

Student Worksheet 4: Pennsylvania Railroad War Memorial

"A bronze sculpture in the concourse, commissioned from renowned sculptor Walker Hancock, graces the station's interior. Titled *Angel of Resurrection*, or sometimes, *Pennsylvania Railroad War Memorial*, it depicts an angel lifting up a fallen soldier. The sculpture honors the 1,307 Pennsylvania Railroad employees who had died in military service in World War II. PRR had 54,035 employees in military service during WWII. Five-star Army General Omar Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, spoke at the August 10, 1952 dedication ceremony. Unveiling the statue was Army Sergeant Robert E. Laws, a sheet metal worker in PRR's Altoona Shops, who had won the Congressional Medal of Honor during hand-to-hand combat in the Philippines in 1945. The 36-1/2-foot-high figure, with the 1,307 names engraved on its base, remains the most distinctive feature of the concourse." [Taken from the 30th Street Station, Beyond the Marker Page, ExplorePAhistory.com]





1. What are the figures featured in this sculpture?
2. Where is the monument located?
3. What action is being played out by these figures?
4. What is the situation/setting for this action?
5. What message do you think the sculptor and the PRR intended?
6. What message do you take from this sculpture?
7. In what ways are the two messages alike? How do they differ? Why?