Manhattan Project National Historical Park

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Los Alamos
where discoveries are made
Establishment of MPNHP
- Park Organization
- Themes for Park
- Overview of Los Alamos Sites
- Expected visitation
- Current Plans for MPNHP in Los Alamos
- Looking Ahead
- Next Steps
Establishment of Park

Manhattan Project National Historical Park (MAPR)
- Ten year effort 2004-2014
- Authorized December 2014
- Established November 2015
- 409th National Park Service (NPS) unit
- Three-state park: Tennessee, Washington, New Mexico

Park Purpose (draft): “Managed in partnership by the Department of Energy and the National Park Service, Manhattan Project National Historical Park preserves and interprets the nationally significant historic sites, stories, and legacies associated with the top-secret race to develop an atomic weapon during World War II, and provides access to these sites consistent with the mission of the Department of Energy.”
The park becomes a reality!

- Park established on November 10, 2015; Grand Opening celebrated on Veterans’ Day
- Foundation Workshop held in Los Alamos including a Community input session
- Operating Agreement created and implemented between LAC and NPS
Initial Roles and Responsibilities

- The NPS will have decision-making authority for content of historic interpretation. The NPS will have an advisory role in preserving the historic resources.

- The DOE will retain ownership of its properties and retain responsibility for environmental cleanup, structural safety, historic preservation compliance, maintenance, and safe access.

- The DOE will ensure protection of public safety, national security, and ongoing mission.
Park Organization – A model similar to other “partnership” national park units

- Multi-state
- Multi-agency
- No NPS land or property ownership
- Partnerships with local governments, private landowners, and non-profit organizations
Draft themes address regional contributions to the Manhattan Project.

- The “secret cites” created for the Manhattan Project, and the sacrifice and displacement connected to them, exemplified this massive wartime effort and demonstrate remarkable opportunities to reflect on the extraordinary lengths to which people and nations go to protect their futures.

- The revolutionary science and engineering that fueled the race to create the world’s first atomic weapon make these places a powerful illustration of technological innovation and collaboration, and offer guidance and insight into solving today’s complex problems.

- From beginning to end, the Manhattan Project, its World War II context, and the many complex decisions that led to the incomprehensible destructive power of nuclear weapons prompts us to confront the profound choices and consequences that the world continues to struggle with today.

- The Manhattan Project thrust humanity into the nuclear age and forever changed the world, provoking consideration of dramatic scientific and technological advances as well as severe human costs and environmental consequences.
Behind the Fence:
17 Park and Park-Eligible Properties at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL)

Nine individual properties are currently in the park.
- Pajarito Site (TA-18) - Pond Cabin, Battleship Bunker, Slotin Building
- V-Site (TA-16) - 2 buildings
- Gun Site (TA-8) - 4 buildings

Eight individual properties are park-eligible.
- TD-Site (TA-22) - Quonset Hut
- K-Site (TA-11) - Betatron and Cloud Chamber Buildings and Control Bunker
- L-Site (TA-12/-67) - Firing Pit
- Q-Site (TA-14) - Shop and Darkroom Building
- S-Site (TA-16) - HE Magazine
- Two-Mile Mesa Site (TA-6) - Concrete Bowl
Overview of LAC Sites included in MPHNP

Per the legislation:
(i) within the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory National Historic Landmark District
(ii) Former East Cafeteria located at 1670 Nectar Street
(iii) Former dormitory located at 1725 17th Street
## Future Visitors

- Using MPNHP Ad Hoc Committee report dated March 24, 2015 for estimated BNM visitation:

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<tr>
<th>Attraction</th>
<th>2014 Actuals</th>
<th>2015 Actuals</th>
<th>% Change</th>
<th>2016 Estimate</th>
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Los Alamos: The Secret City of the Manhattan Project

This LANL developed mobile app allows users to:

- Play a first-person video game that allows them to walk around or choose a bird’s-eye view to explore the townsite and significant technical areas.

- Access an augmented-reality application while visiting Los Alamos in person to see the town as it was in the early 1940s.

- Tour the famous locations of Los Alamos, upgrade their “clearance level” and access increasingly more secure facilities.

- View the buildings, the documents and research Los Alamos scientists conducted to solve the mystery of the atom in an effort to end World War II.
Current Plans for MPNHP in Los Alamos

• County will embark on RFP process to create a Tourism Strategic Plan.

• Installation of public WiFi in the downtown area has started and will be complete Spring 2017.

• MPNHP Visitor Center will feature Los Alamos corner.

• Renovations on Fuller Lodge and Guest Cottage (Los Alamos History Museum) will be complete this year.
Looking Ahead - FY2017 and Beyond

• Expanded ranger-led programs and additional NPS staff
• Preservation/restoration work (DOE property)
• Enhanced public access (DOE property)
• Interpretive displays and educational programs that go beyond the standard telling of the Manhattan Project history to address themes identified in the MAPR Foundation Document such as:
  o Displacement of local populations
  o Worker experiences
• County to focus on implementation of Wayfinding Program and Tourism Strategic Plan to further leverage MPNHP and other assets
• Continued expansion of ScienceFest as signature event
• Gateway to 3 National Parks campaign
• Advocate for inclusion of LA Canyon Tunnel in MPNHP
Closing and Next Steps

- The Manhattan Project has been a vital and essential part of the formation of Los Alamos and the surrounding regions.
- The establishment of the MPNHP has taken a long term effort (over 10 years).
- The MPNHP Foundation document includes the stories of displacement and regional contribution.
- There are many opportunities for Regional Coalition members to be a part of the MPNHP.
  - Invite NPS to community events to enable outreach.
  - Strategize with NPS how to get MPNHP stories into schools and communities.
  - Be an advocate for continued adequate funding for MPNHP.
  - Participate with LAC in strategic planning process with regards to tourism.