

National Park Service Department of the Interior

Manhattan Project National Historical Park Oak Ridge, Tennessee



October 2017

Manhattan Project History in October

- Two months after it was signed Alexander Sachs hand-delivered the Einstein-Szilard letter to President Roosevelt on October 11, 1939. Sachs was unable to make an appointment any earlier due to the administration dealing with Germany's invasion of Poland.
- On October 21, 1939 the Advisory Committee on Uranium receives a budget of \$6,000 for neutron experiments, a far cry from the nearly \$2 billion that would be spent on the Manhattan Project.
- President FDR approved the development of an atomic weapon after receiving a copy of the MAUD Report from science advisor Vannevar Bush on October 9, 1941. The MAUD Report was a British document that discussed the potential ease of obtaining a nuclear bomb.
- On October 19, 1942 theoretical physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer was appointed to coordinate the scientific research of the project at Site Y, also known as Los Alamos.

This Month's Feature from the AMSE's Curatorial Collection

is a pamphlet that belonged to Daniel Stern, a journalist and Manhattan Project employee. The pamphlet explains the rules and regulations of Oak Ridge to new employees. For example, it cautions them to not discuss their work and reminds them to wear their ID badges at all times but also presents more ordinary workplace rules such as the ones about timecards and vacation days.



Classroom Curriculum Materials are Now Available on "U.S. Involvement in World War II Through the Lens of the Manhattan Project National Historic Park in Oak Ridge, TN" at <https://www.nps.gov/mapr/learn/curriculum-materials.htm>. The materials include teacher guides, additional reading suggestions, learning objectives and student activities.

Our "Race to Space" Photography Exhibition is Now on

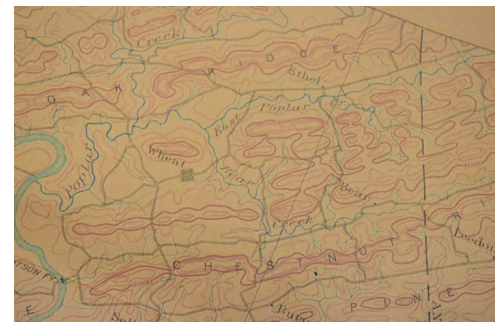
Display in the Lobby of the Oak Ridge Federal Building, 200 Administration Road. The show highlights Manhattan Project scientists who later joined the Space Program.

Join Us for "Ride with a Ranger" on Saturday, October 21 along the North Boundary Greenway. During autumn the forest opens up a little allowing us to see more evidence of the communities that were displaced when the government purchased the land for the Manhattan Project. Join us for a ride into the past and help find what remains of the communities that existed before the project. The below 1891 geological survey reconnaissance map shows the former communities



Recently we joined descendants of the Wheat community members at the George Jones Memorial Baptist Church for the annual homecoming event. Wheat was a prosperous farming community that dissolved when the US Government purchased the land in 1942 as part of the Manhattan Project. The church is the only building of Wheat that remains standing and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

of Ethel and Wheat. The bike ride will begin near the former community of Ethel and end at Wheat.



**Park Visitor Center Desk
at the
American Museum of Science & Energy
300 S. Tulane, Oak Ridge, TN 37830
(865) 576-6767 or visit us at:**

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