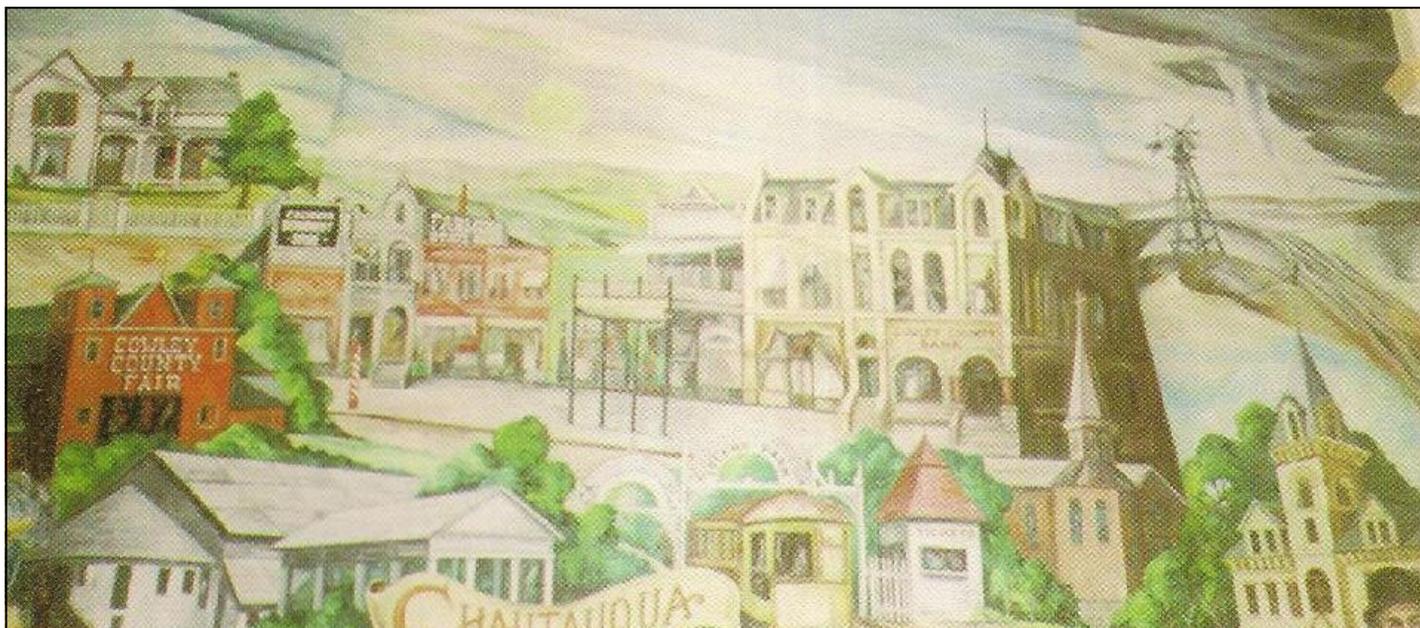


The Beginnings

Artist: Sue Jean Covacevich-Boys

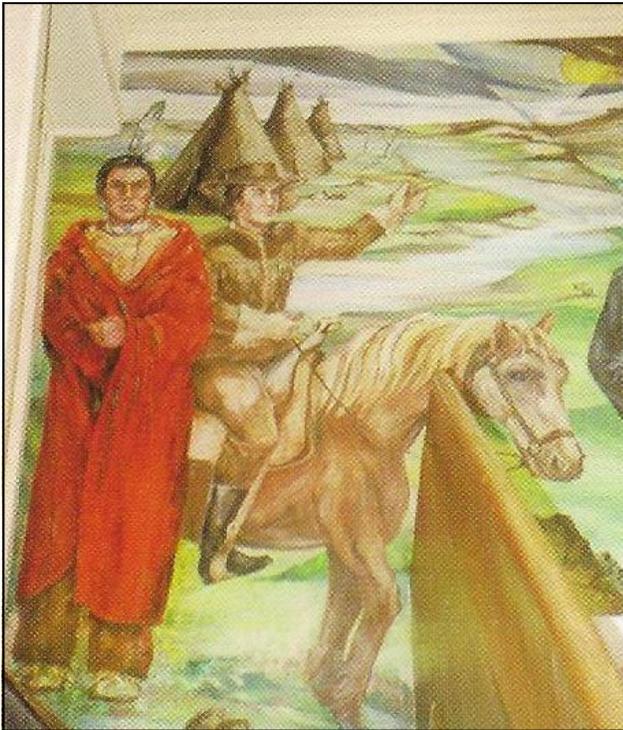
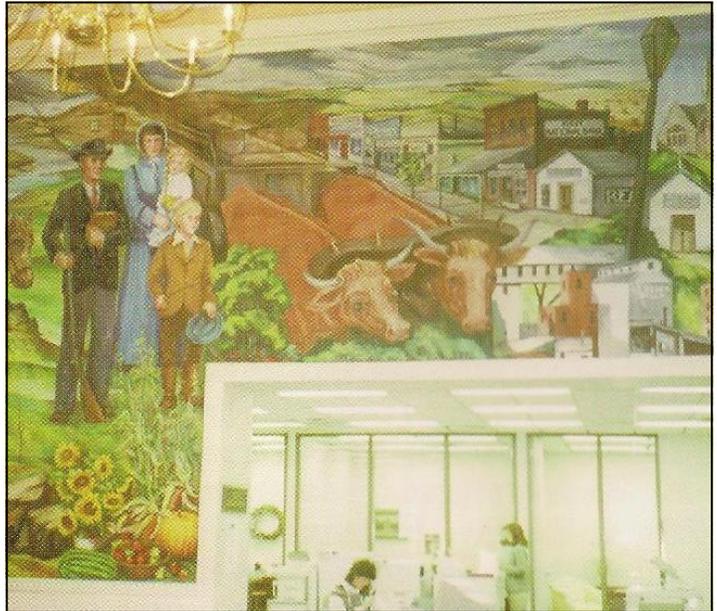
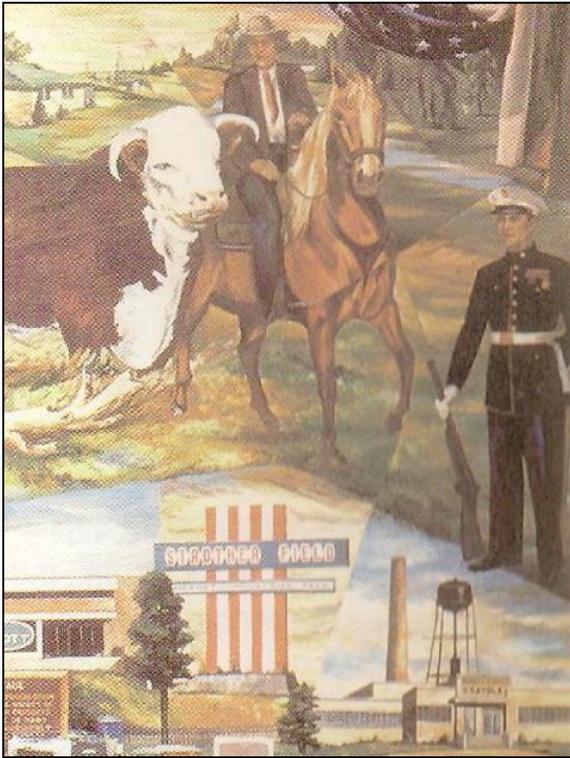
Location: 9th and Main, First National Bank (inside)



J.E. Jarvis, who arrived in Winfield in a covered wagon, was the founder of First National Bank. He started the bank by attending the Chautauquas at Island Park with a sign around his neck stating that he had money to lend. Sue Jean used this history and decided that it would be a great tribute to paint a mural in the bank depicting historic Winfield, so she approached the officers with her ideas. They were completely aghast at such a thought. After much discussion, the officers decided that maybe they should see some of the sketches she was proposing. The idea grew on them; and after many suggestions were given for the murals, approval was given to begin. The mural is actually painted on canvas that was attached to the wall. The original was painted in 1951 and took almost a year to complete. Old photographs were used to detail all of the buildings in their true form. The people in the murals were actual citizens of Winfield, both present and past.

In 1975 when the bank was expanded and remodeled, it required Sue Jean to repaint part of the murals and move others. The paint used was brighter than that used in 1951; and if you look closely, you can see the difference. But as Ed Jarvis explained, the murals will always be a part of the bank because they are Winfield!

The Beginnings (continued)



The Native American pictured above is Chief Cheotopa (known to early settlers as Sugar Sauce) with his scout Billy Dawes.

