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A CONSTRUCTION HISTORY
OF THE
PERRY'S VICTORY AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE MEMORIAL

Volume I:

Pages 1-120

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A CONSTRUCTION HISTORY
OF THE
PERRY'S VICTORY AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE MEMORIAL

Volume I:
Pages 1-120

Prepared by:

Alfred Mongin
Park Historian
Federal Hall NM
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National Park Service
United States Department of the Interior



" . . . a great Doric column,
 . . . placed on a broad plaza
elevated only slightly above the ground
so the entire memorial would appear to rise from the sea
and be further enhanced by its reflections in the rippling waters"

Joseph Henry Freedlander

frontispiece

"Illumination of Perry Memorial"
photograph by Otto G. Herbster, Put-in-Bay, Ohio
11:30 p.m. December 24, 1937







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PREFACE

In a memorandum dated September 10, 1958, in which he presented to the Chief of Interpretation observations of a visit to Perry's Victory, WASO Staff Historian Rogers W. Young suggested that the Service undertake well in advance of the MISSION 66 development program at Put-in-Bay basic research studies relating to the Battle of Lake Erie, the concept of international peace by arbitration and the story of the development of the Memorial. As a consequence of this recommendation the writer was assigned in May of 1960 to begin preparation on September 1, 1960, of this Report, A Construction History of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial.

Before the study had fairly gotten under way, a son and daughter of the late Michigan Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioner Arthur L. Loomis, an important member of the group that created the memorial, visited the writer at Harpers Ferry National Monument and made available for copying all of Commissioner Loomis' relevant correspondence, in addition to donating two related publications for the PVIPTMM collection.*

During the course of preparation of this Report, the writer spent two and one-half weeks at the Ohio State Museum, Columbus, Ohio, examining the papers of the Perry's Victory Memorial Commissioners 1909-1937, which are well-maintained in 65 Woodruff file boxes in the Manuscript Division. From this collection, which is described in Appendix VI, below,

*Wherever used throughout this Report, PVIPTMM refers to Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial National Monument.



the writer selected those documents relevant to this study. These were microfilmed through the good offices of Kenneth W. Duckett, Curator of Manuscripts, The Ohio Historical Society, and now are microfilm reels 1 through 4, PVIPTMM. References to this material as utilized in the Report are by reel and box number: for example, Reel 1, Box 7, identifies the document as appearing on microfilm reel number 1 at PVIPTMM and the original document in box 7 in the collection in Columbus.

The writer spent a total of eighty-nine days in residence at Put-in-Bay (five weeks of this time as interim Acting Superintendent, PVIPTMM), which proved fruitful to this research project. Mrs. Ernie Miller, for many years the complete office staff at the monument, made available her knowledge of the monument and the men who created it and her accurate memory of men and events of times past. Particularly illuminating were her memories of Webster P. Huntington, which gave depth and timeliness to the mass of evidence by and about him. Anthony J. Kindt, also a veteran employee of the national monument, made available his extensive personal collection of Put-in-Bay memorabilia, publications, and photographs and donated to the national monument the 754 documents comprising the Johannsen Papers, which had been left with him by Sinke M. Johannsen for use when a comprehensive account of the monument's creation should be written. Otto G. Herbster, the photographer of Put-in-Bay and construction photographer at the monument 1912-1915, in addition to selling the national monument 133 photographs detailing the construction sequence, spent countless hours answering endless questions about the monument's



construction and later donated several hundred additional photographs to the monument collection, and personally introduced the writer to everyone at Put-in-Bay and in Port Clinton, Ohio, who might be of further aid. William Marks, who installed the electric light and power equipment for the monument, and was its first maintenance man, and now lives in retirement summers at Put-in-Bay and winters at Marion, Ohio, was one of those interviewed through Mr. Herbster's introduction. During this same visit to the island, Mr. Lynn Schnoor donated to the national monument an extensive collection of documents, photographs and other memorabilia collected through several decades by his father, the late William Schnoor, who had been second Custodian of the Monument, from 1925 through 1946, and first Custodian under the National Park Service. Edwin L. Feick, Sandusky, Ohio, donated papers relevant to contract work done at the reservation by his grandfather, who performed the first actual work toward construction by clearing the site during the summer of 1912. Allen H. Neff, Cleveland, Ohio, a summer resident of Put-in-Bay, made available a title abstract which provided information about the island's 18th and early 19th century documentary land records that time and budget limitations would otherwise have made impossible to acquire; this material forms the backbone of Chapter IV of the text and of Appendix III. Mrs. David W. Knepper, Director, San Jacinto Museum of History Association, San Jacinto Monument, Texas, provided a copy of the construction history of the San Jacinto Memorial.

A considerable number of librarians in public, university and legislative libraries in Washington, D.C., and in the states of Michigan, New



York, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky, ~~Ohio~~, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Wisconsin, responded in detail to inquiries concerning the participation of each state's legislature, governors and commissioners in the creation of the memorial at Put-in-Bay; many of these contributions^{or} are cited by name and affiliation in the documentation of the text or in Appendix I.

The cooperation, hospitality and generosity of the people of Put-in-Bay, which made the writer's visits there not only productive but pleasant to anticipate, was due in great part to the ground work laid by former Perry's Victory Superintendent Aubrey F. Houston and the late Mrs. Houston, and was insured by the impression made by their successors, Superintendent and Mrs. Robert L. Burns.

For supplying the substance necessary to the execution of the project, and for full discretion as to means and criteria to be employed, the writer is indebted to Regional Chief of Interpretation Murray H. Nelligan and to Regional Historian Frank Barnes, Region Five, US NPS. Regional Architect Lawrence B. Coryell introduced the writer to the problems presented by the monument, outlined the information desired from the architect's point of view, and has responded copiously to all subsequent queries. Though not involved in this project, Architect Archie W. Franzen, ECDC, enlightened the writer on the subject of the conduct of architectural competitions. Dr. Thomas M. Pitkin, Supervisory Park Historian, Statue of Liberty, provided the time and facilities in Federal Hall National Memorial for the actual completion of the writing



of the Report and provided the environment and acholarly advice which saw it to its completion.

The various collections of documents gathered during this work, totalling approximately 5,000 items, were put into workable order by Miss Mary Williamson, Harpers Ferry National Monument, who prepared the reproductions of the maps and documents in Appendix III ("Land Records"), prepared the identification envelopes for all 759 photographs acquired during this study, and typed the Report and all of its appendices with her usual skill and efficiency; we are indebted to the administration at Harpers Ferry for making the services of Miss Williamson available. The photographs in the Report were prepared by Ray Wachter, Frederick, Maryland.

Due to its being typed at some distance from the place of writing, it was not always possible to maintain consistent form, and it was manifestly impossible to change or alter after typing errors in form or fact excepting those of spelling or punctuation.

The writer is indebted to those many individuals who have contributed to the study and consequently to this Report. Nevertheless, in all matters of interpretation and in the conclusions and matters of fact presented, the judgement and responsibility are his alone.

Alfred Mongin

Federal Hall National Memorial
New York City
June 28, 1961



A CONSTRUCTION HISTORY
OF THE
PERRY'S VICTORY AND
INTERNATIONAL PEACE
MEMORIAL

by
Alfred Mongin



CHAPTER I

TOWARD A PERRY MEMORIAL

AT PUT-IN-BAY



The naval victory of the United States squadron commanded by Oliver Hazard Perry on Lake Erie in 1813 emerged as one of a series of achievements to be heralded in succeeding decades as evidence of a historic mission for the new republic. Consolidation of the progressive frontiers in the new west raised sparks in those places where a monument in stone or metal might flag a step upon this clear road to a "manifest destiny." One such place was Lake Erie, its main shore and islands. Many river-mouth settlements on the 1813 Lake Erie shore line would raise monuments and statues to Perry's Victory as they themselves grew into towns and cities. Ultimately they would join hands through their state governments and the federal government and erect on South Bass Island a Doric column of distinguished architectural simplicity to memorialize the victory and to epitomize the concept of continuing peace through strength on this diplomatically unfortified international border.

During the decades preceding the American Civil War there appeared a variety of designs and proposals both for the form and location of such a memorial. Proposals concerning location reduced at an early date to Middle Bass, South Bass and Gibraltar islands. The possibility of Middle Bass Island as the site was not without merit: it had as much to offer scenically and geographically as the other islands, and various landholders offered generous tracts, particularly after 1900, whenever the location of a Perry Monument there appeared feasible. Gibraltar Island presented a unique geographic situation, had figured importantly in pre-battle activities of the Perry fleet, and offered the advantage



of ownership for many years by a man of local birth and national reputation, Jay Cooke, who was wholeheartedly devoted to assisting in the creation of a suitable monument. The relevance and availability of a South Bass Island location was similar to that of Middle Bass, excepting for one chance factor that tipped the scales of probability in favor of South Bass.

At close of the combat in the battle of Lake Erie on September 10, 1813, the slain enlisted personnel of both fleets were committed to the waters of Lake Erie. On September 11 the crews of both fleets joined in a common ceremony in which the remains of six officers, three American and three British, who had died in the combat, were interred a few yards from the lake side on South Bass Island, now the scene of Perry Park in the town of Put-in-Bay. Put-in-Bay's journalistic raconteur, Miss Theresa Thorndale, relates that a few days succeeding the surrender of Barclay's (British) fleet,

a vessel hailing from the settlement [now the town of Vermillion, Ohio] arrived laden with supplies for the American squadron. While anchored off-shore, the master of this vessel visited [South Bass] island, where were interred the slain officers of both fleets. In his hand he carried a walking stick cut from a green willow. The earth which rounded the lonely graves was still fresh, and into the surface he imbedded the shoot. It became rooted and grew into the goodly tree which now marks the place. 1

Miss Thorndale gave full credence to this story as the origin of the willow tree which flourished at the gravesite; "many of the old

1. Theresa Thorndale, Sketches and Stories of the Lake Erie Islands (Sandusky, Ohio, 1898), pp.24-25; referred to hereinafter as Thorndale.



residents," she noted in 1898, "having seen and conversed with the man who planted the willow shoot, and who in subsequent years visited the island."² The tree thrived, becoming a landmark and a shrine in its own right, known as the "lone willow."³

Wherever the most significant Perry monument was to be would have to be contiguous to Put-in-Bay, for it was from here that the American squadron sailed to the battle contact point, and here that the remains of some of its honored dead lay in ground consecrated by Perry and the officers and men of both forces on the day following the Battle of Lake Erie.

The first organized movement toward such a monument precipitated in 1852. June 28, 1852, the Sandusky Register, of which Jay Cooke's brother Henry was part owner, urged that the Fourth of July celebration that year at Put-in-Bay be used to organize a "Monumental Association" for this purpose, predicting in the following day's edition that such an appeal would "be eagerly responded to."⁴ The Register would report at an early date that en route from Sandusky to Put-in-Bay for the celebration, a meeting of which Henry D. Cooke was secretary was held aboard the Arrow to consider the matter, that resolutions were adopted to form

2. Ibid., p.25.

3. Ibid., p.27.

4. James E. Pollard, The Journal of Jay Cooke or The Gibraltar Records 1865-1905 (Columbus, Ohio, 1935), p.11; hereinafter referred to as Pollard. Both Henry Cooke and his elder brother Jay were born in Sandusky, Ohio.



an organization to that end, and a committee was named to draft a constitution.⁵ On motion of Pitt Cooke, another brother, a committee of five was named "to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting, in reference to the erection of a monument on Gibraltar Rock, Put-in-Bay, commemorative of Perry's brilliant victory on Lake Erie, and in honor of the dead who fell in that memorable engagement."⁶ Colonel A. P. Edwards, a major landholder in the islands, offered to cede land on Gibraltar⁷ and to donate stone, lime and hydraulic cement for its construction. \$1500 was subscribed at the celebration and the project appeared to arouse enthusiasm.⁸ General Lewis Cass, who had been a soldier nearby during September 1813 under General Harrison, was chosen president of the monument association. Vice presidents included Col. J. J. Abert, U. S. Topographical Engineers, Washington, D. C.; Elisha Whittlesey, Commodore R. F. Stockton, General Cadwallader, Reuben Wood, Major John G. Camp, Capt. Stephen Champlin, J. A. Harris and Judge Burnett. In addition to an extensive roster of officers, there was a board of managers which included Eleutheros Cooke (father of Jay and Henry D.) and Dr. R. R. McMeens,⁹ a Sandusky physician. Following this initial burst of enthusiasm

5. Pollard, p.11, citing Sandusky Register, July 6, 1852.

6. Pollard, p.11, quoting Proceedings of the Lake Erie Monument Association, 1858, p.4; cited hereafter as Proceedings.

7. Pollard, p.9, citing Register, July 6, 1852.

8. Pollard, p.10, citing Register, July 6, 1852.

9. Pollard, p.12, citing Proceedings, pp.5-6.



the movement languished.

The Register, discussing a proposed "union excursion to Put-in-Bay Island" in July of 1858, editorially inquired, "Why could not Cleveland, Sandusky, Toledo, and Detroit meet every 10th of September at Put-in-Bay?"¹⁰ The Toledo Blade and papers in Buffalo and Erie took up the suggestion and an extensive celebration was arranged for that same September, resulting in the revival of the monument project in August 1858.¹¹ The Register announced that the "future site for the monument was on 'Gibraltar Rock,' an isolated and commanding islet, where Perry's lookout was stationed, and directly in view of the battle scene. Suitable materials for building can be procured upon the ground, thus rendering its accomplishment feasible with but trifling expense."¹² Ohio Governor Salmon P. Chase presided over the commemorative program on September 10. Lewis Cass again was elected president of the organization, and as vice presidents the following were chosen: (from Connecticut:) Isaac Toucey; (from Illinois:) J. Y. Scamner and John Wentworth; (from Michigan:) John Owen and Ross Wilkins; (from Missouri:) Col. John O'Fallan; (from New York:) Auguste Belmont, Capt. Stephen Champlin, Millard Fillmore; (from Ohio:) Governor Salmon P. Chase, S. L. Collins, Eleutheros Cooke, S. Starkweather; (from Pennsylvania:) William G. Moorhead and Governor W. F. Packer; (from Rhode Island:) Sidney Brooks, Elisha Dyer, Dr. Usher Parsons and William

10. Pollard, p.12, quoting Sandusky Register, July 17, 1858.

11. Pollard, p.12, citing Register, July 26, 30, 1859.

12. Pollard, pp.12-13, citing Proceedings, p.8, quoting Sandusky Register, Aug. 21, 1858.



Wetmore; Lt. Gen. Winfield Scott, U. S. Army; Lt. Thomas Brownell, U.S.N.,
Capt. P. McKinstry, U.S.N.; Commander Joseph Lanman, U.S.N. William S.
Pierson, Sandusky, was to be treasurer and Dr. R. R. McMeens, corresponding
secretary. ¹³

The principal address of the occasion was delivered by
Eleutheros Cooke. "This was the first American Squadron," he said, "that
ever made battle with an enemy, and this was the first English fleet
since England had a navy, that had ever been captured. The victory wiped
from our escutcheon the disgrace of Hull's surrender, avenged the insulted
honor of our flag, and dissolved forever the spell of boasted British
maritime invincibility. The pupil of Nelson [Barclay] had struck to
the youthful Perry . . . And it is no exaggeration to assert that from
the moment of his victory, the ambitious schemes of the enemy upon our
western borders were forever blasted, and that the last vestige of
British domination in the Northwest practically expired with the expiring
note of the last cannon, whose thunders closed the battle of Lake Erie!"
He urged his hearers to take measures for "the erection of a monument on
yonder 'Gilbraltar Rock,' to the memory of Perry and his noble companions,
—there to stand forever, a perpetual memorial of our conviction of the
unmeasured benefits conferred upon the Western States by their patriotic
and heroic valor."¹⁴

Joseph de Rivera St. Jurgo, then owner of Gilbraltar, wrote from
New York City confirming the promise made by former owner Edwards to

13. Pollard, p.13, citing Proceedings, pp.9-10.

14. Pollard, pp.13-14, quoting Proceedings, pp.9-10, 19.



donate part of Gibraltar for that proposed monument. "If said Monument be to the memory of Commodore Perry, as I suppose it is," he wrote, "I will be happy to contribute to it, not only by the free grant of the land requested, but by procuring subscriptions in New York and one or two other places, which I think I can do; I accordingly hereby confer upon [F. T. Barney, of Sandusky_] and my friend Simon Fox [of Put-in-Bay_], power to grant a sufficient part of the said Island of Gibraltar, in perpetuity, for the erection of said monument, with such reservations as you may deem necessary to prevent any sort of injury to my property in the group of Islands. It would please me if I and my successors after me, were appointed keepers of the ground ceded, and of the monument."

Put-in-Bay was crowded "with a fleet of magnificent steamers, sail vessels, and yachts, all decorated with gay colored banners, streamers, and pendants, while a battery of fourteen brazen-mouthed cannon waked

15. This name appears in many forms. It is best explained in the subject's own statement: ". . . Jose De Rivera being duly sworn on oath deposes and says: 'The name of de Rivera St. Jurgo, found in some of the copies of deeds hereto attached, is my full name the part St. Jurgo being my mother's family name and which, according to the custom of my native country I sometimes attach to and sometimes omit from that part of my name by which I am more commonly known. My first name is frequently written 'Joseph' which is the English equivalent for Jose'" Sworn statement by Rivera, Aug. 25, 1887, Filed in Circuit Court of the U.S. (N. Dist. Ohio, Western Div.), quoted in Abstract of title of Lot Number Forty (40) of Shiele and Holloways Sub-division of Peach Point, South Bass Island, Put-in-Bay Township, Ottawa County, Ohio /_typescript_/, (in possession of Allen H. Neff, Cleveland, Ohio), unnumbered insert page, q.v. at Appendix III, pp.56-57 below; in the case of Minford and Nevers, T/A Skiddy, Minford & Co., Pl. vs Jose de Rivera, Def., Aug. 25, 1887, quoted in op.cit., pp.11-19, q.v. at Appendix III, pp.35-40 below.

16. Pollard, p.14, quoting from Proceedings, p.16.



the echo's of old Erie with a welcome that made the bold rocks of Gibraltar tremble with their reverberations" and it was estimated that "not less than eight thousand people" were present. ¹⁷ Among survivors of the Battle of Lake Erie who were introduced to the festive audience were Capt. Champlin, the last surviving commander of Perry's little fleet, who had led the Scorpion; Lt. Thos. Brownell, Newport, R.I., who had been second in command of the Ariel; Wm. Blair, Lexington, O., who served on the Niagara; and Dr. Usher Parsons, Providence, R.I., who had been fleet surgeon. ¹⁸ Joshua R. Giddings, called from the audience, recalled how "forty-six years before he was a soldier and with others awaited 'in ¹⁹ breathless silence' the result of the battle."

Ten members of the board of managers of the Perry Monument Association convened in November, to elect F. T. Barney chairman and Dr. McMeens ²⁰ secretary. A general meeting was called for December 1, 1858, at which appeared twelve members of the board, to which group three members then were added: Capt. Stephen Champlin, of Buffalo; Morrison R. Waite, of Toledo [later Chief Justice, U.S. Supreme Court]; and Capt. W. W. Dobbin, of Erie, so as to have a "member at each of the principle [sic] ²¹ cities on the Lake"

17. Pollard, p.14.

18. Pollard, p.15.

19. Pollard, p.15, quoting Sandusky Register, Sept. 11, 1858.

20. Pollard, p.15, citing Sandusky Register, Jan. 19, 1859.

21. Ibid.



In the spring of 1859 the executive committee of the Association invited one T. D. Jones of Cincinnati "to draft a model" for the proposed monument,²² reporting two months later that Jones' "appropriate and significant" design, which would "speak in granite language of the heroic deeds of our noble Perry,"²³ had been agreed upon. The Register described the design in detail:

". . . a naval column, as much so as the lines of naval architecture will permit, one hundred and sixty feet high, and to be erected on the highest point of the Island of Gibraltar, where Perry had his lookout. The exact height of Gibraltar above water is 40 feet--making the whole height of the column above the level of the Lake 200 feet where one of the greatest marine views in the world may be seen. The greatest breadth of the base--including three courses--is 27 feet by 4 feet 6 inches higher; breadth of dado, or die of pedestal, is 20 feet by 18 feet high; breadth of cornice over pedestal, 24 feet by 5 feet, 6 inches high; diameter of shaft of column at base, 12 feet, 6 inches; length of shaft of column, 90 feet; height of capital, 12 feet, 6 inches; height of pedestal for statue, 12 feet; height of statue of Perry--crowning the whole--18 feet. The three base corners of stone are as plain as could be desired. The die of the pedestal--as though a section of a man-of-war had been taken from a mid-ship's--pierced with ports to receive the guns used in the Battle of Lake Erie, provided they can be procured. In the cornice of the pedestal all ornament is dispensed with. The shaft of the column is without flutes or ornament--plain as the 'mast of some grand admiral.' The capital, like that of the parts forms a complete whole. The first, or lower section, is formed of boldly curved marine shells, instead of Acanthus leaves. The second, or middle section of the capital, is composed of four prows of ships, boldly projecting, surmounted with four figure heads--the 'rails' terminating on the bows,--'Haws holes' in the bows, &c. The upper, or third, section of the capital, forming the abacus, is composed of the bulwarks of the four prows and 'catheads' sustaining the weighed anchors. The pedestal

22. Pollard, p.16, quoting Sandusky Register, April 22, 1859.

23. Pollard, p.16, quoting Sandusky Register, June 25, 1859.



surmounting the capital to receive the statue is a boldly executed 'capstan'. The statue will be 18 feet high, suitable to the whole height--200 feet from the Lake. The panel over the door (entrance to the spiral stair-case to ascend the column) will be of white marble, 8 feet long by 5 feet high. Sculptured in bold relief (alto relieve) is a group of five figures in a boat, representing Perry passing from the Lawrence to the Niagara to complete the battle. Except the panel over the door, the whole of the monument is intended to be erected of the best of lime stone." 24

A throng "estimated" at 15,000 persons attended the laying of the cornerstone for this monument September 10, 1859. The Sandusky Register reported six excursion boats from Sandusky for the occasion, four from Cleveland, three from Toledo and one from Detroit, besides the U.S.S. Michigan, two U.S. revenue cutters and a number of tugs. Hundreds of persons were left at Sandusky for want of room on the boats, among them the officials of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Ohio who were to lay the stone. The latter, however, were rescued from their embarrassing plight in sufficient time by another boat. ²⁵ "Midst "the roar of cannon, the strains of music from a half score of brass bands, the shouts from thousands of persons whose enthusiasm knew no bounds, the waving of handkerchiefs by the ladies, the wilderness of streaming flags, the steamers and large sail craft lying at rest, the multitude of small sails with their white wings spread to the breeze, flitting hither and yon on the sparkling waters of the Bay, and the swaying mass of human life . . .", the corner stone of the monument on Gibraltar was laid, bearing the bylaws

24. Ibid.

25. Pollard, p.25.



of the monument association, copies of the Declaration of Independence, of the U.S. and state constitutions, constitution of the Battle of Lake Erie Monument Association, names of members of the cabinet and principal officers of the army and navy, senators and members of Congress, the governor and other officers of Ohio, officers of the monument association, a history of the battle of Lake Erie, a program of the day, U.S. coins and current papers, copies of the Bible, of the "Masonic constitution," constitution and bylaws of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, and bylaws of Science Lodge, No. 50, F. & A. M. (Sandusky).²⁶

Through the preceding decade the anniversary of the Battle of Lake Erie had evolved into a great holiday on the islands and lakeshore cities, serving to wind up the summer outing season in much the same periodic manner served in the more recent past by the commemoration of Labor Day. The festivities at Put-in-Bay in 1858 was a pioneering venture in commercial tourism in the Lake Erie communities,, but an example not without its innovators. The laying of the cornerstone on Gibraltar in September 1858 was the optimum achievement of the organization known variously as the Perry Monument Association or the Battle of Lake Erie Monument Association.²⁷ The following September the great throng was drawn to Cleveland for the dedication of a Perry monument there, at which George Bancroft

26. Pollard, pp.17-18, from Sandusky Register, September 10, 1859.

27. Pollard, pp.18-19.



and Dr. Usher Parson orated to crowds variously estimated at between

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50,000 and 100,000 persons. The succeeding September the nation once

again was at war. Jay Cooke, the young man from Sandusky, Ohio, who had done very well in the banking business in Philadelphia and Washing-

ton, purchased Gibraltar Island from Rivera for the sum of "Three Thou-

29

sand and One Dollars" (\$3001.00) on January 27, 1864. The island

property was conveyed to Jay Cooke as a unit, but specifically ". . .

subject to the rights if any of the Perry Monument Association Otherwise

known as the Battle of Lake Erie Monument Association started in San-

dusky in or about the year Eighteen Hundred and Fifty Nine (1859) . .

