National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial



Elmer H. Daniels and the Abraham Lincoln Bust



Daniels with his bust of the beardless Lincoln.

Done on his own time and at his own expense, the bust helped Daniels to get the job of working on the sculptured panels. For a time it was on display at the Indianapolis City Library but in 1942 it was purchased by the Indiana Lincoln Union so that it might be displayed in the Abraham Lincoln Hall. For a short time it did occupy an alcove behind the podium at the front of the Hall but was later removed because it did not look right there. The bust was taken back to Indianapolis and kept in storage at the Indiana State Library until 1958 when it was brought back to the park and placed on display in the foyer of the Abraham Lincoln Hall.