DOE and ACHP Heritage Tourism Partnership

On February 9, 2006, Deputy Secretary of Energy Clay Sell (right) and DOE FPO Skip Gosling met with John Nau III (bottom right), Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), and John Fowler, the ACHP’s Executive Director, at DOE Headquarters in downtown Washington, D.C. Sell and Nau discussed the goals of Executive Order 13287, Preserve America, and agreed to enter into a partnership to develop a heritage tourism evaluation of the Department of Energy. Sell directed Gosling’s Office of History and Heritage Resources to partner with the ACHP to identify ways in which DOE assets could contribute to local economic development strategies. This partnership builds on the relationship that has developed between DOE and the ACHP since the late 1990s, particularly as regards preservation strategies for the Manhattan Project “Signature Facilities,” and is consistent with a recommendation in the Strategic Plan for the Department’s History and Heritage Resources Program that DOE aggressively implement Preserve America’s direction that agencies seek partnerships to contribute to local economic development strategies.

Nau Applauds DOE Executive Order Report

During the February 9, 2006, meeting, Chairman Nau congratulated Deputy Secretary Sell for the quality of DOE’s 2005 Executive Order report, stating that the Department’s report was one of the two or three best in the federal government (over 70 agencies are required to comply with the Executive Order). Our thanks to those in the field who provided information included in the DOE submission.

Want to Receive Partners in Preservation?

Click here and enter your name (first and last) and e-mail address to receive future issues.
Atomic Testing Museum to Host Museum and Visitor Center Conference

The Atomic Testing Museum (right) in Las Vegas, Nevada, with funding from the FPO, is hosting a conference for the directors and other top officials of the museums and visitor centers, including those projected and planned, associated with the Department of Energy. The conference, which will be held on June 15-16, 2006, has two purposes: 1) to provide an opportunity for colleagues to meet and discuss ways to develop a mutually beneficial network of the various museums and visitor centers and 2) to provide input and recommendations that will be included in the Museum and Visitor Center study being prepared by the Office of History and Heritage Resources for submission to Deputy Secretary of Energy Clay Sell.

The Museum and Visitor Center study is an outgrowth of the Strategic Plan for the Department of Energy’s History and Heritage Resources Program approved by Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham in May 2004. Noting that there was “no policy and no coordinated museum management” within the Department, the Strategic Plan called for a “complex-wide museum study” to help “formulate DOE policy.” Deputy Secretary Clay Sell reaffirmed the Strategic Plan during a meeting with the FPO in summer 2005 and directed Gosling to prepare the museum study for submission to his office.

$2 Million in FY06 Budget for Manhattan Project Preservation

Congress appropriated $2 million in the 2006 Fiscal Year budget for Manhattan Project preservation. $1 million was provided for Hanford and $500 thousand each for Los Alamos and Oak Ridge.

Manhattan Project Web Site and Reprint

Click on http://www.mbe.doe.gov/me70/history/index.htm to visit the Manhattan Project web site on the Office of History and Heritage Resources homepage. The site currently includes the Events and Resources sections with loads of photographs, drawings, and other reference material. Our perennial “bestseller,” The Manhattan Project: Making the Atomic Bomb, has also been reprinted. Free copies can be obtained by contacting DOE’s Office of Public Affairs at 202 586-5575.
Major support for the Manhattan Project web site was provided by David Rezelman, who held a Glenn Seaborg Fellowship. Future work on the Manhattan Project and other web projects will be supported by our new fellowship, *The Edward Teller Fellowship in Science and National Security Studies*, co-funded by the Office of Science and the National Nuclear Security Administration.

**National Park Service Manhattan Project Study**

The National Park Service, with FY2006 funding, is moving forward with implementation of the Manhattan Project Special Resource Study as directed in the Manhattan Project National Historical Park Study Act, PL 108-340. A Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement was issued on March 14, 2006, in the *Federal Register*, and Park Service public meetings took place at Hanford during the week of March 20 and will take place in Oak Ridge on April 11-12, at Dayton in late May, and at Los Alamos/Santa Fe in early June. The Act directs the Secretary of the Interior, “in consultation with the Secretary of Energy,” to conduct a special resource study “to assess the national significance, suitability, and feasibility of designating 1 or more sites within the study area as a unit of the National Park System.” Initially, the study area consisted of Los Alamos, Hanford, and Oak Ridge. Dayton was subsequently added.

The Deputy Secretary has directed the FPO to coordinate DOE’s efforts in support of the Park Service study to ensure that “in consultation with the Secretary of Energy” is meaningful.