30

. . ." Soon after acquiring the island and beginning his semi-annual

half century of pilgrimages there, Jay Cooke erected upon the 1858

31

cornerstone the Gibraltar monument as it stands to this day. A bronze

tablet relates the story:

28. Ibid.

29. Warranty Deed from ". . . Joseph de Rivera St. Jurgo . . . [to] Jay Cooke of Philadelphia . . ." dated Jan. 27, 1864, recorded Feb. 27, 1864. Ottawa County, Ohio, Deed Records, Vol. I [eye], p.87; see also Appendix III, p.2, below.

30. Ibid. Photostatic True Copy of the Recording of the Conveyance supplied through the good offices of Ottawa County, Ohio, Recorder, Mrs. Jean L. Williams, for filing in the Office of Superintendent, PVIIPMM.

31. Despite his commendable accuracy and thoroughness in describing this entire episode, Pollard's account omits a date for the actual completion or dedication, if such there was, of the tablet contributed to the scene by Jay Cooke. See Pollard, pp.19-20.



ERECTED
BY
JAY COOKE
PATRIOTIC FINANCIER
OF THE
CIVIL WAR
TO MARK THE
CORNER STONE OF A
PROPOSED MONUMENT
COMMEMORATING
COMMODORE PERRY'S
VICTORY AT THE
BATTLE OF LAKE ERIE
SEPT 10 1813

"We have met the enemy
and they are ours" 32

32. Pollard, p.19.



Cooke lost the island in the wake of the 1873 insolvency of his banking

33

house. His repurchase of it for \$20,100.00 in 1880 continued on Record the rights of the old monument association, in the words in the Conveyance, ". . . The whole Island of Gibraltar . . . Subject to the

right if any of the Perry Monument Association otherwise known as the Battle of Lake Erie Monument Association started in Sandusky about the

34

year 1859" This Recording was a mere archaism. All serious efforts towards a significant Perry monument during the years and decades following the Civil War centered upon South Bass Island as the location.

A Perry Monumental Association, organized in the fall of 1867, proposed at a June 1868 meeting in Sandusky to build the monument on Put-

35

in-Bay [South Bass] Island instead of on Gibraltar. The Sandusky

Register editorialized that "everybody who has the least spark of patriotism in his composition cannot but feel like doing a little something for the purpose of erecting a shaft on the site of the graves of these patriots . . ." "We propose," the article added, "if funds enough can be raised, to build a hollow column, something like Bunker Hill Monument, with winding stairs, and to charge a small fee to go to

33. Pollard, pp.275-276.

34. Warranty Deed from W. Frederick Snyder and wife to Jay Cooke. Ottawa County, Ohio, Deed Records, Vol. 30, p.52; see also Appendix III, pp.2-3, below. Photostatic True Copy of the Recording of the Conveyance supplied through the good offices of Ottawa County, Ohio, Recorder, Mrs. Jean L. Williams, for filing in Office of Superintendent, PVIFMNM.

35. Pollard, p.20.



the top, from which one of the most lovely panoramic views ever witnessed can be had.³⁶ The sentiment thus precipitated for a high-rising monument settled upon the interest in South Bass Island as its location. Now the movement achieved firm low gear but moved steadily forward. At the Put-in-Bay commemoration in September 1868, the 55th anniversary of the victory, three survivors of the battle were present, and photographs of them were sold as a means of raising funds for the monument. On January 30, 1869, the town of Put-in-Bay was reported as having subscribed \$3300 for the fund with another \$1200 expected. The constitution of the organization then active in the campaign defined the purpose as being to erect the monument "near the 'Lone Willow Tree'" on Put-in-Bay island. Another celebration organized towards the creation of an appropriate monument drew a conservatively reported 4,000 on September 11, 1869, from Detroit, Monroe, Toledo, Huron, Vermillion, Cleveland and Sandusky.³⁷

From that time forward the project never quite failed nor was it able for many years to amass sufficient interest and continuing support to inspire the vast energies and influence which would be necessary to the achievement of a distinguished architectural edifice conveying in simple, clear terms the supremacy of the ideals of the republic, the nobility of its victory, the ultimate prevalence of a manifest destiny.

36. Pollard, p.20, quoting Sandusky Register, June 18, 1860.

37. Pollard, p.20, quoting from Sandusky Register, Sept. 15 (requoteing from Detroit Tribune), Dec. 15, 1868; Jan. 7, Feb. 15, Sept. 11, 1869.



The first of twelve fruitless Congressional Bills for the creation of the monument was introduced into the Congress by Ohio Representative Haynes, March 7, 1890,³⁸ and a companion Bill was introduced into the Senate six weeks later.³⁹ The Haynes Bill was supported by Petitions from the officials and citizens of Put-in-Bay,⁴⁰ Sandusky,⁴¹ Detroit,⁴² and Toledo.⁴³ Additional Bills of similar language and intent were added to the hopper in the House of Representatives and Senate January 5, 1892,⁴⁴ and of the House on July 19, 1897,⁴⁵ December 4, 1899,⁴⁶ December 6, 1901,⁴⁷ and November 11, 1903.⁴⁸

38. A BILL Providing for the erection of a monument at Put-in-Bay, Ohio, commemorative of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry and those who participated in the naval battle of Lake Erie U.S. Congress (House), 51st Congress, 1st Session, March 7, 1890, H.R. 7900 / Report No. 2142 /. See Edmund B. Rogers, Comp., /looseleaf/ "Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial National Monument, Ohio," /from/ History of Legislation Relating to the National Park System Through the 82nd Congress (NPS, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1958), in Files of FVIPMM, pp.4, 16, 21-22, 123, 125-126; in Appendix I, p.3, below.

digested

39. U.S. Congress (Senate), 51st Congress, 1st Session, April 18, 1890, S. 3580. See Rogers, op. cit., pp.4, 16, 23-24; digested in Appendix I, pp.3-4, below.

40. March 8, 1890. Rogers, op.cit., p.4; Appendix I, p.3, below.

41. March 13, 1890. Ibid.

42. March 20, 1890. Ibid.

43. April 18, 1890. Ibid.

44. U.S. Congress (House), 52nd Congress, 1st Session, Jan. 5, 1892, H.R. 323 / Report No. 1214 /. Rogers, op.cit., pp.5, 16, 25-26, 123, 127; digested in Appendix I, p.4, below. U.S. Congress (Senate), 52nd Congress, 1st Session, Feb. 5, 1892, S. 2050. Rogers, op.cit., pp.5, 27-28; digested in Appendix I, p.4, below.

45. U.S. Congress (House), 55th Congress, 1st Session, July 19, 1897, H.R. 3858; H.R. 3859. Rogers, op.cit., pp.5-6, 29-32; digested in Appendix I, pp.4-5, below.



This summary of these most notable efforts toward the creation of a monument to Oliver Hazard Perry and to the significance of his victory in the Battle of Lake Erie is to suggest that the foundation of the movement was deep of root, purposeful of direction and relentless in a sure and steady progress to the achievement of its goal.

46. U.S. Congress (House), 56th Congress, 1st Session, Dec. 4, 1899, H.R. 114; H.R. 124 / Report No. 84 /. Rogers, op.cit., pp.6, 17, 33-36, 123, 128; digested in Appendix I, pp.5-6, below.

47. U.S. Congress (House), 57th Congress, 1st Session, Dec. 6, 1901, H.R. 3065. Rogers, op.cit., pp.6, 17, 37-38; digested in Appendix I, p.6, below.

48. U.S. Congress (House), 58th Congress, 1st Session, Nov. 11, 1903, H.R. 1240. Rogers, op.cit., pp.6, 17, 39-40; digested in Appendix I, p.6, below.



CHAPTER II

PUT-IN-BAY, OHIO

"SARATOGA OF THE WEST"



The development of the business of supplying accommodations for visitors to the island has been traced back through more than a century by many of the commentators upon the facts and foibles of this insular community.¹ By the end of the Civil War the position of the island as a resort was established, and guest cottages, boarding houses and hotels flourished as the grapes on the vines. One modest residence was so many times enlarged between 1866, when it was a five-roomed one-floor structure, and 1869, that it emerged through the successive names² "Island Home" and "Perry House" to become the "Beebe House."³ For the season of 1874, Henry Beebe and Artemas Beebe, Jr., the joint proprietors, were able to advertise that

"Steamers run regularly, every morning and evening, from Sandusky and Toledo; daily from and to Detroit and Cleveland" 3

"Put-in-Bay Island," the traveler was told,

"Is one of a group of Islands lying north and west of Sandusky, O., and distant about sixteen miles. . . . The name which it generally bears, and by which it has won its high and deserved reputation as a watering place, is attached to it from the fact that the northern front of the island forms a lovely crescent-shaped bay or harbor, from which Commodore Perry put forth to engage the enemy in 1813, and to which he returned with his victorious fleet after that sweeping victory, to repair the damages inflicted by the enemy and to bury his dead.

1. See, for example, Thomas H. and Marina H. Langlois, South Bass Island and Islanders (Columbus, 1949), pp.93-95.

2. Ibid., p.93.

3. 1874 ad booklet for the "Beebe House" in Wm. Schnoor Papers, donated to FVIPMM Nov. 1960 by Lynn Schnoor, Put-in-Bay, Ohio; cited hereafter as Schnoor Papers.



"The historic memories which cluster here are heightened by the lavish gifts which nature has showered upon it. The bay is a lovely sheet of water hemmed in by islands green with verdure, presenting their bold rocky fronts to the ceaseless dashing of the restless lake. . . .

"The climate is peculiarly adapted to health and comfort. No dews fall, and the dry pure air is particularly beneficial to those suffering from bronchial or lung affections." 4

By 1878 a full-page illustrated feature story in the New York Daily Graphic⁵ would caption this island, "The Saratoga of the West." By the last decade of the century a series of locally published summer journals emerged each season to trumpet the island's summer virtues: The Island's News Carrier, The Herald, and countless more each in its turn. July 4th, 1892, witnessed the grand opening at the west end of the island of the monstrous frame structure christened "Hotel Victory," sometimes claimed to be the largest resort hotel in America, and at other times to be the largest frame structure hostelry in the world.⁷ By 1900 the urbanization of the islands and of the mainland peninsula had progressed sufficiently to witness the publication of a county atlas.⁸ The volume related that "Ottawa County is one of the smallest Counties in the State [of Ohio] . . . was organized March 6, 1840 . . . named Ottawa after an Algonquin

4. Ibid.

5. Tuesday, July 9, 1878, p.53.

6. Island's News Carrier, July 29, 1894; The Herald, Aug. 25, 1898. Schnoor Papers.

7. Langlois and Langlois, op.cit., pp.94-95; Atlas of Ottawa County, Ohio (n.p., 1900), p.11.

8. Atlas of Ottawa County, Ohio (n.p., 1900). Available in Office of Ottawa County Recorder, Port Clinton, Ohio.



tribe of Indians inhabiting this section of the State previous to and at the time the first settlements were made by the whites. In 1831 these Indians were removed by the government to Kansas, and in 1870, again removed to Indian Territory. The word 'Ottawa' means trader . . .

⁹
.. " In Ottawa County, Ohio, the township of Put-in-Bay, reads the 1900 Atlas, "consists of several islands, containing an area of 2,842 acres, of which Put-in-Bay, Middle Bass, and North Bass Islands are the largest. Green, Rattlesnake, Sugar, Ballast, Starve, and Gibraltar [sic] are the smaller islands, belonging to and forming a part of the township."¹⁰ The oft-repeated notion that Put-in-Bay received its name from the scabbarding here of Perry's squadron is in this volume speculated upon once again, but subject to serious question elsewhere.¹¹

When Perry sailed on Lake Erie that inland sea was bordered by virgin forest "in all its pristine state and grandeur, tall magnificent, boundless . . . great oaks would arise . . . [in] . . . the greater part of the Sandusky and Maumee basins . . . a hundred feet and more above you, with a splendid crown of verdant foliage. At times they stood . . . like the thousand and one pillars of one vast and imperishable

9. Ibid., p.7; see also Nevin C. Winter, A History of Northwest Ohio (Chicago, 1917), pp.521-522.

10. Atlas of Ottawa County, p.11.

11. Ibid. "It is generally understood that Commodore Perry gave the name "Put-in-Bay" to this island, but it is a fact that there are deeds on record in Ohio being [sic] an earlier date than the conflict in which Commodore Perry defeated the British, and which refer to this island at [sic] Put-in-Bay Island." Winter, op.cit., p.525.



temple dedicated to the Maker of All Nature" ¹² The sentence succeeding those just quoted bears deep consideration in any reasonable judgement upon the form ultimately given to the Perry Monument: " . . . All that art has done in our finest gothic structures is but a poor and weak imitation." ¹³

Put-in-Bay in the first decade of the 20th century was concerned with its growing tourist trade in summer and with ice fishing and ice-fishermen in winter, ¹⁴ and with sailing regattas in summer and ice sailing regattas in winter. In August 1907 the community struck a truly memorable "first" when Lee De Forest came in from his New York City laboratory to broadcast by wireless telephone to newsmen at Put-in-Bay the results of the events of the sailing regatta from an improvised wireless ship on the lake -- the first sports "broadcast." ¹⁵ In 1907 the Put-in-Bay Improvement Company, headed by T. B. Alexander as President and General Manager, published the first of many booklets designed to draw visitors to the island. Adopting the theme first broached several decades earlier, the publication was titled Put-in-Bay

12. Winter, op.cit., p.211

13. Ibid.

14. See especially Put-in-Bay Photo-Gravures (Brooklyn, N.Y., 1902), in collections of Anthony J. Kindt, Put-in-Bay. Dr. A. S. Hessell (photographs by Otto G. Herbster), "Winter Scenes on and Around Put-in-Bay Island," Ottawa County Republican, Port Clinton, Ohio, February 26, 1904, in collections of Otto G. Herbster, Put-in-Bay.

15. T. R. Kennedy, Jr., "The First 'Sports' Broadcast," N.Y. Times, Aug. 10 [?] /, 1942.



The Saratoga of the West. "Put-in-Bay," said the booklet, "has been growing year by year, and at present is the most noted resort of the

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middle West." "A Visit to Put-in-Bay" invites us to a 1907 excursion:

"The first sight which presents itself upon stepping from the steamer is the Mammoth Colonial Amusement Building, owned and controlled by the Put-in-Bay Improvement Company. The largest and finest dancing pavilion in the middle West, surrounded by a wealth of beautiful lawns and handsomely decorated fountains, just completed at a cost of \$40,000. . . . Here the famous Finney Orchestra of Detroit furnishes music for the merry waltz and the glorious two-step.

"Adjoining the building is an arcade, where one can spend many happy hours in visiting the numerous attractions therein contained. A city under one roof, where one can satisfy the sight, the hunger and the thirst.

"Attractions at a Glance

"Hotel Victory, the largest and most elegantly furnished summer hotel in the world.

"The John Brown Museum.

"Eighteen thousand feet of the finest dancing floor in the world.

"Eight regulation Bowling Alleys.

"Finest equipped bathing houses in the West. . . ." 18

Pages of such listings continued, and included seven major hotels "and smaller ones too numerous to mention . . . A hotel for every pocket-

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book." The steamers State of Ohio and City of the Straits were operating between the island and Cleveland and Toledo; the Frank E.

16. Published at Battle Creek, Mich., ca. 1907; in the collections of Anthony J. Kindt, Put-in-Bay, Ohio. T. B. Alexander was a sparkplug of the "improvement" movement, and was "the leading spirit in the organization of the . . . company. This company erected the Colonial Casino and hall and the electric light plant." Winter, op.cit., pp.1379-1380.

17. Put-in-Bay The Saratoga of the West, p.3.

18. Ibid., pp.57.

19. Ibid., pp.10-11.



Kirby between the island and Detroit and Sandusky; the Arrow, between the island and Sandusky; the Lakeside between Sandusky, Lakeside and the island; the Falcon, between Port Clinton and the island. The John Brown Museum, featured natural relics of him "whose soul goes marching on," handed down from his son, John Brown, Jr., to his granddaughter, Edith May Brown Alexander, who conducted the museum.

Midst all the blatant prose and salemanship of the booklet, an altogether excellent weapon for such a public relations campaign, one item stands out above all the rest, a verse titled "Where is the Perry Monument?" credited to J. Howard Saxby, of Cincinnati:

"We search from shore to shore,
We find sculptured statues of heroes of the war,
When North and South in conflict came,
But Perry's noble fame
Has naught to mark it anywhere--
A Governmental shame.

. . .
A monument to Perry,
Right here at Put-in-Bay;
A monument which for evermore shall stay;
A tribute to his memory
And the victory that he won--
A tribute to the heroes
And the men behind the gun." 22

Put-in-Bay was a town of many facets, a community of varying industries flexible to meet the requirements of existence in a climate of severe seasonal changes. Its one unchanging and unyielding determination continued alive the movement toward a significant Perry Monument.

20. Ibid., pp.11-12.

21. Ibid., pp.12-13.

22. Ibid., pp.13-15. The middle stanza is omitted.



CHAPTER III

CRYSTALLIZATION OF THE MOVEMENT FOR A
PERRY MEMORIAL AT PUT-IN-BAY



The imminence of the centennial anniversary of the Battle of Lake Erie and the appearance on the scene of Webster P. Huntington together forced the sequence of events which saw the creation of the monument which stands today at Put-in-Bay. The story of that national monument, as of the Doric column itself, is the story also of the untiring efforts of this one man.¹ The fifth son of Pelatiah Webster Huntington, founder of the Huntington National Bank of Columbus, Ohio, Webster Perit Huntington broke from family tradition to become a journalist, editor, publicist and lecturer and confidant of the great "Marse Henry" Watterson in that "gay 90's era" indelibly marked by the colorful personalities of the "personal journalists." Sent by his father to a private preparatory school in New Hampshire, he became the editor of a local weekly newspaper rather than matriculate in a college, and soon founded a daily, the Keene, New Hampshire, Evening Tribune. In 1891, at the age of 26, he sold this first of his journals to become private secretary to William Windom, then U.S. Secretary of the Treasury. During succeeding years Mr. Huntington served as an editor or regular columnist to the Columbus Dispatch, Columbus Post, Columbus Press-Post, Toledo Times, Cleveland Times and Commercial, Ohio Magazine, and Kentucky Magazine, and contributed signed and unsigned articles without number to newspapers

1. See Henry Hornsby, "Resident of Mt. Sterling, Friend of Henry Watterson, Founded Perry Peace Memorial," Lexington / Ky. / Sunday Herald-Leader, April 16, 1939; Jim Fusco, "Columbus Day by Day," Columbus Citizen, Jan. 14, 15 / ? /, 1942. Schnoor Papers.



and periodicals on matters of politics, history and the Perry Memorial. For more than three decades he served as an executive officer of the various commissions creating and administering the memorial, 21 years as executive secretary and 10 years as executive head of these bodies.² Nowhere in Huntington's papers relating to the Perry Memorial is mention made of the slightest awareness of any preceding history of efforts toward the creation of a Perry Memorial on any of the islands in Lake Erie.³ Beginning with the inception of the successful movement which he would serve so well through all the remaining years of his life, his accounts and records are irreplaceable. He described the inception of

2. This is summarized in the material cited in f.n. 1 above. With rare exceptions, every line of every official report, every press release, and every speech at every function connected in any way with the Perry Memorial was written or ghost-written by Webster P. Huntington.

3. Sixty-five Woodruff letter-file boxes of the correspondence of the Perry's Victory Memorial Commission(s), 1900-1932, both incoming and copies of outgoing, were deposited in 1937 in the Ohio State Historical Society; a 12-page summary of the contents and a 14-page general index to this collection, both prepared under WPA auspices in 1936, constitute Appendix VI to this Report. "President Huntington stated that by arrangement with the Ohio State Historical and Archaeological Society the Society had been made permanent custodian of the correspondence files and official records of the Commission, which had been deposited in a special vault of the Ohio State Museum at Columbus. On Motion of Vice-President [Chesley R.] Perry, seconded by Commissioner Schifferdecker, this disposition of the files and records was unanimously approved" [attested by Webster P. Huntington, President; Richard S. Folsom, Secretary]. Perry's Victory Memorial Commission (U.S.), Final Meeting of the Commission Created by Act of Congress Approved March 3, 1919 Held at Washington, D.C., February 27, 1937, Pursuant to The Act of Congress, Approved June 2, 1936. Creating the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial National Monument Commission (n.p., ca. 1937). Schnoor Papers. See Appendix I, Item No. 120, p.46, below. Documents related to the construction history of the memorial, selected by the writer from the Collection in the Ohio State Historical and Archaeological Society, are reproduced in PVIHNM Microfilm Collection, Reels 1-4. "Nobody before had ever thought of appealing to Congress in the matter" "Statement by Webster P. Huntington re John Eisenmann," p.4, Reel #3, Box #39.



the successful centennial movement in an essay; . . . "The Development of the Memorial Idea."

4

"In January, 1909, Rodney J. Diegle, of Put-in-Bay and Sandusky, Ohio, called on me at Columbus, to ask my advice and co-operation in determining the phraseology of a joint resolution which, as the representative of the Put-in-Bay Board of Trade, he desired to have adopted by the Ohio General Assembly. Mr. Diegle was the Director of Publicity of the Board of Trade, and at a meeting of that body held November 14, 1907, had made the first suggestion, original with him, of a celebration of the centenary of the Battle of Lake Erie, under the sanction of the State, six years later at Put-in-Bay.

"Naturally, the proposal met with local enthusiasm, and on December 28, 1907, the Board of Trade adopted resolutions in favor of 'a great Centennial Celebration on land and water, to be held at Put-in-Bay from June to September, 1913' and inviting 'the National and State Governments and the American people at large to participate and take part in such ceremonies and celebration.' During the interim between this action and Mr. Diegle's suggestion looking up to it, the leading citizens of Put-in-Bay . . . S. M. Johannsen,⁵ Henry Fox, T. B. Alexander, Lucas Meyers,

4. Professional hotel manager, one-time manager of Hotel Victory. Langlois apparently made no mention of Diegle in his listing of business and professional men. Thomas H. and Marina H. Langlois, South Bass Island and Islanders (Columbus, 1948), pp.133-139, passim.

5. Sinke M. Johannsen might accurately be termed "the Horatio Alger of the Bass Islands." Of Danish descent, he was born in 1868 in the German Province of Schleswig-Holstein, emigrating with his family in 1884 to a farm on the mainland in Ottawa County, Ohio. By 1889 he had attended public schools, the Sandusky Business College and the Ohio Northern University at Ada, had come to the island as a teacher in the Put-in-Bay Special School District, in which position he continued for 17 years. Never idle at any time, he developed commercially and ultimately became a partner in the largest general merchandise business on South Bass Island. In 1903 he was instrumental in organizing the Put-in-Bay Board of Trade, and on appointment by Governor Harris in 1908 became one of the five members of the original "Perry Memorial and Centennial Commission." He also served many years membership on the City Council and the Board of Education of Put-in-Bay. Nevin C. Winter, History of Northwest Ohio (Chi. & N.Y., 1917), pp.1551-1552. See also in Schnoor Papers, "Teachers' Report to Clerk of Board of Education" for April 30, 1890, and for Dec. 1890, signed by S. M. Johannsen.



George Gascoyne, John J. Day, H. A. Herbster, M. Ingold, Emil Schraidt, William Kunzler, Gustave Heineman, S. Traverso, John Hollway [Holloway?], William Schnoor, John Esselbach and Dr. P. B. Robinson, all members of the Board of Trade, of which Mr. Johannsen was President . . . had taken counsel among themselves as to the project, and their views of it had become expansive though by no means definite

"The draft of Mr. Diegle's joint resolution . . . provided for the appointment of five Commissioners by the Governor of Ohio 'to co-operate with the citizens of Put-in-Bay' in such plans for the celebration as they might initiate, and the only change suggested to Mr. Diegle was that the language should be made more definite, so as to provide for authority to 'prepare and carry out' plans. . . . The State was asked only to grant moral recognition of a Centennial Celebration marking the historical significance of September 10, 1913. . . . February [28th], 1908, the joint resolution was introduced in the General Assembly by Representative William E. Bense, of Ottawa County, and passed both branches without opposition.⁶ The Commissioners were appointed by Governor Harris the following June [22, 1908],⁷ and a year later⁸ the Legislature appropriated \$3,000 'to enable said Commissioners to continue the work of preparation for the Centennial Celebration,'"⁹

The five original Ohio commissioners appointed June 22, 1908, by Ohio Governor Harris were William H. Reinhart, George H. Worthington, Webster P. Huntington, S. M. Johannsen and Brand Whitlock.

