Furthermore, the cultural legacy of the Great Depression has been deeply embedded in American films, literature, and public memory, offering insights into the era's challenges and resilience. Films from the period, such as "The Grapes of Wrath," vividly depict the hardships faced by ordinary Americans, using the medium to reflect societal struggles and promote empathy (Ref-u989568). Similarly, literature of the time captured the zeitgeist, with authors like John Steinbeck chronicling the profound socioeconomic impacts on individuals and communities. These cultural artifacts not only served as a form of escapism but also as a vehicle for social commentary, shaping public understanding and memory of the period. Public memory continues to be influenced by these narratives, which highlight the enduring themes of perseverance and solidarity in the face of adversity, demonstrating the lasting impact of the Great Depression on American cultural identity (Ref-u989568).