A nonprofit corporation dedicated to preserving the history of the Manhattan Project and the Atomic Age

Annual Report, August 2005

Atomic Heritage Foundation
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## Mission of the Atomic Heritage Foundation

The Atomic Heritage Foundation (AHF) is a non-profit corporation committed to the preservation and interpretation of the Manhattan Project and the Atomic Age history and legacy for the 21st century.

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Board Members of the Atomic Heritage Foundation

Richard Rhodes, Pulitzer-prize winning author of The Making of the Atomic Bomb and Dark Sun as well as over twenty other books.

John D. Wagoner, former Manager of the Department of Energy’s Richland Operations Office (Hanford), and Vice President for Nuclear Programs, Archimedes Technology Group in San Diego.

Cynthia C. Kelly, founder and President of the Atomic Heritage Foundation, and for over twenty years, as a senior executive with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Agency.

Advisory Committee Members 2004-2005

Bruce Babbitt, former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior (1993-2001)

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Andrew Brown, physician and science journalist, author of The Neutron and the Bomb

Jennet Conant, author of Tuxedo Park and 109 East Palace

U.S. Senator Pete Domenici, NM (6th term, Republican)

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Michele Gerber, President of the B Reactor Museum Association, and author of On the Home Front

Stephane Groueff, Bulgarian-born journalist and author of The Manhattan Project

Gregg Herken, History professor, UC Merced and author of Brotherhood of the Bomb

William J. Madia, Executive Vice President, Battelle Memorial Institute

Robert S. Norris, senior associate, Natural Resources Defense Council, author of Racing for the Bomb

A. R. Oppenheimer, nuclear weapons expert and consultant on weapons of mass destruction

Jerry L. Rogers, former National Park Service Associate Director

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Michael L. Telson, Director, National Laboratory Affairs, University of California

Arnold Thackray, President of the Chemical Heritage Foundation

Troy E. Wade, Chairman of the Atomic Testing Museum, former director of the Nevada Test Site

U.S. Congressman Zach Wamp, Oak Ridge, TN (3rd District; 5th term, Republican)

Manhattan Project Veterans

Benjamin Bederson, Professor of Physics Emeritus at New York University

Isabella Karle, PhD in physical chemistry, Senior Scientist at Naval Research Laboratory

Jerome Karle, Nobel laureate, Chief Scientist for Naval Research Laboratory

Theodore Rockwell, ScD in nuclear physics. Founder of MPR Associates, Inc.

Maurice Shapiro, PhD in physics, Director, International School of Cosmic Ray Astrophysics

Ernest B. Tremmel, B.S. in civil engineering, consultant to nuclear energy industry

William J. Wilcox, Jr., Former Technical Director, Union Carbide Nuclear Division, Oak Ridge, TN
August 25, 2005

Dear Friend:

With the death of Hans Bethe this past year, we have lost the last of the “giants” of the Manhattan Project. As Richard Rhodes commented, the Manhattan Project is “fading into myth.” Fortunately, there are still hundreds of survivors, especially of the youngest Manhattan Project members from the Army’s Special Engineer Detachment (SED).

One of the Atomic Heritage Foundation’s continuing priorities will be to capture the oral histories of the remaining participants. On Saturday, August 6, 2005, C-SPAN radio featured a 90-minute program with recordings from the Atomic Heritage Foundation’s archives of Manhattan Project veterans that featured Thomas O. Jones, Herman Snyder, Harold Hoover, and Donald Ross. With C-SPAN’s encouragement, the Atomic Heritage Foundation is redoubling its efforts to record the first-hand accounts of the dwindling number of Manhattan Project veterans.

One of the most significant opportunities for preservation of the Manhattan Project history lies with the National Park Service study (see article p. 4). We plan to develop a traveling museum exhibit on the Manhattan Project and its legacy that will complement any new National Park Sites. The exhibit will help reach a broader audience and encourage people from Boston to San Francisco to visit Oak Ridge, TN, Los Alamos, NM, Hanford, WA, and other sites.

The Atomic Heritage Foundation also wants to expand upon the “Race for Atomic Power” exhibit that opened in Idaho in May 2005. In addition to presenting the history of nuclear energy, the new exhibit will focus on the looming energy crisis and the options for meeting the world’s growing energy needs. Audiences will learn about efforts to develop the next generation of nuclear reactors and the investment that other countries such as India and China are making in new reactors. The Atomic Heritage Foundation believes that a traveling exhibit could make an important contribution to educating the American pubic about the history of nuclear energy and the significant choices that the nation faces concerning how to meet its future energy needs.

