

STOP 3 – MURALS OVER THE FRONT DOOR ENTRANCE

The idea for the murals began in 1897, when a letter signed by G.A. Reid was received by the Mayor of Toronto from the Society of Mural Decorators, in which he proposed that they would paint the panels for the Council Chamber on the second floor of the east side of the building and the portraits above the front door.

The theme of these panels are "Pioneer Days in Toronto." They were painted on canvas and imbedded into the blank spaces. The panels are signed and dated by Reid. The inscription from the east to west reads: "Discover, Fame, Fortune, and Adventure. Hail to the pioneers, their names and deeds remembered and forgotten.

In the east panel the following names are mentioned:

Mackenzie, Allen, MacDonnell, Ryerson, Scadding

In the west panel we see the following names:

Galinee, Simcoe, Tecumseth, Brock, Osgoode, Baldwin, Laura Secord, Strachan

These mural decorations by George Agnew Reid were presented to the city by the Toronto Committee of Civic Art.