

EXPLORER
STORIES

CHILDREN'S WALKING TOUR

WHITE HOUSE NEIGHBORHOOD

CHILDREN'S
EDITION INCLUDED
INSIDE!

— WASHINGTON, DC —



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WELCOME TO THE G

Welcome

This tour of **Washington's White House Neighborhood** focuses on the history and architecture of part of our local environment that is both familiar and surprising. The tour kit includes everything a parent, teacher, Scout troop leader or home schooler would need to walk children through several blocks of buildings and their history and to stimulate conversation and activities as they go. Designed for kids in the 8-12 age group, the tour is fun and educational for older kids and adults as well.

THE TOUR MATERIALS INCLUDE...

- History of the White House Neighborhood
- Tour Booklet Instructions
- The White House Neighborhood Guide
- Architectural Vocabulary
- Conversation Starters
- The White House Neighborhood Tour Stops
- Children's Edition

This project has been funded in part by a grant from the Dorothea DeSchweinitz Fund for the District of Columbia of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

This version of the White House Neighborhood children's architectural tour is the result of a collaboration among Mary Kay Lanzillotta, FAIA, Peter Guttmacher and the creative minds at LookThink.

History of the White House Neighborhood

THE PRESIDENT'S NEIGHBORHOOD

When Pierre L'Enfant designed the plan of Washington, DC, in 1791, he selected the site for the President's House west of the downtown. Next to the President's House was an orchard, which was identified as President's Park. When President Jefferson moved into the President's House in 1801, he noted that the country residence was "free from the noise, the heat...and the bustle of a close built town."

Over the next 100 years, the neighborhood developed with many fashionable homes, including the Octagon and the Ringgold Residence. Government office buildings such as the State, War and Navy Building (now known as the Eisenhower Executive Office Building) developed as the government grew. Speculative office buildings such as the Winder Building near the Executive Branch of government (the White House) also developed during this period. Just before the Civil War, William Corcoran, an art collector and well-known businessman, built an art gallery, the Renwick Gallery, in this neighborhood. When the art collection quickly outgrew the available space, the Board of Trustees built the Corcoran Gallery of Art down the street.

While most of the houses have been converted for other uses, the neighborhood around the White House continues to be an important one in the city today.

Tour Booklet Instructions

Use this page as a friendly guide to help you identify the key components of each stop's page!



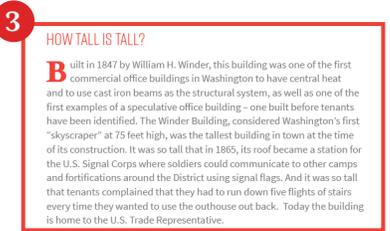
TOUR STOP NUMBER

There are 7 tour stops on this tour. You can choose to follow our suggested order.



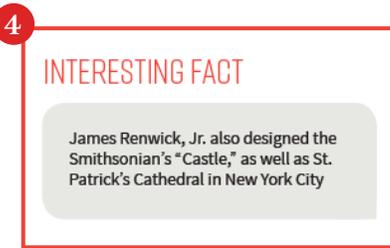
BUILDING GENERAL INFORMATION

This is your stop name and address.



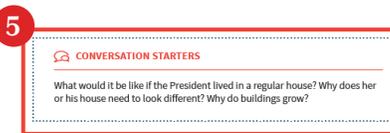
BUILDING OVERVIEW

Read about your stop in this section. Look for questions throughout the text.



INTERESTING FACTS

Gain new knowledge about the history of the building.



CONVERSATION STARTERS

Use these conversation starters to engage your kids.



QUICK ACTIVITIES

Try some of the quick activities to add excitement to the tour.



LEARN MORE

Look up these terms and names that are found throughout the text.



BUILDING INFORMATION

General facts about the building's date of completion, style, and location.



NEXT STOP

Find the next stop here.

White House Neighborhood Guide

Check out our suggested route for your tour! Refer to this map to guide you from stop to stop.

Tour Stops

ESTIMATED TOTAL WALKING TIME:
1 1/2 HOURS

 Some buildings listed have public restrooms available.



