

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

FINAL

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Chief Menominee Memorial Site

other names/site number _____ 099-516-15029

2. Location

street & number South Peach Road, just north of W. 13th Road. N/A not for publication

city or town Plymouth _____ X vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Marshall code 099 zip code 46563

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination
 request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of
Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property
X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be consider significant
 Nationally X statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional
comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register.

See continuation sheet

determined eligible for the National
Register.

See continuation sheet

determined not eligible for the National
Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Chief Menominee Memorial Site
Name of Property

Marshall County, IN
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
1	0	sites
1	0	structures
1	0	objects
3	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION & CULTURE: Work of Art
RECREATION & CULTURE: Outdoor recreation

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION & CULTURE: Work of Art
RECREATION & CULTURE: Outdoor recreation

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

NO STYLE

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation

walls

roof

other STONE: Granite

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more sheets.)

Chief Menominee Memorial Site
Name of Property

Marshall County, IN
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significant within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination if individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record
- # _____

Areas of significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ART
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance

1909-1920

Significant Dates

1909

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

McDonald, Daniel

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Novelli & Calcagni Co.
B. C. Southworth & Son

Chief Menominee Memorial Site
Name of Property

Marshall County, IN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Approx. 1 acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	6	5	5	3	4	2	0	4	5	7	1	5	4	0
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Zone Easting Northing

2

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3

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

4

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kurt West Garner

organization Wythougan Valley Preservation Council date October 28, 2009

street & number 12954 6th Road telephone 574-936-0613

city or town Plymouth state IN zip code 46563

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 Or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Indiana Department of Natural Resources

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town Indianapolis state IN zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance to the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Chief Menominee Memorial Site, Marshall County, IN

Section 7 ***NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION***

The Chief Menominee Memorial Site, dedicated in 1909, is a triangular site approximately 1 acre in size, located in West Township, Marshall County, Indiana. The site lies approximately five miles southwest of the City of Plymouth just south of the Twin Lakes area. The site is a triangle with its west boundary being South Peach Road, a county road running north and south; its eastern boundary is the railroad bed of the former Vandalia Railroad running sharply northeast to southwest, now heavily wooded; and its northern boundary is a shared property line with a residence with the property line running east and west.

To the west of the site, on the west side of Peach Road, is a large expanse of agricultural tilled acreage with forested areas in the far distance. Very little intrusion of buildings or structures is found in the western vista from the site. To the east of the site the area is heavily wooded against a former railroad bed with forestation approaching forty years in age. To the north of the site is a ca. 1870 homestead fronting Peach Road; the house has been extensively remodeled. To the south of the site, also fronting Peach Road is the John McFarlin Farmstead with ca. 1870's house and outbuildings with a moderate level of architectural integrity. This farm is barely visible during summer foliage. There are three contributing resources composing the Chief Menominee Memorial Site: the park (site), the remains of the replica chapel foundation stones (structure), and the Chief Menominee Monument (object).

Park

The Chief Menominee Memorial Site was constructed as a memorial park, developed from a triangular remnant cut off from the larger McFarlin Farm by the Vandalia Railroad. The park was constructed in the common practice of city park development of the turn of the century. The street side is lined with primarily maple trees (seven total trees, photo 0001) spaced 20' to 100' apart. Also lining the street are concrete posts (61 total, photo 0007), approximately four feet tall with chamfered edges and low pyramidal tops. The posts are painted white and are mostly spaced seven feet apart with steel eye-hooks on their outside faces, near the top of the posts. The southernmost two posts are spaced 11' apart, presumably for vehicular access and a pair of posts flanking steps directly west of the monument are spaced 4'-6" apart. These formerly were all strung with heavy chain.

The site itself has a gradual rise beginning from the south point of the site, to a point about two hundred feet from the south point of the site along Peach Road before it begins to descend in elevation to the north. At this high point the road grade was cut down and concrete steps provided to give access to the site. The site has mostly grass lawn, except for heavy moss covering south of

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Chief Menominee Memorial Site, Marshall County, IN

the monument, and only a handful of mature trees to the north of the high ridge (three total), except for the trees lining Peach Road. A few younger volunteer trees are also on the site. The eastern boundary of the site is the former Vandalia Railroad bed. The grade of the bed is essentially equal in elevation at the north end of the site, but with the increasing elevation of the high ground toward the middle of the site, the railroad bed begins to form a narrow ravine approximately 6' lower than the site at its highest point, then becoming equal in elevation at the south end of the site.

The Chief Menominee Monument sits centered on the site (east/west) at the high ridge and faces south. The statue also has concrete posts matching those lining the road, placed 4' from around its base (photo 0002), one to the outside of each corner and one between each corner for a total of eight posts. A concrete sidewalk constructed about 1990 as an Eagle Scout project extends from the county road with handicap access ramp to and in front of the monument.

Exactly one hundred feet to the north of the statue, centered behind it, are the foundation remains of a replica log chapel once located on the site. Five granite stones lie flush with the ground at this location. To the northeast of the foundation remains, a distance of approximately fifty feet is a granite boulder entirely above ground, roughly 30" tall. It is indeterminate if the boulder has any significance to the memorial site. Another boulder exists approximately 70' north of the first but is mostly buried. A boulder also exists at the far northwest corner of the site at the approximate corner boundary. Exactly eighty feet to the south of the statue, centered in front of it, is a grouping of stones nearly flush with the ground in a rectangular pattern. This area appears to be graded almost as an observation point for the statue. Another grouping of stones flush with the ground is located south of the southernmost concrete post, into the slight berm along the roadway. A new Trail of Death directional sign is located on the east edge of the road near the center of the park. No parking is provided for onsite; visitors to the site park along the east edge of Peach Road.

Replica Chapel Foundation Stones

(photo 0005 from site/see historic photo of chapel)

Based on historic photographs, the location of a log chapel replica constructed as part of the memorial site was surveyed and five stones were found in a pattern indicating their use as foundation piers of the log chapel. The granite nubs are nearly flush with the ground with one having been moss covered until recently. The nubs (exposed areas of the stones) are about four square inches and are located in obvious lines. The northeast and southeast corner stones are twelve feet apart; the northeast and northwest stones are also twelve feet apart; another stone is located directly in the center, assumed to be a mid-point support or threshold stone (the chapel faced south with a central door). The fifth stone lies slightly out of line to the west from what would be the west

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Chief Menominee Memorial Site, Marshall County, IN

edge of the chapel; no stone was found for the southwest corner. The replica chapel is therefore assumed to have been about twelve feet square; it was destroyed by fire in 1920. To each side (west and east) of the chapel, located approximately six feet from the west and east wall lines, is a patch of wildflowers or groundcover mowed tightly with the height of the surrounding grass. No excavation work has been undertaken at the replica chapel site, only short metal ground probes were used to survey for stones.

Chief Menominee Monument

(Photos 0002-0004)

The most commanding resource of the site is the seventeen foot tall granite monument to Chief Menominee that sits centered on the high ridge of the site and faces south. The monument is built entirely of granite from the Barre region of Vermont with a ten foot tall polished gray granite pedestal and a seven foot tall statue of the Chief atop, also in granite but unpolished.

The pedestal has a plinth base that is seven feet square and one foot tall before having a low taper inward. The main body of the pedestal, 4'-11" wide at its base, continues upward with a slight taper extending to a height of 6'-10". The pedestal has a projecting cap one foot tall that curves outward in a fillet then extends upward 6 1/2". The only inscription on the pedestal is located on the south face of the main body with the exception of the contractor, located in the east corner of the south face of the plinth. The main inscription is created within a slightly darker gray field in the shape of a large shield with pointed top at its center.

