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The appended list of those present was obtained from the label of a bottle in which Dr. E. P. Wigner had brought Chianti wine to toast the experiment's success. Most of those present had signed the wine bottle's label and given it to Dr. A. Wattenberg as a memento. This was the only written record of who had taken part in the experiment. Each of the scientists listed on the bottle was asked if he recalled any others who might have been present, and the resulting list of 43 names was accepted as complete.

The two drawings of the first pile were prepared by Melvin A. Miller of the Argonne National Laboratory staff in the fall of 1946. They are based on descriptions given Miller by the scientists who built the first "pile."

In the years since 1946 more literature on nuclear energy history has become available, including the memoirs and autobiographies of many scientists involved in the Manhattan Project, the official but unpublished multi-volume history of the Project (declassified in 1976), and scholarly monographs. To reflect this new information and perspective forty years after the event, we have added an epilogue and updated the bibliography of recommended readings.

We are grateful to Professor Robert C. Williams of Washington University in St. Louis, and to History Associates Incorporated, for assistance in the revising and updating of this brief but important history.

Jack M. Holl  
Chief Historian

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