RINGGOLD RESIDENCE
1801 F Street Northwest



WINDER BUILDING
600 17th Street Northwest



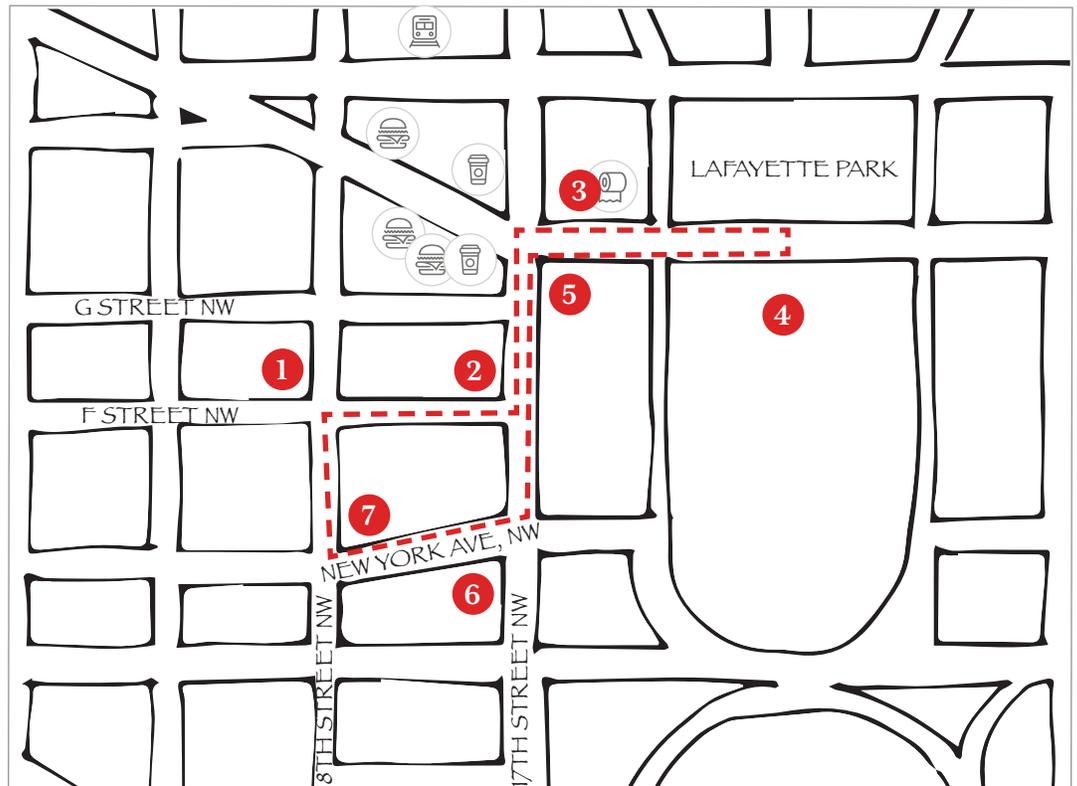
RENWICK GALLERY 
1661 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
You can go inside this building!



THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSE
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest



EISENHOWER EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest



CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART
500 17th Street Northwest



THE OCTAGON
1799 New York Avenue Northwest
You can go inside this building!

Places to Go (Kid friendly too!)

While you are in the area, check out these cool locations!



METRO STATION

FARRAGUT WEST STATION
17th & H Streets Northwest
Public Transportation



GRAB A CUP OF COFFEE

PEET'S COFFEE
1701 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Coffee Shop

STARBUCKS
1730 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Coffee Shop



PLACES TO STOP AND EAT

TAYLOR GOURMET
1750 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Gourmet Hoagies

ROTI MEDITERRANEAN GRILL
1747 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Mediterranean Restaurant

GCDC GRILLED CHEESE BAR
1730 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Grilled Cheese Restaurant

Architectural Vocabulary

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS

Antefix a vertical block which terminates the covering tiles on the eave of a roof.

Balcony a structural platform extending from the wall of a building and enclosed with something to keep people from falling off. A *French balcony* is a false balcony with a door that opens to a fence or balustrade right in front of it.

Balustrade a railing composed of small posts (balusters) with a rail running along the top, usually found along the edge of stairs, a porch, a balcony, a roof, or a stoop.

Belt Course a continuous row or layer of stones or brick set in a wall. Set in line with windowsills, it helps to make the horizontal line of the sills visually more prominent.

Column a structural element that transmits, through compression, the weight of the structure above to other structural elements below. A *Doric Column* is an unornamented, fluted column first used in Greece in the 6th Century B.C. *Corncob Column Capitals* are a decorative pattern of corncobs at the top of a column.

Cornice a horizontal molded projection or shelf crowning a building or structure. A *Corbeled Cornice* is supported by a decorative piece of stone, wood or metal jutting from a wall that helps keep it up.

Mansard Roof a four-sided, double-sloped roof, where the lower slope is steeper than the upper slope. The lower slope is typically punctuated by dormer windows.

Pediment a triangular gable forming the roof slope over a portico, doorway or window, usually supported by columns.

Quoins stones or masonry that form the exterior corner of two walls.

Symmetrical made up of exactly similar parts facing each other or around an axis.

Transom a transverse horizontal structural beam or bar, or a crosspiece separating a door from a window above it.

