GUIDE TO STATE STATUES
IN THE NATIONAL STATUARY HALL COLLECTION
The National Statuary Hall Collection in the United States Capitol consists of 100 statues donated by each of the 50 states to honor notable people in the state’s history. Each state contributes two statues. National Statuary Hall displays 35 of the statues with others placed in the Crypt, the Hall of Columns and the Capitol Visitor Center.

* Indicates year that the statue was added to the collection.

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Statue photography by Architect of the Capitol
Helen Adams Keller was born on June 27, 1880, in Tuscumbia, Alabama. When she was 19 months old, an illness left her deaf, blind, and unable to speak. From her childhood teacher and lifelong companion, Annie Sullivan, she learned to communicate by touch, braille, and the use of a special typewriter. In 1890 a teacher from a Boston school for the deaf taught her to speak. She attended the Cambridge School for Young Ladies and graduated from Radcliffe College with honors in 1904. Keller and Sullivan collaborated on Helen’s autobiography, *The Story of My Life*.

- Keller embraced a variety of social causes, including women’s suffrage. She lectured and wrote in support of these causes and called attention to the plight of people with physical handicaps. Following World War II, she traveled abroad to support the blind.

- Helen Keller died on June 1, 1968, in Westport, Connecticut; her ashes are interred at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

- The statue depicts a moment made famous in the biographical play and movie *The Miracle Worker*. It shows Keller as a seven-year-old girl wearing a pinafore over her dress. She stands at an ivy-entwined water pump. Her expression of astonishment shows the moment when she and Annie Sullivan first communicated, by touch, the word “water.”

- Because of braille around the statue base, the Helen Keller statue is the only statue in Emancipation Hall without a “Do Not Touch” sign.
ALASKA STATUES

Edward Lewis Bartlett
_Felix W. de Weldon, House connecting corridor, 2nd floor, 1971*

Edward Lewis Bartlett was born on April 20, 1904, in Seattle, Washington. After graduating from the University of Alaska in 1925, Bartlett began his career in politics.

- A reporter for the _Fairbanks Daily News_ until 1933, he accepted the position of secretary to Delegate Anthony Dimond of Alaska. Three years later he became the chairman of the Unemployment Compensation Commission of Alaska.
- On January 30, 1939, President Franklin D. Roosevelt appointed him secretary of the Alaska Territory.
- Beginning in 1945, Bartlett served as the delegate from Alaska to the 79th and the six succeeding Congresses.
- He labored constantly for statehood. Upon Alaska’s admission to the Union in 1959, he became the first senator from Alaska and served until 1967.
- The Library of Congress estimates that he had more bills passed into law than any other member in congressional history. These included the Radiation Safety Bill and the Bartlett Act, requiring all federally-funded buildings to be accessible to persons with disabilities.
- Bartlett possessed the reputation of a quiet man of achievement. Well-loved and respected by his constituents as well as his peers, Bartlett died December 11, 1968.

Ernest Gruening
_George Anthonisen, Capitol Visitor Center, 1977*

Born in New York City on February 6, 1886, Ernest Gruening graduated from Harvard in 1907 and from Harvard Medical School in 1912. Gruening forsook medicine to pursue journalism.

- As a reporter for the _Boston American_ in 1912, he went on to become copy desk editor and rewrite man for the _Boston Evening Herald_ and, from 1912 to 1913, an editorial writer. Gruening served as managing editor of the _Boston Evening Traveler_ and the _New York Tribune_. After serving with the Federal Artillery Corps in World War I, Gruening became editor of _The Nation_ from 1920 to 1923 and editor of the _New York Post_ from 1932 to 1933.
- Intrigued with politics, he switched careers. Gruening was appointed to the U.S. delegation to the Seventh Inter-American Conference in 1933, Director of the Division of Territories and Island Possessions of the Department of the Interior (1934–1939), Administrator of the Puerto Rico Reconstruction (1935–1937), and a member of the Alaska International Highway Commission (1938–1942).
- In 1939 Gruening was appointed Governor of the Territory of Alaska and served for 14 years.
- Pending statehood, he was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1958; with Alaska’s admission to the Union in 1959, Gruening served in the Senate for 10 years.
- He died on June 26, 1974.
ARIZONA

ARIZONA STATUES

Barry Goldwater
Deborah Copenhaver Fellows, National Statuary Hall, 2015*

Barry Goldwater served five terms in the United States Senate. Author of *The Conscience of a Conservative* (1960), he is widely recognized as the founder of the modern conservative movement.

- He was born on January 1, 1909, in Phoenix. He attended Phoenix public schools, graduated from Staunton Military Academy in Virginia, and studied at the University of Arizona in Tucson.
- During World War II, Goldwater served as a pilot in the U.S. Army Air Force in the Asiatic Theater from 1941 to 1945. He joined the Air Force Reserve after the war and founded the Arizona Air National Guard, which he desegregated two years earlier than the rest of the U.S. military. In 1967, he retired with the rank of major general.
- In 1949 Goldwater won a seat on the Phoenix city council, launching his career in public service. Three years later, he won his first of two consecutive terms in the United States Senate. He supported certain civil rights bills but in 1964 voted against the final version of the Civil Rights Act because he believed it intruded on the rights of states and individuals. Also in that year he won the Republican nomination for the presidency. He was defeated by incumbent President Lyndon B. Johnson, but Arizonans returned him to the Senate in 1968, 1974, and 1980; he chose not to seek re-election in 1986.
- Barry Goldwater died on May 29, 1998, at the age of 89.

Eusebio Kino
Suzanne Silvercrugs, Capitol Visitor Center, 1965*

A man of many talents, Eusebio Kino was born on August 10, 1645, in Segno, Italy. After recuperating from a serious illness, Kino joined the Society of Jesus in 1665. After drawing his lot, Father Kino set out for Mexico in 1678. Four years later, as the head of a Jesuit mission, he led the Atondo expedition to lower California. After a drought in 1685, Kino was forced back to Mexico City.

- In 1687, he journeyed to southern Arizona to work with the Pimas. Especially adept in mathematics and geography, he was one of the first scientific explorers, cartographers, astronomers, historians, builders, and ranchmen of the Pimera Alta.
- Due to his efforts, missions and stockyards were developed. Roads were built to connect previously inaccessible areas. His many expeditions on horseback covered over 50,000 square miles, during which he mapped an area 200 miles long and 250 miles wide and deduced that California was a peninsula.
- He built missions extending from the interior of Sonora 150 miles northeast to San Xavier del Bac. He constructed 19 rancheras, which supplied cattle to new settlements.
- He was also instrumental in the return of the Jesuits to California in 1697. Father Kino remained in southern Arizona until his death in 1711.
ARKANSAS

ARKANSAS STATUES

James Paul Clarke
Pompeo Coppini, Capitol Visitor Center, 1921*

On August 8, 1854, James Paul Clarke was born in Yazoo City, Mississippi. Educated in the public schools and at Professor Tutwilder’s Academy, Greenbrier, Alabama, he graduated from the University of Virginia Law School. In 1879, he moved to Arkansas, where he opened a practice in Helena, Phillips County.

• A member of the state House of Representatives from 1886 to 1888, Clarke served in the state Senate until 1892. He was the president of that body in 1891 and ex officio lieutenant governor.

• Clarke was attorney general of Arkansas from 1892 to 1894 and governor of Arkansas from 1895 to 1896. Declining re-nomination, Clarke moved in 1897 to Little Rock where he resumed his law practice.

• Six years later, he was elected to the U.S. Senate and served until his death.

• Known for his “unqualified independence,” he broke with his party in its opposition to President Theodore Roosevelt’s policy on the Panama Canal. Clark was ardently in favor of Philippine independence. He supported employers’ liability and workmen’s compensation legislation and opposed literacy tests for immigrants.

• He was elected president pro tempore of the Senate in 1913 and again in 1915. He was also a member of the Democratic National Committee.

• James Clarke died in Little Rock, Arkansas, on October 1, 1916.

Uriah M. Rose
Frederic W. Ruckstull, National Statuary Hall, 1917*

Uriah M. Rose was born in Bradfordsville on March 5, 1834. When he was 17, lawyer R.H. Roundtree hired him as a deputy county clerk while he studied law at night at Transylvania University. After graduating in 1853, Rose formed a partnership in Batesville, Arkansas.

• In 1860 he was appointed chancellor in Pulaski County, a position he held until Union forces captured the state capital. Although he opposed secession, he remained loyal to Arkansas throughout the Civil War.

• Moving to Little Rock in 1865, he formed a partnership with George C. Watkins, former chief justice of Arkansas. Two years later he published the Digest of the Arkansas Reports.

• A man of learning in the law, science, and literature, Rose could read German and speak French fluently; he was also a noted public speaker.

• In 1891 he published The Constitution of the State of Arkansas, with notes. He was an influential member of the Arkansas Bar Association, serving as its president from 1899 to 1900; he was a charter member of the American Bar Association and its president from 1901 to 1902.

• President Theodore Roosevelt appointed him a delegate to the Second Peace Conference at The Hague in 1907.

• Rose died at his home in Little Rock, Arkansas, on August 12, 1913.
**CALIFORNIA STATUES**

**Father Junipero Serra (Miguel Jose Serra)**  
*Ettore Cadorin, National Statuary Hall, 1931*

Father Junipero Serra (Miguel Jose Serra) was one of the most important Spanish missionaries in the New World. Born in Majorca on November 24, 1713, he joined the Franciscan Order at the age of 16. He soon gained prominence as an eloquent preacher and eventually became a professor of theology. His dream was to become a missionary to America. He arrived in Mexico City in 1750 to begin this new life.

- In 1769 he established a mission at the present site of San Diego, California, the first of a number that would include San Antonio, San Buenaventura, San Carlos, San Francisco de Assisi, San Gabriel, San Juan Capistrano, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Clara. This was a herculean task considering that Father Serra was already in his fifties and suffered from a chronic ulcerated condition in one leg.

- Serra was ascetic and uncompromising in his zeal to convert the Indians to Christianity and to make his missions self-sufficient.

- The well-known and beloved missionary died in Monterey, California, on August 28, 1784; his missions continued to flourish for another 50 years.

**Ronald Wilson Reagan**  
*Chas Fagan, Rotunda, 2009*

President Ronald Wilson Reagan was born on February 6, 1911, in Tampico, Illinois; graduated from Eureka College in 1932; and became a radio sports announcer. In 1937 he began a 29-year acting career that included more than 60 films and dozens of television programs.

- In the Army during World War II, his nearsightedness kept him from combat duty, so he worked in the training-film unit for three years.


- Running as a Republican, Reagan was elected governor of California in 1966 and re-elected in 1970.

- In 1980, he was elected president of the United States; he was re-elected in 1984.

- In 1994, five years after leaving office, Reagan was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s Disease.

- On June 5, 2004, he passed away at the age of 93. His body lay in repose at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California, and then lay in state in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda. After a state funeral at Washington National Cathedral on June 11, his body was interred at the Reagan Library.
COLORADO STATUES

Florence Sabin
(Joy Buba, Hall of Columns, 1959*)

A pioneer in science and public health, Florence Sabin was born in Central City, Colorado, on November 9, 1871. She graduated from Smith College in 1893, attended the Johns Hopkins Medical School, and was the first woman to graduate from that institution.

- In 1902 she began to teach anatomy at Johns Hopkins. Appointed professor of histology in 1917, she was the first woman to become a full professor at a medical college.
- In 1924 Sabin was elected the first woman president of the American Association of Anatomists and the first lifetime woman member of the National Academy of Science.
  - In September 1925 she became head of the Department of Cellular Studies at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York City. Her research focused on the lymphatic system, blood vessels and cells, and tuberculosis.
  - In 1944 she came out of a six-year retirement to accept Colorado governor John Vivian’s request to chair a subcommittee on health. This resulted in the “Sabin Health Laws,” which modernized the state’s public health system.
    - She retired again in 1951 and died on October 3, 1953.

John L. “Jack” Swigert, Jr.
(George and Mark Lundeen, Capitol Visitor Center, 1997*)

John L. “Jack” Swigert, Jr., was born on August 30, 1931, in Denver, Colorado. He attended the University of Colorado, where he played varsity football and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering. He served with the Air Force as a combat pilot in Korea and then became a test pilot.

- After earning a Master of Science degree in aerospace science from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a Master of Business Administration degree from Hartford College, he was accepted into the NASA Apollo program.
- Swigert was one of three astronauts aboard the Apollo 13 moon mission, which was launched on April 11, 1970. During the third lunar landing attempt, the mission was aborted after the rupture of an oxygen tank on the spacecraft’s service module. Swigert and fellow astronauts James A. Lovell Jr. and Fred W. Haise Jr. returned safely to earth on April 17 after approximately 5 days and 23 hours in space.
- Swigert later became staff director of the Committee on Science and Technology of the U.S. House of Representatives.
- Elected to Colorado’s newly created Sixth Congressional District in 1982, he died on December 27, 1982, before taking office.
- Notice the reflection of the Capitol Dome in Swigert’s helmet.
Roger Sherman
Chauncey B. Ives, Crypt, 1872*

Roger Sherman was born in Newton, Massachusetts, on April 19, 1721. After attending the local “common” schools he was apprenticed as a cobbler, but he became a self-taught mathematician and scholar. After his father’s death he entered business with his brother in Connecticut and studied and practiced law.

