

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT ☐ DETERIORATED
☒ GOOD ☐ RUINS
☐ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Lincoln Tomb in Springfield, Illinois, is a large marble monument designed by Larkin G. Mead, Jr. Construction was begun in 1869, four years after Lincoln's assassination, and was completed in 1874.

The tomb's exterior design consists of an obelisk 117 feet high, resting on a simple square building. On the corners of the spire are four heroic bronze groups representing the infantry, cavalry, artillery, and navy of the Civil War. On the south side of the shaft above the entrance to the tomb is a ten-foot statue of Lincoln. In front of the tomb is a bronze reproduction of Gutzon Borgrum's massive Lincoln bust. The entrance leads to a foyer where is displayed a reduced copy of the Daniel Chester French statue in the Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C. A circular corridor leads to the burial chamber and circles back to the foyer. In niches along the corridor are four-foot statues representing various phases of Lincoln's life, and four bronze tablets contain the Farewell Address to Springfield, The Gettysburg Address, a portion of the Second Inaugural Address and a biographical sketch.

The original cost of the Lincoln Tomb was \$180,000. In 1895 the State assumed control of the Tomb, and in 1901 and 1931, reconstructions of the interior were completed.

Since 1869, the grounds at Lincoln Tomb have been somewhat altered. There is a custodian's residence less than 50 yards due west of the Tomb, and a parking area immediately west of that. Rest rooms, a garage, and an incinerator border the western parking area line. Roads in the area run differently than in 1869, though none disturb the quiet essential to the integrity of the site.

In January 1975 vandals spray-painted graffiti on the tomb exterior, front and rear. There was no alternative to sandblasting, which affected the stone permanently.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1809-1865

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Larkin G. Meade, Jr.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lincoln Tomb is a memorial to Abraham Lincoln, sixteenth President of the United States. In it are buried Lincoln, his wife, and three of his four sons.

Immediately after Lincoln's death on April 15, 1865, citizens of Springfield organized the National Lincoln Monument Association to spearhead the drive to erect a tomb and memorial. Work was begun in 1869, and in 1871 Lincoln's body was removed from a temporary vault and placed in the crypt. The tomb was dedicated in 1874, and in 1895 the Monument Association gave control of the site to the State of Illinois.

In 1876 an attempt was foiled to kidnap and ransom Lincoln's body. In 1901 the casket was moved for the last time, when it was placed in a cement vault ten feet below the floor. The Tomb is open daily to the public on an unlimited basis.

Biography

Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865) was the son of a poor pioneer and squatter, Thomas Lincoln. Through self-education he was able to leave rail-splitting and flatboating to practice law in 1836. He was eminently successful, and in 1846 was elected to Congress. His opposition to the Mexican War led to his defeat two years later.

The emerging crisis over slavery gave Lincoln his opportunity to reassert himself and rise to statesmanship. In 1856 he became a Republican and two years later ran against Stephen A. Douglas for the U.S. Senate, maintaining that Congress must exclude slavery from the territories, though not abolish it. Lincoln lost the election, but gained national recognition. In 1860 he won the Republican nomination for President on the third ballot. With four condidates in the field, Lincoln was able to win a decisive victory in the Electoral College despite winning a plurality of less than 40 percent of the popular vote. This was completely unacceptable to many Southerners, and in January, 1861, South Carolina seceded. By March, seven Southern States had united to form the Confederate States of America.

On April 12, 1861, Fort Sumter was fired upon. Lincoln called upon the State governors for troops, whereupon four more States joined the Confederacy.

For the next four years, Lincoln ran the Federal war effort with almost absolute authority. His actions were hampered by a bickering, deceitful Cabinet, incompetent military commanders, and the tenuous nature of his own position as a minority President serving a four year term. Despite these obstacles, Lincoln successfully

(Continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Newcomb, Rexford, In the Lincoln Country: Journeys to the Lincoln Shrines of Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois and Other States (1928).
Redway, Maurine, and Dorothy Bracken, Marks of Lincoln On Our Land (1957).
Shedd, Charles E., Jr., "Lincoln Tomb," Historic Sites Survey record, 1959.
State of Illinois Department of Conservation, Division of Parks and Memorials, "The Lincoln Tomb," informational publication.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 12.4

UTM REFERENCES

A | 1 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 0 |
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C | 1 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 0 |

B | 1 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 2 | 0 |
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Stephen Lissandrello, Historian, Landmarks Survey Project

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service

DATE

April 4, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

1100 L Street NW.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C. 20240

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ____

STATE ____

LOCAL ____

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the

(National Historic Landmarks Survey) forth by the National Park Service.

LANDMARKS)

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11/24/78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

(NATIONAL HISTORIC

LANDMARKS)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

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directed the invasion and conquest of the South. Despite half-a-dozen crushing defeats, Federal armies in the East successfully carried out a four-year holding action which kept the best Southern troops and commanders pinned down in Virginia throughout the war. This permitted the enormous successes won by Grant and Sherman in the West, which split the Confederacy first along the Mississippi and then along the Chatanooga-Atlanta-Savannah axis. This, with an increasingly effective naval blockade, reduced the Confederacy to subjugation in what now seems the surprisingly short period of four years. By the 1864 Presidential election, a second Lincoln victory, once in great doubt, was assured. Lincoln's plans for reconstruction were still in a formative stage when he was shot and killed, April 14, 1865, by John Wilkes Booth in Ford's Theatre, Washington.