The engraved inscription of the pedestal reads as follows:

In memory of Chief Menominee
and his band of 859 Pottawatomie Indians
removed from this Reservation
Sept. 4, 1838 by a company of soldiers
under command of General John Tipton,
authorized by Governor David Wallace.

Governor of Indiana, J. Frank Hanly.
Author of Law,

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Chief Menominee Memorial Site, Marshall County, IN

Representative Daniel McDonald, Plymouth.

Trustees, Col. A.F. Fleet, Culver;

Col. William Hoynes, Notre Dame;

Charles T Mattingly, Plymouth.

Site Donated by John A. McFarlin

1909

The engraved inscription of the contractor's name reads as follows:

B. C. Southworth & Son, Plymouth
Contractors

The statue of Chief Menominee was created by the granite carving firm of (Samuel) Novelli and (Joseph) Calcagni of Barre, Vermont. Drawings were submitted to the firm by Frank Southworth, contractor for the monument. It is indeterminate if Southworth provided drawings of both the base and statue, or only the base.

The top of the pedestal's cap tapers upward to the statue's 5" tall square base. The carving is seven feet tall creating a towering effect on the site, perched atop the ten foot base and facing south. The statue is in full American Indian regalia including a feathered headdress. The statue has a stoic appearance with the exception of its right hand extended outward and upward, elbow bent near the body of the statue. The statue's left hand is down at its side gently holding a blanket that is placed over the Chief's shoulders and extending down his back. The statue's head is turned slightly to the east; his left leg and foot are slightly forward, independent from the main mass of the remaining statue, and bent slightly at the knee. The monument is in good condition with the exception of damage to fingers on the extended hand of the Chief. A portion of the statue's thumb and tips of two other fingers are missing (photo 0004). Restoration reattached the thumb in 2003, but vandalism claimed the repair.

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Section 8 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

The Chief Menominee Memorial Site qualifies under three criteria for listing to the National Register of Historic Places. First, the site qualifies under Criteria A: the site is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The site reflects a period of time in which the transition of considering the Native American someone to be feared and mistreated changes to one of respect, honor and reconciliation for wrongdoings. Second, the site qualifies under Criteria B: the site is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. Daniel McDonald, one of if not the best known historical figure of Marshall County, Indiana history was a historian and published author who became a statesman with one very specific goal in mind-acknowledging our role in the mistreatment of Chief Menominee and his tribe. The site also qualifies under Criteria C: the site possesses high artistic value in representing the work of an accomplished sculptor. The statue of Chief Menominee represents not only exceptional quality, but also in its execution public perception of the Native American Indian during its period.

Areas of significance include Art due to the statue of Chief Menominee, Landscape Architecture due to the development of a civic park, and Politics/Government due to the extraordinary circumstances surrounding the establishment of the site. The Period of Significance for the Chief Menominee Memorial Site begins in 1909 when the site was developed and dedicated and concludes in 1920 when the replica log chapel was destroyed by fire. The significant date is 1909 when the statue was dedicated. Though the memorial is commemorative, its artistic character and the political events surrounding its construction rise above mere event-marking. Therefore the property meets Consideration F.

Purpose of Memorial Site

Monument

The purpose of the Chief Menominee Memorial Site was to acknowledge a tragic event in our national, state and local history. In 1838 federal troops were dispatched to the Menominee village to escort 859 Pottawatomie, including their chief, Menominee, to reservations in Kansas. Settlers wanted to establish farms on the land Chief Menominee legitimately owned near the Twin Lakes area of Marshall County. Menominee's band received the lands as payment for the establishment of the Michigan Road in Marshall County in 1826 per a treaty brokered by John Tipton, James B. Ray, and Lewis Cass. In 1831, however, the Indiana legislature requested of congress appropriations "for

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Chief Menominee Memorial Site, Marshall County, IN

the extinguishment of the remaining Indian titles in this land".¹ This treaty reduced lands to the Potawatomie and created the Menominee reservation, among other small reservations in Marshall County. It was brokered by three citizens including Indiana's first governor, Jonathan Jennings, at the crossing of the Michigan Road with the Tippecanoe River, which would become the location of the first encampment during the forced removal. Menominee was one of a few chiefs in Marshall County; but was the only one who would not sign an agreement to release his lands and relocate his people to Kansas. In August, 1838 Chief Menominee, in a speech to the council assembled at Twin Lakes under the direction of Col. Abel Pepper, Indian agent, said that if the President knew of his (Pepper's) tactics in coercing the other chiefs to sign, the President would not force them off their lands. The Chief said that "the treaty was a lie and I never signed it".²

On September 3rd of 1838 armed federal troops rounded up Menominee's tribe, placing them in the chapel located in their village.³ The next day, with orders to shoot resisters, General Tipton gave orders to begin the removal in what has been termed the Trail of Death. Chief Menominee, who has been called "the peaceful chief" reluctantly conceded on behalf of the welfare of his people. Legend tells of the Chief being bound in chains and placed in a wagon. Assisting in the removal was William Polke, chief surveyor of the Michigan Road. Forty would die en route to Kansas, including many children. Chief Menominee died in Kansas at the Sugar Creek Mission on April 15, 1841. The monument was erected in memory of this event.

Replica Chapel

Included as part of the memorial site a log building was constructed to depict the log chapel established in the Menominee village in 1827 and the role it played in the removal. Menominee's tribe had converted to Catholicism several years before the removal under Father Badin of Notre Dame. Badin established the log chapel at the center of the village. Later Father Petit would become priest to the Menominee tribe and resided in the second level of the chapel. Father Petit participated as a help to the tribe during the removal, himself making the trip to reservation lands but becoming ill along the way and dying in Missouri.⁴ The original chapel was reported to be 20' x 30'; the replica appears to have been 12' x 12'. The original chapel was burned by the federal guards while the Menominee tribe watched; in sheer irony the replica chapel also was destroyed by fire in 1920, less than 11 years after the dedication of the Chief Menominee Memorial Site.

¹ Removal of the Potawatomie Indians, McDonald, Daniel. Pg. 9, 13

² Ibid. Pg. 16-17

³ 1881 History of Marshall County, McDonald, Daniel. Pg. 22-23

⁴ Trail of Death Association web site

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Daniel McDonald

Few historical figures of Marshall County, with the exception perhaps of Chief Menominee, rise to the level of recognition that Daniel McDonald enjoys. Daniel McDonald was born in 1833 in Fayette County, IN and came to Marshall County as an early pioneer settler with his father's family (Thomas McDonald) in 1836, the year the county was organized. The McDonalds, Thomas and his sons Platt and Daniel established the *Plymouth Democrat* in 1855. Following their father's death in 1875, Platt sold his interest in the paper to Daniel who became the sole proprietor and editor in 1877. Daniel McDonald was editor for nearly thirty years when the paper sold in 1902.⁵

Author & Historian

Not only was Daniel McDonald interested in recording the daily news of the Marshall County community, McDonald is credited with writing two historical texts that continue to be the primary resources for the history of Marshall County. McDonald first authored History of Marshall County Indiana 1836-1880 and wrote the following disclaimer in the introduction to his first work:

The writer is well aware that county histories are, as a rule, stale and unprofitable, so far as the general reader is concerned, but to those personally familiar with what has transpired in the past, nothing can be more entertaining. The writer claims to be no historian.⁶

McDonald's 154 page history complete with biographical sketches of early pioneers and plat maps is the earliest recorded, compiled history of the county. It is uncertain if McDonald's writing of Marshall County history developed his interest in the Menominee Tribe, however an entire chapter was dedicated to the local Native American Indians and entitled "Concerning the Noble Red Man". The closing section regarding the removal states that a man who accompanied the Menominee tribe on the Trail of Death reported that "the Indians were shamefully treated while on the march, many of them dying for want of water." McDonald wrote:

If his story is true, the agent must have been a fiend in human form. He would not give them time to drink water enough to quench their thirst. The only consolation these poor sufferers had was in the belief that the Great Spirit was offended with his conduct. His wife died while he was absent, and, two weeks after he returned, he was taken sick and died also. And thus the original owners of the territory now known as Marshall County were driven from their possessions, and the places that knew them shall know them no more forever.⁷

⁵ A Twentieth Century History of Marshall County, McDonald, Daniel. Pg. 294

⁶ 1881 History of Marshall County, McDonald, Daniel. Pg. iii

⁷ 1881 History of Marshall County, McDonald, Daniel. Pg. 23

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It is important to understand McDonald's writings in context with the current affairs of 1880. War raged in western states against Native American Indian tribes. The term "savage" was being used to describe the native peoples. The Battle of Little Big Horn occurred only a few short years before and battles would continue for the next decade after McDonald's book. McDonald was making as much of a political statement with his sympathetic writings concerning the removal of the Native American as he was reporting history.