Triglyphs grooved projecting blocks along the top of a wall just under the roof.

Metope the rectangular element between two triglyphs, often showing a carving.

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE



Beaux Arts refers to an architecture school in France popular in the late 19th century. The Corcoran Gallery of Art is an excellent example of French Beaux Arts with Greek-inspired details.



Federal developed after the American Revolution and is based upon the classical orders of Rome and Greece.



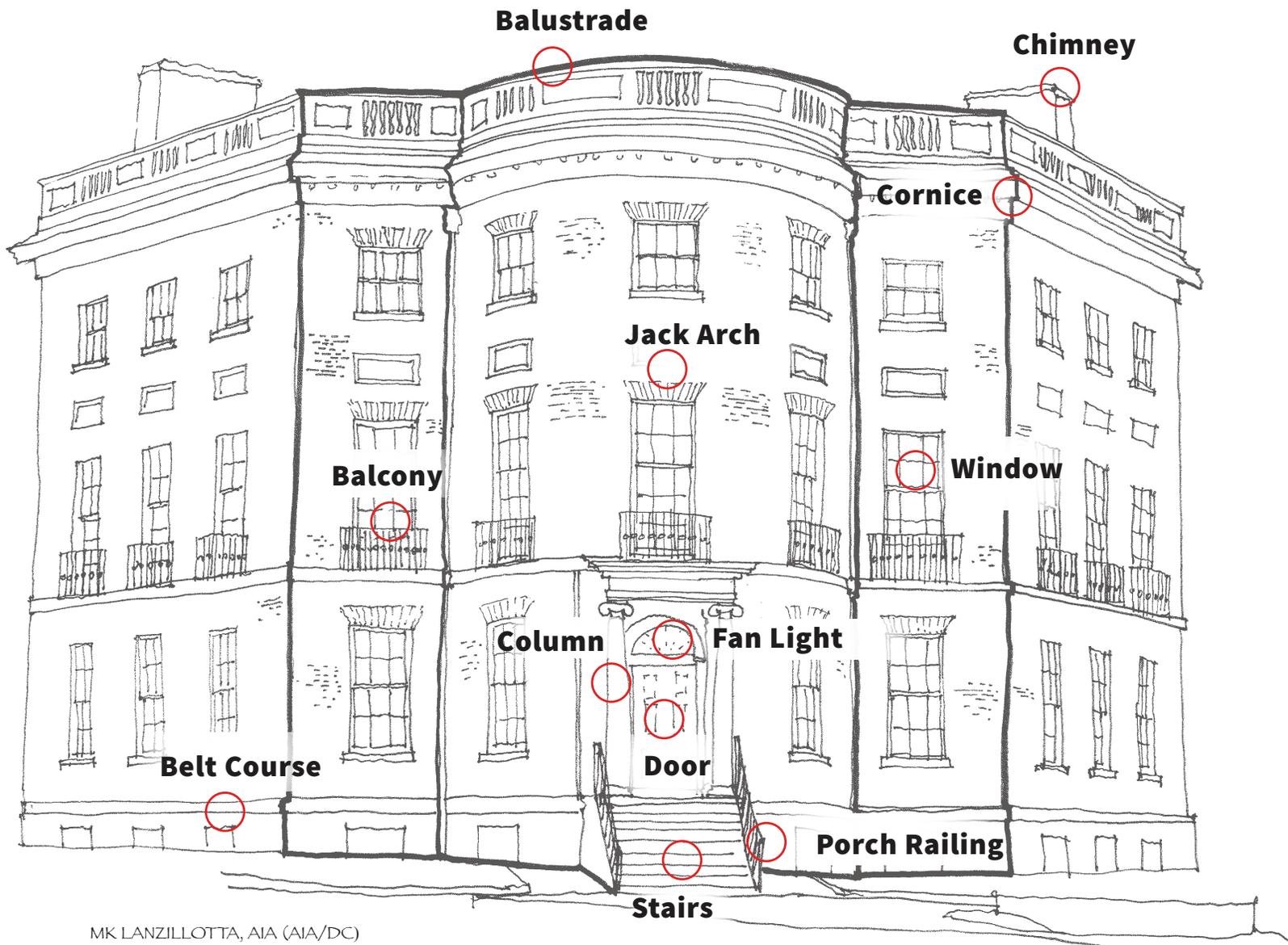
Greek Revival inspired by ancient Greek architecture, became popular in the U.S. in the 1820s.



Second Empire an architectural style that developed in France during the reign of Napoleon III between 1852 and 1870. The distinctive roof is one element that ties this style to French examples.

Architectural Vocabulary

Want to speak like an architect? Try to find a few of these building elements at each tour stop you visit!



