

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory

Operated by Universities Research Association Inc. Under Contract with the United States Department of Energy

Vol. 1, No. 8

June 29, 1978



... "August Mier Collection" is installed on Central Laboratory 15th floor - South ...

9,000-YEAR-OLD ARTIFACTS TELL FERMI SITE'S PREHISTORIC HERITAGE

Augie's artifacts have come home.

Arrowheads, stone tools, and shards of pottery left on Fermilab's site 7,000 years before Christ comprise a new public exhibit.

"Augie" is August Mier, 86, a retired Batavia resident. The permanent display--about 100 items--represents 80 years of artifact collecting by Mier. Last March he donated to Fermilab many pieces he discovered while walking the Fermilab 6,800 acre site over eight decades prior to the beginning of construction in 1968 of the world's largest research center for studying subatomic particles.

A portion of the new exhibit is titled "The August J. Mier Collection," housed in wall-mounted showcases. The collection is located in the south corridor of the Central Laboratory's 15th floor. Viewing hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.



... Artifact seekers at Fermilab in 1971 ...

Display panels in the Mier collection contain a photo and brief biography of Mier and a map showing 17 Fermilab sites where he discovered artifacts. Three panels feature 9" x 12" stainless steel frames containing pieces mounted by Mier on brightly-colored foam.

Another portion of the archaeological exhibit explains the findings of a study group headed by Dr. Ann Early. In the summers of 1970 and 1971, during construction of Fermilab, Dr. Early and a small group of students focused on five sites. (continued on Page 2)

9,000-YEAR-OLD ARTIFACTS (Continued)

which revealed identifiable artifacts of prehistoric residents on the Fermilab site. The findings are explained in detail in a written study prepared by Dr. Early. Copies are on sale in the Fermilab Public Information Office.



...Dr. Ann Early: Archeologist who excavated Indian camp sites at Fermilab...

Earliest occupants of the Fermilab site, she said, were in the Archaic culture--7,000 to 1500 B.C.; later cultures included the Woodland period, 1500 B.C. to 500 A.D., and Upper Mississippian, 1300 A.D. to 1600 A.D. Examples of the relics which led to her conclusions are shown in one cabinet of the exhibit. Miss Early, now with the Arkansas Archeological Survey at Henderson State College, served as a consultant during the collection's preparation.

Mier previewed the exhibit in an early June visit. He said that Fermilab provides a suitable location for history buffs to learn about early area natives through his collected artifacts. Recovering from a winter illness, he expressed the desire to return to his collecting efforts.

His scavenging efforts began, he said, to earn money for school supplies. Over the years, he estimates he has collected more than 6,500 arrowheads. The date, location and condition of each find was recorded in a log book.

Mier specialized in hunting "clipped wing" arrowheads. The points were triangular blades with wing-shaped edges. Because poison was sometimes applied to the edges by Indians, the arrowheads are also called "poison points."

For prospective arrowhead hunters, Mier recommends searching on high ground or near water--typical Indian campgrounds. The expert said arrowheads will be uncovered in Batavia area fields for the next 200 years.

The exhibit is a permanent addition to the tour facilities at Fermilab. It is open without charge to self-guided tourists. Groups of ten or more wishing to study the collection should contact the Public Information Office.



AUGUST MIER

A native of Batavia, August Mier was born in 1892. The lifelong area resident has been an enthusiastic amateur archaeologist since age 6. He has collected many archeological artifacts locally and across the United States.

One of his favorite areas for hunting arrowheads was on and around what has become the Fermilab site. It has yielded a rich collection of artifacts, evidenced in the display which he assembled for the Laboratory. His collection of ceremonial projectile points is outstanding in both quantity and beauty.

Previous landowners and tenants of the Fermilab site also assembled collections; many site locales have been carefully combed over the years by other area residents and amateur collectors.

Mier has long been interested in both the ancient and modern history of the area. He is almost solely responsible for the preservation of the Pioneer Cemetery also on site. General G. Thompson Mead, a veteran of the War of 1812, is buried there.

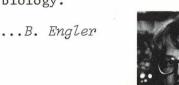
As a youngster wandering the fields, Mier listened to tales that were told of wood cutters in the FNAL "Big Woods"--levelling by hand walnut trees four feet in diameter that were then shipped from Chicago by boat to England. Others told of an oak tree on the Griffith property eight feet in diameter that took two weeks to cut down.

PUBLIC INFORMATION ADDS SUMMER STAFF

Summer means peak tourist traffic for Fermilab ... and more work for the Public Information Office.

To help handle the influx-- over 1,000 people a week during the summer --Public Information recently added two summer assistants. They are Kris Fillman and Bill Engler, teachers at Naperville North High School. Both teach physical science and biology.





K. Fillman..

The duo will greet visitors in the Central Laboratory artrium.

Alternating weeks on duty, each will work for five weeks during weekday business hours. Their duties include answering questions, distributing free literature and selling Public Information Office special items. Included in their "store" are:

PHOTOGRAPHS -- An assortment of color (\$4.00) and black and white (\$1.35) 8 X 10 photos are available. Site scenes offered include aerials, experimental areas and Fermilab's buffalo herd.

