U. S. Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Field Office
Los Alamos National Laboratory
Scientists in Nazi Germany discovered nuclear fission in late 1938. Refugee scientists Leo Szilard, Edward Teller and Eugene Wigner feared that the energy released in nuclear fission might be used in bombs by the Germans. They persuaded Albert Einstein, America's most famous physicist, to warn President Franklin Roosevelt of this danger in an Aug. 2, 1939, letter. In response to the warning, Roosevelt ordered increased research in nuclear physics.
The United States initiated its own program under the Army Corps of Engineers in June 1942. America needed to build an atomic weapon before Germany or Japan did.

General Leslie R. Groves, Deputy Chief of Construction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, was appointed to direct this top-secret project. He in turn selected J. Robert Oppenheimer as the director. The search for a site began immediately.
The site of the Manhattan Project, Project Y was selected on November 16, 1942. It was the Los Alamos Ranch School, located on an isolated mesa in the Pajarito Plateau. The selection of the Project Y site must have several considerations:
* It had to have adequate housing for 30 scientists.
* The land had to be owned by the government or to be easily acquired in secrecy.
* It had to be large enough and uninhabited so as to permit safe separation of sites for experiments.
* It had to afford easy control of access for security and safety reasons.
* It had to have enough cleared land, free of timber to locate the main buildings at once. Los Alamos fit all of these qualifications perfectly!
Before 1942, Los Alamos was the site of an exclusive boys school. Ranch School property included 27 houses, dormitories and other living quarters, and 27 miscellaneous buildings all sitting atop the Pajarito Plateau. After the U.S. Army acquired the Ranch School property and about 54,000 surrounding acres owned primarily by the Forest Service, Los Alamos went up like a boomtown.
Site History - Los Alamos Ranch School

Boy Scout Troop 22
Site History - Los Alamos Ranch School
Site History – Los Alamo Ranch School

Figure 111. Schoolmaster Fermor Church using the Ranch School telephone line in the field. (Los Alamos Historical Society)
Site History – The Homesteaders

Duran Homestead

H. H. Brooks Homestead

Figure 109. Mattie Brook feeds a lamb on the Brook homestead. (Los Alamos Historical Society)

The Romero Cabin after its May 2009 restoration. The cabin is adjacent to the Memorial Rose Garden next to Fuller Lodge.
Site History – The Homesteaders

The Romero Cabin at TA-55

Figure 112. Above, the Ramón Durán homestead and below, the Efren Gonzales de Durán homestead on South Mesa (Pajarito Mountain in background on lower photo). (Los Alamos National Laboratory)
Site History – The Homesteaders

Figure 78. Anchor Ranch main house, 1943. (Los Alamos National Laboratory)

Figure 79. Anchor Ranch toolshed, 1943. (Los Alamos National Laboratory)

Figure 81. Anchor Ranch, bunkhouse #1, 1943. (Los Alamos National Laboratory)

Figure 82. Barn, Anchor Ranch, 1943. (Los Alamos National Laboratory)
The school's handsome stone and log buildings, served as Project Y headquarters and general meeting areas. They were quickly obscured by mushrooming construction. Hurriedly built Laboratory buildings, rows of barracks, apartments, Quonset huts, government trailers, and prefabricated units created an unsightly assortment of accommodations. Winter snows and summer rains left streets and yards mired in mud.
Site History - Project Y

[Images of historic structures and buildings related to Project Y]

Los Alamos Site Office
Laboratory members were allowed only limited personal contact with relatives and could not travel more than 100 miles from Los Alamos.

Security personnel censored outgoing mail and monitored long-distance calls.

Incoming mail was addressed simply to "P.O. Box 1663, Santa Fe, New Mexico." Birth certificates of infants born at Los Alamos during the war even listed P.O. Box 1663 as their place of birth.
A high barbed wire fence surrounded the community, and mounted guards patrolled the rugged outer boundaries.

Los Alamos remained a closed and secure city until 1957.
The ultimate goal was to produce a weapon before Germany or Japan. On July 16, 1945, Los Alamos scientists test the first atomic bomb at Trinity Site, New Mexico.
Brilliant Minds

- Louis Rosen
- Jack Aeby
- Edward Teller
- Enrico Fermi
- Ernest Lawrence
- Hans Bethe
- Otto Frisch
- Harold Agnew
- Robert Oppenheimer
- Norris Bradbury
Site History – Remained or Returned

Edward Teller

Sterling Colgate

Col. Whitney Ashbridge

Harold Agnew

Norris Bradbury
**Laboratory directors**

Charles McMillan (2011–present)
Donald M. Kerr (1979–1985)
Norris Bradbury (1945–1970)
J. Robert Oppenheimer (1943–1945)
Site History – Spies Among Us