- In 1774 Sherman was elected the first mayor of New Haven, a post he held until his death.
- Sherman was the only member of the Continental Congress who signed all four of the great state papers: the Association of 1774, the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution.
- He helped draft the Declaration of Independence. Patrick Henry called him one of the three greatest men at the Constitutional Convention.
- Sherman proposed the dual system of congressional representation, which was adopted.
- Elected a representative to the first Congress in 1789–1791 and to the Senate in 1791, he was regarded as one of the most influential members of Congress.
- Roger Sherman died on July 23, 1793, and is buried in New Haven.

Jonathan Trumbull
Chauncey B. Ives, House connecting corridor, second floor, 1872*

Born October 12, 1710, the son of a prosperous farmer and merchant, Jonathan Trumbull graduated from Harvard College in 1727.

- He was elected to the 1773 colonial assembly, later serving as governor’s assistant.
- Believing the Stamp Act unconstitutional, Trumbull refused to take the oath to enforce it.
- He became chief justice and, in 1769, governor of the colony.
- Jonathan Trumbull was the only colonial governor to support the Revolution. A friend of Washington, he lent his support to the recruitment of soldiers and the acquisition of supplies.
  - Trumbull resigned his office in 1784 after 50 years of public service. His patriotic farewell address to the legislature pled for a strong financial and political union.
  - Honorary degrees were conferred upon Trumbull by Yale University and the University of Edinburgh.
  - His eldest son, Joseph, was commissary general of the Continental Army and died during the war; his son Jonathan was confidential secretary to General Washington, second Speaker of the House of Representatives, and governor of Connecticut; his son John was the artist whose four paintings depicting scenes from the Revolution hang in the Capitol Rotunda; and his daughter Mary married William Williams, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.
  - Trumbull died on August 17, 1785, and is buried in Lebanon, Connecticut.
DELAWARE STATUES

John Middleton Clayton
*Bryant Baker, Capitol Visitor Center, 1934*

John Middleton Clayton was born in Delaware on July 24, 1796. His father, a farmer, was also a student of the classics, a taste inherited by his son. John Clayton entered Yale College on his 15th birthday and graduated with the highest honors in his class. He was admitted to the bar in 1819 at the age of 23 and in 1824 he was elected to the Delaware legislature.

• In 1829 Clayton was elected to the U.S. Senate, its youngest member at an illustrious time in the Senate’s history.
• A member of the Whig Party, Clayton was a strong ally of Henry Clay. He was known for his oratory and his abhorrence of corruption; his investigation of the Post Office Department led to its reorganization.
  • Clayton resigned his Senate seat in 1836.
  • He soon accepted the appointment as chief justice of the Delaware Supreme Court, but he resigned in 1839 to support the presidential candidacy of William Henry Harrison.
  • He served again in the U.S. Senate from 1845 to 1849.
  • As President Zachary Taylor’s secretary of state in 1850 he negotiated the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty with Great Britain, laying the groundwork for America’s eventual building of the Panama Canal.
• John Clayton died on November 9, 1856.

Caesar Rodney
*Bryant Baker, Crypt, 1934*

Caesar Rodney was born in Dover, Delaware, on October 7, 1728. Politics was one of his early interests. He was High Sheriff of Kent County from 1755 to 1756; justice of the peace; judge of all lower courts; captain in the Kent County Militia in 1756; superintendent of the printing of Delaware currency in 1759; a member of the state assembly from 1762 to 1769; and an associate justice of the Delaware Supreme Court from 1769 to 1777.

• A delegate to the Stamp Act Congress and a strong supporter of the Revolution, he participated in the First and Second Continental Congresses.
• His dramatic ride to Philadelphia on July 2, 1776, enabled the Delaware delegation to vote two to one for the Declaration of Independence.
• Rodney was elected the first president of Delaware and was responsible for keeping the militia loyal and efficient.
• He had a close relationship with General Washington.
• He was also responsible for guiding Delaware’s ratification of the Articles of Confederation in 1779.
• The last 10 years of his life were difficult as he suffered from cancer.
• Rodney died at his farm, Poplar Grove, on June 26, 1784. His remains were reinterred in 1888 at the Christ Episcopal Churchyard in Dover.
John Gorrie  
*C.A. Pillars, Hall of Columns, 1914*

John Gorrie, physician, scientist, inventor, and humanitarian, is considered the father of refrigeration and air-conditioning. He was born on the Island of Nevis, October 3, 1802, and received his medical education in New York.

- Pursuing the study of tropical diseases, Gorrie moved to Apalachicola, Florida, a large cotton market on the Gulf coast.
- With remarkable foresight and without knowledge of microbiology, he urged draining the swamps and sleeping under mosquito netting to prevent disease.
- He also advocated the cooling of sickrooms to reduce fever and to make the patient more comfortable. For this he cooled rooms with ice in a basin suspended from the ceiling.
- After 1845, he gave up his medical practice to pursue refrigeration projects. On May 6, 1851, Gorrie was granted Patent No. 8080 for a machine to make ice. The original model of this machine and the scientific articles he wrote are at the Smithsonian Institution.
- Impoverished, Gorrie sought to raise money to manufacture his machine, but the venture failed when his partner died.
- Humiliated by criticism, financially ruined, and his health broken, Gorrie died in seclusion on June 29, 1855.

Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune  
*Nilda M. Comas, National Statuary Hall, 2022*

Born on July 10, 1975, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune was an educator, civil rights activist and presidential advisor. Bethune believed that learning—especially literacy—was the key to a better life for African Americans.

- She founded the Daytona Normal and Industrial Institute for Negro Girls in Daytona in 1904. In just two years, Bethune expanded her school from five to 250 students.
- That school eventually became Bethune-Cookman College (since 2007, Bethune-Cookman University); Bethune served as its president until 1942.
- She co-founded the United Negro College Fund in 1944.
- She developed friendships with First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and President Franklin D. Roosevelt, serving as a policy advisor to both. She played a key role in organizing the so-called “Black Cabinet” of advisors, the Federal Council of Negro Affairs.
- As part of the U.S. delegation, she was the only Black woman at the 1945 founding conference of the United Nations.
- In the private sector, she was the founding president of the National Council of Negro Women; she served as vice president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and as an officer in many other organizations.
- The statue depicts Bethune at about 70 years old.
GEORGIA STATUES

Crawford W. Long  
J. Massey Rhind, Crypt, 1926*

Crawford W. Long, a quiet country doctor, was the first to discover the effect of ether and to use it in surgery. Born November 1, 1815, he was the son of a merchant and planter in Danielsville, Georgia. He graduated second in his class from the University of Georgia. He received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1839, and studied surgery in New York City.

• He experimented with sulfuric ether, and, on March 30, 1842, he used it surgically for the first time to remove a tumor from a boy’s neck.

• In 1849 medical journals reported similar work by a Boston dentist. When Congress introduced legislation granting the dentist $100,000 for this discovery, others claimed the reward. Long, who had not published the results of his work, then did so in the Southern Medical Journal. Recognizing Long’s priority, others withdrew their claims and Congress dropped the bill. A research pamphlet later published by Johns Hopkins University substantiated Long’s claim.

• Long moved to Athens, Georgia, acquiring a large practice and an apothecary shop. He also began to use ether in obstetrical cases and did much charitable work among the poor.

• Long died on June 16, 1878, of heart failure at the bedside of a mother who had just given birth.

Alexander Hamilton Stephens  
Gutzon Borglum, National Statuary Hall, 1927*

Alexander Hamilton Stephens was born near Crawfordville, Georgia, on February 11, 1812. Left orphaned and penniless at age 15, he attended school through the charity of friends and by working. In 1832 he graduated from the University of Georgia. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1834.

• He served in the state legislature from 1836 to 1842 and in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1843 to 1858.

• Although opposed to secession and differing with Jefferson Davis over states rights and nullification, Stephens served as the Confederacy’s vice president.

• At the close of the war, Stephens was arrested and imprisoned for five months at Fort Warren in Boston Harbor.

• Elected to the U.S. Senate upon his release, he was refused a seat because Georgia had not been readmitted to the Union.

• He served again in the House of Representatives from 1873 to 1882.

• Elected governor of Georgia in 1882, he served for four months until his death on March 4, 1883.

• Throughout his life Stephens helped numerous deserving young men secure an education, and he was influential in the affairs of Wesleyan, the first state-chartered female college.
Kamehameha I
Thomas R. Gould, Capitol Visitor Center, 1969*

King Kamehameha I was born at Kokoiki about 1758. He grew into a courageous warrior and was said to have overturned the huge Naha Stone in Hilo. According to native belief, such a feat indicated superhuman strength and foreshadowed the inevitable conquest of all of Hawai’i.

• During a struggle between rival forces and the various chiefs under the leadership of Kamehameha, Kamehameha attained control of half the Island of Hawai’i.
• During the struggle, Kamehameha’s “divine right” was exemplified by a rare explosive eruption of Kilauea Volcano, which wiped out parts of the opposing army.
• By 1810, he had unified all the inhabited islands of Hawai’i under his rule.
• As king, Kamehameha placed capable followers in charge of large districts. He encouraged trade and peaceful activities, and he presided over the opening of Hawai’i to the rest of the world.
• On May 8, 1819, King Kamehameha I died. His remains were hidden with such secrecy, according to ancient custom, that “only the stars know his final resting place.”

Father Damien
Marisol Escobar, Hall of Columns, 1969*

Father Damien was born Joseph de Veuster in Tremeloo, Belgium, on January 3, 1840. The son of well-to-do parents, he entered the Sacred Hearts Congregation at Louvain in January 1859 and five years later was ordained a priest in the Cathedral of Our Lady of Peace in Honolulu.

• On May 10, 1873, Father Damien traveled with Bishop Maigret and a shipload of lepers to Molokai. After two days Damien was willing to devote the rest of his life to the leper settlement. Father Damien accomplished amazing feats while residing on Molokai. Six chapels were built by 1875. He constructed a home for boys and later a home for girls. He bandaged wounds, made coffins, dug graves, heard confessions, and said Mass every morning.
• In December 1884, Father Damien noticed severe blisters on his feet without the presence of pain. As he suspected, the disease was leprosy.
• Father Damien died peacefully on April 15, 1889, on Molokai after sixteen years of undaunted dedication.
• On October 11, 2009, Father Damien was canonized (i.e., elevated to sainthood) by Pope Benedict XVI in a ceremony at the Vatican, thus becoming Saint Damien.

HAWAII STATUES
George Laird Shoup was born in Kittanning, Pennsylvania, on June 24, 1836. During the Civil War he enlisted with the independent scouts working in New Mexico, Colorado, and Texas. He was commissioned colonel when the Third Colorado Cavalry was formed and took part in the battles of Apache Cañon and Sand Creek.

- After the war Shoup settled in Salmon, Idaho, a city that he helped found.
- Shoup was appointed commissioner to organize Lemhi County, and in 1874 he was elected to the territorial legislature.
- With few interruptions, he served on the Republican National Committee for Idaho from 1880 to 1904.
- On April 1, 1889, President Harrison appointed him governor of Idaho Territory; he was elected governor after the ratification of Idaho's statehood.
- As a U.S. senator from 1890 to 1901, his many interests included pensions, education, and military affairs. He was chairman of the Committee on Territories and he advocated liberal and just treatment of the Indians.
ILLINOIS

ILLINOIS STATUES

James Shields

*Leonard W. Volk, Hall of Columns, 1893*

James Shields, born on May 12, 1806, emigrated from Ireland as a young man. He taught school, studied law, and was admitted to practice.

- He served in the Illinois House of Representatives in 1836, became the state auditor in 1839, and was a member of the Supreme Court of Illinois from 1843 to 1845.

- While serving in the Illinois House, Shields met Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas. Lincoln was a Whig and Shields was a Democrat; the two clashed rhetorically and once even scheduled a duel.

- Shields served in the Mexican War and was injured in the Battle of Cerro Gordo.

- He served briefly as governor of the Oregon Territory before being elected to the U.S. Senate, where he represented Illinois for one term. Defeated for re-election, he then moved to Minnesota, where he served from 1858 to 1859 as one of the first senators from that state.

- During the Civil War, Shields served as a brigadier general with the Union Army.

- After the war, he continued his active political life. He was a member of the Missouri legislature and served as senator from Missouri in 1879, thus becoming the only senator to have represented three states.

- He died in office on June 1, 1879.

Frances E. Willard

*Helen Farnsworth Mears, National Statuary Hall, 1905*

A pioneer in the temperance movement, Frances E. Willard is also remembered for her contributions to higher education.

- She attended the Female College of Milwaukee for one year and finished her college degree at the Woman’s College of Northwestern University.

- She taught at Genesee Wesleyan Seminary in 1866–1867 before returning to the Evanston College for Women, where she served as president from 1871 to 1874.

- Willard gained a reputation as an effective orator and social reformer.

- She became associated in the evangelist movement with Dwight Moody and was elected president of the National Women’s Temperance Union in 1879.

