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'Human Fly' Is Fined \$29 For Climbing Cape Tower

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PROVINCETOWN, Mass. (UPI) — Jonathan J. Thomas, 20, of Provincetown, doing it the hard way, paid out \$29 Thursday for his trip up the famed, 252-foot Pilgrim Monument here.

It only costs 50 cents to climb the inside ramps to the top of the famed Cape Cod landmark, however.

But Thomas, something of a human fly, did that the hard way, too.

He was rescued from the sheer granite sides of the monument early Thursday, about 225 feet above the ground.

2 Hour Climb

He told police he started up the outside of the monument after midnight and climbed for two hours before he became exhausted.

He was clinging to a half-inch

copper lightning arrester which runs from the top of the tower to the ground when his cries for help were heard by a passing taxi driver who called police.

Police called firefighters and Thomas was rescued and taken down the winding ramps inside the tower.

Cut Window Bars

Firefighters cut the center bar from a window in the granite tower and Thomas let himself down about three feet to the window and was hauled in to safety.

He pleaded guilty to charges of trespassing, because the tower is closed to tourists after 7 p.m., and disturbing the peace. A district court judge fined him \$20 on the first charge and \$9 on the second.

Asked why Thomas did it, one Provincetown policeman, said, "Damned if I know."



Provincetown, Massachusetts from Pilgrim Tower

- Yankee Magazine - June 1959 -

This shows our new Town Wharf - Higgins Wharf, left, Sklaroff's on right