**2006 DOE Cultural Resources Forum: Oak Ridge, Tennessee**

The 2006 DOE Cultural Resources Forum will take place May 2-3 in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Hosted by the DOE Oak Ridge Office and the National Nuclear Security Administration, the meeting begins with a day-long tour that will include a windshield tour of the East Tennessee Technology Park (K-25 building), a visit to the X-10 Graphite Reactor at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (X-10 is a National Historic Landmark), a tour of the Beta-3 Calutron (Racetracks) Facility at the Y-12 National Security Complex, and concludes with a visit to the American Museum of Science and Energy. K-25, X-10, and the Beta-3 Racetracks are all Manhattan Project “Signature Facilities.” Dinner will be at Big Ed’s Pizza, the unofficial 4th Signature Facility at Oak Ridge.

The business meeting on May 3 includes presentations by the FPO, Tom McCulloch of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Joe Garrison of the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office, Katy Brown of the Oak Ridge Convention & Visitor’s Bureau, Gary Hartman of the Oak Ridge Office, and updates from DOE site representatives. During the afternoon there will be a tour of the city of Oak Ridge and a showing of “Secret City, The Oak Ridge Story” at the Museum of Science and Energy.
We look forward to seeing you in Oak Ridge on May 2-3 and thank the Oak Ridge Office and the National Nuclear Security Administration for putting together what promises to be a full and interesting couple of days.

**Idaho to Hold Cultural Resources Stakeholder Meeting**

The Idaho National Laboratory's Cultural Resource Management Office (INL CRM Office) will hold its 2nd Annual Cultural Resource Stakeholder Meeting on April 12, 2006, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Museum of Idaho in Idaho Falls, Idaho. A summary of Fiscal Year 2005 accomplishments will be presented, and input will be solicited on planned activities for Fiscal Year 2006. Colleagues from the Department of Energy cultural resources community are invited to participate and share their experiences from other facilities. Please contact Julie Braun (208 526-0926, julie.braun@inl.gov) for information or to register.

**$350,000 for Hanford Exhibits**

On December 3, 2005, the Atomic Heritage Foundation (AHF) received a $350,000 grant from the M. J. Murdock Charitable Trusts to develop exhibits on the history of the Hanford site. The focus will be on the Manhattan Project, the B Reactor, and the complex process developed to produce plutonium at Hanford. The exhibits will be developed under the direction of the AHF in collaboration with the B Reactor Museum Association, the Hanford Reach National Monument Heritage and Visitor Center ("The Reach"), the Columbia River Exhibition on History, Science and Technology (CREHST), and other partners. The goal is to have exhibits ready for the 65th anniversary of the Manhattan Project at Hanford in 2008.

On March 2, the AHF organized a B Reactor Interpretive Planning Workshop in Richland, Washington. Cindy Kelly, AHF President, provided an overview of the project. Tim Pfaff of Hilferty & Associates, the museum design firm responsible for exhibits at the new Reach Museum in Richland, solicited comments from community representatives on the B Reactor project, its intended audience, messages to be conveyed, organizational approaches, and measurements of success. After the workshop, the Hilferty team and others toured the historic B Reactor site and discussed how the reactor should be interpreted for visitors.
K-25 Preservation Update

In March 2005, the DOE FPO and other signatory parties ratified a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) regarding site interpretation at the East Tennessee Technology Park (formerly K-25 site) in Oak Ridge. The MOA states that the north end of the "U"-shaped K-25 building, with a footprint of approximately 135,000 square feet, will be retained. Original equipment in a part of the north end will remain in place until November 2006 to evaluate the "feasibility and cost-effectiveness" of decontaminating the equipment for potential future interpretation. In addition, the upper 10 feet of the interior walls of the legs of the "U" will be retained. The walls will be used to portray the history of Oak Ridge, which may include painted murals. Finally, Portal 4, an entry point to the site, will be retained.

In addition to the DOE FPO, signatory parties to the MOA include the DOE Oak Ridge Office, the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Officer, and the President’s Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Concurring parties include the City of Oak Ridge and the Oak Ridge Heritage and Preservation Association.

Following signing of the MOA, the DOE contractor at the site, the Bechtel Jacobs Corporation, contracted with the Atomic Heritage Foundation (AHF) to develop concepts and preliminary designs for preservation and interpretation of the north end and the K-25 site. In a meeting in Oak Ridge on January 19, 2006, the AHF presented architectural plans and artistic renderings suggesting what the future K-25 site might look like.

