

A Social History of the State of Missouri

Painted by Thomas Hart Benton



Missouri
Department of
Natural Resources

The Missouri State Capitol House of Representatives Lounge

Commissioned in 1935



Completed December 1936

The North Wall

In the beginning



The East Wall

Missouri Grows Up



The South Wall

The Two Cities



Above the doors

A few points from Missouri folklore.

Huck Finn and Jim



Frank and Jessie James



Frankie and Johnny



Beside the doors

The smaller framed off pictures to each side of the doors have their own meanings relating to Missouri history.

Persecution



This picture represents the first slaves in Missouri, which were brought by the French to work the lead mines

This illustrates the expulsion of the Mormons after an order was signed by Gov. Boggs to have them removed, by force if needed.

These were dark times in the history of Missouri, but they were still part of our history, and Benton felt it should be portrayed in the mural.

Trade and Travel



Pony Express, ran mail from St. Joe to Sacramento for 18 months before being put out of business by the telegraph



Here we have the paddle boat, which was paramount to history for travel and trade as most commerce was at rivers edge

Missouri's Two Cities



St. Louis in the roaring Twenties

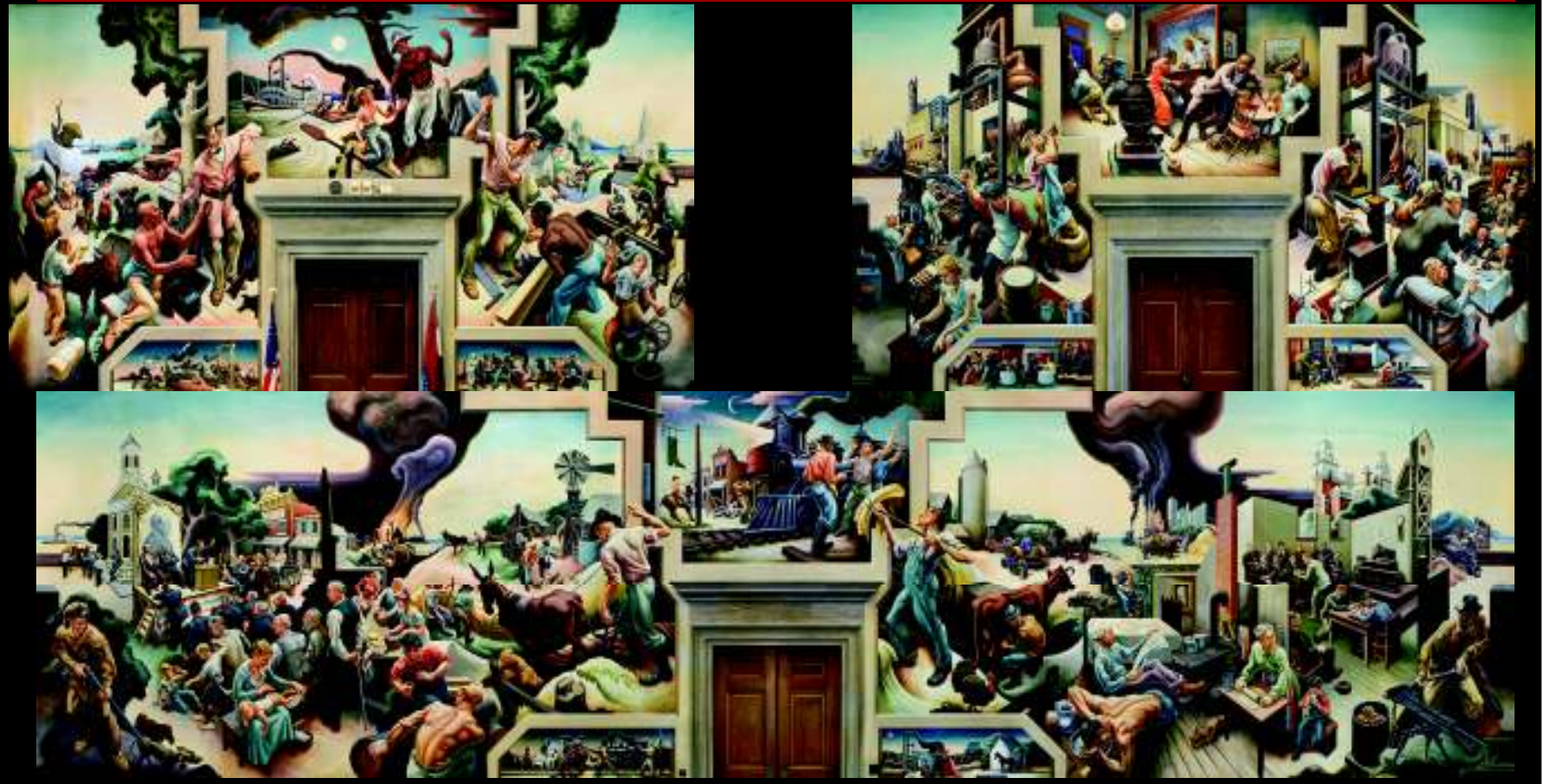


Kansas City in the Great Depression

The Story of Missouri

A social history of the state of Missouri

The 1730s to 1935

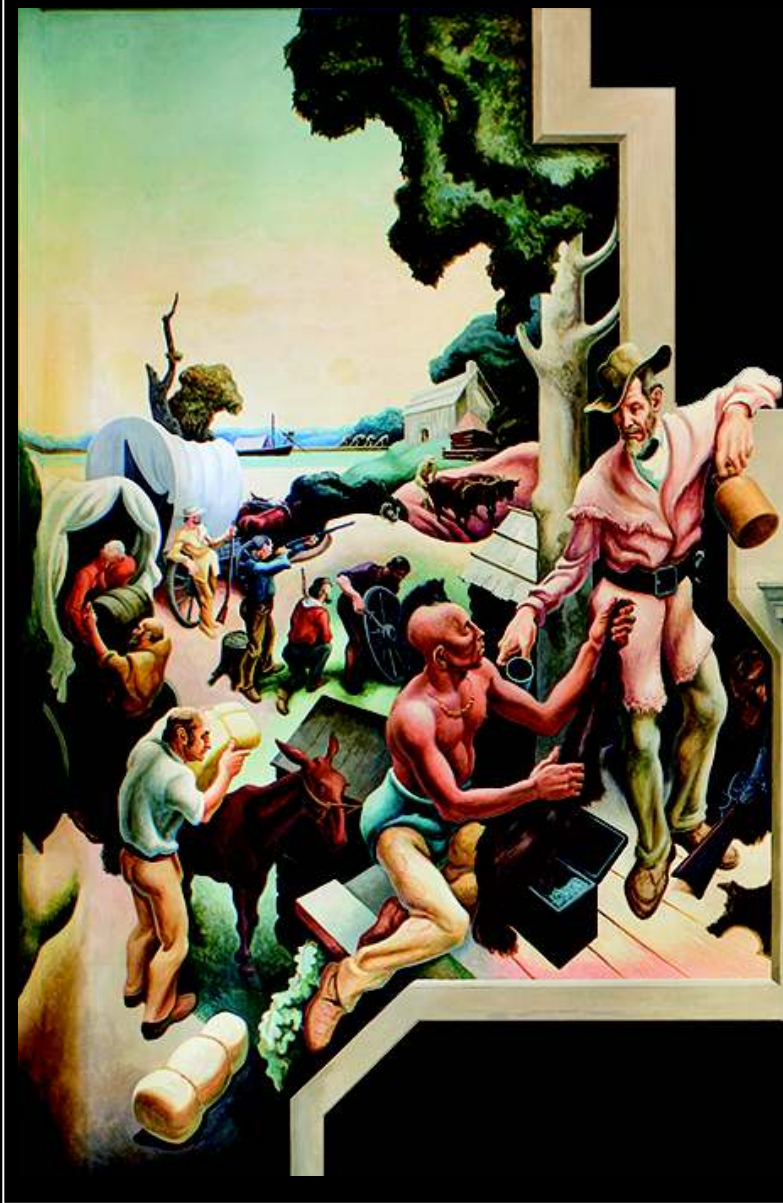


The North Wall

In the beginning



The first Europeans to settle in Missouri were the French.



