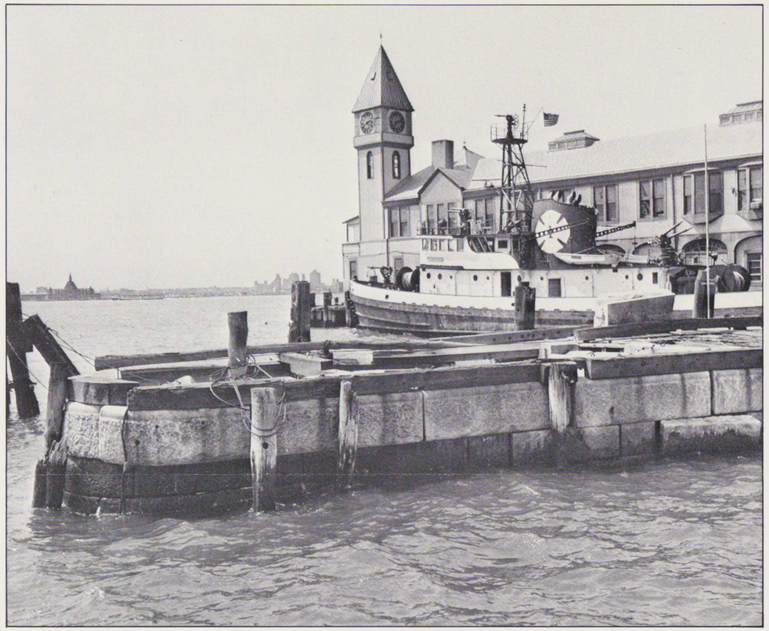

Historic site for memorial — Pier A, breakwater extension — (section D), Battery Park, New York.

A MAGNIFICENT SITE APPROVED

Section D (9′ x 28′) of the historic granite breakwater (about thirty feet off the Port of New York's Battery Park) is the Memorial site. The breakwater is a part of the landmark designated Pier A area, and it is **now committed** for our memorial. The City of New York, Commissioner of Ports and Trades signed a memorandum of understanding, committing Section D for the Memorial.

The breakwater actually adjoins Pier A to the south. It was originally part of a protective shelter for thousands of immigrants who were transported to Manhattan by small vessels after their processing on Ellis Island. Those late nineteenth and early twentieth century immigrants first set foot on Manhattan safely, thanks in part to the granite breakwater that will now be the site of the American Merchant Mariners' Memorial.

When you finally stand on the Battery Park esplanade, and look across the thirty feet of water, you will see your Memorial against a background of the Upper Bay, the Statute of Liberty and Ellis Island. We predict that you will share our enthusiasm for this wonderful setting for the Memorial. How many of you Merchant Mariners actually started or concluded a World War II voyage in those same waters?

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

We need something less than $200,000 to pursue the project. The Memorial Corporation is obligated to restore its section of the N.Y.C. owned granite breakwater, install protective fendering and piling clusters, fund a $50,000 endowment for future maintenance and repair, provide liability indemnification insurance and fund the administrative resources to handle all of the above as well as inevitable and mounting other details. Also, we need your support so that we can keep you informed of our progress by newsletters such as this.

Can you help us close the gap in funding? Your contribution will be tax deductible! Our mailing address is:

American Merchant
Mariners' Memorial, Inc.
1 World Trade Center — Suite 2611
New York, N.Y. 10048

Checks should be made payable to:

American Merchant Mariners' Memorial, Inc.

A WORLD WAR II SHIP CAN MAKE A FINAL CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICA

Congresswoman Helen D. Bentley of Maryland and Congressman Walter B. Jones introduced Bill HR 668 to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to donate a surviving WW II merchant ship, destined for scrapping, to not less than two, nor more than three non-profit organizations.