10

6. See Appendix I, Item No. 10, pp.5-6, below.

7. Perry's Victory Centennial Commission (Ohio), Report of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commission to the Governor of Ohio, January 12, 1909 (n.p., ca. 1909), pp.1, 8. See also Appendix I, Item No. 15, p.8, below.

8. Ohio House of Representatives passed the appropriation on March 10, 1909, the Senate on March 11, and Ohio Governor Harmon signed it into law. Perry's Victory and International Peace Centennial Commission, et al, Minutes, [Typescript], Vol. I, p.11, cited hereafter as Minutes. See also Appendix I, Item No. 14, f.n. nos. 13, 14, below.

9. Webster P. Huntington, The Perry's Victory Memorial. A History of its Origin, Construction and Completion in Commemoration of the Victory of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry in the Battle of Lake Erie and the Northwestern Campaign of General William Henry Harrison in the War of 1812 and its Dedication to the Cause of International Peace (Akron, Ohio, 1917), pp.13-14. See Appendix I, Item No. 51, p.30, below.

10. Report to the Governor of Ohio, January 12, 1909, pp.1, 8 (see f.n. no. 7, above).



The first Report by this Commission to the Governor of Ohio recommended "particularly . . . that any memorial undertaken by the State of Ohio in honor of Perry's Victory should take the form of a permanent building on Put-in-Bay Island We have in mind," reported the Commissioners, through the hand of Webster P. Huntington, "the many temporary buildings erected for various expositions at great expense and subsequently abandoned to the junk dealer; and we would avoid anything of this kind in connection with the proposed exposition, while at the same time insuring the State and its people an adequate return for their generous commemoration of a great event upon its one hundredth anniversary." ¹¹ Huntington's own conception of an appropriate "permanent building" at that time ". . . took the form of a Memorial chapel in the park skirting the harbor at Put-in-Bay, to be built by the State of Ohio and containing eight memorial windows, historically significant and artistically executed, one each to be presented by the seven other Lake States, and one by Ohio." ¹² As described by Huntington to his fellow members of the Ohio Commission, the chapel would be of marble and cost no more than \$150,000. ¹³ During

11. Ibid., p.6.

12. Huntington, The Perry's Victory Memorial, pp.14-15.

13. "Statement by Webster P. Huntington re John Eisenmann," [Jan. 1912], p.3; FV1P1M1M Microfilm Reel #3 from Perry's Victory Centennial Commission Papers in Ohio State Historical and Archaeological Society, Box #39. References to materials in this collection hereafter will be by Reel and Box numbers; the former referring to the material copied on microfilm for deposit at Put-in-Bay, the latter to the file boxes in the Ohio State Museum Building, Columbus.



a lobbying visit to the legislature in January, 1909, Huntington enlisted the aid of another visitor who appeared well acquainted with members of the legislature, soliciting an introduction to the stranger and asking him to use his influence with legislators from Cuyahoga County in behalf of the measure then pending for \$10,000 to initiate the work of the Ohio Centennial Commission. The stranger enlisted to the cause that day was John Eisenmann. Unknown to Huntington at the initial meeting, Eisenmann was a prominent architect and engineer of Cleveland, Ohio, whose role toward the creation of the memorial would prove to be of importance second only to that of Huntington.

John Eisenmann was born in Detroit, Michigan, in 1851 or 1852, spent his youth in Monroe, Michigan. Graduated as a Civil Engineer from the University of Michigan in 1871, he took appointment in the U.S. Lake Survey with headquarters in Detroit, becoming Chief of a Division in 1874. On a leave of absence he became an architectural student in the Polytechnikum, Munich, Germany, in 1875, and graduated in architecture in 1877 from the Royal Polytechnic School at Stuttgart, Germany.

14. Cleveland and vicinity. See letter from John Eisenmann to Webster P. Huntington, Sept. 12, 1911; Reel #3, Box #39.

15. Later reduced to \$3,000 and passed. See Appendix I, p.7, f.n. no. 13, below.

16. Reference Report by Miss Louisa Heeth, Fine Arts Department, Cleveland Public Library; Letter from Conrad H. Rawski, Head Fine Arts Department, Cleveland Public Library, November 22, 1960; "Statement by Webster P. Huntington re John Eisenmann", p.1.

17. Ibid.



Returning to the Lake Survey in July, 1878, he was assigned at Cedar Point, Ohio, to the party determining the transcontinental base line, and in October of that year was transferred to become chief of a division under the Mississippi River Commission with headquarters at St. Louis, 18 where he remained until his resignation to return to Cleveland in 1882. In January, 1882, John Eisenmann was appointed an instructor in drawing and engineering in Case Institute of Technology, Cleveland. The following year, 1883, the school announced that instruction would be offered in Civil Engineering and in January, 1883, upon the appointment of James Ritchie as his assistant, Eisenmann became the first head of the Case Institute Civil Engineering Department, in which position he continued for three additional years. After 1886 he devoted full attention to his private professional interests, and a very busy public life. While on the faculty at Case Mr. Eisenmann was architect for the Main Building still in use by the school. He became full-time superintendent of the Wade Park project, authored the first building code for the City of Cleveland, and was supervising architect for the Cleveland Board of Education. In 1886 he served a term as Secretary-Treasurer of the Council of Engineering Societies on National Public Works, and during the 1890's served as a member of the Park Board of Cleveland. In 1888-1890 he was one of the architects of the Superior Arcade Building in Cleveland,

18. "Statement by . . . Huntington . . ." p.1.

19. Letter from H. R. Young, Archivist, Case Institute of Technology, Nov. 21, 1960.



a pioneering venture in structural steel construction. In addition to many commercial structures and at least 18 Cleveland school buildings erected under his supervision, Eisenmann designed the Ohio Building at the Buffalo Pan-American Exposition in 1901.²¹ For that same occasion he designed a flag adopted in 1902 as the Ohio State Flag.²² When encountered by Webster P. Huntington in the state capital, John Eisenmann was on business concerning his position as Building Code Commissioner for the City of Cleveland. Huntington soon learned that Eisenmann was an architect and engineer, and that he was "perfectly familiar with the topography of Put-in-Bay Island and had made soundings of the surrounding waters and studied the geological formations of the region. Possessed of a singularly enthusiastic and devoted nature, he became enamored of the Memorial idea . . . and . . . made a hasty sketch of his conception."²³

Receiving encouragement from all members of the Commission, Eisenmann executed his conception into a large water color drawing.²⁴ In a letter from Cleveland dated September 25, 1909, Eisenmann described his vision in detail to Commission President William H. Reinhart:

"My dear Mr. Reinhart:

"Permit me to present the following explanatory of the design which

20. Ibid.; Heath, Cleveland Public Library Reference Report; "Statement by . . . Huntington . . .," p.2; William Ganson Rose, Cleveland; the making of a city (Cleveland and N.Y., ca. 1950), p.519.

21. "Statement by . . . Huntington . . .," p.2.

22. Ibid.; Letter from H. R. Young, Archivist, Case Institute of Technology, Nov. 21, 1960; Heath, Cleveland Public Library Reference Report.

23. Huntington, The Perry's Victory Memorial, p.15.

24. Ibid.; "Statement by . . . Huntington . . .," p.4.



I recently submitted for the proposed Memorial to be erected at Put-in-Bay in commemoration of Perry's victory and Peace Centennial to be held in 1913 under the auspices of your Commission.

"As you know, all available U.S. Lake Survey charts of Lake Erie and its islands have been placed at my disposal through the courtesy of Major Charles Keller -U.S. Corps of Engineers - the Superintendent in charge the Lake Survey - and that the official land maps of the Township of South Bass Ottawa County were obtained from the County Surveyor's office at Port Clinton. Copies of all of which are now in my possession and at your service. It may also be of interest to know that Major Keller has already engaged his field parties in a re-survey of Put-in-Bay, the map of which, to a scale of 1:5000 may be available by January 1st, 1910.²⁵ An examination of the maps show that South Bass or Put-in-Bay partically [sic] a Simese [sic] twin -- roughly its silhouette is suggestive of a flying Butter-Ball Duck with its short neck stretched and big fluffy head pointed northeastward in perfect alignment with its body to the southwest. The head corresponds to East Point, the name given to that end of the Island and the neck to the Simese [sic] ligiment [sic] which binds it to the main body. Between the head, neck and shoulders of the outstretched wings, lies the Island of Gibraltar an historic harbor proper. The neck is a low and narrow formation composed of a rocky roof on the Bay side and the raised sand bar on the lake side opposite, includes between them a testiculate bog and swampy dump ground. The highest point of this neck is scarcely four feet above the main lake level, while the underlying substrata ranging in every direction only a few feet below is solid rock - a most excellent foundation to build upon, with plenty of available building and grading material surrounding it.²⁶

"From this neck land slopes in with easy grades in opposite directions. To the right and left in almost equal proportion in area it is flanked by the waters of the bay on one side and the open lake on the other. I had never been over this end of the island during my previous visits of many years ago. Hence you can imagine the agreeableness of my surprise when I found it a more appropriate and fitting location in every sense for the Memorial, than the ideal I had in mind while following the design. The principle viewpoint from the island from the land side will be from the west, from Gibraltar; the whole interior Harbor line; the Park approaches and the proposed boulevard on the southwest with East Point to the northeast in its delicate photographic contour and unobstructed skyline

25. The only map or chart of such description located is dated 1907. Appendix V, Item No. 1, p.2, below.

26. See Appendix III, p.8, below; compare, Appendix V, Item Nos. 33, 34, 35, p.7, below.



as a most fitting background. Yet, with all, the undulations of this background are not of sufficient height as to interfere with the viewpoint of any part of that end of the Island nor from the outlying Islands of Ballast or Middle Bass - nor from the ships passing day or night through the channels between. The principal viewpoint from the water side is from the north-west from over the famous battleground, while the other directly opposite will be from Kelley's Island in the southeast and south toward Lake Side, Marble Head, Cedar Point and Sandusky.

"The ground type of the situation planned in the design is that of an eight spoke wheel, oriented to conform to the cardinal points of the mariner's compass Along the spokes are laid the approaches and docks. The Memorial is located in the center or at the hub of this wheel and is surrounded on all sides by a spacious quay. Beyond the quay in the sectors formed by the radial approaches and docks, toward the land side, ly aquatic flowering pools, orderly basins, lotus groves and navigable lagoons which inter-connect with one another and those of the bay and lake sides through culverts and sinuous canals flowing under venetian bridges.

"To give it a proper setting in harmony with its surroundings and design, the Memorial is placed on a raised terrace. This brings the ground line of the base proper to about the eye level of those on the upper deck of approaching steamers - the viewpoint from which the first impression of nearly all visitors will be obtained.

"At the North, East, South and West corners at the foot of the terrace just above the quay level are located electric fountains. Each of the four basins contain an alegorical cascade group, of numerous geysers, and ornamental marine sprays. Flanking each fountain . . . with pedestals for a statuary group, between each pair of which, except on the northwest side are the porials opening into the arcades, caves, grottos and castella of the aquarium underneath the terrace. . . . fountains and elevator and main stairs of the superstructure, spring from this level.

"On the northwest face is located the monumental approach with stairs leading to the terrace, at the foot of which stairs in the center of the approach stands a statue of Commodore Perry of heroic size, overlooking in a direct line, the waters of his victorious battleground.²⁷

"The memorial or structure proper has a quadrangular base formed by the intersection of four triumphant Ionic arches. The columns of the

27. Compare in Chapter I, pp.11-12, above.



pavilion at the corners of the base are detached. The ground floor of the interior is treated as one great public vaulted lobby for visitors, corresponding to the Comitium of the Romans. On the second floor is the Aulia or Memorial Hall proper, surrounded by passageways and galleries and crowned with a dome-like vaulted ceiling, all enriched with historic mural decorations. Above . . . arches and pavilions of the outer facades . . . lookouts and ballustrated parapets for sightseers. From here an octagularly shaped prismoidle shaft, sub-divided into numerous story heights springs and extends away to another balcony, the topmost, for sightseers. Above this rise the Light House beacons and the Naval and Weather Bureau observatory and still higher up, from its highest pinnacle are strung the wires of the Wireless Station, from which I am creditably informed, any message from Duluth in the extreme northwest or St. Regis on the St. Lawrence in the east, covering the territory of the entire chain of the North and Northwestern Lakes can be received without relay. Stairways and elevators extend from aquarium to the topmost balcony, so arranged that the work of observers and officials cannot be interfered with by the general public.

"Such in brief is the description of the salient points of the design - if carried up to the limits outlined. It is drawn to a unit scale of seven and one-half [feet] per unit. While the harmony of its proportion would not be disturbed if carried on a minor scale to a more limited or lesser height, yet its . . . magnificence depends entirely upon the selection of the proper unit scale....

"It is suggested that the Memorial be made permanent and carried out on a large enough unit scale so as to conserve its practical purpose - dedicated to History, Science and Art, pertaining to the Navy, Navigation and Marine Life as exclusively as possible - and that the eight border states unite and cooperate toward securing the permanency for such purposes. . . .

". . . while still conserving the monumental spirit in an utilitarian and educational way, it could not help but be a fitting cenotaph to the great hero but also a Temple of Peace - a token of peace and good will - a commemorative tribute by the people to all of the people of the Lakes and Seas for all time to come. . . .

"Very respectfully
/signed/ John Eisenmann
Architect and Engineer"28

28. Box #1.



The architect estimated that the execution of his design would cost

29

\$597,750. A photograph of the monument as rendered by John Eisenmann

appears below at page 42; this was published also as a full page cut in

30

the Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 29, 1910.

Upon the availability of both the rendering and the narrative description of Eisenmann's conception, the Commissioners had an instrument of unrealized utility. At the first joint meeting of Commissioners (from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Illinois), the draft of the second Report to the Governor of Ohio was adopted, containing in reference to

31

the memorial the following language:

"Upon a most careful consideration of the subject, we have fully satisfied our own minds as to the character which the proposed Perry memorial should assume, in order to achieve the very desirable dual objects of artistic and historical value and supreme usefulness. We take the liberty of submitting herewith for the consideration of your Excellency and of the General Assembly a reproduction of a drawing embodying such paramount ideas as we believe should be manifested in any memorial finally agreed upon."³²

In March, 1910, when the Ohio Commission sought its first major appropriation from the Ohio General Assembly, Senate Finance Committee Chairman Thorne Baker called Huntington by telephone to tell him that

29. Eisenmann's narrative "design for the proposed Perry Memorial," p.7. Reel #3, Box #39.

30. Eisenmann to Huntington, Sept. 12, 1911. Reel #3, Box #39.

31. Perry's Victory Centennial Commission (Ohio), Report of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commission to the Governor of Ohio, December 16, 1909 (n.p., ca. 1909); see Appendix I, Item No. 20, p.12, below. The original hand written copy of this Report is in Reel #3, Box #39.

32. Report to the Governor of Ohio, December 16, 1909, p.13.



the desired Bill would not be reported out of committee, because the scheme for a memorial was too "nebulous" and that there were no plans for the proposed memorial which could be entered on the record. Huntington assured Senator Baker that the Commission did have plans, arranged for Eisenmann to appear on March 29th with his plans and specifications sufficient to show the "practical nature" of the contemplated building.³⁴ The plans were examined also by Senator Clevenger, who sponsored the appropriation Bill and Governor Harmon, resulting in passage by the legislature and signature by the Governor May 9, 1910.³⁵ Following a trying period of conflicting personalities, General A. J. Warner was elected President of the Ohio Commission, succeeding William H. Reinhart, who resigned.³⁶

33. Ohio Senate Bill No. 10, entered Jan. 11, 1910. For leg. hist. see Appendix I, Item No. 22, p.13, below.

34. "Statement by . . . Huntington . . .," pp.6-7.

35. Ibid., p.7; Appendix I, Item No. 22, f.n. no. 23, below.

36. The conflict within the Commission focused in apparently irreconcilable differences between Reinhart and Webster P. Huntington. Important correspondence concerning this appears to have been removed from the Commission Files prior to donation in 1937 to the Ohio State Historical and Archaeological Society. Mention of incidents in the conflict, and of the vindication of Huntington appears in a number of items among the approximately 750 documents from the personal papers of Sinke M. Johannsen, donated to PVIIPMM Nov. 1960 by Anthony J. Kindt, Put-in-Bay, Ohio. See: Governor Harmon to George H. Worthington, June 25, June 27, July 1, 1910; William H. Reinhart to Worthington, July 2, 1910; Webster P. Huntington to Worthington, July 9, 1910; Horace Holbrook to Worthington, July 13, 1910; Reinhart to Worthington, July 17, 1910. Johannsen Papers.



JOHN EISENMANN'S DESIGN
FOR THE PERRY MEMORIAL
(PV-146)

PIONEERS OF THE MEMORIAL ENTERPRISE AT PUT-IN-BAY

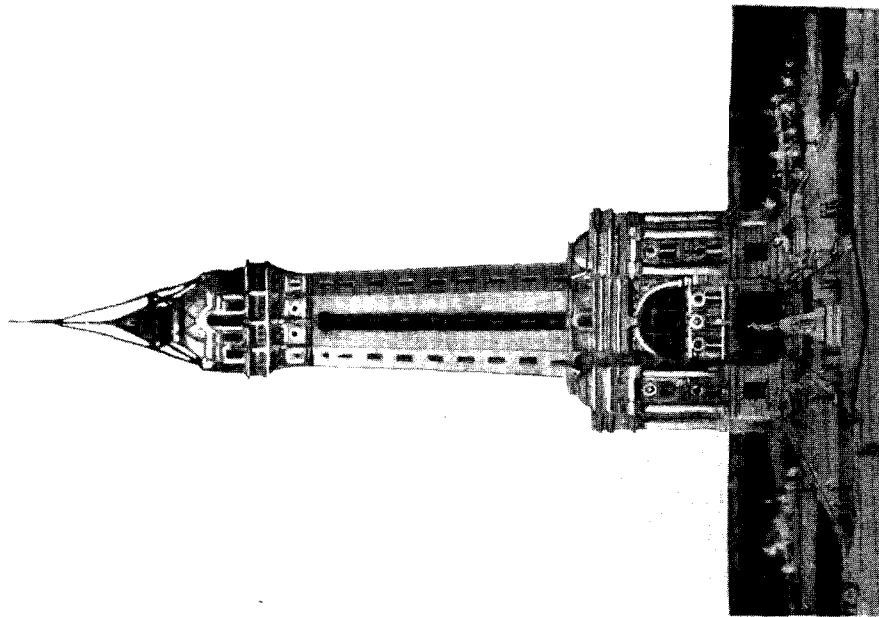
JULY 27, 1910

Lower row, l. to r.: unidentified, Ohio Commission Treasurer Sinke M. Johannsen, Ohio Commission Vice-Pres., Commodore George H. Worthington, Ohio Commission President, General A. J. Warner, Ohio Commissioner Horace Holbrook. Upper row, l. to r.: Rodney J. Diegle, Commissioner and Secretary of Ohio Commission Webster P. Huntington, Architect-Engineer John Eisenmann.

Photographed by Otto G. Herbster

(PV-667)







Meeting at Put-in-Bay on July 27, 1910, the Ohio Commissioners, whose group portrait appears on page 42B, voted

"that the Ohio Commissioners regard with favor the plans for a Memorial building submitted by John Eisenmann and hereby recommend them for adoption by the Inter-State Board when organized as the plans for a permanent memorial of the proposed exposition, provided that the president of the Ohio Commission can make satisfactory arrangements as to compensation for the completion of said plans in detail."³⁷

In the presence of Secretary Huntington, Architect Eisenmann made such an arrangement for the completion of the plans with President Warner.³⁸

The consideration was to be \$2,500. The plans were completed by Eisenmann and exhibited at the first meeting of the Inter-State Board, which held its initial meeting at Put-in-Bay, September 10, 1910. The Inter-State Board voted unanimously to approve the plans, and to refer them to the Executive Committee for further consideration, at which point the matter lay until revived by Huntington in 1912.³⁹ During all of 1909 and 1910 photographs of the Eisenmann design for the memorial were employed in lobbying activities before each of the state legislatures from which participation was sought.

"In Pennsylvania, where \$75,000 was appropriated, photographs of the Eisenmann design were submitted to the joint committee to which the bill had been referred, and the argument was then and subsequently used that the proposed Perry Memorial embodied attributes calculated to save life and property on the Great

37. "Statement by . . . Huntington . . .," pp.7-8.

38. Ibid., p.8.

39. Ibid.



Lakes in accordance with the ideals original with Mr. Eisenmann.

"In Michigan the Commissioners were authorized before the design had been evolved, but subsequently it was endorsed at a meeting of the Senators and Representatives in Detroit, and was published and explained in the public press.⁴¹

"In Illinois the plans were exhibited before a joint meeting of the House and Senate and also at a banquet given in Chicago by a Illinois Society of the War of 1812. The water color painting of the Eisenmann memorial was exhibited and explained before the Finance Committee of the house of Representatives, whereupon an appropriation bill of \$75,000 was reported favorably, passed the House but failed in the Senate.⁴²

"In Wisconsin, where \$50,000 was appropriated, the same painting was exhibited at a joint meeting of the House and Senate, attended by Governor McGovern. In a private audience granted to the visiting Commissioners from other states, the Governor endorsed the appropriation sought for expressly on the ground that the Eisenmann design contemplated a structure dedicated to the material welfare of humanity.⁴³

"In New York, Governor Hughes carefully inquired into the photograph of the design shown him by the visiting Commissioners and wrote a letter to the Senate Finance Committee endorsing the pending resolution for the appointment of Commissioners for that state.⁴⁴

40. Ibid., p.9. For references to the organization of the Pennsylvania Commission and appropriations, see Appendix I, pp.8, 20, below.

41. "Statement by . . . Huntington . . .," p.9. For references to the organization of the Michigan Commission and appropriations, see Appendix I, pp.8-9, below.

42. "Statement by . . . Huntington . . .," p.9. For references to the organization of the Illinois Commission and appropriations, see Appendix I, pp.10, 18, below. Illinois subsequently contributed \$25,000 toward construction. Ibid., p.10.

43. "Statement by . . . Huntington . . .," pp.9-10. For references to the organization of the Wisconsin Commission and appropriations, see Appendix I, pp.10-11, below.

44. "Statement by . . . Huntington . . .," p.10. For references to the organization of the New York Commission and appropriations, see Appendix I, pp.14-15, 26-29, below.



"In Rhode Island, where \$25,000 was twice appropriated, and at the first session met with a veto by the Governor, on grounds of economy, photographs of the Eisenmann design were before the Committees of both Houses to which the bill was referred.⁴⁵

"In Kentucky, photographs of the design were shown and explained to Governor Willson, and its main features were explained in public hearings before the House and Senate, resulting in the appointment of the Kentucky commissioners.⁴⁶

"During all this period," summarized Secretary Huntington, "it was generally supposed that the Eisenmann plans would be finally adopted, although they might be modified"⁴⁷

Vigorous activity by interested individuals in Ohio, the other lake-side states and Kentucky and Rhode Island resulted in impressive progress toward the goal during 1909 and 1910, culminating in a federal appropriation of \$250,000 signed into law by President William Howard Taft, March 3, 1911.⁴⁸

The state and federal legislative drive culminating in the federal appropriation had officially begun with the organization at Put-in-Bay of the "Inter-State Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners," September 10, 1910. Actually it had begun much earlier. By September 1910 all interested states had enacted legislation sufficient to authorize their individual governors to appoint state Commissions to cooperate with

45. "Statement by . . . Huntington" p.10. For references to the organization of the Rhode Island Commission and appropriations, see Appendix I, p.16, below.

46. "Statement by . . . Huntington" p.10. For references to the organization of the Kentucky Commission and appropriations, see Appendix I, pp.17, 22-23, below.

47. "Statement by . . . Huntington" p.10.

