LOS ALAMOS
Oppenheimer Film Tour
visitlosalamos.org

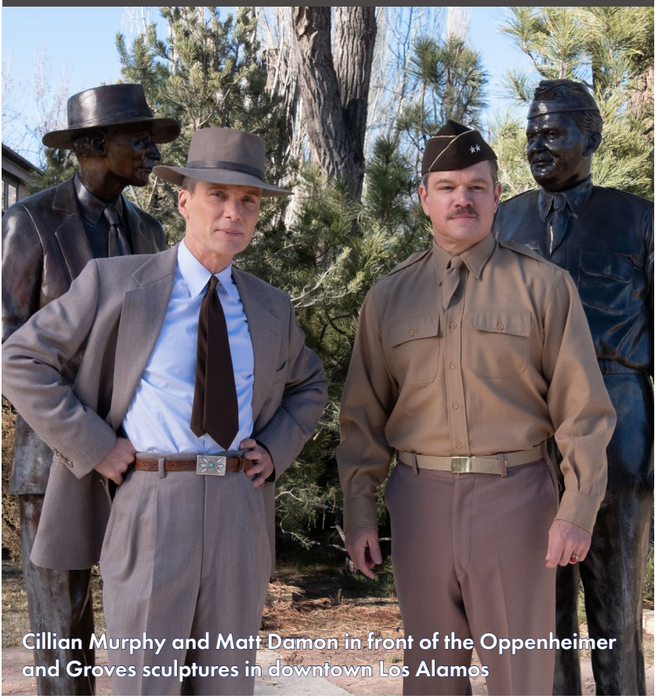

Cillian Murphy and Matt Damon in front of the Oppenheimer and Groves sculptures in downtown Los Alamos

Photo © Universal Pictures Melinda Sue Gordon. All Rights Reserved.

Walk with Oppenheimer...

For the 2023 film "Oppenheimer," director Christopher Nolan chose to film many scenes on site, in Los Alamos, New Mexico, where the true stories depicted in the movie actually played out in history. Nolan found inspiration from the same mountain setting and log and stone homes built to support the Los Alamos Ranch School that Oppenheimer himself and his team of scientists found when creating something seemingly impossible. Scenes were created in places that were in Oppenheimer's real day-to-day life. Take a turn walking in the footsteps of scientific and creative giants and find inspiration of your own.

LOS ALAMOS
where discoveries are made

Ghost Ranch, Abiquiu, New Mexico
Location for the set of the Los Alamos townsite.
Ghost Ranch is 54 miles north of Los Alamos.
Visit www.ghostranch.org

L to R: Scene from "Oppenheimer" filmed at the Los Alamos set in Ghost Ranch. © Universal Pictures Melinda Sue Gordon All Rights Reserved; Ghost Ranch entrance, courtesy of Ghost Ranch.




Private Property, Belen, New Mexico
Location for the set of the Trinity Test Site.
Belen is 127 miles southwest of Los Alamos.

Scenes from "Oppenheimer" filmed at the Trinity Test Site set near Belen. © Universal Pictures Melinda Sue Gordon All Rights Reserved.




Memorial Bataan Building, Santa Fe, New Mexico
Located at 400 Don Gaspar Ave. in Santa Fe and used for the set of the senate confirmation hearing. The building is 33 miles southeast of Los Alamos.

L to R: Scene from "Oppenheimer" filmed at the senate confirmation hearing in the Memorial Bataan Building in Santa Fe. © Universal Pictures Melinda Sue Gordon All Rights Reserved; Memorial Bataan Building, courtesy of New Mexico.




Lamy, New Mexico
Location for the set of the train scenes in New Mexico.
Lamy Train Station is 52 miles southeast of Los Alamos.

Scene from "Oppenheimer" filmed near Lamy. © Universal Pictures Melinda Sue Gordon. All Rights Reserved.



