



# Notes



## INTRODUCTION

1. “Death of a Great Artist,” *Washington Post*, 20 February 1880.
2. *Congressional Record* (26 July 1951) vol. 97, pt. 14: A4712.

## THE ENGINEER AND THE ARTIST

1. Montgomery C. Meigs, *Capitol Builder: The Shorthand Journals of Montgomery C. Meigs, 1853–1859, 1861*, edited by Wendy Wolff (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 2001), 748.
2. David W. Miller, *Second Only to Grant: Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs: A Biography* (Shippensburg, PA: White Mane Books, 2000), 5.
3. Meigs, *Capitol Builder*, 349.
4. Miller, *Second Only to Grant*, 42.
5. *Ibid.*, 30.
6. *Ibid.*, 42.
7. Meigs, *Capitol Builder*, 179.
8. *Ibid.*, 219–20.
9. Gordon S. Wood, *Empire of Liberty: A History of the Early Republic, 1789–1815* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009), 553.
10. Meigs, *Capitol Builder*, 106.
11. *Ibid.*, 180.
12. *Ibid.*
13. *Ibid.*
14. *Ibid.*, 209.
15. *Ibid.*, 222.
16. *Ibid.*
17. *Ibid.*, 220.
18. *Ibid.*, 223.
19. *Ibid.*, 231.
20. *Ibid.*, 232.
21. *Ibid.*
22. *Ibid.*, 234.
23. *Ibid.*, 235.
24. *Ibid.*, 258.
25. *Ibid.*, 258, 446.
26. Barbara A. Wolanin, *Constantino Brumidi: Artist of the Capitol* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1998), 64.
27. *Ibid.*
28. Charles E. Fairman, *Art and Artists of the Capitol of the United States of America* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1927), 161.
29. Wolanin, *Constantino Brumidi*, 70–71.
30. Meigs, *Capitol Builder*, 490.
31. Barbara A. Wolanin, “Meigs the Art Patron,” in *Montgomery C. Meigs and the Building of the Nation’s Capital*, edited by William C. Dickinson, Dean A. Herrin, and Donald R. Kennon (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2001), 153.
32. Wolanin, *Constantino Brumidi*, 52.
33. Meigs, *Capitol Builder*, 497.
34. *Ibid.*, 528.
35. *Ibid.*
36. “The Decoration of the Capitol,” *New-York Daily Tribune*, 17 May 1858; Wolanin, “Meigs the Art Patron,” in *Building of the Nation’s Capital*, 162.
37. Wolanin, “Meigs the Art Patron,” in *Building of the Nation’s Capital*, 162.
38. *Ibid.*, 163.
39. *Congressional Globe* (16 June 1860) 36th Cong., 1st sess.: 3045.
40. “The New Representatives’ Hall,” *Daily National Intelligencer*, 7 December 1857.

41. Wolanin, *Constantino Brumidi*, 45.
42. *Ibid.*, 91.
43. Meigs, *Capitol Builder*, 707.
44. *Ibid.*, 774.
45. William C. Dickinson, "Montgomery C. Meigs, the New Age Public Manager: An Interpretive Essay," in *Montgomery C. Meigs and the Building of the Nation's Capital*, edited by William C. Dickinson, Dean A. Herrin, and Donald R. Kennon (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2001), 168.
46. Wolanin, "Meigs the Art Patron," in *Building of the Nation's Capital*, 159.
47. *Ibid.*, 160.
48. *Ibid.*, 163.
49. Meigs, *Capitol Builder*, 511.
50. Wolanin, "Meigs the Art Patron," in *Building of the Nation's Capital*, 165.

