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MINING AT FRANKLIN - SYNOPSIS

By CLARENCE HAIGHT, former Mine Superintendent at Franklin

A mine is mysterious to many people because it cannot be seen in its entirety. If the Franklin mine was inverted and placed on the surface, it would have required a building about a mile long, five hundred feet wide and one thousand feet at its peak to enclose it.

The "floors" were known as levels, and they were fifty or one hundred feet apart rather than the eight-ten feet of office buildings. There were eighteen levels at Franklin and these levels were connected by shafts containing the mining version of elevators for men and materials as well as water and air pipes, and phone and electric cables.

The hallways from the elevators to the working areas were tunnels, called drifts. Tram cars were frequently operated in the drifts to haul materials and men. The drifts were occasionally intersected by cross-cuts, which were tunnels extending from the footwall to the hanging wall to provide access, remove broken ore, etc. If drifts were the avenues, cross-cuts were the streets.

Ore bodies do not occur in rectangular blocks as buildings do. The outerlimits of the ore bodies are usually at an angle with the horizontal. Standing within the ore body, the outer side of the body which would be above your head (has an acute angle with the horizontal) is the hanging wall; that which would be beneath your feet (forms an obtuse angle with the horizontal) is the footwall.

When the ore is thick, as it was at Franklin, it is usually mined by transverse stopes. Franklin was first mined by tunnels at fifty foot levels. After consolidation of the various mining companies, engineering studies led to mining by transverse stopes. In essence, this comprised removing ore in sections seventeen feet wide running from the foot wall to the hanging wall. Between each stope, a pillar was left. Each pillar was about thirty feet wide and ran from footwall to hanging wall (as much as 300 feet) and to the top of the mine (up to one thousand feet high).

When all the ore was removed except for the pillars, a system of top slicing was introduced to utilize the ore in the pillars. This comprised taking ten foot deep slices from the pillar, starting at the top of the pillar, across from footwall to hanging wall. In essence, a narrow opening of full height was first cut through the center of the drift to the hanging wall. The opening was then opened to full (thirty feet) width from the far end and worked back to the original opening. As the load on the supports became too heavy, (at about ten foot intervals), the supports for the cleared area were blasted and the load above caved to minimize the load on the working area.

Franklin ore averaged about a ton for each seven cubic feet. Some twenty million tons of ore were removed at Franklin. The ore averaged 20% zinc.

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THE MUSEUM, MINE REPLICA AND BUCKWHEAT DUMP

The Kiwanis Club has established the Mineral Museum and Mine Replica as a permanent display of the mineralogy and mining history of the area.

The Museum is operated by the Franklin Mineral Museum, Inc. and contains permanent and loaned collections of unusual interest. It also houses a spectacular display of fluorescent minerals whose brilliant colors may be viewed under Ultra-Violet light. The Replica Mine, located in the original Engine House, which used to hoist ore from the Open Cut, simulates actual mining operations in the Franklin Mine.

Operation of the Buckwheat Dump has been turned over to the Museum Corporation by the Boro of Franklin under a three year lease.

Admission fees to the Museum are kept at a minimum and help to cover the cost of staffing and operation. Profit from the sale of merchandise makes up the operating deficit. The annual mortgage commitment is raised by the Kiwanis Club through revenues from the annual Mineral Exhibit.

Trustees of the Museum welcome gifts and loans of minerals for display. All gifts and contributions are tax exempt.

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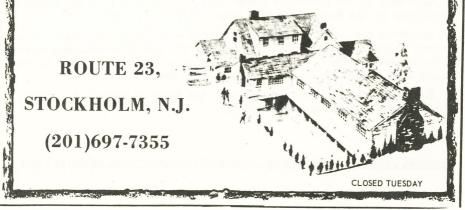
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This statue, mounted on a concrete base, that was used for a hoist that drew crude ore from the Parker Shaft, was the work of Sculptor Jarvis Boone. It depicts the miner of early days, wearing a checked flannel shirt, heavy underwear to combat the coldness of the mine, he wears boots because of the constant presence of water in the mines. On his head he wears the original "hard hat" with a candle for illumination. In his right hand he carries a sledge hammer and drill bit. In his left hand is his lunch bucket which sustained him for the day's work in the mine.

The statue, paid for by public contributions, stands on the lawn outside the Franklin Mineral Museum, facing the visitors as they walk to the museum entrance. He also faces the setting sun, symbolical of the end of the day and the end of mining in Franklin.









