SAVANNAH RIVER SITE
Cold War Historic Preservation

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2021-2022



SRS COLD WAR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

OCTOBER 2022

Prepared by:
The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
Savannah River Operations Office (SR)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION 1

PROGRAM STAFF 1

COVID-19 PANDEMIC 2

PART I - CRMP GOALS 3

A. COMPLETED GOALS 3

B. ONGOING AND FUTURE SHORT-TERM (STG) AND LONG-TERM GOALS (LTG) 3

STG-3. DOCUMENTATION 3

STG-5. IDENTIFICATION OF DOE SIGNATURE FACILITIES 4

STG-13. PREPARE RECOMMENDATION FOR NRHP NOMINATION 4

LTG-8. HERITAGE TOURISM MEETINGS 4

LTG-9. DEVELOPMENT OF LONG-TERM TREATMENT PLAN FOR C AREA 4

LTG-13. UPDATE CRMP EVERY FIVE YEARS 4

LTG-14. IDENTIFY FUTURE SRS CONTEXTS 5

C. REVISION OF PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT 5

D. COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES 5

COMPLETION OF THEMATIC STUDY – *HOT LABS, COLD WAR* 5

COMPLETION OF PERMANENT EXHIBIT – *"DEFENSE, DETERRENCE & DISCOVERY"* 6

OTHER COMPLIANCE ACHIEVEMENTS 10

E. PRESENTATIONS, PUBLICATIONS, CONFERENCES AND TRAINING 11

PRESENTATIONS 11

PUBLICATIONS 11

CONFERENCES 11

SAFETY PLAN 12

TRAINING 12

F. DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS 12

PART II- CURATION UPDATE 12

A. CURATION 12

ARTIFACT COLLECTION 12

LOANS AND USE OF ARTIFACTS FOR EXHIBITS 14

DIGITIZATION 15

CONSERVATION 15

FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS 15

B. HERITAGE TOURISM AND PUBLIC OUTREACH 16

HERITAGE TOURISM MEETINGS 16

CURATION FACILITY TOURS 17

LAUNCH OF COLD WAR WEBSITE 18

PART III - SRS MUSEUM UPDATE/PUBLIC OUTREACH 18

PART IV - FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS 22

COMPLIANCE 22

CURATION 23

SRS MUSEUM 24

SOURCES USED 24

BASIS:

This Annual Summary Report was prepared per the Programmatic Agreement (PA) and the *Savannah River Site's Cold War Built Environment Cultural Resources Management Plan* (CRMP).

PERIOD COVERED:

This Summary Report addresses SRS Cold War historic preservation activities from October 15, 2021, through October 31, 2022.



Completed Defense, Deterrence & Discovery Exhibit, October 2022

INTRODUCTION

DOE recognizes its stewardship responsibilities for managing the cultural resources on DOE-owned land and lands impacted by DOE programs.

As part of the accelerated cleanup at SRS, the Savannah River Operations Office (SR) developed a SRS Cold War History Programmatic Agreement (PA) in 2004 to meet the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended through 2000, as defined in the Protection of Historic Properties regulations, Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations, (36 CFR Part 800).

Regulation Title 36 CFR Part 800 (Protection of Historic Properties) specifies who has legal standing to be involved with Federal agencies as they address activities that will affect their historic properties and identify mitigation. SR involved the following as consulting parties: the Savannah River Site Operations Office (SR), the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), the DOE Headquarters Federal Preservation Office (FPO) (ME- 75), State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation (ACHP), the SRS Citizens Advisory Board (CAB), SRS Heritage Foundation, the City of Aiken, the City of Augusta, and the City of New Ellenton.

The PA was updated in 2020 reiterating the need for a Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP) for the management of SRS historic properties and to deal with mitigation alternatives. A current update of the CRMP is in draft to be submitted in 2022.

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) is the current contractor responsible for the Cold War Historic Preservation Program, under the direction of DOE-SR, and in accordance with 36 CPR Part 800.6 of the ACHP regulations and Executive Order 13287: "Preserve America," signed by President Bush in 2003. New South Associates (NSA) is the current subcontractor responsible to SRNS for Cold War compliance and curation services.

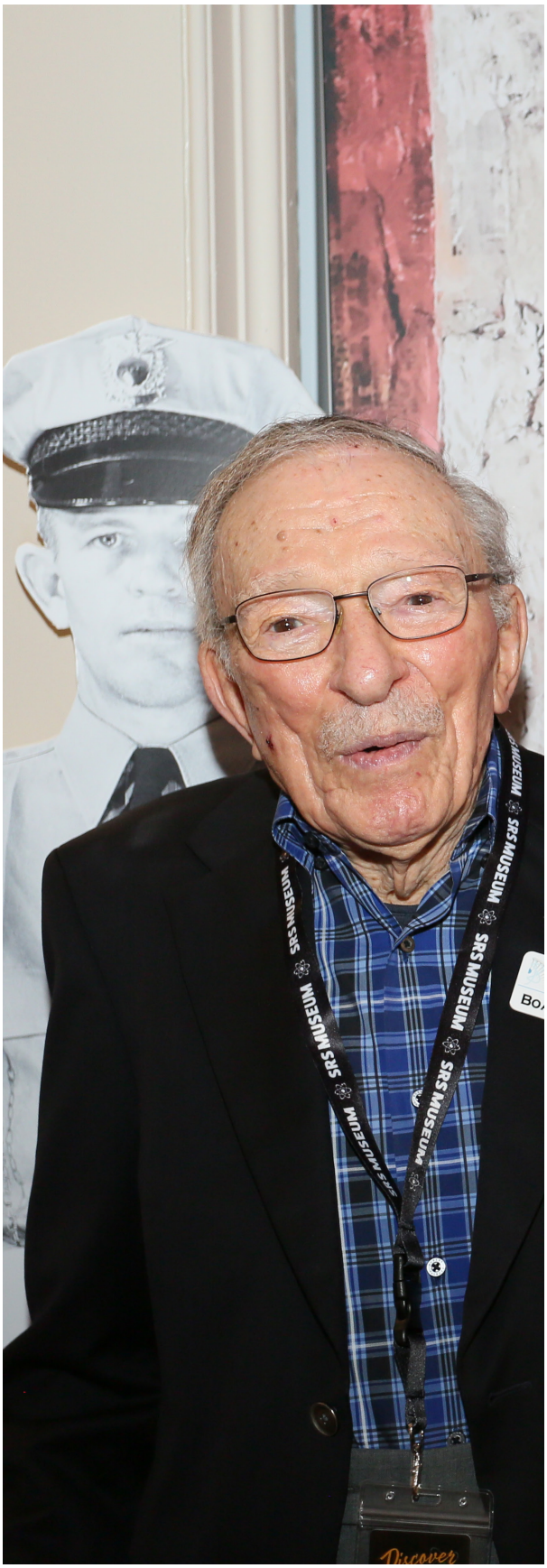
The SRS Cold War Built Environment Historic Preservation Annual Summary Report for Fiscal Years 2021-2022 is provided here in one report. This is the seventeenth report.



