

National Park Service Department of the Interior

Manhattan Project National Historical Park
Oak Ridge, Tennessee



May
2018

Manhattan Project History in May

- Building on an experiment conducted by Frederic and Irene Joliot-Curie, James Chadwick published “The Existence of a Neutron” in May 1932 which led to other discoveries, such as the fission of uranium and the incredible amount of energy released. The discovery paved the way for the creation of the atomic bomb.
- In May 1941, the Office of Scientific Research and Development was initiated. The office would be created more formally by an executive order in June, and Vannevar Bush would be moved from the head of the National Defense Research Committee into the Office of Scientific Research and Development.
- In May 1942, recommendations were made by the S-1 Executive Committee to build reactors to produce plutonium and a gaseous diffusion plant in order to produce Uranium 235.
- German armed forces surrender in Europe on May 7, 1945.



A Group of Oak Ridgers Beat the Heat on the Diving Platform at the Oak Ridge Pool in a 1945 Ed Westcott Photo.

The “HerStory” Exhibit is at New Hope Visitor Center.

On display is a photography exhibition on women in the Secret City and a biscuit pan used by Mrs. Kattie Strickland that tells a complex story about hard work, segregation, family values and support of the Manhattan Project.

DYK? There now is a coloring book celebrating women of the Manhattan Project available at <https://www.energy.gov/downloads/coloring-book-women-manhattan-project>.

Applications for Our Teacher-Ranger-Teacher (TRT)

Program are Due May 11. The TRT program is a professional development opportunity for K-12 teachers to acquire new skills in experiential learning. For more information or to download an application, go to: <https://www.nps.gov/mapr/learn/teacher-ranger-teacher.htm>.

Come Hike with a Ranger along Cedar Hill Greenway on Saturday, May 12, at 10 a.m. (ET) at Cedar Hill Park, former location of Cedar Hill Elementary. We’ll discuss the early school system of Oak Ridge, early shopping centers, and housing in the Clinton Engineer Works. This is a 2.5 mile moderately difficult hike so wear appropriate footwear, insect repellent, and sunscreen.

Walk with a Ranger on Saturday, May 26, around Bissell Park at 10 a.m. (ET). We will begin at the Secret City Commemorative Walk and along the way discuss how Oak Ridge came to be and the many ways workers were encouraged to stay and continue working on the secret task of the Manhattan Project. This is an easy to moderate 30-45 minute walk.

Farewell to Robert Johnson.

Our Student Conservation Association Community Outreach

Coordinator has accepted a position with Hot Springs National Park. Robert has been with Manhattan Project since November 2016. We are sad to see him go but wish him luck as he continues his career in the National Park Service.

**Park Visitor Center Desk
at the
Children’s Museum of Oak Ridge
461 W. Outer Drive, Oak Ridge, TN 37830
(865) 482-1942
or visit us at:
www.nps.gov/mapr
Twitter@MnhtnProjectNPS
www.facebook.com/ManhattanProjectNPS
www.instagram.com/ManhattanProjectNPS**

