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Description of "The Pediment" Sculpture, New State Capitol Building, Jackson, Mississippi

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The Pediment is designed to typify all the arts, resources and industries of the State. The central figure, stately, majestic, seated upon a throne, her feet upon a bale of cotton and holding in her right hand the sword of empire and in her left the palm branch, is a personification of the great commonwealth of Mississippi. At her feet, close to the bale of cotton, is the figure that represents the manufacturing industries of the State, displaying a roll of the finished fabric.

The next figure, erect and intent, is Science, near whom, in low relief, is the child, suggesting the future student of science. The succeeding figure is the sturdy blacksmith, with the wheel of the mechanic at his back. Seated on a low Greek settee, a sketch block in her hand, is Art, while the extended figure at the end portrays Fertility.

At the left of the central figure stands Productiveness, the Horn of Plenty inverted as if to pour her abundance upon the State. The erect figure just beyond is History, behind whom, in low relief, is the Indian, vanishing from the scene of action and yet forever linked with the history of Mississippi.

Next in order stands the laborer, with his basket of newly-picked cotton. Bending over her revolving wheel is Poetry, her back turned upon the figures of two huntsmen, creeping cautiously upon their game.

There are in all fourteen figures, twelve of which are in high relief, the other two in low relief, the one of the child to suggest that which is to be and the one of the Indian to suggest that which has been.

The Pediment was designed and modeled by Robert P. Bringhurst of St. Louis.