Kelly Brown, Linda Smith, Courtney Hicks, Mary Beth Reed, Bryan Cox, and Susie Ferrara

PROGRAM STAFF

Parodio Maith, DOE-SR, served as the DOE Program Manager in FY 2021-2022 assisted by Avery Hammett and Robert



Meek. SRNS Manager Andrew Albenesius retired in August 2022, and we welcomed Susie Ferrara as our new SRNS manager for the program. Mary Beth Reed and Josh Blackmon serve as Program Historians. Linda Smith (full time) and Melissa Hanson (part time) serve as Cold War Curators at 315-M. Ms. Kelly Brown serves as SRS Museum Director and Evelyn Berry as Museum Education Specialist.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The pandemic continued to upend numerous activities within the first six months of the period of performance and its effects are noted throughout the report. It hit hardest on activities involving face-to-face meetings, presentations, tours, conferences, museum visitation, etc. Work conducted during the final six months of the year, however, was a dramatic contrast. As the pandemic wore down, work was able to proceed more normally. Despite the first six months, the SRS Cold War Historic Preservation Program was able to meet its goals as this Report will bear out.

Walt Joseph, SRS Museum Founder at Exhibit Opening

PART I - CRMP GOALS

A. COMPLETED GOALS

The following short and long-term goals were completed from 2005 up to the present including short term goals 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, and 16 and long-term goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, and 12. All have been featured in prior annual reports. This represents a significant advancement towards the original goals of the Programmatic Agreement. Many, such as annual reporting, heritage tourism meetings, establishing partnerships, identification of core historic materials, establishing a permanent record, are considered core planks of the program. The move toward an onsite interpretation center has ended, as the SRS Heritage Foundation has focused its interpretation efforts at the Aiken County-owned Dibble Memorial Library Building on Laurens Street in Aiken.

B. ONGOING and FUTURE Short-Term (STG) and Long-Term Goals (LTG)

STG-3. DOCUMENTATION

Goal: Complete the documentation needed to successfully satisfy the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between DOE and the SHPO pursuant to 36 CFR Part 6 (a) for the mitigation of certain adverse effects to Cold War National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligible historic properties, SRS, Aiken and Barnwell counties, effective September 2004.

Status: COMPLETED.

Document	Accomplishments	Overall Status as of October 31, 2022
Tritium Extraction Thematic Study	Completed in FY05	**Complete** Sept 2005 (classified archived at SRS)
Fuel and target fabrication study (M Area)	Completed in FY07	**Complete**
Pilot plants/ research and development (T Area)	Completed in FY07	**Complete**
777-10A reactor test facility HAER Study	Completed in FY07	**Complete** (delivered to the National Archives)
Administration/support/safety/security (A Area)	Completed in FY07	**Complete**
Heavy water production study (D Area)	Completed in FY08	**Complete**
Reactor operations thematic study (R, P, L, K and C Areas)	Completed in FY10	**Complete**
Infrastructure thematic study	Completed in FY10	**Complete**
Chemical Separations thematic study (F and H Area)	Complete in FY 14	**Complete**
Research and development thematic study (SRNL)	Completed in FY 2022	**Complete**

STG-5. IDENTIFICATION OF DOE SIGNATURE FACILITIES

Goal: Identify and document those Cold War NRHP-eligible properties that are potential candidates for designation as "Cold War Signature Facilities" in consultation with the Department of Energy Federal Preservation Officer (DOE-FPO), (SR).

Status: DOE Headquarters' complex-wide program for the designation of Cold War "Signature Facilities" is no longer in place.

STG-13. PREPARE RECOMMENDATION FOR NRHP NOMINATION

Goal: Prepare a recommendation to the DOE-FPO for a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nomination for the Cold War District using a multiple property submission approach.

Status: This goal remains tabled. Due to the sitewide loss of historic buildings and facilities to decommissioning, a multiple property submission approach to a NRHP nomination is not feasible. This goal will be amended in revised CRMP to recommend a NRHP nomination of single properties or a historic district.

LTG-8. HERITAGE TOURISM MEETINGS

Goal: Maintain a team comprised of PA's consulting parties to focus on Cold War Heritage Tourism and to develop a comprehensive program for public involvement, outreach, and education, (SR).

Status: Ongoing. These meetings have been held on a quarterly basis and are now considered a core component of the program. The Cold War Curator organizes the meetings, picking the locations, issuing invitations, and creating minutes. The attendees form a wide cross section of the CSRA museum community and professionals from major libraries, arts centers, and heritage tourism programs. We began the year with virtual meetings but resumed face-to face meetings in the second half of the year. See Curation Public Outreach Section II.B.

LTG-9. DEVELOPMENT OF LONG-TERM TREATMENT PLAN FOR C AREA

Goal: Develop and implement a long-term treatment plan for C Area Cold War NRHP-eligible historic properties: Reactor Building (105-C), 106-C, 107-C, 108-1C, 108-2C, 109-C, 151-1C, 151-2C, 701-1C, 704-C, 706-C, 186-C, and 190-C.

Status: DOE has elected to return C Area to its decommissioning schedule thus a long-term treatment plan for C Area facilities is no longer needed. The facilities referenced above will follow the approved decommissioning process at SRS and are not on a path toward preservation.

LTG-13. UPDATE CRMP EVERY FIVE YEARS

Goal: Update SRS Cold War Built Environment CRMP, as needed, every five years, (SR).

Status: Draft revision of the CRMP was completed in FY13. The draft was under review internally until decision-making concerning the return of C Area to the decommissioning schedule. With completion of the new PA that incorporates that change, the CRMP is currently being revised and the draft will be submitted by end of 2022.

LTG-14. IDENTIFY FUTURE SRS CONTEXTS

Goal: Research SRS significant programs in place that are not directly Cold War related and/or those that postdate the Cold War and identify associated SRS facilities. A study of the Site's environmental management history is an example and the 2018 environmental exhibit underscored the need for this context.

Status: DOE-SR has started the development of a context for the SRS environmental mission and clean up and will provide a NRHP evaluation for the Defense Waste Processing Facility. Historian Josh Blackmon will lead this effort starting with oral history interviews this winter and spring. We will be working with knowledgeable retirees.

