

# CURATING CONTROVERSY:

WHEN THE EXHIBIT IS RADIOACTIVE



# MERIDEL RUBENSTEIN ART INSTALLATION

**“Critical Mass”**

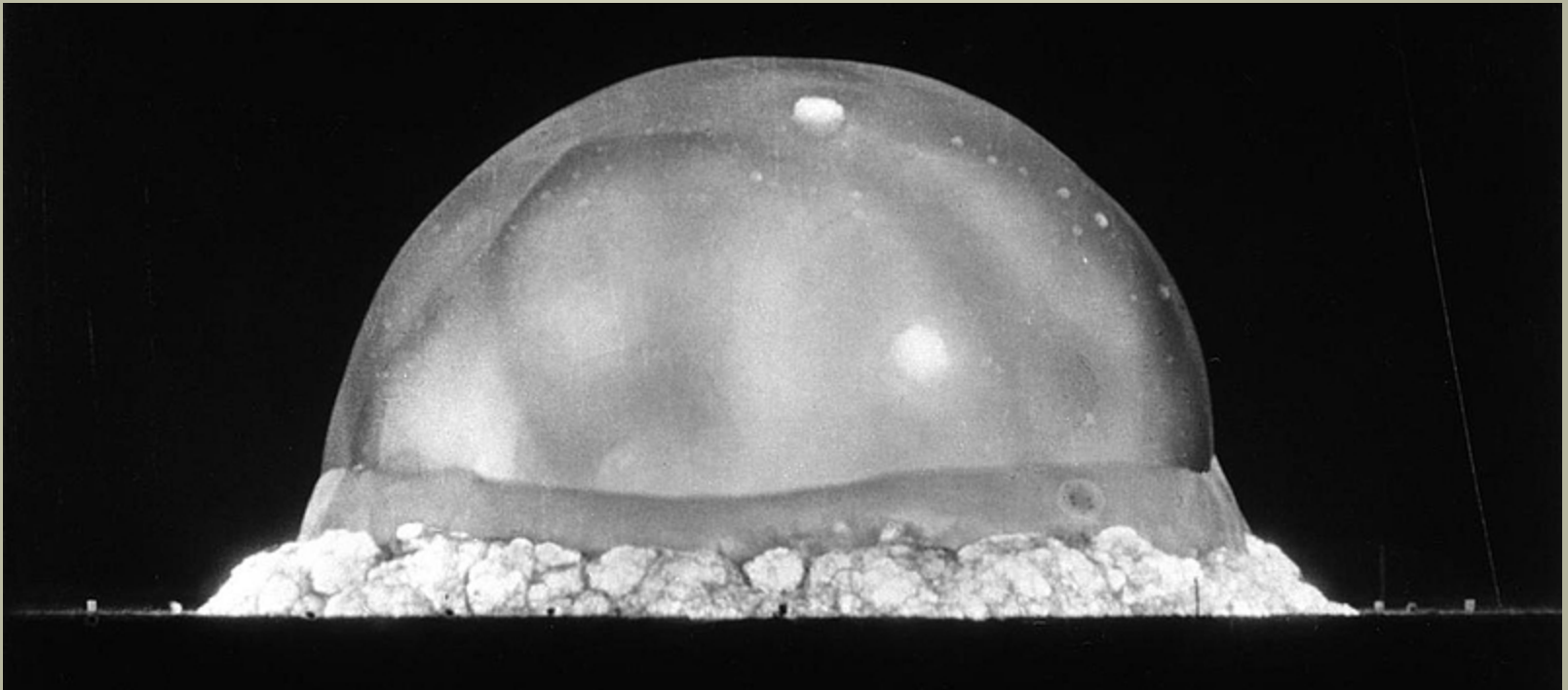
*The Meeting*



*Oppenheimer's Chair*



The Trinity Test- at .0045 seconds



## Oppenheimer's real chair



On loan from the Bradbury Science Museum

# PARTNERS

**Thank you to New Mexico institutions (and beyond)  
who made their collections available:**