- Her zeal sustained her fight for prohibition, and she organized the Prohibition Party in 1882. During the same year she was elected president of the National Council of Women.

- She later founded and served as president of the Women’s Christian Temperance Union in 1883.

- Her statue was the first honoring a woman to be chosen for the National Statuary Hall Collection.
Lewis (Lew) Wallace
Andrew O’Connor, National Statuary Hall, 1910*

Lewis (Lew) Wallace was born in Brookville, Indiana, on April 10, 1827.

• He became a reporter for the Indianapolis Daily Journal for one year, but when the Mexican War broke out he left to raise a company of soldiers.

• After the war Wallace served as a member of the Indiana state Senate from 1856 to 1860.

• A general during the Civil War, he was distinguished as a leader and fighter, and he was credited with saving Washington, D.C. from the Confederate Army in September 1862. In July 1864, following his defeat at the Battle of Monocacy in Maryland, he slowed the Confederate advance toward Washington, D.C., giving the city time to ready its defenses.

• He also served on the court-martial tribunal that tried the accomplices of John Wilkes Booth, President Lincoln’s assassin.

• Wallace served as governor of New Mexico Territory from 1878 to 1881 and as the minister to Turkey from 1881 to 1885.

• His book, Ben Hur, made him one of the most noted authors in America. Over 300,000 copies were sold within 10 years of its publication, and it continues to be a favorite adventure story.

Oliver Hazard Perry Morton
Charles H. Niehaus, Senate Wing, first floor, 1900*

The full name of this colorful governor of Indiana and United States senator was Oliver Hazard Perry Throck Morton. He was born on August 4, 1823. His mother died when he was three, and he went to live with his maternal grandparents, from whom he received a strict Scotch Presbyterian upbringing. He suffered a number of financial reversals as a young man but was eventually able to complete his law studies.

• Morton’s entry into the political arena coincided with the inception of the Republican Party.

  • He served as governor of Indiana for six years (1861–1867) and was a loyal supporter of the Union’s efforts during the Civil War.

  • He was a United States senator from 1867 to 1877.

  • Morton became a controversial figure with his attitude toward paper money. He was considered “soft” because he favored issuing paper money with no backing during difficult times.

  • In 1877, he participated as a member of the Electoral Commission appointed to determine the outcome of that contested presidential election.

  • Oliver Morton died of a stroke on November 1, 1877, while on a trip to Oregon investigating charges of bribery made against a newly elected senator from that state.
IOWA STATUES

**Samuel Jordan Kirkwood**  
*Vinnie Ream, Hall of Columns, 1913*

Born on December 20, 1813, Samuel Kirkwood became famous as the governor of Iowa during the Civil War. In 1823 young Samuel was sent to Washington, D.C., for four years to study Latin and Greek. He then taught for a year and worked as a drug clerk. He returned to his family after they suffered a number of financial reversals. In 1843 after studying law, he was admitted to the bar.

- In 1855, Kirkwood moved to Iowa at the urging of his wife.
- A year later he became a member of the Iowa Senate, serving until 1859.
- He was governor of Iowa from 1860 to 1864 and from 1876 to 1877.
- Kirkwood declined appointment as minister to Denmark in 1863 because he wanted to run for the United States Senate. He was appointed to complete the unexpired Senate term of James Harlan, who accepted the position of secretary of the interior.
- Kirkwood was reelected governor and later returned to the United States Senate after the 1876 election.
- He was appointed secretary of the interior, but resigned in 1882.
- In 1886 he was an unsuccessful candidate for Congress.

**Norman E. Borlaug**  
*Benjamin Victor, National Statuary Hall, 2014*

Dr. Norman E. Borlaug is called “the father of the Green Revolution” because of his work to increase food production and combat world hunger. From the 1940s through the 1960s, this “Green Revolution” advanced agricultural production by developing and distributing improved grains, seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides; expanding irrigation; and modernizing agricultural management. It has been credited with saving as many as a billion people from starvation.

- Born on March 25, 1914, on a farm near Cresco, Iowa, Borlaug worked his way through the University of Minnesota, never forgetting his arrival there during the Great Depression, when desperate people were begging for food. That memory and his 1935 experience in the Civilian Conservation Corps, where many of the people working for him were starving, would have a profound influence on his life’s work.
- He worked as a microbiologist investigating fungicides and preservatives for the du Pont de Nemours Foundation and then as a geneticist and plant pathologist for the Cooperative Wheat Research and Production Program. In the latter position he developed mutation techniques that adapted crops to specific climate regions, leading to dramatic increases in crop yields in Latin America, the Near and Middle East, Africa and Asia.
- Borlaug was one of only three Americans awarded the Nobel Peace Prize (1970), the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1977), and the Congressional Gold Medal (2007).
- He died at the age of 95 on September 12, 2009.
Amelia Earhart
Mark and George Lundeen, National Statuary Hall, 2022*

Born on July 24, 1897, in Atchison, Kansas, Amelia Mary Earhart was a record-setting aviator, an author, and a businesswoman.

• Shortly after learning to fly in 1921, she set the woman’s world altitude record, and she continued to set aviation records throughout her life.
• In 1928, as a member of a three-person crew, she became the first woman to cross the Atlantic Ocean in an aircraft.
• She was a founding member of the Ninety-Nines, an organization of women pilots, and she became its first president in 1931.
• In 1932, she became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic.
• On June 1, 1937, Earhart set off eastward from Miami, Florida, planning to become the first woman to fly around the world. She and navigator Fred Noonan covered more than 22,000 miles and were last seen on the morning of July 2 when they left Papua New Guinea for Howland Island.
• A weeks-long search began immediately after her disappearance but ended fruitlessly, and Earhart was declared legally dead on January 5, 1939.
• The statue depicts Earhart at about 30 years old, when she had already written her first book and was moving into the peak of her flying career.

Dwight David Eisenhower
Jim Brothers, Rotunda, 2003*

Dwight David Eisenhower was born in Denison, Texas, on October 14, 1890. His family moved to Abilene, Kansas, when he was less than a year old. He was a star halfback at the Military Academy at West Point until a knee injury ended his football career.

• In June 1942 Eisenhower was given command of all U.S. forces in the European Theater of Operations. He directed the invasions of Africa, Sicily, and Italy and then was called to take command of Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force, in preparation for the invasion of France. After the success of the D-Day landing, he continued to direct the Allied forces through the end of the war.
  • Eisenhower commanded the occupation forces for six months and then succeeded General George C. Marshall as Army chief of staff.
  • He was selected to command NATO military forces.
  • In 1952 he was elected the nation’s thirty-fourth president; he was reelected in 1956.
  • The campaign slogan “I Like Ike” reflected widespread appreciation of Eisenhower’s sincerity, generosity, and kindness.
  • His time in office saw the end of the Korean War, the continuation of the Cold War, and the beginning of school desegregation.
  • He died on March 28, 1969, and is buried in Abilene, Kansas.
Ephraim McDowell
Charles H. Niehaus, Capitol Visitor Center, 1929*

Ephraim McDowell was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia, on November 11, 1771. McDowell, interested in medicine, studied at the Seminary of Worley and James and attended lectures in medicine at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, from 1793 to 1794. Although he did not receive a degree from Edinburgh, he pursued his interest in anatomy and surgery.

- McDowell practiced surgery and was a pioneer in abdominal surgical techniques, performing the first ovariotomy in the United States in 1809.
- One of his most famous patients was James K. Polk, for whom he removed a gall stone and repaired a hernia.
- McDowell was a member of the Philadelphia Medical Society in 1817 and a founder of Centre College in Danville, Kentucky, in 1819.
- He was also well known for his generosity, and he performed considerable work for charity.
- In June 1830 McDowell was stricken with an acute attack of violent pain, nausea, and fever. He died on June 25, most likely a victim of appendicitis.
- Dr. McDowell was the great-great grandfather of General John Campbell Greenway, whose statue was placed in the National Statuary Hall collection by the state of Arizona.

Henry Clay
Charles H. Niehaus, National Statuary Hall, 1929*

Henry Clay was born in Hanover County, Virginia, on April 12, 1777. His only formal education was three years at a small school. After his father died, his mother remarried and Clay moved to Richmond. His stepfather secured him a position with the clerk of the High Court of Chancery. Inspired, Clay began law studies in 1796, finished a year later, and quickly earned a reputation as a skillful lawyer. In 1797 Clay moved to Lexington, Kentucky.

- He was elected a U.S. senator for a short term in 1806–1807. He then returned to serve in the Kentucky legislature from 1808 to 1809. He served in the United States Senate from 1810 to 1811; from 1831 to 1842; and from 1849 to 1852. Clay had the distinction of also serving as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1811 to 1821 and from 1823 to 1825; he was Speaker of the House from 1811 to 1820.
  - Clay served as a member of the Ghent Peace Commission.
  - President John Quincy Adams appointed him Secretary of State from 1825 to 1829.
  - He ran as the Whig nominee for President in 1832.
  - Clay was author of the Missouri Compromise of 1820 and the Compromise of 1850.
  - Henry Clay died on June 29, 1852, and was the first person to lie in state in the Rotunda.
Edward Douglass White

Edward Douglass White was born on November 3, 1845, in Louisiana. He was educated at Mount St. Mary’s College in Maryland; at Jesuit College in New Orleans; and at Georgetown College (now University) in Washington, D.C. In 1861 he left school and enlisted in the Confederate Army. After the war he studied law, and in 1868 he was admitted to the bar.

- He served in the state Senate from 1874 to 1879 and on the Louisiana Supreme Court from 1879 to 1880.
- He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1890 and served until 1894, when he was appointed to the Supreme Court by President Cleveland.
- Appointed chief justice by President Taft in 1910, he was the first justice to be so elevated, and he served until his death.
- White’s 27 years on the high court spanned a period of rapid social and economic change, including the development and expansion of the powers of the federal government.
- His commitment to nationalism was particularly evident in decisions regarding congressional power over interstate commerce.
- His major contribution to jurisprudence was the 1911 “rule of reason” decision, applied to anti-trust cases. He also supported a federal income tax.
- White died in Washington, D.C., on May 19, 1921.

Huey Pierce Long

Huey Long, “The Kingfish,” was born in Winnfield, Louisiana, on August 30, 1893, to a poor farm family of strong religious convictions. He attended the local public schools. At the age of 16 he was on his own as a door-to-door salesman. He studied law for six months at the University of Oklahoma in 1912; he later finished the course at Tulane University and was admitted to the bar in 1915.

- An energetic campaigner, Long became popular for his grassroots oratory.
- He was elected governor in 1928, campaigning on a platform of free schoolbooks, paved roads, and improved hospitals.
- As governor he enlarged the state university at Baton Rouge to accommodate more students.
- His rise to power during the Depression years capitalized on the people’s needs.
- His bold use of authority and state funds nearly led to his impeachment in 1929, but proceedings collapsed in the state senate.
- Elected to the U.S. Senate in 1930, he did not take his seat until January 1932. His proposed “Share Our Wealth” program, which promised every family $5000 and the confiscation of large estates, made him a presidential prospect for 1936.
- At the height of his power, while visiting the state house in Baton Rouge, Long was assassinated.
- He died on September 10, 1935, and is buried on the grounds of the state capitol.
William King
*Franklin Simmons, House connecting corridor, second floor, 1878*

William King was born on February 9, 1768, in Scarboro, Maine, then still part of Massachusetts. His formal education was limited, ending at the age of 13. An enterprising nature compensated for his lack of schooling. He became the largest ship owner in Maine and a successful merchant. King also owned extensive real estate, was a principal owner of Maine’s first cotton mill in Brunswick, and was a founder and president of Bath’s first bank.

- Active in local politics beginning in 1795, he served in Massachusetts General Court, representing Topsham in 1795 and 1799 and Bath in 1804.
- He served twice as state senator for Lincoln County, from 1807 to 1811 and 1818 to 1819.
- During the War of 1812 he served as major general in the militia and provided recruiting assistance as a colonel in the United States Army.
- In 1813, King began the effort for which he is best remembered. King worked for seven years for Maine’s statehood, which was granted in 1820.
- Elected its first governor, King served until 1821, when he was appointed commissioner to work on the treaty with Spain, a post he held for three years.
- He was a trustee of Waterville (now Colby College) and trustee and overseer of Bowdoin College.
- King died on June 17, 1852.

Hannibal Hamlin
*Charles E. Tefft, National Statuary Hall, 1935*

Hannibal Hamlin was born August 27, 1809, at Paris Hill, Maine. He attended the local schools and Hebron Academy, studied law in Portland, and was admitted to the bar in 1833. Moving to Hampden, he set up a law practice that flourished.

