



# McKinley National Memorial

Topic Guide for Chronicling America (<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>)

## Introduction

The McKinley National Memorial in Canton, Ohio, is the final resting place of William McKinley, the 25<sup>th</sup> President of the United States; his wife, Ida Saxton McKinley; and their two young daughters. The granite and marble domed structure was designed by Harold Van Buren Magonigle. It is 96 feet tall, 79 feet in diameter and features a 9.5 foot tall bronze statue of McKinley midway up the steps leading to the structure. Nine states contributed materials, with Ohio providing the concrete, brick and most of the labor. The dedication of the monument and surrounding grounds, which included a reflecting pool until 1951, was on September 30, 1907. A grand parade was held and speakers included President Theodore Roosevelt and Supreme Court Justice William R. Day. The site is currently operated by the adjacent William McKinley Presidential Library and Museum and remains a prominent landmark overlooking McKinley's hometown.

## Important Dates

- September 14, 1901: President William McKinley dies eight days after being shot by anarchist Leon Czolgosz at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York.
- September 19, 1901: McKinley is interred at the Wertz Receiving Vault in Canton's West Lawn Cemetery.
- September 26, 1901: The McKinley National Monument Association forms.
- October 10, 1901: The Association makes a public appeal to raise \$600,000 for the construction of the McKinley National Memorial.
- June 6, 1905: Construction on the memorial begins.
- November 16, 1905: The cornerstone of the memorial is laid in a ceremony attended by Ida Saxton McKinley and family.
- May 26, 1907: Ida Saxton McKinley dies.
- September 30, 1907: The memorial is dedicated.

## Suggested Search Strategies

- Try combining "McKinley" with the following terms as an "all" word search or in proximity: memorial, Canton, monument, burial, West Lawn Cemetery, Magonigle, tomb, mausoleum, dedication, ceremony, cornerstone.
- Limit your search by date to find information about specific events.
- McKinley's death and memorial were national news so be sure to check newspapers from all states.

## Sample Articles from Chronicling America

- ["The McKinley Memorial"](#) *Akron Daily Democrat* (Akron, OH), December 7, 1901, Image 1, col. 1-2.
- ["The McKinley Tomb Will Be of Granite"](#) *Barre Daily Times* (Barre, VT), May 12, 1905, Image 3, col. 4.
- ["M'Kinley Monument"](#) *New-York Tribune* (New York, NY), November 17, 1905, Image 5, col. 4.
- ["McKinley Memorial the Most Beautiful One in the World"](#) *Stark County Democrat* (Canton, OH), April 23, 1907, Image 2.
- ["A Nation's Tribute"](#) *Cameron County Press* (Emporium, PA), October 10, 1907, Image 3, col. 1-4.