**New Mexico Mining Museum, Grants**

**National Museum of Nuclear Science and History, Albuquerque**

**Bradbury Science Museum, Los Alamos**

**Los Alamos Historical Society Archive and Museum**

**Los Alamos National Laboratory Archive**

**Sandia National Laboratory Historical Archive, Albuquerque**

**Center for Southwest Research, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque**

**Tularosa Downwinders Association, Tularosa**

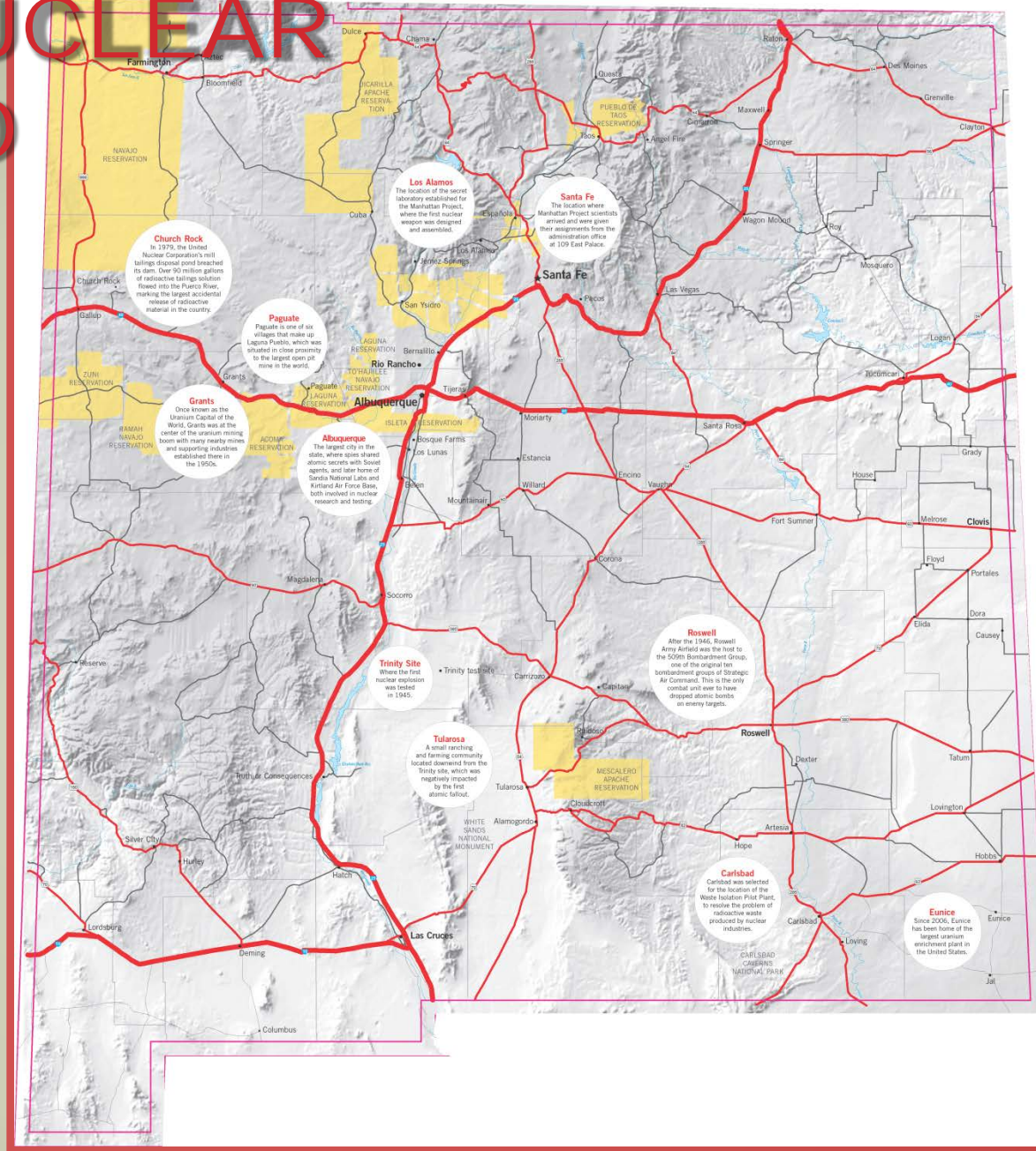
**Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC, Carlsbad**