- He served as the Hampden representative in the legislature from 1836 to 1841 and in 1847.
- In 1842 he was elected to Congress, and he served for five years.
- While he was serving in the state legislature in 1848, Hamlin was elected to serve the balance of Senator Fairfield’s term and was reelected in 1851.
  - He served briefly as Governor of Maine in 1857, but resigned to return to the Senate.
  - He served with distinction as Lincoln’s first vice president.
  - He returned to the Senate in 1869 and served until 1881, when he became Minister to Spain.
  - Following this last political appointment, he returned to his home in Bangor.
  - For 16 years he was a regent of the Smithsonian Institution, and for 20 years he was dean of the Board of Regents for Waterville College, now Colby College.
  - Hamlin died on July 4, 1891, in Bangor.
John Hanson
Richard E. Brooks, Hall of Columns, 1903

Born in Charles County, Maryland, on April 3, 1715, John Hanson became one of the strongest colonial advocates of independence. While serving in the Maryland Assembly from 1757 to 1773 he was active in raising troops and providing arms.

- In 1779 Hanson served as a delegate to the Continental Congress, where he helped to resolve the western lands issue, thereby facilitating the ratification of the Articles of Confederation.
- From 1781 to 1782 he was “President of the United States in Congress Assembled” under the Articles of Confederation.
- As the presiding officer of Congress, Hanson was responsible for initiating a number of programs that helped America gain a world position.
- During his tenure the first consular service was established, a post office department was initiated; a national bank was chartered; progress was made towards taking the first census; and a uniform system of coinage was adopted.
- Hanson died on November 15, 1783, at the age of 68.

Charles Carroll
Richard E. Brooks, Crypt, 1903

Charles Carroll, statesman and signer of the Declaration of Independence, was born on September 19, 1737, in Annapolis, Maryland. He was educated in Paris and London, where he studied civil law. He returned to Maryland in 1765 to assume control of the family estate, one of the largest in the colonies. As a Roman Catholic, he was barred from entering politics, practicing law, and voting. However, writing in the Maryland Gazette under the pseudonym “First Citizen,” he became a prominent spokesman against the governor’s proclamation increasing legal fees to state officers and Protestant clergy.

- He was commissioned with Benjamin Franklin and Samuel Chase in February 1774 to seek aid from Canada.
- He was appointed a delegate to the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, and was the only Catholic who signed the Declaration of Independence.
- He resigned in 1778 to serve in the Maryland State Assembly and helped draft the Maryland constitution.
- Carroll served as Maryland’s first Senator from 1789 to 1792 but retired to manage his extensive estates; work for a canal to the West; and serve on the first Board of Directors of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.
- He died on November 14, 1832, the last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence.
Samuel Adams  
*Anne Whitney, Crypt, 1876*

Born in Boston on September 27, 1722, Samuel Adams entered Harvard at the age of 14 and received his degree in 1740. There he was profoundly affected by John Locke’s doctrine that “every citizen is endowed with natural rights to life, liberty, and property.” In 1765 John Hancock and Samuel Adams founded the Sons of Liberty.

- Adams led the opposition to the Sugar Act in 1764, the Stamp Act of 1765, and the Townshend Acts of 1767.
- In 1772 he was one of the leading forces behind the Non-Importation Association and the Boston Tea Party.
- Adams served as a member of the Massachusetts General Court from 1765 to 1775 and as a member of the Continental Congress from 1774 to 1781, where he voted for and signed the Declaration of Independence.
  - Adams returned to Boston in 1781 to serve in the state senate.
  - His influence diminished after the revolution. He was defeated in a bid for Congress in 1788, but he became a member of the convention to ratify the Constitution.
  - From 1789 to 1793 Adams served as lieutenant governor under John Hancock; he served as governor from 1794 to 1797.
  - “The Father of the American Revolution” retired from public life in 1797.
  - He died in Boston on October 2, 1803.

John Winthrop  
*Richard S. Greenough, Hall of Columns, 1876*

John Winthrop was born in Suffolk County, England, on January 12, 1587 or 1588. He attended Trinity College, Cambridge, and was admitted to Gray’s Inn in 1613. Winthrop’s Puritan convictions led him to take an interest in the new Massachusetts Bay Colony in the New World.

- He was appointed governor of the colony in 1629. He left England the next year to take his new post in Massachusetts.
- Winthrop was the foremost political leader in the colony for nearly 20 years, including 12 non-consecutive terms as governor.
- Winthrop’s views differed on occasion from those of the clergy; these disputes led to an eventual inquiry into dissension in the colony, with the result that Winthrop agreed to follow Puritan ideals more closely.
- At the same time, the colony had come under criticism in England. Winthrop successfully argued for its continuation in a letter to the Lords Commissioners for Plantations.
- In 1640 he held a post with the Court of Assistants, and in 1642 he was elected to the chief magistracy.
- In 1645 Winthrop was instrumental in forming the United Colonies and served as its first president.
Gerald R. Ford

J. Brett Grill, Rotunda, 2011*

Gerald R. Ford, 38th president of the United States, was the first person to assume the offices of vice president and president upon the resignation of his predecessors. This followed 25 years of service in Congress, including eight as House minority leader.

- He enlisted in the Navy in 1942 after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. His service included time on an aircraft carrier that saw action in the Pacific until the carrier was irreparably damaged by a typhoon and fire.
- In 1948 Ford married Elizabeth (Betty) Bloomer and was elected to the first of 13 terms in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- Upon the resignation of Vice President Spiro Agnew, President Richard Nixon selected him to fill the vacancy, and he was confirmed by the House and Senate as required by the 25th Amendment to the Constitution.
- On August 9, 1974, Nixon himself left office because of the ongoing Watergate scandal, and Ford assumed the presidency. Among the challenges he faced were low public confidence in the government, economic inflation, conflict in the Middle East, the fall of South Vietnam and Cambodia, and an increasing Soviet military threat.
- He ran for election to a full term in 1976 but was defeated.
- He died on December 26, 2006, at his home in Rancho Mirage, California. He lay in state in the Capitol Rotunda from December 30, 2006, to January 2, 2007.

Lewis Cass

Daniel Chester French, National Statuary Hall, 1889*

Born October 9, 1782, Lewis Cass was the eldest child of Jonathan Cass, a craftsman who had fought in the Revolution. Young Lewis attended Exeter Academy, where he became close friends with Daniel Webster. By 1808 Cass had opened a law practice in Marietta, Ohio. He was a member of the Ohio Legislature in 1806 and served as the United States Marshal in Ohio from 1807 to 1812.

- He enthusiastically fought in the War of 1812 and was appointed a colonel in the Third Ohio Regiment.
- He became a brigadier general in the United States Army a year later.
- He was appointed governor of the Territory of Michigan in 1813 and served until 1831. His tenure was marked by good relations with the numerous Indian tribes under his jurisdiction.
- Cass served as the Secretary of War from 1831 to 1836 and as minister to France in 1836.
- Elected to the United States Senate in 1845, he served until 1857.
- In 1848 the noted senator was the unsuccessful Democratic nominee for president.
- He served as Buchanan’s secretary of state from 1857–1860 but resigned in protest against the president’s decision not to reinforce the Charleston forts.
- He was a strong supporter of the Union and lived long enough to see the outcome of the Civil War.
- He died on June 17, 1866.
Maria Sanford was born on December 19, 1836. Her love for education began early; at the age of 16 she was already teaching in county day schools. She graduated from Connecticut Normal School. She rose in the ranks of local and national educators, becoming principal and superintendent of schools in Chester County, Pennsylvania, and serving as professor of history at Swarthmore College from 1871 to 1880.

• She was one of the first women named to a college professorship.

• During her tenure at the University of Minnesota (1880–1909), Sanford was a professor of rhetoric and elocution, and she lectured on literature and art history.

• She championed the rights of women and African Americans, pioneered the concept of adult education, and became a founder of parent-teacher organizations.

• Sanford was also a leader in the conservation and beautification program of her new state.

• She traveled throughout the United States delivering more than 1,000 patriotic speeches.

• She died on April 21, 1920.

• In June of that year the University of Minnesota held a memorial convocation in her honor. She was called “the best loved woman of the North Star State.”
James Zachariah George, Mississippi’s “Great Commoner,” was born on October 20, 1826. He served as a private in the Mexican War under Jefferson Davis. On his return, George studied law and was admitted to the bar. In 1854 he became a reporter of the Supreme Court of Mississippi, and over the next 20 years he prepared a 10-volume digest of its cases.

- As a member of the Mississippi Secession Convention, he signed the Ordinance of Secession.
- A Confederate colonel during the Civil War, he was captured twice and spent two years in prison, where he conducted a law course for his fellow prisoners.
- In 1879 he was appointed to the Mississippi Supreme Court and immediately was chosen chief justice by his colleagues.
- From 1881 until his death he represented Mississippi in the United States Senate, where he was recognized for his skills in debate, helped frame the future Sherman Anti-Trust Act, introduced the bill for agricultural college experiment stations, and encouraged the establishment of the Department of Agriculture.
- He also served as a member of the Mississippi Constitutional Convention of 1890 and successfully defended the constitution before the Senate and the Supreme Court.
- George died on August 14, 1897, in Mississippi City, Mississippi, where he had gone for health treatment.
Francis Preston Blair
Alexander Doyle, National Statuary Hall, 1899*

Francis Blair was born on February 19, 1821, in Lexington, Kentucky. He attended schools in Washington, D.C., graduated from Princeton University in 1841, and studied law at Transylvania University.

- Blair participated in the Mexican War and was appointed attorney general for the New Mexican Territory after it was secured by General Kearny.
- A personal and political friend of Thomas Hart Benton, he became known for his views opposing slavery.
- An outspoken Free-Soiler, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1852. He was defeated in 1858 but reelected in 1860.
- In 1861 he was instrumental in saving Missouri for the Union.
- He served as a major general in the United States Army during the Civil War.
- At the close of the war, Blair, having spent much of his private fortune in support of the Union, was financially ruined.
- He was the unsuccessful Democratic candidate for vice president in 1868, but he was chosen by the Missouri Legislature as a United States senator in 1871.
- He was defeated for reelection in 1873. During the same year he was stricken with paralysis, from which he never recovered.
- Blair died on July 9, 1875.

Harry S. Truman
Tom Corbin, Rotunda, 2022*

President Harry S. Truman was born on May 8, 1884 in Lamar, Missouri and was raised in Independence. When the United States entered World War I in 1917, Truman enlisted in the Army, serving first as an artillery instructor. In Europe, he earned his men's respect and distinguished himself as captain of an artillery battery.

- Returning home after the war, Truman was elected a judge of the Jackson County Court in 1922.
- He later served as a U.S. Senator from Missouri from 1935-1945.
- During World War II, he headed the Senate war investigating committee, checking into waste and corruption and saving perhaps as much as 15 billion dollars.
- President Franklin D. Roosevelt selected Truman as his vice-presidential running mate on the way to winning an unprecedented fourth term in 1944.
- Eighty-two days after taking their oaths of office, Roosevelt died, leaving Truman to serve as president during the final months of World War II.
- Truman won election to a full term as president in 1948.
- Major developments during his presidency included the formation of NATO, the start of the Cold War, establishment of a postwar economy, and racial integration of the armed services.
MONTANA STATUES

Charles Marion Russell
John B. Weaver, National Statuary Hall, 1959*

Charles Marion Russell, noted American cowboy artist, was born on March 19, 1864. At the age of 16 he went to Montana to fulfill his dream of being a cowboy. While on the range, he began sketching to amuse his companions. As his natural talent matured, his watercolors and oils became popular. Gradually, painting became his life’s work. He never became a skillful cowhand, despite his 16 years of effort.

• In 1896, after marrying Nancy Cooper, who became his business manager, he settled down and built a studio in Great Falls, Montana.
• His works portrayed Indians, cattle round-ups, and the sort of frontier scenes that people in eastern cities found fascinating.
  • His paintings, first sold in saloons and general stores, soon were used as illustrations in newspapers and began to appear in art galleries in New York, Boston, Chicago, and Los Angeles. He became famous.
  • Several of his paintings were exhibited at the St. Louis World’s Fair in 1904 and at the London Doré Galleries in 1914.
  • By 1920 a painting of Russell’s could sell for $10,000.
• Russell was also a superb sculptor.
• By 1904 his small wax figures of mounted cowboys, Indians, and animals were being cast in bronze and sold by Tiffany and Co. in New York.
• Russell died on October 24, 1926, in Great Falls, Montana.

Jeannette Rankin
Terry Mimnaugh, Capitol Visitor Center, 1985*

The first woman elected to Congress, Jeannette Rankin was born on June 11, 1880, near Missoula, Montana. Educated in the public schools, she graduated from the University of Montana in 1902 and studied at the School of Philanthropy in New York City.

• She undertook social work in Seattle, Washington, in 1909 and in subsequent years worked for women’s suffrage in Washington, California, and Montana.
• She traveled to New Zealand in 1915 and gained first-hand knowledge of social conditions by working as a seamstress.
• In 1916, four years before the 19th Amendment guaranteed the right to vote to women, Rankin became the first woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.
• She was an unsuccessful candidate for the Republican Senate nomination in 1918, engaged in social work for the next three decades, and was re-elected to the House in 1940.
• She voted against America’s entry into World Wars I and II, and she was the only member of Congress to oppose the declaration of war on Japan. She noted, “As a woman I can’t go to war…I refuse to send someone else.”
• She did not seek re-election in 1942.
• In her last 30 years she was a rancher, a lecturer, and a lobbyist for peace and women’s rights.
• Rankin supported the cause of peace throughout her life.
• She died in Carmel, California, on May 18, 1973.
Standing Bear
Benjamin Victor, National Statuary Hall, 2019*

Born around 1829 in present-day Nebraska, Chief Standing Bear of the Ponca tribe was the central figure of an 1879 court case that established that Native Americans are “persons” under the law and are entitled to the same rights as anyone else in the nation.