48. P.L. 463. See Appendix I, Item Nos. 31, 32, pp.18-19, below.



the Ohio Commission, and several of the states had also appropriated substantial sums for the observance of the centennial and towards the creation of a permanent memorial. The formation of the "Inter-State Board" now permitted a unified approach for all activities related to both objects. The successful campaign culminating in March 1911 in a federal appropriation appeared to make the creation of a monument a certainty. The states which now actively were in the movement and represented on the Inter-State Board on September 10, 1910, were Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Rhode Island and New York.⁴⁹ The state commissions consisted on September 10, 1910, of the following individuals:

⁵⁰
OHIO: George H. Worthington, Cleveland; S. M. Johannsen, Put-in-Bay; John J. Manning, Toledo; Eli Winkler, Cincinnati; Colonel Webb C. Hayes, Fremont; Horace Holbrook, Warren; William C. Mooney, Woodsfield; Horace L. Chapman, Columbus. [Webster P. Huntington, Secretary, Columbus.]⁵¹

⁵¹
PENNSYLVANIA: A. E. Sisson, Erie; Edwin H. Vare, Philadelphia; M. W. Shreve, Erie; T. C. Jones, McKeesport; George W. Neff, M.D.,

49. Inter-State Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commission, Meeting of the Inter-State Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners at Put-in-Bay, Ohio, September 10, 1910 (n.p., ca. 1910), p.8; see also Appendix I, Item No. 27, p.17, below.

50. Ibid.; for all leading references to records of Ohio participation, see Appendix I, pp.6-8, 12-14, 20, 23-24, 26, below.

51. Inter-State Board, Meeting, September 10, 1910, p.8. For all leading references to records of Pennsylvania participation, see Appendix I, pp.8, 20, below.



Masonstown.

52

MICHIGAN: Charles Moore, Detroit; Seward L. Merriam, Detroit; Roy S.

Barnhart, Grand Rapids; Albert L. Stephens, Detroit; E. K.

Warren, Three Oaks.

53

ILLINOIS: General P. C. Hayes, Joliet; Captain William Porter Adams,

Chicago; Captain Willis J. Wells, Chicago; Captain Chesley R.

54

Perry, Chicago; Captain W. H. McIntosh, Rockford.

52. Inter-State Board, Meeting, September 10, 1910, p.8. This original Michigan Commission was typical of all the state commissions in fluidity of the membership, particularly during the early stages of operation. This may be attributed to the driving force of Huntington and his supporters both on the Ohio and Inter-State Commissions, who made the service of these Commissioners no mere sinecure of political appointment. Of the Michigan Commissioners, Albert L. Stephens, Charles Moore and Seward L. Merriam, soon resigned, to be replaced by George Whitfield Parker, Detroit (Oct. 18, 1910); Arthur P. Loomis, Ionia (Nov. 10, 1910); and John C. Lodge, Detroit (Feb. 6, 1913). Michigan Department of State, MS Record of State Officials, Vol. 2, pp.340-342 (in the Archives of the Michigan Secretary of State, Lansing); Seward L. Merriam to Governor Warner, Aug. 13, 1910 (in the Collections of The Michigan Historical Commission). For all leading references to records of Michigan participation, see Appendix I, pp.8-9, below; see also "Perry's Victory Centennial Celebration," Michigan Historical Collections, Vol. XXXIX, 1915, (Lansing, 1915), pp.263ff.

53. Inter-State Board, Meeting, September 10, 1910, p.8; Perry's Victory Centennial Commission (Illinois), 1813-1913, Perry's Victory Centennial, Report of the Illinois Commissioners (Springfield, Ill., 1911), p.14. For all leading references to records of Illinois participation, see Appendix I, pp.10, 18, below. The Files of PVIPTMM contain a typed draft of the original legislation recommended for presentation to the Illinois legislature in January 1909, in Johanssen Papers, donated by Anthony J. Kindt, Nov. 1960. The promotional genius of Webster P. Huntington was here as everywhere in evidence. See also Chicago Record Herald, Dec. 30, 1910; Aug. 28, Sept. 8, 11, 1911.

54. The Papers of the late Chesley R. Perry relating to his membership and work on this Commission are in the Collections of the Chicago Historical Society, reproduced on PVIPTMM Microfilm Reel #7. Captain McIntosh is the last remaining survivor of all of the Commissioners of all the states.



55

WISCONSIN: General Arthur McArthur, Milwaukee; John M. Whitehead, Janesville; George E. Scott, Prairie Farm; Ole A. Buslett, Northland; A. W. Sanborn, Ashland.

56

KENTUCKY: Colonel Henry Watterson, Louisville; Colonel Andrew Cowan, Louisville; Samuel M. Wilson, Lexington; Colonel R. W. Nelson, Newport; McKenzie R. Todd, Frankfort.

57

RHODE ISLAND: John P. Sanborn, Newport; Louis N. Arnold, Westerly; Sumner Mowry, Peacedale; William C. Bliss, East Providence; Harry Cutler, Providence.

58

NEW YORK: Ogden P. Letchworth, Buffalo; George D. Emerson, Buffalo;

55. Inter-State Board, Meeting, September 10, 1910, p.8. For all leading references to records of Wisconsin participation, see Appendix I, pp. 10-11, below.

56. Inter-State Board, Meeting, September 10, 1910, p.8; "Governor Wilson this day appointed and commissioned the following as members of the Kentucky Perry's Victory Centennial Commission" Memorandum signed by McKenzie R. Todd, Secretary to the Governor of Kentucky, March 31, 1910, in Kentucky archives; photocopy supplied by James T. Fleming, Assistant Director, Ky. Leg. Research Commission, July 28, 1960. For all leading references to records of Kentucky participation, see Appendix I, pp.17, 22-23, below. The correspondence of Henry Watterson, in the Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, might explain many of the important decisions made concerning the creation of the monument and the operations of the state and inter-state commissions. The Watterson Papers are undexed and have not been searched.

57. Inter-State Board, Meeting, September 10, 1910, p.8. See "Plans for Monument to him Discussed," Providence Journal, Sept. 15, 1910. For all leading references to records of Rhode Island participation, see Appendix I, p.16, below.

58. Inter-State Board, Meeting, September 10, 1910, p.8. For all leading references to records of New York participation, see Appendix I, pp. 14-15, 26-29, below.



John T. Mott, Oswego; Clinton Bradford Herrick, M.D., Troy;

Henry Harmon Noble, Essex.

The enactment of a federal appropriation in March 1911 carried with it provision for the appointment by the President of the United States of three United States Commissioners as members of the Inter-State Board. 59
President Taft appointed as U.S. Commissioners, Lt. General Nelson A. Miles, Rear Admiral Charles E. Clark, and General J. Warren Keifer.

The enactment of the federal appropriation and appointment of the U.S. Commissioners brought unforeseen elements of control into the organization. To General Miles, President Taft wrote from the White House on June 7, 1911, the following letter:

"My Dear General Miles:-

"Under the law I am given the right to avail myself of the skill and advice of the Commission of Fine Arts in connection with the location and design of Statues, Fountains, and Monuments erected under the authority of the United States and with the selection of artists for executing the designs. It is my custom to refer to that Commission the question of the suitability and appropriateness of all permanent government works, and I should be very glad if the Perry's Victory Centennial Commission would confer with the Commission of Fine Arts in the matter of securing a suitable memorial in commemoration of Commodore Perry's victory on Lake Erie.

/signed/ "Sincerely yours,
"Wm. H. Taft" 60

The creation of the memorial had now become the central idea of the Centennial Celebration, and a general area of agreement among the states'

59. Sec. 2 of the Act. See also Appendix I, Item Nos. 31-32, pp.18-19, below.

60. From typewritten copy in the Johannsen Papers, donated to PVIPMM, N v. 1960 by Anthony J. Kindt, Put-in-Bay, Ohio.



representatives evolved that the major part of the funds of the Inter-State Board, then in hand and thenceforth to be appropriated, should be dedicated to this object.⁶¹ Only with the addition of the federal appropriation did the construction of a permanent memorial appear within means. The Taft letter making the advice of the Fine Arts Commission a condition of the availability of the federal appropriation, the suggestion of the President immediately became the next order of business.

61. Huntington, "The Memorial Paramount," The Perry's Victory Memorial, p.16.



CHAPTER IV

SITE SELECTION AND
LAND ACQUISITION



In a letter to Ohio Commission President Reinhart, quoted in Chapter III, pages 35-38 above, John Eisenmann nominated as his choice for the site of the permanent memorial the swampy neck or isthmus of land stretching between the two main sections of South Bass Island.¹ ". . . On August 6, 1909," Eisenmann later would recount to Webster P. Huntington,

"I visited Put-in-Bay Island decided upon the site, and at the same time interested the U.S. Lake Survey in behalf of the cause. On August 21st, I again visited the Island, having perfected my studies in the meantime, accompanied by Mr. Reinhart and several friends to inspect my proposed site. On the way we picked up Mr. Johansen sic. It was the first time we had ever met and you can imagine my surprise when I found that his home was just across the road from the site."²

For his site selection studies, Eisenmann already held a hypothesis based upon his own experience as a Lake Survey engineer. He knew which maps and charts were available that might profitably be consulted, and these were made available to him through the courtesy of the Superintendent of the Lake Survey.³ Among the Field Sheets made available to him by the U.S. Lake Survey would have been the following:

PUT-IN-BAY HARBOR, LAKE ERIE. U.S. Lake Survey Field Sheet No. 10, 1907, by Andrew J. Swift. 1:5,000.⁴

WEST END OF LAKE ERIE, THE BASS ISLANDS. U.S. Lake Survey

1. John Eisenmann to William H. Reinhart, Sept. 25, 1909. Box #1.
2. Eisenmann to Huntington, Sept. 12, 1911, Reel #3, Box #39.
3. Eisenmann to Reinhart, Sept. 25, 1909, loc. cit.
4. PVM-64 / Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial National Monument Map Number 64 /; see Appendix V, Item No. 1, p.2, below. This Field Sheet was located and identified for this Report by the U.S. Lake Survey, Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army, Detroit, Michigan, December 1960.



Field Sheet by M. S. MacDiarmid, 1909-1910. 1:10,000.

Among the other maps, plats and charts he would have had available would have been:

PUT-IN-BAY O / [Town of Put-in-Bay, Ohio]. 1900. Scale: not stated.⁶

SOUTH BASS ISLAND. PLAT OF MAIN OR WEST PART AS WELL AS EAST POINT. Drawn by E. Franck from his surveys made from Fall 1858 to Fall 1862 upon Order of J. de Rivera St. Jurgo.⁷

PUT-IN-BAY, ID. / [Township of Put-in-Bay, Ottawa County, Ohio]. 1900.⁸

"The neck," wrote Eisenmann on September 25, 1909,

"is a low and narrow formation composed of a rocky roof on the Bay side and the raised sand bar on the lake side opposite The highest point of this neck is scarcely four feet above the main lake level, while the underlying substrata ranging in every direction only a few feet below is solid rock -- a most excellent foundation to build upon, with plenty of available building and grading material surrounding it."⁹

5. PVM-65; see Appendix V, Item No. 2, p.2, below. This Field Sheet was located and identified for this Report by the U.S. Lake Survey, Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army, Detroit, Michigan, December 1960. It is probably this chart at a scale of 1:10,000 rather than one at 1:5,000, which Eisenmann refers to in Sept., 1909, saying that it "may be available by January 1st, 1910." Eisenmann to Reinhart, Sept. 25, 1909, loc. cit.

6. PVM-94; Atlas of Ottawa County, Ohio, 1900 (n.p., 1900), p.67; see Appendix V, Item No. 35, p.7, below. Item located through the good offices of Mrs. Jean L. Williams, Recorder of Ottawa County, Ohio.

7. PVM-95; Ottawa County, Ohio, Plat Records, Vol. 3, p.22; see Appendix V, Item No. 33, p.7, below. Item located through the good offices of Mrs. Jean L. Williams, Recorder of Ottawa County, Ohio.

8. PVM-96; Atlas of Ottawa County, Ohio, 1900, p.37; see Appendix V, Item No. 34, p.7, below. Item located through the good offices of Mrs. Jean L. Williams, Recorder of Ottawa County, Ohio.

9. Eisenmann to Reinhart, Sept. 25, 1909, loc. cit.



During the months following his August 1909 visit to the proposed site as guide to members of the Ohio Commission, these additional maps might have become available to Eisenmann:

- 10
- MAP OF PUT-IN-BAY by Charles E. De Witt, Dec. 1909.
- PLAT PLAN. SOUTH BASS ISLAND LOT 1 AND PART OF LOTS 2 AND 12, PUT-IN-BAY TOWNSHIP SHEET #13.¹¹
- PLAT PLAN. SOUTH BASS ISLAND LOTS 2 AND 3, PUT-IN-BAY TOWNSHIP SHEET #12.¹²
- PLAT PLAN. SOUTH BASS ISLAND LOTS 1 AND 2, PUT-IN-BAY TOWNSHIP SHEET #15.¹³

One map of which Eisenmann did render the original is a

MAP OF PUT-IN-BAY HARBOR PARK AND THE CHAPMAN AND LOCKWOOD PROPERTIES. Prepared by Chas. E. DeWitt, Port Clinton, Ohio. Dec. 14, 1909. After Original Map by John Eisenmann, Architect & Engineer, Cleveland, Ohio.¹⁴

The first two of the ten maps listed above were of importance second only to Eisenmann's own experience as a Lake Survey engineer. A print of

10. FVM-31; see Appendix V, Item No. 36, p.7, below. It is possible that Eisenmann himself rendered the original of this. See, for example, loc. cit., Item No. 39, p.8, below.
11. FVM-37; see Appendix V, Item No. 42, p.8, below. It is possible that Eisenmann himself rendered the original of this. See, for example, f.n. no. 10, above.
12. FVM-45; see Appendix V, Item No. 40, p.8, below. It is possible that Eisenmann himself rendered the original of this. See, for example, f.n. nos. 9, 10, above.
13. FVM-67; see Appendix V, Item No. 41, p.8, below. It is possible that Eisenmann himself rendered the original of this. See, for example, f.n. nos. 10, 11, 12, above.
14. A Blueprint copy only of this has been located. FVM-27; see Appendix V, Item No. 39, p.8, below.



the vital section of each of these Field Sheets appears below. At page 56 is

PUT-IN-BAY HARBOR, LAKE ERIE. U.S. Lake Survey Field Sheet No. 10, 1907, by Andrew J. Swift. 1:5,000;

and at page 57 is

WEST END OF LAKE ERIE, THE BASS ISLANDS. U.S. Lake Survey Field Sheet by M. S. MacDiarmid, 1909-1910. 1:10,000.¹⁵

The site recommended by Eisenmann was agreed upon by the Ohio Commissioners,¹⁶ July 27, 1910, a decision concurred in by the Interstate Board, September 10, 1910.¹⁷

Some individual questioning continued to appear concerning the site selection until the spring of 1912.¹⁸ With these reservations in view Eisenmann was commissioned to pursue the matter further in a more extensive survey. His Report, dated at Cleveland, August 26th, 1911, read as follows:

"Hon. George H. Worthington,
President General of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commission,
Cleveland, Ohio.

"My dear Commodore:-

15. All copies for this Report of these two Field Sheets provided by U.S. Lake Survey, Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army, Detroit, Michigan, December 1960; edited for binding by the writer.

16. Minutes, Vol. II, June 6, 1911, p.25; Appendix III, p.10, below.

17. Ibid.; Interstate Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commission, Meeting of the Inter-State Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners at Put-in-Bay, Ohio, September 10, 1910 (n.p., ca. 1910) pp. 7-8. See also Appendix I, Item No. 27, p.17, below.

18. See, for example, Nelson A. Miles to George H. Worthington, March 12, 1912; J. Edward Meyers to Geo. H. Worthington, March 23, 1912. Johanssen Papers.



"I beg leave to submit the following which might be of interest to you just at this time. At the request of the Board of Trade of Put-in-Bay to examine into the adaptability of other sites in the case that the one previously selected for the proposed Perry Memorial was declared unavailable on account of its excessive cost, I had the honor from August 20th to 23rd inclusive, to make a new complete reconnaissance of South Bass Island and its vicinity. The following is a synopsis of my findings. Details will be presented later if desired.

"(1) After my arrival from Cleveland on the 20th, I made a detailed examination of the various locations suggested within and immediately adjoining the corporation limits.

"(2) On the 21st I went to Detroit on the Steamer Kirby and returned to Put-in-Bay that same evening.

"While in Detroit, I received through the courtesy of Lieutenant Colonel C. S. Riche, Corps of United States Engineers, Superintendent of the United States Lake Survey, several blue prints of the 1909-1910 survey of the Bass Islands, which as previously reported to your commission, was started in 1909 by the preceding Superintendent of the United States Lake Survey, Major Charles Keller /sic/, at my suggestion for the use of your commission.

"I also visited Belle Isle, making a cursory examination of its lagoons, boat and canoe club houses, etc. A more detailed examination of its aquarium leads me to think that the basement and terrace space under the proposed memorial - if retained in the design /sic/ - could be used more advantageously for other purposes than an aquarium as previously suggested.

"(3) On the morning of the 22nd, through the courtesy of Captain Harry Crawsley, the Ohio Fish and Game Warden of the Lakes, at the Bay, the Steamer Oliver H. Perry, and its tender was placed at my service. We circumnavigated the Island, examining the whole of its shore line, making frequent landings to be sure of our detail, and completed the circuit at noon.

"(4) That afternoon I started the borings on the present selected site and by six o'clock P.M. had made eight of the twelve determined upon, finishing the other four on the 23rd.



"(5) I made my progress known to Messrs. Johannsen, Fox, Day and Schaidt, of the Committee of Board of Trade, just previous to the opening of the meeting called that night. While I was not at the meeting, I stood ready to attend upon call by telephone, as requested. I was subsequently informed that they held the best and most enthusiastic meeting ever held upon the Island, and, furthermore, before adjournment had unanimously decided to raise the necessary / sic / funds to make up the difference between the amount fixed by the Court and that appropriated by the general assembly of Ohio for the purchase of a site.

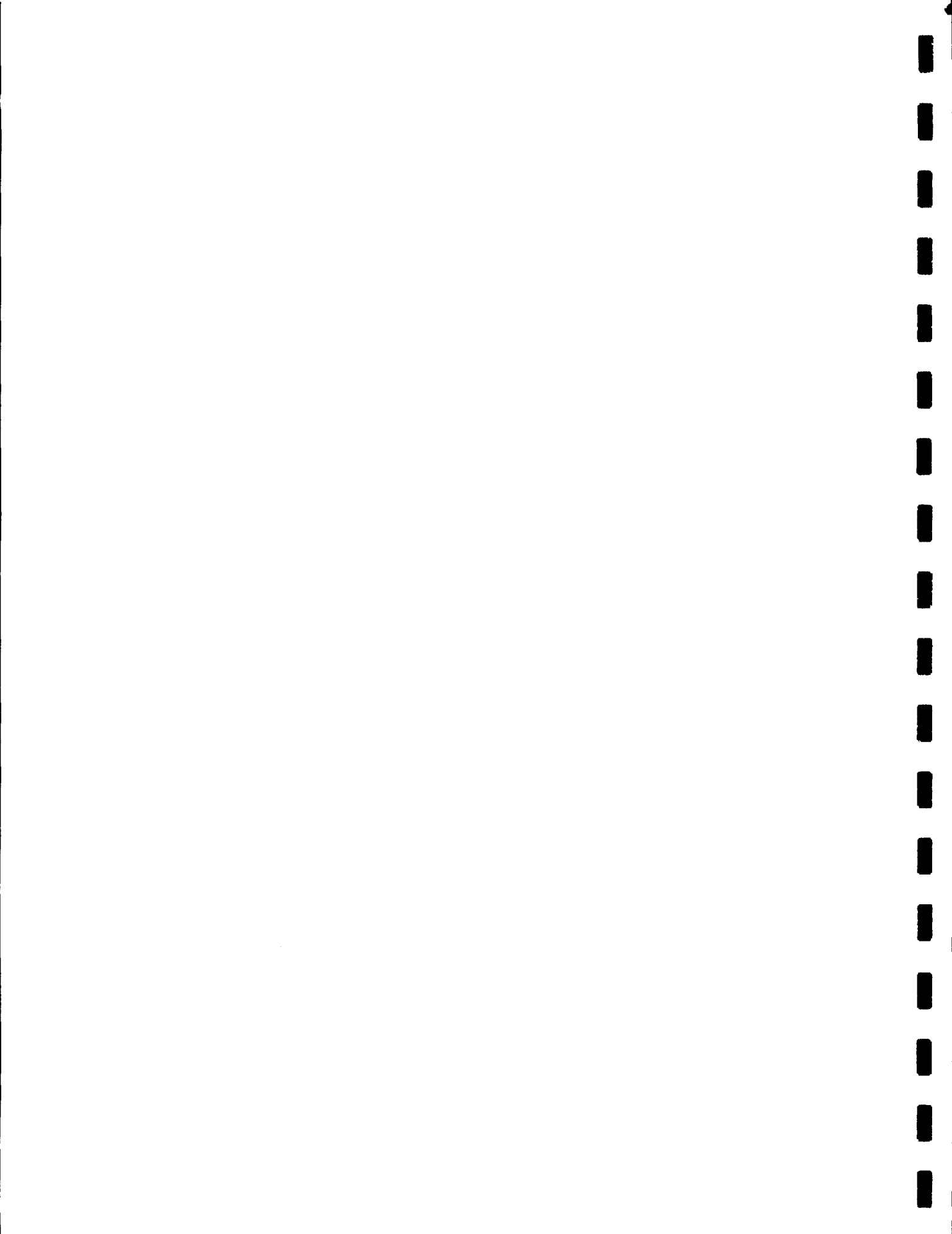
"A committee was also appointed to wait upon your honorable commission to communicate the Board's action to that effect.

"(6) In re to results ascertained by my borings - I found my previous judgment more than verified and that the islanders were very much mistaken or misinformed as to the geological formation of the isthmus connecting the two lobes of the Island.- it is no swamp at all.¹⁹ The county road is artificial for nearly its entire length, its elevation is only one to one and a half feet above the highest known water level-which is 575 feet above the sea level - and its foundation extends down to the level of the bottom of the alleged swamp - which is 572.5 feet above the level of the sea, or exactly to the level of the mean stage of high and low water of the Lake - the low water stage being 570-00 feet.

"My dear Commodore, here is an agreeable surprise - the bottom of the "swamp" is perfectly level and for the depth of less than one foot is peaty and loamy - below which it is solid blue clay down to rock bottom²⁰ - which is almost as flat as a pancake with a slight dip running from Northwest to Southeast - i.e. from the Bay to the sand beach. Where the telegraph poles stand, and along the county road, the highest point of the rocky table land below is 566 feet above the level of the sea or 4 feet below the lowest water mark of Lake Erie. Borings on the sand beach side made one foot deeper failed to reach rock bottom. In other words, if the area of this site now occupied by the swamp, inclusive of the road way on the Bay and the sand beach on the Lake side - were dredged to the rock - there would be two Islands

19. The Italics are Eisenmann's.

20. Ibid.



formed with not less than a four (4) foot channel between from shore to shore at low water - which means at least (6) feet during the summer and fall season. Low water occurs in February. All that now remains to complete this investigation is to have a few core borings made in the Bay outside of the road way as the bottom there is composed of loose stone, gravel, etc. - too compact to be penetrated with the (2) two inch ship-auger at my disposal. Several core borings should also be made directly under the memorial building to a depth of (10) ten or more feet so as to ascertain the consistency of the underlying strata of rock before it is built upon.

"The Kelley Island Lime Company have already given me a proposal at a per diem rate for the use of a core drill - with its crew - which they say will be placed at your service at a moment's notice.