#### THE UNLIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF BRUMIDI'S MOTMOT

1. George Brown Goode, ed., *The Smithsonian Institution, 1846–1896. The History of Its First Half Century* (Washington, D.C.: n.p., 1897), 19–20.
2. E.F. Rivinus and E.M. Youssef, *Spencer Baird of the Smithsonian* (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1992), 31.
3. E.F. Rivinus, "Spencer Fullerton Baird: The Collector of Collectors," *American Philatelist* 103, no. 11 (1989): 1062.
4. Richard G. Beidleman, *California's Frontier Naturalists* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2006), 234.
5. Rivinus and Youssef, *Spencer Baird of the Smithsonian*, 63.
6. *Congressional Globe* (21 February 1861) 36th Cong., 2d sess.: 1088.
7. Ann Shelby Blum, *Picturing Nature: American Nineteenth-Century Zoological Illustration* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1993), 182.
8. DeB. Randolph Keim, *Keim's Illustrated Hand-Book. Washington and Its Environs: A Descriptive and Historical Hand-Book to the Capital of the United States of America* (Washington, D.C.: DeB. Randolph Keim, 1874), 52.
9. Montgomery C. Meigs, *Capitol Builder: The Shorthand Journals of Montgomery C. Meigs, 1853–1859, 1861*, edited by Wendy Wolff (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 2001), 106.
10. "The Decoration of the Capitol," *New-York Daily Tribune*, 17 May 1858.
11. *Congressional Record* (24 February 1880) vol. 10, pt. 2: 1075.

#### UNCOVERING THE HISTORIC ROOTS OF BRUMIDI'S DECORATIONS

1. Christiana Cunningham-Adams is an independent fine art paintings conservator working on the Brumidi Corridors restoration project under the auspices of the Architect of the Capitol.

#### THE "MOST PRACTICABLE" ROUTE

1. See Appendix B for the geographic locations of the scenes depicted in Brumidi's landscape medallions. As head painter, Brumidi is credited with the landscapes. He was responsible for the design of the murals in the Brumidi Corridors, and evidence suggests that he, rather than one of his assistant artists, painted the landscapes. Brumidi saved a number of preliminary oil studies of his work at the Capitol, including an oval landscape similar in style and shape to the Senate's medallions.
2. *Congressional Globe* (6 January 1859) 35th Cong., 2d sess.: 239.
3. *Ibid.*, 240. At the time of Senator Harlan's speech on January 6, 1859, only 8 of the 12 volumes of the *Pacific Railroad Report* had been printed.
4. Alfred Frankenstein, "The Great Trans-Mississippi Railroad Survey," *Art in America* 64, no. 1 (January–February 1976): 56.
5. Montgomery C. Meigs, *Capitol Builder: The Shorthand Journals of Montgomery C. Meigs, 1853–1859, 1861*, edited by Wendy Wolff (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 2001), 443.
6. *Congressional Globe* (3 March 1853) 32nd Cong., 2d sess.: 1084.
7. David L. Nicandri, "The Romantic Western Narratives of the Artist John Mix Stanley," *Journal of American Culture* 9, no. 2 (summer 1986): 48.
8. U.S. House, *Reports of Explorations and Surveys, to Ascertain the Most Practicable and Economical Route for a Railroad from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean*, vol. 12, 36th Cong., 1st sess., H. Exec. Doc. 56: 59.
9. Thomas S. Donaho, *Scenes and Incidents of Stanley's Western Wilds* (Washington, D.C.: Evening Star, 1854?), 8.
10. Robert Taft, "The Pictorial Record of the Old West: John M. Stanley and the Pacific Railroad Reports," *Kansas Historical Quarterly* 20, no. 1 (February 1952): 13.
11. U.S. Senate, *Reports of Explorations and Surveys, to Ascertain the Most Practicable and Economical Route for a Railroad from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean*, vol. 2, 33rd Cong., 2d sess., S. Exec. Doc. 78: 75.
12. *Ibid.*

13. McDermott, Paul D., Ronald E. Grim, and Philip Mobley, *Eye of the Explorer: Views of the Northern Pacific Railroad Survey, 1853–54* (Missoula, Montana: Mountain Press Publishing, 2010), 3.
14. “Brumidi Paintings Found in Washington after a Search of Forty Years,” *Washington, D.C. Star Sunday Magazine*, 2 November 1919, 6.