C. REVISED PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT

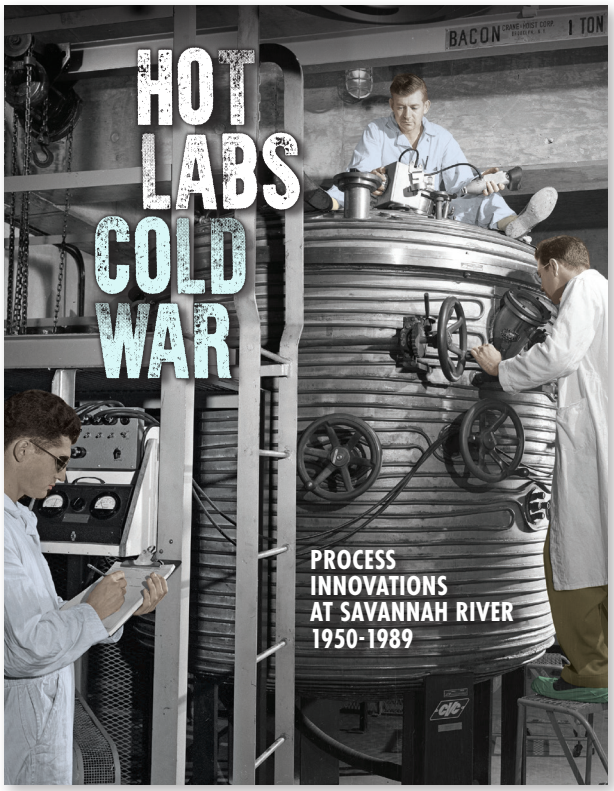
DOE elected to modify its Cold War preservation and public outreach objectives by returning C Reactor and its associated historic properties (106-C, 107-C, 108-1C, 108-2C, 109-C, 151-1C, 151-2C, 701-1C, 704-C, 706-C, 186-C, and 190-C) to the SRS Decommissioning schedule (D&D). This change in status for C Reactor and its associated facilities warranted revision and replacement of the 2004 PA signed by DOE, SHPO, and the ACHP. Accordingly, an invitation to consult on this matter was sent to the PA signatories and concurring parties in August/September 2015. The PA revision was completed in July of 2020.

D. COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

The most significant compliance activities in the past year were the completion of the final Thematic Study: *Hot Labs, Cold War,* and the completion of a permanent exhibit "*Defense, Deterrence & Discovery*" at the SRS Museum.

COMPLETION OF THEMATIC STUDY– *HOT LABS, COLD WAR*

Hot Labs, Cold War is the final volume in a series of similar studies that documented historic Cold War processes at SRP and its contributions to the Atoms for Peace Program. The series was developed as part of a mitigation strategy in response to D&D actions that would adversely affect Cold War era historic properties The mitigation is fully described in the SRS Cultural Resources Management Plan (CRMP). Each thematic study draws on historical research, architectural fieldwork and photography, engineering drawings, and most importantly oral history provided by knowledgeable SRS retirees and current employees.



Research and Development Thematic Study Cover

The focus of this thematic study is the Main Laboratory and its support buildings and structures in 700A/Technical Area. The narrative provides an overview of the research carried out by the Savannah River Laboratory (SRL) and later the Savannah River Technology Center (SRTC). While the Laboratory had a hand in all site processes and thus a physical presence in all process areas, the Main Laboratory building was the center for the Site's Cold War era research and development. Its pilot plants, analytical labs, and test reactors were geographically located in separate process areas to create efficiency and safe experimentation.

The facilities associated with research and development are primarily located in A Area but also included facilities in M Area, Pilot Plants in T Area, and a power test reactor in B Area. Much of the improvements to the primary mission of Savannah River in making material for the nation's nuclear stockpile were made in the laboratories at Savannah River. As such, the Laboratory associated research facilities had an indelible influence on the operational and technological history of the SRS.

The completion of this ninth thematic study is a mitigation milestone for the Cold War Program. Digital field photography was completed by the Site's professional photographers and is complemented by historic photography identified in the Site Archives.

COMPLETION OF PERMANENT EXHIBIT – *"DEFENSE, DETERRENCE & DISCOVERY"*

The 2020 PA called for a more robust public outreach approach. DOE-SR prefers to meet its public outreach objectives off site rather than on site due to safety and security concerns. This led to their decision to return C Area to the decommissioning schedule and a pivot to the newly established SRS Museum established by the SRS Heritage Foundation in downtown Aiken as a potential venue for Site public outreach. It was essentially a win/win for both the agency and the young museum. DOE-SR has supported the SRS Museum Executive Director and Education Specialist positions in 2022.



Highlights from Exhibit Opening

Our 2020 Annual Report described the completion of a permanent exhibit funded by the Legacy Group with DOE that focused on the establishment of the Site in the 1950 and the change it wrought. That exhibit located in the South Gallery opened successfully in December 2019. An exhibit concept plan was then drafted for the Museum's North Gallery in 2020 and funding was graciously provided by the NNSA for its fabrication and installation in 2021. The new exhibit was to explore the Site's historic processes and show the Site's contribution to the state and our nation. Planning for the new exhibit proceeded throughout 2021 and into 2022. With the pandemic receding and museums opening back up again, the exhibit was installed in September 2022 and was successfully opened in October.

The exhibit features focused interpretation areas: Site construction, heavy water production, reactor operations, separations, and safety and security. Each corner is devoted to a specific theme that includes interactives as well as traditional interpretation. A wall-sized light box mural overlooks the exhibit space that shows the historic reach of the SRS and its products and contributions.

Other features include:

- **Large-scale historic imagery provided by DOE-SR from the Site's historic photograph collection**
- **A conserved 1950 building model created by Voorhees, Walker, Foley and Smith Architects, anchors the center of the space. The building model shows the process area of 777-M, the Physics Assembly Laboratory. This building is no longer extant but was fully documented in a Historic American Building Record (HAER SC-48) prior to its demolition.**
- **A conserved historic oversized wall topographic map that shows all the building areas on the Site.**
- **"Heavy Water" pails that show the difference in weight between light and heavy water.**
- **A three-dimensional model of P reactor vessel created by the SRNL and a forest simulator.**
- **Cartoon video of Roddy and His Atomic Adventure at SRP created by New South for the exhibit.**
- **A re-created SRP "guard shack" houses the museum desk and entry.**

The conservation of the building model and topographic map is a first for the Program. Protocols for artifact loans established during the first exhibit worked smoothly and the exhibit was well received. The team included SC State Museum Exhibitions and Fabrication, Dallas Austin, and Parallax.

