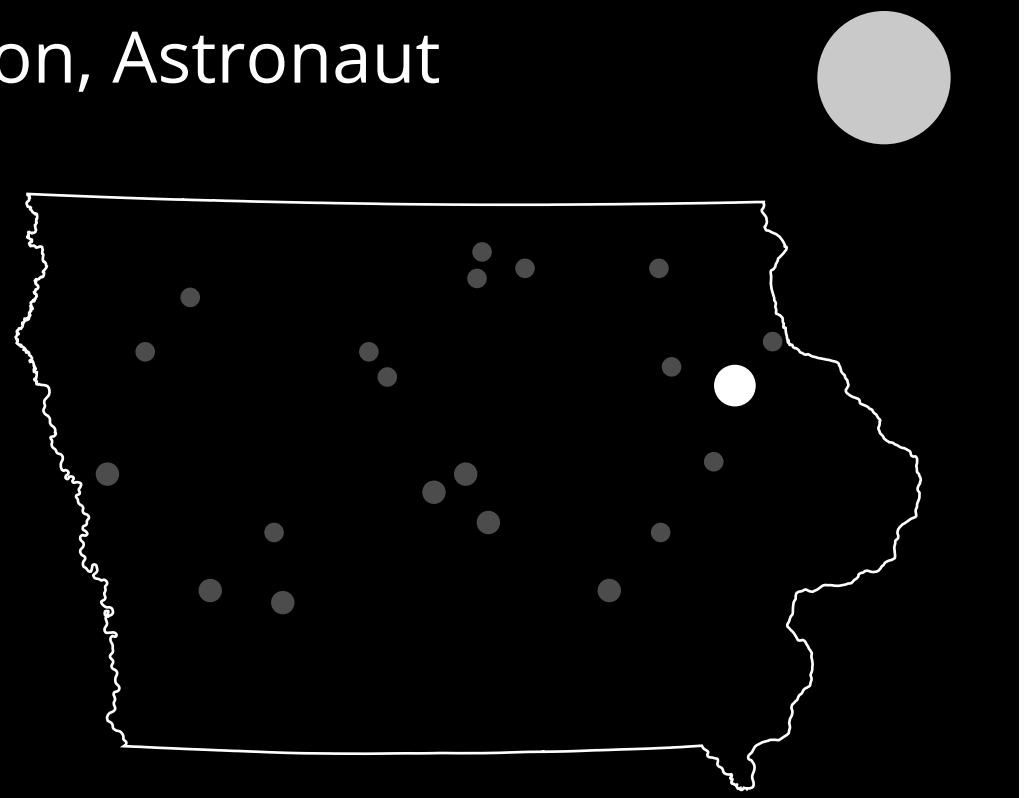
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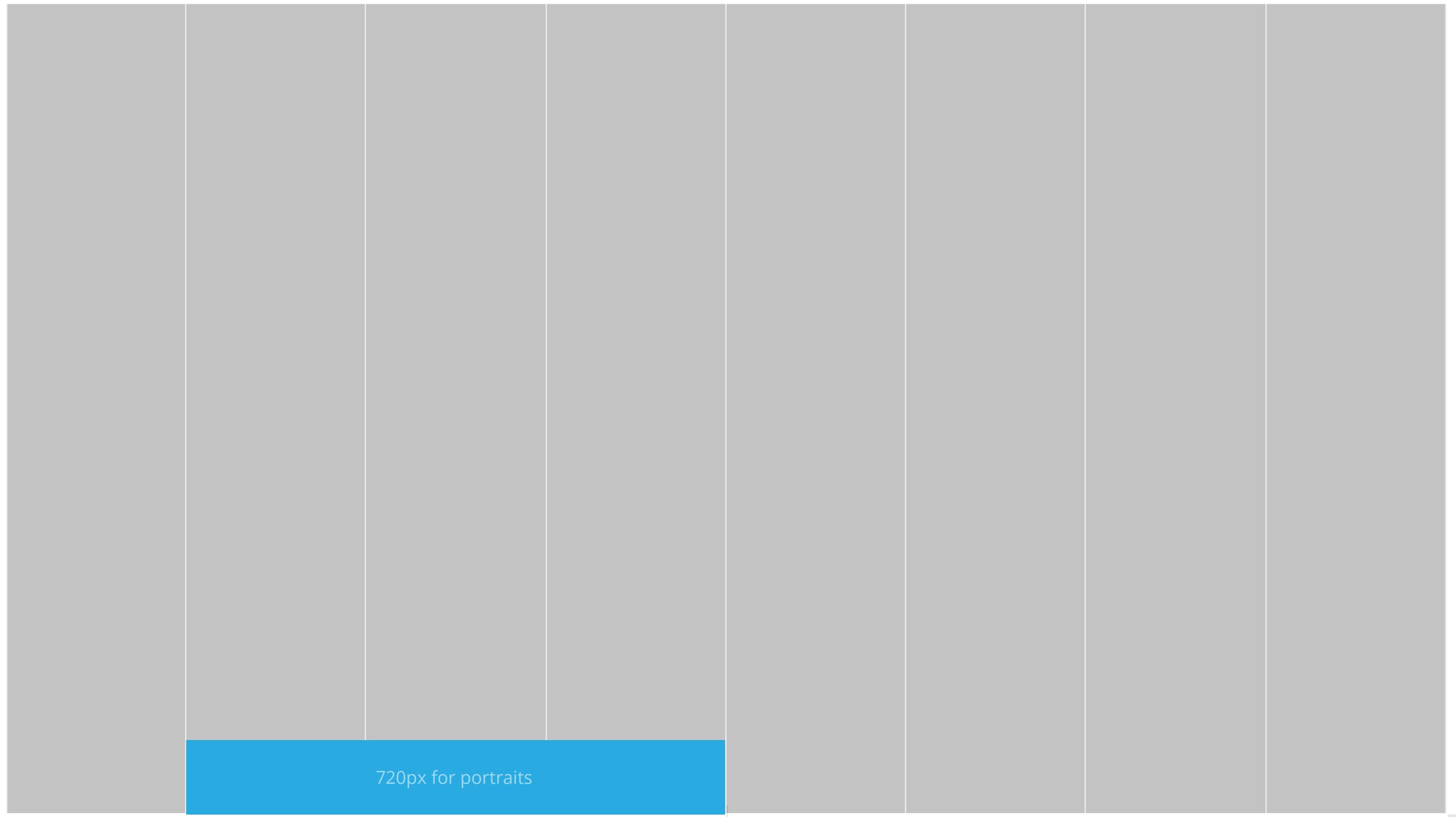