In 1898 McDonald published his second book entitled History of Freemasonry in Indiana. Also in 1898 he published a third book dedicated entirely to the Trail of Death and entitled it Removal of the Potawatomie Indians from Northern Indiana. McDonald was targeting a larger audience with this writing, moving outside the county boundaries to tell the story of Chief Menominee and the Trail of Death to the rest of Indiana. Few people outside of Marshall County would have had any knowledge of such a historical event.

In 1908, now serving in the Indiana legislature, Daniel McDonald authored another book on Marshall County History entitled A Twentieth Century History of Marshall County. The two volume book was extensively larger than his original history. McDonald's feature of the history of the Potawatomie also was extensively larger and more embedded with political positioning, this time concerning the future Chief Menominee Memorial Site. Chapters 2-12 were dedicated to the Potawatomie, with Chapter 10 specifically calling for a monument to be erected in memorial to the Trail of Death and Chief Menominee. By this time McDonald had already won his battle for the State of Indiana to fund the creation of the monument and chapel. The character of his writing implied frustration with the length of time it was taking to have the site created:

Up to the time of closing this sketch nothing has been done toward the erection of the monument, but it is thought by the trustees having the matter in hand that it will be completed some time during the year 1908 or early in 1909.⁸

Statesman

The McDonald family was staunchly Democratic in their politics and used the establishment of their newspaper, the *Plymouth Democrat*, in 1855 to espouse the virtues of their political party which continued through the ownership of the paper by the McDonald family. Daniel McDonald had a long political career that included over eight years as Marshall County Clerk, three times being elected to the Plymouth School Board, and holding his first state elected office on the Indiana legislature in 1869. McDonald was a candidate for Congress in 1880 and served as a delegate to the

⁸ A Twentieth Century History of Marshall County, McDonald, Daniel. Pg. 53

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Democratic National Conventions in 1876 and 1884.

In 1904 McDonald was elected the second time to the Indiana legislature from Marshall County. He wasted no time in introducing a bill to fund the creation of the memorial in the year he took office. From McDonald's 1908 History of Marshall County he wrote:

In 1905 the writer of this history was elected a member of the Indiana legislature from Marshall County, and in the session of 1905 introduced a bill appropriating \$2500 for the erection of a monument to Menominee and his band of 859 Pottawatomie Indians who were driven away by the state of Indiana west of the Missouri river in 1838, and for the rebuilding of the old Indian chapel at Twin Lakes, in Marshall County. The bill – House Bill No 37 – was referred to the committee on ways and means, who, in a spasm of reform, recommended it, with five other monument bills, for indefinite postponement. When the bill came up before the house for action, Mr. McDonald delivered an address fully explaining why the provisions of the bill should be adopted. As a matter of history, the House of Representatives deemed it of sufficient importance to order two hundred copies of it printed for the use of the house, which was done. Notwithstanding the eloquent appeal made, the bill was indefinitely postponed.⁹

McDonald's bill and eloquent speech caught the attention of the State Librarian, W. E. Henry, who published an account of Chief Menominee and the Trail of Death in the *Indiana Quarterly Magazine of History*. McDonald now had a state-wide audience to support his bill. The following was stated in the article:

This address written and delivered in support of a bill before our last legislature failed in its immediate object, as the bill did not pass, but as a monograph on the Pottawatomie Indians of northern Indiana it is of such interest and value as to merit a place in any historical collection. Mr. McDonald is regarded as perhaps our best authority on this particular subject. He has long been deeply interested, a conscientious and a sympathetic student of the vanished aborigines as presented by the records and traditions of the locality where he was reared. And a study of this tribe in its passing is a study of the Indian question in little. The story has in it much that was pathetic and tragic, particularly to a large band located on Twin lakes (Marshall County) under a chief called Menominee. Menominee was an Indian of unusual character, a friend to the whites, a convert to Christianity, and a zealous promoter of good among his people. By a treaty of 1832 twenty-two sections of land had been reserved

⁹ A Twentieth Century History of Marshall County, McDonald, Daniel. Pg. 50

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to him and three other chiefs. When the whites came for the reserved remnants (as they always did) Menominee declined to be tractable and sign away his land. As the other chiefs signed it, however, that was held to be sufficient, and at the end of the time stipulated by the treaty the recalcitrant chief and his people were unceremoniously ousted; their cabins were torn down, their mission chapel dismantled and the whole band, numbering nearly a thousand, put under a strong military escort commanded by Gen. John Tipton, to be conveyed to a reservation beyond the Mississippi river. Amid tears and lamentations they took their departure. It was in September, the weather hot, the season dry and sickly. Suffering from the swelter, dust and thirst the hapless Indians sickened like sheep and the long route was marked with their graves. Particularly was there mortality among the small children; the ailing, jostled along under the burning sun, in rude army wagons, suffering for water and with no relief from the hard ordeal, stood little chance, and almost every day some wronged mother surrendered her offspring to earth.¹⁰

Daniel McDonald was elected for a second term in 1906 and again, when taking office in 1907 wasted no time in introducing a bill for the creation and funding of the memorial. The bill "met with many obstructions on its way through the lower house of the general assembly, finally passed that body by a vote of 73 to 13."¹¹ The bill was then sent to the senate "where it also met with delays and obstructions." Senator John W. Parks of Marshall County introduced an amendment stating that funds would not be expended until an agreement with the Marshall County Commissioners was reached for the funding of upkeep and repair to the statue and chapel. The bill passed the Senate on the very last day possible, then concurred with the House and signed into law by Governor Hanley on March 12, 1907. The following is the bill as signed into law:

AN ACT entitled an act providing for the purchase of suitable grounds at Menominee Village, Marshall County, the erection of a monument thereon, the rebuilding of the old Indian chapel, making appropriations for the same, and providing for the appointment of three trustees.[H.37. Approved March 12, 1907.]

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, That there is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the State treasury not otherwise disposed of, the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars for the purpose of purchasing suitable grounds at Menominee Village, in Marshall County, the erection of a monument thereon, and the rebuilding of the old Indian chapel.

¹⁰ A Twentieth Century History of Marshall County, McDonald, Daniel. Pg. 51

¹¹ A Twentieth Century History of Marshall County, McDonald, Daniel. Pgs. 50-51

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Sec. 2. That there shall be three trustees appointed by the Governor, who shall serve without compensation, whose duties it shall be to carry out the provisions of this act: Provided, that any sums raised by donations for the purposes herein specified may be used in addition to the above appropriation: Provided, That money herein appropriated shall not be paid until an agreement shall be entered into by the Board of Commissioners of Marshall County with the State of Indiana to the satisfaction of the Governor, making provision for the control and repair of said monument and chapel ; or that some other satisfactory method shall be provided for the control and repair of said monument and chapel when completed.