#### A COLLECTION OF BRUMIDI SKETCHES

1. Several publications discuss Meigs and his influence on the arts, including Lillian B. Miller, *Patrons and Patriotism: The Encouragement of the Fine Arts in the United States, 1790–1860* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1966); Russell F. Weigley, “Captain Meigs and the Artists of the Capitol: Federal Patronage of Art in the 1850’s,” *Records of the Columbia Historical Society* 69–70 (1971): 285–305; Russell F. Weigley, *Quartermaster General of the Union Army: A Biography of M.C. Meigs* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1959); Barbara A. Wolanin, *Constantino Brumidi: Artist of the Capitol* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1998); and Barbara A. Wolanin, “Meigs the Art Patron,” in *Montgomery C. Meigs and the Building of the Nation’s Capital*, edited by William C. Dickinson, Dean A. Herrin, and Donald R. Kennon (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2001), 133–65.
2. Montgomery C. Meigs to J. Durand, editor of *The Crayon*, October 11, 1856, Capitol Extension and New Dome Letterbooks, Records of the Architect of the Capitol.
3. Myrtle Cheney Murdock, *Constantino Brumidi: Michelangelo of the United States Capitol* (Washington, D.C.: Monumental, 1950), 6.
4. Wolanin, *Constantino Brumidi*, 53–59.
5. *Ibid.*, 54.
6. Montgomery C. Meigs, *Capitol Builder: The Shorthand Journals of Montgomery C. Meigs, 1853–1859, 1861*, edited by Wendy Wolff (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 2001), 209.
7. Wolanin, *Constantino Brumidi*, 105–9.
8. Letter from artist Felix O.C. Darley sent by J. Durand to Montgomery C. Meigs, November 17, 1856, Architect of the Capitol, Curator’s Office.
9. Francis V. O’Connor, “Constantino Brumidi as Decorator and History Painter: An Iconographic Analysis of Two Rooms in the United States Capitol,” in *American Pantheon: Sculptural and Artistic Decoration of the United States Capitol*, edited by Donald R. Kennon and Thomas P. Somma (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2004), 204–19.

10. Wolanin, *Constantino Brumidi*, 25–29.
11. *Congressional Record* (24 February 1880) vol. 10, pt. 2: 1075.
12. Meigs, *Capitol Builder*, 341.
13. Wolanin, *Constantino Brumidi*, 111–16.
14. *Ibid.*, 224–29.
15. *Ibid.*, 172; and “Brumidi Paintings Found in Washington after a Search of Forty Years,” *Washington, D.C. Star Sunday Magazine*, 2 November 1919, 6.
16. Murdock, *Michelangelo of the United States Capitol*, 93.
17. *Ibid.*
18. Stephen Lake, e-mail message to author, October 4, 2010.
19. “Brumidi’s Life Work,” *Washington Post*, 11 April 1879.
20. *Ibid.*
21. “Death of a Great Artist,” *Washington Post*, 20 February 1880.
22. “Brumidi’s Life Work,” *Washington Post*, 11 April 1879.

#### CONTINUING CONSERVATION OF BRUMIDI’S MURALS

1. The conservation program at the Capitol began with a comprehensive survey of the murals. Bernard Rabin and Constance S. Silver, “Conservation of Mural Paintings in the Capitol Building: Report on a Preliminary Study Carried out on January 21–22, 1981,” March 17, 1981, Records of the Architect of the Capitol.
2. *Constantino Brumidi: Artist of the Capitol* was prepared under the direction of the Architect of the Capitol for Congress. Barbara A. Wolanin, *Constantino Brumidi: Artist of the Capitol* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1998).
3. Wolanin, *Constantino Brumidi*, 54–59.
4. Bernard Rabin and Constance S. Silver, Rabin and Krueger Paintings, “U.S. Capitol Building Room H–144 Conservation of Mural Paintings,” December 12, 1988; Arthur Page, Page Conservation, Inc., “Conservation of H–144 Walls,” February 28, 2005, Records of the Architect of the Capitol.
5. Quoted in “The Decoration of the Capitol,” *New-York Daily Tribune*, 17 May 1858. See also Wolanin, *Constantino Brumidi*, 69. What Brumidi knew as the Baths of Titus was actually Emperor Nero’s Golden Palace buried beneath the later baths.
6. Wolanin, *Constantino Brumidi*, 68–69.
7. Barbara Ramsay, ARTEX Fine Arts Services, “Preliminary Condition Assessment of the Brumidi Murals, U.S. Capitol, Senate Appropriations Committee Hearing Room,” November 3, 2003, Records of the Architect of the Capitol.

