

# Lincoln-Vicksburg Monument

**Title:** *The Lincoln and Vicksburg Monument, or Lincoln Memorial and Soldiers' Monument*

**Artist:** Thomas Dow Jones, (1811-1881), Cincinnati, Ohio

**Dates:** Commissioned in 1865, unveiled in 1871

**Media:** Carrara Marble (white) and Quincy Granite (black)

**Size:** 7 feet x 4 feet x 14 feet



Produced by CSRAB and SEVC in 2008.

In 1861, President-elect Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865) posed for artist T.D. Jones for one hour a day. Lincoln used that quiet time to write his first inaugural address. When the clay bust was finished, his reaction was, "I think it looks very much like the critter." Following Lincoln's assassination in 1865, Ohioans commissioned Jones to sculpt a marble memorial to the President's achievements and to the soldiers of the Civil War.

The central panel shows Confederate officers surrendering under an oak tree to Union Generals after the Siege at Vicksburg, Mississippi. The Union soldiers on the right were leaders in this pivotal Civil War battle, and were all from Ohio. The common soldier is represented by unnamed figures on both sides, and below by a quote from Lincoln's second inaugural address.

The artist worked on the monument both in the Statehouse and in his Cincinnati studio. All together, this monument is estimated to weigh about 9,900 pounds.

Call 614/644-4300 to hear an audio tour message about this monument. 

## Rotunda Floor Symbolism

The floor of the Rotunda is made from various kinds of marble from all over the world. Marble is not found in Ohio. The 4,957 piece design is symbolic of our nation's history. The center is made of 13 marble tiles to remind us of the original 13 colonies. The United States grew in area, and the next three rings represent the Northwest Territory, the Louisiana Purchase, and lands gained from Mexico. Ohio was the first state formed from Federal controlled lands.

Outside of that, the star pattern has 32 points. America had 32 states when this floor had been laid in 1858. The circular band around the points can remind us that the U.S. Constitution holds all of the states together.



## Art in the Rotunda of the Ohio Statehouse

The Ohio Statehouse Rotunda is a place for thought and reflection. Its height, shape and colors are intended to evoke a sense of awe and respect. The art works have been added over the years to preserve public memory and to create consensus about what is important to Ohio. The works share themes of conflict, courage and growth.

The Great Seal of the State of Ohio appears at the top of the Rotunda dome, 120 feet above the floor. The Seal shows the 1847 version in use when the Statehouse opened in 1861 and includes a canal boat. This skylight replica was painted on glass by Cleveland native Rachel Keebler especially for the 1989-96 historical restoration of Capitol Square. Ohio school children raised the money for this seal with a penny campaign.



## Perry's Victory

**Title:** *Perry's Victory*  
**Artist:** William Henry Powell, (1823-1879), Ohio

**Dates:** Commissioned in 1857, exhibited in 1865

**Media:** Oil paint on canvas

**Size:** 12 feet x 16 feet



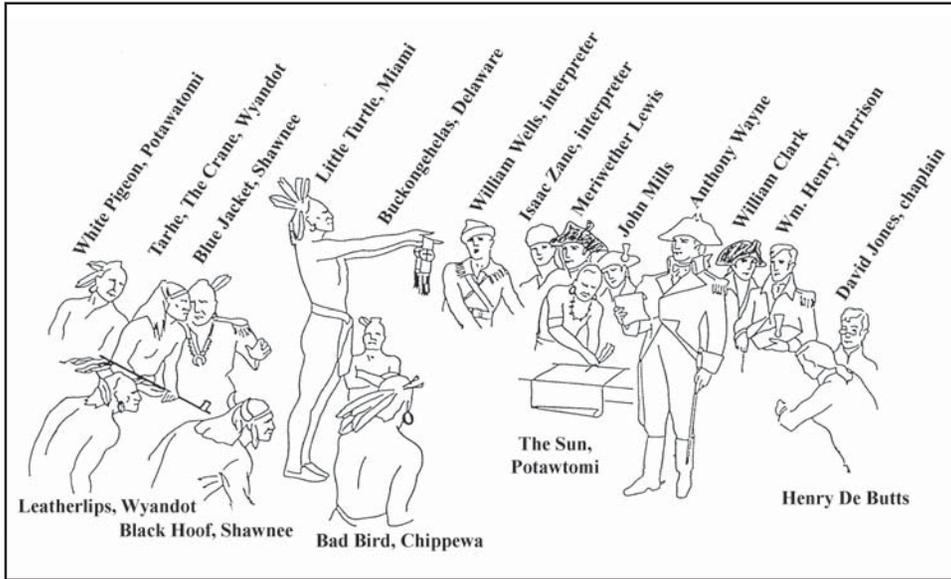
The first painting commissioned for the Ohio Statehouse Rotunda commemorates Oliver Hazard Perry's victory against the British on Lake Erie during the War of 1812. Perry changed ships in the middle of the battle. Back on land, he reported, "We have met the enemy, and they are ours." Perry (1785-1819) and his young brother, James Alexander Perry, are central in the dingy. The African-American man is Hannibal, Perry's personal servant. More than 15 percent of Perry's crew was African-American. The names of the other figures are in dispute.

Because of a disagreement over payment, the artist exhibited this painting in other locations. In Washington, D.C., he was commissioned to paint a copy which still hangs in the U.S. Capitol building.

