



Manhattan Project Sites Special Resources Study

The Manhattan Project was a top-secret program implemented during World War II designed to win the race against Nazi Germany in the construction of the first nuclear bomb. Operating from December, 1942, the Manhattan Project was a \$2.2 billion dollar effort that employed 130,000 workers at its peak, but was kept largely secret and out of public view.

The results of the Manhattan Project transformed the world of science and technology and ultimately ushered in not only the atomic age but also the modern information age.

The National Park Service has been directed by Congress to conduct a special resource study for four of the Manhattan Project sites. The study will include evaluation of the significance of the sites as well as evaluations of the suitability and feasibility of designating one or more sites as units of the National Park System. As part of the study a range of alternatives will be developed which



X-10 reactor building in Oak Ridge, Tennessee

examine various means of ensuring long term preservation and public appreciation of these sites. The study will result in final recommendations to Congress concerning the future preservation of the sites and opportunities for public understanding.

This special resource study will focus on four sites; Los Alamos National Laboratory and townsite in New Mexico, The Hanford site in Washington, the Oak Ridge Reservation site in Tennessee, and sites in Dayton, Ohio.

We will be holding public meetings to listen to your ideas about the type of involvement the National Park Service should have at these sites. Communication and cooperation with other government agencies, the local communities and the public will identify common interests and goals for these sites. We will keep you informed throughout the planning process with web site postings and newsletters.

Carla McConnell

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General Groves and Robert Oppenheimer

Manhattan Project Sites Special Resource Study Locations

Chemical Separations Building (T Plant) Hanford, Washington

Separated Plutonium out of irradiated fuel rods from Hanford reactors. Canyon-like structure 800 feet long, 65 feet wide, and 80 feet high-nicknamed Queen Mary.

B-Reactor Hanford, Washington

World's first large-scale plutonium production reactor. Produced plutonium for Trinity device, the Nagasaki weapon (Fat Man), and Cold War weapons.

V - Site Assembly Building/Gun Site Los Alamos, New Mexico

Trinity device (prototype for Nagasaki plutonium weapon) and later weapons assembly at V-Site. Ordnance for uranium gun type Hiroshima weapon tested at Gun Site.

Production of Polonium Dayton, Ohio

In Dayton, scientists used newly-developed refinement techniques to produce sufficient quantities of polonium, a radioactive element essential for the detonation of bomb trigger devices, for use by the Manhattan Project

K-25 Gaseous Diffusion Process Building Oak Ridge, Tennessee

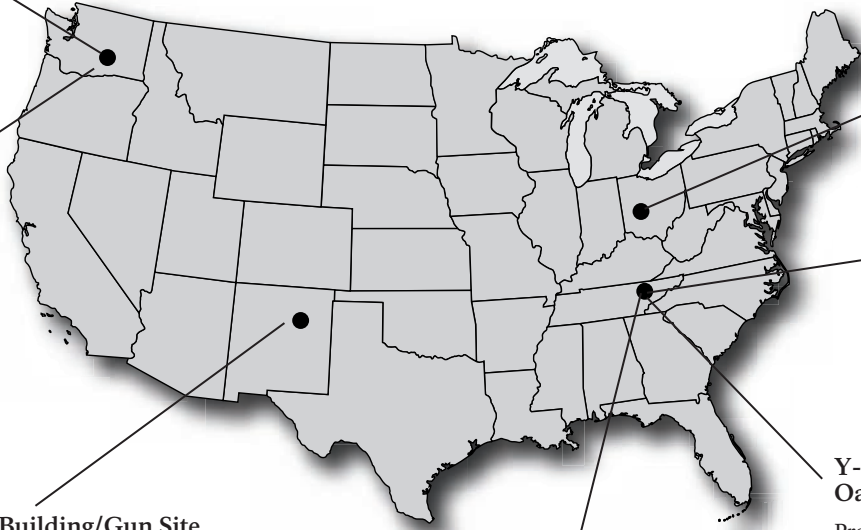
Largest building in the world at the time; Demonstrated viability of gaseous diffusion for uranium enrichment.

Y-12 Beta-3 Racetrack Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Produced enriched uranium for Hiroshima weapon (Little Boy) utilizing E.O. Lawrence's electromagnetic method.

X-10 Graphite Reactor Oak Ridge, Tennessee

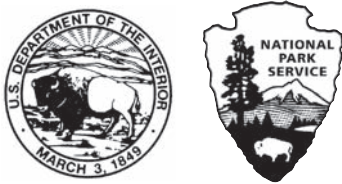
Produced first significant amounts of plutonium.



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Schedule

	Planning Activity	Dates	Public Involvement Opportunities
1	Set the stage for planning (we are at this stage): Listen to ideas, determine issues and concerns	Spring 2006	The public is invited to attend meetings and offer ideas using the options described in the box to the right
2	Develop Preliminary Alternatives: Identify a range of reasonable alternatives for NPS involvement, assess their effects, analyze public reactions, and select a preferred alternative	Summer 2006 to Spring 2007	Provide comments on the initial alternatives by using a response form. Attend public meetings and provide comments
3	Prepare and publish Draft Special Resource Study/Environmental Evaluation: Prepare draft describing the management alternatives, and impacts; distribute to the public	Summer 2007 to Spring 2008	Provide written comments on the draft document. Attend public meetings and provide comments.
4	Revise and publish Special Resource Study/Environmental Evaluation: Analyze comments, revise draft document, distribute to Congress and the public	Fall 2008 to Spring 2009	

How to be Involved

You can provide feedback by completing the enclosed comment form. Please let us know your thoughts and concerns regarding the the issues and opportunities that each site presents. Also, let us know if you would like to be included on the project mailing list. After you have completed the postage-paid form, just fold and tape it and drop it in a mailbox.

All newsletters and project documents will be posted on the National Park Service planning web site, along with a response form if you prefer to participate electronically. You can follow the steps below to view project documents and submit your comments electronically:

- 1) Log on to <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>
- 2) Click the **Plans/Docs** link located at the top of the page
- 3) Check the box for **Only Plans/Documents Open for Public Comment**
- 4) Under the **Project Type** pull down menu, select **Special Resource Study/ New Study Area**
- 5) Click the **Show Plans/Documents** button
- 6) Click on the **Manhattan Project Sites Special Resources Study** link

Public Meetings

The National Park Service planning teams will be holding public open houses. We welcome your comments and suggestions and hope to see you at one of the meetings listed below.		
Date	Location	Coordinator
Wednesday March 22, 2006	Red Lion Richland Hanford House Richland, Washington	Stephanie Toothman stephanie_toothman@nps.gov
Tuesday April 11, 2006 and Wednesday April 12, 2006	U.S. Department of Energy Information Center Oak Ridge, Tennessee	Amy Fitzgerald 865-425-3554
Wednesday May 24, 2006 3 -5 PM and 6 -8 PM	St John’s United Church of Christ, 515 E.Third, (in Fellowship Hall) Dayton, OH 45402 . Note: Please call the park at 937-225-7705 with questions or for information.	Ann Honious ann_honious@nps.gov
To be determined	Los Alamos, NM	Carla McConnell

Courtesy of The Department of Energy