The Working Class of Missouri



The East Wall

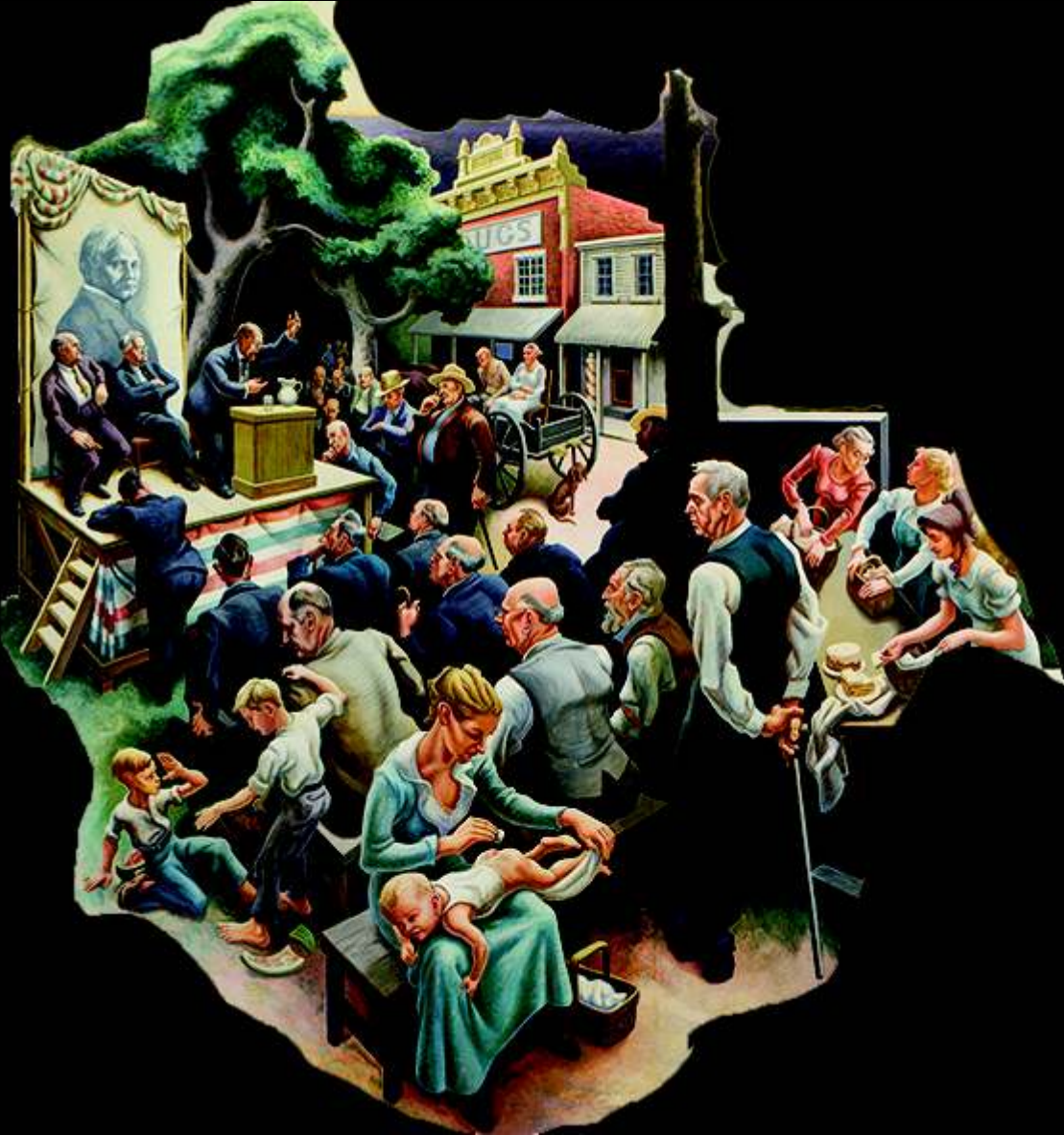
Missouri Grows Up





Typical hunter out for a day of hunting with his dogs

Missouri Politics



The Civil War



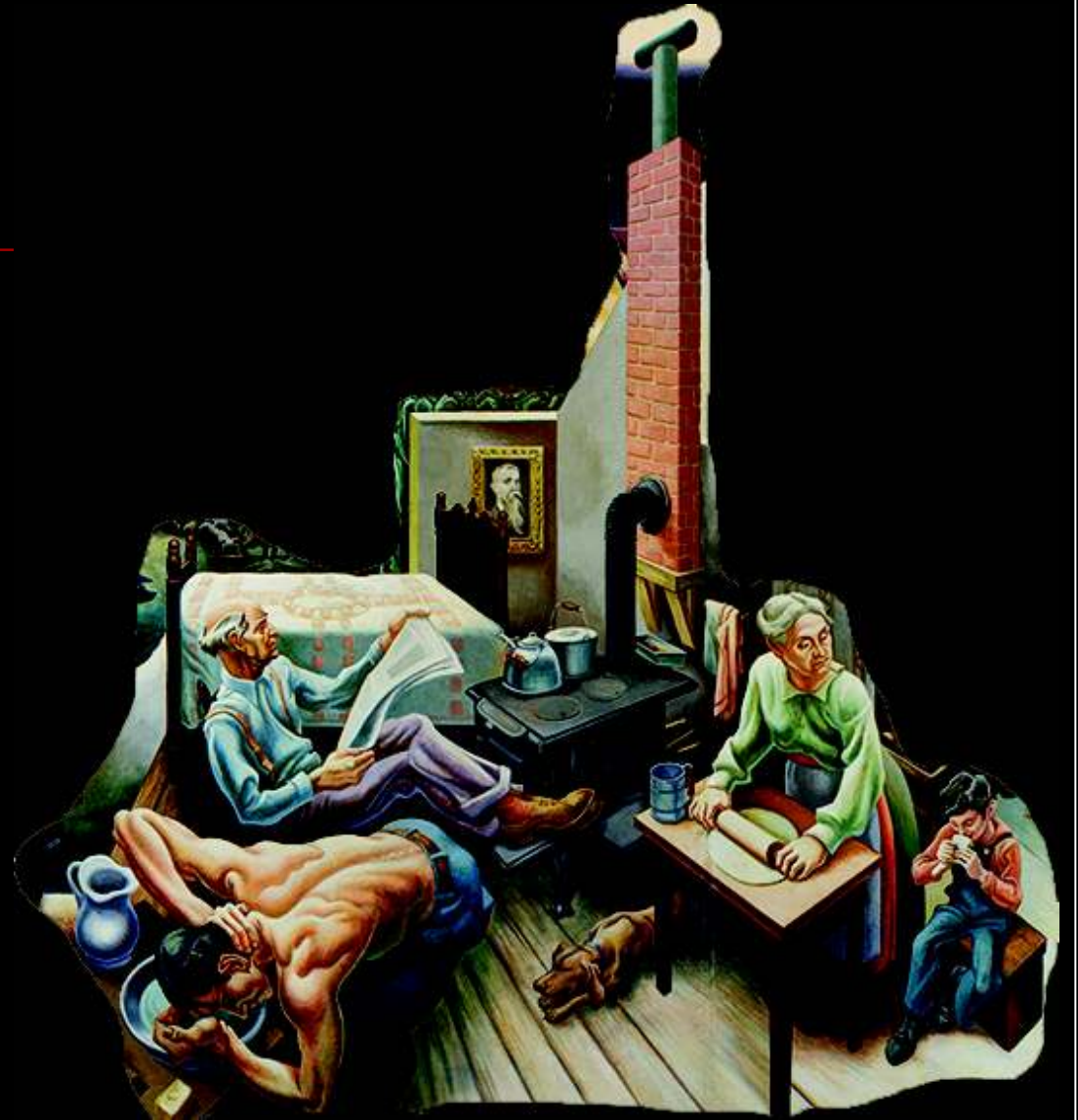