The completion of the two permanent exhibits within the two large front galleries at the SRS Museum is a second major compliance milestone set in the PA that was accomplished this year.

DAVE GRANLUND/POLITICALCARTOONS.COM

Column

Savannah River Site Museum packs a lot into small space

BY JOHN BOYETTE
jboyette@aikenstandard.com

They say big things sometimes come in small packages.

Think of tiny seeds that sprout into giant trees. Or all of the technology that's packed into our smart phones.

I observed a great example of the big things/small packages analogy the other night.

At a reception and ribbon cutting held for the Savannah River Site Museum's latest exhibit, I couldn't help but think of that comparison.

The museum is housed in the downtown Aiken building that is known as the Dibble Memorial Library. I must confess I had never been in there; not because I eschewed going to the library as a child, but that it was likely closed before my time. I do remember going to Banksia, which served as the library for a stint, and the current Aiken County Library.

But I digress.

The SRS Museum was closed for about a month as the staff prepared to unveil the Defense, Deterrence, and Discovery exhibit. It's now open, and I highly recommend stopping by to check it out.

The library-turned-museum on Laurens Street is one of Aiken's gems, and it's very similar to stepping into a time warp. Memories of the Cold War era are everywhere, including what a fallout shelter might look like.

My previous house in Aiken Estates had a bomb shelter, but fortunately we never had to use it for anything. But in homes in the 1950s and 1960s, they were commonplace. The threat of nuclear fallout was very real as tensions between the U.S. and Soviet Union mounted.


Boyette

The exhibit opening is timely because Monday begins the start of Nuclear Science Week; be sure to check out the special insert in today's paper that was produced locally by Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness.

The museum opened a few years ago and was shepherded by founder Walt Joseph, who worked at the nuclear site for decades and later was executive director of the Savannah River Heritage Foundation. He spoke at the ribbon cutting for the new exhibit.

Without Joseph's perseverance, we might not have the museum today. Having a museum dedicated to the site seems like a no-brainer, but stop a minute and think about all of the secrecy that has surrounded the nuclear reservation since it was built in the early 1950s. Much of the work was labeled "top secret" for a reason.

But, as reporter Matthew Christian detailed in his story on the exhibit, the work done at SRS had an impact far beyond Aiken or even South Carolina. Many of the materials produced at the site were used for nuclear weapons, and some even have been used to power spacecraft on their missions.

Interactive displays help tell the story of the museum, and guests at the opening ceremony were able to walk around and check out different displays in each room. Each person at Wednesday night's event received a special badge when they checked in; after all, security at the site has been of utmost importance since the beginning.

In addition to Joseph, many good people have been involved with this project. They include Kelly Brown, museum director; Linda Smith, curator; Marybeth Reed, historian; and Susie Ferrara, manager of the Cold War Historic Preservation Program.

The National Nuclear Security Administration was lauded for funding the exhibit, and other key partners were recognized for their role in getting the museum up and running.

The new exhibit packs a big punch for a small space. After all, Reed the historian pointed out that one of the museum's original rooms is roughly 10 steps wide and 10 steps long. Other exhibits are packed in other rooms in the building that has been expanded from its original library days.

"It's a really big story for such a small room," Reed told our reporter. "As you can see, we do everything from the floor to the ceiling. We don't kid around here."

It's no joke, and it's also true: Big things really do come in small packages.

Thanks for reading.

John Boyette is executive editor of the Aiken Standard. Reach him at jboyette@aikenstandard.com or 803-644-2364.

Aiken Standard's Editor's Column on Exhibit



What did you like most about the tour?

Dunbarton, Curation Facility. Also enjoyed the narration while riding the bus.

Personable and informative guides.

So much great information, clearly presented. Had no idea how big the site is. Impressive!

The excellent commentary.

The Curation Facility with the artifacts.

The enthusiasm of the presenters.

We liked the artifact room best, along with the robots, although the entire tour was enjoyable.

The staff folks are excellent, knowledgeable, and personable.

OTHER COMPLIANCE ACHIEVEMENTS

A collaborative team involving Public Affairs, SRARP, and the Historic Preservation Program, developed a history-based, onsite tour that was offered to the public on an annual basis prior to the pandemic. A Heritage Trail was established with interpretive signs as well as street signs placed along a six-block area within the historic townsite of Ellenton as well as an interpretive panel, at the historic town site of Dunbarton. These tours were restarted in October of 2022 and were very well received as comments and a long waiting list indicated. The team has agreed to increase the tours from four this year to eight in 2023.

Building 703-A was selected as a candidate for a more defined preservation plan as suggested in the revised CRMP for significant properties that speak to the Site's Cold War legacy.

Preliminary planning for the removal and preservation of C Reactor's control room panels and consoles in the Curation Facility has started.

Preservation staff work annually with SRNS to update FIMS, the DOE database for its facilities.

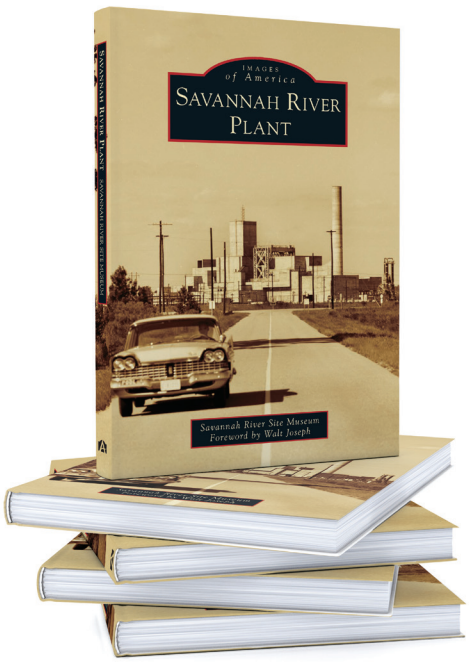


E. PRESENTATIONS, PUBLICATIONS, CONFERENCES AND TRAINING

PRESENTATIONS

The SRS Museum Educational Specialist, Evelyn Berry, and SRS Curator, Melissa Hanson, collaborated on a presentation for a USC-Aiken Senior Capstone class.

The SRS Cold War Curator Linda Smith and Historian Josh Blackmon successfully gave a presentation to the SRS Citizen's Advisory Board in Columbia, May 2022.