K. E. J. Fuchs

Theodore A. Hall
Site History – Spies Among Us

Ethel and Julius Rosenberg

David and Ruth Greenglass
Site History – Spies Among Us

Wen Ho Lee

Pedro and Marjorie Mascheroni
Los Alamos Fires

1954 Water Canyon Fire
1977 La Mesa Fire
1996 Dome Fire
1998 Oso Complex Fire
2000 Cerro Grande Fire
2011 Las Conchas Fire
Los Alamos Today
Los Alamos Today
Los Alamos Today

U. S. Post Office

Pajarito Ski Basin

Los Alamos Site Office
Los Alamos Today

Los Alamos Municipal Building

Los Alamos Justice Center
Surrounding Los Alamos

The Valles Caldera

Bandelier National Monument Cliff Dwellings

Bayo Canyon
Surrounding Los Alamos

Tyuonyi Pueblo Ruins
**People:**
Total employees, 10,278  
Los Alamos National Security, LLC, 7,445  
SOC Los Alamos (Guard Force), 365  
Staff and support contractors, 323  
Students, 953  
Unionized craft workers, 748  
Post doctoral researchers, 365  
Federal Staff on site 79

Includes Cultural and Historical Sites
- Prehistoric sites
- American Indian cultural resources
- Modern historical sites from the Manhattan Project

**Place:**
LANL is located 35 miles northwest of Santa Fe, New Mexico, on 36 square miles of DOE-owned property.

LANL has an average elevation of 7,500 ft with the site spanning over 1,500 ft in elevation.

LANL has more than 2,000 individual facilities, including 47 technical areas with 8 million square feet under roof.

Replacement value of $9.8 billion
Demographics
(LANS and students only)

34% of LANL employees live in Los Alamos, the remainder commute from Santa Fe, Española, Taos, and Albuquerque and other surrounding communities.

Average Age: 46
67% male
33% female
44% minorities
67% university degrees
26% hold undergraduate degrees
18% hold master’s degrees
23% have earned a PhD
Budget

FY 2015 estimated: Approx. $2.17 billion

56% Weapons programs

10% Nonproliferation programs

6% Safeguards and Security

9% Environmental Management

5% DOE Office of Science

4% Energy and other programs

10% Work for Others
Organizational History of the Site

Laboratory

Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory (LASL) – January 1947 to December 1980
Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) – December 1980 to Present

Managing and Operating Contractor

University Of California (UC) – 1942 – June 2006
Los Alamos National Security (LANS) – June 2006 - Present

Federal Oversight

Army Corps of Engineers – Manhattan Engineering District (MED) August 1942 – 1947


Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) – 1974 – 1977

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) 1977 – present

National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) 2000 - present
The NNSA Federal Liaison, the LANL Occupational Medicine POC and the Radiation Protection POC are the points of contact through which all claims are received at LANL. The NNSA Federal Liaison is still the single point to dispatch records back to DOL and NIOSH.

The Occupational Medicine EEOICPA Coordinator enters the claims into a database and a copy is forwarded to each of the cognizant groups holding pertinent records:

- Occupational Medical Records
- Personnel Records (LANL/HR, Archives, Crafts, PTLA/SOC)
- Industrial Hygiene Records
- Radiation Exposure Records

Responses from LANL organizations, including copies of records located are forwarded to the Occupational Medicine EEOICPA Coordinator electronically.

Responses are stored in a LANL database for future reference.

The completed requests, along with any records found are sent to the Los Alamos Field Office Federal POC for transmittal back to DOL and NIOSH via SERT.
The Occupational Medicine EEOICPA Coordinator performs a search for medical records. Medical records may be paper, microfilm, or a combination.

Records may be located in the active files on site, or in inactive files, at Information Management Record Archives.

Medical records are generally unavailable for minor sub-contractors.
The Radiation Dosimetry Records and Reports Team inside the Health, Safety, and Radiation Protection Division complete radiation exposure record searches.

The external radiation exposure, in-vivo records, internal radiation exposure, and extremity records are checked using several software applications accessing several databases to produce the supporting documentation set for each request.

If the request comes from NIOSH the bioassay repository is searched to report results for bioassay samples collected from identified individuals.
The Industrial Hygiene Team of the Occupational Safety and Health Occupational Medicine Division (OSH-OM) conduct searches for evidence of occupational exposures.

A check is made of the automated Oracle databases for individual Industrial Hygiene sampling history.

Many of the records accessed are in automated form but primarily for UC and LANS employees and some of the major sub-contractors. Still more are in paper form and only available for certain job categories, employers or time periods.
The Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Human Resources Personnel Records Office performs employment verification and searches for personnel records for University of California and LANS employees.

A check is made of numerous automated databases if the employee termination date is after 1993.

An employee who terminated prior to 1993 will have a microfilm record.

If no information is found a search will be made of the "Z" number database to verify if the individual was a sub-contractor and to identify any information that is available electronically.