• In 1877 the U.S. Government forced the Poncas’ relocation, causing starvation and disease that claimed almost a third of the tribe, including Standing Bear’s first son, Bear Shield. Standing Bear and several dozen followers were arrested trying to honor his son’s wish that he be buried in his Nebraska birthplace. Defense attorneys challenged the detention in U.S. District Court. The government responded that Standing Bear had no right to sue because an Indian was not a “person” under the meaning of the law.

• The case of United States ex rel. Standing Bear v. Crook was tried May 1-2, 1879. Standing Bear’s statement evoked our common humanity: “My hand is not the color of yours, but if I pierce it, I shall feel pain. If you pierce your hand, you also feel pain. The blood that will flow from mine will be the same color as yours. The same god made us both. I am a man.”

• On May 12, the court ruled that “an Indian is a PERSON.” The Poncas were released from custody and returned to their home along the Niobrara River where they buried Bear Shield’s remains in his tribe’s traditional land.

Willa Cather
Littleton Alston, Capitol Visitor Center, 2023*

Born on December 7, 1873, Willa Cather was an American writer whose work illuminated the lives of settlers on the prairies during the homesteading era of the late nineteenth century.

• Although she is identified with Nebraska, Cather was born in Virginia. Her family moved to Nebraska when she was nine, and the new environment and people she met made an indelible impression on her.

• Cather depicted the hard work and challenges faced by Nebraska settlers struggling to survive the westward journey and prairie existence in such novels as O Pioneers! (1913) and My Ántonia (1918).

• Cather also explored other settings and periods in her novels. She won a Pulitzer Prize for 1922s One of Ours, inspired in part by a cousin’s death while fighting in World War I (WWI); Death Comes for the Archbishop (1927), set in the desert southwest, often appears on lists of best modern literature.

• By the time of her death in 1947, Cather had written 12 novels, 6 collections of short fiction, 2 editions of a book of poetry, and numerous other works of nonfiction, collected journalism, speeches, and letters.

• The statue depicts Cather at around age 40, at the time when she began focusing on writing novels, having lived through the flu pandemic and WWI. She stands on the Nebraska prairie, drawing inspiration from the landscape during a “field research” session.
Sarah Winnemucca (1844–1891) was a member of the Paiute tribe born in what would later become the state of Nevada. She was the daughter of Chief Winnemucca and granddaughter of Chief Truckee. Her Paiute name was Thocmetony (or Tocmetoni), which means “shellflower.”

- Having a great facility with languages, she served as an interpreter and negotiator between her people and the U.S. Army.
- In 1878 when the Bannock Indians revolted and were being pursued by the U.S. Army, Sarah volunteered for a dangerous mission. Locating her father’s band being forcibly held by the Bannocks, she secretly led them away to army protection in a three-day ride over 230 miles of rugged terrain with little food or rest.
- As a spokesperson for her people, she gave over 300 speeches to win support for them, and she met with President Rutherford B. Hayes and Secretary of the Interior Carl Schurz in 1880.
- Her 1883 autobiography, Life among the Piutes: Their Wrongs and Claims, was the first book written by a Native American woman.
- She started a school for Native Americans, where she taught children both in their native language and in English.
- Sarah Winnemucca died in 1891.

Patrick Anthony McCarran was born in Reno, Nevada, on August 8, 1876. He graduated from the University of Nevada in 1901 and was elected to the Nevada legislature in 1903. A champion of the working man, he sponsored the country’s first law limiting the working day to eight hours.

- While working as a sheep herder he studied law, and in 1905 he was admitted to the bar.
- He was district attorney in Nye County, Nevada, from 1907 to 1909 and established a law practice in Reno in 1909.
- He served as an associate justice of the Supreme Court of Nevada from 1913 to 1917 and was its chief justice from 1917 to 1919. His opinions on fingerprinting and property rights are considered landmarks.
  - Elected to the U.S. Senate in 1932, he served until his death.
  - He led the fight to prohibit President Roosevelt from influencing the Supreme Court and to curb presidential treaty-making powers.
  - He sponsored laws concerned with the nation’s security, including the Civil Aeronautics Act of 1938; the Federal Airport Act of 1945; the Administrative Procedures Act of 1946; the McCarran-Woods Act of 1950, which required registration of communists and their exclusion from government; and the McCarran-Walter Act of 1952, which tightened the immigration laws.
  - McCarran died in Hawthorne, Nevada, on September 28, 1954.
NEW HAMPSHIRE STATUES

John Stark
*Carl Conrads, Crypt, 1894*

John Stark was born in Londonderry, New Hampshire, on August 28, 1728. Growing up in a frontier community gave Stark the skills he would use in later life as a successful military leader. Hunting, fishing, and scouting were among the pioneer activities necessary for survival in the harsh wilderness.

- His first formal military action was during the French and Indian War, when he served with Roger's Rangers and attained the rank of captain.
- News of the Battle of Lexington called Stark to war again.
  - Appointed colonel of a regiment of New Hampshire militia, he fought in several decisive battles during the American Revolution and achieved a reputation as a leader and shrewd tactician.
  - His tactical success was due to independence and decisiveness. By ignoring orders, he engaged his men in a battle whose outcome prompted Congress to promote him to the rank of brigadier general.
  - At the end of the American Revolution, he was elevated to major general.
  - Following this promotion, he retired to his farm in New Hampshire, where he spent the rest of his life.
  - He died on May 8, 1822, and is buried on his farm, which is now a New Hampshire state park.

Daniel Webster
*Carl Conrads (after Thomas Ball), National Statuary Hall, 1894*

Born January 18, 1782, in Salisbury, New Hampshire, Daniel Webster was a central figure in the nation’s history. Webster studied at Phillips Exeter Academy before enrolling at Dartmouth in 1797. There he became known as a forceful speaker. He studied law in Boston and eventually began a practice in Portsmouth in 1807. Webster prospered, achieving financial success and professional prestige.

- Politics soon became part of Webster’s life.
- In 1812 he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, successfully combining his political and legal careers.
- In 1822 Webster was elected to the U.S. Senate, where he increased his reputation as an orator. His response in 1830 to the doctrine of nullification and states rights made him a prominent national figure.
- Although Webster’s more notable efforts were performed in the Senate, he also served in the Cabinet as Secretary of State under Presidents Harrison and Tyler in 1840–1843.
- Webster returned to the Senate in 1844, and there he continued to defend the unity of the nation with his eloquence.
- In 1850 he was called by President Fillmore to serve again as Secretary of State, the office he held until his death on October 24, 1852.
NEW JERSEY

NEW JERSEY STATUES

Philip Kearny
*Henry Kirke Brown, Hall of Columns, 1888*

Philip Kearny was born on June 1, 1814, in New York City. Because his mother died when he was quite young, Kearny spent his early years in a series of boarding schools and made his home with his maternal grandfather. Kearny attended Columbia University and studied law, but he decided to follow a military career.

- As a second lieutenant in the First United States Dragoons, Kearny was sent to France to study cavalry tactics.
- He soon distinguished himself when he served with the Chasseurs d’Afrique in Algiers in 1840. He returned to the United States and became an aide-de-camp to General Alexander Macomb, commander-in-chief of the army, and later to his successor, General Winfield Scott.
  - He then married, started a family, and resigned his commission in 1846.
  - He was immediately called back into service, however, to lead the advance on Mexico City in the Mexican War of the same year.
    - Kearny’s left arm was shattered in battle and had to be amputated.
    - Kearny again withdrew from military life, but in 1859 he served on the staff of General Morris in France.
  - He returned to the United States at the outbreak of the Civil War and served as a brigadier general with the Army of the Potomac.
  - He lost his life in the Battle of Chantilly, Virginia, on September 1, 1862.

Richard Stockton
*Henry Kirke Brown (completed by H.K. Bush-Brown), Crypt, 1888*

An illustrious lawyer, jurist, legislator, and signer of the Declaration of Independence, Richard Stockton was born on October 1, 1730. He once wrote, “The publick is generally unthankful, and I never will become a Servant of it, till I am convinced that by neglecting my own affairs I am doing more acceptable Service to God and Man.”

- Stockton served as a trustee of the College of New Jersey (Princeton).
- In 1768 Stockton was appointed to the governing Council of New Jersey.
- He was later (1774) appointed to the New Jersey Supreme Court.
- He first took a moderate stance in the troubles between the colonies and England. He did not favor separation; he suggested in 1764 that some colonial members be appointed to the Parliament.
- However, he changed his position when the controversy over the Stamp Act arose.
- In 1774 he drafted and sent to Lord Dartmouth “a plan of self-government for America, independent of Parliament, without renouncing allegiance to the Crown.”
- In 1776 Stockton was elected to the Continental Congress, where he took a very active role.
- Shortly after he signed the Declaration of Independence, he was taken prisoner by the British.
- Although he remained in prison for only a month, his health was broken. He became an invalid and died at Princeton on February 28, 1781.
Po’pay
Cliff Fragua, Capitol Visitor Center, 2005*

Po’pay was born around 1630 in the San Juan Pueblo, in what is now the state of New Mexico; his given name, Popyn, means “ripe squash” in the Tewa language. As an adult he became a religious leader and was responsible for healing as well as for his people’s spiritual life.

• He knew of his people’s suffering under Spanish settlers, who forced them to provide labor and food to support the Spanish community and also pressured them to give up their religion and way of life and to adopt Christianity—those found practicing their religion were tortured and sometimes executed.

• In 1675 Po’pay and 46 other Pueblo leaders were convicted of sorcery; he was among those flogged, while others were executed.

• In 1680 Po’pay organized the Pueblo Revolt against the Spanish which helped to ensure the survival of the Pueblo culture and shaped the history of the American Southwest.

• No image or written description of Po’pay is known to exist.

Dennis Chavez
Felix W. de Weldon, Senate Wing, second floor, 1966*

Dennis Chavez was born in Los Chaves, New Mexico, on April 8, 1888. He left school at the age of 13 to work as a grocery clerk and later worked in the city’s department of engineering. As a result of acting as a Spanish interpreter for Senator Andrieus A. Johns, Chavez came to Washington, serving as a clerk in the Office of the Secretary of the United States Senate from 1917 to 1920. He graduated from Georgetown University Law School, was admitted to the bar in 1920, and returned to Albuquerque to practice law.

• He began his political career in the New Mexico House of Representatives in 1923.

• He was a member of the Democratic National Committee from 1933 to 1936.

• He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1931 to 1935.

• In 1935, Chavez was appointed to the Senate to fill the vacancy left by the death of Bronson M. Cutting.

• Elected to that seat in 1936, he served until his death.

• Chavez supported the New Deal and championed the rights of American Indians and Puerto Ricans. He worked for reciprocal trade agreements, especially with Latin America. He authored legislation establishing the federal Fair Employment Practices Commission along with various child care programs.

• He died in Washington, D.C., on November 18, 1962, and was interred in Albuquerque.
NEW YORK STATUES

George Clinton
*Henry Kirke Brown, Senate Wing, second floor, 1873*

George Clinton, first governor of New York State, was born on July 26, 1739, to an Irish family that had immigrated to Little Britain, a small town near the Hudson River. At age 18 Clinton enlisted in the British Army to fight in the French and Indian War. Later he studied law, was appointed clerk of the court of common pleas, and served in the State assembly.

- Elected to serve in the Continental Congress, Clinton voted for the Declaration of Independence but was called by Washington to serve as brigadier general of militia and had to leave before the signing occurred.
  - In 1777 Clinton became the first governor of New York and served until 1795.
  - A supporter and friend of George Washington, he supplied food to the troops at Valley Forge. Clinton rode with Washington to the first Inauguration and gave an impressive dinner to celebrate the occasion.
  - He did not support the adoption of the Constitution until the Bill of Rights was added.
  - He served again as governor of New York from 1801 to 1804 and as vice president under Thomas Jefferson and James Madison.
  - Clinton died in Washington on April 20, 1812, and was buried there; in 1908 he was reinterred at Kingston, New York.

Robert Livingston
*Erastus Dow Palmer, Crypt, 1875*

One of the most prominent statesmen of his day, Robert Livingston was born in New York City on November 27, 1746. He entered King’s College (Columbia University) at the age of 15. There he befriended John Jay, with whom he later had a brief partnership.

- Livingston served from 1775 to 1777 in the Continental Congress, where he was one of the five drafters of the Declaration of Independence.
- At the time the Declaration was signed, however, he had returned to duties in the provincial assembly.
- When the government of New York State was established, Livingston became Chancellor, the highest judicial position in the state, and served for 24 years. In that capacity he administered the oath of office to President Washington in 1789.
- From 1781 to 1783 Livingston served as Secretary of Foreign Affairs.
- From 1801 to 1804 he served as President Jefferson’s minister to France and negotiated the Louisiana Purchase.
- Livingston’s last years were spent experimenting with new agricultural techniques and raising sheep.
- Before his death on February 27, 1813, he also founded and became the first president of the American Academy of Fine Arts and became a trustee of the New York Society Library.
NORTH CAROLINA STATUES

Charles Brantley Aycock
Charles Keck, Crypt, 1932*

Charles Brantley Aycock was born on November 1, 1859, near Fremont, North Carolina. After graduating from the University of North Carolina in 1880 with first honors in both oratory and essay writing, he entered law practice in Goldsboro and supplemented his income by teaching school. He was appointed as superintendent of schools for Wayne County and to service on the school board in Goldsboro.