Sec. 3. That said trustees shall keep an accurate account of all disbursements, and make a fifth report thereof and of the execution of this trust to the Governor not later than the fifteenth day of December, 1909.¹²

The amendment was presented to the board of commissioners of Marshall County by Daniel McDonald at its April term, 1907, which after a brief consideration was postponed until the May term, when the proposition was again postponed until the June term. At this term the board of commissioners entered into the agreement as provided in the amendment to the bill, ordered it recorded on their records, and sent a certified copy to the governor, which was done by the auditor under seal of his office.¹³ The following is the agreement, which the commissioners entered upon their records at the June term, 1907:

It is hereby agreed by the board of commissioners of Marshall County with the state of Indiana, that when said state of Indiana completes said monument and chapel, as provided for in said act, and fully pays all expenses connected therewith, the board of commissioners as aforesaid hereby agree with the state of Indiana to, make provision for the control and repair of the same as provided in said act.¹⁴

Only the Menominee monument stands in testament to Daniel McDonald's life as statesman. The Daniel McDonald Residence at 400 North Michigan Street (the corner of Michigan and East Adams Streets), was razed for the construction of the First United Methodist Church in 1915.¹⁵ The McDonald Family resided at this location during the period of Daniel's political and writing career as well as his time as owner/publisher of the *Plymouth Democrat*. McDonald's newspaper office was located in the Hoham Block on the south side of West LaPorte Street between Michigan and Center

¹² A Twentieth Century History of Marshall County, McDonald, Daniel. Pgs. 51-52, also, Acts 1907, C. 280.

¹³ A Twentieth Century History of Marshall County, McDonald, Daniel. Pg. 52

¹⁴ A Twentieth Century History of Marshall County, McDonald, Daniel. Pg. 53

¹⁵ 1881 History of Marshall County, McDonald, Daniel. Insert between pages 114-115

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Streets in downtown Plymouth. It first appears at this location in a city directory from 1876¹⁶ and is found at the corner of Center and LaPorte Streets in 1895.¹⁷ After the paper was purchased by Clay Metsker it appears to have been published in the same business block in 1908 at 107 W. LaPorte Street.¹⁸ While it appears to have had possibly a few locations from which it operated in this business block, the Hoham Block was razed by the City of Plymouth in about 1992. A large limestone step with DEMOCRAT carved into its face is located 225 North Michigan Street in front of a stairway entrance to the downtown business block's second floor. The stone is said to have come from the stairway to the *Plymouth Democrat* offices; it appears well-worn and over 100 years old. McDonald died in Plymouth in 1916, having been a witness in 1909 to the completion of what became his life pursuit and aside from his writings, the only residual reminder of his life. It is probably fair to state that without Daniel McDonald the story of this tragic story in American and Indiana history would have been long forgotten.

History of Memorial Site

Memorial oversight created by the State of Indiana

Once the State of Indiana had authorized the creation of the Chief Menominee Memorial Site, Governor J. Frank Hanly, in accordance with Section 2 of the law, named three trustees to oversee the project. J. S. Kumler, of Peru, one of the trustees appointed by the governor, declined to serve. The trustees as finally appointed by the governor were Charles T. Mattingly, "capitalist", Plymouth; Col. A. F. Fleet, superintendent Culver Military Academy, Culver; and Col. William Hoynes, dean of the Law School, Notre Dame University.¹⁹ It is unclear if there was a relationship of those appointed to the purpose of creating the memorial site, though Notre Dame's involvement may have been purposefully sought since the Indian Chapel was in fact established by Father Badin of Notre Dame.

Not all was copasetic with the agreement between the Marshall County Board of Commissioners and the State as perceived by the governor. Trustee Mattingly received an agreement prepared by the State Attorney General and presented it to the county commissioners with the request that each sign the document. McDonald contests that only "phraseology and the manner of executing it" differed from the original. The Marshall County Commissioners received it in their September term of 1907, postponed it until their October, then November, then December, then January term of 1908. At this time the Board of Commissioners was reorganized and it was passed during the January term. The members of the board who signed the contract were William H. Troup, Joel

¹⁶ Hollands 1876 City Directory. Pg. 354

¹⁷ Plymouth City Directory, 1895. Advertisement, no page number

¹⁸ Plymouth City Directory, 1908-1909. No page number

¹⁹ A Twentieth Century History of Marshall County, McDonald, Daniel. Pg. 52

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Anglin and James B. Severns.²⁰

Site Chosen

It was then the task of the governor appointed trustees to select a site for the memorial. The general consensus was that the site should be located at the former Menominee village on the high north bank of Cook Lake (the west lake of Twin Lakes). However, the owner of the site requested \$800 for the purchase of the site. The trustees felt that it was in the best interest of the project, since funds were limited to \$2500, that an offer of free property south of Twin Lakes be accepted.

John McFarlin, Jr., born in 1849 in Marshall County, was a Civil War veteran and owned a 120 acre farm just south of the land bridge between the Twin Lakes fronting Peach Road (west) and bordered on 13th Road (south). When the Vandalia Railroad was constructed in 1883, it came southwest out of Plymouth and through Culver. It used the land bridge between the Twin Lakes as a railroad bed and therefore cut a slice out of McFarlin's farm. A narrow triangular piece of land was cut off entirely from McFarlin's farm, but with ample frontage to Peach Road. McFarlin offered the site, approximately a half mile south of the Menominee village site, to the trustees for free. The trustees considered the offer advantageous not only because the land was free, but also because the Vandalia Railroad offered a stop at its crossing with Peach Road called Twin Lakes Station that included a restaurant and access to Twin Lakes. It was thought visitors to the site could use the railroad and enjoy existing accommodations. (former location, photo 0006)

John McFarlin, Jr. and Daniel McDonald were good friends, McFarlin having contributed to McDonald's histories²¹. McFarlin's father John Sr. and mother passed away while the younger John and his siblings were still under age. John Jr.'s uncle, Rev. Warren Taylor, became guardian to the children and moved into the home John Sr. had constructed in 1853 in Plymouth. Rev. Taylor wrote an early history of Chief Menominee and the village from which McDonald quoted heavily in his first published history.²² John Jr. certainly must have sympathized with McDonald's cause. John Jr. would later become caretaker of the site continuing improvements after its dedication. John Jr. died in 1931; his homestead and farm buildings still exist just south of the memorial site.

Construction & Dedication

The monument and chapel construction were allowed for bidding and a local contractor, Frank Southworth of B. C. Southworth & Son, won the right to construct the two state funded elements of

²⁰ A Twentieth Century History of Marshall County, McDonald, Daniel. Pg. 53

²¹ History of Marshall County Sesquicentennial, Marshall County Historical Society. Pg. 276

²² 1881 History of Marshall County, McDonald, Daniel. Pg. 20

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the Chief Menominee Memorial Site: the chapel and monument.²³ Southworth & Son was a monument erection company, having provided many of the grave markers, including prominent stones of wealthy individuals, in Oak Hill Cemetery in Plymouth. The *Plymouth Democrat* reported on December 3rd, 1908 that the contract price for building the monument and chapel was \$1875 while the legislature had approved \$2500.²⁴ It also stated that bidders on the project were from Chicago, Indianapolis and Buffalo. The same paper reported on August 12, 1909 the 40,000 pound statue of Menominee had arrived and that B. C. Southworth was injured when a pole broke while hoisting the statue.²⁵ The *Plymouth Democrat* included this item on September 1, 1909, just days before the scheduled dedication (see enclosed historic photo by J. M. Steele, #1):

Southworth and Son finished putting up the Pottawattamie monument at Twin Lake at 8 o'clock Monday night. The derrick and other riggings were taken down Tuesday morning. J. M. Steele of this city photographed the monument Tuesday afternoon after which it was covered and will remain so until the dedication.²⁶

The dedication of the memorial site on Saturday, September 4, 1909 was attended by thousands of people according to newspaper accounts. An original program of the event (copy included) shows a line-up of dignitaries that include invocations by the president of Notre Dame and other clergy, speeches by Congressman Henry Barnhart and State Representative Daniel McDonald, and a speech by Michael Williams (listed as Indian in the program) entitled "Civilization and the Indian Race". McDonald gave a historical address recounting the tragedy of the Menominee tribe.