The mission of such organizations must be to memorialize American Merchant Mariners. Each such organization must have already raised at least $100,000 of non-governmental funds. We qualify! Approximately 30 of the government's remaining WW II ships have already been donated to various sea coast states and then sunk as fishing reefs for the enjoyment of skin divers and sports fisherman. A few years back, this was brought to Congresswoman Bentley's attention and the question asked: "why couldn't the scrap proceeds of at least one of these surviving WW II ships be donated to help memoralize the gallant mariners who lost their lives on the 700 WW II sister ships which did not survive?" Congresswoman Bentley responded that she agreed, and would help make it happen. She has been as good as her word! At this time, HR 668 is moving towards a vote in the Congress. If you find out that this Bill has not yet been approved, write to your Senators and Congressmen...**and Seek their approving vote!**

BROAD FINANCIAL SUPPORT HAS BEEN FORTHCOMING

To date, about $500,000 has been contributed to the Memorial. The original seed money was donated by the United Seamen's Service. Without U.S.S., we couldn't have even commenced our voyage.

Then, organized labor joined in, MEBA #1; MEBA #2; AFL-CIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE; NATIONAL MARITIME UNION; AND SEAFARERS INTERNATIONAL UNION all have contributed and helped.

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Management has also joined up with AMERICAN PRESIDENT LINES; SEALAND; LYKES; O.M.I.; EXXON; TEXACO; MOBIL CORP; GIBBS BROS. FOUNDATION; MAERSK LINES; APEX MARINE CORP. (who underwrote the first AMMM brochure).

The SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE; PROPELLER CLUB OF PORT OF N.Y.; WOMEN'S PROPELLER CLUB; MARINE SOCIETY OF N.Y.; MARITIME ASSOC. OF N.Y. & N.J.; AIMS; ROBERT L. HAGUE POST OF THE AMERICAN LEGION; BOSTON MARINE SOCIETY; MARITIME DAY COMMITTEE; AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF MERCHANT SHIPPING; MANUFACTURERS HANOVER TRUST CO. have all signed on.

AMERICA'S WORLD WAR II VETERAN MARINERS RESPOND WITH OPEN HEARTS AND CHECK BOOKS

Recognizing that the Memorial Corporation is a non-profit organization with a public interest and related purpose, the U.S. Coast Guard most helpfully provided the names of over 80,000 WW II merchant mariner applicants for the newly authorized veterans discharge. Late in 1989, we sent a mailing to that list. That mailing has produced donations of nearly $178,000 from 2127 respondents to date. Those who were able to contribute $100 or more have gained charter membership or Plank Owner status and a beautiful engraved Certificate with their name, and commemorating as many as four of their ships sailed upon during the WW II. Also listed is their highest shipboard capacity.

A reproduction of the Plank Owners Certificate is shown on the contribution form...IT IS NOT TOO LATE! If you qualify for this document, which will be engraved and mailed by the U.S. Naval Institute in Annapolis, **either bring your donation up to or beyond the $100 level, or make such a new donation.** Your Certificate will be sent shortly thereafter. **If you increase a prior donation, please provide the date and amount of that earlier gift with the new information.**

Plank Owners Certificate #1 went to Captain Warren G. Leback, Maritime Administrator, and a master mariner, who has devoted a huge amount of his personal time to the cause of our Memorial.

RADM. King accepts contribution on behalf of Port of N.Y., Maritime Day 1990.

L. to R.: President of American Merchant Mariners' Memorial, RADM. T. A. King (Ret.); Lillian Liburdi, Director, Port Authority, N.Y., N.J.; Patricia Zedalis, Acting Commissioner, NYC Dept. of Ports & Trade; Robert McKeon, North Atlantic Director, MARAD.

Fred Schamann, VP Atlantic Division, MEBA #1 and RADM. King in front of breakwater at Pier A.

Chairman Lane Kirkland, President AFL-CIO views Marisol's montage at fund raiser for Memorial.

Capt. Warren G. Leback, U.S. Maritime Administrator, at memorial fund raiser —clay maquette of Marisol's design in background.

Members of American Merchant Mariners' Memorial Executive Committee.

L. to R.: Rev. James R. Whittemore, Capt. Warren G. Leback. Joan Samsen, RADM. T. King, Charles Dana Gibson.