"Upon my return to Cleveland, I turned a copy of the 1909-1910 United States Lake Survey map of the Bass Islands over to the Secretary General, Webster P. Huntington, for preservation in his files.²¹

"Awaiting the pleasure of your commands regarding the details of the above - upon your return to Cleveland - I remain,

[signed] "Very respectfully,
"John Eisenmann"²²

At the date of that letter, August 26, 1911, a competition for the selection of an architect for the memorial, under auspices of the U.S. Fine Arts Commission, appeared to be a certainty, and consideration was being given to the employment of a man other than Eisenmann as architectural consultant for the conduct of the competition. Only his preference for the tombolo between the two lobes of South Bass Island remained completely intact as an integral contribution by Eisenmann. In

21. PVM-65. See f.n. no. 5, above.

22. Original of this Letter is in the Johannsen Papers, donated to FVJPMNM Nov. 1960 by Anthony J. Kindt, Put-in-Bay, Ohio.



view of this wearing away of his recommendations, the letter quoted above is remarkably restrained. Its qualifying statements concerning the finality of conclusions, and particularly its recommendation for additional borings are evidence both of the competency of this imaginative and resourceful man and of his desire to adhere to the highest standards of both his engineering and architectural professions, despite his personal feelings in the matter. The reservations spelled out in this letter were later to be borne out by soundings taken prior to excavation for the foundation of the Doric column under supervision of the architect selected following the prize competition. This letter, indicating clearly the limitations of the equipment, manpower, time, and authority granted to Eisenmann for this site study, serves to absolve him from any blame whatsoever for the general nature of the descriptions supplied of the terrain and its underlying strata for purposes of the prize competition. Whatever John Eisenmann did accomplish, and that was a great deal, was far beyond any financial return he could ever have expected. An appropriate memorial at Put-in-Bay had become the great hobby of his professional life.

Every general history relating to South Bass Island in any way contains a general account of the possessory history of the Island through its first division into plats in 1858-1862. The documentary history of title to the island from the date of its earliest New World recording.

23. The island title for earlier periods would derive from Grants, Charters, Commissions, etc., bestowed by European monarchs upon their Agents for exploration, conquest and government in the New World.



in 1792 is annotated in Appendix III to this Report. The existence of the island as an undivided parcel of real estate is described there at pages 1 through 6. The neck of land (or isthmus or tombolo) connecting the two lobes of South Bass Island, shown as mapped in 1862 and in 1900, in the renderings there on page 8.²⁴ The division and sale and redivision and sale of the tombolo section of the island following 1862 created an unsymmetrical pattern of property lines and of ownership. The status of the property lines is rendered in the plat on page 13 of Appendix III below, with paper title to various sections of the site selected for the memorial vested, as of June 6, 1911, in six individual or common owners. The Land Records of Ottawa County, Ohio, indicate that as of June 6, 1911, the following held an interest in all or part of the land desired for the memorial reservation on South Bass Island:

- A. Mary F. Iavis & Edith Lockwood (approximately 60/100 acres)²⁵
- B. William Jamison & R. M. Robbins (approximately 30/100 acres)²⁶
- C. Mary A. Lockwood (approximately 6 and 34/100 acres)²⁷
- D. Alice J. Waite (approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ acre)²⁸

24. Of Appendix III.

25. Appendix III, pp.12-15, below.

26. Ibid., pp.13, 15-16, below.

27. Ibid., pp.13, 16-17, below.

28. Ibid., pp.13, 17-18, below.



E. John Bolander (approximately 3/100 acre) ²⁹

F. Mary L. Chapman (approximately 6 and 9/100 acres) ³⁰

Chain of ownership for each of these lots from the first conveyance of each following the 1862 division through June 6, 1911, is detailed in Appendix III at pages 12 and 14 through 21.

On May 2, 1911, the Ohio legislature received and passed a "BILL To provide for the purchase of a site for the Perry's Victory centennial celebration at Put-in-Bay . . . as a site for a memorial or other structure or buildings that may be erected thereon . . . ,"³¹ under the terms of which the Ohio Commissioners were to seek to negotiate purchase of the site with each individual owner. Failing to arrive at agreement with any of the owners, the Ohio Commission requested Governor Judson Harmon in a letter dated May 12, 1911,³² ". . . to notify the Attorney General of the State . . . to . . . proceed . . . for the purpose of acquiring the desired property by condemnation."³³ Under instructions

29. Ibid., pp.13, 18-20, below.

30. Ibid., pp.13, 20-21, below.

31. Ohio Senate Bill No. 77. Signed by the Governor May 11, 1911. See Appendix I, Item No. 34, p.20, below; Appendix III, p.7, below.

32. This Letter, drafted by Webster P. Huntington, is quoted in full at Appendix III, pp.11-12, below.

33. Commissioners Worthington, Hayes, Holbrook, Manning, Winkler, Johansen, Chapman and Mooney to Gov. Harmon, May 12, 1911. Minutes, Vol. I, pp.88-89; see also Vol. II, p.25. See also Appendix III, pp.10-11, below.



from the Governor, Ohio Attorney General Timothy S. Hogan filed in the Ottawa County Probate Court on June 6, 1911, an Application to Assess Compensation, the legal process at that time for acquisition of the properties for public purposes. Following a preliminary hearing, Probate Judge Lawrence C. Rupp ruled that the State of Ohio was entitled to appropriate the property described and ordered the Clerk of Common Pleas Court to draw a jury to view the properties on July 31 and place a fair value upon each of them. For Tract A, the award was \$383.00; Tract B, \$1,500.00; Tract C, \$6,000.00; Tract E, \$7,000, a total of \$14,883.00. Court costs assessed over and above the award brought the sum total for the four lots to \$15,227. The Ohio Commissioners supplied \$8,825.00 of this amount, the balance was supplied by the Board of Trade of Put-in-Bay, raised by local subscription. Parcel E was acquired as a result of negotiations between the Ohio Commission and the owner in May 1912. No entry appears in the Land Records of Ottawa County describing

34. Appears in unindexed material from Perry's Victory Centennial Commission Papers microfilmed from the Collection in the Ohio State Museum. See PVIPLMM Microfilm Collection, Reels 1-4.

35. See Appendix III, pp.22-23, below.

36. Loc. cit., pp.23-24, below.

37. Inter-State Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commission, Meeting of the Inter-State Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners at Put-in-Bay, Ohio, September 9, 1911 (n.p., ca. 1911), p.1. See Appendix I, Item No. 36, p.21, below.

38. Ibid.

39. Appendix III, p.25, below.



acquisition either by the State of Ohio or by the United States of Parcel
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E. In May 1913 Ohio Governor James M. Cox signed into law Ohio House
Bill No. 398 ceding the land to the United States as one complete parcel
41
and authorizing its conveyance to the United States of America. U.S.

Public Law No. 344, Approved March 3, 1919, accepted the conveyance on
42
behalf of the United States.

40. Ibid.

41. See complete text of the Bills enacted into law, at Appendix III,
pp.26-27, below. See also Appendix I, pp.23-24, below.

42. Appendix I, Item No. 54, below; Appendix III, pp.28-29, below.



CHAPTER V

THE DESIGN COMPETITION

OF 1912



In advance of approaching the U.S. Fine Arts Commission to seek to
- employ its "skill and advice"¹ in selecting an architect for the memorial,
the Inter-State Commission sought to engage the services of an architec-
tural adviser, authorizing ". . . the building committee to employ at a
reasonable expense an architect for the preparation of such plans and
drawings."² Col. Webb C. Hayes, representing the Inter-State Board,
called July 5th, 1911, on Frank Miles Day, a former president of the
American Institute of Architects and senior member of the Philadelphia
architectural firm of Day Brothers and Klauder, to inquire as to Mr.
Day's availability to serve as professional adviser to the Building
Committee of the Inter-State Board of Perry's Victory Memorial Commissioners.³
Responding to the visit, architect Day wrote to General Miles on July 7,
1911, that Col. Hayes

". . . explained the intended erection of a
monument to Commodore Perry's victory at Put-in-Bay, giving
me the details of the progress and status of the movement,
and asking me to consider the question of acting as profes-
sional advisor to the Commission on the selection by compe-
tition of a design and architect for the monument and re-
questing me to write to you today as he expected to confer
with you as to the matter at an early date.

"I should be very glad to undertake the duty of acting as
Professional Advisor to the Commission. I have for many
years given much attention to the conduct of architectural

1. Recommended in Letter from President Taft to General Nelson A. Miles, June 7, 1911. Johanssen Papers; quoted in full above at p.49.
2. Minutes, II, June 6, 1911, p.321
3. Frank Miles Day to General Nelson A. Miles, July 7, 1911. Typed copy in Johanssen Papers.



competitions. As President of the American Institute of Architects and subsequently as Chairman of its standing Committee on Competitions, I have had many duties to perform connected with competitions of great importance, having frequently acted as juror for the United States Government.

"If retained by your Commission, my duties would consist of the necessary conferences with the Building Committee and if necessary, with the Commission itself, of drafting and probably redrafting the program of the competition, a document on the wisdom of which depends to a very large extent the success of the competition. The program involves most explicit statements of the status and relation of the Commission and the Competitors, the kind of competition to be instituted, the selection of competitors, the number and nature of the drawings, the anonymity of their submission, the requirements of the monument itself, the duty and power of the jury, the commission to be paid the successful competitor, the prizes to be awarded to those placed next after the winner and sundry other questions of equal importance.

"Upon the fairness of the program and its attractiveness to possible competitors depend the participation of architects of such ability as to make the outcome successful. Without a good program, not only will the ablest architects refuse to participate but your Committee will be exposed to the many snares and pitfalls which always occur in the course of an architectural competition.

"After the preparation of the program, the duties of the Professional Advisor consist in answering to all competitors any questions that may be raised by any participant, in conducting the competitions generally, in acting (if desired) as a member of the jury and in continuing as advisor to the Commission until the architect has been selected.

"Col. Hayes has asked me to report what would be my fee for so acting and in accordance with his request I would say that it would be \$1500.00; expenses incurred in traveling while occupied on your behalf would also be payable by the Commission.

". . . In response to a question of Col. Hayes as to whether the National Commission of Fine Arts would be a proper jury of award, I would say that I should think it a most excellent one.



"I can assure you that I should be deeply interested in your problem and should give it my most serious and immediate attention.

"Very Sincerely yours,

[signed]

"Frank Miles Day."⁴

Following this letter from Mr. Day, the matter rested for more than two months. General Miles, speaking for the Building Committee,⁵ at the next Inter-State Board meeting, September 8, 1911, at Put-in-Bay, said that its members were of the opinion that the situation now confronting the commissioners inevitably suggested the necessity of opening the plans of the memorial to general competition among architects, in order to avoid criticism and obtain the best results.⁶ In behalf of the Building Committee, General Miles offered and moved the adoption of the following resolution:

"That the Building Committee be and is hereby authorized to expend, in its judgment, a sum not to exceed \$4,500 for the purpose of procuring the services of an architectural adviser and for designs out of any funds that may be available."⁷

Seconded by General Hayes of Illinois, the resolution was adopted unanimously.⁸ In a letter dated from Cleveland on September 11th, George H.

4. Ibid.

5. General Miles, Henry Watterson, General Keifer.

6. Minutes, II, Sept. 8, 1911, p.40.

7. Minutes, II, Sept. 8, 1911, p.42.

8. Ibid.



Worthington, President General of the Inter-State Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commission, tendered to Frank Miles Day the position of architectural advisor to the Commission. Mr. Day accepted the commission in an enthusiastic letter of response, dated from the offices of Day Brothers and Klauder, Architects, 925 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, September 13, 1911, and departed by railroad the following Monday evening to meet in Cleveland with President General Worthington, who escorted him to Put-in-Bay where Mr. Sinke M. Johannsen showed them over the monument

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site. The desire of President Taft that designs considered for the memorial be considered by the U.S. Fine Arts Commission and the attention to this request by the Inter-State Board as the solution to its dilemma of the necessity of obtaining suitable designs and deciding upon one, did not make automatic the availability of the Commission, which had relatively new organization, having been created in 1910 by Act of Congress. Its operating policies were yet to be established, and it had yet to undertake its first major deliberation. 11 Members of the Commission in

9. President General to Mr. Frank Miles Day, Sept. 11, 1911, Carbon copy of Letter in Johannsen Papers.

10. Day to Worthington, Sept. 12, 1911 [L.S.]; President-General to Johannsen, Sept. 14, 1911 [carbon copy of letter]; Worthington to Day, Sept. 14, 1911 [carbon copy of telegram]; Day to Worthington, Sept. 14, 1911 [copy for telegram]; President-General to Day, Sept. 14, 1911 [carbon copy of letter]; Day to Worthington [L.S.]. Johannsen Papers.

11. "The competition for the Perry Memorial was the first one held by the Commission of Fine Arts." L. R. Wilson, Secretary, The Commission of Fine Arts, Letter to writer, Jan. 13, 1961. The Commission sometimes is called the National Commission of Fine Arts or the National Fine Arts Commission. L. R. Wilson, Secretary, The Commission of Fine Arts, Letter to writer, July 26, 1960.



September 1911 were Daniel H. Burnham, Cass Gilbert, Daniel C. French, Charles Moore, Frederick Law Olmstead, Francis D. Millet and Thomas Hastings.¹² Secretary to the Commission during its initial three years was Col. Spencer Cosby, until detailed in 1913 as military attache at the American Embassy, France; assistant to Col. Cosby and Clerk to the Commission was Arno B. Cammerer, later to become Director, U.S. National Park Service.¹³

A formal letter of inquiry to the Fine Arts Commission would most likely have delayed until some months later even a decision as to whether the Commission would act in this case, because of the problem of formulating a firm policy line in this new agency.¹⁴ In order to prevent such a delay in the execution of the program of competition, Mr. Day arranged through his professional contacts to confer informally with members of the Fine Arts Commission in New York City on the afternoon of September 25th.¹⁵ In this conference Mr. Day gained a sympathetic hearing for his project and communicated to the Commissioners his belief in the importance of the

12. Day to Webster P. Huntington, Sept. 26, 1911 [carbon copy of letter].
Johannsen Papers.

13. Wilson, letter to writer, Jan. 13, 1961.

14. Day to Huntington, Sept. 25, 1911; Reel 3, Box 40. Day to Huntington, Sept. 26, 1911 [carbon copy of letter]; Johannsen Papers.

15. "I am going to New York this afternoon to confer with members of the National Commission of the Fine Arts since I think I can find in conversation with them what they will do about acting as our jury whereas if I sent them a communication, they probably would take no action until the next meeting which might cause serious delay in getting out the program." Day to Huntington, Sept. 25, 1911. Reel 3, Box 39.



program of competition being organized to select the architect for the
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memorial. October 1, 1911, Mr. Day sent to President General Worth-
17
ington his draft of the Program for the architectural competition,
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and two additional copies to him the day following. The Building
Committee of the Inter-State Board met with the consulting architect in
19
Cleveland on October 11 to review and revise the Program draft. At
that meeting Mr. Day was authorized to arrange for publication of the
20
revised Program. October 16th Day submitted for Huntington's perusal
a draft of a preliminary news release to the "architectural press,"
phrased in the terms of the announcement which appeared in those journals
during succeeding months:

"The Building Committee of the Perry Memorial announces a competition for the selection of an architect for the Memorial which will be erected at Put-in-Bay, South Bass Island, Lake Erie, near the place where Perry's victorious action was fought. The Memorial will commemorate not only the victory but the subject of one hundred years of peace between the United States and Great Britain.

"It will consist of a lofty shaft with a museum of historic relics at its base standing in a reservayion [sic] of fourteen acres. \$600,000 will be expended upon the construction

16. Day to Huntington, Sept. 26, 1911 [carbon copy of letter]. Johannsen Papers.
17. Day to Worthington, Oct. 1, 1911 [A.L.S.]. Johannsen Papers.
18. Day to Worthington, Oct. 2, 1911 [copy for telegram, A.L.S.]; Day to Worthington, Oct. 2, 1911 [L.S.]. Johannsen Papers.
19. Day to Worthington, Oct. 4, 1911; Henry Watterson to Worthington, Oct. 4, 1911; Worthington to Watterson, Oct. 6, 1911. Johannsen Papers.
20. Minutes, II, p.54.



of the commemoration shaft and museum. The reservation will be designed as a suitable setting for the Memorial.

"The program, which conforms to the principles approved by the American Institute of Architects, has been so drawn under the direction of the Committee and Mr. Frank Miles Day adviser to the Committee, that the problem presented is a most attractive one. Competitors /sic/ will have the fullest scope for their artistic imagination. The prize of the competition will be the appointment as architect to design and superintend the construction of the Memorial. There are also to be three premiums for the authors of the designs placed next to the winner.

"The Building Committee will be advised in making its awards by a jury of well known experts.

"Architects desiring a copy of the program which sets forth the conditions of participation should make application to Mr. Webster P. Huntington, Secretary to the Building Committee, Federal Building, Cleveland, Ohio."21

Under date of October 12, Lt.-General Nelson A. Miles, representing the federal commissioners on the Inter-State Board, forwarded to the U.S. Fine Arts Commission a formal letter requesting the "advice and assistance" of the Fine Arts Commission in designating an architect for the Perry Memorial. This request was acted upon by the Commission and General Miles notified in a letter dated November 3, 1911:

"The Commission of Fine Arts
1720 New York Avenue
Washington
Nov. 3, 1911

"Lt.-General Nelson A. Miles, U.S.A.,
Washington, D.C.

"General:

21. Reel 3, Box 40.



"At a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held yesterday I presented your letter of October twelfth, and was directed by the Commission to inform you that they will take much pleasure in acceding to the request of the United States Commissioners for the erection of the Perry Memorial that the Commission of Fine Arts give advice and assistance in respect to the award of the competition for the Memorial. The Commission will act in accordance with the provisions of the excellent program of competition for the selection of an architect, copies of which have been sent to them.

"In order that they may the better advise the Building Committee, as many as possible of the members of the Commission of Fine Arts will make a visit to the site of the proposed memorial before the date of the competition.

[signed]

"Very respectfully,
"Spencer Cosby,
"Colonel, U.S. Army,
"Secretary."²²

The members of the Fine Arts Commission met with the members of the Building Committee of the Inter-State Board at the West House in Sandusky, Ohio, on Sunday morning, November 12, from where all were transported to Put-in-Bay aboard the U.S. Treasury Department revenue cutter Morrill.^{23.}

Three or four of the Fine Art Commissioners still were not resigned to serving merely in an advisory capacity in the selection of the architect for the memorial, so the matter was taken up once more in a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Inter-State Board at Cleveland on November 18.²⁴

22. Reel 3, Box 40; Minutes, II, pp.56-57.

23. Cosby to Huntington, Nov. 3, 1911; Huntington to Cosby, Nov. 6, 1911; Cosby to Huntington, Nov. 7, 1911 [letter; telegram]; Charles Moore to Huntington, Nov. 3, 1911; Frederick Law Olmstead to Huntington, Nov. 9, 1911. Reel 3, Box 40.

24. Daniel H. Burnham to Miles, Nov. 15, 1911; Huntington to Cosby, Nov. 29, 1911. Reel 3, Box 40.



The Fine Arts Commissioners were additionally concerned about the anonymity of the contestants in the conduct of the competition, in view of the probability that at least John Eisenmann, and possibly other qualified professional architects whose ideas concerning the memorial had been informally or formally presented to the memorial commissioners either individually or collectively, might technically be barred from the competition. Most important to the later development of the memorial, but a marginal issue at that time in the view of the Perry commissioners, the Fine Arts Commissioners were of the view that the specifications to be followed by the competing architects should be interpreted as permitting the shaft or tower to be optionally a separate structure, that it would not be necessary to design the shaft or tower as a structural unit with the building(s)

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to house a museum or other facilities. In its meeting on November 18, 1911, the Executive Committee of the Inter-State Board deliberated upon the questions raised by the Fine Arts Commissioners, and voted to reply that the selections by the Fine Arts Commission would be advisory, to be passed upon by the Building Committee of the Inter-State Board, and that the Executive Committee of the Inter-State Board of Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners ". . . be and hereby is authorized to adopt or re-

ject, as a final body of award . . . a design and the appointment of an architect for the Perry Memorial." They agreed that the program already

26

25. Ibid.

26. Minutes, II, Nov. 18, 1911, p.48. Huntington to Cosby, Nov. 29, 1911; Reel 3, Box 40.



included provision for the optional separation of the shaft or tower as
a separate structure and should be so interpreted. ²⁷ The Building Com-
mittee of the Inter-State Board already had made provision in its meeting
of October 11, that ". . . notwithstanding the competition . . . provided
for shall be anonymous, the Architectural Advisor and the Building Com-
mittee feel it incumbent upon them to advise competitors that certain
drawings and plans of the proposed Perry Memorial have been exhibited
to the Inter-State Board, and, as said designs have been made public
heretofore with the authors' names, it is understood that no provision
of this program regarding anonymity shall exclude the submission of said
plans in the competition or in any degree prejudice their authors as
competitors;" ²⁸ and this information was communicated to the Fine Arts
Commissioners, ²⁹ in response to the inquiry on that particular point.

The specifications upon which architectural submission was to be
made were embodied in the booklet approved by the Building Committee
on October 11, ³⁰ to which subsequently were made three modifications
which were communicated to all contestants. The booklet as authorized
on October 11, 1911, was titled:

27. Ibid.

28. Minutes, II, Oct. 11, 1911, p.53.

29. Huntington to Cosby, Nov. 29, 1911. Reel 3, Box 40.

30. Minutes, II, p.54.



"Program of a Competition
for the selection of an Architect to design
and supervise the construction of the

P E R R Y M E M O R I A L

at Put-in-Bay, Ohio."

The text was as follows:



"PROGRAM OF A COMPETITION

FOR THE SELECTION OF AN ARCHITECT TO DESIGN

AND SUPERVISE THE CONSTRUCTION OF

THE PERRY MEMORIAL AT

PUT-IN-BAY, OHIO

"The Memorial

"The erection of the Perry Memorial constitutes an important part of the celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of the War of 1812-15. It is intended to commemorate the victory of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry and the officers and men under his command at the Battle of Lake Erie, and as a memorial to the hundred years of peace between Great Britain and the United States.

"The Commissioners

"Commissioners representing the United States and the States of Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, New York, Rhode Island, Kentucky and Minnesota, acting under authority of Congress and the Legislatures of the several States, have united themselves in an organization bearing title 'The Inter-State Board of Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners,' hereinafter called 'The Inter-State Board.'

"Appropriations which will be expended under the authority of the Inter-State Board have been made as follows: The United States, \$250,000; the State of Ohio, \$83,000; the State

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of Pennsylvania, \$75,000; and the State of Wisconsin, \$50,000. It is confidently expected that each of the other States which have appointed Commissioners will make an appropriation at the next session of their Legislatures. Other States may perhaps join in the movement.

"The officers and members of the Inter-State Board are as follows:

President-General

George H. Worthington, Cleveland, Ohio

First Vice-President-General

Colonel Henry Watterson, Louisville, Kentucky

Secretary-General

Webster P. Huntington, Cleveland, Ohio

Treasurer-General

A. E. Sisson, Erie, Pennsylvania

Auditor-General

Harry Cutler, Providence, Rhode Island

State Vice-Presidents

<u>Ohio</u>	Horace Holbrook	Warren
<u>Pennsylvania</u>	Edwin H. Vare	Philadelphia
<u>Michigan</u>	Roy S. Barnhart	Grand Rapids
<u>Illinois</u>	General Philip C. Hayes	Joliet
<u>Wisconsin</u>	Rear Admiral F. M. Symonds, U.S.N.	Galesville
<u>New York</u>	Henry Harmon Noble	Essex
<u>Rhode Island</u>	Sumner Mowry	Peacedale
<u>Kentucky</u>	Colonel Andrew Cowan	Louisville
<u>Minnesota</u>	W. H. Wescott	Rosemount

[2]



"Executive Committee

The General Officers, ex-officio, The United States
Commissioners and

<u>Ohio</u>	John J. Manning	Toledo
<u>Pennsylvania</u>	Milton W. Shreve	Erie
<u>Michigan</u>	Geo. W. Parker	Detroit
<u>Illinois</u>	William Porter Adams	Chicago
<u>Wisconsin</u>	A. W. Sanborn	Ashland
<u>New York</u>	Clinton Bradford Herrick, M.D.	Troy
<u>Rhode Island</u>	John P. Sanborn	Newport
<u>Kentucky</u>	McKenzie R. Todd	Frankfort
<u>Minnesota</u>	J. Edward Meyers	Minneapolis

"Commissioners

For the United States Government -- Lieutenant-General Nelson
A. Miles, U.S.A., Washington, D.C.; Rear Admiral Charles
E. Clark, U.S.N., Washington, D.C.; General J. Warren
Keifer, Springfield, Ohio.

Ohio -- George H. Worthington, Cleveland; S. M. Johansson
[sic], Put-in-Bay; John J. Manning, Toledo; Eli Winkler,
First National Bank Building, Cincinnati; Colonel Webb
C. Hayes, Fremont; Horace Holbrook, Warren; William C.
Mooney, Woodsfield; Horace L. Chapman, Columbus, (One
vacancy); [Webster P. Huntington, Secretary, Columbus]

Pennsylvania -- A. E. Sisson, Erie; Edwin H. Vare, Philadel-
phia; Milton W. Shreve, Erie; T. C. Jones, McKeesport;
Geo. W. Neff, M.D.; Masontown.