Until about half-way through the ceremony the statue of Chief Menominee had remained covered. In response to the "unveiling address" by Rev. Ernest Wareing, Miss Julia Qua-ka-no Po-ka-gon, granddaughter of Chief Simon Pokagon, removed the covering unveiling to public view for the first time the Chief Menominee monument. During the unveiling the Plymouth Band played softly and slowly "The Slumber Song of a Vanquished Race." It is inconclusive if this was an original piece written for the ceremony. A photograph of the dedication (enclosed historic photo #2) shows people who are assumed to be dignitaries standing next to the monument and includes people dressed in Native American attire. The woman standing on the base of the statue is assumed to be Julia Qua-ka-no Po-ka-gon. The photograph shows two large poles (one to the east and west of the statue) wrapped in striped ribbon and buntings with two enormous American flags suspended on a wire directly behind the statue. The Wythougan Chapter of the Daughters of the American

²³ Hess, Herbert, speech at memorial dedication

²⁴ *Plymouth Democrat*, December 3, 1908

²⁵ Ibid

²⁶ *Plymouth Democrat*, September 1, 1909

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Revolution were responsible for decorations and flowers at the dedication. Wythougan is Native American for "Yellow River", the prominent river in Marshall County.

Later Developments in the Park

Over the period of the next eleven years from the time of the memorial's dedication the site saw both improvements and the loss of a key component to the memorial. At the time of the dedication no trees were located on the land that was once McFarlin's farm. The *Plymouth Democrat* printed a story on June 18, 1914 with the heading "Trees for the Monument". In it John McFarlin, who is called the caretaker of the Indian monument grounds, was reported to have "set out fifteen more maple trees" bringing the total number of trees on the site to fifty, that number being the total planned "to be set out". The paper states that McFarlin said the trees would "provide ample shade for the park and does not favor planting any more as they would be too thick."²⁷ Today there are ten trees that appear to date to and within the historical planting patterns at the memorial site, having lost forty of the original 50 set out for the park. These include trees lining the road frontage and those planted across the back (north) side of the memorial site. It appears that fifteen are missing from the tree planting placement along Peach Road (two exist planted 20' on center, assumed to be the original placement) and the remainder from within the park area, north of the location of the chapel (assumed to be roughly three rows deep planted east/west across the north end). See site sketch map for additional information/location of plantings.

The same article shows both the importance of the area as a developing park for Marshall County, but also the neglect of the same (keeping in mind the *Plymouth Democrat's* origin with the McDonald family):

Every year this park is growing into a more beautiful place, and when the various kinds of trees shall become of larger size this park will be one of the most beautiful places in the county. The upkeep of the park is so small that it receives only part of the attention it should have. The grass has been cut twice this season.

About 1914 concrete posts were placed along the road frontage and around the base of the monument, likely for protection of the site and monument. The concrete posts had heavy metal chain strung between them. This may have been in an effort to keep carriages or automobiles off of the site. Concrete posts matching those on the site were also located on the John McFarlin farm until recently, indicating that McFarlin as caretaker may have had these installed. The chains were either removed/stolen several years ago. Vinyl chain was later installed, but also is missing. Due to

²⁷ *Plymouth Democrat*, June 18, 1914

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the legend of Chief Menominee being taken away in chains, the descendants of the Potawatomi removed from Marshall County lands requested that no chain be reinstalled around the Chief. To date their request has been sympathetically honored.

On September 30, 1915, only six years after the memorial dedication, the *Weekly Republican* ran a large headline "DEFACING THE LITTLE CHAPEL AT MENOMINEE". The article describes how "vandals of some sort, either thoughtless citizens of this county, or vagabonds of the tramp nature, have been badly defacing and tearing to pieces the little old Indian chapel on the site of the Menominee Indian monument."²⁸ The article describes the extent of the damage that includes part of the roof being torn off, the slab shingles being thrown around the ground, the outside beam on which the lower part of the roof rests had rotted and fallen down, and a brass plate on which an inscription was located had been drawn over in pencil and with scratches. Doors were reported left open and chinking between the logs had been knocked out. Prophetically the article states:

At this rate this little building is going to pieces, both from the ravages of time and the vandalism of people it will not be long until it will be nothing but a little heap of ruins.²⁹

Less than five years later, on June 10, 1920, the *Weekly Republican* ran this headline "Menominee Chapel Burns at Twin Lakes". The paper reported that the grass in the park caught fire from a passing train and finally reached the chapel. "No effort was made to put out the fire". The article states that while the chapel "was in a rather bad state of repair the logs were solid and made for a very hot fire which lasted a long time".³⁰ The chapel was never reconstructed. Only recently was any evidence found of the chapel's existence and of course no one has memory of the building that only lasted less than 11 years. A recent survey of the site has uncovered stones believed to be the corner foundation stones/piers of the log chapel.³¹

Unfortunately neglect and relocation became a common theme associated with the memorial site from articles citing lack of care of the chapel to unkempt grass. The *Plymouth Pilot* ran an article in 1927 suggesting the relocation of the monument³²; the argument has resurfaced even recently. An *Indianapolis Star* article from 1943 reported neglect of the site and commented that the Marshall County Commissioners at that time knew nothing of the agreement between the state and county

²⁸ *Weekly Republican*, September 30, 1915

²⁹ *Weekly Republican*, September 30, 1915

³⁰ *Weekly Republican*, June 10, 1920

³¹ Survey conducted by Mark Gidley and Kurt Garner, rededication event organizers, Wythougan Valley Preservation Council

³² *Plymouth Pilot*, September 27, 1927

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for maintenance and upkeep of the grounds. Possibly due to decline of visitors using the Vandalia Railroad (which became known as "The Panhandle" in 1917) because of the discontinuation of passenger service in 1947³³ the site was slipping from public consciousness. The Vandalia Railroad ceased operation in about 1965. Today the track bed has returned in ownership to adjoining landholders, making this section of former railroad bed under the ownership of the State of Indiana, Department of Natural Resources.

Understanding the time in which the memorial was created is important in understanding the significance of the site. The American frontier was effectively "conquered" by 1909. Native American tribes had been defeated and relegated to reservations culminating with Wounded Knee. Americans were beginning to reflect on their part in the removal of the native people from their land. The early writings of Daniel McDonald (1880) were created in an environment still seeking the defeat of Native Americans; however, nearly thirty years after McDonald wrote his first sympathetic words "Concerning the Noble Red Man", the dedication of the Chief Menominee Memorial Site would be offered as reconciliation to wrongdoing by the State of Indiana. It is understood that the Chief Menominee Monument was the first, and for a very long time only, legislative enactment by the United States or any state in the Union funding a statue to a Native American or any tribe.³⁴ It would take the United States government nearly a hundred years longer to admit by Congressional resolution wrongdoing inflicted upon the native people of America. The very decision of the State of Indiana to fund such a monument with its implicating undertones is in itself monumentous as an act of contrition.

Sculpture

Novelli & Calcagni Co.