Among American heroes, Lincoln continues to have a unique appeal. It derives from his remarkable life story--his rise from humble origins and his dramatic death--and from his distinctively humane personality. His historical role as saviour of the Union and emancipator of the slaves is enhanced by his eloquence as a spokesman for democracy, an eloquence which culminated with his Emancipation Proclamation (1862), the Gettysburg Address (1863), and the Second Inaugural Address (1865). Lincoln's remains were carried by train to Springfield, Illinois where he lay in a temporary vault until 1871, when he was interred in the Lincoln Tomb.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Geographical Data (Verbal Boundary Description):

The boundaries for Lincoln Tomb include all that property surrounding the tomb owned and cared for by the Illinois Department of Conservation. This 12.4 acre plot preserves the peaceful setting which made President and Mrs. Lincoln decide to be buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery. Modern additions, though relatively well-screened, do not contribute to the significance of the landmark. These include the custodian's residence, parking lot, rest rooms and appurtenant features.

As described by the red line on the accompanying map B, labelled "Topographic Map, Lincoln Tomb Area," and dated Oct. 14, 1968, from a point on the eastern curb of Logan Drive, at the intersection of Logan and Springfield Avenue; proceed southeast about 750 feet along the east curb of Logan Drive; thence about 500 feet easterly along the north curb of New Salem Place; thence about 200 feet southeast across Monument Avenue and along the north curb of New Salem Place; thence east about 150 feet to the west curb of Grant Drive; thence northwest about 850 along Grant Drive; thence about 900 feet westerly along the south curb of Springfield Avenue to the point of beginning.

The black line on map B describes the original 1866 extent of the Lincoln Tomb area.





THE LINCOLN TOMB

By

Dorothy M. Cashman

The telegraph! It was the telegraph that brought the shocking news to the world that Mr. Lincoln was dead. Shot, the night before in the Ford Theatre by John Wilkes Booth, April 14, 1865.

Plans were immediately commenced for the funeral, and for the long, sad journey back to his foster home in Springfield, Illinois, a journey of approximately sixteen hundred miles.

The body was brought to the White House, where it remained for four days, and where elaborate funeral services were held. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War, was in charge of arrangements in Washington. From the White House the body was taken to the United States Capitol Building where it remained until the twenty-first of April, and then removed to the splendid, regal hearse, and taken to the railroad station to be placed in the magnificent train, from there to start the slow journey back to Springfield. The body of his third son, Willie, who had died in Washington, came back on the same train with his father.

When the stunned citizens awakened to the fact that the funeral was to be held in Springfield, the City Council met in special session, and temporary arrangements were made for the purchase of a plot of ground in what was then known as the Mather Block, and where the present State Capitol of Illinois now stands.

Laborers were hired to work day and night to complete a vault there to receive the body of Mr. Lincoln upon its arrival.

Plans were made for the train to follow, as nearly as possible, the same route which it took when Mr. Lincoln went to Washington from Springfield on February 11, 1861.

After leaving Washington the cortege went to Baltimore, from there to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to Philadelphia, then to New York City. In New York the procession was a beautiful,

elaborate funeral march. From New York City, to Albany and Buffalo in New York, to Cleveland and Columbus in Ohio, to Indianapolis, Indiana, to Chicago, and to Springfield, Illinois. Though the train went through Decatur in 1861, it came directly back to Springfield through Chicago, thereby deviating a bit from the exact route it had taken in 1861.

The body arrived in Springfield early on May 3, and was taken directly to the then State Capitol, where it lay in state throughout the entire day and night. All night long the mourners gathered, all night long crowds thronged in to view, for the last time, the face of their beloved martyred President.

Mary Lincoln did not come back with the body, but remained in Washington in a state of shock. She heard that plans were nearly completed for the body to be placed in the vault on the Mather Block. On May 4, the very day planned for the services, she sent a wire to Springfield stating that her husband's body was to be placed in Oak Ridge Cemetery, or she would have it returned to Washington and there placed in the crypt in the National Capitol, which had been prepared for George Washington. This crypt, or vault, had never been used because, as we know, President Washington's body had been interred at Mount Vernon.

In deference to Mary's wishes, the body was placed in the public receiving vault of Oak Ridge Cemetery. On a drizzly morning, May 4, the mourners followed the hearse to the cemetery and stood silently, reverently and grief stricken, as the soft clang of the gates announced that the vault was closed.

Later, Mary Lincoln went to Chicago with her sons, Robert and Tad, and while there read in the newspapers that the vault on the Mather Block was nearly completed, and in a few days, the body would be removed from Oak Ridge Cemetery and placed there.

On June 5, Mary sent a letter stating that her husband's body must remain in Oak Ridge Cemetery, or she would have it removed to Washington, as she said, to be placed in the vault prepared for George Washington in the National Capitol.

Upon receipt of her letter the committee in Springfield, the members of the National Lincoln Monument Association, called a meeting and decided to send a committee to Chicago to meet

with Mrs. Lincoln. On their arrival Mary refused to see them, and Robert met them instead. He told them his mother had made her decision, and it would remain as she had stated. She wanted her husband's body in consecrated ground rather than any spot these men had chosen.

Quite chagrined, they reported to the other members, and after some consideration and much discussion, it was decided to take a vote. Eight voted for Oak Ridge Cemetery and seven for the Mather Block. It was a rather pointless vote, as the widow had the right of decision according to law.

