

**National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior**



**Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial**

## Elmer H. Daniels and the Sculptured Panels



Daniels at work on the Washington Panel.

Elmer H. Daniels took an early interest in the Memorial Building project and actually began preparing sketches even before he was hired. He also prepared a clay model of a proposed building that included nine panels depicting Lincoln's life from birth to death with a statue of Lincoln as a boy placed in front of the building. Though his ideas were not completely adopted in the final design, his obvious interest in, and enthusiasm for, the project helped him to win the contract to carve the existing five sculptured panels. In a letter to Charles DeTurk, Director of the State Parks, he said, "I may get a bigger job some day, but I doubt if I will ever have a more significant one . . ."