

Title: The effects of good government in the city and country

Artist: Ambrogio Lorenzetti

Date: 1320

Location: Sienna Italy

The *Effect of the Good Government on City and Country Life* fresco was painted by Ambrogio Lorenzetti and is situated on the longer wall (14.4m long) of the room. The picture above shows the left hand side of the very long fresco depicting the city. This panoramic fresco represents several scenes indicating the life of Siena and its environment in the 14th century. It depicts life under a good government. The fresco illustrates the center of the city with all its beautiful buildings, undifferentiated architecturally, which establishes justice and the equality of the citizens. There is a school for the children of the city as well as shops for the city's traders and merchants who can be seen busily at work. In the background, one can see men working hard on roofs of buildings. Everybody is busying themselves to keep the city running smoothly. In the middle foreground the dancing young women probably represent the nine Muses symbolizing beauty and justice. Hovering above the city walls is the personification of Security, holding a small gallows in one hand and a scroll in the other. The text on the scroll promises safety to all who live under the rule of law and the gallows acts as a reminder to those who do not obey the rule of law.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/renaissance-reformation/late-gothic-italy/siena-late-gothic/v/ambrogio-lorenzetti-s-palazzo-pubblico-frescos-allegory-and-effect-of-good-and-bad-government>

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