MK LANZILLOTTA, AIA (AIA/DC)

Conversation Starters (Sample Answers)

Strike up a conversation with your group! At the end of each tour stop page you will find discussion questions that you can use as conversation starters.

1 RINGGOLD RESIDENCE

Q: How do you think witnessing the destruction of the British occupation influenced how Ringgold built his house?

A: *What does the brick tell us? What does the shape tell us?*

Q: Why do you think the curve of the entrance is called a “bay”? What do you think of when you hear the word bay?

A: *A bay is a broad inlet of the sea where the shore curves inward. It's often a place of shelter, like the Chesapeake Bay. Or it can be an entrance to a city, like San Francisco Bay.*

Q: Future President Martin Van Buren was a boarder here. Where do you think his room was?

A: *Where would an ambitious person want to be?*

2 WINDER BUILDING

Q: This building housed dozens of military departments during the Civil War including the Ordinance Office where new, high tech weapons were developed. What do you think qualified as high-tech way back then?

A: *Ironclad war ships like the Monitor. Using hot air balloons for surveillance. Rifles that could shoot three-rounds-per-minute.*

Q: What other big technological ideas (like the heat in this building) didn't exactly work as first planned?

A: *Dirigible travel – Hover boards – Driver-less cars – What else?*

Q: So this was Washington's tallest building? How does it rank now?

A: *It's 5 stories tall, look around you.*

Q: What innovations have made buildings more solid?

A: *Steel – Concrete – Earthquake retrofitting – What else?*

3 SMITHSONIAN RENWICK GALLERY

Q: If you could make a new museum of anything, what would it collect? How would you display the collection?

A: *Holograms? Video games? Breakfast cereals? Band-aids?*

Q: Have you ever had to hit the pause button on a project? What were the disadvantages? Were there any advantages from the pause?

A: *Chance to redesign – Easier to get materials – Understood it better – What else?*

4 THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSE

Q: What would you add to the present shape and layout of the White House to make it better?

A: *How about an outdoor pool? How about a courtyard in the middle of it? Or how about screened porches?*

5 EISENHOWER EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING

Q: Are the buildings you frequent symmetrical? What effect would greater symmetry have on them?

A: Home – School – Place of worship – What else? Balance – Order – Dullness.

Q: Do you know any buildings where the outside tells a very different story than the inside?

A: Libraries? Schools? Rec centers? Restaurants? Malls? Hobbit holes?

6 THE CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART

Q: Have you ever had to fit too much into a limited space? What space saving/expanding strategies have you used?

A: Fold-out couches? Lofts? Space under beds? Bathtub in the kitchen? Making a closet into a room? Storage racks?

7 THE OCTAGON

Q: Are any other buildings known for their specific shape?

A: Pentagon – the Roman Colosseum – the Washington Monument – the Eiffel Tower.

Thanks for taking the White House tour. Let's get started! If you print the children's edition, your kids can also follow along with their own fun activities.

Ringgold Residence

1801 F Street Northwest, Washington, DC 20006

BUILDING AFTER A WAR

Tench Ringgold was a housing commissioner shortly after the War of 1812. When the British occupied Washington and burned the White House, he saw his beloved city attacked for the first time in its history. He is known for helping to reconstruct many public buildings after the war. He later became US Marshal of Washington and built this house around 1825.

THE CURVE EFFECT

A curved entrance bay gives a building a special kind of look. What does it do for this building? How important is the fact that the curve is two stories tall?

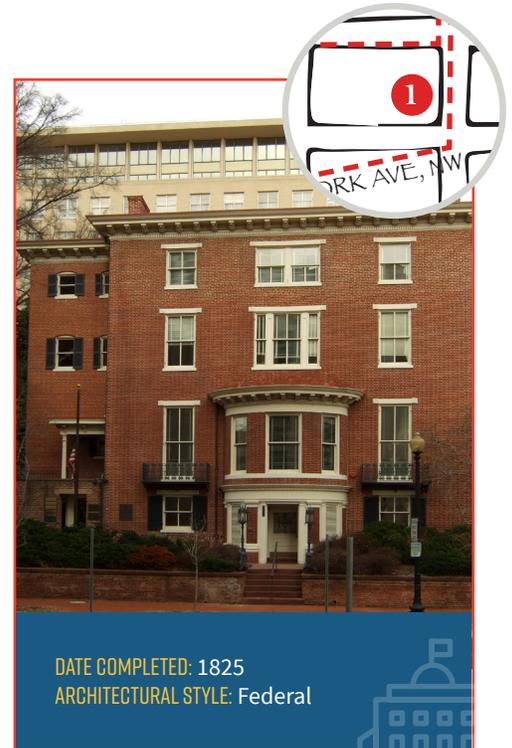
THE V.I.P.s

After Mr. Ringgold's death, his daughter opened the house to boarders, including Martin Van Buren, 8th President of the United States, and John Marshall, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court from 1801 to 1835.