While we have an ambitious agenda for the next few years, the Manhattan Project was accomplished in only 27 months. Drawing upon partners in government, industry and academia, we can take a lesson from the Manhattan Project and preserve some of its essential properties and the voices of Manhattan Project and early Atomic Age participants before it is too late.

Thank you for your interest in the Atomic Heritage Foundation. Please join in preserving the history that changed the world and left an indelible and complex legacy for future generations.

Sincerely,

Cynthia C. Kelly
President, Atomic Heritage Foundation
On October 18, 2004, the “Manhattan Project National Historical Park Study Act of 2003” was signed into law by President Bush (PL 108-340). The Act directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the feasibility and suitability of creating a national historical site at the major Manhattan Project sites.

To explore the task ahead, the Atomic Heritage Foundation convened a meeting on March 8 and 9, 2005 with representatives of the National Park Service, Department of Energy, and the Advisory Commission on Historic Preservation as well as city officials and local historical organizations from Los Alamos, NM, Hanford, WA and Oak Ridge, TN.

In the Senate hearing room where the meeting was held on March 8, 2005, Bechtel National sponsored a reception. A key sponsor of the legislation, Senator Jeff Bingaman encouraged continued Federal, State and local efforts to preserve the Manhattan Project history and emphasized the importance of the National Park Service study. Bob Potter of the B Reactor Museum Association presented a handsome wooden plaque to the Atomic Heritage Foundation for its contributions to the B Reactor’s 60th anniversary events in October 2004. On March 9, the meeting focused on the progress made at each of the Manhattan Project sites and ideas for further collaboration.

In anticipation of appropriations in FY 2006 for the study, the National Park Service is reviewing the Department of Energy’s documents that describe the significance and condition of the remaining Manhattan Project properties. In addition, the Department of Energy has developed a website on the Manhattan Project to facilitate exchanges during the development of the study (www.mbe.doe.gov/mc70/manhattan/index.htm).

Designation as a National Park Site would be an important endorsement and help leverage public and private resources to preserve and interpret Manhattan Project properties. Over the next few years, the Atomic Heritage Foundation will continue to work with governments, individuals, corporations and foundations to realize the goal of preserving this history for future generations.

Which Way to the Manhattan Project National Park Site?

NRDC senior associate and author Robert Norris (left) and the Smithsonian’s Arthur Mollole spoke at AHF’s March 8th meeting.

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

The Atomic Heritage Foundation has benefited from the generosity of the following corporations and individuals:

$250,000 and up
- Department of Energy, Idaho
- National Nuclear Security Administration

$50,000 and up
- M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust
- Argonne National Laboratory
- Crystal Trust

$25,000 and up
- Bechtel National
- DuPont Company
- Eastman Chemical
- Los Alamos County
- Los Alamos National Bank

$10,000 and up
- Bechtel BWXT Idaho, LLC
- Bechtel Foundation
- The Washington Group, Inc.
- University of Chicago

$5,000 and up
- Bechtel Jacobs
- BWXT
- British Nuclear Fuel Ltd.
- Commonwealth Edison (Exelon Nuclear)
- Wackenhut

$1,000 and up
- Catharine Allen, Bechtel Nevada, Hans Bethe, Andrew Brown, EXCEL Services, Florida Power & Light, Ralph Gates, Brian Grimes, Leonard Koch, Tad and Susan Lipsky, Project Performance, Paul and Deanne Shatz, University of California and others.
Lifting the Project’s Veil of Secrecy

Secrecy. At Los Alamos, thousands of families shared a post office box in Santa Fe as their “home” address. At Hanford and Oak Ridge, counterintelligence and the military security police manned the gates, allowing only people with badges to enter. At Hanford, most people had no idea what the ultimate purpose was and, half in jest, speculated that they were making buttons for Franklin D. Roosevelt’s forth term.

These were the conditions under which almost 125,000 people lived and worked during the United States’ most ambitious scientific and engineering undertaking—the Manhattan Project. Fueled by fears of foreign espionage and the pressing urgency to end the war, the mantel of secrecy was tightly drawn over the “Secret Cities,” namely Los Alamos, NM, Hanford, WA and Oak Ridge TN.