Michigan -- Arthur P. Loomis, Lansing; Roy S. Barnhart, Grand
Rapids; E. K. Warren, Three Oaks; Geo. W. Parker, Detroit.
(One vacancy.)

Illinois -- General Philip C. Hayes, Joliet; William Porter
Adams, 726 Washington Boulevard, Chicago; Willis J.
Wells, 309 Michigan Boulevard, Chicago; Chesley R. Perry,
911 First National Bank Building, Chicago; W. H. McIntosh,
Rockford.



Wisconsin -- John M. Whitehead, Janesville; A. W. Sanborn, Ashland; C. B. Perry, Wauwatosa; S. W. Randolph, Manitowoc; Louis Bohmrich, Milwaukee; Capt. John M. Baer, Appleton; Rear Admiral Frederick M. Symonds, Galesville.

New York -- William Simon, Buffalo; George D. Emerson, Buffalo; John T. Mott, Oswego; Clinton Bradford Herrick, M.D., Troy; Henry Harmon Noble, Essex.

Rhode Island -- John P. Sanborn, Newport; Louis N. Arnold, Westerly; Sumner Mowry, Peacedale; William C. Bliss, East Providence; Harry Cutler, Providence.

Kentucky -- Colonel Henry Watterson, Louisville; Colonel Andrew Cowan, Louisville; Samuel M. Wilson, Lexington; Colonel R. W. Nelson, Newport; McKenzie R. Todd, Frankfort.

Minnesota -- W. H. Wescott, Rosemount; J. Edward Meyers, Minneapolis; D. S. Kingsbury, St. Paul; Milo B. Price, Owatonna; William D. Windom, Washington, D.C.

"The Building Committee

"The Inter-State Board has appointed a Building Committee consisting of

George H. Worthington, Cleveland, Ohio, Chairman;
Colonel Henry Watterson, Louisville, Ky.;
Lieutenant-General Nelson A. Miles, Washington, D.C.

"The Building Committee has appointed Webster P. Huntington, Federal Building, Cleveland, Ohio, as its secretary, and it has appointed Frank Miles Day, Past President of the American Institute of Architects, to advise it in the preparation of this program and in the conduct of the competition. The Inter-State Board having delegated to the Building Committee full authority



to establish for it and in its name a competition for the selection of an architect to design and supervise the construction of the Perry Memorial, and to recommend a design and architect to the Executive Committee of the Inter-State Board, the Building Committee, by virtue of that authority, establishes the competition herein described.

"The Competition

"The competition will be open to applicants of established reputation. Applications, to receive consideration, must be addressed to the Building Committee of the Perry Memorial, care Webster P. Huntington, Secretary, Federal Building, Cleveland, Ohio, and they must be received not later than November 14th, 1911. The Building Committee, having considered such applications, will reply to all, notifying those whom they deem qualified to enter the competition. As the winner of the competition will be appointed the architect of the Memorial, the Building Committee will select those who are to take part in it with the greatest care, and will include among them only architects in whose ability and integrity they have absolute confidence and to any one of whom they are willing to entrust the work.

"This program constitutes an agreement between the Inter-State Board on the one hand and each participant in the competition and the appointed architect, severally, on the other, to the terms of which agreement each architect submitting a design gives assent by such submission.

"Communications regarding the competition should be addressed to Frank Miles Day, 925 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa. They must be in writing and they may be anonymous.

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Any information issued after the publication of this program, including replies to communications, will be mailed simultaneously to each competitor and will thereupon become an essential part of the program. Inquiries, to have consideration, must be received not later than December 20th, 1911, No instructions relating to the 'Problem' or the 'Drawings' will be sent out later than December 24th, 1911.

"The survey of the site and schedule of the American Institute of Architects attached to this program form an essential part of it.

"The submission of a design constitutes a guarantee on the part of the architect submitting it that it has been produced in his own office under his own direction. Proof of the contrary, to the satisfaction of the Building Committee, will constitute ground for the annulment of any award made in his favor.

"No competitor shall enter into association with any other architect unless such intention has been declared in the application, and if such associates shall win the competition, their association shall continue until the completion of the work.

"It is intended so to conduct the competition that the authorship of the several designs shall be unknown except to those who have worked upon them. For a competitor to attempt in any way to make known the authorship of his design to any member of the Inter-State Board or of the Commission of the Fine Arts, or to attempt to influence the award, either directly or indirectly, except by means of a proper submission of his design, will upon the establishment of the fact to the satisfaction of the Building Committee, preclude an award in his favor or will constitute ground for the annulment of any award in his favor.

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"In addition to the three preceding paragraphs, which are of a mandatory character, and clearly to distinguish from the rest of the program such further instructions to competitors as are of the same character, they are printed in heavy-faced type. Failure to comply with any mandatory requirement of the program will preclude an award in favor of the author of the design so failing.

"The Prize and the Premiums

"The prize of the competition will be the commission to design and supervise the construction of the Memorial. This prize will be awarded in the manner and upon the terms hereinafter set forth. Three premiums of respectively \$1250.00, \$1000.00, and \$750.00, will be awarded in the manner herein-after set forth. No competitor, other than those who may be awarded the prize and premiums, will receive any remuneration for taking part in the competition.

"The Site

"South Bass Island is one of a group of islands lying at the western end of Lake Erie. It is divided by an isthmus into two parts. The isthmus has been selected by the Inter-State Board as the site of the Perry Memorial, and a tract of about fourteen acres (shown within the lines A, B, C, D and E on the survey)³¹ has been purchased to provide a reservation about the Memorial.

"Enclosed between South Bass and the adjoining Gibraltar Island is a sheet of water known as Put-in-Bay, where Commodore Perry's squadron lay before the battle and to which it returned with the captured British ships. From the high bluffs of Gibraltar Island a look-out was kept for the opposing fleet, and

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31. "A Map of Bass Islands and a Survey of the Reservation for the Perry Memorial, Put-in-Bay, Ohio," Program of a Competition for the selection of an Architect to design and supervise the construction of the Perry Memorial at Put-in-Bay, Ohio, p. /18/; q.v. in Minutes, II, p.1.



when sighted, battle was joined about eight miles to the north-westward. After the victory, troops under command of General William Henry Harrison were brought in Perry's ships to South Bass Island, where they were drilled and whence they took their departure for the Battle of the Thames and the capture of Detroit. The site of the monument is, therefore, a centre of great historic interest.

"South Bass and adjacent islands are much frequented by summer visitors, and the village of Put-in-Bay adjoining the site of the Memorial is the centre of such traffic. A chart of a portion of Lake Erie, including the Bass Islands and Sandusky, may be had post free by sending a postal order for 18 cents to the United States Engineer Office, 540 Federal Building, Buffalo, N.Y., or to the United States Lake Survey Office, Old Custom House, Detroit, Mich., with a request for Chart No. 6, Index No. 36.

"A large part of the site is marsh, but at its northern end the land is perhaps six feet above the mean water level. The variation of the water level is about four feet. The whole area of the reservation is underlaid by firm rock at no great depth. For the purposes of this competition, the following assumptions are made: First, that solid rock underlies the site in a plane five feet below the mean water level; second, that the roads shown on the survey line in a plane four feet above mean water level; third, that the site is treeless.

"The Problem

"As the Committee desires to receive a well studied general scheme and not a design perfected in detail, and as it wishes to leave to each competitor entire freedom to work out his ideas,

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it avoids giving detailed instructions as to the location or planning of the several buildings.

"The Memorial will consist primarily of a shaft* of considerable height, bearing, as an aid to navigation, if the designer wishes to include it, a light of the first order. The shaft must have a stairway, an elevator and a convenient outlook for the public from a high level.

"There is also to be a Museum of Historic Relics, which should be a hall of fine proportions and of a floor area of not less than three thousand square feet and not more than five thousand square feet. Suitable provision should be made for lavatories and janitor's service, and for an office for the curator.

"The Shaft and the Museum may be grouped, combined or separated in whatever way may appear best to the competitor.

"The remains of a number of officers and sailors, both of the British and American fleets, are interred on the island. They will be reinterred within the walls of the Memorial. The competitor may suggest, either in his design or in the written description, such special memorial to them as he may deem fit.

"It is intended that the reservation shall afford a suitable setting for the Memorial, but this does not mean that the whole area must be treated in a formal manner. A curving road runs along the western or bay shore. Its line may be changed, and it may be widened, but no part of the reservation or of the road may be shown as extending further into the bay or

*The word shaft is not used in a technical sense and it is not to be taken as indicating a desired type of design.'

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the lake than the present shore line. The bay and lake must be so connected as to provide for the convenient passage of boats of the life saving service. The earth excavated from such connection and any extensions of it may, if desired, be utilized in raising the level of the site, but competitors who desire to show the Memorial as rising directly from the water may do so. It is important that adequate circulation should be provided within the buildings and in the reservation generally.

"Cost and Cubage

"The Inter-State Board has limited the Building Committee to an expenditure of six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) upon the construction of the Memorial, not including the improvement of the reservation.

"For the purposes of this competition, it is assumed that the expenditure upon the improvement of the grounds will be confined to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), and competitors are advised to design such improvement with due regard to the economy thus indicated.

"In cubing the Memorial, the Shaft, from the level of the rock upwards, will be taken at one dollar (\$1.00) per cubic foot, and the Museum, from the same level, at seventy cents (\$.70) per cubic foot. Any design, the Shaft and Museum of which, being thus cubed, exceeds a cost of six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) shall be ineligible to an award of the prize or of any premium. Should the cost thus calculated be materially less than six hundred thousand dollars, that fact will be taken into consideration in respect to the treatment of the grounds.

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"Drawings

"The competitive drawings will consist of

"(a) A general plan showing the proposed arrangement of the Memorial, the roads and paths and the treatment of the reservation at a scale of 1-64" to the foot.

"(b) A plan of the first story of the Shaft and the Museum at a scale of 1-16" to the foot. If the competitor's solution of the problem requires for its proper explanation plans of stories higher than the first, he may submit such plans at a scale of 1-16" to the foot, but they should be upon the same sheet as the first-floor plans.

"(c) A section at a scale of 1-16" to the foot, taken through the Museum and the Shaft.

"(d) An elevation at a scale of 1-16" to the foot, of the Museum and the Shaft and their setting.

"(e) A perspective drawing of the Memorial so made that the vertical angle of the Shaft nearest to the spectator will be at a scale of 1-16" to the foot.

"All drawings must be on white paper or on tracing paper mounted on white paper, and the rendering of all except the perspective shall be in monochrome.

"No shadows shall be cast on any drawing save the elevation, in which they shall be shown at the usual angle of forty-five degrees (45°). The perspective shall be in pure outline, in black ink or black pencil, showing only the architectural forms, with no indication of shadows or textures.

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"On the section, elevation and perspective a single human figure 5'9" high may be shown. Trees, if constituting a part of the design, may be shown, but boats, ships and anything not a permanent part of the design must not be shown. One or more drawings may be placed on one sheet. Each sheet must bear the title 'Perry Memorial Competition.' No models and no drawings save those named above may be presented. No alternative drawings or flaps of any kind are permitted.

"The design may be accompanied by a brief typewritten description explaining any features which cannot clearly be indicated in the design, and setting forth the cubage and cost calculated in the manner above indicated. In the description, any reference to the author of the design must be in the first person plural.

"The drawings and description must not be signed, nor may they or their wrapping bear any motto, device or distinguishing mark. The drawings must not be framed or mounted on boards of any kind or on stretchers.

"Submission

"All drawings are to be enclosed within stiff boards, securely wrapped and addressed to Col. Spencer Cosby, Secretary of the Commission of Fine Arts, Washington, D.C. With the drawings there shall be enclosed a large opaque envelope containing a card bearing the name and address of the competitor. The envelope shall be sealed and addressed in typewriting to the Building Committee of the Perry Memorial.

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"Designs to be eligible to the competition must be received at the above address not later than noon, Saturday, January 20th, 1912. No design received after that time will be opened, except that in the event of delay in delivery the Committee may accept a design, if satisfied that the competitor was not responsible for the delay. Packages containing the competitive designs will be opened by Col. Spencer Cosby, who will place a number on each drawing and on the corresponding envelope. He will then retain the envelopes in his possession unopened until all awards herein provided for shall have been made.

"The Advisory Commission

"The Commission of the Fine Arts appointed by the President of the United States in accordance with an Act of Congress, and consisting of Daniel H. Burnham, Chairman, Daniel C. French, Thomas Hastings, Frederick Law Olmsted, Charles Moore, Cass Gilbert, and Francis D. Millet, will advise the Building Committee as to the making of awards. The Commission will select one design as being the most satisfactory solution of the problem submitted and will recommend to the Building Committee that its author be appointed as architect. The Commission will name, in order of merit, three other designs as worthy of the three premiums.

"Awards

"On receiving the report of the Commission of the Fine Arts, the Building Committee will carefully examine the designs submitted and will recommend to the Executive Committee of

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the Inter-State Board an award of the prize and premiums. The Executive Committee, having confirmed the recommendations of the Building Committee, will open the envelope bearing the number corresponding to that on the design thus chosen to receive the prize, and the disclosure of the author's name will constitute his appointment as architect of the Memorial. The Building Committee will in any event award the three premiums to the authors of three out of the four designs chosen by the jury. No award will be made in favor of any design as to which the Commission has not certified that it complies with all the mandatory requirements of this program.

"Within seven days of the making of these awards, notification thereof, together with a copy of the report of the Commission, will be sent to each competitor and payment of the three premiums will be made. Within the same period, the Committee will return all designs to their authors and, except as to the winning design, the Committee will make no use of them nor of anything contained in them which is original as to this competition. No design, save the four receiving the awards, will be publicly exhibited or reproduced without the consent of its author.

"The Architect

"The selection of the architect as herein provided constitutes an engagement to design and supervise the construction of the Perry Memorial under the conditions set forth in the statement of the American Institute of Architects, entitled 'Professional Practice of Architects and Schedule of Proper Minimum Charges,' a copy of which is hereto attached,³² save only that his payment for the services mentioned in the first paragraph thereof shall be as there stated, six per cent (6%), and not a

[14]

32. Program of a Competition for the selection of an Architect to design and supervise the construction of the Perry Memorial at Put-in-Bay, Ohio, p. [17]; q.v. in Minutes, II, p.1.



higher charge as mentioned for monuments, etc., in the second paragraph.

"Within ten days of the award, the architect will be paid one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of one per cent upon the proposed cost of the work as set forth herein, such payment upon the progress of the work to merge into the entire fee, and thereupon the architect, after consultation with the Building Committee, shall proceed to develop the design of the Memorial in the form of sketch plans.

"Although it is expected that the prize drawings will afford a basis for the design of the completed work, yet it is to be understood that the Committee may, after making the award, determine upon the inclusion in the Memorial of features not named in this program, and may for this or other reasons require that the problem be restudied by the architect.

"Should the Building Committee for any reason wish to sever its relations with the architect before giving him instructions to proceed with working drawings, or should it fail to give such instructions within twelve months of the award, then it will pay the architect an additional sum of three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) of one per cent, a total of one and one-quarter per cent ($1\frac{1}{4}\%$) of the proposed cost of the work as set forth herein, and thereupon his services as architect of the Memorial shall cease; but his design and plans shall then become the property of the Building Committee.

"Arbitration

"In case of any disagreement between the Building Committee and any competitor or the appointed architect, either during or subsequent to the competition, upon any of the provisions of this program, all parties in interest hereby agree to accept the



professional adviser to the Committee as arbitrator and his decisions as final and without appeal.

"Approved and signed by the Building Committee, October 11th, 1911.

"GEORGE H. WORTHINGTON, Chairman,
HENRY WATERSON
NELSON A. MILES.

"Witness:
WEBSTER P. HUNTINGTON,
Secretary.

"Approved on behalf of the Inter-State Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners, October 11th, 1911.

"GEORGE H. WORTHINGTON,
President-General.

"Witness:
WEBSTER P. HUNTINGTON,
Secretary-General.

"This program has received the approval of the American Institute of Architects, through its Standing Committee on Competitions, R. Clipston Sturgis, Acting Chairman."³³

33. Minutes, II, p.1; see also original draft and proof-printing with editorial emendations and notes in Reel 3, Box 40.



In compliance with the terms of the Program several bulletins of information were mailed simultaneously to all competitors stating questions submitted and the official answers to them. Most of these inquiries were routine in subject and in response. To one such inquiry the answer is somewhat curious in view of the previous and subsequent interpretation of the matter. In his "THIRD BULLETIN OF INFORMATION Supplementary to the Program of THE FERRY MEMORIAL COMPETITION December 12th, 1911," Mr. Day supplied all competitors the following information:

"Question No. 7. What is the approximate number of bodies to be 'reinterred within the memorial'? The purpose of this question is to learn whether the number is sufficient to justify a separate feature in the design."³⁵

Answer. The Secretary of the Building Committee replies to this question as follows: "The best historical information indicates that the bodies of eighteen American and British officers who were engaged in the Battle of Lake Erie lie buried on the shore of Put-in-Bay Harbor. I do not think, and I have never heard it suggested, that there is any necessity for any large space to be assigned for the reception of these remains in the Memorial. The best suggestion that I have heard is that they should be interred in the walls. It is even doubtful whether the names of the dead can be ascertained. Architects should be left at liberty to carry out their own ideas relative to a tomb or a sarcophagus, if they so desire, but certainly such a feature in the Memorial is not essential and I have never heard it said to be desirable. I think it safe to assume that only ashes remain of the bodies of the dead, and that there is no possibility of their identification separately."³⁶

34. Program of a Competition, p.6.

35. Day to Huntington, Dec. 5, 1911. Reel 3, Box 40.

36. Frank Miles Day, "Third Bulletin of Information," Dec. 12, 1911; Reel 3, Box 40, quoting Huntington to Day, Letter, Dec. 8, 1911, loc. cit.



Attorney John H. Clarke, of Cleveland (General Counsel, New York, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad Company, later to become Associate Justice, U.S. Supreme Court), newly appointed by Governor Harmon. ³⁷ to fill the vacancy on the Ohio Commission, ³⁸ wrote urgently to President-General Worthington urging that all state and federal commissioners not only be admitted to view all entries submitted in the architectural competition, but that a formal meeting be called to convene in Washington during the period of the judging. ". . . the propriety should be considered," wrote Mr. Clarke, "of calling a meeting of the entire Board to at least see the plans recommended by the National Fine Arts Commission before a final decision is rendered . . . Such a course . . . would probably also have a tendency to give to the commissioners not on the executive or building committees a vital interest in the enterprise which they might not have if given no participation in the only really important decision to be rendered ³⁹ . . . the acceptance of a design for the Memorial and the appointment of the architect for it is very much the most important decision which the Interstate Board will be called upon to render or ratify ⁴⁰" Secretary General Huntington was

37. Huntington to Watterson, Dec. 9, 1911. Johannsen Papers.

38. Program of a Competition, p.3.

39. John H. Clarke to Worthington, Nov. 28, 1911. Johannsen Papers.

40. Clarke to Worthington, Dec. 5, 1911. Johannsen Papers. From 1911 onward John H. Clarke's correspondence concerning the affairs of the monument are a model of constructive suggestions and criticism throughout the more than two decades that he would serve as a commissioner.



authorized to transmit a circular letter of inquiry on the question to the members of the Executive Committee. In the responses to the circular letter only Dr. Clinton B. Herrick of New York was opposed to the adoption of Mr. Clarké's suggestion,⁴¹ so plans were made to invite all fifty-two state and federal commissioners to be present for the important activities to take place in Washington, D.C. Mr. Day arranged with the Smithsonian Institution for the use of a room approximately 22 feet wide by 106 feet long on the north side of the corridor to the left of the main entrance of the new National Museum Building, for purposes of hanging the submitted designs, and other rooms in the building were made available⁴² for committee meetings.

Eighty-two architects and firms (four of them in two associations)⁴³ were admitted to competition; 42 from New York City, 10 from Boston, 6 from Philadelphia, 5 from Cleveland, 3 from San Francisco, 2 each from Baltimore and St. Louis, and 1 each from Birmingham, Cincinnati, Columbus, Ithaca, Milwaukee, Norfolk, Pittsburgh, Rochester, St. Paul, Urbana, Washington, D.C., and Youngstown.⁴⁴ Newspapers throughout the nation aroused wide public interest⁴⁵ in the judging of the competition. To

41. Herrick to Huntington, Dec. 19, 1911. Reel 3, Box 40.

42. Day to Richard Rathbun, Assist. Secty. in Charge, National Museum, Dec. 22, 1911; Reel 3, Box 40. Huntington circular letter to all Commissioners, Jan. 15, 1912; Johannsen Papers.

43. Complete list in Minutes, II, pp.59-60.

44. Ibid.

45. See, for example, "Memorial to be chosen," Providence Journal, Jan. 21, 1912.



the Building Committee, called to order at the Willard Hotel in Washington, D.C., on the morning of January 26, 1912, architectural adviser Day reported that fifty-four designs had been received by the National Fine Arts Commission for judging, and had been hung in the new building of the United States National Museum. ⁴⁶ "The Commission of Fine Arts visited

the exhibition of designs on Thursday, January 25th and spent the whole of Friday, January 25th, in examining and passing on the designs and in preparing its report, the Building Committee being present during a part of this time." ⁴⁷ In addition to Chairman Daniel H. Burnham, participating members of the U.S. Fine Arts Commission were Frederick Law Olmsted,

Thomas Hastings, Daniel C. French, Francis D. Millet, Cass Gilbert and Charles Moore. ⁴⁸ The Report of the Fine Arts Commission was submitted to the Building Committee on January 27, reading, in part, as follows:

"... We select design No. 5 as presenting the most satisfactory solution of the problem, and we recommend that its author be appointed as architect.

"In making this selection we heartily commend the design for its great beauty and for its significant appropriateness as the memorial of both a victory in battle and a century of peace

46. Minutes, II, Jan. 26, 1912, pp.62-63; Inter-State Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commission, Meetings of the Building Committee, Executive Committee, Interstate Board and the Joint Committee on Legislation, Promotion and Publicity, and on Centennial Celebration of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners at Washington, D.C., Jan. 26-29, 1912 (n.p., ca. 1912), p.3. See also Appendix I, Item No. 38, p.21, below.

47. Frank Miles Day, [Report] "To the Building Committee of the Inter-State Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners," Minutes, II, Jan. 29, 1912, pp.64-65; also in Inter-State Board, Meetings, Jan. 26-29, 1912, p.4.

48. Minutes, II, p.65; Inter-State Board, Meetings, Jan. 26-29, 1912, pp.4-5.



and friendship between two nations. The design indicates that its author is thoroughly trained and has the skill and capacity to execute successfully the work to be entrusted to him.

"For the first premium we name design No. 17, which more nearly approaches the excellence of design No. 5, than any other in the competition. For the second and third premiums we name respectively designs Nos. 34 and 54.

". . . The number of designs submitted, and the serious study and effort proven by the variety of these designs and the quality of the technical execution of the drawings, indicate a widespread interest in the competition among the most capable architects of the country.

"By direction of the Commission of Fine Arts:

"Respectfully

[signed] Spencer Cosby,

Colonel U.S. Army,

49

Secretary"

The Building Committee on the 27th and the Executive Committee on the 29th each unanimously adopted and endorsed the recommendations submitted in the Report of the U.S. Fine Arts Commission.

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The author(s) of design number 5 chosen as architect of the Perry Memorial were associated architects J[oseph] H[enry] Freedlander and A[lexander] D[uncan] Seymour, Jr., 244 Fifth Avenue, New York City. First premium, for design number 17, was awarded to James Gamble

51

49. Minutes, II, pp.65-66; Inter-State Board, Meetings, Jan. 26-29, 1912, p.5.

50. Minutes, II, pp.66, 71; Inter-State Board, Meetings, Jan. 26-29, 1912, pp.7-9.

51. Minutes, II, p.72; Inter-State Board, Meetings, Jan. 26-29, 1912, p.9. See also Freedlander to Huntington, March 20, 1912, Huntington to Freedlander, March 19, 1912; Reel 3, Box 41.



Rogers, 11 East 24th Street, New York City; second premium to Paul Cret, 1530 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, author of design number 34; third premium to Dillon, McLellan & Beadel, 1123 Broadway, New York City, authors of design number 54.

