

STATUE OF LIBERTY



*Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost, to me.
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!* EMMA LAZARUS

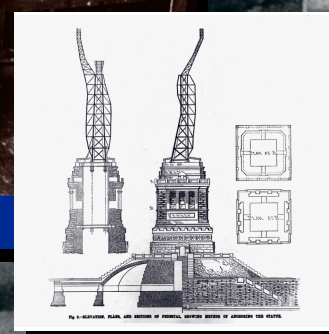
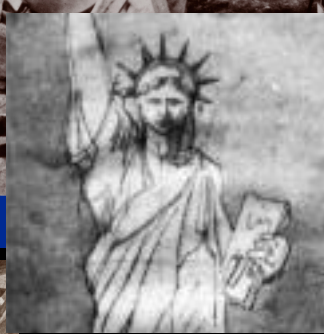


Frederick Bartholdi, sculptor ▲

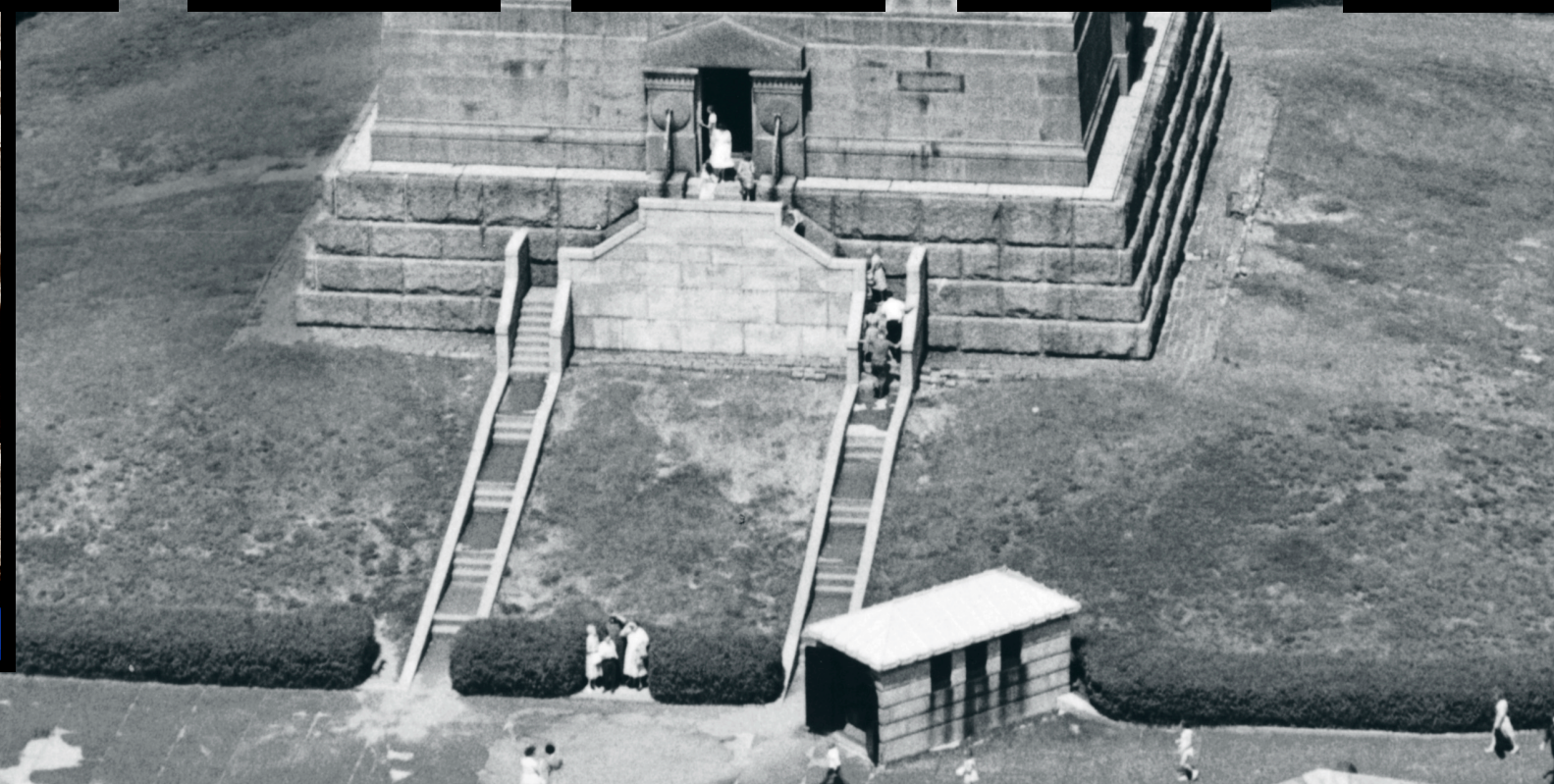


The Statue of Liberty on Liberty Island ▲

Construction in France



Interior shot of Bartholdi's studio in 1876 ▲



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- 2L.
- Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi, the sculptor chosen by the French-American Union Committee to design “Liberty Enlightening the World.” Bartholdi envisioned a statue of colossal proportions.
- 3R.
- A Bartholdi sketch showing the proposed design of the Statue and the pedestal. Approximately 305 feet tall, the monument was designed to tower over its surroundings. In 1871 Bartholdi traveled widely in the United States to locate a site for his work. He decided on a small island in New York harbor.
5.
- Interior shot of Bartholdi’s studio in 1876 showing the large crew of workers needed to carry out the many phases involved in producing the Statue. The French-American Union Committee appealed to the French for money to support the project. Money was raised quickly in France, some of it from schoolchildren.
6.
- The curtain-style architecture is visible in this photo. A strong interior truss structure acts as a supporting skeleton for the skin of the sculpture. Much in advance of its time, the technique continues to be used today in building skyscrapers.
7.
- The arm and torch of the Statue on display at the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, 1876. The giant forearm and torch dwarf the people and buildings around it. It was hoped such displays would encourage the American people to contribute money to the project.
10.
- Close-up view. The seven rays on Liberty’s crown symbolize the seven seas; its torch symbolizes a beacon of enlightenment. The tablet represents the Declaration of Independence.
12.
- Contemporary view of Liberty Island from Ellis Island showing the 11-pointed star base, the pedestal and the 150-foot-high Statue. In 1980 a joint French-American committee organized to restore the monument, which was suffering inside and out from severe structural deterioration.
13.
- Scaffolding encases the Statue during restoration. A century of wear caused by weather and pollution plus serious flaws in the original construction made restoration a major undertaking. For example, the arm and torch were not attached at the right points, and the head stood at the wrong angle on the body. The torch, found to be beyond repair, was replaced by a new one constructed to the original design, but watertight. A ventilation and air-conditioning system was installed in the interior to maintain air quality and temperature control. These improvements were meant to protect the Statue in the future. The island’s location complicated the restoration effort. Workers and materials had to be brought by boat to Liberty Island. Similarly, tons of debris had to be carried off the island.
600.
- Elevation, plans and sections of pedestal showing anchoring of the Statue.
602.
- Statue under construction in France, 1884–1885.
604.
- The torch under reconstruction, 1984.
846.
- Scaffolding outside Bartholdi’s Paris warehouse.

