Acadian Village

A place to visit

By MAHIA FOSHI
Staff Reporter

Would you like sometimes to trade the noise and rush of the city for the peace and quiet of a time past? If so, you can step back in time in Lafayette at Acadian Village. There you'll find peaceful gardens, woodlands and a village complete with a general store.

Your day at Acadian Village can begin with a field trip that gives you a feeling for the history of the place.

"We begin our tour with the history of how Acadiana came to this particular area, how they were settled and how they rebuilt their culture in the southern part of Louisiana," according to Miss Grace Romero, manager of the Village general store.

These are historical period houses and a chapel that are part of a museum in a time gone by.

"The tour takes approximately 60 minutes to one hour and we have each person sit down, which means historic information on each place," Miss Romero states.

She says that guided tours are available for groups of 20 or more.

You can follow your tour of the historic Village with a stroll through the gardens. "People just take their own time," Miss Romero says.

She points out that the Village gardens are separated into small sections and that there is a picnic area.

"We have picnic tables and a covered pavilion where people can relax and enjoy nature," Miss Romero explains.

Before leaving, you can stop at the Village general store and get a souvenir.

Products on sale are manufactured by the handicapped persons who help support themselves through the New Horizons Workshop operated in connection with the Village.

We sell native crafts, especially candle-making material since the time of Acadiana. Miss Romero points out.

The Village is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week with the exception of major holidays.

Admission to the Village is $3 per adult and $1.50 for students 6 to 16 years old.

"We have a discount rate for groups of 20 or more," Miss Romero says. "The group charge is $2.50 per adult and $1.25 per student.

"The city has become very crowded and rushed, and everybody seems to be in a big hurry, but those looking for a peaceful and quiet place can find it at Acadian Village," Miss Romero says.

She adds that the Village is serene and the store can transport nearly anyone back in time - to a time and place that can serve as a pleasant retreat from the tensions that build in the hustle and bustle of the present.

Due to Saturday's Fire Hall the Towall Sessions will run Saturday, May 5, 1962 from 7 to 9 at 11 a.m. The parking arrangements for the Campus will be enforced all day on May 5 the same as weekdays.