Two copyright entries immediately were registered for the prize winning design by Freedlander and Seymour:

1. J 165355. PERRY MEMORIAL AT PUT-IN-BAY, OHIO. Registered in the name of Perry's Victory Centennial Commission, following publication January 29, 1912.⁵⁵
2. G 39634. PERRY MEMORIAL AT PUT-IN-BAY ISLAND, OHIO, by J. H. Friedlander [sic] and A. D. Seymour, Jr. Doric column with light on plaza, historical museum and building commemorative of peace. Design for a work of art. Registered in the name of Perry's Victory Centennial Commission, following the deposit of one copy January 30, 1912.⁵⁶

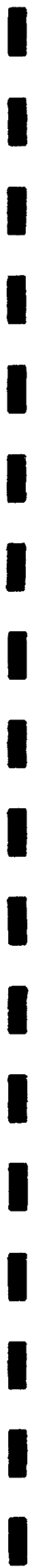
52. Minutes, II, p.72; Inter-State Board, Meetings, Jan. 26-29, 1912, p.9. See also Huntington to Rogers, Feb. 1, Mar. 19, 1912, Rogers to Huntington, March 20, 1912; Reel 3, Box 41.

53. Minutes, II, p.72; Inter-State Board, Meetings, Jan. 26-29, 1912, p.9. See also Huntington to Cret, Feb. 1, Mar. 19, 1912; Reel 3, Box 41.

54. Minutes, II, p.72; Inter-State Board, Meetings Jan. 26-29, 1912, p.9. See also Huntington to Dillon, McLellan & Beadel, March 19, 1912; Reel 3, Box 41. Copies of the letters and telegrams communicating their awards to the prize and premium winners, and subsequent correspondence concerning payment of the monetary awards are in Reel 3, Boxes 40, 41.

55. Search Report by J. B. B., Copyright Office, Library of Congress, dated Nov. 29, 1960, in Letter to writer from Richard S. MacCarteney, Chief, Reference Division, Copyright Office, Library of Congress, Nov. 29, 1960.

56. Ibid.; see also Appendix I, Item No. 39, p.22, below; see also Huntington to Register of Copyrights, Feb. 2, 1912, Reel 3, Box 41.



The prize renderings, published in the February 21, 1912, issue of
57
American Architect, are reproduced on page 102 below, and on the sub-
sequent pages, perspective views of the ancillary structures -- the
museum and the colonnade -- which were intrinsic to the architects'
conception of their design.

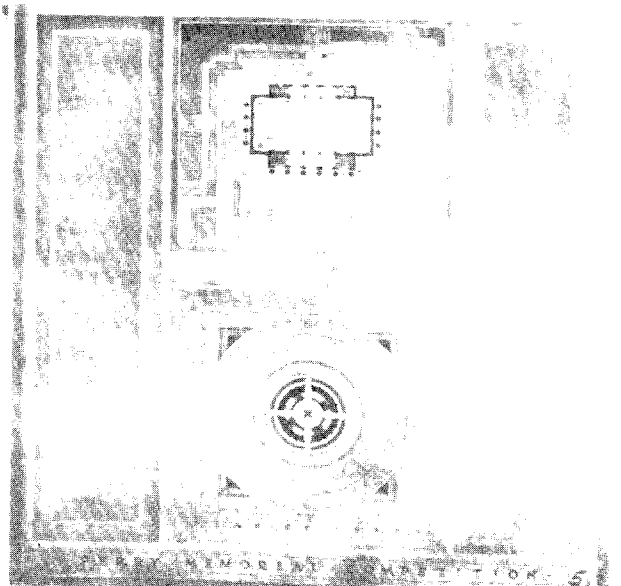
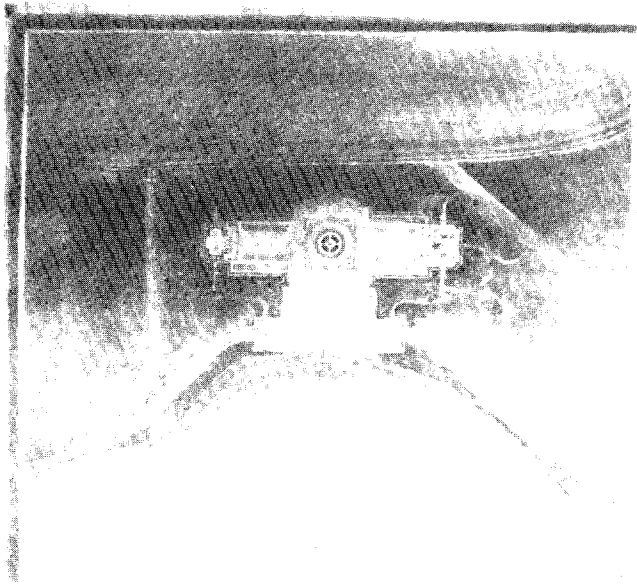
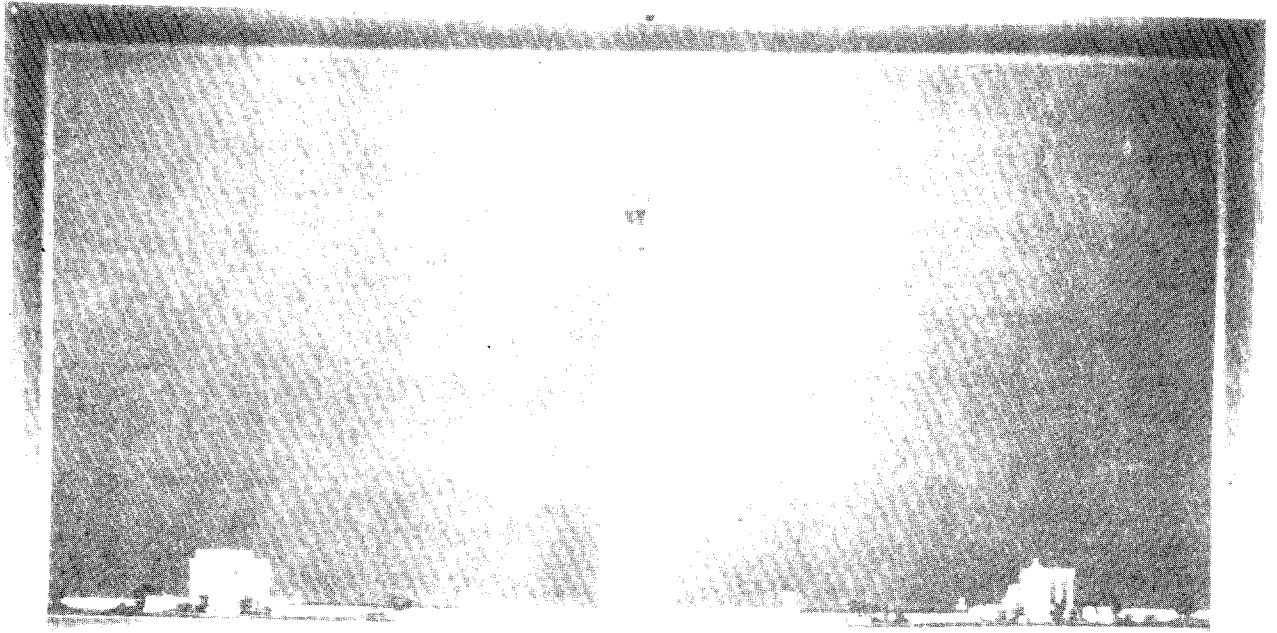
57. "The Prize Winning Design, Mr. J. H. Freedlander and Mr. A. D. Seymour, Associated Architects, Competition for the Perry Memorial, Put-in-Bay, South Bass Island, Lake Erie," The American Architect, Vol. CI, No. 1887, Feb. 21, 1912, Plate ff. p.92.



THE PRIZE WINNING DESIGN*

*The American Architect, Vol. CI, No. 1887, February 21, 1912, Plate
ff. p.92. Photostat of copy in New York Public Library.





THE PRIZE DESIGN FOR THE PERRY MEMORIAL, PUT IN BAY, SOUTH BASS ISLAND, TAKE FRIE.

BY THE ARCHITECTS OF THE PERRY MEMORIAL



THE ANCILLARY STRUCTURES*
(OF THE PRIZE WINNING DESIGN)

COLONNADE

MUSEUM

*Francis S. Swales, "Draftsmanship and Architecture as Exemplified by the Work of Joseph Freedlander," Pencil Points, Vol. XI, No. 2, Feb. 1930, p.85.





PERSPECTIVE OF COLONNADE—FROM A COLOR RENDERING BY OTTO R. EGGERS



PERSPECTIVE OF THE MUSEUM—FROM A COLOR RENDERING BY OTTO R. EGGERS

DETAILS OF COMPETITION DESIGN FOR PERRY MEMORIAL—
JOSEPH H. FREEDLANDER AND A. D. SEYMOUR, JR., ARCHITECTS



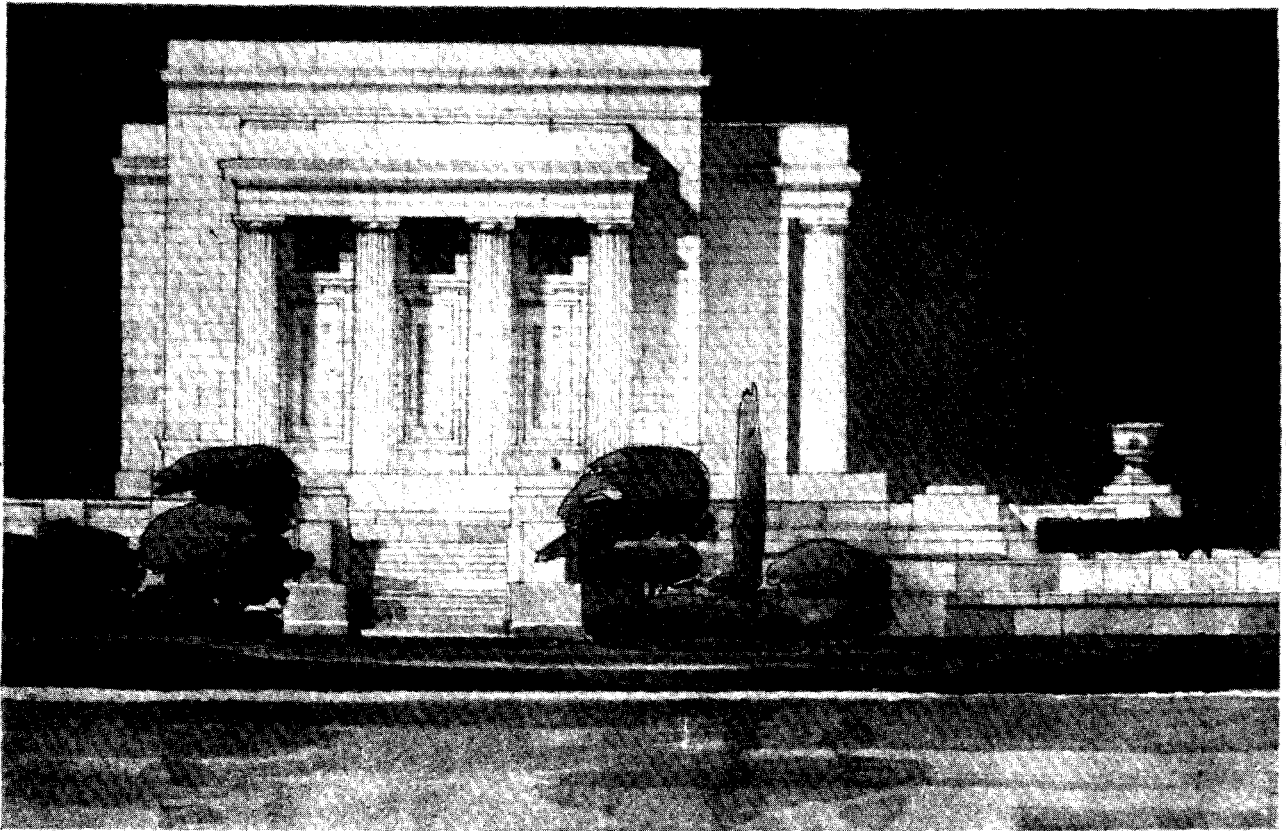
THE ANCILLARY STRUCTURES*
(OF THE PRIZE WINNING DESIGN)

MUSEUM

COLONNADE

*Francis S. Swales, "Draftsmanship and Architecture as Exemplified by the Work of Joseph Freedlander," Pencil Points, Vol. XI, No. 2, Feb. 1930, p.82.





THE MUSEUM, SHOWN AT THE LEFT IN THE DRAWING OPPOSITE.



THE COLONNADE WITH STATUE SYMBOLIC OF DEMOCRACY, SHOWN AT THE RIGHT IN THE DRAWING OPPOSITE

DETAILS REPRODUCED AT THE EXACT SIZE OF THE ORIGINAL DRAWING—
COMPETITION DESIGN FOR PERRY MEMORIAL, BY JOSEPH H. FREEDLANDER AND A. D. SEYMOUR, JR., ARCHITECTS



The description submitted with the prize-winning design was as symmetrical as the rendering:

"In the accompanying design it has been our endeavor to so place the shaft that it shall be seen from all points of the compass. We have deemed this to be an essential requisite in the plan inasmuch as the column will not only serve as a light for navigation of the adjacent waters but will by its location become the dominant feature in the design.

"In view of the location of the neck of land in so great an expanse of water and the necessary isolated character which these conditions imply, we are of the opinion that the Doric order treated without ornament of any kind is best adapted to convey the impression of grandeur and simplicity, which the nature of the Memorial suggests.

"The column, as well as the Museum and the Colonnade, are placed on a plaza, some few steps above the grade of the property. This plaza extends to the shores of the bay, and is reached from the water by means of a broad flight of steps.

"The plaza is to serve for exercises and ceremonies and to accommodate large assemblages.

"We have not deemed it advisable to obscure the view of the column in any direction either by placing a building or a colonnade in the rear of it. On the contrary we have kept the square on which it stands open and have obtained a vista for the Museum and Colonnade by placing them some distance from it.

"The Museum and Colonnade are elevated on a terrace and at a slightly higher level than the main terrace so that the view may be enhanced and the buildings set off to greater architectural advantage. The Museum is placed on the left while on the right we have suggested a group symbolical of Perry, flanked by a colonnade to typify the first arbitration treaty between the two great civilized nations -- the United States and Great Britain.

"The program has suggested that an additional feature besides the Museum and shaft might be incorporated later, and it has seemed to us most fitting that the arbitration treaty, an epoch-making event in the history of two great peoples should find a fitting embodiment in this Memorial erected to commemorate the centennial anniversary of the war of 1812 and the victory of Commodore Perry at the battle of Lake Erie.



"It is a striking fact that two countries which have been at peace for a period of a hundred years should definitely seal their friendship by means of a general treaty, the spirit of which shall insure to the English-speaking races this final triumph of civilization.

"We have placed the canal along the boundary line of the property and have not in any way attempted to give it an architectural treatment as we considered that its purpose is for the passage of very small boats only and therefore it should not be made of importance in the general plan.⁵⁸

The subjectivity in the selection of this design may be surmised from an examination of the first, second and third premium designs, which respectively are reproduced below/at pages 110, 112 and 114.

58. "Description of Design Submitted by J. H. Freedlander and A. D. Seymour, associated architects," American Architect, Vol. CI, No. 1887, Feb. 21, 1912, p.90.



FIRST PREMIUM DESIGN*

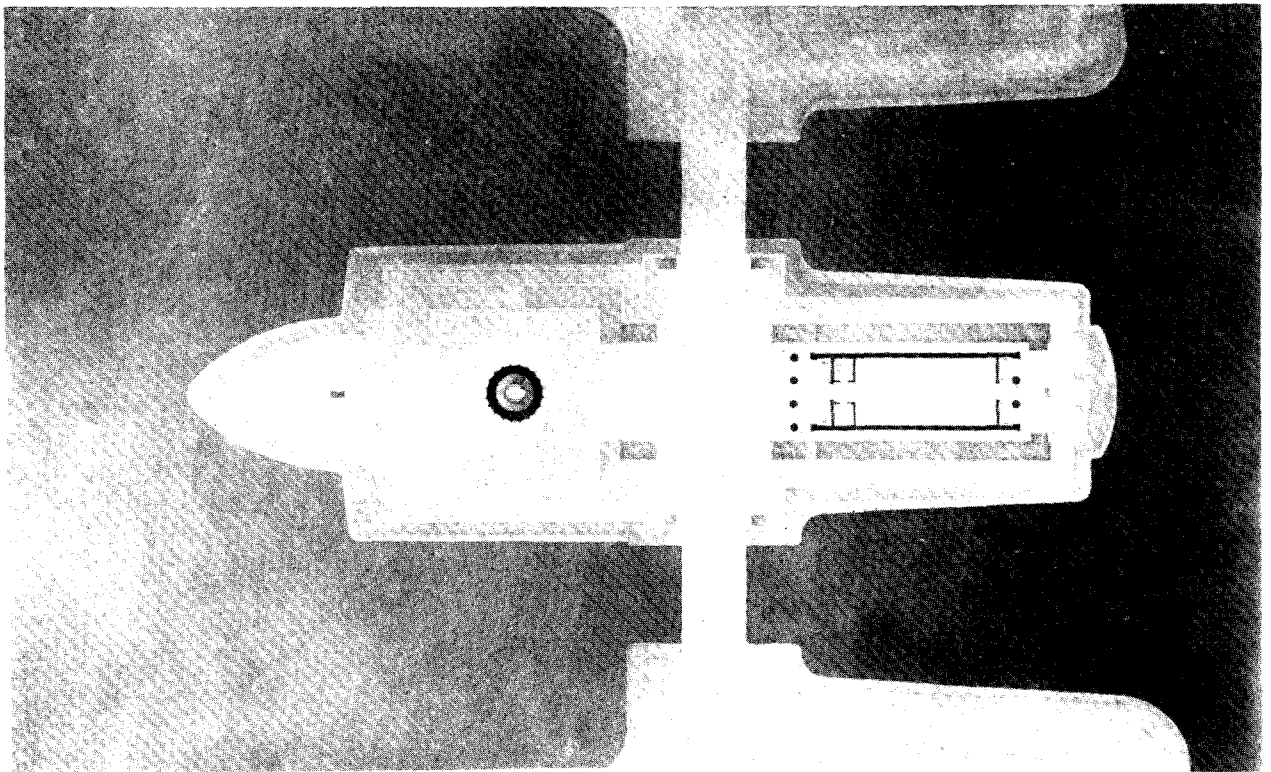
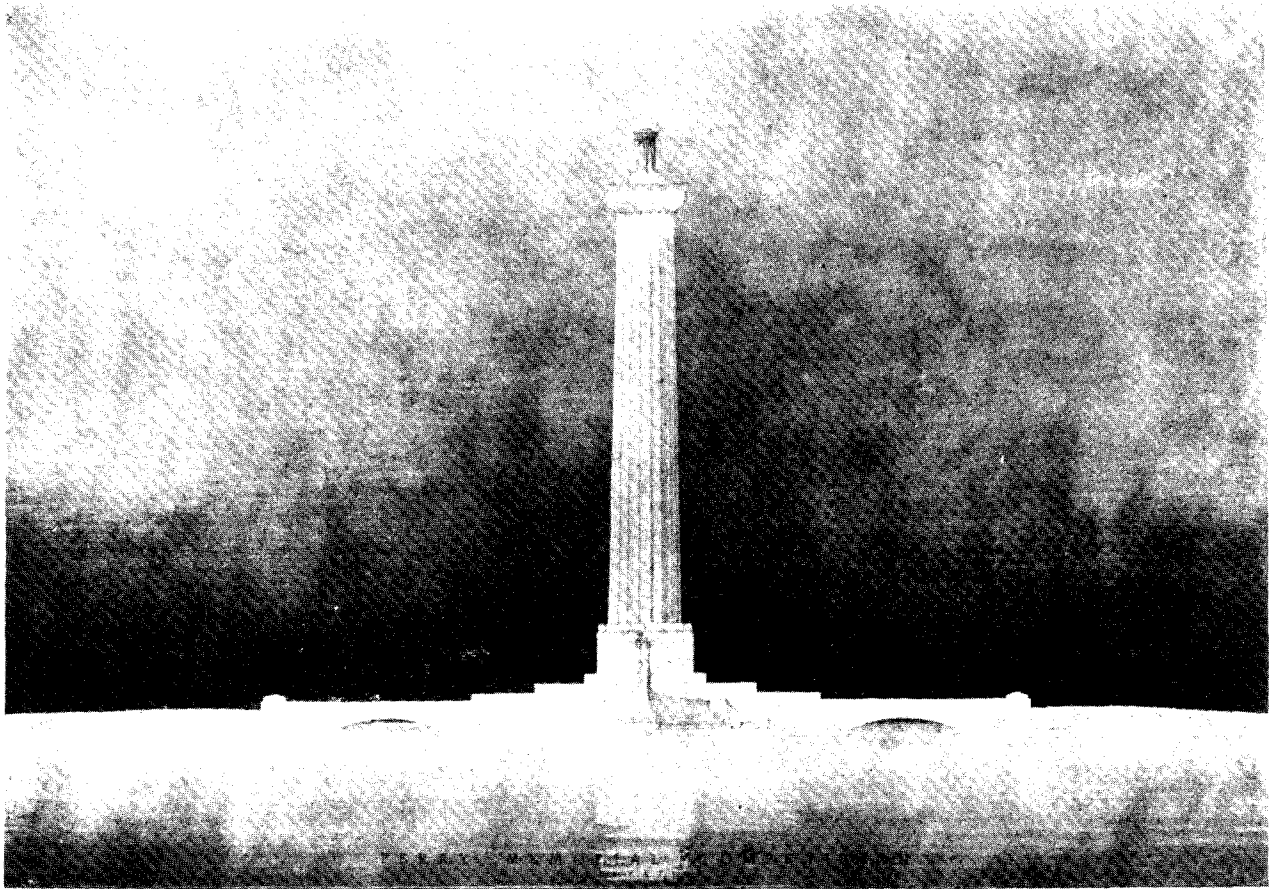
by

James Gamble Rogers

COMPETITION FOR THE PERRY MEMORIAL, PUT-IN-BAY,
SOUTH BASS ISLAND, LAKE ERIE

*"The Perry Memorial Competition, Put-in-Bay, South Bass Island, Lake Erie," American Architect, Vol. CI, No. 1887, Feb. 21, 1912, Plate ff. p.92.