B. C. Southworth and Son of Plymouth, the monument company winning the bid to construct the two elements to the memorial park, contracted with the firm of Novelli and Calcagni of Barre, Vermont for the creation of the sculpture of Chief Menominee.³⁵ It is unclear from any sources if Novelli and Calcagni provided the enormous base and engraving of the monument or just the statue of the Chief; in all likelihood it was both. An article in the *Plymouth Democrat* states that the monument design was drawn by Frank Southworth, of Southworth and Sons³⁶. And from a speech by Herbert Hess at the dedication Frank Southworth is praised by Hess stating "That in competition with the best of monument designers he could come out of that contest head and shoulders a winner." Again, it is unclear if Frank Southworth provided drawings *generally* of the monument (base

³³ *Plymouth Pilot*, November 26, 1947

³⁴ *Culver Citizen*, September 4, 1909

³⁵ *Plymouth Democrat* September 9, 1909

³⁶ *Plymouth Democrat* December 3, 1908

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and statue) or of just the base. Regardless, based on other work by Novelli and Calcagni, while the inspiration may have come from Southworth, clearly the character and artistic expression are trademarks of Samuel Novelli.

The *Plymouth Democrat* called “Novelli and Calcagni of Barre, Vermont, the best Italian sculptor in the East”, and stated that they had cut the Indian statue for the contractors B.C. Southworth and son.³⁷ The firm operated out of granite-rich Barre, Vermont, an area that produced granite for shipment around the east coast and into the Midwest. Italian immigration to Vermont began in 1880 and increased exponentially by 1900, many coming from the Carrara region of Italy specifically to work with Barre granite. These immigrants included three of the region’s most famous sculptors: Samuel Novelli, Elia Corti, and Joseph Calcagni.³⁸

In 1899, Samuel (Sandro) Novelli and Elia Corti collaborated together to create Barre’s best-known sculpture, a statue of Robert Burns³⁹ which has been called one of the world’s outstanding examples of full-round and bas-relief granite carving.⁴⁰ Granted that this evaluation eliminates the virtuoso marble sculptures of past ages, this statement does show the enduring favorable opinion of Novelli and Calcagni’s works. The statue was created in honor of Barre’s other large immigrant group from Scotland. Novelli carved the statue of Burns while Corti carved the bas-relief panels in the tall pedestal. Two years later the two joined together to form Novelli and Corti Co. and was the earliest Barre firm noted for fine sculpture. In 1903 Elia Corti was killed in a Socialist riot after which Novelli approached Joseph Calcagni, a key Barre figure in fine sculpture, and formed the partnership of Novelli and Calcagni Co.⁴¹

Chief Menominee Monument as Sculpture

One needs to look no further than the Samuel Novelli carving of the Robert Burns statue in Barre, Vermont to see his hand in the Chief Menominee statue at Twin Lakes. (See enclosed picture of Burns monument) While only slightly shorter in height, both statues with their pedestal bases have an imposing presence and are similarly scaled and detailed. The Menominee monument lacks bas-relief carvings, but has a similar proportion of base, middle and cap to its pedestal. The statues are more noticeably similar. Both rest on a simple square base, the Burns statue is about 9’ in height while the Chief is 7’ in height. Both Burns and Chief Menominee appear similarly posed, though mirrored. Novelli moved the Chief’s left leg slightly forward, bent at the knee, but on Burns it was

³⁷ *Plymouth Democrat* September 9, 1909

³⁸ *Times Argus*, March 2, 2009

³⁹ *Times Argus*, April 21, 2008

⁴⁰ *Franco-American News & Events*, April 22, 2008

⁴¹ *Times Argus*, April 21, 2008

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the right leg. Arm placement is also similar. Novelli placed Burns' right hand near his side and gently holding his clothing. Novelli placed Menominee's left hand also at his side, gently holding a blanket draped over the Chief's shoulders. Menominee appears slightly more rigid and dignified than the Burns statue, but likely with purpose in showing the Chief resolute and honorable. Both figures' facial composition is similar, but Burns' head is tilted slightly down. Both figures' clothing appears to drape with appropriate folds in life-like manner. The Chief has one important gesture understood to be given for the specific purpose of depicting him as the peaceful Chief. The Chief's right hand is offered outward and upward, as if to be offering his hand in friendship. See photos 0002-0004 for detail on the sculpture.

Granite sculpting has origins as early as ancient Egypt however the wide use and acceptance of granite over materials such as marble was a late 19th century onward phenomenon. The material's dense nature makes sculpting a difficult task, even more so than most marbles. Its acceptance for use in sculpture corresponds to the time frame of its popular use in funerary markers. The granite carving of Chief Menominee is beautifully executed for the period of sculpture during which it was created. As the century would mature, so would sculptors' taste into the more flowing and natural lines and the stylistic Art Deco period. For statuary of the turn of the century, the work is simplistic, but more stoic than later work of the first half of the 20th Century. Besides the quality of the sculpture, another aspect of the Chief should be noted. The Chief Menominee statue may well be the first carved stone statue of a Native American. Until this time most carvings of Native Americans were confined to commercially driven wooden cigar store Indians. Interestingly enough, the carving of Menominee is posed more in keeping with that "idea" of a Native American than the more natural form found in later work of the 20th century. It was this period of time during which the Menominee statue was carved that Native Americans were beginning to be treated almost as exposition acts, such as Buffalo Bill Cody's show. The Potawatomie Chiefs were not known for the large feathered headdress that Menominee is depicted with; this was more of a western American Indian image. The Chief Menominee monument marks in granite form the American public's idealistic Native American Indian Chief of the West, not necessarily a realistic depiction. This also is in itself significant due to the snapshot of public perception and the transition of public opinion of the Native American.

Native Americans were being depicted in other forms of art in this first part of the 20th century. Cyrus Dallin sculpted in bronze his *Appeal to the Great Spirit*, the first casting being created in 1908 and exhibited in the Paris Salon in 1909.⁴² The creation was a more sympathetic depiction of the American Indian. Another contemporary bronze sculpture to that of Menominee is the statue of

⁴² Dallin, Cyrus E. Art Museum

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Sakakawea created in 1910 and located on the North Dakota Capitol grounds.⁴³ This statue has a very natural appearance with the famed guide to Lewis and Clark having her infant son on her back. Earlier depictions of Native Americans were at times also honorary or sympathetic. Several depictions of events or famous Native Americans are found in the U.S. Capitol Building from the earliest works during the 1820s through today.⁴⁴ The 1800s depictions are a mix of savage representation and honored helper. It is clear from the spectrum of depictions that the country was struggling with how it wanted to portray the native people.

Artist confusion

Strangely enough, this idea of the depiction of Menominee being influenced by public perception is echoed by Josephine Murphy in her book on *James Novelli: James Novelli-A Forgotten Sculptor*. For the last several years the statue of Chief Menominee has been credited to James (also called John) Novelli, a talented nationally known sculptor from New York. This has occurred in countless Marshall County newspaper articles as well as Murphy's book. Murphy's citations came from the Smithsonian Institute's archives.⁴⁵ Local newspaper citations came from correspondence between the Marshall County Historical Society and James Novelli's nephew. It is believed that Novelli family research on James may have led to confusion with the firm of Samuel Novelli and Calcagni. No local historical sources can be found that indicate James Novelli carved the statue. All references to the carvers clearly indicate it was the firm of Novelli and Calcagni of Barre, Vermont who created the sculpture:

Plymouth Democrat 8/26/1909

Southworths had the monument cut at Barre, Vermont; material of Barre granite.

Plymouth Democrat 9/9/1909

Novelli and Calcagni of Barre, Vermont, the best Italian sculptor in the East, cut the Indian statue for the contractors B.C. Southworth and son.

It is highly unlikely that an accomplished statue carver, being Samuel Novelli, would have sub-commissioned the carving of the Chief Menominee statue to James Novelli. James Novelli was no relation to the elder Samuel Novelli. James Novelli was a graduate of the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Rome and while still a student won honorable mention at the 1906 International Exhibition in Paris.⁴⁶ He created many war memorials that have become landmarks in numerous cities

⁴³ Architect of the Capitol, special art series

⁴⁴ Architect of the Capitol, special art series

⁴⁵ Author's correspondence with Josephine Murphy

⁴⁶ *Novelli: A Forgotten Sculptor*, Murphy, Josephine

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throughout the United States.