Now, sixty years later, the contributions of these three sites remain in relative obscurity despite their central roles in one of modern history’s turning points. Much of this is due to security restrictions that continue to limit public access. Meanwhile, the Department of Energy is accelerating the clean up of the former nuclear weapons complex. As a result, most of the remaining Manhattan Project properties have been or will be slated for demolition, unbeknownst to the majority of the public.

The National Park Service study is critical (see p. 4). For several years, many of the Department of Energy’s own “Signature Facilities of the Manhattan Project” have been at risk, including the B Reactor at Hanford; the humble properties where the research on the Fat Man and Little Boy bombs were conducted at Los Alamos; and the mile-long K-25 gaseous diffusion reactor at Oak Ridge. This study will no doubt affirm the national interest in preserving some of the physical realities of the Manhattan Project and identify alternatives for achieving this.

In addition to pursuing this legislation, the Atomic Heritage Foundation has been working on a national traveling exhibit on the Manhattan Project, educational programs, documentary films and other measures to capture what remains of the Manhattan Project. With these things, the Foundation hopes to provide the public not only a sense for this remarkable undertaking but a better basis for weighing the scientific, technical, political, social and ethical issues that are the legacy of the Manhattan Project.

Through these programs, the Atomic Heritage Foundation seeks to bring the original Manhattan Project sites and the contributions of the tens of thousands of people who worked on them out of obscurity. With access to the facilities, interpretative exhibits and first-hand accounts, visitors will begin to get a sense about the magnitude of the Manhattan Project and the dedication of the people who worked “behind the fence.”

Constant reminders--Billboards warning workers were commonplace at all Manhattan Project sites.

Manhattan Project Properties

Cross-Country Race--The highlighted states hosted important Manhattan Project operations. Approximately half the states hosted research, manufacturing or other facilities in support of the Project.
On December 20, 1951, a small group of opera-
tors, scientists and key personnel assembled in
the control room of the Experimental Breeder Reactor-I
(EBR-I). It was after hours and an air of nervous ex-
pectancy filled the room as the final adjustments were
made.

The project’s director, Walter Zinn, was an ex-
traordinary physicist and
visionary who designed
the EBR-I. On hand for
this historic moment, Zinn
ordered that four light bulbs be strung together to dem-
strate that electricity was being successfully generat-
ed from nuclear power. Tensions peaked as an operator
carefully connected the bulbs.

These four light bulbs were the unsympathetic judges
that would determine the significance of that moment.
Would their radiance mark the first time nuclear energy
was converted into useable electricity or would there
only be the semi-darkness of another failed attempt?
Certainly the project had its share of setbacks. The vi-
sion of years of research, design, construction and count-
less man-hours were represented in these four bulbs.

As the plug was inserted, machinist Earl J. Barrow
recalled, “The reactor went full power sweet and beauti-
ful...the four bulbs lit up. We were generating our own
power.”

This historical milestone is one of many captured in
the Race for Atomic Power exhibit that opened on May
24, 2005 at the EBR-I. Upon entering the EBR-I, visitors
can relax in a 1950’s living room and watch TV. Clips
from the 1950’s as well as Nuclear Pioneers, a brief
history of the

EBR-I produced by the
Atomic Heritage Founda-
tion.

Throughout the exhibit are kiosks with video record-
ings of the veterans explaining aspects of the reactor’s
operations. In the control room, Kirby Whitham ex-
plains when the command, “Take it down,” was misun-
derstood and resulted in a partial meltdown of the reactor
core. Blackboards present the fundamentals of nuclear
fission and a cut-away diagram shows the inner
workings of the reactor.

Fifty miles away, companion exhibits at the
Museum of Idaho in Idaho Falls, ID trace the
overall history of the National Reactor Test-
ing Station (NRTS). EBR-I was the first reac-
tor built at the NRTS in 1951. In the next two
decades, fifty-two reactors representing nearly
every kind of nuclear power reactor were test-
ed at the NRTS to determine how to design,
build and operate them safely.

As a result of this work, operators from
around the world today rely upon the princi-
bles and data developed at the NRTS to un-
derstand and predict the behavior of nuclear
reactors. Again, first-hand accounts bring this
history to life.

These exhibits were partially fund-
ed by a $320,000 Save America’s Treasures (SAT)
grant awarded to the Department of Energy in May
1999. Thanks to a significant grant from the M. J.
Murdock Charitable Trust and contributions from
Bechtel BWXT Idaho, Bechtel National, BNFL,
Argonne National Laboratory, University of Chicago and others, the Atomic Heritage Foundation was able to match the SAT grant. Through a cooperative agreement with the Idaho National Laboratory, the Foundation managed the exhibit design process with Academy Studios of California and produced the audio and visual material based on interviews with the veterans.

