

For Immediate Release May 13, 2008

Contact: Shayla Shrieves 202-606-8586/sshrieves@achp.gov

-NEWS RELEASE-

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION HONORS U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FOR MANHATTAN PROJECT PRESERVATION EFFORTS

Washington, D.C.— Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) Chairman John L. Nau, III 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 sites and history related to the Manhattan Project.

The presentation was made today at the spring business meeting of the ACHP. The award went to the DOE for its efforts to preserve and make appropriately accessible six of the eight Signature Facilities relating to the Manhattan Project, the World War II top secret program by the United States and its allies to develop atomic weapons before their adversaries could do so.

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

Accepting the award on behalf of DOE were Ingrid Kolb, director of the Office of Management, and Skip Gosling, chief historian and federal preservation officer.

The Signature Facilities under DOE's stewardship are located at Oak Ridge, Tennessee; Hanford, Washington; and Los Alamos, New Mexico. The State Historic Preservation Offices of those three states received partnership certificates for their vital roles in the preservation and interpretation of these sites. Also receiving a partnership certificate was the National Park Service for its preservation work and expertise on the Signature Facilities and its partnership toward creation of the proposed Manhattan Project National Historic Park.

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.