[www.ohiostatehouse.org](http://www.ohiostatehouse.org)

# The Signing

**Title:** *The Signing, or The Signing of the Treaty of Greene Ville*  
**Artist:** Howard Chandler Christy, (1873-1952), Ohio  
**Dates:** Commissioned in January 1945, unveiled in August 1945  
**Media:** Oil paint on canvas attached to board  
**Size:** 22 feet x 17 feet



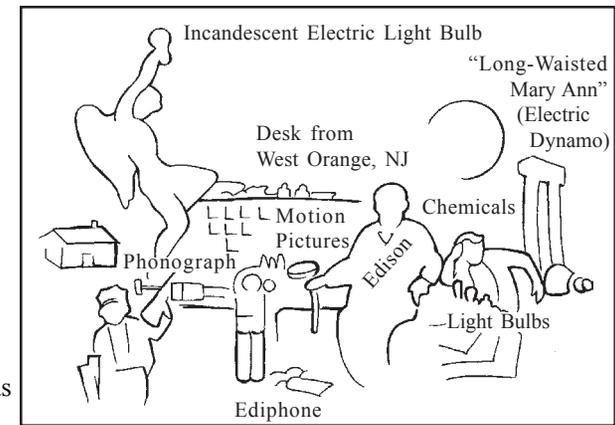
This painting represents a key moment in Ohio statehood. The 1795 Treaty between Native Americans and the United States allowed settlers into the territory below the Greene Ville Treaty line. After defeat at the Battle of Fallen Timbers, Little Turtle (standing, left) and other Native American leaders met the “Mad” Anthony Wayne (standing, right) at Fort Greene Ville, now Greenville, Ohio. Little Turtle is shown offering a wampum belt, and The Sun is signing the treaty document. Tarhe, The Crane (third from left) is holding the calumet, a pipe.

The artist grew up in Duncan Falls, Ohio, and became a world famous painter. He is known especially for illustrating “Christy girls” and painting “The Signing of the Constitution” in Philadelphia. He created this painting in 1945 to celebrate the Treaty’s sesquicentennial anniversary. The artist later painted “Dawn of a New Light,” which hangs across from this work of art.

The Ohio Statehouse is more than a monument to our past – it’s where history happens! Free guided tours are offered Monday through Friday on the hour from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., and on Saturday and Sunday from noon until 3 p.m. Tours depart from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Information Desk. Contact 888/OHIO-123 for more information or to schedule a tour for a group of 10 or more. For more information about the Ohio Statehouse visit [www.ohiostatehouse.org](http://www.ohiostatehouse.org).

# Dawn of a New Light

**Title:** *Dawn of a New Light*  
**Artist:** Howard Chandler Christy, (1873-1952), Ohio  
**Date:** Installed in 1950, in storage 1964, re-installed in 2001  
**Media:** Oil painting on canvas  
**Size:** 9 feet x 12 feet

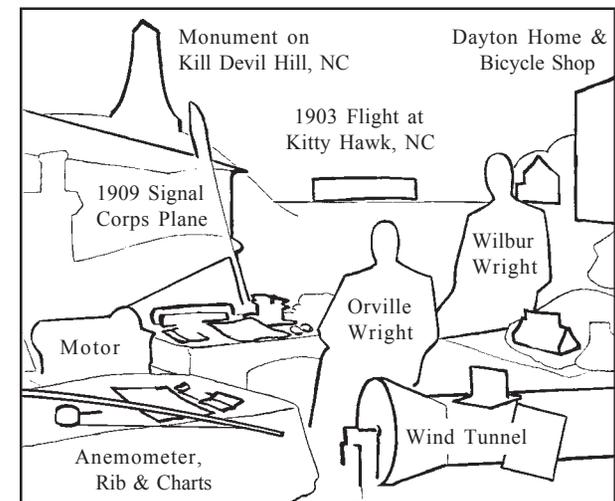


The famous inventor, Thomas Edison (1847-1931), was born in Ohio, and lived in several other states throughout his life. His Milan, Ohio house is represented on the left side of this painting. He can be seen at three ages in this art work: as a home-schooled youth selling papers (left), as a young inventor (right) and as an adult with over 1,000 patents. Some of his inventions are depicted in the picture.

The winged figure at the top left depicts a statue, *The Spirit of Life*, given to Edison by the French government. It holds one of his inventions, the first practical incandescent electric light bulb, and gives light to the world. This painting was a gift from a group of Ohio power companies in 1950.

# Wilbur and Orville Wright

**Title:** *Wilbur and Orville Wright and Their Accomplishments*  
**Artist:** Dwight Mutchler, (1903-1976), Athens, Ohio  
**Dates:** Commissioned in 1957, unveiled in 1959, in storage 1964, re-installed in 2004  
**Media:** Oil painting on canvas  
**Size:** 9 feet x 12 feet



The Wright brothers were the first to fly a heavier-than-air, powered airplane. The site of the historic flight, Kitty Hawk, NC, is shown in the upper left of this painting. Their Dayton, Ohio home and bicycle shop can be seen on the right.

This picture was painted by Ohioan Dwight Mutchler, a professor of art at Ohio University. He was chosen from a group of 52 artists to paint the Wright brothers for the State of Ohio. Along with its frame, this painting weighs about 800 pounds.