• His political career began in 1888 as a presidential elector for Grover Cleveland.
• From 1893 to 1897 he served as U.S. attorney for the eastern district of North Carolina.
• He was elected governor in 1900.
  • His greatest achievement in office was in education, to which he was dedicated after watching his mother make her mark when signing a deed because she was unable to write her signature.
  • He felt that no lasting social reform could be accomplished without education. He supported increased salaries for teachers, longer school terms, and new school buildings; almost 3000 schools were built during his administration.
  • He supported laws to establish fair election machinery, to prevent lynching, to erect a reformatory for boys, and to restrict child labor.
  • He resumed his law practice in 1905, but in 1911 he yielded to pressure to seek the Democratic nomination for the U.S. Senate.
  • He died on April 4, 1912, while campaigning.

Zebulon Baird Vance
Gutzon Borglum, National Statuary Hall, 1916*

Zebulon Vance was born on May 13, 1830, in North Carolina. He studied law at the University of North Carolina. He received his county court license, settled in Asheville, and was soon elected county solicitor.

• He served in the North Carolina House of Commons in 1854 and in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1858 to 1861.
• Though he supported the constitutionality of secession, he was an ardent Unionist, not favoring secession until President Lincoln called for troops in 1861. He then organized and served with the Rough and Ready Guards.
• Elected governor in 1862, he worked during the war to insure legality in the harsh conscription practices of the Confederacy and to guarantee protection of the law to North Carolinians.
• After being arrested at the end of the war and being briefly imprisoned, he returned to his law practice.
• As governor from 1877 to 1879, he worked to revive the state’s economy, agriculture, and industry and to improve schools.
• From 1879 until his death he served in the U.S. Senate, where he was a popular and effective mediator between North and South.
• He died in Washington, D.C., on April 14, 1894, and after services in the Senate Chamber was buried in Asheville, North Carolina.
John Burke was born on February 25, 1859, in Sigourney, Iowa. He received his law degree from the University of Iowa in 1886. In 1888 he migrated to the Dakota Territory, where he worked as a harvest hand and schoolmaster. He began his law practice in his hotel room and helped publish the town newspaper.

- By 1889 he was a successful lawyer and was elected Rolette County judge. He later became state’s attorney of Rolette County.
- Burke served in the North Dakota House of Representatives in 1891 and in the state Senate from 1893 to 1895.
- As governor from 1907 to 1913, his great accomplishment was ridding North Dakota of corrupt political control.
- He initiated many reforms, including regulation of lobbying, establishment of a tax commission, and laws providing for the first primary election.
- He supported legislation regarding child labor, juvenile courts, and an employment compensation commission.
- His concern for the public welfare was reflected in food and sanitation laws; a public health law; and regulation of medicine, surgery, and public utilities.
- In 1913 he was appointed treasurer of the United States by President Woodrow Wilson and served until 1921.
- In 1924 he was elected a justice on the Supreme Court of North Dakota, serving as chief justice from 1929 to 1931 and from 1935 to 1937.
- He died on May 14, 1937.

In 1800, at about the age of 12, a Shoshone girl was captured by the Hidatsa tribe in an area that is now North Dakota. Her original name is not known, but she was given a new name by her captors. The State of North Dakota has adopted Sakakawea as the most accurate English representation of this name, which means “Bird Woman.”

- By 1804 Sakakawea had become the wife of a French-Canadian, Pierre Charbonneau, who was hired in that year as an interpreter for the northwest expedition headed by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark.
- She traveled with the party and assisted with translation and made contacts with Shoshone and Hidatsa people, who considered the presence of a woman a sign that the expedition was peaceful. She served as a guide and gathered edible plants along the route.
  - Her son Jean Baptiste was born in winter quarters at Fort Mandan in North Dakota, and she carried him with her when travel resumed.
  - She is believed to have died of a fever in 1812 at Fort Manuel near Kenel, South Dakota.
  - In selecting Sakakawea as the subject of this statue, the state legislature chose to recognize that “her indomitable spirit was a decided factor in the success of Lewis and Clark’s expedition.”

Sakakawea
Leonard Crunelle, Capitol Visitor Center, 2003*

John Burke
Avard Fairbanks, National Statuary Hall, 1963*
**Ohio**

**Ohio Statues**

**Thomas Alva Edison**  
*Alan Cottrill, National Statuary Hall, 2016*

Born February 11, 1847, in Ohio, Thomas Alva Edison became one of the world’s most celebrated and prolific inventors. His childhood fascination with scientific experiments led to a career as an inventor, and he received his first patent, for an electric vote recorder, in 1869. Further successes allowed him to create in Menlo Park, New Jersey, a facility that prefigured the modern industrial research and development (R&D) laboratory. His most far-reaching accomplishment was the large-scale commercial distribution of electric light and power.

- Edison amassed over a thousand patents during his lifetime.
- He created the phonograph by combining his laboratory’s first major invention, a carbon telephone microphone, with his telegraph repeater to record sound.
  - Electric light bulbs had existed since 1802 but were short-lived and expensive. In 1879, after thousands of experiments, Edison’s workshop produced a bulb that burned for 40 hours; further experiments yielded one that would burn for a thousand.
  - Described as “an instrument which does for the eye what the phonograph does for the ear,” Edison’s Kinetograph and Kinetoscope opened the way for the film industry.
- The statue shows the inverted cone-shaped bulb known as the Edison light bulb; a similar bulb appears in a 1911 photograph of Edison.
- He died of complications from diabetes on October 18, 1931, at his home in West Orange, New Jersey, and his remains are buried behind the home.

**James Abram Garfield**  
*Charles H. Niehaus, Rotunda, 1886*

President James Abram Garfield, born November 19, 1831, was the last American president to be born in a log cabin. He grew up in poverty and first tried his hand at being a frontier farmer. He studied at Western Reserve Eclectic Institute (Hiram College) and later at Williams College.

- In 1859 Garfield was elected to the Ohio Senate as a Republican.
- He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1860.
- Garfield became a major general in the Union Army during the Civil War.
- He served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1863 to 1880.
- He was a firm supporter of backing money with gold, but not a strong supporter of a high tariff.
- Garfield was elected to the Senate in 1880 but never served, as he also was elected president.
- His short presidency was quite stormy due to the numerous political problems he inherited. He also generated some of his own by personally making even the most minor political appointment in his administration, and his selection of moderate Republicans angered the conservative faction known as the “Stalwarts.”
- On July 2, 1881, President Garfield was shot in a Washington, D.C. railroad station by Charles J. Guiteau, a disappointed office seeker. Garfield died from his gunshot wound 11 weeks later on September 19, 1881.
**OKLAHOMA STATUES**

**Sequoyah**  
*Vinnie Ream (completed by G. Julian Zolnay), National Statuary Hall, 1917*

Sequoyah, inventor of the Cherokee alphabet, was probably born in 1770 in the Indian town of Taskigi, Tennessee. He was raised by his mother as part of the Cherokee community, and he became a hunter and fur trader. After being permanently crippled in a hunting accident, he developed his talent for craftsmanship, making silver ornaments and blacksmithing.

- He began in 1809 to devise a table of symbols for the 86 sounds in the Cherokee language.
- The tribal council approved his work in 1821. Within a few years, thousands of Cherokees learned to read and write in their own language.
- In 1822 Sequoyah visited Cherokees in Arkansas, and in 1828 he moved with them to Oklahoma. He was active in the political life of the tribe, serving as envoy to Washington in 1828 and helping Cherokees displaced from eastern lands.
- The National Cherokee Council honored him with a medal, which he proudly wore for the rest of his life.
- Sequoyah fell ill and died in 1843 while searching for a band of Cherokees who, by tradition, had moved into Mexico before the revolution.
- His memory is perpetuated in the names of two species of redwood trees. His statue was the first honoring a Native American to be chosen for the National Statuary Hall Collection.

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**Will Rogers**  
*Jo Davidson, House connecting corridor, second floor, 1939*

William Penn Adair Rogers was born on November 4, 1879, in Indian Territory, near what is now Claremore, Oklahoma, and was raised on his father’s ranch. In later years Rogers would proudly refer to his Indian and pioneer heritage. Preferring horses and ropes to books, he left school and went into ranching. Yearning to travel, he went to South America.

- Before he was 24, he had worked his way around the world as a cowhand and as a circus actor called “The Cherokee Kid.”
- He began his stage career in 1905 with a vaudeville act.
- In 1914 he joined the Ziegfield Follies, where his commentary during his rope act gave him a start as a humorist.
- He went on to become a movie star, radio broadcaster, syndicated newspaper columnist, and author.
  - From World War I until his death, his humor and wit touched the conscience of America; few men not in public office have had so great an impact upon their times.
  - He was quietly generous with his fortune, giving large sums to charity and the victims of disasters.
  - Rogers established his own ranch and began to travel, especially by airplane. Though not a pilot, he was an enthusiastic spokesman for the emerging aviation industry.
  - He and his friend, the famous aviator Wiley Post, died in a plane crash near Point Barrow, Alaska, on August 15, 1935.
**OREGON STATUES**

**Jason Lee**  
*Gifford MacG. Proctor, National Statuary Hall, 1953*

Jason Lee, missionary and pioneer, was born on a farm near Stanstead, Quebec, on June 28, 1803. He attended the village school and by the age of 13 was self-supporting. After a conversion experience, he attended Wilbraham Academy, graduating in 1830. Between 1830 and 1832 he was minister in the Stanstead area and taught school.

- In 1833 he was chosen to head a mission for the Flatland Indians. He and his party arrived in Fort Vancouver in 1834. The missionaries settled on the Willamette River, northwest of the present site of Salem, Oregon.
- In 1836 and 1837 he helped to draft a petition for the establishment of a territorial government, and in 1838 he journeyed east to present the petition in Washington.
  - Lee continued to found missions during the 1830s and became increasingly active in the territorial organization of the Oregon settlement, encouraging its ties with the United States.
  - He presided over the preliminary meeting for territorial organization held at Champoeg in 1841, and in 1843 he was instrumental in the formation of a provisional government.
  - He also worked to promote education and formed the plan that resulted in the founding of Oregon Institute (now Willamette University).
  - He died on March 12, 1845 and was interred in Salem, Oregon, in 1906.

**John McLoughlin**  
*Gifford MacG. Proctor, Capitol Visitor Center, 1953*

Dr. John McLoughlin was born on October 19, 1784. He studied as a medical apprentice and was admitted to practice at age 19. In 1803 he was hired as a physician at Fort William, a fur-gathering post of the North West Company on Lake Superior. There he became a trader and mastered the Indian languages. In 1814 he became a partner in the company and was instrumental in the negotiations leading to its 1821 merger with the Hudson Bay Company.

- In 1824 McLoughlin was appointed head of the Columbia Department, which comprised 600,000 square miles from Spanish California to Russian Alaska.
- Before the provisional government was established, McLoughlin was the chief authority in the vast Northwest.
- From his headquarters in Fort Vancouver he supervised trade and kept peace with the Indians, inaugurated salmon and timber trade with California and Hawaii, and supplied Russian Alaska with produce.
- He welcomed new settlers, especially the missionaries, often lending them seed and grain. He also developed saw and grist mills in Oregon City and in 1845 built a home there.
- When Oregon City became the capital of the American provisional government, McLoughlin acknowledged its authority. This led to his resignation in 1845 from the British-controlled Hudson Bay Company.
- In 1849 he became an American citizen.
- He died in his Oregon City home on September 3, 1857.
Robert Fulton was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, on November 14, 1765. His early education was limited, but he displayed considerable artistic talent and inventiveness. At the age of 17 he moved to Philadelphia, where he established himself as a painter. Advised to go abroad because of ill health, he moved to London in 1786. His lifelong interest in scientific and engineering developments, especially in the application of steam engines, supplanted art as a career.

- In 1797, European conflicts led Fulton to begin work on weapons against piracy, including submarines, mines, and torpedoes.
- He soon moved to France, where he worked on canal systems.
- In 1800 he built a successful “diving boat,” which he named the Nautilus. Neither the French nor the English were sufficiently interested to induce Fulton to continue his submarine design.
- In 1802 Fulton contracted with Robert Livingston to construct a steamboat for use on the Hudson River; over the next four years he built prototypes in Europe.
- He returned to New York in 1806. On August 17, 1807, the Clermont, Fulton’s first American steamboat, left New York for Albany, thus inaugurating the first commercial steamboat service in the world.
- Fulton died on February 24, 1815, and is buried in Old Trinity Churchyard, New York City.