**URENCO, Eunice**

**Atomic Heritage Foundation, Washington, DC**

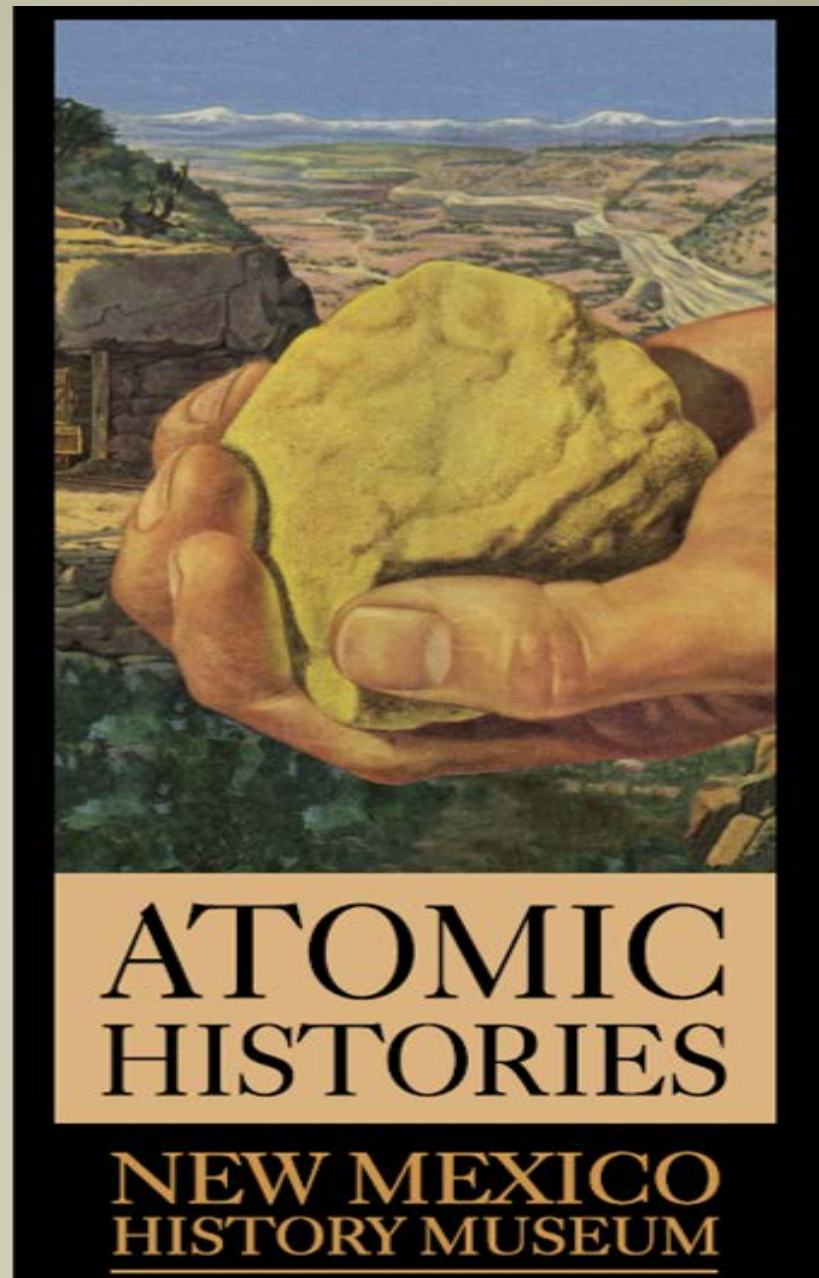
**Library of Congress, Washington, DC**

# A MAP OF NUCLEAR NEW MEXICO





# URANIUM MINING





FROM WORLD WAR  
TO COLD WAR:  
SETTING THE  
STAGE AND  
ENGAGING NEW  
AUDIENCES

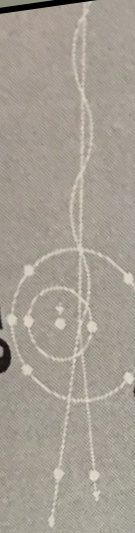


# DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL LABS

**the future resides  
IN MEN WITH  
IMAGINATION!**

**los alamos**  
scientific laboratory

...the nation's most important  
institution for the development of  
nuclear and thermonuclear  
weapons is seeking professional  
engineers and scientists,  
particularly those vitally interested  
in the development of the  
atomic age.



