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—NEWS RELEASE—

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION PRAISES U.S. DEPARTMENTS OF ENERGY AND INTERIOR FOR HANFORD REACTOR EFFORT

Washington, D.C.— Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) Chairman John L. Nau, III, today praised the Department of Energy and Department of the Interior for seeking and celebrating the designation of the Hanford B Reactor as a National Historic Landmark.

"There is no doubt that World War II was one of the key events not only of the 20th century, but of human history," Nau said. "The story of the Manhattan Project is absolutely essential to understanding that event, and Hanford is one of the key experiences remaining to us."

Nau said the authentic experience of historic places like the Hanford B Reactor is the best possible way to make the past accessible and real to present generations, and to connect present and future generations with the nation's rich heritage.

Earlier this year, Nau presented the Chairman's Award for Federal Achievement in Historic Preservation to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for its exemplary efforts to preserve, interpret, and share key sites and history related to the Manhattan Project. The Manhattan Project Signature Facilities under DOE's stewardship are located at Oak Ridge, Tennessee; Hanford, Washington; and Los Alamos, New Mexico. At that time, the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, also was cited for its preservation work and expertise on the Signature Facilities and its work with DOE in helping preserve the history of the Manhattan Project.

ABOUT THE ACHP: The ACHP, an independent federal agency, promotes the preservation, enhancement, and productive use of the nation's historic resources, and advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy. It also provides a forum for influencing federal activities, programs, and policies that impact historic properties. In addition, the ACHP has a key role in carrying out the Administration's Preserve America program. See www.achp.gov for more information.