Around the Complex

Jennifer Johnson has joined the Office of History and Heritage Resources as Archivist. Jennifer is responsible for managing and servicing the Department of Energy Historical Research Center in Germantown and is also an experienced web designer. . . . Kris Mitchell has left the Pantex Plant in Amarillo, Texas, and is now a consultant in the Salem, Oregon, area. . . . Steve Stow has retired as director of the American Museum of Science and Energy in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Peggy Brown is the new director. . . . Bill Johnson has been named director of the Atomic Testing Museum in Las Vegas, Nevada. . . . John Isaacson has left his position as the Los Alamos National Laboratory Team Leader for Cultural Resources to become Project Manager for the new Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement, the Land Conveyance and Transfer Project and the V Site Restoration Project. Brad Vierra is the new team leader for cultural resources. Ellen McGehee remains the lead on historic buildings for the cultural resources management team at
After a ten-year absence, Hollie Gilbert has rejoined the Idaho National Laboratory’s Cultural Resource Management Office staff as an historic archaeologist.

**Featured Site: Brookhaven National Laboratory**

Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) is located on Long Island, New York, about 60 miles east of New York City. BNL currently has three structures/sites that have been determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places: the Brookhaven Graphite Research Reactor (BGRR), the High Flux Beam Reactor, and the World War I training trenches associated with Camp Upton. The *Cultural Resource Management Plan for BNL* was approved by DOE-Brookhaven Site Office (BHSO) in 2005 and has been submitted to the SHPO for review.

The property on which BNL is situated has five distinct historical eras. In the mid-19th century, the original pine and oak forest provided a valuable resource to the local cordwood industry. Archeological evaluations were recently performed on two house sites belonging to tenant farmers and woodcutters, with the earliest dating to the 1830s. From 1917–1921, the property experienced America’s war efforts associated with World War I. Camp Upton (right, training trench, ca. 1918), constructed as an induction and training cantonment to accommodate 40,000 troops, doubled the population of Suffolk County virtually overnight. Upon the war’s end, the Camp was declared surplus, and every stove and scrap of lumber, as well as entire buildings, was sold at action in 1921.

At the height of the Great Depression in the 1930s, the property was home to four Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) work camps where millions of trees were planted and miles of firebreak road constructed. Today, the tall stands of white pines serve as visual reminders of the CCC’s efforts.

The newly planted forest did not remain untouched for long, for in 1940 America was once again preparing to enter another World War. Camp Upton was reconstructed, this time to serve as an induction center for the metropolitan New York Area. Towards the end of World War II, the Camp’s role changed again, and it became a state of the art convalescence and rehabilitation hospital center. Bowling alleys, swimming pools, and tennis courts were added to serve as recreational therapy for the patients.

After the end of the war, Camp Upton was once again declared surplus. This time, however, it would not be dismantled. World War II resulted in the U.S.
being quickly ushered into the Atomic Age. In 1946, the surplus army base was chosen as the site for a new nuclear science facility.

BNL’s purpose was to promote basic research in the physical, chemical, biological, and engineering aspects of the atomic sciences. The whole concept behind establishing a National Laboratory in the northeast was to design, construct, and operate large scientific machines that individual institutions could not afford to develop on their own. With the age of big science at hand, the landscape of the BNL site would change dramatically with the construction of nuclear research reactors, particle accelerators, and science laboratories.

Today, the BNL trenches are some of the few surviving examples of World War I earthworks in the United States. Eleven separate trench networks are scattered throughout the site, with each layout varying in complexity. BNL is currently preparing the documentation to formally nominate the trenches to the NRHP.

In 2004, BNL produced a video documentary, *The History of the Brookhaven Graphite Research Reactor*, as part of a Memorandum of Agreement with the SHPO for the mitigation of the BGRR decommissioning (right, BGRR snow scene, ca. 1955). The 63-minute video presents a history of the BGRR through the recollections of key individuals who contributed to its success as a premier research tool throughout its 18-year operating history (1950–1968). Physicists, engineers, and scientists describe the challenges and rewards of their accomplishments, along with the experiences of everyday life associated with the BGRR. The film’s narrator guides viewers through the design, construction, operation, scientific research, and shutdown of America’s first nuclear reactor designed for peacetime civilian applications. The video can be viewed online from the BNL History website below—select Graphite Research Reactor from the menu on the left side of the page, then look for the link to the video. Additional information related to BNL history and Cultural Resources Management can be found at the following website:
Featured Photos: Trinity Site

The Military Police at the Trinity test site base camp in New Mexico spent considerable time playing polo. They used a volleyball and brooms from which the straw had been cut off. Real polo equipment, including wooden mallets, was eventually obtained, but the MPs reportedly preferred the ball and brooms.