**SANDIA  
CORPORATION**

*Employs People From All 48 States  
And 3 Territories or Foreign Countries*



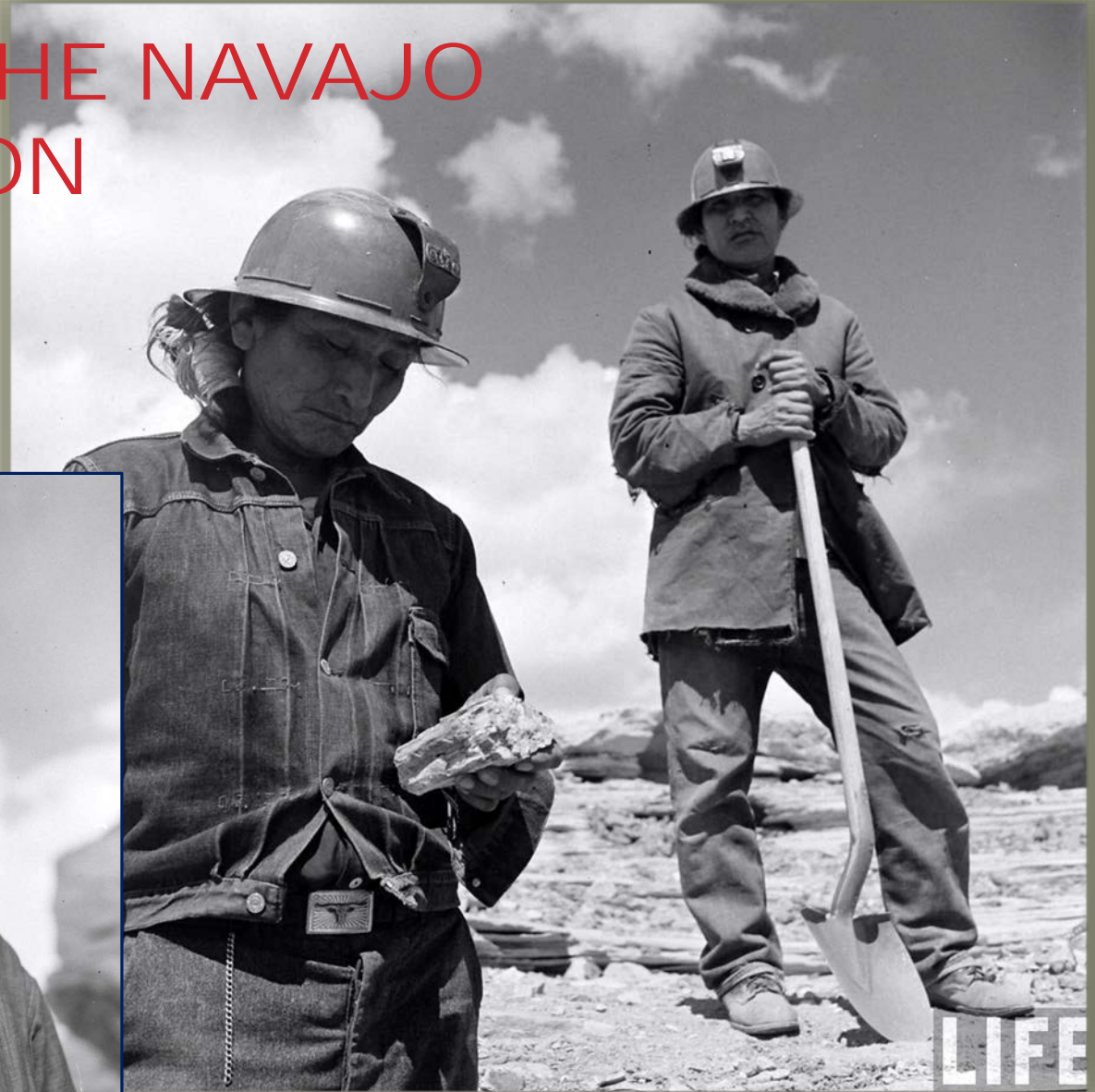
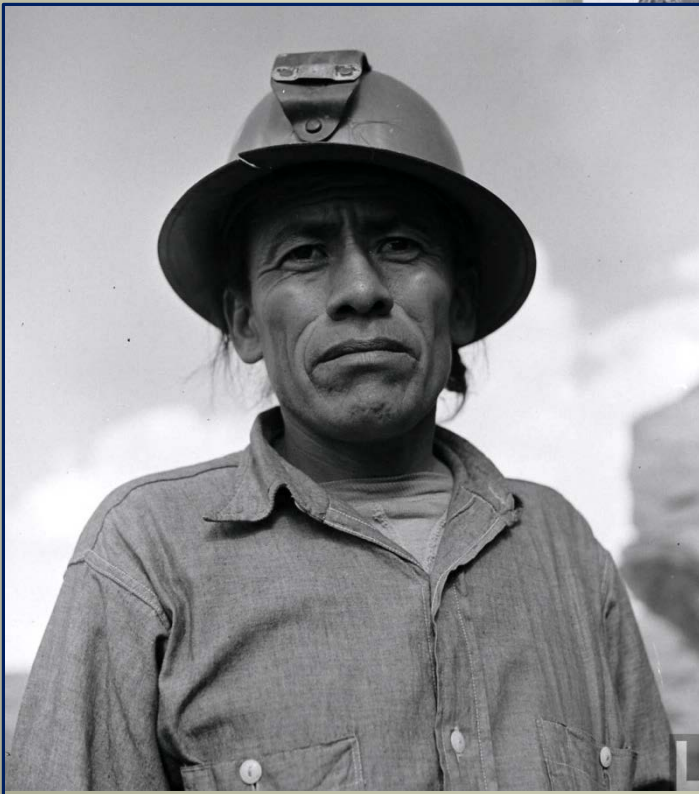
**NEW MEXICO'S LARGEST SINGLE  
EMPLOYER**