CONVERSATION STARTERS

When do cities need to be re-built (not just improved)? What do people think about when they're rebuilding them?



DATE COMPLETED: 1825
ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Federal

QUICK ACTIVITY

Ask kids if they can make out what the design is on the underside of the brackets that support the roof and the bay front. (Long curling leaves)

Ask kids to count the roof brackets along the cornice and bay and the black shutters that frame the windows. Are there more of one or the other?

For more information when you get home, Google: "Tench Ringgold," "War of 1812"

If you print the children's edition, your kids can also follow along with their own fun activities.

Winder Building

600 17th Street Northwest, Washington, DC 20006

HOW TALL IS TALL?

Built in 1847 by William H. Winder, this building was one of the first commercial office buildings in Washington to have central heat and to use cast iron beams as the structural system, as well as one of the first examples of a speculative office building – one built before tenants have been identified. The Winder Building, considered Washington's first "skyscraper" at 75 feet high, was the tallest building in town at the time of its construction. It was so tall that in 1865, its roof became a station for the U.S. Signal Corps where soldiers could communicate to other camps and fortifications around the District using signal flags. And it was so tall that tenants complained that they had to run down five flights of stairs every time they wanted to use the outhouse out back. Today the building is home to the U.S. Trade Representative.

BUILT TO LAST

This building was also big – 210 feet long on F Street with 60,000 square feet of floor space to house 130 different offices. To support all that hugeness, it was Washington's first building to have cast iron beams. It was so solid that in 1850, when its copper roof blew off in a storm, the tenants on the lower floors didn't even notice.

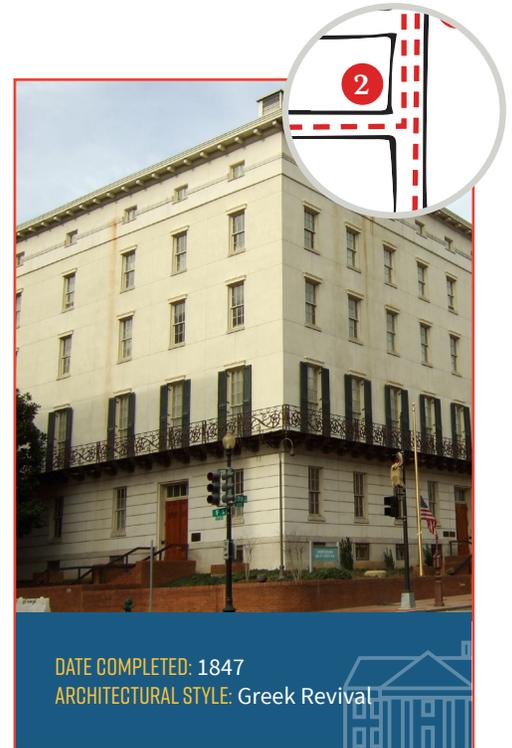
BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD

This building was the first in DC to have central heating. Hot water was pumped through pipes throughout its bulk. As hot as that idea was, people cooled to it pretty quickly. It seems the hot water didn't make the offices warm enough and they had to add cast iron heating stoves to keep people warm enough to do their work.



CONVERSATION STARTERS

What's the tallest building you've ever been in? Is tall always good in a building? What is the most flights of stairs you've ever had to climb?



INTERESTING FACT

Not only did the United States coordinate Civil War efforts from this building, but after President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated it became the headquarters for where all the work was done to unravel the conspiracy around his murder.

For more information when you get home, Google: "Cast Iron Beams," "Skyscraper," "U.S. Signal Corps."

If you print the children's edition, your kids can also follow along with their own fun activities.

Smithsonian Renwick Gallery

1661 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest, Washington, DC 20006

You can go inside this building! Open daily from 10am-5:30pm.

THE MUSEUM LOOK

This building was designed in 1859 by James Renwick, Jr., to house the art collection of William Corcoran, co-founder of Riggs Bank. Corcoran was just about to move into the building when the Civil War started and construction stopped. During the war, the building was packed with supplies for Union troops. The gallery did not open until 1874. Today the building is home to the Smithsonian Museum of American Art's collection of contemporary craft and decorative art.

This was the first building in the United States constructed for the specific purpose of serving as a museum and it is probably the only one that is named for its architect, rather than its benefactor. What about the outside of it makes it look like a museum? Do other museums share that look?

THE PAUSE BUTTON

The chaos of the Civil War caused construction on this building to stop for 8 years partway through. What do you think the challenges would be to restarting construction after such a long time?

