

Collector's Journal

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2013 Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial Quarter - Ohio

Seventeenth in the America the Beautiful Quarters Collection

Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial in Ohio is featured on the second of five America the Beautiful Quarters issued in 2013. It is also the seventeenth coin overall. Each coin in the series is struck for circulation at both the Philadelphia and Denver Mints; they are identified by a small "P" (Philadelphia) or "D" (Denver) mint mark under "In God We Trust."

The America the Beautiful Quarters are issued at the rate of five per year, and each coin is a one-time-only issue with a limited edition of about 10 weeks. The coins honor National Parks or other national sites in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the five overseas U.S. territories. The order of issue is the order in which the sites received federal recognition.

The America the Beautiful series followed the highly successful State Quarters from 1999 to 2009. It started in 2010 with the coin for Hot Springs National Park in Arkansas and will end with the coin for Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site in Alabama in 2021.

Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial was established to honor Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry for leading the United States navy to a famous War of 1812 victory over the British in the Battle of Lake Erie on September 10, 1813. The memorial is located on South Bass Island, which is one of the Lake Erie Islands off the coast of Ohio. The island, which is about three miles offshore in Lake Erie, is accessible only by boat or airplane.

Perry's victory in the battle was a key moment in the War of 1812, because it allowed the Americans to control Lake Erie and its access to Detroit to the west and Buffalo to the east. Perry's ship flew a legendary flag bearing the slogan, "Dont give up the ship."



The memorial was completed in 1915 and became a national site in 1919. The centerpiece is a column that is 352 feet high and is the tallest Doric column in the world. It is topped by an observation deck that offers a spectacular view of Lake Erie and lake's coast as far away as Michigan and Canada. In addition to honoring the battle, the memorial also celebrates the lasting peace between the United States, Canada, and Britain since the War of 1812.

The design of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial Quarter features both the memorial column in the background and a statue of Commodore Perry in the foreground. The statue is located at the memorial site.

The image on the coin was one of several proposed by the U.S. Mint. All the designs included the memorial column. Among the other designs was one showing only the memorial column, one that included ships from the Battle of Lake Erie, and that that featured the column's observation deck and Perry's "Dont give up the ship" flag.

The Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial Quarter was released by the U.S. Mint in April, 2013.

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