*over 4000 employees, Gross annual payroll \$18,000,000*

FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES VISIT THE SANDIA CORPORATION BRANCH EMPLOYMENT OFFICE AT THE TRIANGLE ON EAST CENTRAL 2933 MONTE VISTA BLVD. OR PHONE 5-8400

Advertisements in Physics Today, circa 1957

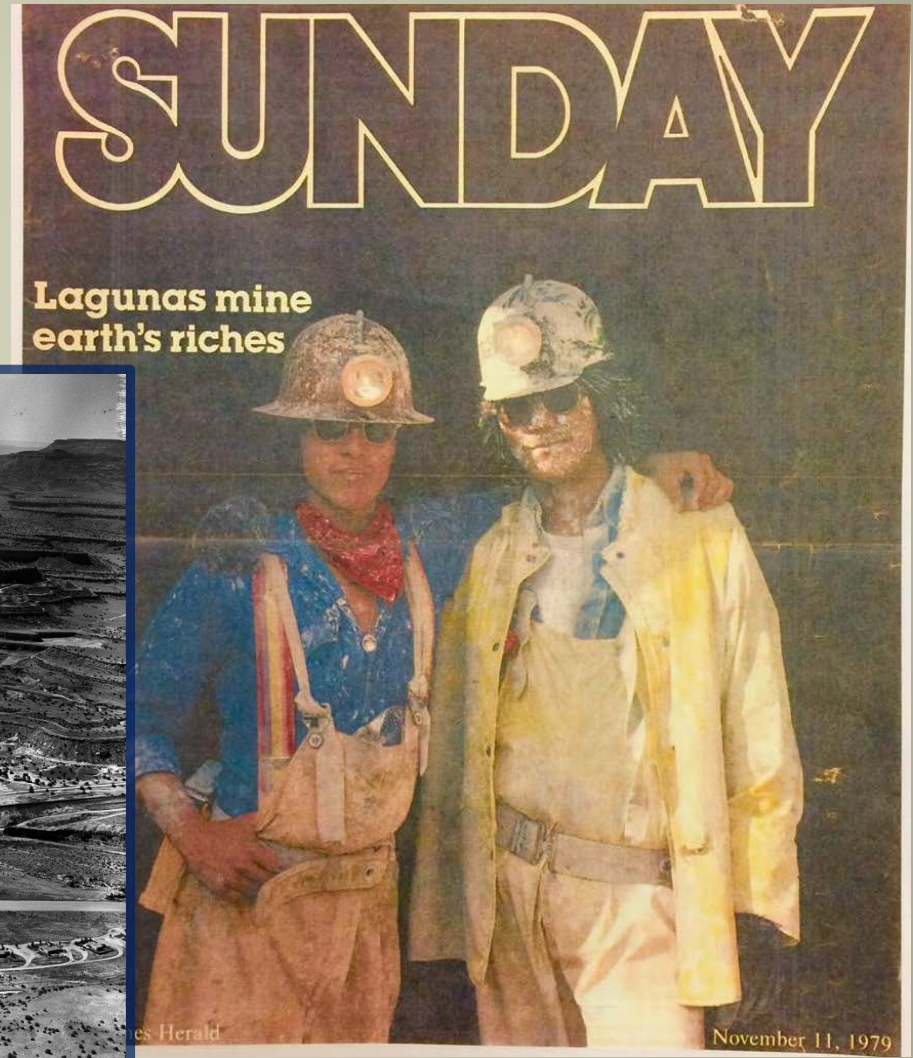
# MINES ON THE NAVAJO RESERVATION



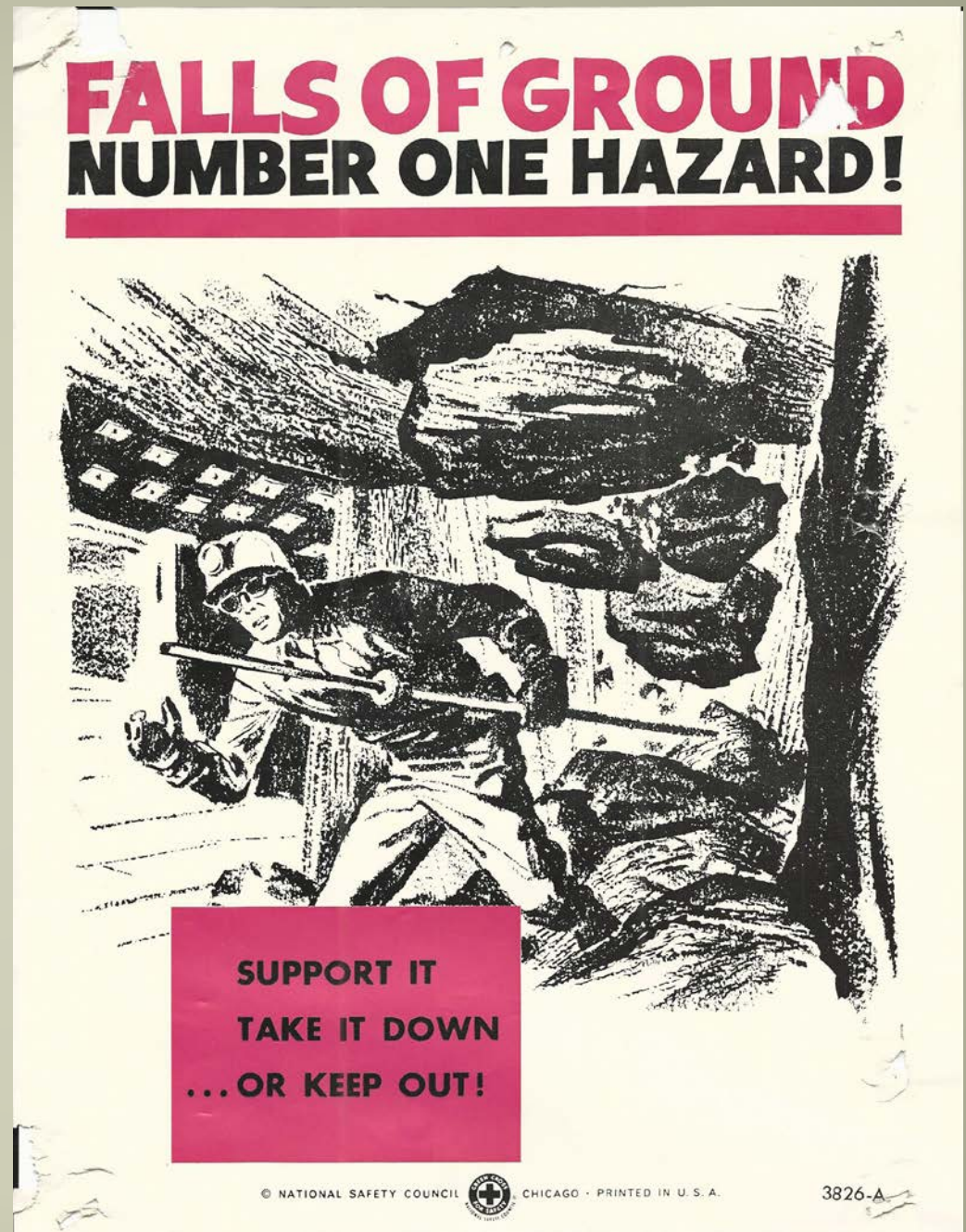
Featured in June 4 1951 LIFE magazine

