

Archeologists dig up unique desert pueblo

United Press International

EL PASO — Archeologists are trying to learn about Indians who occupied two pithouses recently discovered on the Meyer Small Arms Range in the New Mexico desert about 30 miles north of the city limits.

Both pithouses, found in an area known as Range 21, date to the period between 1200 and 1400 A.D. and are unique because of how well they are preserved, said Vernon Scarborough, the Fort Bliss archaeologist who is project director.

The discovery is also unusual because the pithouse is the style of dwelling dating to an earlier period than anticipated, Scarborough said.

The elements have long eroded evidence of the pithouse coverings, but a posthole for anchoring one of the supports was discovered at the rim of the smaller pithouse. The largest would probably serve as home to a nuclear family of four

people, Scarborough speculated. Archeologists believe they may have discovered another pithouse less than a kilometer away on another part of the range.

Because of the presence of large shards of broken pottery, the evidence of agriculture — preserved corn cobs and corn kernels, as well as beans — chipped stone tools and grinding stones, the site appears to have been "permanently" occupied, Scarborough said. That is distinct from other sites that seem to have been temporary camps made by hunting parties, he said. Rabbit bones are also present in large numbers.

Scarborough said interpreting the evidence from the site is a challenge because of the richness of the find and because of the presence of two other archaeological structures in the area. One is a "walk-in well," about 25 meters long, 11 meters wide and two meters deep.

The structure is entirely man-made and is the only one discovered in the area. It represents a logical solution to the water problem in such a dry part to have done much work on, Scarborough said. The site is almost 50 miles from the Rio Grande.

The water supply problem is especially interesting to Scarborough, who has worked on Mayan archaeology sites in Central America, famous hydrology systems.

About 400 meters from the well is one of the largest pueblos yet to be discovered in the area — the "Hot Wells" site, which is on the National Register of Historic Landmarks. The pueblo, with about 100 rooms, may have contained a community of 200 to 300 people, and is roughly contemporary with the Meyer Range site, Scarborough said.

The well probably served the local population as a source of drinking water and for water for irrigation.

On the Fringe

by Fred Leong



Police arrest marchers at anti-Marcos protests

United Press International

MANILA — About half a million angry Filipinos, some shouting "Marcos is a killer" and others burning tires and throwing stones, marched through Manila Tuesday to mark the first anniversary of opposition leader Benigno Aquino's assassination.

Police said they arrested 27 youths who burned tires near President Ferdinand Marcos' presidential palace and stoned fire trucks called to douse the fires. About 1,000 police and soldiers stationed near the palace beat their riot shields with clubs to scare off 300 youths taunting them.

No injuries were reported in the demonstrations, the largest in Manila since Aquino's funeral drew an

estimated 2 million mourners last year.

Businesses closed and students boycotted classes to attend Tuesday's march through Manila commemorating Aquino. The demonstrators began at different locations throughout the city and converged at Rizal park along Manila Bay.

Many wore yellow T-shirts — the traditional color of mourning — or carried yellow banners and balloons and shouted "Marcos, Marcos is a killer."

Firecrackers exploded on the street, church bells rang and office workers showered marchers with confetti from office buildings.

Manila police chief Narciso Cabrera estimated close to 500,000 took part in the march and other ral-

lies in Manila, with other demonstrations in 17 provincial cities. Some 10,000 people rallied in the central city of Cebu and 4,000 in the resort town of Baguio, where Marcos has a mountain retreat.

Marcos, in power since 1965, was a bitter foe of Aquino, the opposition senator gunned down at Manila airport Aug. 21, 1983 while under military escort as he returned home from three years of self-imposed exile in the United States.

The government blamed a communist hitman, who was himself killed in a hail of military gunfire moments after the Aquino shooting.

A civilian panel investigating the Aquino killing is expected to release its findings soon.

Miss Piggy breaks the news: Muppets wed at long last

United Press International

BEVERLY HILLS — Miss Piggy and Kermit the Frog, co-founders of the Muppet Repertory Theatre, exchanged marriage vows on the stage of their hit Broadway musical, "Manhattan Melodies."

