In 1943, the United States government’s Manhattan Project built a secret laboratory at Los Alamos, New Mexico, for a single military purpose—to develop the world’s first atomic weapons. The success of this unprecedented, top-secret government program forever changed the world.

In 2004, the U.S. Congress directed the National Park Service and the Department of Energy to determine the significance, suitability, and feasibility of including signature facilities in a national historical park. In 2014, the National Defense Authorization Act, signed by President Obama, authorized creation of the Park. This legislation stated the purpose of the park: “to improve the understanding of the Manhattan Project and the legacy of the Manhattan Project through interpretation of the historic resources.” On November 15, 2015, a Memorandum of Agreement signed by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of the Department of Energy made the park a reality.

Three locations comprise the park: Project Y at Los Alamos, New Mexico; Site X at Oak Ridge, Tennessee; and Site W at Hanford, Washington. The Manhattan Project National Historical Park legislation references 17 sites at Los Alamos National Laboratory, as well as 13 sites in downtown Los Alamos. These sites represent the world-changing history of the Manhattan Project at Los Alamos. Their preservation and interpretation will show visitors the scientific, social, political, and cultural stories of the men and women who ushered in the atomic age.

The properties below are within the Manhattan Project National Historical Park boundaries on land managed by the Department of Energy. These properties are not yet accessible to the public.

**SITES ON THIS PAGE NOT CURRENTLY OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

1. **POND CABIN**
   - TA-18-29
   - Originally built in 1914 by Mr. Ashley Pond as an office for the Pajarito Club, a private hunting ranch, the cabin was used by physicist Emilio Segrè’s group during the Manhattan Project to support plutonium chemistry research.

2. **BATTLESHIP BUNKER**
   - TA-18-2
   - Built in 1944, this bunker supported implosion diagnostic tests for Fat Man. The Creutz implosion test was the final systems check of the gadget prior to the Trinity test. This building is known as a battleship building because the bunker’s west end is bow shaped and shielded with a steel plate.

3. **SLOTIN BUILDING**
   - TA-18-1
   - Constructed in 1946, this building supported criticality research. On May 21, 1946, a criticality accident occurred here during an experiment known as “tickling the dragon’s tail.” This accident led to the death of scientist Louis Slotin a few days later.

4. **GUN SITE**
   - TA-8-1, TA-8-2, TA-8-3, & TA-8-172
   - During World War II, scientists at Gun Site conducted tests for the gun-assembled weapon designs known as Thin Man and Little Boy. Components of Little Boy were assembled here before shipment to the Pacific. Little Boy was dropped over Hiroshima on August 6, 1945.

5. **V-SITE**
   - TA-16-516 & TA-16-517
   - In 1944 this site supported the first assembly work related to the Fat Man weapon design. In July 1945, V-Site was also used to assemble the high-explosive spheres for the Trinity device, known as the gadget.
The Manhattan Project National Historical Park tells the story of the people, the events, and the science and engineering that led to the creation of the atomic bombs that helped bring an end to World War II. The park aims to explore how the creation of these weapons changed the world and the role Los Alamos played in the world community. Additionally, the park addresses the subsequent controversy and construction of the Project to the annals of history and the world in which we live.

Los Alamos, New Mexico, was where efforts of the Manhattan Project were targeted to decipher the science needed to succeed, to invent the technical processes, and bring the Manhattan Project came together to discover the science and contribution of the Project to the annals of history and world and the United States' role in the world community. Additionally, the park addresses the subsequent controversy and the Manhattan Project as the home of Sir James Chadwick, discoverer of the neutron in 1932, and later Robert Bacher, head of the Experimental Physics Division of the Project. Privately owned; no visitors, please.

Baker House
Built in 1925, this house briefly served during the Manhattan Project. Privately owned; no visitors, please.

Parsons House
Commander William “Deak” Parsons lived here. The Parsons served as the weapons officer aboard the Enola Gay. Privately owned; no visitors, please.

Architecture

Oppenheimer House
This house was built in 1929 for the wives of Ranch School Director A.J. Connell. Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer and his family lived here during the Manhattan Project. Privately owned; no visitors, please.

Bethe House
Clement Edwin McMillan and physicist Hans Bethe, both Nobel Prize winners, lived in this house. It was home to a house for the Los Alamos played during the Cold War and the development of the community.

Stone Power House
This structure was built in 1933 to house the Ranch School’s electrical generator. After remodeling it in 1944–1945, explosives expert George Kistiakowsky lived here. In 1955, the local Red Cross took it over as a chapter office.

Baker House
This Manhattan Project dormitory housed some of the Manhattan Project. Among its residents were General Leslie Groves, military head of the Project, highlight Los Alamos National Laboratory’s defense and technology research effort. Over 60 interactive exhibits trace the history of the Manhattan Project, highlight Los Alamos National Laboratory’s defense and technology research effort. The visitor contact station also serves as the temporary site of the Los Alamos Historical Museum.

Visitor Contact Station
Pick up your Park map, get one of the special three part stamps in your passport, and download the Manhattan Project virtual tour app. The visitor contact station also serves as the temporary site of the Los Alamos Historical Museum.

Ashley Pond
Ashley Pond is shown in the center of the fenced and guarded Technical Area 1 (TA-1). The pond was named after Mr. Ashley Pond, the founder of the Los Alamos Ranch School.

Fuller Lodge
Fuller Lodge was built in 1928 as the dining hall for the Los Alamos Ranch School. During Project Y, the Lodge hosted community activities, such as concerts, dances, dinners, and other special events. Fuller Lodge continues this tradition to this day. Visitors are welcome.

Los Alamos Historical Museum
Built as the infirmary for the Ranch School in 1918, this building was the oldest continuously used building in Los Alamos. It later served as a guest cottage for Ranch School directors and was Gen. Leslie Groves’ favorite place to stay in Los Alamos. The museum is being renovated; reopening in late 2018.

Arts & Crafts Building
Built in 1932, this house briefly served during the Manhattan Project. It was divided into apartments, one of which was used by the Manhattan Project. Among its residents were the Manhattan Project’s scientific head, J. Robert Oppenheimer, and Gen. Leslie Groves, military head of the Project. Privately owned; no visitors, please.

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