

# Micromounters Hall of Fame

## Phillip C. Foster "Old Timer" - Inducted in 2018

A newspaper man by profession, Philip C. Foster was one of the first mineral enthusiasts in New England to collect and study micromounts. His collection, most of which is still in existence, numbered some 3,600 mounts when described in 1961, and was classed as "one of the most detailed in New England."



A member of the Maine Mineralogical and Geological Society and the Boston Mineral Club, Foster was instrumental in discovering minerals previously unreported in the region. He discovered parsonsite from the Ruggles quarry, and worked to have linarite recognized from the Cape Rozier copper mine, later co-authoring a paper on the mineral in *Rocks & Minerals Magazine*. He was instrumental in founding the Southeast New Hampshire Mineral Club in Dover, NH, in 1956, and remained a member, holding several positions, until his death in 1974.

Among the first to become interested in the micro phosphates of the Palermo quarry in North Groton, NH, he also worked on the phosphates of Newry, Maine, contributing information for a descriptive paper. A frequent contributor to bulletins, and speaker at club meetings, he became a specialist in pegmatite phosphates, concentrating on those found within a one-hundred mile radius of Dover.

His collection became a donation to the Geology Department of the University of New Hampshire, with the stipulation that it should be open to examination by mineral collectors. Throughout his life, his actions in collecting and preserving micro minerals, and in helping others to understand and appreciate the science behind them (attested to by his peers) have qualified him fully for admission to the Micromounters' Hall of Fame.