In her book Murphy concludes from research at the Smithsonian and correspondence with James Novelli's family and the Marshall County Historical Society⁴⁷ that James Novelli worked under the designer Frank Southworth and collaborated "with another artist by the name of Calcagni". But it is clear that James Novelli's main commissioned work really did not begin until the late 1910's and the 1920's, more than a decade after the time Novelli and Calcagni were carving Menominee. James Novelli's main body of work also is a clear indication it was not his hand carving Menominee. In fact, in Murphy's book she states (in comparison to James Novelli's later carving of a nude Native American brave) that "he renders the figure of the Indian (Menominee) in a more archaic style, reversing his usual trend for naturalism."⁴⁸ In viewing the Chief Menominee statue with James Novelli's carving of the brave; a clearer distinction between two independent artists could not be made. The statue of the brave has tremendous attention to muscle massing over the entire body and portrayal of emotion of exhaust or deep sadness in the portrayal of the brave's rolled shoulders and lowered head.

Josephine Murphy, an authority on sculpture, makes several statements describing the Chief Menominee statue that are pertinent regardless of the confusion over the artist. Murphy describes the Chief's face and head as depicted in a naturalistic manner and that they appear to contain the typical features which were ascribed to Indians during that time: straight hair, high cheek bones, deep set eyes and tight lip jaw.⁴⁹ She goes on to say that:

it is surprising to note that no attempt was even made to produce a sense of naturalism with the body of the figure; it seems to be influenced solely by the desire to produce a vision of brute strength through its archaic frontal stance. It is possible that Novelli (in her understanding, James, but actually Samuel) was swayed by society's popular concept of what Indians were like, whereby most people perceived them as angry savages and different from themselves.⁵⁰

Again, the confusion locally and with the Smithsonian⁵¹ appears to be due to wrong conclusions made by James Novelli's family. No historical archives have been found crediting James Novelli as the sculptor. Every indication points toward Samuel Novelli as the carver.

⁴⁷ Author's correspondence with Josephine Murphy

⁴⁸ Novelli: A Forgotten Sculptor, Murphy, Josephine. Pg. 53

⁴⁹ Ibid

⁵⁰ Ibid

⁵¹ Author's correspondence with the Smithsonian

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Recent History of the Site

Interest in Trail of Death

Over the last few decades a resurgence of interest in the tragic story of Chief Menominee and his tribe has occurred, particularly due to interested parties with the Fulton County Historical Society and the Trail of Death Association, formed in 2005. The Trail of Death Association is responsible for marking the trail, down which Menominee and his people were marched, with large boulders and plaques commemorating the event in every state to Kansas. The association also has conducted five commemorative caravans following the Trail of Death to Kansas with the first in 1988 and the latest in 2008, beginning their journey at the Chief Menominee Memorial Site. The organization is now having the trail signed the entire distance to Kansas with signage nearly complete in Indiana.⁵²

Restoration Saga

Unfortunately vandalism also appears to be a common theme associated with the memorial site. At some time during the 1970's vandals broke off the statue's thumb on his outstretched hand, as well as damaging tips of other fingers. While it has been the practice for some time to flip coins into the Chief's outstretched hand for good luck, damage was likely caused by larger objects being thrown to do intentional damage.

Recognizing the need for repair, the Wythougan Valley Preservation Council of Marshall County approached the county commissioners in 2002 requesting they be permitted to make repairs to the monument. Once newspapers reported the planned work a neighbor of the memorial site contacted the organization and said that they had found the missing finger during the 1970's and had held it for restoration. This created a great deal of publicity with the Associated Press running articles in newspapers as far away as Florida. Television news reports and an article in the *Preservationist* also reported the unusual "find".⁵³ The once missing finger was reattached in the spring of 2003.

On March 22, 2005, less than two years after the repair was made, a witness told the Marshall County Sheriff's Department that two young boys vandalized the statue and were seen leaving the area on bicycles. Inspection of the statue revealed that the Chief was "thumbless again".⁵⁴ The statue remains unrepaired.

Rededication

In the same year vandals struck again, Wythougan Valley Preservation Council proposed developing

⁵² Trail of Death Association web site

⁵³ *Indiana Preservationist*, May/June 2003

⁵⁴ *South Bend Tribune*, March 24, 2005

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a centennial celebration for the dedication of the statue that occurred in 1909.⁵⁵ On September 18th, 2009 approximately 300 people gathered at the memorial site for a rededication of the monument. Only a few weeks before, the discovery of the chapel foundation stones was made. The rededication celebration involved descendents of the Potawatomie who endured the Trail of Death, speakers from Notre Dame and clergy who recited words and prayers from the original dedication, as well as reflective words for today. The fourth grade school children of Menominee Elementary, named for the Chief, sang a song entitled "Menominee", an original piece written by George Schricker, a local musician and grandson of Governor Henry Schricker who was the inspiration to George's interest in the tragedy of Menominee.⁵⁶

The memorial site remains an important park for reflection of the removal as well as a testament to the State of Indiana's, at that time, progressive desire for reconciliation and contrition at a time when the American public was just coming to terms with the injustices suffered by the Native American. The site holds significance locally due to its association with the history of Marshall County. The site holds significance for the Hoosier state due to the process of establishing the memorial and the statesman who heralded the virtue of doing so in the state legislature. The memorial holds significance nationally as being possibly the first physical evidence of a transition in our national ideals.

Section 9 ***BIBLIOGRAPHY***

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⁵⁵ Letter to the Marshall County Board of Commissioners dated May 1, 2005

⁵⁶ See enclosed program from the Rededication ceremony

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Author's correspondence with:

Robin T. Dettre, Coordinator,

Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture, Smithsonian American Art Museum

Josephine Murphy, Author: Novelli: A Forgotten Sculptor

Paul Wood, Historian/Reporter, *Times Argus*, Barre-Montpelier, Vermont

Section 10

GEOGRAPHIC DATA

Boundary Description

Beginning at the southwest corner of the site, at the intersection of the former Vandalia Railroad bed and Peach Road, a county road of Marshall County, continue a distance north along the east edge of Peach Road approximately 500' to the north property line of the site. Turn east and

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continue a line with the north property line of the site east a distance of approximately 200' to the center of the former Vandalia Railroad bed. Turn southwest and continue a line approximately 530' down the center of the former railroad bed to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is determined because the boundary lines represent the existing property lines of the Chief Menominee Memorial Site as owned by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. The boundary represents the historic property boundary of the memorial site as established in 1909 (with the exception of the partial railroad bed reverting to the adjoining owner) and all improvements made to the site.