8. Barbara Ramsay, ARTEX Fine Arts Services, Conservation treatment reports for Senate Appropriations Committee Hearing Room, S-127, March 2004; February 2005; December 6, 2010; and March 31, 2012, Records of the Architect of the Capitol.
9. In 1959, five portraits of notable senators were added to fill the ovals on the Senate Reception Room walls: *John C. Calhoun* by Arthur E. Schmalz Conrad; *Henry Clay* by Allyn Cox; *Daniel Webster* by Adrian S. Lamb; *Robert A. Taft* by Deane Keller; and *Robert M. La Follette* by Robert Chester La Follette. Three of the lunettes' rondels were filled in the 21st century: *Arthur H. Vandenberg* by Michael Shane Neal, 2004; *Robert F. Wagner* by Steven Polson, 2004; and *The Connecticut Compromise* by Bradley Stevens, 2006.
10. Constance S. Silver, Preservar, Inc., "U.S. Capitol Building, Senate Reception Room: Report on the Ongoing Treatment of the Art and Finishes," May 12, 1995; and "The Conservation Treatment of Room S-213, The Senate Reception Room, U.S. Capitol Building," March 1997, Records of the Architect of the Capitol.
11. William A. Lewin and Davida Kovner, William A. Lewin Conservator LLC, "Analysis Report: Gilded Wall Surfaces in the U.S. Senate Reception Room, S-213," May 23, 2011; "Conservation Research Report," September 30, 2011; and "Phase II Pilot Conservation Treatment Report: Senate Reception Room S-213," November 30, 2011, Records of the Architect of the Capitol.
12. Laurie A. Timm, "Senate Reception Room Lunettes S-213: Plaster Consolidation and Overpaint Removal/Adjustment," April 28, 2011, Records of the Architect of the Capitol.
13. Montgomery C. Meigs, *Capitol Builder: The Shorthand Journals of Montgomery C. Meigs, 1853-1859, 1861*, edited by Wendy Wolff (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 2001), 106; Giovanni Volpato and Giovanni Ottaviani, *Loggie di Raffaele nel Vaticano* (Rome: n.p., 1772-77).
14. Will Yandik, "The Birds of the Brumidi Corridors," *The Capitol Dome*, 40, no. 3 (summer 2003): 3-5; Jamie Whitacre, "The Fruits and Flowers of the Brumidi Corridors," *The Capitol Dome*, 44, no. 2 (spring 2007): 9-14.
15. Arthur Page, Page Conservation, Inc., "2002 Preliminary Study: Condition Assessment and Recommended Treatment for Untreated Sections of the Senate Brumidi Corridors of the U.S. Capitol," November 5, 2002; Christiana Cunningham-Adams, Cunningham-Adams Conservation, "Conservation Treatment and Research Report: Investigation, Testing, and Analysis for Completion of the Brumidi Corridors Restoration," November 15, 2010, Records of the Architect of the Capitol.
16. Christiana Cunningham-Adams and George Adams, Cunningham-Adams Fine Arts Painting Conservation, "Brumidi Corridors Restoration Plan," January 4, 1994; and additional Brumidi Corridors conservation treatment reports by Cunningham-Adams, "Phase I," November 1, 1997; "Phase II," April 10, 1998; "Phase III," March 8, 1999; "Phase IV," December 14, 2001; "Phase V," August 27, 2001; "Phase VI," July 14, 2003; "Phase VII," November 24, 2003; "Phase VIII," January 13, 2005; "Phase IX," May 31, 2007; "Phase X," May 30, 2008; and "Phase XI," November 30, 2009, Records of the Architect of the Capitol.
17. Christiana Cunningham-Adams, Cunningham-Adams Fine Arts Painting Conservation, "U.S. Senate North Entrance Murals, Brumidi Corridors Restoration Phase XI," November 30, 2009, Records of the Architect of the Capitol.
18. As president pro tempore and chairman of the Appropriations Committee, Senator Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii was instrumental in the effort to remove the temporary wall and to reintegrate the space with the corridor system. Regrettably, Senator Inouye died before the wall was removed and the conservation of the Zodiac Corridor completed.
19. Christiana Cunningham-Adams, Cunningham-Adams Conservation, "Zodiac Corridor Restoration, vol. 1: Ceiling Decoration, vol. 2: Wall Paintings," June 20, 2013, Records of the Architect of the Capitol.
20. Christiana Cunningham-Adams, Cunningham-Adams Conservation, "Conservation Treatment Report: Trophy Room Painted Ceiling and Four Lunettes in U.S. Capitol," October 3, 2011; and "Restoration Treatment Report: Trophy Rooms Walls and Refectory Area Walls," January 2103, Records of the Architect of the Capitol.
21. *An Act to award posthumously a Congressional gold medal to Constantino Brumidi*, Public Law 110-259, 122 Stat. 2431 (2008): 2-3.