Subsistence Farming



Farming and Technology



Families on the Farm



Industrialization



Missouri Courts



Mining in Missouri

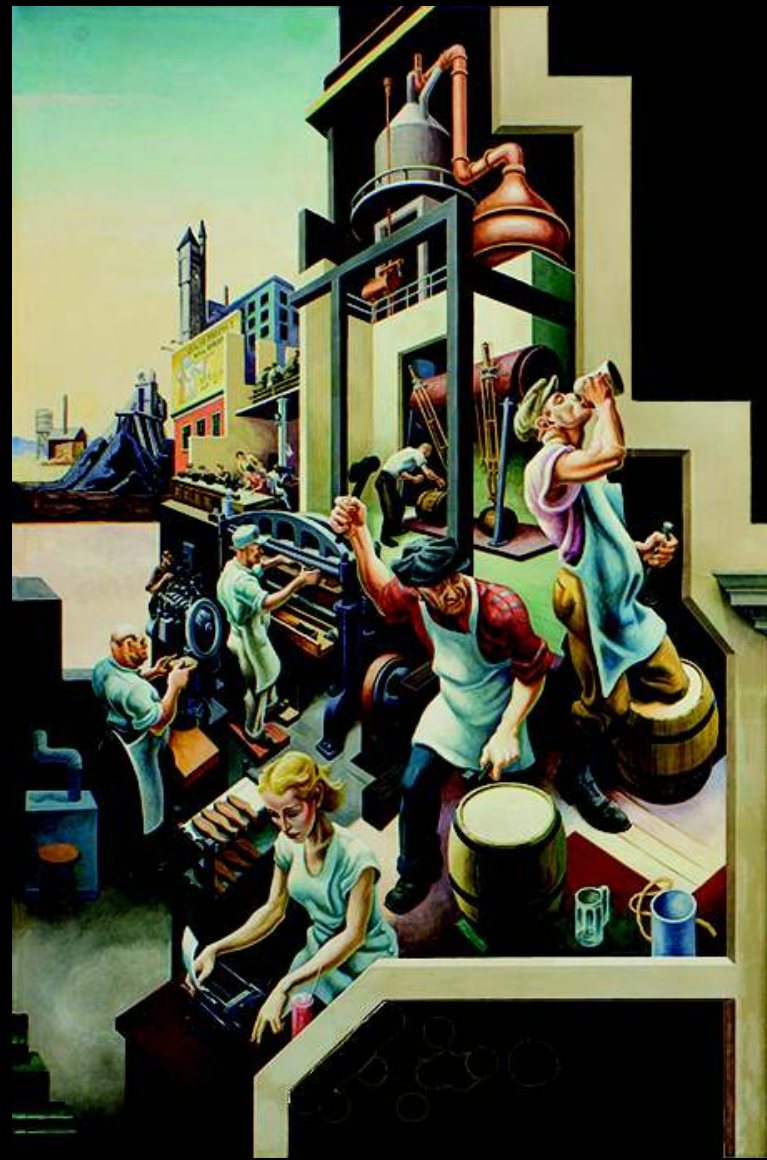


The South Wall

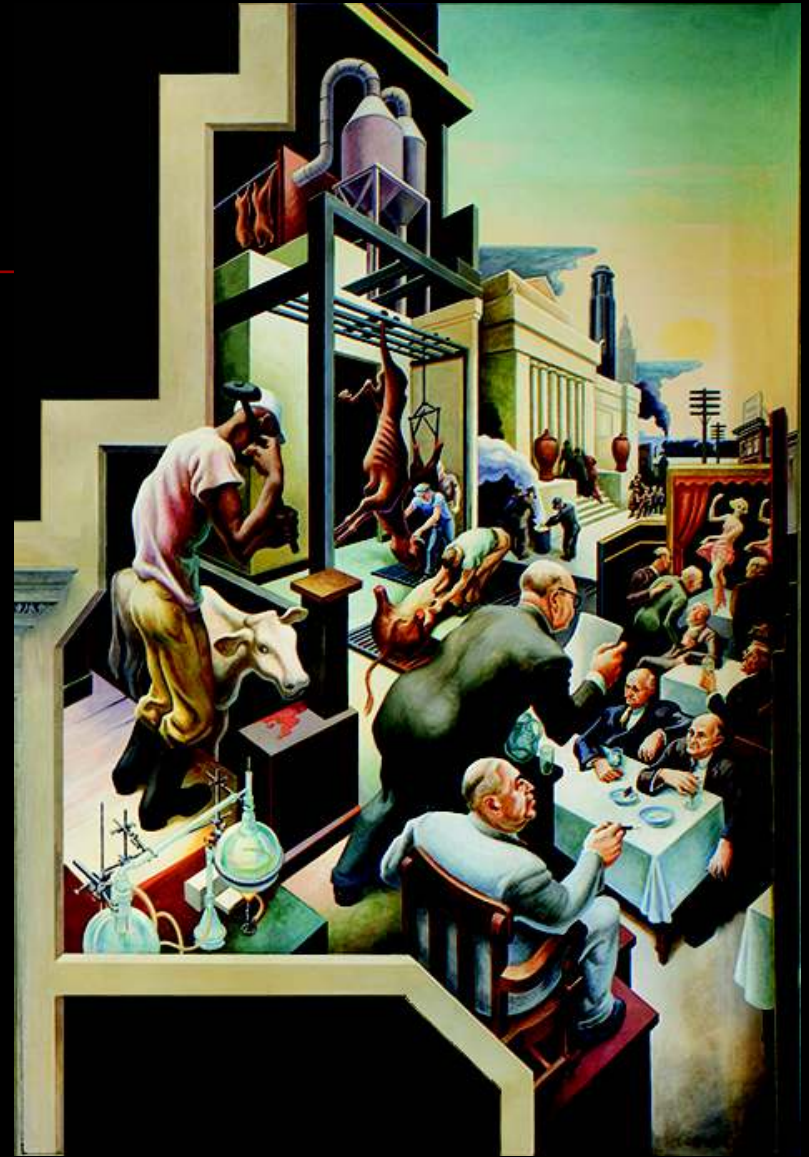
The Two Cities



St. Louis



Kansas City



Controversy abounds



This presentation has been funded through the

Parks, Soil and Water Sales Tax

Missouri Department of
Natural Resources'
Missouri State Museum

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