During those years burials were not made in the wintertime due to not having earth digging equipment for frozen ground. Because the cemetery needed the vault, a temporary vault was built on the east side of the hill from where the tomb now stands, and where the bodies of Mr. Lincoln and Willie were placed on December 21, 1865, and where little Eddie's body was soon placed. There they remained until the present tomb was completed.

At the time of Mr. Lincoln's death, Richard J. Oglesby was the Governor of the State of Illinois, and he formed an association to be known as the National Lincoln Monument Association, and composed of former friends and associates of Mr. Lincoln. The members of the Association were:

Richard Oglesby, Chairman

Orlin H. Miner	John Todd Stuart
Jessie K. DuBois	John Williams
Jacob Bunn	Sharon Tyndale
Thomas J. Dennis	Newton Bateman
S. H. Treat	Ozias M. Hatch
S. H. Melvin	James H. Beveridge
David L. Phillips	James C. Conkling

With Oglesby as the Chairman, their purpose was to raise funds for the building of a suitable tomb for the body of Mr. Lincoln. An appeal was made to the entire nation for sufficient funds to accomplish this. It was a long, hard and arduous task, and as we did much research re: the raising of the funds, we found much of interest, pathos and even humor. In one instance we found a letter had been written to a member of the association from a man in Ohio. He asked for the appointment of a

new solicitor, as the previous one had died, and gone to his reward in heaven, and so was probably no longer interested in soliciting funds. Quite natural.

The goal of the Association was \$240,000, and when \$134,000 had been received, an advertisement was placed in various newspapers asking for designs, and a prize of \$1,000 to go to the winner. Thirty-seven designs were submitted by thirty-one artists. After much study and elimination, for one reason or another, as too costly or inappropriate, the prize was given to a young man, Larkin G. Mead of Brattleboro, Vermont, who at that time was studying sculpture in Florence, Italy.

Ground was broken in 1869, and the construction was completed and the tomb dedicated on October 15, 1874.

The City of Springfield donated six acres in Oak Ridge Cemetery to the Association on which to erect the memorial.

On July 15, 1871, Thomas Lincoln, who was known as "Tad," the youngest of Mr. Lincoln's four sons, died. Work had progressed sufficiently to permit his body to be brought directly to the tomb where it was placed in a crypt. His was the first body placed in the tomb.

With the work continuing, Mr. Lincoln's body and that of Eddie, were placed in the tomb in crypts in September 1871, but the first dedication was not until 1874.

The exterior of the building is made of granite from Quincy, Massachusetts. The structure appears as it did when the work was completed in 1874, with the exception of the shaft, or obelisk, which at that time was one hundred and two feet high. Later constructions brought it to one hundred and seventeen feet high.

Visitors may ascend to the terrace by either of four flights of granite steps, one at each corner. A heavy granite balustrade ascends on the outside of each stairway and is extended to form a parapet around the terrace. In the original construction a spiral staircase inside the obelisk allowed visitors to ascend to the top to view the surrounding area from that vantage point.

In preparing the granite for the monument, a series of ash-lars or hewn stone, two feet by two feet nine inches are so cut that each presents the appearance of a raised shield. The names

of the states are engraved on the shields. On each of these alternating shields are two raised bands running horizontally, giving to the states the appearance of being linked together as if it were an endless chain. There are thirty-seven of these representing the thirty-seven states of the Union at the time the tomb was built, and indicating a solid bond of Union. On each of the shields is engraved the name of a state, the short names, such as Utah and Ohio, are in full, the others are abbreviated; the one that causes the greatest comment from the visitors is Oregon which is abbreviated "ON" the way it was prior to 1883, at which time it was changed to "Ore." As the tomb was completed in 1874, that part of the work was finished, therefore the change is not shown on the shield.

On each corner near the obelisk are four magnificent bronze figures. These too were designed by Larkin G. Mead. The Infantry and Naval groups had been molded in Florence, Italy and transferred to Chicopee, Massachusetts, for the casting and finishing by the Ames Mfg. Co. The Artillery group represents a section of artillery in action. This too, was shipped from Chicopee, Massachusetts, and arrived at the tomb on February 23, 1882. The model of the Cavalry group was shipped from Florence, Italy and arrived in Chicopee in October 1880.

Mr. Mead wrote that the Artillery group represents a scene which he had witnessed in Yorktown.

The Cavalry group consists of two human figures and a horse representing a battle scene. The horse from whose back the rider had just fallen is frantically rearing. The wounded and dying trumpeter, supported by a comrade, involuntarily assumes a prayerful attitude. And though the Artillery and the Cavalry groups seemingly represent defeat, they are truthful because it was through many such scenes the Union was victorious. Each one of the statuary groups cost \$13,700.

On the terrace as one comes up the steps, a statue of Mr. Lincoln stands. This statue and the coat of arms just below cost \$15,200.

On October 15, 1874, the tomb was completed and dedicated, and John Carroll Power was appointed first custodian. The tomb was opened to the public on October 21, 1874.

As we enter the then called "Catacomb" which we now call the "Burial Chamber" we see five crypts, side by side elevated three feet above the floor. These crypts are three feet square and seven feet deep, north and south. In the center of the room is a marble sarcophagus, containing the body of Abraham Lincoln, and standing on the floor where the present cenotaph now stands. There was a door leading into the catacomb on the north and was opened on special occasions only, such as during ceremonies and for visiting dignitaries coming to the tomb. Usually the visitor had to look through the glass in the door to see the sarcophagus. The entrance from the front, at the south end, brought one into what was then called Memorial Hall, which in essence was a museum and contained souvenirs, pictures, pieces of furniture belonging to the Lincoln family, and other such memorabilia pertinent to them.