Los Alamos National Laboratory "The Secret City: Project Y" App
This app lets you explore Los Alamos, as it looked during the Manhattan Project. Los Alamos National Laboratory built this virtual experience with something for everyone! In story mode, discover how Project Y transformed this quiet mesa top into a top-secret laboratory. Test your 1940s computing skills on the Marchant calculator—a mechanical desk calculator used by the human computers during the project. Or take your mobile device to downtown Los Alamos and see how much has changed in the 75 years. With "**The Secret City: Project Y,**" you can even virtually roam around "behind the fence" at the Laboratory and see two of the most significant historic sites, Gun Site and V-Site, as they were in 1945.

The app is available today on the Apple App Store and Google Play!

National Park Service Manhattan Project National Historical Park App
The Manhattan Project National Historical Park section on the National Park Service (NPS) App was created by NPS staff—people who know national parks—to help you make the most of your visit. The NPS App takes authoritative information from park rangers and combines it with a great suite of features. Each park unit—Hanford, Washington; Los Alamos, New Mexico; and Oak Ridge, Tennessee—has a detailed map that includes points of interest, roads, trails, and other information to plan your trip. Self-guided tours take you to various places in the park. Discover popular destinations as well as places off the beaten track. It's like having a ranger by your side to guide your trip, giving you suggestions for places to go, directions to get there, and things to do.

The app is available today on the Apple App Store and Google Play!

Visit the Oppenheimer Resources Host Page
Learn about "Oppenheimer: The Movie. The Man. The Manhattan Project," and get connected to a wide variety of resources while planning your visit.

History of the Secret City Guided Tours
Discover the secrets of Los Alamos! Visit an Ancestral Pueblo site, step inside the homestead-era Romero Cabin, and hear about the Los Alamos Ranch School. Tickets include museum admission. Visitors under 18 free with a ticketed adult; $25/person for 18+. Visit the History Museum website for tour hours.

Find more information about J. R. Oppenheimer and the Manhattan Project...

MANHATTAN PROJECT NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK VISITOR CENTER
475 20th St., Suite C, Los Alamos
Hours: Hours vary. Please call before visiting.
505-661-6277 | nps.gov/mapr

In Los Alamos, Manhattan Project administrators found an ideal location for the secret laboratory where they designed and built the world's first atomic weapons. During the Manhattan Project, Los Alamos became the home to many of the top scientific minds of the day: Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, Norris Bradbury, Richard Feynman, Hans Bethe, and many more luminaries. These scientists worked together to develop the theoretical and experimental tests necessary to succeed.

BRADBURY SCIENCE MUSEUM & SHOP
1450 Central Ave., Los Alamos
Hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday: 1- 5 p.m. Monday: CLOSED
505-667-4444 | lanl.gov/museum

The Bradbury Science Museum helps visitors learn about the Lab's beginnings during the Manhattan Project and how the Lab's continuing work enables global security. View more than 60 interactive exhibits in the museum's three galleries: History, Defense, and Research.

LOS ALAMOS HISTORY MUSEUM & SHOP
1050 Bathtub Row, Los Alamos
Hours: Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday: CLOSED
505-709-7794 | losalamoshistory.org

At the History Museum, learn more about the Oppenheimer House and get a look into the work being done now to make it part of the Museum campus in the future. Share your thoughts and help to shape what the home will look like when it is opened to the public.

LOS ALAMOS VISITOR CENTER
475 20th St., Suite A, Los Alamos
Hours: Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
505-662-8105 | visitlosalamos.org

Published by Los Alamos County Communications & Public Relations
Revised September 2025



1 Historic Fuller Lodge

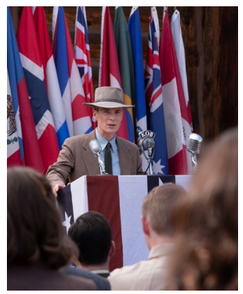
Built in 1928 for the Ranch School, Fuller Lodge continues to serve as a gathering place for residents and visitors. Then and now, young and old have danced, dined, listened, and learned within the log walls of this historical structure. This space has hosted countless innovative creators from diverse backgrounds and fields for almost 100 years.