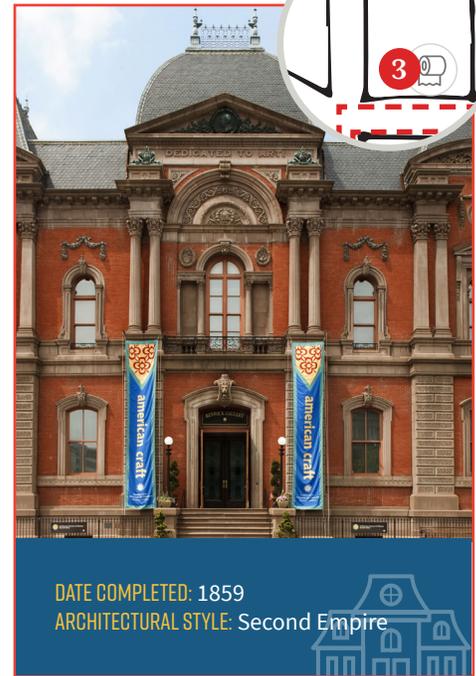
CORNCOBS VS. FRANCE

The Renwick Gallery was inspired by the Second Empire style of buildings in France. Senator Charles Sumner called it "The American Louvre." Yet there is a corncob design on the tops of the columns out front. Why do you think this touch might have been added? What would you incorporate to the outside of the building if you wanted it to look American today?



CONVERSATION STARTERS

What's your favorite museum? Why do you like it? Do you like its outside, too?



INTERESTING FACT

James Renwick, Jr. also designed the Smithsonian's "Castle," as well as St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.

For more information when you get home, Google: "Civil War," "Louvre."

If you print the children's edition, your kids can also follow along with their own fun activities.

The President's House

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest, Washington, DC 20500

FIT FOR A KING

James Hoban won the design competition for the President's House in 1792, with a design inspired by examples of English and Irish country houses in James Gibbs' Book of Architecture. He actually built the White House twice, first in 1800 and then again after the British burned it down in the War of 1812. You might say that the White House has long been a work in progress. Renovations continued until as recently as 1949-1952.

A president is different from a king or a queen. As Abraham Lincoln said, it's government "of the people, by the people, for the people." So, the house she or he lives in has to look majestic but also like a person's house – not a palace. How does the White House look majestic and how does it look like a person's house? Could you add anything to make it look more majestic or more everyday?

GOOD OLD PORCHES (PORTICOS)

The entire interior and roof of the White House were burned in the British attack on August 24, 1814. When the British were driven off, restoring the building began almost immediately. First, they restored the existing structure. Then in 1824 a rounded South Portico was added, followed by a square North Portico five years later. How do these distinctive shapes add to the White House? What do they say?

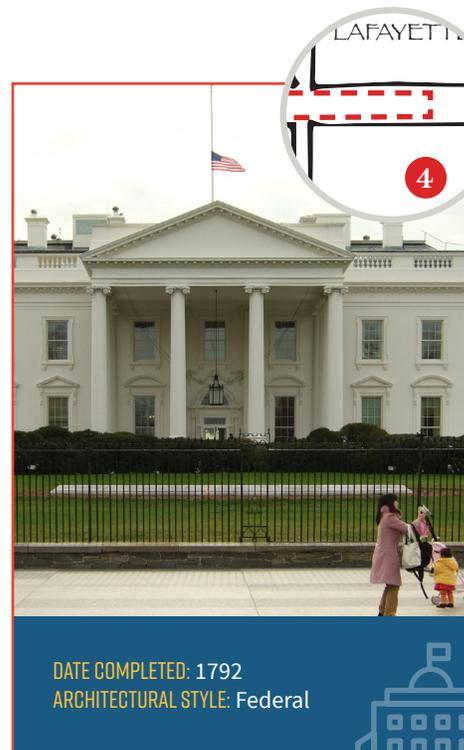
BUILDING IN MOTION

President Thomas Jefferson added terraces to the east and west sides. When President Theodore Roosevelt moved in with all his kids, a West Wing was added to house all the offices, giving his family more room to spread out. President Howard Taft added the famous Oval Office to the West Wing. And though a small East Wing was added by Roosevelt as an entryway for social visitors (he got rid of the White House greenhouses to do it), it wasn't until 1942 that it was enlarged to the way it looks now – mostly to cover the underground construction of a personal safety bunker for the president.



CONVERSATION STARTERS

What would it be like if the President lived in a regular house? Why does her or his house need to look different? Why do buildings grow?



INTERESTING FACT

The original roof for the White House was so heavy that it caused the walls underneath it to spread, opening cracks that let the rain in.