Memorial Hall, now called the Rotunda, was entered as today, from the south. The interior wall was planed Illinois stone, and inside of that a few inches was a lining of Vermont marble in panel work, extending in dome groined arches, to form a ceiling, all supported by a series of Doric columns. At the north side was a vestibule to the catacomb. It was finished inside the same as Memorial Hall except the floor was of black and white marble instead of Illinois stone.

Abraham Lincoln's body was taken from the crypt and placed in the white marble sarcophagus on October 15, 1874. The bodies of Eddie and Willie remained in their separate crypts in the catacomb.

Counterfeiting was very prevalent in the 1800's. Three counterfeiters in Chicago had as their engraver a man named Ben Boyd, an excellent engraver who had been arrested and was then in the penitentiary. The other two, Mullins and Hughes, found themselves without money, either good or bad. They had visited the Lincoln Tomb and realized that Mr. Lincoln's body was on the floor in the marble sarcophagus. Returning to Chicago, and at the Hub saloon, they made plans to steal the body of Mr. Lincoln, hide it in the sand dunes of Indiana, and hold it for \$200,000 ransom and the release of Ben Boyd from the penitentiary. While discussing their plans they realized that it was a job for three men, and wondered where they could find a third man who would work with them. To find a man to enter

into this dastardly plot seemed a huge undertaking, but they did find him, Louis Swegles.

After discussing the plan at some length, they decided on November 7, 1876, as it was election day and many people would be in the Capitol City at that time and they felt that they would not be noticed. At eight o'clock that night the three men broke into the tomb at the north entrance. Working with the light from a dark lantern they dismantled the sarcophagus and pulled the coffin out eighteen inches. The hard part of the job done, they sent Swegles to the east gate of the cemetery to bring up the wagon which they had provided. Swegles was gone a long time and they became suspicious and went out to look for him. While outside of the tomb, they heard footsteps. The footsteps they heard were those of the Secret Service men who had been alerted by Swegles, who was a detective. He had worked with them to acquaint himself with their plans. Mullins and Hughes escaped and returned to Chicago, unaware that their partner was a detective.

Ten days later Swegles, with the police, entered the Hub saloon where Mullins and Hughes were congratulating themselves on their fortunate escape and arrested them. They were returned to Springfield where they were tried and were sentenced to one year in the penitentiary for breaking and entering, the only charge that could be placed against them. At that time there was no law on the books against stealing a corpse. Three years later such a law was enacted, and today, it is a felony to attempt to steal or molest a body.

Following this attempt in 1876 to steal the body of Mr. Lincoln, the members of the National Lincoln Monument Association, in whose care the tomb was placed, fearing another like incident, hid the body. John Carroll Power and two members of the Association agreed to assume the responsibility of hiding the body. On the theory that it was better that as few persons as possible would know the location of the body, the public was not informed. Working at night, November 15, 1876, Mr. Power and his two companions carried the coffin into the interior of the structure, to the base of the obelisk. There they attempted to dig a shallow grave. Before the excavation could be made deep enough, water seeped in and soon filled the trench, making a burial there impractical. Undecided what next to do to effect a

burial, they left the coffin resting on planks and covered it with debris that had been left there during the construction of the tomb. This condition was thought to be a temporary measure until some better plan could be devised to more properly dispose of the coffin. But, it was November 18, 1878, before a decision was reached. On that date, at night, six members of the Association met and removed the coffin to another location near the base of the obelisk. Here they were successful in excavating a shallow grave in which they placed the coffin and covered it with earth.

On February 12, 1880, the seventy-first anniversary of Lincoln's birth, the same six men, joined by three other associates, met and formed the Lincoln Guard of Honor. This organization was formed, ostensibly for the purpose of conducting memorial services at the tomb on succeeding anniversaries. In reality, it was formed for the purpose of accepting from the National Lincoln Monument Association, the guardianship of the tomb and body of Abraham Lincoln.

Mary Todd Lincoln, wife of Abraham, died on July 16, 1882, and three days later her body was placed in one of the crypts in the tomb. Robert Todd Lincoln, the eldest son, then made it known that he desired his mother's body be placed beside that of his father. Maintaining their desire for secrecy, the members of the Lincoln Guard of Honor met the night of July 21, and buried Mrs. Lincoln's body in accordance with Robert's wishes. Anxiety for the safety of the bodies continued to plague the members, and they were most unhappy with the undignified burials.

Plans for a proper burial were discussed, but it was not until 1887, that positive action was taken. On April 15, 1887, on the twenty-second anniversary of Lincoln's death, the bodies were removed from their hidden graves.

Since the time of the attempted theft of Mr. Lincoln's body rumors were persistent claiming that his remains actually had been stolen and had not been returned. In an attempt to dispel these rumors the coffin was opened and Lincoln's features exposed to the view of the members of the Guard. All present were satisfied that the coffin actually did contain the remains of Abraham Lincoln and affidavits were signed to that effect. With the coffin re-sealed both bodies were entombed in a brick vault

built beneath the floor of the catacomb. With this burial all fears for the safety of the bodies vanished. Their work completed the Lincoln Guard of Honor ended their activities and the guardianship of the Tomb reverted to the National Lincoln Monument Association.