John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg was born on October 1, 1747. His early education was supplemented at the Philadelphia Academy (University of Pennsylvania). He joined an English regiment that saw action in the French and Indian War. He returned to Philadelphia in 1767 and was discharged.

- He studied for the ministry and accepted a call in 1771 to a congregation in Woodstock, Virginia. Muhlenberg first traveled to England to be ordained in the Church of England.
- He served in the House of Burgesses in 1774.
- Over the next two years he became involved with the local leaders of the Revolution.
  - In 1776 he left Woodstock and raised a regiment from the Shenandoah Valley.
  - Muhlenberg was quickly commissioned a brigadier general in the Continental Army and was active in many battles.
    - He was brevetted major general in 1783.
    - Returning a hero, he was elected to the Supreme Executive Council in 1784 and served as Pennsylvania’s vice president from 1785 to 1788.
    - He was elected to the First Congress (1788–1789), of which his brother Frederick was Speaker, and served in several successive Congresses.
    - Elected to the Senate in 1801, he resigned shortly thereafter to accept the appointment of supervisor of revenue for Philadelphia.
    - He served in this post until his death on October 1, 1807.

John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg
Blanche Nevin, Crypt, 1889*

Robert Fulton
Howard Roberts, National Statuary Hall, 1889*
RHODE ISLAND STATUES

Nathanael Greene
*Henry Kirke Brown, Crypt, 1870*

Nathanael Greene was born in Rhode Island, on August 7, 1742. His academic training was guided by Ezra Stiles, later president of Yale. He did not continue formal education. Instead, he took charge of the family forge at Coventry.

- Greene became a deputy in the Rhode Island General Assembly from 1770 to 1772.
- When war with Great Britain seemed imminent Greene helped to organize a militia company, the Kentish Guards.
- In 1775, the Rhode Island Assembly voted to establish its own militia. Greene became the brigadier in charge of its three regiments.
- During the same year he was chosen to be a brigadier general in the Continental Army. He saw action at the siege of Boston and remained to command the army of occupation.
- Greene continued to distinguish himself throughout the Revolution. He was especially helpful to General Washington when the colonial troops were fighting at Trenton.
- Greene’s activities moved south and he became commander of the Army of the South in 1780.
- On December 14, 1782, he was responsible for the liberation of Charleston, the last British-occupied city in the South.
- Greene settled near Savannah after the war and died there on June 19, 1786. His remains were reinterred in 1902 beneath the Greene Monument in Johnson Square, Savannah.

Roger Williams
*Franklin Simmons, Hall of Columns, 1872*

Roger Williams was born between 1603 and 1606. He grew up a member of the privileged class and received a thorough liberal arts education. Williams attended Cambridge, receiving his B.A. in 1627. He abandoned the study of law to become a priest in the Church of England.

- Williams was interested in the Puritan movement and the newly established Massachusetts Bay Colony.
- He was warmly welcomed to the New World by Massachusetts governor John Winthrop when he arrived in Boston.
- Williams was an adamant separatist and accepted a post as an assistant pastor in Salem, reputedly a friendly place. However, his teachings were deemed radical and he was banished from Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1635.
- Williams founded the colony of Rhode Island in 1636 and secured a charter for Providence Plantation in 1664.
- His greatest gift to the colonies was his authorship of the declaration of the principle of religious liberty.
- Roger Williams died in 1683, around the age of 80.
- Three hundred years after his banishment from Massachusetts, a monument in his honor was erected in Providence, Rhode Island. Set in a public park once part of Williams’ property, it reminds Rhode Islanders of their illustrious founder and champion of religious freedom.
John Caldwell Calhoun  
*Frederic W. Ruckstull, Crypt, 1910*

On a small plantation in Abbeville County, South Carolina, John Caldwell Calhoun was born on March 18, 1782. He studied at Waddel's Academy in Georgia, graduated with honors from Yale in 1804, studied at Tapping Reeve’s Law School in Litchfield, Connecticut, and was admitted to the bar in 1807.

- After one year in the state House of Representatives, he served from 1811 to 1817 in the U.S. House of Representatives, becoming a leader of the “war hawks” and a staunch nationalist. Calhoun resigned to become President Monroe’s Secretary of War.
- He subsequently was elected to two successive terms as vice president, serving under Presidents John Quincy Adams and Andrew Jackson.
  - Resigning in 1832 because of political differences with Jackson, Calhoun was elected to the U.S. Senate and served until 1843.
  - Appointed President Tyler’s Secretary of State, he secured the annexation of Texas.
  - Elected again to the U.S. Senate in 1845, he served until his death.
  - A powerful orator, Calhoun became the leading spokesman for the South during attempts to resolve politically the conflict between the sections.
  - Calhoun, a brilliant theoretician, advocated a fine balance of nullification and the use of “concurrent majorities” to prevent the dissolution of the Union.
  - Calhoun died on March 31, 1850, in Washington, D.C., and is buried in Charleston, South Carolina.

Wade Hampton  
*Frederic W. Ruckstull, Capitol Visitor Center, 1929*

Wade Hampton was born on March 28, 1818, in Charleston, South Carolina. In 1836 Hampton graduated from South Carolina College (now the University of South Carolina). After the death of his father, he retreated to his grandfather’s Mississippi plantation and assumed the life of a planter.

- He was elected in 1852 to the South Carolina legislature from Richland County and served until 1856; he then served in the state Senate until he resigned in 1861.
- Though he had not favored secession, he supported the Confederacy from the outset.
- He offered his cotton for exchange in Europe for arms and he raised a legion of infantry, cavalry, and artillery.
- In 1862 he was advanced to brigadier general of the cavalry. He was involved in many major battles, including Gettysburg.
- Hampton was promoted to major general in 1863 and lieutenant general in 1865.
- From 1876 to 1896 Wade Hampton was a symbol of South Carolina politics, serving as governor from 1876 to 1879 and as U.S. senator from 1879 to 1891.
- From 1891 to 1897 he served as United States Railroad Commissioner.
- He died in Columbia, South Carolina, on April 11, 1902.
South Dakota

South Dakota Statues

William Henry Harrison Beadle
H. Daniel Webster, National Statuary Hall, 1938*

William Henry Harrison Beadle, born in a log cabin on January 1, 1838, grew up on the frontier. He studied civil engineering at the University of Michigan.

• Shortly after graduating in 1861, he enlisted in the Union Army and by the end of the war had risen to the rank of brigadier general.
• In 1869 President Grant appointed him surveyor-general of Dakota Territory.
• His journeys through the territory and his previous frontier experience convinced him that school lands were a trust for future generations and should be sold at their appraised value and never for less than $10 an acre. This effort dominated his life.
  • He served as secretary of the 1877 commission to codify the territorial laws and as chairman of the judiciary committee in the territorial House.
  • In 1879 he became superintendent of public instruction.
  • Beadle drafted the school lands provision at the South Dakota constitutional convention of 1885. When Congress accepted the state constitution in 1889, it was so impressed that similar provisions were required for North Dakota, Montana, Washington, Idaho, and Wyoming. This preserved 22 million acres for schools.
  • Beadle served as president of the Madison State Normal School from 1889 to 1906 and as a professor of history until his retirement in 1912.
  • He died on November 15, 1915.

Joseph Ward
Bruno Beghe, Capitol Visitor Center, 1963*

Joseph Ward was born on May 5, 1838. He graduated from Brown University and Andover Theological Seminary. Accepting a missionary appointment, he was ordained in 1869 at Yankton, capital of the Dakota Territory, where he organized and directed church efforts.

• Ward opened a private school, which became Yankton Academy. Later given over to public control, it became the first high school in Dakota.
• Ward was instrumental in the founding of Yankton College, the first collegiate-rank institution of the upper Mississippi Valley and served as its president.
• He played an important part in keeping school lands out of the control of eastern speculators.
• He was the first president of the Yankton Board of Education.
• He also helped establish in 1879 the Dakota Hospital for the Insane.
• Ward was a leader in the movement for South Dakota statehood, serving as a delegate to the various conventions and as a member of the 1885 committee to present the petition for statehood to Congress.
• He drafted much of the constitution and was chairman of the committee charged with keeping the convention records.
• He composed the state motto and wrote the description for the state seal.
• Bedridden and unable to attend the final constitutional convention in 1889, he died on December 11, 1889.
**TENNESSEE STATUES**

**Andrew Jackson**

_Belle Kinney and Leopold F. Scholz, Rotunda, 1928*

The seventh president, Andrew Jackson was born in Waxhaw, South Carolina, on March 15, 1767. Later known as “Old Hickory,” he was captured during the Revolution at the age of 9 and orphaned at age 14.

- Jackson was admitted to the bar in 1787 and was appointed prosecuting attorney for the west district of North Carolina in 1788.
- Jackson was a delegate to the Tennessee constitutional convention in 1796, a U.S. representative from 1796 to 1797, a U.S. senator in 1797, a member of the Tennessee Supreme Court from 1798 to 1804, and a major general in the Tennessee militia.
  - Because of political feuds and several duels, Jackson retired to his plantation, “The Hermitage,” for six years.
  - During the War of 1812, he was commissioned a major general in the U.S. Army and became a hero, defeating the British at the Battle of New Orleans in 1815.
  - Jackson invaded Spanish-held Florida in 1818; following Florida’s cession to the United States, he served as its territorial governor in 1821.
  - Jackson returned to Tennessee, serving as U.S. senator from 1823 to 1825.
  - Campaigning as “champion of the popular majority,” Jackson was elected president in 1828 and served two terms.
  - He died on June 8, 1845, in Nashville.

**John Sevier**

_Belle Kinney and Leopold F. Scholz, National Statuary Hall, 1931*

John Sevier was born in Rockingham County, Virginia, on September 23, 1745. Searching for available land he could afford, he moved west in 1772 and served as a militia captain under George Washington in Lord Dunmore’s War. A lieutenant colonel in the trans-Allegheny forces during the Revolution, he was commended for his services at Kings Mountain in 1780.

- In March 1785 he was elected governor of the independent State of Franklin, a portion of North Carolina where settlers desired statehood.
- North Carolina declared the State of Franklin in revolt, subdued it with force, and ceded it to Congress.
- Subsequently, Sevier was elected to the North Carolina Senate in 1789, received a full pardon, and was restored to his status of brigadier general.
- He retired to his plantation and was appointed trustee of Washington College and Blount College (now the University of Tennessee).
- Because of his military renown, he was elected the first governor of Tennessee (1796–1801 and 1803–1809), state senator (1809–1811), and a member of the U.S. House of Representatives in 1811.
- He died on September 25, 1815, while serving as commissioner to survey the boundary between Georgia and the land of the Creek Indians in Alabama. He was buried in Knoxville, Tennessee.
TEXAS STATUES

Stephen Austin
*Elisabet Ney, Hall of Columns, 1905*

The founder of the state of Texas was born in Austinville, Virginia, on November 3, 1793, and moved with his family to Missouri in 1798. He was educated at Colchester Academy in Connecticut and Transylvania University in Kentucky, and he served in the militia and the territorial legislature.

- In 1821 he inherited from his father a grant to settle 300 Anglo-Americans in Texas. Austin served as their civil and military leader and their liaison with the authorities.
- He travelled to Mexico to ease tensions resulting from American settlements near the border. Because he had brought a grievance petition and a request for statehood, he was imprisoned by General Santa Anna on charges of inciting revolution.
  - After his release in 1835, he presided at the Texas convention, which resulted in the Texas Revolution on October 2, 1835.
  - Austin was made commander-in-chief of the army that marched on the Mexican headquarters in San Antonio, and he was later a commissioner to seek recognition by the United States, negotiate a loan, and enlist volunteers.
  - He accepted the nomination for president of the Republic of Texas in June 1836 but lost to Sam Houston, who then appointed him secretary of state.
  - Austin died on December 27, 1836, in Columbia, Texas.

Sam Houston
*Elisabet Ney, National Statuary Hall, 1905*

Born on March 2, 1793, near Lexington, Virginia, Sam Houston had only one year of formal schooling. As a young adult he lived with the Cherokee Indians for three years before entering the militia during the War of 1812. He studied law, was admitted to the bar, and in 1819 was elected attorney general of the Nashville district.

- He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and served from 1823 to 1827.
- He became governor of Tennessee but resigned in 1829 to rejoin the Cherokees after his wife had left him.
- The next six years Houston spent on diplomatic missions and business journeys in Indian country and Texas.
- In 1833 he was a delegate to the San Felipe constitutional convention, which petitioned for Texas’s separation from Coahuila.
- After the Texas Revolution, he succeeded Austin as commander-in-chief.
- His military leadership secured Texas independence and Houston was elected president of the Republic, serving from 1836 to 1838 and from 1841 to 1845.
- In 1845, when Texas joined the Union, he was elected one of the first senators.
- A Union Democrat, he was the only southern senator who voted for the Compromise of 1850, opposed the Kansas-Nebraska Bill, and voted against secession.
- In 1859 Houston was elected governor; however, he was deposed when he refused to take the Confederate Oath of Allegiance.
- He retired to his farm at Huntsville, Texas, where he died on July 26, 1863.
Brigham Young was born in Whittingham, Vermont, on June 1, 1801. His family later moved to upstate New York, where he became, successively, a journeyman painter, glazier, and farmer. He sought a religion applicable to daily life and after two years of study he became a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints—the Mormons. He rapidly earned positions of leadership within the church, and in the 1840s Young was among those who established the city of Nauvoo on the Mississippi River. It became the headquarters of the church and was larger than the city of Chicago.

