

# The Missouri State Capitol



**On the evening of Sunday, February 5, 1911, lightning struck the dome of the Missouri State Capitol, igniting a fire that completely destroyed the building.**

Phenix Quarry in Greene County, Missouri, of Ceres, the Roman goddess of agriculture.

At the south entrance to the building which open onto the 30 foot wide grand stairworld. Murals depicting various scenes and dome of the Capitol. Most impressive are the House Lounge.

These and other decorations can be seen daily with the exception of Thanksgiving, hours are Monday through Friday 8 to 11 a.m. hour with the last one at 4 p.m. Tour groups by calling (573) 751-4127.

On February 5, 1911, lightning struck the dome of the Missouri State Capitol, igniting a blaze which destroyed the building. As a result, the State Capitol Commission Board was established to coordinate and supervise the construction of a new capitol, the third capitol located in Jefferson City and the sixth in the state. An architectural competition was held to select plans for the building, and on October 6, 1912, the firm of Tracy & Swartwout of New York City was chosen. The new Capitol was constructed between 1913 and 1917 at a cost of roughly \$4.21 million.

The State Capitol overlooks the Missouri River and is of renaissance style architecture. It measures 437 feet long, 200 feet wide in the wings and 300 feet wide in the center, as well as 262 feet high from the basement floor to the apex of the dome. The rotunda measures 68 feet in diameter. Both the exterior and interior of the building, with the exception of the third floor, are made of Burlington limestone from Carthage, Missouri. The third floor contains stone from the



**Capitol Construction, General View Looking North, April 15, 1915**

On the dome of the State Capitol is the figure

stand bronze doors measuring 13 by 18 feet way, believed to be the widest stairway in the events of Missouri life decorate the walls and Thomas Hart Benton murals located in the

on tours of the Capitol, which are given Christmas, New Year's Day and Easter. Tour and 1 to 4 p.m. Walk in tours are given on the require prior reservations which can be made



**Capitol Commissioners at the Dome Capping, December 15, 1916**