Mr. Power received no compensation from the Association for his duties as Tomb Custodian. He was permitted to sell post cards for twenty five cents each and retain one half of that amount for himself as remuneration and the other half was used to help defray the expenses at the Tomb. As the years progressed there was grumbling and dissatisfaction about this arrangement but it was kept in effect until the death of Mr. Power in 1894 while he was still the Custodian.

During the years that followed the opening of the Tomb time had played havoc with the structure and it was found to be unsafe, due to the base not having been dug deep enough.

During the years all members of the Association had died with the exception of Mr. Oglesby. Public pressure had commenced to be built up for the State of Illinois to accept and maintain this building as it should be maintained. In 1895, by a simple agreement, Mr. Oglesby deeded the Lincoln Tomb to the State of Illinois. There were a few agreements to be met, one that a home for the Custodian would be built on the grounds, and that nothing should be sold at the Tomb, nor an admittance fee be accepted. The Custodians home was built in eighteen ninety six and stands one hundred and fifty feet west of the Tomb.

In 1895 Edward S. Johnson was appointed Custodian of the Tomb.

In 1899 it was discovered the weakened condition of the structure made it imperative to completely re-build the Tomb. Dismantling the building was commenced at once, and the entire Tomb taken down from the very top, each piece was marked and numbered to insure it going back to its original position.

On March 10, 1900 the bodies of the Lincoln family were moved to a subterranean vault constructed for that purpose a few yards northeast of the building.

With the work of rebuilding nearly finished, the underground vault was opened on April twenty fourth, nineteen hundred and one. Little publicity had been given of the intent to

remove the bodies from the vault on that day. For that reason perhaps not more than a hundred persons were present as the workmen removed the stone slabs covering the vault.

As the bodies of each member of the family were removed from the vault they were taken into the Tomb and placed in the crypts prepared for them. Abraham Lincoln's body was again placed in the white marble sarcophagus in which his coffin had been placed in 1874. Again it was thought that this interment would be the last, but it was not to be.

Robert Todd Lincoln the eldest son, who had never lost his concern for the safety of his Father's body, came to Springfield late in the month of May to inspect the Tomb. He was not entirely satisfied with the probable effectiveness of the precautions which had been taken to insure against a repetition of the early attempt to steal the body. Returning to Chicago, after giving the matter long and careful consideration he wrote on June 21, a letter to the then Governor Yates, outlining a plan of burial that he would like to have accepted. He expressed concern in the letter by saying "I feel compelled to say that only by adoption of such a plan as this, would I be satisfied that all danger of desecration be avoided."

The plan suggested by Robert Lincoln called for the placing of the body ten feet below the surface of the floor of the catacomb, to lie in an east and west direction. The vault to be of steel and concrete construction, hermetically sealed, and with the coffin in place to be covered with about twenty inches of concrete. Adopting this plan, Governor Yates instructed the contractor who had rebuilt the tomb, Colonel J. S. Culver to begin work without delay.

Everything was in readiness for the interment on September 26, 1901. Those present for the ceremony were State officials, members of the former Lincoln Guard of Honor and a few invited citizens. Included was a young man by the name of Fleetwood Lindley, who at that time was fourteen years of age. His father was one of the invited guests; he called his son at school, telling him to ride out on his bicycle to witness a scene that would never again present itself. At the time of his death in 1963 Fleetwood Lindley was the last living person to have looked upon Mr. Lincoln's face.

Robert Lincoln had expressed a wish that the coffin remain closed. It had been opened in 1887 and since there had been no opportunity for tampering with the coffin in the meantime, he felt that viewing the body at this time would serve no good purpose. Some of the State officials and others, whether from a strong desire to maintain a true and continuous record of identification or from mere curiosity desired the coffin to be opened.

After much discussion of the subject, to open the coffin or to accede to Robert's wish the majority decided that it should be opened. The two plumbers, Leon Hopkins and Charles Willey who had opened the lead lining in 1887 were summoned to again perform that task.

Workmen carried the coffin to the south room of the Tomb, known at that time as Memorial Hall, and placed it upon trestles. All newspaper reporters and others who were not of the official party were excluded from the room. The plumbers cut the lead lining and exposed the face of Lincoln to view. Those present crowded around the coffin, some with a feeling of guilt for having insisted on violating the expressed wish of Robert Lincoln to look upon the remains. They saw the body in an excellent state of preservation, with only a slight mold on the forehead and necktie. The white kid gloves he had worn had deteriorated, the pillow on which his head lay had also deteriorated, so his head was thrown slightly back. This thirty six years after his death! After each had taken his last look at Mr. Lincoln's features the lead lining was resealed and the coffin closed. The workmen were called in and removed the coffin to the catacomb where it was lowered into the prepared vault. The work of closing the vault and relaying the floor was commenced.

With the tile floor in place, the white marble sarcophagus was returned to its original position on the floor, and the series of events started twenty-five years before came to an end. The body of Abraham Lincoln will lie at rest undisturbed, as long as the stone above it endures.

During the 1899-1900 reconstruction, fifteen feet were added to the obelisk, bringing it up to the present one hundred and seventeen feet.

Mr. Johnson continued on with the routine duties as Custodian until his death on February 15, 1921. After the death of

Mr. Johnson, Mr. Herbert Wells Fay of DeKalb, Illinois was appointed Custodian in 1921.

During the years following the Museum in Memorial Hall continued to attract the visitors, and again routine continued. In 1930, due to faulty construction and deterioration, it was concluded necessary to re-do the interior of the Tomb. This was done completely, though the outside was not changed, with one exception.

