

March 14, 1941

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Trustees of the National Gallery of Art have caused to be erected in the Constitution Avenue lobby of the Gallery a memorial tablet to the late Andrew W. Mellon. Set in the marble panel of the wall is a circular plaque containing a profile portrait in bas-relief of Mr. Mellon by the distinguished sculptor, Jo Davidson. Above and below the plaque is the following inscription:

Andrew William Mellon

1855-1937

He gave the Building, with his  
Collection, for the founding of  
this National Gallery of Art

Following the inscription is a quotation from the speech of Pericles at Athens delivered during the Peloponnesian War:

"For the whole earth is the sepulchre of famous men; and their story is not graven only on stone over their native earth, but lives on far away, without visible symbol, woven into the stuff of other men's lives."

The Trustees also caused to be carved in another panel in the Constitution Avenue lobby of the Gallery a tablet with the names of the "Principal Benefactors of the National Gallery of Art". The names which have been placed in this tablet are:

Andrew William Mellon  
Samuel Henry Kress