SLIDES -- 35mm color slides (\$1.00 each) may be selected from a library of hundreds of the best from Fermilab's Photo Unit.

AERIAL MAP -- A large aerial map of the site, in black and white, is offered for \$1.90 per copy.

POSTCARDS -- Four postcard views of Laboratory scenes may be purchased for 10¢ each. Proceeds benefit NALWO, Fermilab women's organization.

ARCHEOLOGY REPORT -- "1971 Salvage Excavations National Accelerator Laboratory," a 63-page typewritten report chronicling Indian relic finds on site, is \$1.00 per copy.

Free literature is almost too numerous to list. Included are brochures for a self-guided tour and Fermilab's Prairie Restoration Project; recent "FERMINEWS" issues; Inter/National Film Society calendar; cultural/arts program announcements; and a new booklet profiling the late Enrico Fermi, Fermilab's namesake.

HOUSING MAKES ITS MOVE

Dorothy Carlson, Housing Office Head, has some doubts about summer.

For most of us, summer means vacation, cookouts and puttering around the house. For Dorothy and her Housing staff, summer brings The Big Move (TBM).

TBM is a little-noticed Fermilab drama occuring about June 1. That's when Laboratory housing facilities shift to summer occupancy from winter assignments. And visiting students and scientists--some with families--are assigned to 33 houses, 15 apartments and 89 dorm rooms.

Dorothy has a problem that would be the envy of Howard Johnson's or the Holiday Inn: 95 percent occupancy from June through August. And already plans are underway to handle a fall influx.



...Housing Office Portrait: L-R, B. Kobiella, C. Hall, P. Naber, G. Dean, L. Olson, A. Sawicki, D. Carlson...

Summer residents begin arriving a week before June 1. Two weeks previous, a team of nine maids clean the accommodations. Planning begins and reservations for summer housing are taken in March. March 31 is the deadline to apply.

Some years, applicants out-number accommodations. To assign facilities fairly, a priority and lottery system was established in 1976. It was not necessary to use the system this year, Dorothy said.

Four Russian families and 10 visiting physicists from the Peoples Republic of China provide international flavor this summer.

Housing Office handles assignments, rental payments, facility operations and repair requests. All houses, apartments and dorm rooms have telephones and air conditioning. In Memoriam

CAROL S. FRELO



January 9, 1945 - June 21, 1978

Carol S. Frelo, 33, Fermilab employee since 1976, died at MacNeal Hospital in Berwyn following an extended illness.

Mrs. Frelo joined the Laboratory as Manager of the Users Center. Prior to coming to Fermilab, she had worked extensively in the Chicago area as a professional dancer.

John Barry, her supervisor, said, "Carol's contributions to the Users programs and Laboratory's recreational programs have made a lasting impact. Carol had the admirable and rare talent of combining, and maintaining, determined enthusiasm, conviviality and compassion in the face of adversity.

"Her loss is a great one to all employees, as well as the hundreds of users who knew Carol, and we will truly miss her."

Survivors include her husband, Tony (Fermilab Photo Unit), a son Anthony III, her mother, a brother and three sisters. Funeral services were held June 24 at Ewald Funeral Home, Chicago.

HOLIDAY NOTICE

Tuesday, July 4, will be observed as a holiday by Fermilab. It is the third of nine holidays to be observed by the Laboratory during 1978.

Cafeteria hours on July 4 will be: BREAKFAST--8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.; and LUNCH--11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Jo Baaske, payroll supervisor, reminds weekly employees that the regular time sheet mail run will be made on Friday. June 30 at 10:30 a.m. due to the holiday.

Employees and visitors should also remember that fireworks are unlawful and not permitted on Fermilab property. ******* ************** STOCKROOMS CLOSE JULY 17-21

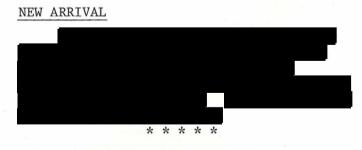
**************** Site storerooms will take annual audited inventories July 17-21. The two facilities will be closed at separate times to conduct the inventories said Gene Guyer, Stores Supervisor. The Central Laboratory stockroom is set to close July 17-18; the warehouse at Site 38 will close July 19-21. To maintain service continuity, Guyer said, one stockroom will make emergency issues while the other undergoes inventory. Phone Ext. 3808 for information.

B. KOEHLER RETIRES

Bernice Koehler, senior clerk in Accounting, is Fermilab's latest retiree. A 10-year employee, she took early retirement June 16.



Before joining the Laboratory, Bernice had worked as a bookkeeper for a Geneva firm. She said she will begin retirement by visiting a daughter, Irene, in Gaithersberg, Maryland. Bernice and her husband, Jack, plan to move to Prescott Valley, Arizona this summer where they are building a duplex. Once settled, Bernice says she plans to enjoy the warm weather and concentrate on sewing and crocheting. *



FALL HOUSING SIGN-UP UNDER WAY

Dorothy Carlson, Housing Office Head, announces that reservations are being accepted for fall on site housing accommodations. For information call Ext. 3560.

FERMINEWS is published weekly by the Public Information Office of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory — P.O. Box 500 — Batavia, Illinois 60510 — Phone: 312-840-3351.

☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1978-750-180/3