PUBLICATIONS

The SRS Museum and Curation Team collaborated on the compilation of *Savannah River Plant* an Arcadia Images of America photographic history. Director Kelly Brown spearheaded the book's development. The book shares never-before-released photographs (courtesy of the U.S. Department of Energy) to connect SRS employees, retirees, and the public to a local story with national impact. The Forward of the book was written by Walt Joseph, the SRS Heritage Foundation and SRS Museum Founder. Proceeds of book sales will benefit the SRS Museum.

CONFERENCES

SRS Museum Director, Kelly Brown, and Education Specialist, Evelyn Berry, each attended the virtual Southeastern Museum Conference in October 2021 as well as the virtual National Council on Public History Conference in May 2022.

In April 2022, Kelly attended a webinar provided by the Texas Historical Commission entitled "From the Ground Up: Starting a Museum." Kelly attended the SEMC conference which was held in person this year in Arkansas. Kelly currently serves as a member of the Archives Committee for the Society for American Archaeology.

Linda Smith, our Curator, also attended the SEMC conference virtually in 2021 and attended the in-person 2022 conference this month in Arkansas. She was able to attend the 2022 Texas Historical Commission webinar which focused on "Understanding and Upgrading your Collection Environment."

SAFETY PLAN

A comprehensive Health and Safety Plan was developed for the SRS Museum, including what to do in the event of an emergency, who should be notified, and emergency contacts for staff and volunteers.

TRAINING

All NSA staff attended the American Cultural Resources Association's webinar on Identifying and Mitigating Sexual Harassment. All completed CAT training and Safeguards and Security training.

F. DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS

DOE-SR continues to work in partnership onsite with NNSA and with the Savannah River National Laboratory. Both organizations have been working in cooperation with the SRS Cold War Historic Preservation Program and are partners in the development and expansion of public outreach at the SRS Museum. As noted, NNSA awarded 300K to the SRS Heritage Foundation for a permanent exhibit to be installed in the north gallery that opened in 2022 that explains tritium's role in the genesis of the site and its role today at the SRS.

PART II - CURATION UPDATE

A. CURATION

ARTIFACT COLLECTION

Seven hundred and fifty-two artifacts were collected in 2022. Additionally, we have created 300 Rediscovery records and have cataloged 652 objects. We acquired a few notable artifacts for the collection including: a site rain shelter, a Safety Engineer's green Brooks Brothers jacket, AT&T Blast Proof Phones from 484-D, and a female DuPont Patrol Officer's binoculars.



New Artifacts at 315-M! Safety Engineer's Brooks Brothers Jacket and a Rain Shelter

SRS and SRP News and Views newspapers were pulled from the archive and rehoused to create a newspaper collection within the archive.

A new Space Saver shelving unit was installed in the Document Room in March. An ensuing archive reorganization project began with re-shelving. Archives were given a quick assessment, rehoused as needed, and a preliminary inventory was completed. Special attention was given to possibly overweight boxes.

Curation staff met with Records Management to discuss the DOE O 243.1C order. This meeting facilitated a renewed partnership. Curators met with the new Director and toured the Records facility in October.



Curator Linda Smith Showing Off the New Shelving Unit





AT&T Blast Proof Phone and Du Pont Patrol Officer's Binoculars

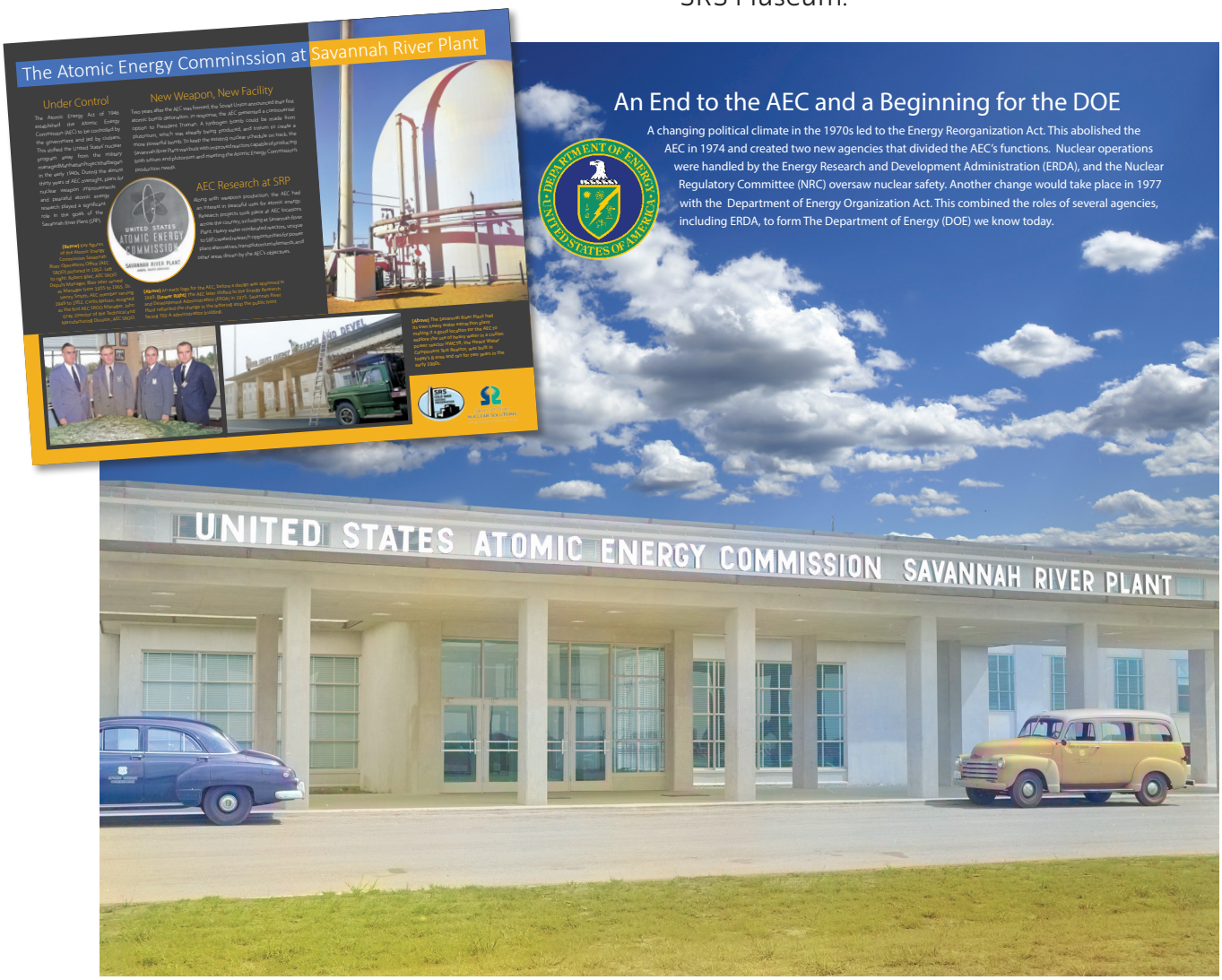
LOANS AND RESOURCE REQUESTS

An exhibit by the SRS Cold War Historic Preservation Program has been on display in the training building on site, 766-H. In August 2022 a new iteration of the Compelling Place to Work exhibit was installed replacing the former exhibit entitled, "Safe at Work and Safe to Work" which shared the history of site medical. The new exhibit chronicles the evolution of SRS management from AEC and ERDA to DOE currently. The next iteration plans to feature artifacts from the U.S. Forest Service.