When built, the Lodge housed the Ranch School dining hall, kitchen, rooms for guests, staff, and the nurse. It was also where social events for the boys and graduation ceremonies were held. During the WWII Manhattan Project, the large Pajarito Room served as a cafeteria, and the other rooms in the Lodge served as housing for bachelor staff members and distinguished visitors.

Below: Scene from "Oppenheimer" filmed inside Fuller Lodge
© Universal Pictures Melinda Sue Gordon. All Rights Reserved.



L to R, T to B: Scene from "Oppenheimer" filmed outside Fuller Lodge
© Universal Pictures Melinda Sue Gordon. All Rights Reserved; A social evening at Fuller Lodge in the mid-1940s; E-Awards Ceremony, October 16, 1945, photos courtesy Los Alamos Historical Society Archives.







2 Oppenheimer House on Bathtub Row

This row of cottages was built in the early 1900s for the Ranch School as residences and classrooms. Having the only bathtubs in town, these homes became known as "Bathtub Row" during the Manhattan Project. Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer and his family lived in the house at the corner of Bathtub Row and Peach Street. Today, this home is on its way to becoming a new addition to the Los Alamos History Museum, as it undergoes historic preservation, renovation, and exhibit development.

Below: The Oppenheimer House exterior includes a unique copper smoke stack on the chimney, as well as the Manhattan Project stamp of T-111, meaning Technical Area 111. The interior includes the "Oppenheimer" set furniture, donated by NBC Universal once the filming concluded.







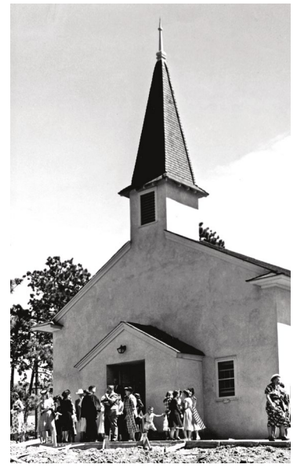
3 Manhattan Project Era Dormitory

During the Manhattan Project, several dormitories were built to house men, women, and the Women's Army Corps (WAC), including this building. Although not open to the public, the County is currently in the process of preservation and renovation for this historical building to be utilized as a visitor center for the National Park Service.

Left: Manhattan Project era dormitory during filming.











Above: People gather outside "The Chapel," circa 1940s, photo courtesy Los Alamos Historical Archives; The United Church today - outside and a glimpse inside of the stained glass that adorns the lobby and both sides of the sanctuary.

4 The United Church

In 1946, General Groves ordered the relocation of The Chapel from the U.S. Army Bruns General Hospital in Santa Fe to Los Alamos to provide a structure for Jews, Catholics, and Protestants to use to practice their faiths. In 1947, the Army chapel was reassembled, and two wings and a side chapel were added to the structure by the Atomic Energy Commission, with contributions from Los Alamos town residents. In 1955, The Chapel and its property were sold to The United Church of Los Alamos to continue to serve as a place of worship and gathering for the community. The meeting room in this historic church served as "the lab" set for the scene where the scientists carefully constructed the "Gadget."

5 Historic Dot Grant Trail

Grant Road (known as Dot Grant Trail) was named after homesteader Ottie Oman (Dot) Grant. Appearing on the U.S. Forest Service maps as early as 1913, it was the principle connecting road between two canyons that led up from the Rio Grande Valley to homesteads on the mesas. It is steep, averages about eight feet wide, and is distinguished by stabilized rock embankments and sections of deeply worn ruts. This recreational trail can be accessed via the Bayo Canyon Trailhead.

Below: Scene from "Oppenheimer" filmed along Dot Grant Trail. © Universal Pictures Melinda Sue Gordon. All Rights Reserved.