The public’s initial reaction to the exhibits was very positive. After viewing the exhibits at both EBR-I and the Museum of Idaho, DOE Deputy Manager John Kotek commented on the ability of the exhibits to “bring to life the commitment and enthusiasm of the scientists and engineers who were part of the National Reactor Testing Station. Warren Nyer, Dick McCardell, Curt Haire, and so many others are rightfully proud of what they did and emphatically ‘had fun’ doing it. It is quite a testament.”

John Lindsay, the new Director, Communications and Public Affairs for the Idaho National Laboratory, was also impressed. “For those who are just coming to the Idaho National Laboratory, the exhibit is a wonderful introduction to what we hope the next decade will be like--fast-paced, exciting work on the cutting-edge of nuclear science and technology. The challenges we have today should attract the same highly motivated and talented people who came to work in Idaho forty and fifty years ago.”

James Lake, the Associate Laboratory Director for the Idaho National Laboratory, reflected on the significance of the pioneering work for the Laboratory today. “The scientists, engineers and staff from the new Idaho National Laboratory who are engaged in the development and demonstration of a new generation of nuclear reactor and fuel cycle systems, stand firmly on the shoulders of the first generation of Idaho nuclear pioneers. My wish is that today’s Idaho nuclear reactor pioneers can be as innovative, productive, and successful as those we honor with this wonderful exhibit.”

The Atomic Heritage Foundation has also produced a documentary film and companion book for Race for Atomic Power available through our website (www.atomicheritage.org). The Foundation’s goal is to create a traveling version of the exhibit so that more Americans can learn about the remarkable history of nuclear reactor development and its potential for meeting the world’s growing energy needs.

Above, Cindy Kelly and David Pennock, executive director of the Museum of Idaho, pose in front of a two-dimensional replica of a 1950’s bus similar to those that shuttled workers to the EBR-1 site.
Below, Exhibit designers made a concerted effort to interest a younger audience in the region’s atomic history.
Eight years ago, the Department of Energy planned to bulldoze the last remaining Manhattan Project properties at the “V Site,” behind the security fences at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. Inside the garage-like structures pictured on the cover of this report, the world’s first plutonium bombs, the “Trinity device” and “Fat Man,” were assembled.

The Los Alamos National Laboratory agreed to stop the bulldozers but had no funds for preservation work. Fortunately, one of the first Save America’s Treasures grants was awarded to preserve the Manhattan Project properties at Los Alamos. Donations from industry, foundations, and other sources enabled the Atomic Heritage Foundation to complete the grant’s $700,000 matching requirements.

Last year the house where J. Robert Oppenheimer and his family lived was acquired by the Los Alamos Historical Society as part of a living trust agreement. Fifty thousand dollars of the Save America’s Treasures grant will be used to restore this significant property. Open year-round, the house could well become the “jewel in the crown” of a future National Park Site on the Manhattan Project at Los Alamos.

By September 30, 2005, the restoration work funded by the Save America’s Treasures grant on the “V Site” and the Oppenheimer house should be completed. Approximately ten other Manhattan Project properties have been earmarked for possible preservation. Over the next two years, the National Park Service will study what properties should be part of a Manhattan Project historical site at Los Alamos. Through these efforts, the American public and future generations will have some tangible remains from the top-secret effort at Los Alamos.

Recent Projects

An Evening with Oppie

On June 8, 2005, people who attended the Atomic Heritage Foundation’s “Evening with Oppie” at the Carnegie Institution in Washington, D.C. were privy to an unexpected treat as the voice of J. Robert Oppenheimer filled the room.

Kai Bird, co-author with Martin Sherwin of American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer, briefly held a tape recorder to the microphone as listeners heard Oppenheimer making an eloquent plea for nuclear weapons control in terms that resonate today, more than fifty years later.

For 25 years, Martin Sherwin researched the life of Oppenheimer, the remarkable and enigmatic “father of atomic bomb.” Robert Norris, author of Racing for the Bomb, moderated the discussion, fielding questions from the audience that included several Manhattan Project veterans and Lt. General Richard H. Groves, the son of General Leslie R. Groves.

