

\$ 2.00



10 O'CLOCK LINE
Historical Marker

DEDICATION - 10 A.M. SEPTEMBER 29, 1957

LOCATED ALONG HIGHWAY 67
(45 MI. S. W. OF INDIANAPOLIS)

GOSPORT, INDIANA
OWEN COUNTY

PRICE
50¢

This brochure edited and sponsored by David C. Gray,
Gosport, Indiana. All proceeds from the sale of the brochure
to be used to promote and perpetuate historical markers in Owen County.



Frederic L. Hollis

The Ten O'clock Line monument is the work of the accomplished "Hoosier born" sculptor and artist, Mr. Frederic L. Hollis.

Mr. Hollis spent the better part of his life in Gosport. He now resides near Spencer. He has been the recipient of five art scholarships at different art schools and is a graduate of Indiana University and John Herron Art Institute, with two degrees. He is an art teacher, with several years experience, as well as an ordained part-time minister, and he has been producing an illustrated feature for many publications during recent years.

Four Indiana state fair firsts and two honorable mentions in art and sculpture have been awarded to Mr. Hollis. He also has exhibited in Swope Gallery, the Hoosier Salon and Herron Museum jury shows. His work includes portraits and busts of Herman B Wells, President of Indiana University and Henry F. Schricker, former Governor of Indiana.

Owen County is indeed proud to have Mr. Frederic L. Hollis and his wife as residents.

History of the 10 O'Clock Line

It was almost 150 years ago that one of history's greatest men made a treaty with four of the major Indian tribes of the Indiana territory and thus changed the boundary line of the possessions of the colonies of the new America. Gosport is the only town which lies directly on this line.

William Henry Harrison, son of Benjamin Harrison who was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, had been appointed Governor of the Indiana Territory. This was about the turn of the century and although Harrison was only 27 years of age he had already served as an officer in the army and had held the post of Secretary to the Governor of the Northwest Territory. Harrison came from an aristocratic family. His ancestors had for several generations been active in the government of Virginia.

When Harrison came to Vincennes, the Indiana territory consisted of a vast tract of land which had been carved out of the lands ceded to the nation by Virginia after the Revolution. A few settlers had moved into this area coming mainly from North Carolina and Virginia.

The four main tribes of Indians in this region were the Miamis, Delawares, Potawatomis and Eel River tribes. After many negotiations with these four tribes Harrison and the Chiefs met at Fort Wayne on September 30, 1809 and signed a treaty for a tract of land.

Chief Little Turtle of the Miami Tribe presided over this meeting. It was agreed that the northern boundary was to be surveyed on a direct line determined by the shadow cast from a spear stuck in the ground at 10 o'clock in the morning.

Thus it became traditionally known as the 10 o'clock treaty line. The line runs from a point near Seymour to a point in Illinois not far from Clinton, Indiana.

This was one of the first large purchases of land made with the Indians. It consisted of 2,600,000 acres. For this land the Indians received money, livestock and goods of all kinds which brought the cost to about three cents per acre.

Thus through the great patience and diplomacy of General Harrison, the friendship of these tribes, who held the balance of power, came at a most opportune time and possibly prevented this part of America from falling into the hands of other powerful nations that were well

aware of the vast wealth represented by the natural resources of this territory.

Soon after the negotiations were completed, the Indians moved to the north and the settlers from the southeast began in increasing numbers to take up these lands.

By 1816 the development of this area became so extensive that Indiana was admitted to the Union, the 10 o'clock line forming the northern boundary.

The freedom we have today and the prosperity we enjoy, which many of us take for granted, we owe in large measure to William Henry Harrison and the four tribes of friendly Indians.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE 10 O'CLOCK LINE MEMORIAL

Gosport Lions' Club
Financial Assistance

Gosport Fortnightly Club
Financial Assistance

Gosport Future Farmers of America
Landscaping

Robert Ingalls, Bedford
Stone for marker (from Ramona Quarry)

Errett F. Gray
Land for rest park

Malcolm Taylor, Gosport Gravel Company
(through Ralph Rogers & Co.)
Use of heavy equipment for lifting stone into position
Concrete to support base of marker

John S. Burns, A. J. Sanders & Sons Lumber Co., Whitaker
Equipment and materials for erection of stone

Jay Chandler, Jay's Auto Supply, Gosport
Material for driveway

Harry Miller, Contractor, Spencer
Transporting stone from quarry

B. G. Hoadley Quarries, Bloomington
Use of mobile air compressor

Wm. Mullenix, Spencer
Use of mobile air compressor

Don Morgan, Ellettsville
Stone tools

L. R. Gray, C. A. Wampler and H. Mallory, Gosport
Surveyed and identified location of 10 o'clock line at Gosport

David C. Gray, Gosport
Financial Assistance
Direction and planning of project