Peggy A. Whitson, Astronaut  
**Mount Ayr**

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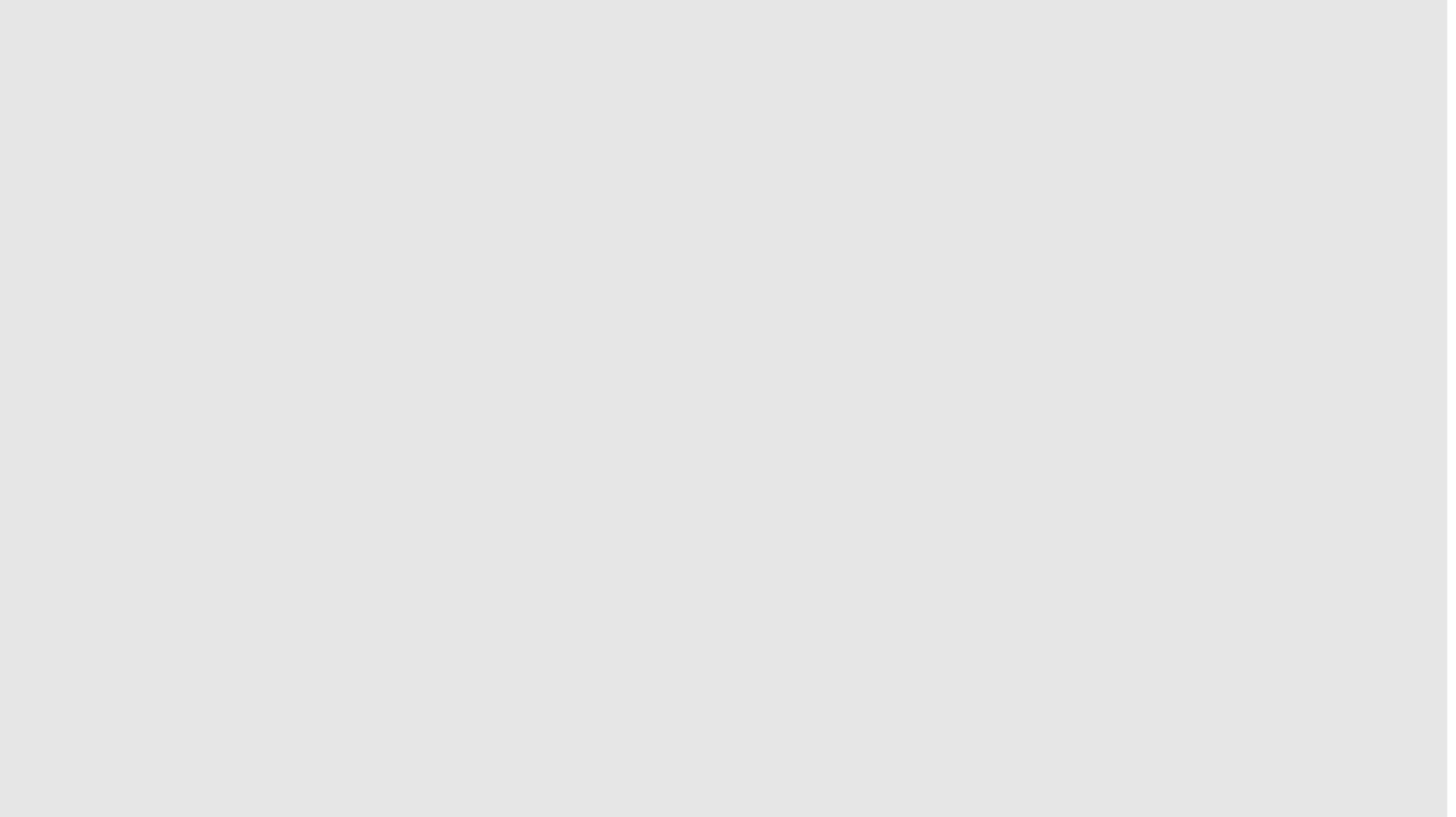