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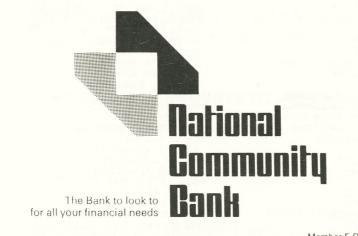
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Edited by John L. Baum, Curator of The Franklin Mineral Museum, From Lists Prepared by Clifford Frondel, Frank Edwards, David Cook, Ewald Gerstmann, George Pigeon and John Baum. September 1972.

Acanthite Adamite Allactite Allanite Alleghanyite Almandite Amphibole Actinolite Anthophyllite **Barkevikite** Cummingtonite Edenite Fluoredenite Enstatite Hastingsite Magnesioriebeckite Pargasite Riebeckite Tremolite Asbestos Analcime Anatase Andradite Anglesite Anhydrite Annabergite Anorthoclase Barian Anorthoclase Antimonian Groutite Apatite Fluorapatite Hydroxyapatite Apophyllite Aragonite Arsenic Arseniosiderite Arsenolite Aurichalcite Axinite Ferroan Manganoan Azurite

Bannisterite Barite Barylite Barysilite **Bementite Berthierite Bianchite Biotite** Birnessite Bixbyite Bornite **Brandtite** Brochantite Brookite **Bustamite** Cahnite Calcite Carminite Celestite Celsian Cerussite Chabazite Chalcocite Chalcophanite Chalcopyrite Chloanthite Chloropal Chlorophoenicite Chondrodite Chrysocolla Chlinochlore Clinohedrite Conichalcite Copper Corundum Covellite Cryptomelane Cuprite Cuproadamite Cuspidine Datolite Datolite

Botryolite Descloizite Devilline Djurleite Dolomite Epidote Epsomite Erythrite Esperite **Epsomite** Ettringite Eveite Feitknechtite Ferroschallerite Flinkite Fluoborite Fluorite Franklinite Friedelite Gageite Gahnite Galena Ganophyllite Gersdorfite Glaucochroite Goethite Gold Graphite Greenochite Grimaldite Grossular Gypsum Hancockite Hardystonite Hausmannite Hedyphane Hematite Hemimorphite Hendricksite Hetaerolite Heulandite

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Idocrase Idocrase Cyprine Illite Ilmenite

