

# Capitol Exterior & Interior Design *(fill-in-the-blank)*



Ark. Capitol – Retro Rock Building the Ark. State Capitol.

In 1899, designer George Mann presented his plans for a new and improved capitol. With Mann as designer, then later Cass Gilbert, and then interior designer Paul Martin Heerwagen, the capitol was finally completed 16 years later in 1915.

The exterior of the Capitol contains 247,000 square feet of limestone and from **cupola** to ground is 213 feet. The cupola is covered in gold leaf and is sometimes mistaken as bronze. However, if you are walking up to the capitol to the grand staircase you will be met with (6) **bronze doors**. Designed by Cass

Gilbert and made in the New York Tiffany Studios. The exterior and interior are decorated with **dentils**, craftsman, and bead molding which gives the neo-classical architecture a regal, lofty impression. In George Mann's original design, iron railing and metal staircases ornate with design were installed. However, Cass Gilbert replaced the metal staircase with **marble** and covered the corridors in it as well. The **ionic** scroll and **doric** fluted columns, also covered in marble, are styles of Greek and Roman architecture. During the course of construction gas lighting would have been installed. However, for a temporary fix they installed electricity. They enjoyed it so much, they kept it. The large rotunda is lined with **art deco** lamps that illuminate up into the dome where a large **chandelier** weighing more than 4,000 pounds is suspended over the oculus. While the designers and contractors were working to complete the build of the new State Capitol, Paul Martin Heerwagen and his workers were inside decorating the many important rooms that would be used to create future bills of the state. Starting with the **Governors Reception room**, the walls are decorated with ornate plaster moldings and artisan style **beams**, emphasizing simple designs and natural wood materials. Moving into the **House Chamber**, protecting the room is a stained glass dome skylight, as well as decorative finishes. **Corinthian** columns covered in a mixture of gypsum, plaster, glue, and pigments, are polished to look like marble. This technique is called **scagliola**. Inside the **Senate Chamber**, stained glass replaced the original crystal glass skylight in order to reduce the sun's glare. At the same time, draperies were installed to improve the room's **acoustics**. Just below the Senate Chamber is the **Old Supreme Court** room, now used for legislative committee meetings, lectures and press conferences. The room includes a mahogany railing, light fixtures, with plaster and symbols decorating the courtroom's ceiling. With a recurring pattern of three distinct **metopes**, or decorative panels, bearing symbols related to principles of justice and law.

The Arkansas State Capitol is a stunning accomplishment of creativity and determination to provide the people with a building Arkansans can be proud of.



# Capitol Exterior & Interior Design *(fill-in-the-blank)*

Read the information about the Capitol *(on the other side)* to fill-in-the-blank words below.



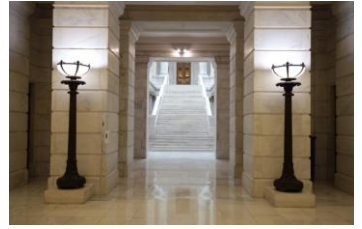
-----



-----



-----



-----



-----



-----



-----



-----



-----



-----



-----



-----



-----



-----



-----



-----

## STATE CAPITOL! ACTIVITY SHEET

Go to [sos.arkansas.gov](http://sos.arkansas.gov) for more information about your State Capitol!

# Capitol Exterior & Interior Design *(fill-in-the-blank)*



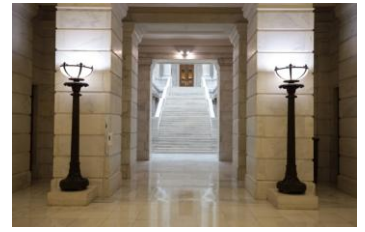
CUPOLA



METOPES



GOVERNORS  
RECEPTION  
ROOM



ART  
DECO



CHANDELIER



CORINTHIAN



IONIC



DORIC



BRONZE  
DOORS



OLD  
SUPREME  
COURT



MARBLE



SENATE  
CHAMBER



HOUSE  
CHAMBER



DENTILS



BEAMS



ACOUSTICS