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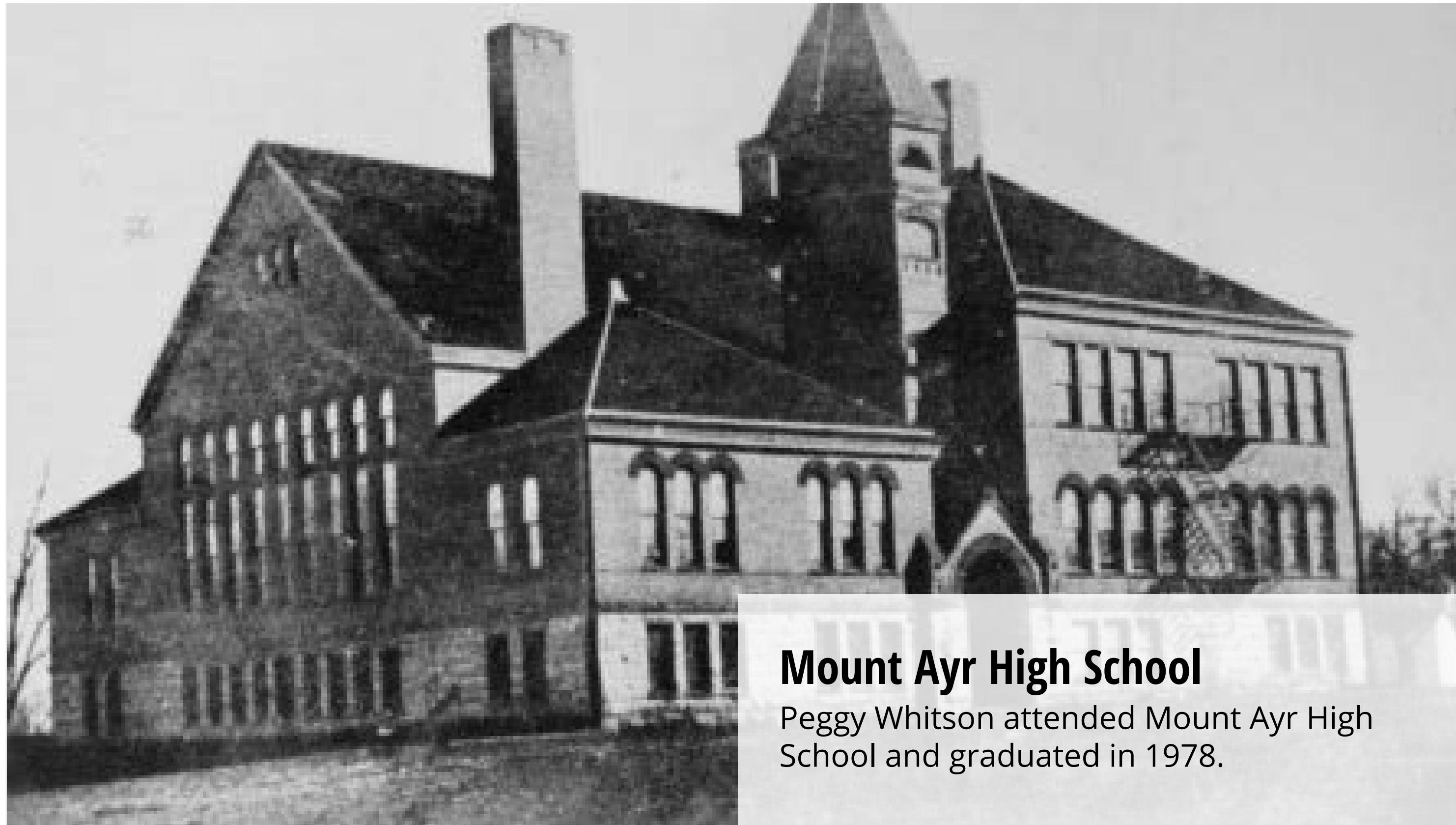
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## Mount Ayr High School