Richard Meserve, President of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, remarked on the confluence of the Manhattan Project and Carnegie’s histories. During World War II, Vannevar Bush was both the Director of the Office of Science and Research Development (OSRD) that oversaw the Manhattan project and the President of the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

The event attracted a wide cross-section of people from authors, scientists, and history buffs to members of the general public. The Atomic Heritage Foundation is grateful to the University of California, BWXT, Washington Group, and Bechtel National whose contributions made the evening’s events possible. In addition, thanks to Colin Clay, Sofia Mata-Leclerc and Chad Harple with the Atomic Heritage Foundation for their roles in ensuring the success of the event.

Restoring Sites at Los Alamos

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Robert Oppenheimer’s house at Los Alamos.
The Atomic Heritage Foundation got a big boost in its efforts to preserve the history of the Manhattan Project in late September 2004. One million dollars were appropriated by Congress for fiscal year 2004 for the preservation of the history of the Manhattan Project. Under a cooperative agreement with the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), $920,000 were allocated to the Atomic Heritage Foundation.

The agreement earmarked $25,000 for the Department’s sponsorship of the Atomic Heritage Foundation’s Oppenheimer Centennial events and $223,000 each for the City of Oak Ridge, TN, the City of Richland, WA, and the Los Alamos Historical Society. The remaining funds were to enable the Atomic Heritage Foundation to continue its work nationally to preserve the heritage of the Manhattan Project.

With its initial share of the grant funds, the Los Alamos Historical Society has reprinted several Manhattan Project books, expanded its staff, and purchased new equipment to streamline its operations. In addition, the funds have been used to scan thousands of photographs from the Los Alamos National Laboratory’s archives. The Historical Society will make these photos available for research and to the public on its new website. In addition, some of these funds will be used for the Oppenheimer house (see article page 8).

As part of Oak Ridge’s Secret City Festival in June, Mayor David Bradshaw dedicated the Secret City Commemorative Walkway, partially funded by the grant, to honor Oak Ridge’s founders as well as the workers who came to the city between 1942 and 1949. The City of Oak Ridge also used its funds to capture oral histories of Manhattan Project veterans and produce a documentary film that premiered on June 16, 2005. In addition, the City is implementing a heritage tourism plan for the Manhattan Project properties in Oak Ridge.

The City of Richland is creating exhibits on Hanford’s role in the Manhattan Project that will be part of the Hanford Reach National Monument Heritage and Visitor Center estimated to open in 2008. In addition, a portion of the funds supported the B Reactor Museum Association’s commemorative events on October 8 and 9, 2004, when busloads of visitors toured the B Reactor and Richard Rhodes, author of *The Making of the Atomic Bomb*, spoke at the evening banquet.

Local governmental and nonprofit organizations have taken a variety of steps to preserve their Manhattan Project history through oral histories, heritage tourism initiatives, museum exhibits, publishing books and preserving historic properties. In addition, the funds have made a significant difference to the Atomic Heritage Foundation and its national efforts, as reflected in this report.
The K-25 plant in Oak Ridge, Tennessee was promised a new lease on life in November 2004 when the Department of Energy’s Assistant Manager for Oak Ridge Operations Steve McCracken presented a breakthrough proposal. Immediately heralded by representatives of Federal, State and local historic preservation organizations, the plan preserves the North End of the K-25 building and two parallel ten-foot-high walls to mark the half-mile long wings of the U-shaped building.

Capitalizing on this momentum, the Atomic Heritage Foundation hosted “Lunch on the Lawn” on the grounds of the K-25 site. The event was Friday, June 17, 2005, part of the forth annual Secret City Festival and special reunion for Manhattan Project veterans in honor of the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II.

The K-25 plant operated continuously from 1945 until 1964 when President Lyndon B. Johnson ordered a 25 percent cutback in the production of highly enriched uranium. As the world’s first full-scale enriched uranium facility, DOE has designated the K-25 plant as one of its eight “Signature Facilities of the Manhattan Project.” Covering some 44 acres, the K-25 plant was the world’s largest roofed structure when it was completed in March 1945 and housed hundreds of miles of pipes, compressors and diffusers. Uranium hexafluoride gas was pumped through the gaseous diffusion cascade in order to separate “U-235,” the fissile uranium isotope used to make an atomic bomb, from the stable isotope, “U-238,” that comprises over 99 percent of uranium.