Until this time visitors had been permitted to go into the obelisk, but due to the heat expansion and the cold contraction it was considered unsafe to continue this. The visitors were becoming more numerous and with so many entering the narrow space it was decided to close the obelisk.

Early in 1865 there was conflict in Italy and the people in Italy were aware of the conflict in our own United States. The people in that country felt there was a great parallel in the lives of Abraham Lincoln and the Sixth Legendary King of Rome, Servius Tullius. Servius Tullius was born a slave, rose to become the ruler of Rome, freed the people there and awarded them the rights of citizenship. An engraved stone, a fragment from the wall which was built around the seven hills of Rome in 578 B.C., was sent to Abraham Lincoln as a memento, both Servius Tullius and Abraham Lincoln were dedicated to the freedom of mankind. The engraving on the stone translated from the Rome version:

"To Abraham Lincoln, President for the second time, of the American Republic, citizens of Rome present this stone, from the wall of Servius Tullius, by which the memory of each of these brave assertors of liberty may be associated. Anno 1865"

This stone remained in the White House for a number of years when, by a joint resolution of Congress, it was sent to the Tomb. It was used in the door that seals the entrance to the obelisk. In 1936 a group of representatives from the Italian Government came to Springfield and formally dedicated the stone to the memory of Abraham Lincoln.

The entire inside of the Tomb was completely re-done. The entrance was left as always from the South, the walls, ceilings and floors were made new.

Previous to 1930, visitors came directly into what was

known as Memorial Hall, which was as far as they could go. During this reconstruction corridors were opened so the visitor could walk through the Tomb, going into the right corridor and returning through the left corridor; no exit was at the North.

The memorabilia was removed from the front, or Memorial Hall, and no souvenirs, pictures or like articles remained nor has there been anything of that nature in the Tomb since. The floor is of Italian travertine, with black borders from Belgium. Many of the visitors remark about how badly worn is the floor because of its pitted appearance which they believe is caused from the many, many people who have walked on it. The truth is it is the nature of travertine, to be so pitted.

On June 17, 1931, the late President Hoover came to Springfield, and with appropriate and elaborate ceremonies dedicated the Tomb, and it stands today, both inside and out, as it did that day in June when Mr. Hoover made the dedication speech.

Herbert Wells Fay continued on as Custodian until his retirement in January 1949. His son, Earl Owen Fay, took on the duties of the Tomb. His father died on the 24th of October in 1949, just ten months after his retirement. Earl Fay stayed on only long enough to complete the duties attendant upon his Father's death, and then recommended George L. Cashman, from Provincetown, Massachusetts to fill the position. Governor Adlai Stevenson appointed Mr. Cashman, who assumed his duties on February 10, 1951, and has been and still is at the Tomb in that capacity.

Earl Fay returned to his home in DeKalb, and died there suddenly on May 4, 1954.

Entering the Tomb, the visitor first sees the lovely replica of the memorial statue in Washington, D. C., which was created by Daniel Chester French.

While standing beside the French statue in the now called Rotunda one day, a lady approached Mr. Cashman and asked if she could ask a question. He told her he would be pleased to answer any question he could, and she said "Do you think if they had not buried Mr. Lincoln here, they would have buried him some place else?" Of course that was a surprise question and after thinking for a little moment, he answered "It's customary."

Everything within the Tomb is symbolic. Around the walls in the Rotunda are sixteen beautiful pilasters of lovely brown marble from the State of Utah. Sixteen, because Mr. Lincoln was the sixteenth President. Beside each of these pilasters is a narrow bronze panel, as well as on the sides of the arches going into the corridors, there are thirty six of these bronzes for the thirty six states in the Union at the time of Lincoln's death. Between each pilaster is a panel of shining marble from St. Genevieve in Missouri. The ceiling is of platinum leaf.

Turning into the right or east corridor we come upon a large bronze plaque, and pause to read this. It contains a brief biographical sketch of Abraham Lincoln and written by a local attorney, Harry A. Converse. The plaque reads as follows:

In this Tomb are the Remains of

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Sixteenth President of the United States

Born February 12, 1809, in a log cabin at Hodgenville, Kentucky, a slave state, second child of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks, died at Washington, D.C. April 15, 1865. Taken by his parents in 1816 to Spencer County, Indiana, where he spent his youth. Two years later left motherless, but upon the re-marriage of his father became strongly attached to his step-mother, Sarah Bush, who exerted great influence on his character. At the age of twenty-one came with his family overland to Macon County, Illinois, where they settled on a farm. In 1831 moved to New Salem where he lived six years. Moved to Springfield and practiced law until 1860, when he was elected to the Presidency of the United States. On November 4, 1842 married Mary Todd to which union was born four children, Robert Todd, Edward Baker, William Wallace and Thomas. Served as a captain in the Black Hawk War, four terms in the Illinois State Legislature, one term in Congress. Was twice defeated for the United States Senate, and twice elected President of the United States. With only a meager schooling he became a master of the English language, a nationally known orator and debater, and one of the world's greatest statesmen. He guided our nation through the Civil War and preserved our Union for posterity.