• In 1844, upon the death of their leader, Joseph Smith, Brigham Young became president of the church.
• Within two years persecution drove the “Saints” to territory outside the boundaries of the United States.
• In 1847 he led a party of 148 to the Salt Lake Valley. Young, sometimes called a “modern Moses,” successfully organized the emigration of 70,000 pioneers.
• As the first governor of the Utah Territory, he encouraged farming, industry, thrift, the establishment of retail stores, cooperative irrigation, schools, universities, and theaters.
• Young introduced other industries, including cotton and silk, to build self-sufficiency.
• Brigham Young established communities between Mexico and Canada before his death on August 29, 1877, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Philo T. Farnsworth was born on August 19, 1906, on Indian Creek in Beaver County, Utah. His parents expected him to become a concert violinist, but his interests drew him to experiments with electricity. At the age of 12, he built an electric motor and produced the first electric washing machine his family had ever owned.

• Farnsworth is called “the father of television” for his invention of an early electronic television system, which he first visualized when he was in high school.
• He transmitted his first electronic television picture in 1927.
• Although he won an early patent for his image dissection tube, he lost later patent battles to RCA. He received some 160 patents during his career for many important inventions, which played roles in the development of radar, the infra-red night light, the electron microscope, the baby incubator, the gastroscope, and the astronomical telescope.
• Farnsworth died on March 11, 1971, in Salt Lake City, Utah.
• Television receivers in production at that time carried approximately 100 of his patents.
VERMONT STATUES

Jacob Collamer  
_Preston Povers, Senate Wing, first floor, 1881*_

Jacob Collamer was born on January 8, 1792, in Troy, New York. He graduated from the University of Vermont, was admitted to the bar in 1813, and became partner to Judge James Barrett.

• He served four terms in the Vermont House of Representatives and from 1833 until 1842 was assistant judge of the Supreme Court of Vermont.
• Elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1842, he advocated the annexation of Texas, supported the Mexican War and the tariff.
• Collamer served as postmaster general under President Zachary Taylor.
• He became a circuit court judge in Vermont from 1850 to 1854.
  • A conservative anti-slavery Republican, he was elected to the Senate in 1855.
  • He concentrated on land and tariff issues throughout his career in Congress.
  • He was one of two senators who refused to vote for the Crittenden Amendment, which proposed resubmitting the Kansas Constitution to popular vote.
  • He opposed the Reconstruction Plan of President Lincoln, advocating congressional control instead.
  • He received the presidential nomination from Vermont in 1860 but withdrew after the first ballot.
  • From 1855 to 1862 he was the last president of the Vermont Medical College.
• He served in the Senate until his death on November 9, 1865, at his home in Woodstock, Vermont.

Ethan Allen  
_Larkin G. Mead, National Statuary Hall, 1876*_

Founder of the State of Vermont, Ethan Allen was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, on January 10, 1738. As an explorer, he became involved in the “Hampshire Grants” dispute regarding conflicting land claims between New Hampshire and New York.

• As a result of the 1770 New York Supreme Court decision invalidating the New Hampshire grants, the settlers formed the Green Mountain Boys with Allen as their colonel commander to defend their property.
• The skirmishes escalated to such a degree that Allen was outlawed by Governor George Clinton of New York in 1771.
• During the Revolutionary War, Allen and his Green Mountain Boys joined forces with Colonel Benedict Arnold to capture Fort Ticonderoga on May 10, 1775.
• While invading British-held Canada with Colonel John Brown, Allen was captured on September 25, 1775, and held prisoner for two years before being exchanged.
• He immediately received the brevet rank of colonel in the Continental Army.
• He returned to Vermont and was made major general in the Vermont militia.
• Allen petitioned the Continental Congress for Vermont’s statehood. When refused, he negotiated with Britain over the status of Vermont and was accused of treason.
• Allen died on February 12, 1789, two years before Vermont was admitted into the Union.
George Washington
*Jean Antoine Houdon, Rotunda, 1934*

President George Washington was born in Westmoreland County, Virginia, on February 22, 1732. After his father’s death in 1743, he lived chiefly at Mount Vernon and worked as a surveyor. Sent by Governor Dinwiddie in 1753 to warn the French against encroaching on land in the Ohio Valley, he served in the French and Indian War as a lieutenant colonel.

- He inherited Mount Vernon from his half-brother Lawrence in 1752.
- He married Martha Custis on January 6, 1759, and entered the Virginia House of Burgesses that same year.
  - A leader in the movement for independence, he was a delegate to the First and Second Continental Congresses.
  - On June 15, 1775, he was chosen to command the Continental Army, and he assumed his duties on July 3, 1775.
  - He took leave of his officers at Fraunces’ Tavern, New York, on December 4, 1783, and retired to Mount Vernon.
  - Returning to public life, he attended the Annapolis Convention in 1786 and presided over the Constitutional Convention in 1787.
  - Unanimously elected the first president of the United States, he was inaugurated in New York on April 30, 1789, served for two terms, and declined a third.
- He died on December 14, 1799, and is buried at Mount Vernon.

The state of Virginia has announced plans to send a statue of civil rights activist Barbara Johns to the National Statuary Hall Collection.
**Marcus Whitman**  
*Avard Fairbanks, National Statuary Hall, 1953*

Marcus Whitman was born on September 4, 1802. At the age of seven, when his father died, he went to New York, to live with his uncle. He dreamed of becoming a minister, but he studied medicine for two years with an experienced doctor and received his degree from Fairfield Medical College.

- In 1834 he applied to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.
- Whitman married Narcissa Prentiss. A teacher of physics and chemistry, Narcissa was eager to travel west as a missionary but, as a single woman, had been forbidden to do so.
- Marcus and Narcissa made an extraordinary team. They joined a caravan of fur traders and went west, establishing several missions as well as their own settlement, Waiilatpu, in the Blue Mountains near the present city of Walla Walla, Washington.
- Marcus farmed and gave medical attention, while Narcissa gave classes to the Indian children. Whitman assisted in the “Great Emigration” of 1843, which clearly established the Oregon Trail.
- The primitive health practices of the Indians and their lack of immunity to diseases such as measles fostered the belief that Whitman was causing the death of his patients.
- The Indian tradition holding medicine men personally responsible for the patient’s recovery led to the murder of the Whitmans on November 29, 1847, in their home.
**John Kenna**  
*Alexander Doyle, Hall of Columns, 1901*

John Kenna was born on April 10, 1848, in Kanawha County, Virginia, which became part of the state of West Virginia in 1863. He had little education, and at the age of 16 he served with General Shelby in the Confederate Army and was wounded. After returning home, he was admitted to the bar in 1870. He became very active in the emerging Democratic party of West Virginia.

- He rose from prosecuting attorney of Kanawha County in 1872 to justice pro tempore of the county circuit in 1875.
- He was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1876.
- While in the House he championed railroad legislation and crusaded for aid for slack-water navigation to help the coal, timber and salt industries in his state. These activities earned him a seat in the United States Senate in 1883, where he continued fighting for his two causes.
- Kenna became Democratic minority leader and emerged as a powerful and controversial speaker on the issue of the independence of the executive branch of the government.
- He forcefully defended President Cleveland on several issues and indicted the Senate Republican majority for failure to pass tariff reforms.
- His brilliant career was cut short with his sudden death at the age of 45 on January 11, 1893.

**Francis Harrison Pierpont**  
*Franklin Simmons, National Statuary Hall, 1910*

Born in Virginia on January 25, 1814, Pierpont was linked with its history for the rest of his life. He grew up in western Virginia, in what is today Marion County, West Virginia, graduated from Allegheny College, and was admitted to the bar in 1841. An active supporter of Lincoln, Pierpont became more involved in politics with the outbreak of the Civil War.

- When Virginia seceded, he organized a convention of Unionists, which declared that their elected officials had abandoned their posts and elected Pierpont provisional governor of Virginia.
- A legislature was set up, a new constitution was drafted, and representatives were seated in the Federal Congress.
- The state adopted the name West Virginia and was admitted into the Union in 1863.
- When a new governor was elected for West Virginia, Pierpont became governor of the “restored” state of Virginia, those counties occupied by Union troops.
- The capital, originally in Alexandria, moved in 1865 to Richmond, where Pierpont became governor of the whole state of Virginia.
- After he was replaced by a military commander in 1868, Pierpont returned to his law practice in West Virginia.
- He served one term in the state legislature in 1870.
- He died in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on March 24, 1899.
**WISCONSIN STATUES**

**Jacques Marquette**  
Giacomo Trentanove, House connecting corridor, second floor, 1896*

Jacques Marquette, French Jesuit missionary and explorer, was born on June 1, 1637. He arrived in Quebec in 1666, studied Indian language and culture, and was sent in 1668 to Sault Ste. Marie, a mission among the Ottawa Indians, and to La Pointe de St. Esprit.

- In December 1672, the trader Louis Jolliet, arrived with orders for Marquette to accompany him on a journey to explore the Mississippi.
- In May 1673, they reached the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. Indians told them that the Mississippi emptied into the Gulf of Mexico and warned them of Spanish settlers farther downstream. They turned back to avoid being captured with their information on geography and Indian culture.
  - By May 1674 Marquette was very ill; while recovering his health he prepared notes for publication in *Jesuit Relations*, since the official record had been lost.
  - In October 1674 Marquette fulfilled his wish to establish a mission at Kaskaskia.
  - Marquette’s poor health forced his return to Sault Ste. Marie. Marquette died en route and was buried on May 18, 1675.
  - His remains were returned to St. Ignace by Indian converts and placed in a chapel, which was destroyed by fire in 1706. In 1877 the grave was discovered, and a marker was erected in 1882.

* Indicates year that the statue was added to the collection.

**Robert M. La Follette**  
Jo Davidson, National Statuary Hall, 1929*

The driving force of the Progressive Movement, Robert La Follette was born on June 14, 1855. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1879, was admitted to the bar in 1880, and was appointed district attorney of Dane County from 1880 to 1884.

- He served from 1885 to 1891 in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- Breaking with the party leadership, La Follette returned to his law practice and concentrated on improving the political system in Wisconsin.
- Elected governor by acclamation in 1891, he proposed and implemented his “Wisconsin Idea.” This became the foundation of the Progressive Movement; it included opposition to political bosses, employment of technical experts for public service, direct primary nomination, railroad regulation, and tax reform.
- Elected to the U.S. Senate in 1905, he worked for progressive reforms on a national level, including the direct election of senators.
- To make his progressive ideas better known he founded *La Follette’s Weekly Magazine* in 1909 and the National Progressive Republican League in 1911.
- He opposed American involvement in World War I and President Wilson’s foreign policy.
- He wrote the resolution authorizing the Senate investigation of the Teapot Dome scandal.
- In 1924 he ran unsuccessfully for president on the Progressive ticket.
- He died on June 18, 1925, in Washington, D.C.
Women’s suffrage leader Esther Hobart Morris was born on August 8, 1814. Orphaned at age 11, she was apprenticed to a seamstress and became a successful milliner and businesswoman. As a young woman she was active in the anti-slavery movement. Widowed in 1845, she moved to Peru, Illinois, to settle the property in her husband’s estate. There she realized the legal difficulties faced by women. She married John Morris, a prosperous merchant, and in 1869 they moved to a gold rush camp at South Pass City, Wyoming Territory.

• To promote the idea of giving women the right to vote, Morris organized a tea party for the electors and candidates for the first territorial legislature.

• With the national woman suffrage movement still being organized, Wyoming’s enactment of such a law in 1869 was a legislative milestone. Laws were also passed giving married women control of their own property and providing equal pay for women teachers.

• When appointed justice of the peace for the South Pass District in 1870, she became the first woman to hold judicial office in the modern world.

• During the statehood celebration in 1890 she was honored as a suffrage pioneer.

• In 1895, at age 80, she was elected a delegate to the national suffrage convention in Cleveland.

• She died in Cheyenne on April 2, 1902.

Originally named Pinaquana, Washakie was born around 1800 in his father’s Salish (or Flathead) tribe; he was given the name Washakie when he joined his mother’s Shoshone tribe. He became a renowned warrior and in approximately 1840 united several Shoshone bands.

• He had learned French and English from trappers and traders, and he also spoke a number of Native American languages.

• His friends among white frontiersmen included Kit Carson, Jim Bridger (who became his son-in-law), and John Fremont.

• Having realized that the expansion of white civilization into the West was inevitable, he negotiated with the army and the Shoshone to ensure the preservation of over three million acres in Wyoming’s Wind River country for his people; this valley remains the home of the Shoshone today.

• He was also determined that Native Americans should be educated, and he gave land to Welsh clergyman John Roberts to establish a boarding school where Shoshone girls learned traditional crafts and language.

• His prowess in battle, his efforts for peace, and his commitment to his people’s welfare made him one of the most respected leaders in Native American history.

• Upon his death in 1900, he became the only known Native American to be given a full military funeral.

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