The North End portion of the K-25 plant houses three of the 54 attached buildings that contained the gaseous diffusion cascade. Under this proposal, the roof of the North End will be repaired and the interior cleaned to industrial standards. The facility could then be converted into an interpretive center for the science and technology developments at Oak Ridge. Additionally, McCracken also suggested that a mural of the history of Oak Ridge during the Manhattan Project could be painted along the walls of the long-arms of the U. The North End of the K-25 plant would provide future generations an opportunity to experience first-hand one of the most important facilities of the Manhattan Project. Visitors would have a unique experience of walking down a “withdrawal alley,” a 327-foot long corridor that was once used by workers to inspect the hermetically sealed pipes for leaks and other essential operations.

While exhibits at the American Museum of Science and Energy in downtown Oak Ridge would provide an overview of the Manhattan Project, K-25 could feature an interpretive center focused on the three methods pursued at Oak Ridge to produce enriched uranium and some of the scientific and technological developments that have emerged from this work.

“They will . . . understand better how people can turn patriotism into action.”
- Bill Wilcox, former K-25 technical director
At the June luncheon, over 200 people enjoyed generous portions of Southern pulled pork barbecue while sharing memories within sight of the sprawling plant. Cindy Kelly, president of the Atomic Heritage Foundation, welcomed representatives from the DOE, Bechtel Jacobs and former K-25 employees to share their visions for preserving a portion of the half-mile long facility. Mike Hughes, President of Bechtel Jacobs, spoke about the company’s complex task to clean up the Manhattan Project sites while also considering important questions about preservation and historical importance. He viewed this clean-up task as “closing the circle of the Manhattan Project.”

Gerald Boyd, manager of Oak Ridge Operations for the DOE, explained that the DOE’s mandate is to clean-up the entire Oak Ridge site by the year 2008. While some 100 properties will be demolished, 20 buildings will be preserved for reuse as part of the East Tennessee Technology Park.

Manhattan Project veteran Bob Dyer who worked at the K-25 plant and managed its operations during the Cold War years expressed his pride in having contributed to bringing an end to World War II. Former plant technical director Bill Wilcox closed the luncheon discussion by offering several reasons why the K-25 gaseous diffusion plant’s North End should be saved. Wilcox then took listeners on a virtual tour of the restored K-25 plant with plenty of colorful imagery and a well thought-out plan. He closed with a heartfelt appeal, encouraging the audience to “[help] us make this new unique national asset live on so that future generations can come here to see, not just photographs of what it used to look like, but the real equipment. They will honor the thousands who made this remarkable process come to life and understand better how people can turn patriotism into action.”

The Atomic Heritage Foundation is especially grateful to Bechtel Jacobs, the K-25 Federal Credit Union and the US Enrichment Corporation for making the “Lunch on the Lawn” possible. We will continue to work closely with the K-25 veterans, Oak Ridge community, the City of Oak Ridge, Department of Energy, Bechtel Jacobs and others to realize the vision of saving the North End over the next few years.
Race for Atomic Power

Race for Atomic Power is the title of a book and a documentary film that complement the Foundation’s new exhibits at the Museum of Idaho in Idaho Falls. The book and DVD chronicle the remarkable story of the development of peaceful nuclear energy under the Atomic Energy Commission at what is now the Idaho National Laboratory. Book: $9.95; DVD: $19.95.

Remembering the Manhattan Project

This is a two-part book, the first of which is a collection of the papers presented at the Atomic Heritage Foundation’s Symposium on the Manhattan Project on April 27, 2002. The second half outlines the Atomic Heritage Foundation’s recommendations for the preservation of the remaining Manhattan Project properties. Book: $45.00.

Hanford’s Secret Wartime Mission

This documentary film tells the story of the Manhattan Project at Hanford, WA where the world’s first plutonium production facilities were built. The film highlights the determination, commitment and scientific ingenuity of those worked on this project. DVD: $19.95.

Nuclear Pioneers

This documentary tells the history of the Experimental Breeder Reactor-I, the first nuclear reactor built by the Atomic Energy Commission at the National Reactor Testing Station in Idaho. With first-hand accounts, the film explains what went into creating the world’s first reactor to produce usable quantities of electricity and create more fuel than it consumed. VHS: $14.95; DVD: $19.95.
Cover photograph: The High-Bay Building (TA-16-516) at the “V-Site” at Los Alamos, New Mexico is being preserved with a Save America’s Treasures grant. This building was where the Trinity device was assembled in 1945. Credit: Nathaniel Freeman