QUICK ACTIVITY

People knocked on the White House door during Lincoln's day and came on in. Times have changed. Ask kids to list how many features they can see that help ensure security at the White House. What might they not see? (Bulletproof windows – snipers on the roof – secure airspace overhead – infrared sensors – radar on the roof – special air filtration system)

For more information when you get home, Google: "Portico," "President's Bunker."

NEXT STOP

Eisenhower Executive Office Building (Old State, War & Navy Building)
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest, Washington, DC 20502

If you print the children's edition, your kids can also follow along with their own fun activities.

Eisenhower Executive Office Building

(Old State, War & Navy Building)

1650 Pennsylvania Ave Northwest, Washington, DC 20502

BUILT TO IMPRESS

The Eisenhower Executive Office Building was built between 1872 and 1888. Designed as a series of wings around a courtyard, the building was not very popular when it was built, but today the building is a National Historic Landmark. Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin D. Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Lyndon B. Johnson, Gerald Ford, and George H. Bush all had offices in this building before becoming president.

It took 17 years for architect Alfred Mullett to build this huge and ornate building, whose French Second Empire style looks a lot fancier than the Federal or Greek Revival style buildings around it. At the time, the United States was emerging from the Civil War and becoming a world power - and this building reflected our rise on the world stage. With central towers on each of the building's four sides, its steeply sloped mansard roof, and its impressive white chimneys and green top, it looks a little like the world's biggest layer cake. Which of its features add most to that feeling of fanciness?

THE BEAUTY OF BALANCE

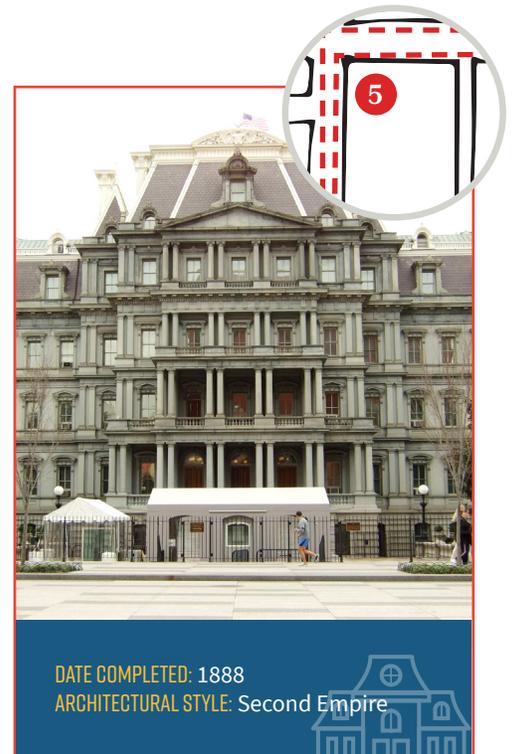
This building is a great example of symmetry. Everything about it seems to be reflected from one side to the other. Even the paired Doric columns come in twos. Look at one side of this building and then another. What do you see that is also reflected on the opposite side?

DOES THE OUTSIDE SHAPE THE INSIDE?

This building is as impressive on the inside as it is on the outside. If you like the red and white tiled terrace out front, there are two miles of black marble and white limestone tiled corridors inside. The ceilings are 18 feet tall. The four-story library (made of cast iron for fire safety) has massive marble staircases, with 4,000 bronze balusters, that curl up to four skylight domes.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

What makes a building impressive? What makes you remember it?



INTERESTING FACT

Many people thought this building was way too fancy. Writer Henry Adams called it "Mullett's architectural infant asylum." There were plans to radically remodel it, but they were too expensive after the Great Depression. Later, when advisors to President Eisenhower (for whom the building is now named) wanted to tear it down and build something else, the previous president Harry Truman defended it calling it "America's Greatest Monstrosity."

For more information when you get home, Google: "Mansard Roof," "Alfred Mullett."

NEXT STOP

The Corcoran Gallery of Art
500 17th Street Northwest, Washington, DC 20006

If you print the children's edition, your kids can also follow along with their own fun activities.

The Corcoran Gallery of Art

500 17th Street Northwest, Washington, DC 20006

FULL HOUSE

The Corcoran Gallery of Art was founded in 1869 to house William Corcoran's personal art collection because it grew too big (from 98 to 14,000 items) for its original home where the Renwick Gallery now stands. Architect Ernest Flagg designed a new building after Corcoran's death in 1888 to display the collection. Flagg's design was completed in 1897 and in 1927 architect Charles Platt added a new round wing when Senator William Andrews Clark donated his collection of art.