FIRST PREMIUM DESIGN, MR. JAMES GAMBLE ROGERS, ARCHITECT

COMPETITION FOR THE PERRY MEMORIAL, PUT-IN-BAY, SOUTH BASS ISLAND, LAKE ERIE

(Copyright 1912, by The Perry Memorial Commission)



SECOND PREMIUM DESIGN*

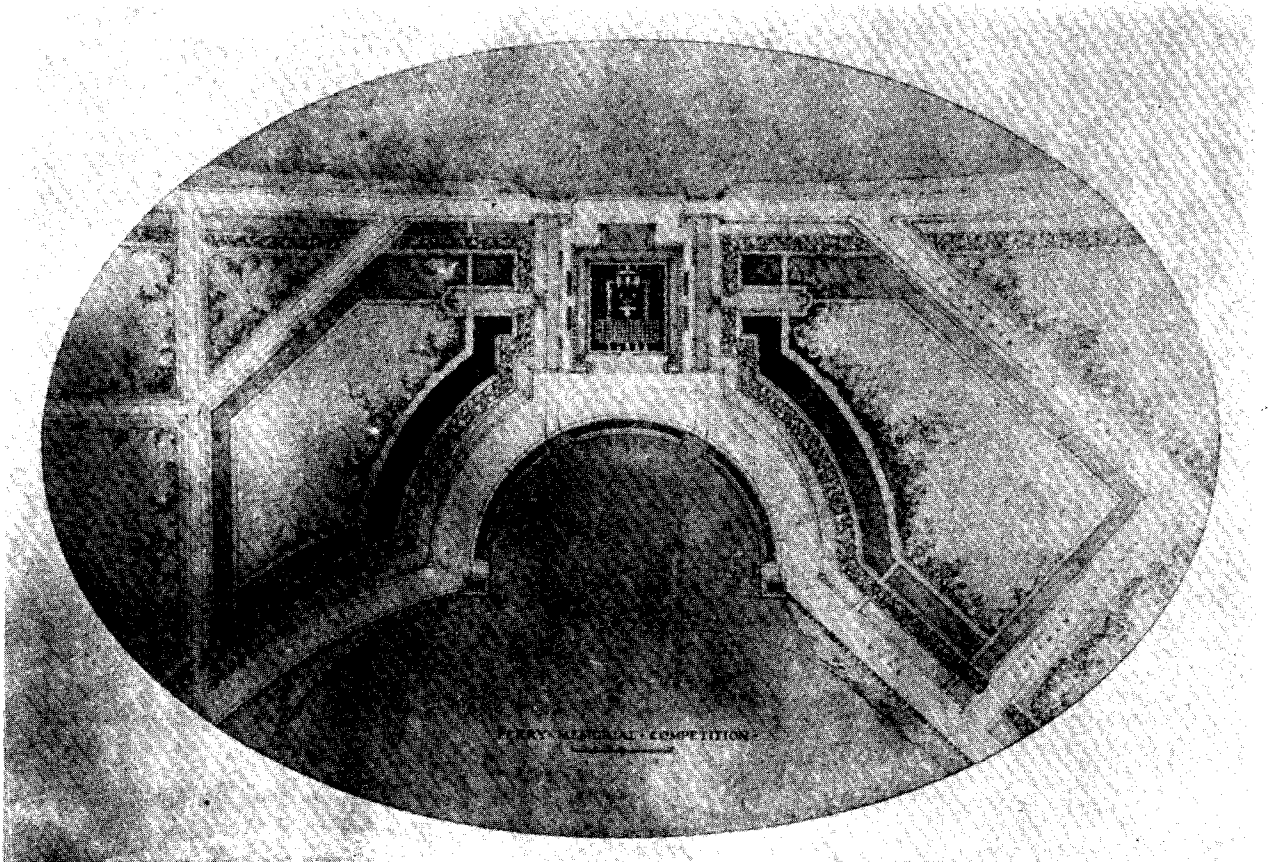
by

Paul P. Cret

COMPETITION FOR THE PERRY MEMORIAL, PUT-IN-BAY,
SOUTH BASS ISLAND, LAKE ERIE

*"The Perry Memorial Competition, Put-in-Bay, South Bass Island, Lake Erie," American Architect, Vol. CI, No. 1887, Feb. 21, 1912, Plate ff. p.92.





SECOND PREMIUM DESIGN, PROFESSOR PAUL F. CRET, ARCHITECT



THIRD PREMIUM DESIGN*

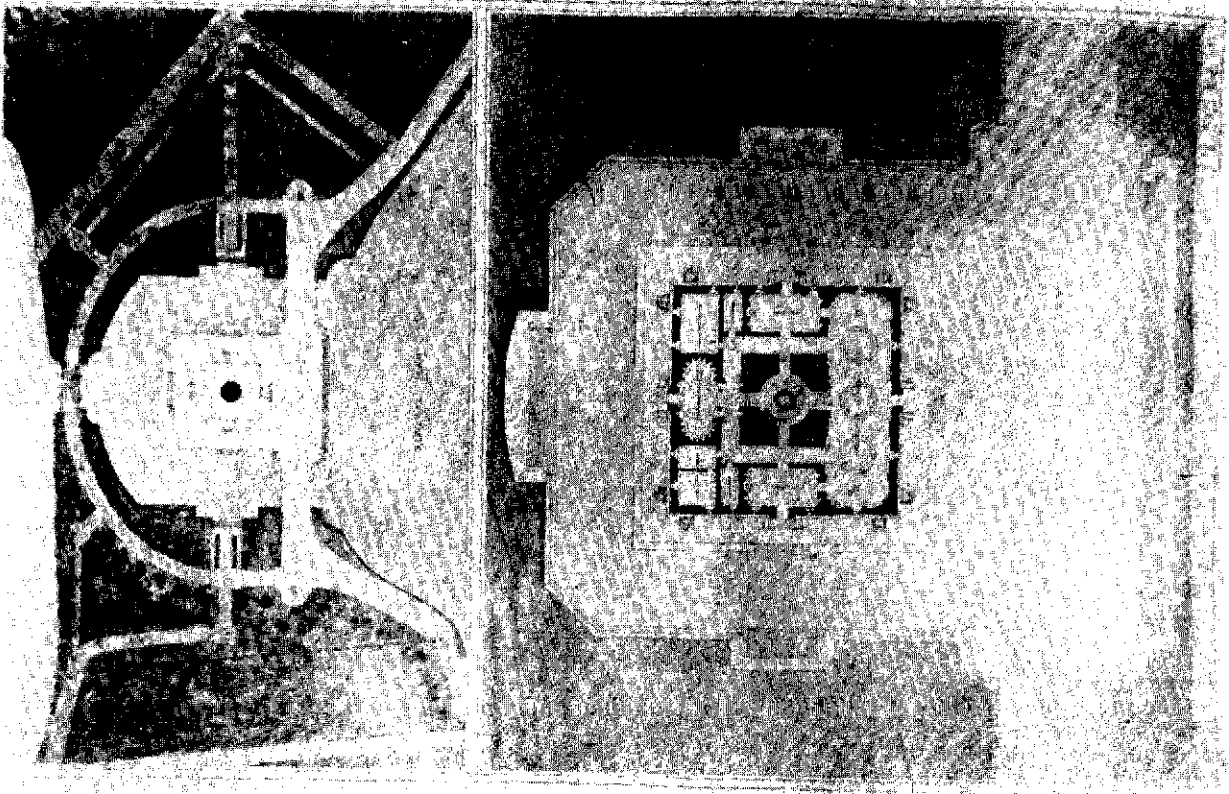
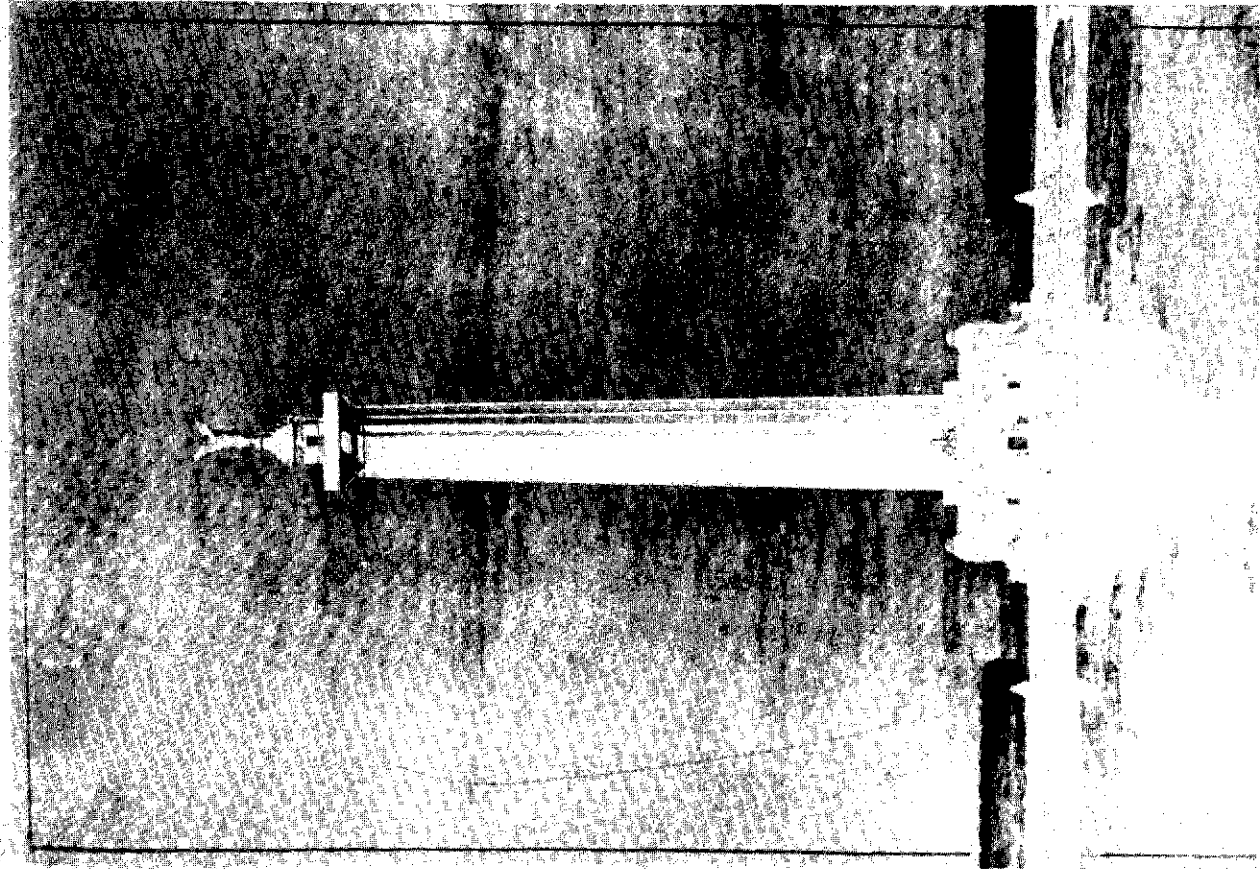
by

Messrs. Dillon, McLellan and Beadle

COMPETITION FOR THE PERRY MEMORIAL, PUT-IN-BAY,
SOUTH BASS ISLAND, LAKE ERIE

*"The Perry Memorial Competition, Put-in-Bay, South Bass Island, Lake Erie," American Architect, Vol. CI, No. 1887, Feb. 21, 1912, Plate ff. p.92.

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THIRD PRIZE DESIGN, MESSRS. DILLON, McLELLAN AND BEADLE, ARCHITECTS

COMPETITION FOR THE PERRY MEMORIAL, PUT-IN-BAY, SOUTH BASS ISLAND, LAKE ERIE

(Copyright, 1912, by the Perry Memorial Commission)



Ever mindful of consequent publicity, Huntington had arranged to have photographs prepared immediately of the prize design, both for copyright and publicity purposes. A choice of these was made available to representatives of the press and published throughout the U.S and

59

Canada. The Otis Litho Company of Cleveland quickly prepared an illuminated reproduction of the prize design, a copy of which is presented at page 117 below.

59. Typical was the full page cut of the column, plaza, museum and colonnade from bayside, captioned "Perry Memorial to be erected at Put-in-Bay," Cleveland Leader, May 12, 1912. For description of the variety of sizes and mountings of photographs available, see Huntington to Miles, May 14, 1912; Reel 3, Box 41.

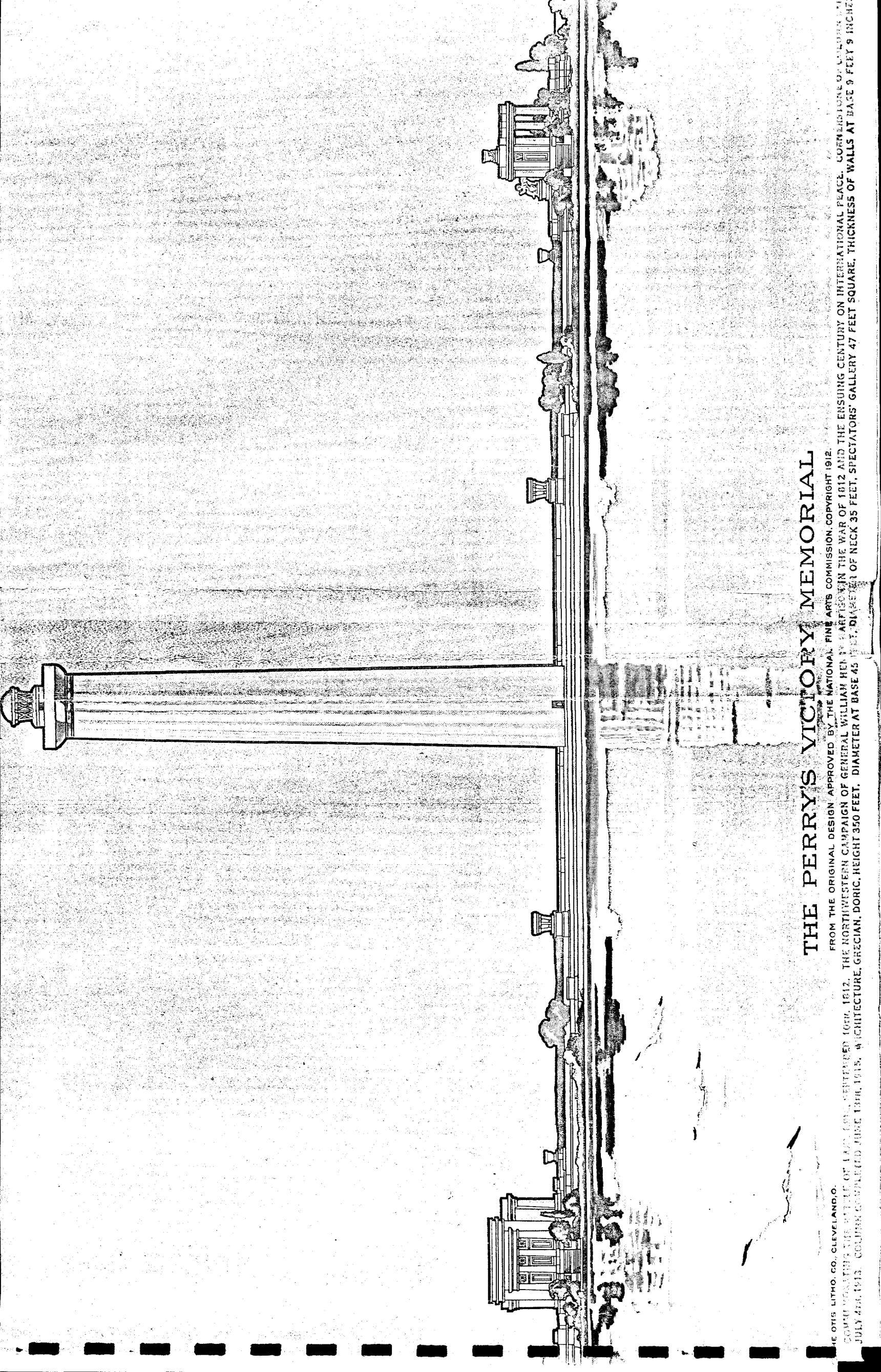


THE PERRY'S VICTORY MEMORIAL*

from the original design approved by the
National Fine Arts Commission

*Lithographed copies for this Report donated by Otto G. Herbster, Put-
in-Bay, Ohio, Nov. 1960.

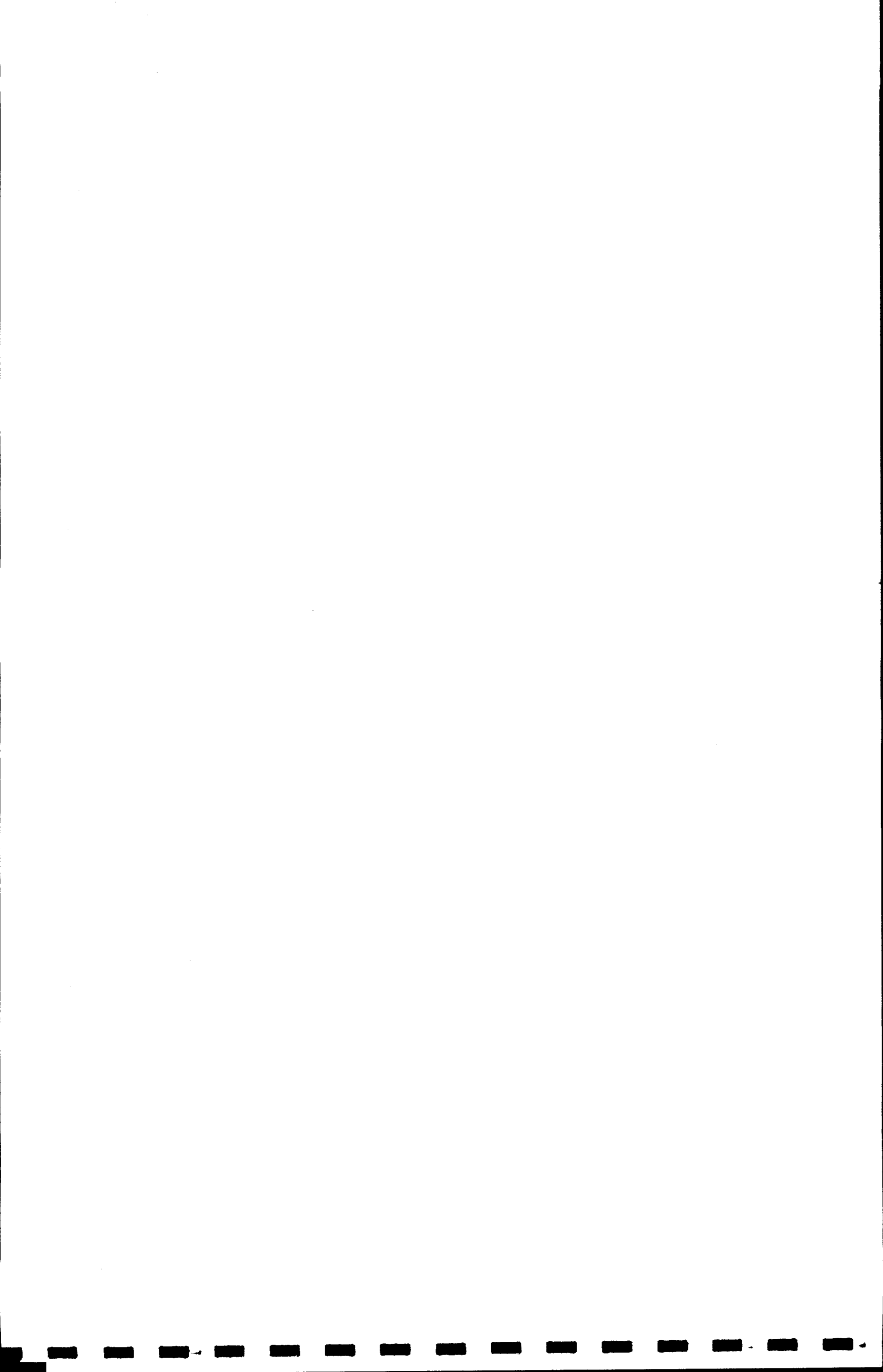




THE PERRY'S VICTORY MEMORIAL

FROM THE ORIGINAL DESIGN APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL FINE ARTS COMMISSION, COPYRIGHT 1912.
COMPLETED JULY 4, 1913. THE NORTHWESTERN CAMPAIGN OF GENERAL WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON IN THE WAR OF 1812 AND THE ENSUING CENTURY ON INTERNATIONAL PEACE. CORNER STONE OF COLUMN SET
JULY 4, 1913. COLUMN COMPLETED JUNE 13, 1915. ARCHITECTURE, GREEK, DORIC. HEIGHT 350 FEET, DIAMETER AT BASE 45 FEET, DIAMETER OF NECK 35 FEET, SPECTATORS' GALLERY 47 FEET SQUARE, THICKNESS OF WALLS AT BASE 9 FEET 9 INCHES.

THE OTIS LITHO. CO., CLEVELAND, O.
COMPLETED JULY 4, 1913. COLUMN COMPLETED JUNE 13, 1915.



The prize-winning associated architects had previously cooperated in winning the architectural competition for the Portland, Oregon, Auditorium. The junior architect, Alexander Duncan Seymour, Jr. (1884 - 1957), was born in Brooklyn, New York, Feb. 1, 1884, where he attended public elementary and secondary schools. In preparation for his professional career, he earned a B.S. in Architecture from Columbia University in 1906, and spent the following two years in study in the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris and at the American Academy in Rome. Following the successful collaboration in the Perry Memorial Competition, Seymour embarked with a partner upon an independent architectural practice, in the course of which he would design schools, commercial structures, public buildings and residences until 1942, when he would enter upon the last six years of his professional career as Professor of Architecture at Cornell University.

60. A. D. Seymour, Jr., to Huntington, May 26, 1917; Reel 4, Box 50. Seymour's contribution to Freedlander's success in the Portland Auditorium competition is a moot point. Freedlander states that prior to the Perry Memorial competition Seymour had been in his employ as a draftsman on several other competitions. Freedlander to Huntington, May 26, 1917; Reel 4, Box 50.

61. "Alexander Duncan Seymour, Jr.," American Architects Directory (N.Y., 1956); "Necrology," AIA Journal, Vol. XXVIII, No. 7, Nov. 1957, p.391. Seymour to Huntington, May 26, 1917; Reel 4, Box 50.

62. Seymour to Huntington, May 26, 1917, loc. cit.

63. Ibid.

64. Ibid.; Freedlander to Huntington, May 26, 1917.

65. American Architects Directory (1956).



Joseph Henry Freedlander (1870 - 1943) was born and raised in New York City, received a degree in architecture from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and was one of the first three Americans to receive the Diplome in architecture from the Ecole des Beaux Arts. 66

Returning then to New York City, he quickly developed an "accurate competition sense" and achieved early and continued success in his professional activities, winning the competition (in association with Arthur Dillon) to design the St. Louis Club, and receiving an honorable mention in the competitions for the campus of the University of California and for the New York Public Library Building. 67

He won the 1901 competition for the National Soldiers Home at Johnstown, Tennessee, and in 1911 the competition for the Auditorium at Portland, Oregon. 68

He already had compiled an impressive record of bank buildings, hospitals, club buildings, public buildings, factories and private residences completed under his architectural supervision. 69

During later years he would number among his more distinguished accomplishments the revision of the Saratoga

66. "Joseph Henry Freedlander," Who Was Who in America, (Chi., 1950), p.198; obituary in N.Y. Times, Nov. 24, 1943; The other two Americans who received the Beaux Arts Diplome at the same time as Freedlander were John V. Van Pelt and Herbert D. Hale. Francis S. Swales, "Draftsmanship and Architecture as Exemplified by the Work of Joseph Freedlander," Pencil Points, Vol. XI, No. 2, Feb. 1930, p.81.

67. The phrase was used to describe Freedlander by Egerton Swartout, quoted in Swales, loc. cit., p.82.

68. Ibid., p.83.

69. Ibid.

70. "PARTIAL LIST OF EXECUTED WORK," Freedlander to Huntington, May 15, 1917; Reel 4, Box 50.



Spa, the Bronx, New York, Court House, and County Jail, and the Museum
71
of the City of New York.

Neither architect had ever visited the Bass Islands. 72 By March 11
they had completed rough working drawing sketches of the column and
plaza for the purpose of obtaining estimates for submission to the next
73
meeting of the Building Committee, and on May 1 arrangements were

under way for the architects to meet with the Building Committee at Put-
74
in-Bay on May 13, for their first view of the scene.

Now began the most difficult work of all, seeing the vision into
hard reality. 1912 appeared to be a year of envisioning man-made monu-
ments of timeless stature, so this proved to be a most propitious time
75
for the culmination of the movement begun at Sandusky in the year 1852.

71. Who Was Who, Vol. 2, p.198. See also "Joseph H. Freedlander," American Society Legion of Honor Magazine, Vol. 22, No. 2, Summer 1951, pp.159-178; N.Y. Times, June 3, 1914; Oct. 30, Nov. 5, 1921; Jan. 7, 1923; Jan. 20, Mar. 9, April 14, 1924; Feb. 21, 1926; Jan. 23, Mar. 25, April 1, 1927; Apr. 5, 8, 29, May 6, 1928; Aug. 1, 10, Sept. 7, 10, 1930; July 10, 26, 31, Aug. 1, 3, Oct. 12, 13, 1931; Feb. 17, Mar. 2, Apr. 21, 23, Apr. 28, 1933; Apr. 27, 1934; Apr. 27, 1935; June 14, 1938; Nov. 24, 1943.

72. Huntington believed from the clarity of their entry that either or both must be thoroughly familiar with the site. Their reply was unequivocal. Freedlander and Seymour to Huntington, Feb. 7, 1912; Reel 3, Box 41.

73. Freedlander and Seymour to Worthington, March 11, 1912; Reel 3, Box 41.

74. Miles to Huntington, May 1, 1912; Reel 3, Box 41.

75. For an excellent contemporary description of results of the first two major design competitions conducted under auspices of the U.S. Fine Arts Commission, see Henry H. Saylor, "The Lincoln and Perry Memorials-- The Designs for the colossal architectural monuments that are to commemorate the deeds of these two national heroes," World's Work, Vol. 24, May 1912, pp. 94-99. Henry H. Saylor, F.A.I.A., is currently Historian, The American Institute of Architects.