# JACKPILE MINE

Largest open pit mine in the  
US, at Paguate



# Other hazards of mining besides radioactivity



## Development of Navajo and Laguna Environmental offices



# Dorothy Purley



# Tina Cordova



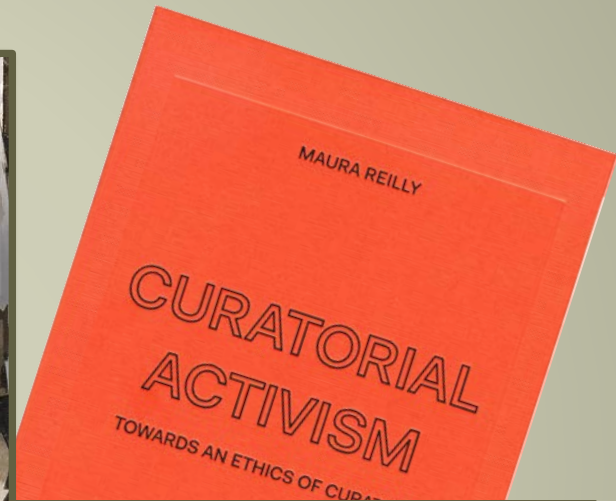
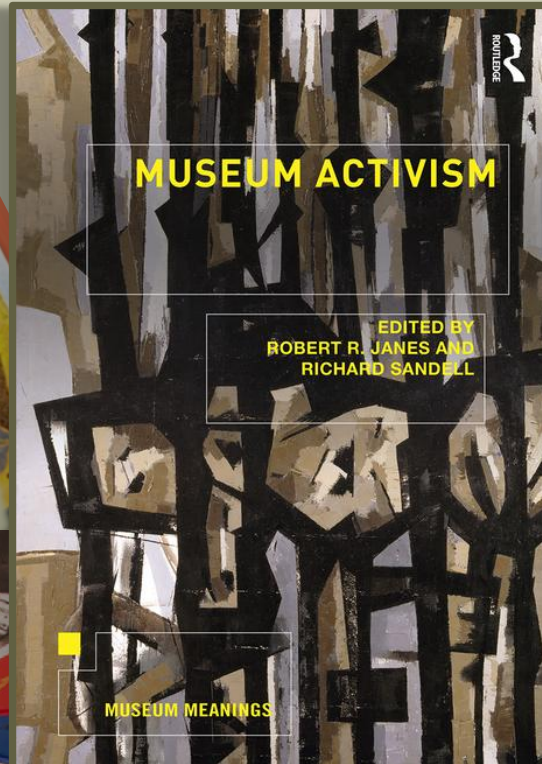
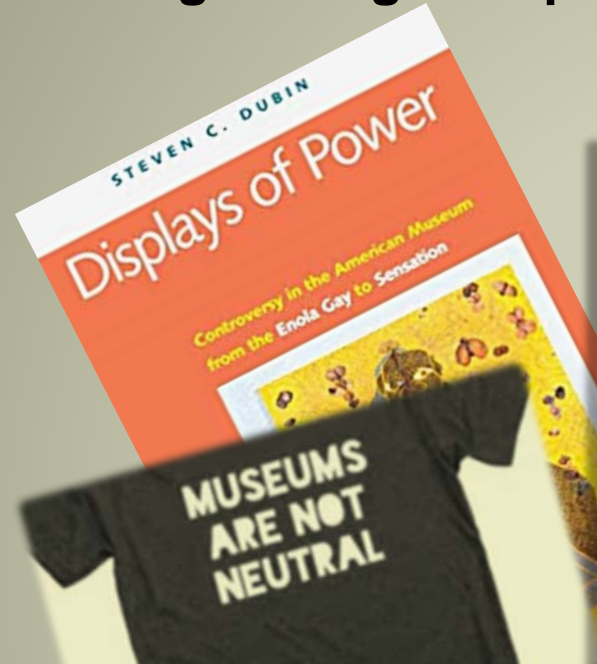
DO YOU MANAGE  
CONTROVERSY OR  
ENGAGE IT?

# Museum Best Practices for Managing Controversy

From the website of CIMAM: International Committee for Museums and Collections of Modern Art –an affiliated committee of ICOM

# EMERGING MUSEUM PRACTICE

Negotiating multiple stories and shared authority in museums



Beyond Suffrage: A Century of New York Women in Politics" traces political history of women in NYC at the Museum of the City of New York.



Outrage at Museum of Fine Arts Boston Over "Dress Up in a Kimono" Event  
Artnet.com July 2015

THANK YOU