The ceremony was also filmed for a segment of their new feature film, "The Muppets Take Manhattan."

Sources close to the pig and frog said the wedding took place after years of pressure by the bride, who reportedly used trickery to snare her frog.

The wedding, which was attended by all their Muppet colleagues except Statler and Waldorf (they said they wouldn't condone bestiality by attending) took the bridegroom by surprise.

The ceremony, staged as the finale of their Broadway musical "Manhattan Melodies," was supposed to be part of the fictional story about the Muppets taking their college musical to the New York stage.

Fozzie Bear was cast in the role of the minister who officiates at the

wedding. But when the couple reached the altar, Kermit discovered a real clergyman, not a felt hand-puppet, had replaced Fozzie.

The result, Miss Piggy told UPI during lunch at the famed Polo Lounge, is that she is now Mrs. Kermit Frog.

"You are not," said Kermit, who also attended the lunch as part of their national promotional tour for the film.

"That's just Kermit's public stance — when he's talking to the seventh estate. In private he's completely different," Miss Piggy-Mrs. Frog assured the reporter.

"The seventh estate?" Kermit asked.

"Yes, dear, that's a journalistic expression. When you have as many press agents as I do, you get to know the lingo, I mean, le langue. As for that lovely wedding, there was no trickery involved. None whatsoever. Except for the minister."

Miss Piggy said the newlyweds were looking for a home but that it was hard to find an apartment build-

ing that rented to pigs and frogs because of discriminatory zoning laws.

"And dogs, and chickens and bears," Kermit added, hinting that the entire Muppet menagerie would be joining the new household.

Frank Oz, who directed the new Muppet movie and serves as Miss Piggy's spokesman, stopped the actress from answering questions about rumors that widespread drug use among the Muppets had inflated the picture's budget to \$13 million from its original price tag of \$1.98.

"I don't know how much it cost. I'm a movie star. It was somewhere between those two figures," Miss Piggy said.

Jim Henson, executive producer of the film and Kermit's spokesman, threatened to end the interview when the frog was asked about reports that he was a "real animal" in bed.

Media speculation has suggested that the Gremlins, fast-rising stars of the hit summer movie, might replace the Muppets as America's favorite felt figurines.

Live entertainment still alive

United Press International

WASHINGTON — Live entertainment is not only alive, it is playing to record houses in some areas of the country despite the tight dollar and the popularity of the home entertainment business.

From Broadway in New York City to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the National Theater and Arena Stage in Washington, audiences have been the best ever, and current productions are selling out with regularity.

Rising production costs and the consequential increase in ticket prices also failed to keep audiences at home.

"I think that cigarettes and booze and tickets do great during a recession," said Richard Bryant, director of public relations for Arena Stage.

"People tell themselves, 'I can have a good night out. I might not go to the Bahamas, but I sure can hit the town.' It's an inexpensive way to have a good time, but still quite satisfying and exciting."

Bryant said Arena raised ticket prices about 10 percent, but recorded its best season in 33 years with more than 307,000 admissions, about 7,000 over last year.

Tickets at Arena sell for between \$10.75 to \$18.75 to defray a \$6 million annual operating budget.

Bryant said there is "an extraordinary growth in interest in the performing arts in America."

Wayne Knickel, spokesman for the National Theater in Washing-

ton, said the theater has been sold out since it reopened in January after an 18-month renovation. The National, with tickets ranging from \$22.50 to \$40, opened with blockbusters, "42nd Street" and "Cats."

The past season on Broadway brought in \$227 million with 7.9 million admissions, compared with a decade earlier when 5.7 million tickets yielded \$46 million.

In Boston, three productions are selling out — "42nd Street," "Brighton Beach Memoirs" and "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

Darth said production costs are escalating at a higher rate than ticket prices, which range between \$2 and \$35, so the Philharmonic relies heavily on subsidies.

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