**Employment records are not available locally for former U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Energy (DOE) employees, Robert McKee or small sub-contractors to LANL such as EG&G or LATA.**
Employment verification and searches for personnel records are performed by the Information and Records Management Division of LANS. IRM has responsibility for records for the following prior employers:

Zia Co.
Pan Am World Services
Johnson Controls (JCI)
Johnson Controls Northern New Mexico (JCNNM)
Kellogg, Brown and Root, Shaw and Los Alamos Technical Associates (KSL)

On December 8, 2008 LANS absorbed all of the functions of the major support contractor into the M&O contract.

All records are either in paper or microfiche form.
U. S. Army - Provided support services from approximately 1942 to 1946
  Records are not available in Los Alamos

Robert McKee - First awarded contract to build Los Alamos from 1942 to approximately late 1950's
  Records are not available in Los Alamos

Zia Co. - First awarded major support services contract from 4/1/1946 to 6/30/1986

Los Alamos Construction Inc. (LACI) - LACI was a sub-company of the Zia Co.
  Employees moved between LACI and Zia Co on a regular basis from 1946 – 1986

  Brown and Olds - Also a sub-company with the same practices as LACI with the Zia Co.

Pan Am World Services - Support Services Contractor from 7/1/1986 to 1989

Johnson Controls World Services (JCI) - JCI purchased Pan Am in 1989 and became the major support contractor to LANL from 1989 – 1997

Johnson Controls Northern New Mexico (JCNNM) - Major share holder is JCI.
  JCNNM is the major support contractor from 1997 to January 2003.

Employment verification and searches for personnel records are performed by the PTLA/SOC Human Resources Dept.

PTLA records may reflect prior employment with Mason & Hanger and Federal Service if the individual has had continued employment.

The LANL Protective force was Federal from 1946 - 1984.

Mason & Hanger was the Protective force contractor from 1984 until April 1, 1990.

PTLA/SOC has been the Protective force contractor from April 1, 1990 to the present.
Z Numbers:

If an employee was issued a Z number then that is proof that they were on site and employed with either LANL or an approved sub-contractor. From 1943 until 1957 LANL was a closed city and everyone and anyone who lived here or worked here was issued a Z number. Los Alamos is the only site to use Z numbers.
**Z Number Timeline:**

Unfortunately the Los Alamo National Laboratory cannot pin point when certain Z numbers were issued by date prior to 1997 without accessing the physical pages in the archives. It was not until July of 1997 that the Z number data base went electronic. The following is a very rough marker system of Z numbers that may help with when certain Z numbers were issued. Please remember that from the beginning Z numbers were issued sequentially and with a very few exceptions** employees only have one Z number.

- Employee began work in Los Alamos in **1951** Z number: 047226
- Employee began work in Los Alamos in **1957** Z number: 064428
- Employee began work in Los Alamos in **1965** Z number: 073535
- Employee began work in Los Alamos in **1968** Z number: 076271
- Employee began work in Los Alamos in **1972** Z number: 080474
- Employee began work in Los Alamos in **1979** Z number: 090119
- Employee began work in Los Alamos in **1988** Z number: 105152
- Employee began work in Los Alamos in **2014** Z number: 295539

**Exceptions tend to be those folks who were issued Z numbers as young children living in Los Alamos during the time it was a closed city. They later came to work for LANL and were issued a second Z number.**
United States of America
WAR DEPARTMENT
ARMY SERVICE FORCES - CORPS OF ENGINEERS
Manhattan District

This is to Certify that

Jose E. Baca, Jr.
Robert E. McKee

has participated in work essential to the production of the Atomic Bomb, thereby contributing to the successful conclusion of World War II. This certificate is awarded in appreciation of effective service.

6 August 1945
Washington, D.C.
Historical Web Sites


http://www.mphpa.org/classic/HISTORY/H-06c6.htm

http://www.osti.gov/manhattan-project-history/index.htm

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLb1O_W5Oyw

http://newmexicohistory.org/people/los-alamos-ranch-and-the-manhattan-project#

http://newmexicohistory.org/people/zia-company-1946-1986

http://issuu.com/4cruz/docs/homesteaders/126
Helpful information

- **Uploading a Case**
  - When you upload a DAR or an EV please do not include all of the pages that have directions. This takes up valuable storage space and is not necessary to the processing of the case.

- **ALWAYS** be sure that the EE-1 and EE-3 are included in what you upload and ALWAYS be sure that they are signed. If they are not signed you will most likely receive a note from me that LANL will NOT process the case.
Searching for a claimant:
LANL will always use the claimants SSN and DOB for identification. This is especially true in the case of women who may have multiple last names.

Supplemental Information Requests
If you send a request for supplemental information we will only search for additional information if we can tell that there has been additional employment on site since your initial request. If they worked for a sub-contractor we will not be able to supply any additional information.