

## NEW CORNISH RELIEF PLANNED FOR LIBRARY

The newly renovated Mineral Point Public Library has been selected to be the repository of a “Cornish Memorial” bas relief, by local artist Bruce Howdle. The Southwest Wisconsin Cornish Society commissioned Howdle to create a lasting memorial to depict the Cornish Heritage that influenced Mineral Point and other areas throughout the Lead Region of Southwest Wisconsin and northern Illinois.

Howdle’s relief is created in three sections, and will hang in the top floor of the newly renovated library. The top section of the bas relief brings to life the Cornish spirit of life in his “Choughs”, a native bird of Cornwall with vibrant legs and beaks, along with the majestic fold of their wings in flight.



In the second section, Howdle’s shows his mastery of the earthen clay as he models his childhood memories of how the miner/farmer broke the sod by the sweat of his brow and the thrust of the team of horses. A faithful dog walking each furrow completes the vineyard.



In the third section of the relief, Howdle captures the miner’s pick and gad digging the ore from the mine, and the miner lifting by hand the rocks he needed to load that were too heavy to shovel into the steel wheeled wheelbarrow.

The landscape, so typical of the area, and so seldom noticed on a daily basis, is expertly captured that it transports one back to an earlier time in this place of our “New Cornwall”. A place without crashing waves and rocky shores, but a homeland of new beginning for those who dared to dream to make a new and better life here in Southwest Wisconsin. The Cornish proclaim, “Kernow bys Vykken”, which means “Cornwall Forever”.



The Southwest Wisconsin Cornish Society celebrates its 20th Annual Cornish Festival on September 28th through September 30th in Mineral Point.