Artifacts from the collection were loaned to the National Atomic Testing Museum located in Paradise, Nevada, for an exhibit on environmental management that opened in August. The loan was successfully accomplished despite an abbreviated schedule.

The SRP license plate topper loan to the SRS museum was renewed for another year. An oversized topographic map, a P Rector tank model, a reactor on light, and an original building model was also loaned for the SRS Museum exhibit *Defense, Deterrence & Discovery* to the SRS Museum.

AEC Exhibit





NATM Exhibit

The photography collection continues to be of great use. Throwback Thursdays, historic images shared on social media, have continued to be a success. These are shared on Facebook and Twitter through the Savannah River Site Communications group and the NNSA. Photos from the historic collection were also used in the new book *"Savannah River Plant"* created by the SRS Museum and released by Arcadia Publishing.

Photography and Video Services also continue to be a close partner with the Cold War Historic Preservation Program, and photography requests are fulfilled when possible.

DIGITIZATION

The historic photographic digitization project has been on hold during the pandemic but will restart in 2023.

CONSERVATION

Carolina Conservation completed the stabilization, cleaning, and conservation of four artifacts that were placed on display in the SRS North Gallery exhibit. First a 703-A corridor light showing which reactors were in operation was conserved and is now part of the Reactor Operations display. An oversize reproduction topographic wall map was conserved and electrified for use in the new exhibit. The map was produced by Ebasco as a presentation piece and was displayed in the Savannah River Laboratory for decades. An original building model constructed in the 1950s by Voorhees, Walker, Foley, and Smith of the process wing in 777-M, that was seriously damaged, was conserved. The model is now the centerpiece of the new exhibit. Finally, a 3D printed model of P reactor tank was repaired and readied for display at the SRS Museum.

FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

In March of 2022 a high-density Space Saver shelving unit was installed. This unit, with two stationary carriages and six mobile carriages, provides an increase of four times the storage capacity over the

previous unit. After installation, all archive boxes have been re-shelved.

After engineer assessments and studies, the HVAC units' thermostats, servicing all storage spaces, have been upgraded giving the facility staff tighter control over the temperature and humidity levels. The conditions in the storage spaces are monitored monthly and are trending within suggested ranges. During installation, additional repairs were found to be needed on some HVAC units. These repairs have since been completed.

Several leaks in the gutters and exterior doors were identified and repaired over the course of the year.

B. HERITAGE TOURISM AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

HERITAGE TOURISM MEETINGS

The first 2022 Heritage Tourism Meeting was virtual but was well attended in January. Participants included: Andy Albenesius-Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, Evelyn Berry-Savannah River Site Museum, Josh Blackmon-New South Associates, Kelly Brown-Savannah River Site Museum, Charlie Davis-US Forest Service, Robyn Dudley-Augusta Jewish Museum, Randy DuTeau-North Augusta Tourism Coordinator, Nancy Glaser-Augusta Museum, Melissa Hanson-Savannah River Site Curation Facility, Mary Ann Keisler-Thoroughbred Country, Mary Beth Reed-New South Associates, Linda Smith-Savannah River Site Curation Facility, Jordan Stenger-Redcliffe Plantation, Leah Walker-Aiken County Historical Museum, David Wilkerson-Savannah River Site Heritage Foundation, George Wingard-Savannah River Archaeological Research Program, and Gwen Winkler-Thoroughbred Country.

After exchanging information on the respective heritage news and events it was agreed that we would have an outdoor, in-person meeting April. An invitation to Redcliffe Plantation was issued by Park Manager Chelsea Stutz and we met there in April using the galleries on the plantation house as the meeting space. This was our first in person meeting in two years and all participants really enjoyed the experience! Attendees included: Andrew Albenesius, Jerry Bell, Evelyn

Heritage Tourism Meeting at Redcliffe Plantation





HPAT Team Meeting at Lucy Craft Laney Historic House

Berry, Josh Blackmon, Bob Bonnett, Kelly Brown, Susie Ferrara, J.W. Joseph, Melissa Hanson, Nancy McKenzie, Leon Maben, Robert Meek, Kim Pennington, Sam Radford, Mary Beth Reed, Ashley Rust, Linda Smith, Jordan Stenger, and host Chelsea Stutz (See Left).

Our third meeting was held at the historic Lucy Laney Craft House in Augusta, Georgia and it was hosted by Leon Maben, Vice President of the Board of Directors of the Museum. The meeting was held in the conference room, new Program Director Susie Ferrara chaired the meeting, which was attended by Evelyn Berry, Josh Blackmon, Judith Butler, Tyrone Butler, Kelly Brown, Jennifer Curtis, Susie Ferrara, Melissa Hanson, Theresa Hipps, Jensen Jennings, Nancy McKenzie, Leon Maben, Chesler Mathis, Robert Meek, Mary Beth Reed, Linda Smith, Chelsea Stutz, Leah Walker, George Wingard, and Gwen Winkler. After we completed our meeting, Mr. Maben provided a tour of the Black educator's historic home.

Our final quarterly meeting is scheduled for November 2022 at Café Scientifique/ SRS Museum in Aiken.

CURATION FACILITY TOURS

As the pandemic wound down and facility improvements continued, the decision was made to postpone employee tours for FY 2022. Until employee tours are reinstated, the Cold War Program Manager





LANL TOUR





is providing onsite presentations. A small, curated education collection was created to accompany the Program Manager's presentations. The Cold War curators hosted a tour for the members of the Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board in July. In August, NNSA Los Alamos Senior Historian Alan Carr and Christopher C'de Baca Mission Support Group Leader received a private tour of the Curation Facility. Finally, the SRS Retirees Association visited the Curation Facility in September and plans are being made to make this an annual event.

