

Video Transcript for the Miners' Memorial Museum Overview:

[Museum volunteer Liberta Hattel speaking to Mr. McCray's fourth grade class from Carbon Valley Academy]

"Back in 2000, Frederick started the Frederick Arts Commission. And since this was such a big mining community, we thought that we would honor the miners in the town here. So we did this memorial wall.

"We have 450 names on there now. This was quite an honor, and families were so happy to see this happen."

[Inside the museum]

"If we turn around there, you see a miner dressed up, and that's what they used to wear. They had the hat on top and there's that little lantern light – they would put carbon in that, and it's like a powder. And then they would light that, and that would give them light, because they were down many, many feet into the ground.

"And then they also had the lantern that he has on his waist, there, and that was a kerosene lantern.

"See this, this kind of explains what they do underground. They come down – do you see they're coming down, it's like an elevator – and see they also bring the coal down. Years ago they didn't have the tracks that did them electronically, but they used to have mules. And the mules would carry the coal carts to wherever they had to go."

[Mike Hattel speaking]

"The pictures on the walls, if you look at all of them, they're all miners. And the sad part about it is nobody has names for these miners.

"In this cabinet over here, you have some stuff in here that...they go down in the mines and they wear these wool socks – see how thick they are – and these shoes. It's fifty-six degrees down in that mine. That's why they have to wear all that heavy clothing.

[Student pointing to wall, "That was some of the tools they used."]

"You're correct – that is some of the tools they used. What they did is they'd go down, say 1,000 feet, and there's a big wall like this building, and they look at this big wall. So what they do is start to drill – with that little one – a hole. And then they'd get that dug and go with a bigger auger and drill. They'd put that on their chest and turn it. Do you think anybody could do that now-days? *[a few students say "I could."]*

"So after they get the hole dug, then they scrape it out with that, they put a stick of dynamite in the hole and push it in with this rod and then light the fuse and run, run, run. *[a student says "Run away quick!"]* Then when it explodes it breaks it all into little chunks. I'll show you those chunks of coal when you get over on this side."

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[Liberta Hattel speaking outside]

“This cart here is the official coal miners’ cart. And see how fine this coal is? When they ‘d blast for the bigger pieces you would always have this fine, fine coal left. They not only had the big coal, but they also had this – what they called the slack.”

[Liberta Hattle speaking]

“Most of the...there were a lot of immigrants that came here and settled. Most of them were from Italy, Mexico, French, German...and so there was a big ethnic group that came from Europe. And this is where they settled, because they had the mines here, and they were able to work for the mines.”

[Mike Hattle speaking]

“We think it’s a great thing for the town of Frederick – it’s fantastic!”

[Liberta Hattle speaking]

“Yes, I think it shows the kids the history of our town. And since it was a big mining community, they can see some of their ideas and that.”

[Mike Hattle speaking]

“Especially where their grandpa’s and great-grandpa’s worked.”

The Miners’ Memorial Museum is located at 143 5th Street in Frederick, CO. To learn more visit:

www.frederickco.gov



www.discoverweld.com