Peggy Whitson attended Mount Ayr High School and graduated in 1978.

## Mount Ayr High School



When the Beaconsfield High School closed in 1958, students enrolled in the Mount Ayr Community High School. Today, the building also includes the middle school classrooms. The facility was built in 1914, and has been upgraded over the years including a new gymnasium in the early 1980s.



#### ARTIFACT TABLE

*ON TAP:*

switch image&info on big view  
fade out other images / select status

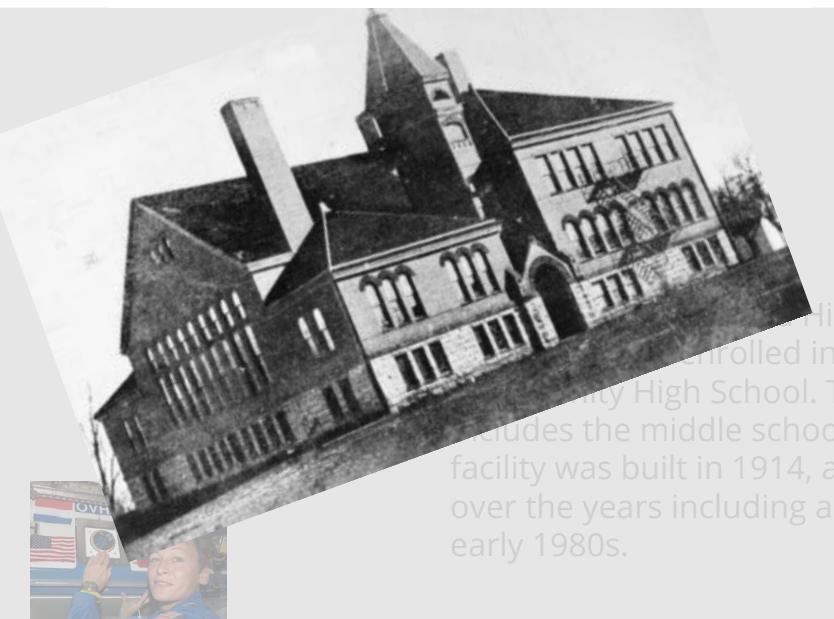
*ON ZOOM:*

fade out everything else (except bg) to 10% on smallview  
fade out short description info on bigview  
zoom bigview

*ON RELEASE:*

"fling" back to original position, fade back in  
animate back to original zoom level on bigview

Mount



The Mount Ayr High School closed in 1982 after students enrolled in the Mount Ayr Community High School. Today, the building also includes the middle school classrooms. The facility was built in 1914, and has been upgraded over the years including a new gymnasium in the early 1980s.