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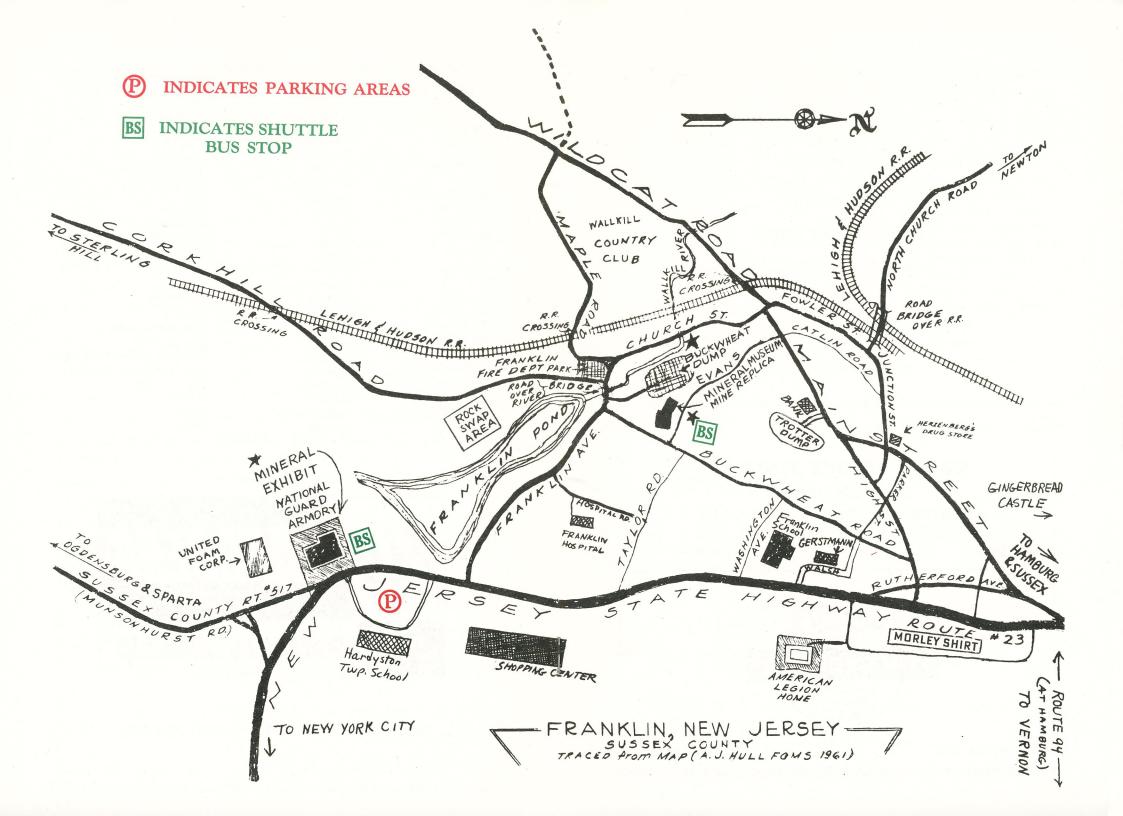
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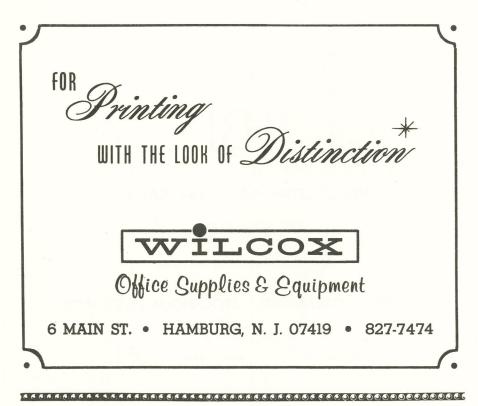
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Clinohedrite—Orange	Microcline—Blue-White	Tremolite—Blue
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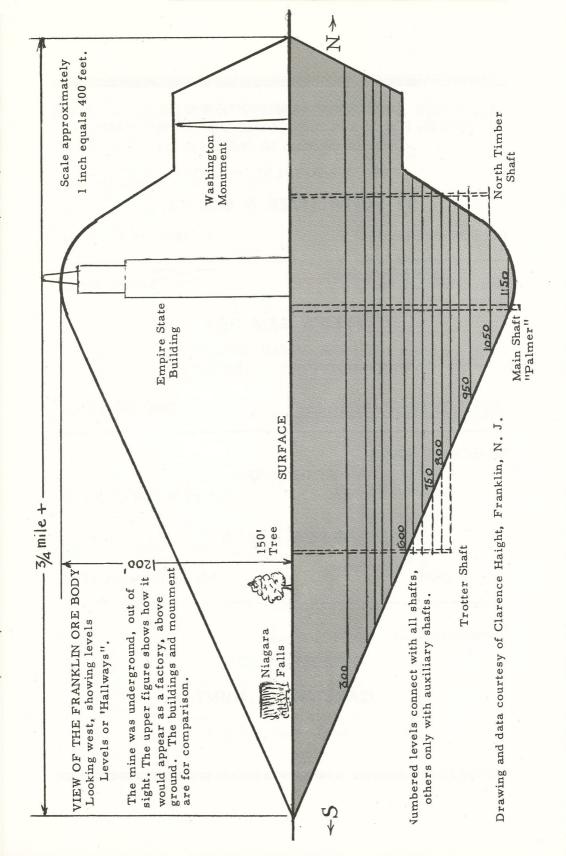
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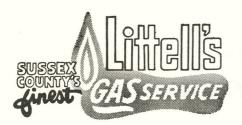
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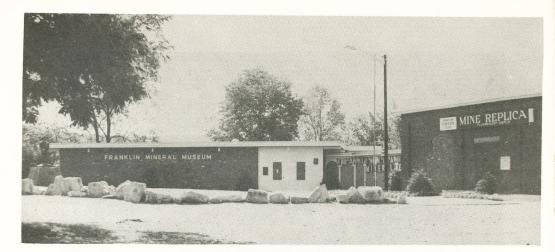
PHOTO BY MICHAEL FOXSON

The 35 Foot Long Fluorescent Display Room

The Fluorescent Room is one of the spectacular sights of the Museum. Here the various ores and minerals of Franklin are seen under regular light and long and short Ultra-Violet ray, producing brilliant colors.



Prospecting for Specimens at the Buckwheat Dump



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