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Annotated Bibliography

Primary Sources
Mural

I am going to focus on this one mural and one Chicago artist for the Chicago connection portion and I believe that this mural by Harry Sternberg is a perfect example of the kind of work that became popular in the Depression Era.


Although this is a website, I decided to include it in this category because this source is information about the above mural. It explains a brief history of the artist that created it and sources of inspiration for the work. All photographs of the mural came from this site.

People

I interviewed Professor Miller from the University of Chicago to gain a better understanding of why the art style itself was a revolution. She was great in explaining the artistic significance as opposed to just the historical aspect. I recorded the interview so that I could include clips in my documentary.

Speeches

I will be using portions of this speech in my documentary to introduce FDR and his New Deal plan. It will help to set the mood for what the country felt at this crucial turning point.

Videos

This is a clip from a government video about the wonders of the WPA. It provides excellent video footage and is a quality primary source. It helped me to get a sense about how people felt about the WPA and why it was so special.

I will only be using a part of this video to show the change from the glamorous 1920s life to the shock of the Great Depression. It has interesting images of the time and will be helpful in demonstrating the change.

Secondary Sources
Books

A chapter of this book is dedicated to the formation of the WPA and FAP. It provides great detail about why the projects were needed, who ran each project, and the legacy of the projects. Because it focuses on the art produced in CPS schools, it provides an excellent Chicago connection and has information centered on the Federal Art Project in Illinois. Interspersed within the book are essays and articles written by actual artists employed by the project, which I have quoted in my documentary. In addition, there is a section devoted to the Depression-Era Chicago Mural School, which explains why the themes and styles of these paintings and other art forms were unique and controversial for the era.


This book contains an excellent introduction by Franz Schulze that is useful in explaining why the art produced through the WPA and FAP was so revolutionary. It compares this artwork to previous decades to highlight the change. Past this introduction, the book is full of the locations of murals all over the city organized by region of Chicago. All photographs of murals in my documentary were found in this book.


The vast majority of the art images I used came from this book. Essentially, the entire book is an illustrated documentary.


I am mainly using this source for its introduction which was packed with statistics and many facts and figures concerning the amount of employees hired and how the program began in Illinois. It provides a good timeline of events.

All the images in my documentary that are paintings are from this book. This book contains sections about the controversy of the FAP and also reveals FDR’s motives in creating the program. It has some interesting facts about the effects of this New Deal program and, because it is so recent, makes some thought-provoking comparisons to today’s economic recession.

**Websites**


This was not a main source as this online article is fairly brief, but it contains basic information about the Federal Art Project (when the program started, who it was for, etc) and it explains how this subcategory of the WPA fits within the large umbrella of the New Deal Program.


This website is all about FDR so it was helpful in learning about his life and political ideology. It was also important in researching why Hoover’s strategy was so radically different than FDR’s strategy.


This site didn’t provide too much new information, but it has a nice summary of all the federal art programs and the legacy they created which I thought was very beneficial for my research.


This website was my main source for all information on the New Deal. It had amazing photos, but it mainly focused on the significance of various New Deal programs and FDR himself.


I used this website to find photographs and images, but it was helpful in figuring out how the art projects were funded. After reading articles, I understood the differences between the various programs.

This website is all about people and their reactions to art. It helped me to explain the “reaction” part of my project and the different uses of WPA art.

**Images** *(All photographs of murals, paintings, etc were not taken by me. They came from one of the above book sources or this website).*


This is the website where I got all of my poster and print images (like the Chicago advertisements). It showed me another artistic format for how artists could take part in the Federal Art Project.