Moving into the corner of the East corridor we come to the standing figure of Lincoln the Soldier, created by Leonard Cru-nelle. The original is situated at Dixon, Illinois. Directly across is the equestrian study of Lincoln the Ranger, a most impressive original by the late Fred Torrey of Des Moines, Iowa. In 1832, living at New Salem, Lincoln became a member of a company of Illinois militia. Elected captain of his company, Lincoln served as such for thirty days. At the end of that time, the company

was mustered out of Federal service, but the following day Lincoln re-enlisted as a private in a company of Independent Rangers. He served about eighty days in the Black Hawk Indian War, and as he saw no live Indians, he took no active part in the fighting. Mr. Lincoln has said that of all the achievements in his entire life he was most proud of having been elected a Captain in the Black Hawk War.

Moving along the corridor we note the walls are paneled with lovely marble which we are told comes from Spain. At the end of the corridor we see the standing figure of Lincoln, the President, the work of Augustus St. Gaudens. The original of this replica stands in Lincoln Park, Chicago, Illinois. Another notable full size copy is in Parliament Square, in London, England. For many years the St. Gaudens statue was the best known of all Lincoln statues. It is quite probable that Daniel Chester French who made the beautiful memorial in Washington, D.C., has probably captured the reputation of having made the best known statue to date of Abraham Lincoln.

Here in the corridor we see rose colored marble from Italy. In each of the four corners are twelve golden stars for the forty-eight states in the Union at the time the interior of the Tomb was re-done.

Diagonally across from the Presidents statue is the second of the Fred Torrey originals, an impressive study of Lincoln, the Circuit Rider. At the time that Mr. Lincoln was practicing law in Springfield it was a little place, there were other lawyers, there was not enough business for all of them so they travelled outside to the various county seats. Mr. Lincoln travelled what was known as the eighth judicial circuit. He would leave home for three months, return for three months and then start out again for another three months, etc. He practiced law in the various court houses, such as Mount Pulaski, Metamora, Decatur, Beardstown, Pekin, Danville and Lincoln. During those years the town of Lincoln was named Postville, but during Mr. Lincoln's life time the name was changed from Postville to Lincoln, and is the only town named for him while he lived. This change occurred at a picnic so history tells us, and when the change was proposed not having any water available the juice from a water-melon was used for the christening!

In this statue we see Mr. Lincoln wearing the familiar high hat and shawl. When he first came to Springfield he purchased

a shawl and in cold weather was rarely seen without it. He wore a high hat, and we are told he used the hat for his office, sometimes he would lose his papers and not find them until he bought a new hat. How authentic is this story?

During his travels on the circuit he met a number of men who would become influential in his political career. Perhaps the most notable of these men was Judge David Davis of Bloomington, Illinois, and who Lincoln made Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court. Judge Davis was the administrator of Lincoln's estate which was valued at approximately \$83,000 but Judge Davis built that up to \$110,000.

Our next item of interest is a bronze plaque containing the newspaper reporter's version of the Famous Farewell Address. This extemporaneous speech was delivered from the platform on the rear of the train that would take him to Washington and the inauguration of the sixteenth President of the United States. The reporter's version differs in several respects from the one that is usually found in books, and which Lincoln wrote on the train en route to Washington.

FAREWELL ADDRESS

Friends, no one who has never been placed in a like position, can understand my feelings at this hour, nor the oppressive sadness I feel at this parting. For more than a quarter of a century I have lived among you, and during all that time I have received nothing but kindness at your hands. Here I have lived from my youth until now I am an old man. Here the most sacred ties of earth were assumed; here all my children were born; and one of them lies buried.

To you, dear friends, I owe all that I have, all that I am. All the strange, checkered past seems to crowd now upon my mind. To-day I leave you; I go to assume a task more difficult than that which devolved upon General Washington.

Unless the Great God, who assisted him, shall be with and aid me, I must fail. But if the Omniscient Mind, and the same Almighty Arm that directed and protected him, shall guide and support me, I shall not fail—I shall succeed. Let us all pray that the God of our fathers may not forsake us now. To Him I commend you all. Permit me to ask, that with equal sincerity and faith, you all will invoke His wisdom and guidance for me.

With these few words, I must leave you—for how long I know not.

Friends, one and all, I must now bid you an affectionate farewell.

Springfield, Illinois

Having read the beautiful sentiments expressed here can any one ask if Mr. Lincoln was a Christian?

We now enter the burial chamber. In the center of the room we see a large, reddish hued marble marker or monument bearing the simple inscription

Abraham Lincoln
1809-1865

This is a solid block of marble which comes from the State of Arkansas, from Batesville, and weighs seven tons. This majestic monument marks the location of the burial vault which is thirty inches to the rear. The coffin is placed ten feet below the floor. It is not expected there will ever be another need for the removal or re-burial of the coffin.

Standing in this sacred burial chamber lecturing to the thousands of people who visit there, there are many, many questions, some ridiculous, such as "Is the original body of Mr. Lincoln here?", some pathetic and some unintentionally laughable. One day a guide was talking to a small girl, probably no more than five years old, and the little one wanted to know where Mr. Lincoln died. The guide answered her: "He was sitting in a theatre watching a show on the stage when a man came up in back of him and shot him." Her eyes flashed with indignation and she quickly said "He could have waited until the show was over."

The ceiling in the burial chamber is of gold leaf, twenty three carat pure gold leaf. The black marble is from France. Surrounding the cenotaph in a semi-circular arrangement are nine flags. The first flag on the left is the State flag of Massachusetts. The first Lincoln in America left Hingham, England in 1637 and settled in Hingham in Massachusetts. Later generations moved on to New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Virginia. In the center are the National colors.