LAUNCH OF COLD WAR WEBSITE

The Program reached a major milestone with the launch of the SRS Cold War webpage that describes the program and its mission, showcases our publications, and provides access to historic materials such as the Site newspapers. In May, the site had 474 unique visitors, 5,232 site visits with an average time of almost 4 minutes. Curator Melissa Hanson led this effort, and she continues to work on making the site available to the public.

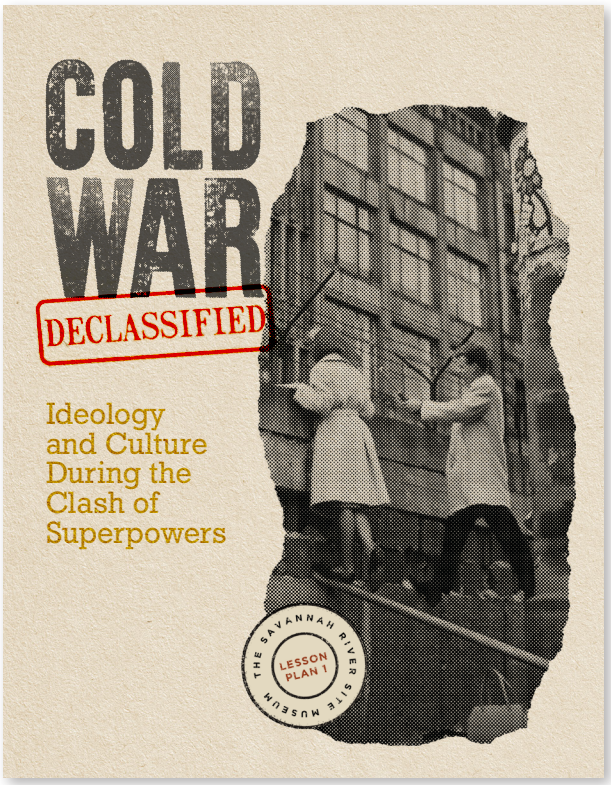
PART III - SRS MUSEUM UPDATE/PUBLIC OUTREACH

The SRS Museum has had a busy year with overall visitation trending upward. The museum welcomed 1,777 visitors from October 2021 to September 2022, which is an improvement from pandemic (and pre-pandemic) years, with FY 2020-2021 reaching 1,103 visitors. The museum has also developed regular hours of operation, and has been open Wednesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. since April 2022.

These regular hours are made possible with the help of volunteers and interns. The SRS Museum volunteer pool has been revitalized and welcomed five new members with most of them volunteering once a week. The museum was also able to partner with USC-Aiken and welcomed Chesler Mathis as a student intern from May 2022 to August 2022. In addition, Courtney Hicks was hired as a Museum Assistant through the county and works 10 hours a week at the SRS Museum. Throughout the year, the museum has also renewed its marketing strategies; the museum website was renovated, a quarterly museum newsletter reinstated, and a newly designed rack card sent to various local tourism partners and state welcome centers. Museum Director, Kelly Brown, and Education Specialist, Evelyn Berry, each participated in various networking events including Aiken Chamber Women in Business Luncheon, Aiken Chamber Business After Hours, Aiken Tourism Partners, and the SRS Heritage Partners and Tourism meetings.

In 2022, the museum continued to expand its Education and Outreach programs. In May 2022, the SRSM Education Specialist Evelyn Berry launched a new curriculum-based lesson plan titled *Cold War Declassified: Ideology and Culture During the Clash of Superpowers*, which has been taught in twelve classrooms in the CSRA.

In July 2022, SRS Museum collaborated with the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center to bring students to the museum for interactive activities for the STEM Forward Careers Exploration Summer



Camp. Ruth Patrick Science Education Center and SRS Museum continue their collaboration to develop two STEM field trip programs, *Radiation All Around Us* and *Modeling Atoms*, which will be offered at Ruth Patrick Science Education Program in 2023.

The SRS Museum launched a newly developed Interactive Museum Tour in July 2022, a tour that includes various educational and STEM related activities and provides opportunities to homeschool groups, church youth groups, and other youth organizations. Museum staff welcomed 50 campers (in small groups of 20) from Bethlehem Baptist Enrichment Summer Camp in July 2022 and had several successful interactive tours. The SRS Museum Education Specialist has also collaborated with the Boy Scouts of America Georgia-Carolina leadership and is

developing a Nuclear Merit Badge program which will be launched in January 2023 and offered on a quarterly basis.

From October 2021 to September 2022, the SRS Museum provided guided tours to a variety of professional and student groups including the ESH Emerging Professionals (20), Augusta Veterans Curation Program (8), Barnwell Baptist Church Young at Heart Program (18), Sunshine House Summer Camp (10), Aiken County Tri-Development Center (5), SRS Mentoring Program (13), Zickgraff Homeschool (2), Savannah River Ecology Laboratory Conference Tour Attendees (15), Savannah River National Lab, SRS Mentoring Circle (28), visitors from Oak Ridge (9), SRS HR Mentoring Group (6), Aiken Ambassadors Program (10), Cub Scout Pack 110 (20), SRS TTSD Group (17), Los Alamos Historians (2), Aiken City PRT (2), SRNS Internal Audit Group (5), Savannah River National Laboratory Post-Graduate Group (50), and the SRS LIFT Program (26). Since October 2021, the SRSM Educational Specialist Evelyn Berry has taught lesson plans in six schools for approximately 373 students and hosted in-museum programming for over 173 participants. SRS Museum staff also performed outreach at community events such as First Friday in Aiken, Science Education and Enrichment Day at the Ruth Patrick Education Center, Aiken's Makin' Arts and Craft Festival in downtown Aiken, Family Earth and Sky Night at Ruth Patrick Science and Education Center, and the Atomic City Festival in Ellenton. The museum's social media presence has also continued to grow, with most people connecting via

Education Specialist Evelyn Berry introduces this tour group to our fallout shelter exhibit.





SRS Museum Director at the Atomic City Festival

the museum Facebook and Instagram accounts. In celebration of National Nuclear Science Week (October 2021 and 2022), the museum remained open Monday through Saturday, and expanded visitation hours. In total, outreach efforts reached more than 3,300 people.

As 2022 progressed, museum staff worked hard to prepare for the *Defense, Deterrence, and Discovery* gallery installation (September 2022) and unveiling (October 2022). This new addition to the museum was made possible through generous funding provided by the NNSA. A successful ribbon-cutting event was held on October 12, 2022, with attendance of NNSA representatives, as well as local community leaders. The exhibit was featured in local news outlets, including the front page of the Aiken Standard as well as the Sunday Aiken Standard Editor Column. The museum also hosted an SRS Heritage Foundation Membership "sneak peek" event on October 13, 2022, to great reception.