Section 11 PHOTOGRAPHS

The following are a list of photographs taken of the Chief Menominee Memorial Site:

Site from stone pad. Photo 0001. Chief Menominee Memorial Site
Marshall County, IN

Kurt West Garner
October 10, 2009

Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
Facing north

Monument. Photo 0002. Chief Menominee Memorial Site
Marshall County, IN

Kurt West Garner
October 10, 2009

Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
Facing northeast

Statue. Photo 0003. Chief Menominee Memorial Site
Marshall County, IN

Kurt West Garner
October 10, 2009

Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
Facing west

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Statue. Photo 0004. Chief Menominee Memorial Site
Marshall County, IN
Kurt West Garner
October 10, 2009
Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
Facing northeast

Site from chapel. Photo 0005. Chief Menominee Memorial Site
Marshall County, IN
Kurt West Garner
October 10, 2009
Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
Facing south

Site from stone pad toward former station. Photo 0006. Chief Menominee Memorial Site
Marshall County, IN
Kurt West Garner
October 10, 2009
Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
Facing south

Site from Peach Road. Photo 0007. Chief Menominee Memorial Site
Marshall County, IN
Kurt West Garner
October 10, 2009
Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
Facing northeast

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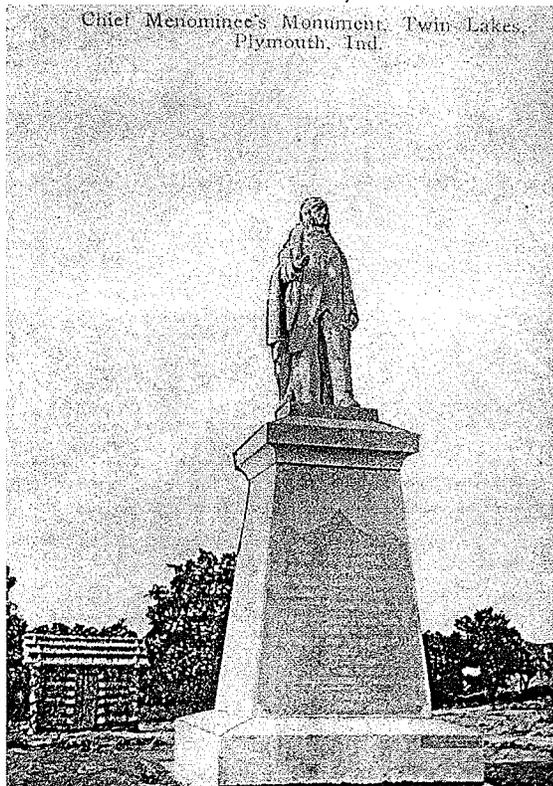
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Chief Menominee Memorial Site, Marshall County, IN

HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS

The following are two historical photographs taken of the memorial site:

1. Taken five days prior to dedication in September, 2009. Note chapel in background.



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Historic photos

Chief Menominee Memorial Site, Marshall County, IN

2. Taken at the dedication of the memorial, September 4, 1909.



3. Image of Samuel Novelli's Robert Burns carving in Barre, Vermont



UNVEILING OF
Pottawattomie Indian Monument

At Twin Lakes Station, on the Vandalia Railroad.
5 miles south-west of Plymouth.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1909
At 2 O'clock P. M.

COL. WILLIAM HOYNES, Chairman

Monument Trustees

Col. Alexander F. Fleet, Culver, Indiana
Col. William Hoynes, Notre Dame, Indiana
Charles T. Mattingly, Plymouth, Indiana

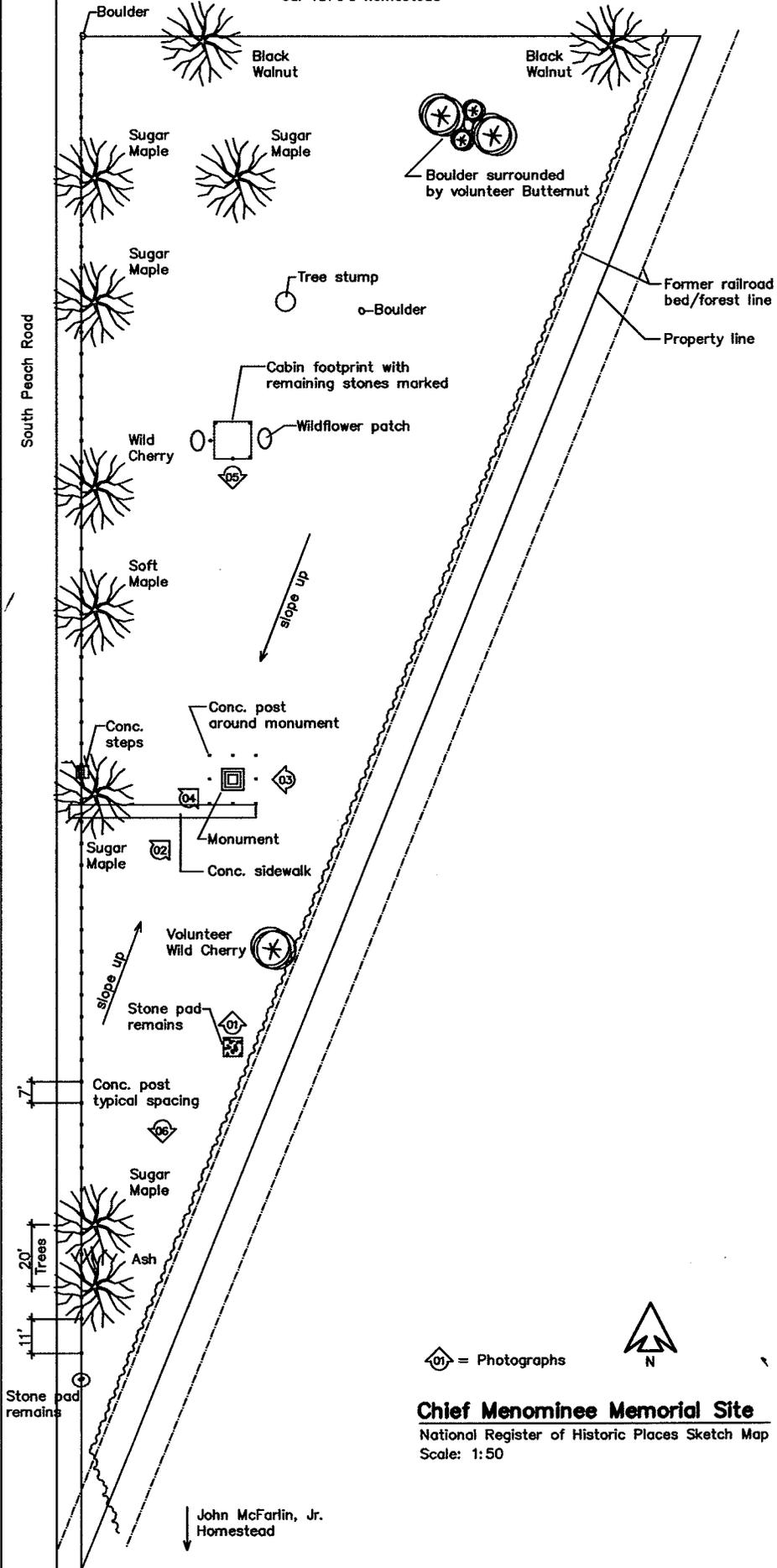
PROGRAM

1. Calling to order by the Chairman.
 2. Invocation Very Rev. Andrew Morrissey, Provincial of the Congregation of Holy Cross, or Rev. John Cavanaugh, President of the University of Notre Dame.
 3. Overture, Plymouth Band
 4. Address, Col. William Hoynes, Chairman
 5. Unveiling Address,
Rev. Ernest C. Wareing, Plymouth
 6. Response by Miss Julia Qua-ka-no Po-ka-gon, who will unveil the Monument.
During the unveiling the Band will play softly and slowly, "The Dirge of a Vanished Race."
 7. Historical Address, Daniel McDonald
 8. Music, Plymouth Band
 9. Address, Congressman Henry A. Barnhart
 10. Address, "Civilization and the Indian Race,"
. Michael Williams (Indian)
 11. Short Addresses by Visitors and Others.
 12. Music and Adjournment.
-

Agricultural tilled ground

South Peach Road

ca. 1870's homestead



01 = Photographs



Chief Menominee Memorial Site
National Register of Historic Places Sketch Map
Scale: 1:50

John McFarlin, Jr.
Homestead



Chief Menominee Memorial Site, Marshall Co., IN photo 1



Chief Menominee Memorial Site, Marshall Co., IN photo 2



Chief Menominee Memorial Site, Marshall Co., IN photo 3