At the time Mr. Lincoln died, his Secretary of War, Edwin McMasters Stanton was standing beside him and said, "Now He Belongs To The Ages." Those immortal words are inscribed directly above the Stars and Stripes. Next are the three flags of the States where Abraham lived. He was born in Kentucky, at the age of seven moved with his family to Indiana, and when he was twenty one they came to Illinois. The last flag is the Presidential flag, blue with white stars. At the age of fifty two Abraham Lincoln became the sixteenth President of the United States.

People come from all over the world to visit this place and many come with wreaths to place there in honor and in memory of Mr. Lincoln. Throughout the year so many wreaths are brought in that from time to time they must be removed to make room for a new one. But on the 12th day of February every year, on the anniversary of the birthday of Mr. Lincoln the President of the United States sends a wreath which remains the entire year. At eleven o'clock in the morning of the birthday the Governor of the State of Illinois comes out with the Legionnaires and places a wreath, this, too, remains the entire year. The services of the birthday are traditional and are held each year. On the 15th of April, the anniversary of the death, many historical and military organizations come to the Tomb, and with impressive ceremonies each group places a wreath, and each year they number from sixty five to seventy five.

A guide was explaining to a group of school children about the wreaths and then started to tell about the April 15th ceremony. She asked the children if they could tell what happened on that day and was met with blank stares. Repeating the question, finally one little girl about thirteen years of age raised her hand and said that was the day they paid their taxes!

Turning to the south wall of the burial chamber we see the burial crypts. On the front panel of each crypt is inscribed the name of the member of the family interred therein.

On the first panel on the left we read the name Mary Todd Lincoln 1818-1882; the center panel bears the names Edward Baker Lincoln 1846-1850; William Wallace Lincoln 1850-1862; on the third panel on the right is the name of the fourth son, Thomas (Tad) Lincoln 1853-1871. The first of the four sons, Robert Todd Lincoln 1843-1926 is buried in the National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia at the request of his own family. Robert's son, Abraham Lincoln the second who died in England at the age of eighteen is also buried there.

A plaque in the corridor gives the information about Robert to the public.

The marble for the crypts came from Manketo, Minnesota.

Leaving the burial chamber going into the corridor is the famous Gettysburg address. This is considered the finest piece of literature known, and is a message of spiritual consolation

and burning patriotism. This beautiful eulogy has been learned by almost every school child throughout the world.

GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we do this. But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate—we cannot consecrate—we cannot hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note or long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they, who fought here, have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion, that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

November 19, 1863
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

As we enter the corner of the west corridor, we find the seated statue of Lincoln the President. We call this the birthplace statue and it is striking copy of the Adolph A. Weiman original in Hodgenville, Kentucky. It stands about three miles from the Sinking Spring Farm on which Lincoln was born.

In the opposite niche is the second Leonard Crunelle statue. This, named Lincoln the Debater, was created to commemorate the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates of eighteen fifty-eight. There were seven scheduled debates, and the second, considered the most important of the seven, was held in Freeport, Illinois where the original figure of this statue is located. This debate defeated Lincoln in his campaign for a seat in the United States Senate, but it made of Douglas a man to be shunned by the Democrats of the South.

At the far end of the corridor we see the second of the Daniel Chester French figures, a standing Lincoln, with hands clasped before him, and with head bowed. This is known as the deep thought, or meditation statue, the original of this stands at the west entrance to the State Capitol in Lincoln, Nebraska, and is a most impressive example of the sculptor's art.

The standing figure opposite the deep thought statue depicts Lincoln as a lawyer standing at the bench pleading a point in law. The original, created by Loreda Taft, is in Carle Park, in Urbana, Illinois.

We now come to the bronze plaque which contains the last portion of Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address, delivered on March 4, 1865, a few weeks prior to his assassination by John Wilkes Booth. This speech, perhaps more than any other of his, shows the great influence exerted upon him by the Bible. It is an accepted fact that it was Mr. Lincoln's knowledge of Shakespeare and the Bible that gave to him the wonderful mastery of the English language as we know it.

SECOND INAUGURAL ADDRESS

"The Almighty has His own purposes. Woe unto the world because of offenses for it needs must be that offenses come; but woe unto the man by whom the offense cometh. If we shall suppose that American slavery is one of those offenses which having continued through His appointed time, He now wills to remove, and that He gives to both North and South this terrible war, as the woe due to those by whom offenses came, shall we discern therein any departure from those divine attributes which the believers in a living God always ascribe to Him? Fondly do we hope—fervently do we pray—that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondsman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still must it be said, "the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether."

With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations."

March 4, 1865
Washington, D.C.

Leaving the corridor we now are back once more in the Rotunda and again see the replica of the lovely Memorial in Washington D. C. Here we are told that the bases of all the statues come from Westfield, Massachusetts.

The Lincoln Tomb stands in the center of what is now twelve and one half acres, beautifully landscaped, surrounded by Oak Ridge Cemetery. And as we leave we turn back and see the majestic head of Lincoln done by the famous Gutzom Borg-

lum. We feel, as must the millions who visit the Tomb each year, that truly we have been on hallowed ground. And we are more aware now of the meaning of the words by Edwin McMasters Stanton: Now He Belongs to the Ages.

Mr. James C. Bennett, writing in the Chicago Sunday Tribune of May 31, 1933, said "A more beautiful place of pilgrimage than the reconstructed Tomb does not exist in America. . . . The spirit of the place is the spirit of dignity, reticence, solemn beauty and eloquent symbolism."