

LINCOLN LORE

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LINCOLN PORTRAITS IN STONE

Constitution Day, September 17th, was the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the famous instrument called "the frame of the Republic." A colossal stone head of Abraham Lincoln was dedicated on that day at Mount Rushmore, South Dakota.

This work of art by Gutzon Borglum has prompted the review of other famous studies in stone of the Emancipator.

Most of the outstanding works of sculptural art reproducing the likeness of Lincoln have been done in bronze but some of the best known contributions are in stone. In fact the stone sculptures seem to have attracted the most attention because of their unique design or their strategic location.

The American Sphinx

Although the head of Lincoln is but one of four figures—George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt—which will eventually emerge from the side of Mount Rushmore, the Lincoln profile, according to the sculptor, will dominate the group.

Lincoln has been made to face Washington and Jefferson and "The sun hits him full in the face in the morning, and during the day illuminates a larger portion of the Lincoln face than any of the others."

The mountain side sculpture will be the largest monument ever imagined by mankind. Its only rival will be the project at Stone Mountain, Georgia, where a memorial to the "Lost Cause" is underway.

The Lincoln in the South Dakota group might well be called the American Sphinx as the profile is twice as large as the famous Egyptian figure. The Lincoln head will be two hundred feet high.

Borglum visited Mount Rushmore for the first time in 1924 but the work was not started until 1927. The figure of Roosevelt is yet to be completed. Congress has appropriated two hundred thousand dollars for the work.

The Marble Head

One of the most impressive studies of Lincoln in Washington is the heroic head which occupies a prominent place in the rotunda of the Capitol. It is made from a large block of white marble and represents Lincoln as he appeared before his election to the presidency.

This is also the work of Gutzon Borglum and it has largely influenced the Lincoln which was dedicated last week at Mount Rushmore. The Lincoln in the rotunda was the gift of Eugene Meyer in 1908. A replica in bronze of this head stands in front of the Lincoln monument at Springfield, Illinois.

The Marble Bust

Still another work by Borglum must be included among the outstanding Lincoln studies in stone. The sculptor created out of a block of Carrara marble a Lincoln head on an undesignated bust. The head itself measures thirty-three inches from the bottom of the chin to the top of the figure.

This bust, formerly the property of the late Senator Samuel P. Colt of Rhode Island, is now located at the Detroit Art Center, the gift of Mr. Ralph H. Booth.

An Irish Stone Cutter's Tribute

One of the earliest statues of Abraham Lincoln was carved by an Irish stone cutter by the name of Lott Flannery. He was employed as an apprentice on the stone work at the Capitol and conceived the idea of doing a Lincoln.

His life size figure of Lincoln stood for many years in front of the District of Columbia Court House. Upon the changing of some boundaries the statue was removed and placed in storage. However, after two years public sentiment demanded its return to the old site. It was first erected in 1868.

While it had originally stood on a shaft forty feet tall it now rests on a pedestal ten feet in height. The life size statue represents Lincoln hold-

ing a manuscript and in the process of delivering an address.

Youth Interprets Lincoln

In the rotunda of the Capitol, keeping company with the Lincoln head by the Master, Borglum, is the life size statue of Lincoln by Vinnie Ream, a girl but sixteen when she first began work on the study.

After Lincoln's assassination an appropriation was made by Congress to have a life size statue of Lincoln made in marble and it was Vinnie Ream's work which was chosen. The unveiling took place in 1871.

Among the Immortals

The Cathedral Church of St. John, the Divine in the city of New York, has designed the parapet at the entrance to the choir to present outstanding characters who have contributed most to civilization through the twenty centuries of the Christian era.

In the niche assigned to the twentieth century the stone figure of Abraham Lincoln appears as the greatest benefactor to humanity for that period. Lincoln is portrayed standing by a burial cross delivering his Gettysburg Address.

The modeling of the figure was done by Ferrari and the stone is Champville (France) marble.

Lincoln Looks Across The Mall

The statue of Abraham Lincoln by Daniel Chester French in the Lincoln Memorial at Washington, appears to be the outstanding piece of sculpture art in stone which has thus far been dedicated to Abraham Lincoln.

French has seated Lincoln in a high armchair with his head slightly bowed and his hands resting on the arms of the chair.

The sculpture is nineteen feet high and if the figure was made to stand erect it would be twenty-eight feet high. The statue is of white marble and was dedicated May 30, 1922.