An updated Radiation Exhibit has been in development with the financial support and volunteer work of the Savannah River National Laboratory. This exhibit will include an interactive portion that demonstrates how radiological workers protect themselves from different forms of radiation. Visitors will also learn about everyday radioactive items, such as uranium glass and smoke detectors. The museum anticipates opening this exhibit in 2023.



Museum visitors meet Roddy U. Ranium who gives a video tour of the Site.

This year also marked the completion and publication of the *Savannah River Plant Images of America* book, released through Arcadia Publishing. SRS staff and SRS Curation Facility historians worked to organize and caption around 250 original photographs from the Department of Energy's Savannah River Plant collection. The book also includes a Foreword by Walt Joseph as well as an introduction to Savannah River Plant history. Museum staff will be planning a book event to launch the book and selling copies at the museum and online.

The SRS Heritage Foundation has agreed to take ownership of the growing artifact collection in support of the museum.

Through a previous agreement, the Aiken County Historical Museum has maintained ownership of the SRS Museum artifact collection, however in May 2022, a mutual agreement was reached between the Aiken County Historical Museum and the SRS Heritage Foundation to transfer ownership of the collection to the SRS Heritage Foundation. The SRS Museum Director can now directly accept relevant artifacts on behalf of the Heritage Foundation rather than having the acquisition go through the Aiken County Historical Museum. Artifact loans can also be tendered directly between the museum and involved parties. With the help of the Aiken County Historical Museum Collections Manager, as well as the SRS Curation Facility staff, the SRS Museum Director was able to establish an inventory of all artifacts currently stored or on display within the building, which has allowed for a better understanding of responsibility and collection needs.

PART IV - FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS

COMPLIANCE

The Program Historian will complete the revised CRMP by end of calendar year 2022.

Research for the Environmental Mission context will continue, and oral history interviews begin in January 2023.

We will continue to look more fully at adaptive reuse of SRS' historic properties,

creating awareness of Section 111. DOE-SR sees a potential opportunity in adaptive reuse specifically for historic properties used administratively and can explore that possibility.

Finally, we will pursue training opportunities on an annual basis to keep staff up to date for safety, security, and professional certifications.

CURATION

In the next FY, the Curation Facility staff will continue seeking training and conference opportunities.

Planning will begin for the next exhibit in the 766-H building.

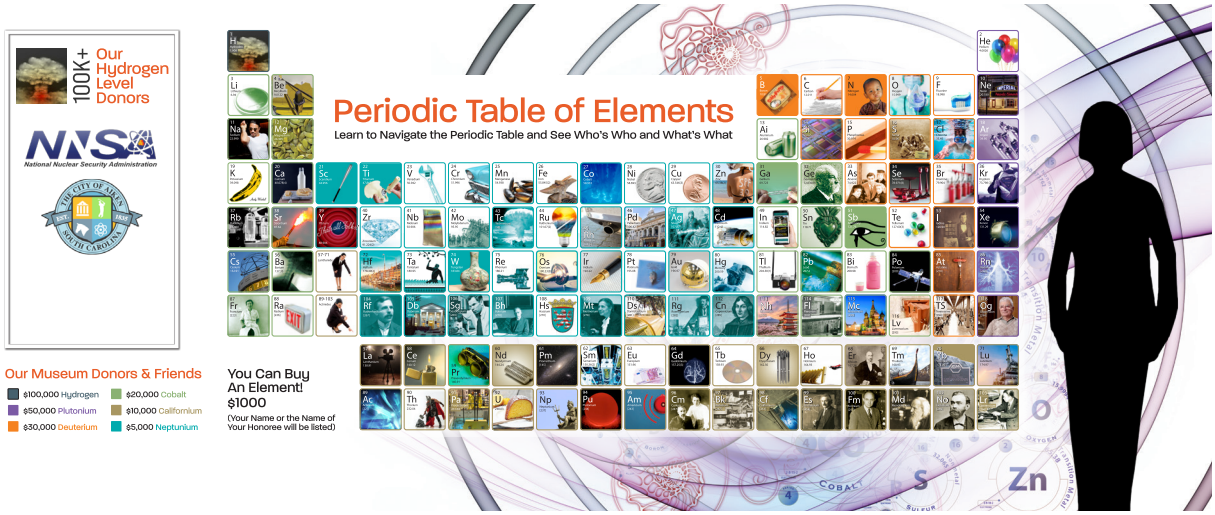
Work will continue in collaboration with the SRS Museum to provide exhibit content and artifacts and create a public outreach and school group opportunities.

The photographic digitization project will restart with the hiring of interns to continue scanning. The interns along with the curators will ensure use of consistent standards and metadata to make the collection user friendly for use on a future external website.

The Curation staff will work more closely with Site Archives and Records management. The Curation staff will also work to improve the Curation Facility's archive database and storage.

Artifact collection and improving storage will continue to be a priority. Curators will begin a complete, multi-year, artifact inventory and database update. The Curation Facility will also pursue conservation of several building models in the collection. Curation staff will continue film preservation discussions to include meetings with the Moving Image Research Collection curator at USC.

The Cold War Historic Preservation Program looks forward to hosting a few upcoming events in FY22 include the quarterly HPAT and Heritage Tourism



meetings, bi-annual SRS Retiree Association tours, and an expanded historic bus tours schedule in the next FY.

SRS MUSEUM

As the Museum moves into its next year, the Director will focus efforts on achieving four goals to realize its two-year action plan: providing safe storage for the growing artifact collection, implementing exhibit updates for a fully self-guided experience, delivering developed education content to the local school system, increasing tourist attendance through targeted marketing.

The Museum will specifically create and install professional updates to exhibits in the Annex including a radiation exhibit and the existing Fall Out Shelters exhibit.

Staff will devise a small classroom space for groups of 10-12 in Annex.
The Museum will continue to capitalize on its developed curriculum by providing outreach education to the local school systems and hosting museum tours.

Maintain artifact inventory and create a safe and secure artifact storage enclosure on the Museum's second floor.

With sustained support from established partners, a growing team of talented professionals, clearly established goals, and continued interest from the community in the SRSM, this upcoming year stands to be another successful one.

SOURCES USED

U.S. Department of Energy Policy 141.1, Management of Cultural Resources, 5-2-01

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended through 2000.

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America (2003)

Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties (36 CFR Part 800), as amended through 2004

Curation of Federally-Owned and Administered Archeological Collections (36 CPR Part 79)