MESSAGES FROM METOPES

The Corcoran's walls have a line of triglyphs and metopes running along the very top. The triglyphs look like a group of three stubby pillars helping to hold up the roof. The metopes are the spaces between the groups of triglyphs. These features were first seen on the walls of ancient temples, where the metopes were often carved to tell a story. The Corcoran is sort of a temple to art – created to honor “American Genius.” If the metopes here were actual carvings – what story would they tell? What might they look like? What looks like genius to you?

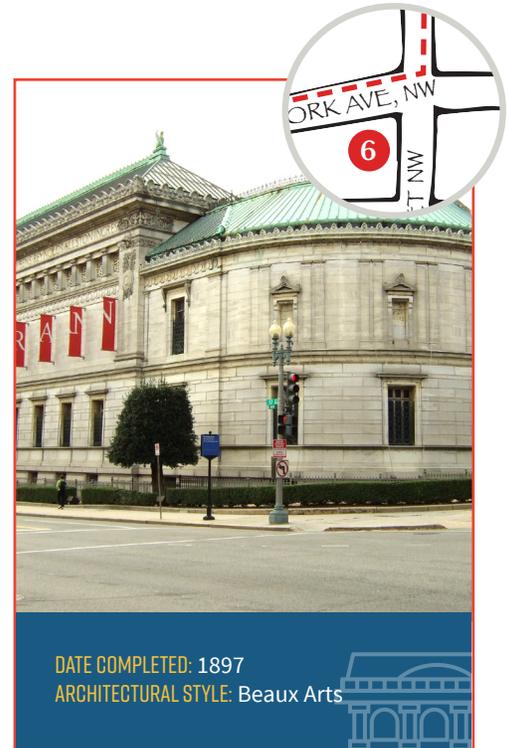
INNER SPACE

An art museum needs a different kind of interior than say an office building. Its purpose is to allow people to gather to look at art. What kinds of features are most important to do this? What should we keep in mind with space? What should we keep in mind with light? What should doors, windows and floors look like?



CONVERSATION STARTERS

Have you ever decorated something? How did that decoration show your personality, unique ideas or what is important to you?



INTERESTING FACT

William Corcoran not only loved art – he wanted others to love it, too. When his first museum was built he gave \$900,000 to its upkeep (a lot of money in 1870) with the requirement that the museum be free to the public at least two days a week. He also gave \$100,000 to endow an art school to be attached to it.

For more information when you get home, Google: “William Corcoran,” “Senator William Andrews Clark.”

If you print the children's edition, your kids can also follow along with their own fun activities.

The Octagon

1799 New York Avenue Northwest, Washington, DC 20006

You can go inside this building! Open Thursday–Saturday from 1pm–4pm.

3 SHAPES + 8 ANGLES

Designed by architect Dr. William Thornton for Col. John Tayloe III around 1800, the Octagon is “one of the most influential residences in the city.” Thornton, the first architect of the U.S. Capitol, had the challenge of designing this stately home on an irregularly shaped lot. His solution combined one circle, two rectangles and a triangle, an interesting assortment of shapes that create eight angles – but it’s not an octagon. How do the different shapes and angles work together to create an impression? How many sides does it actually have?

After the British burned the President’s House in 1814, President James Madison and First Lady Dolley Madison lived in the Octagon for several months while the President’s House was restored. In 1815, President Madison signed the Treaty of Ghent, ending the war with the British, in the Octagon.

FEDERAL BRICKS

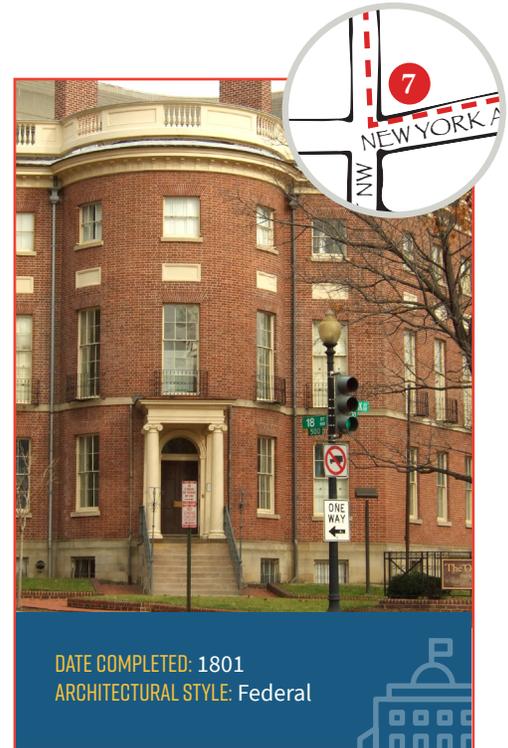
This building is considered by many to be a shining example of the Federal Style. Part of that style is beautiful red bricks. It certainly looks different from the huge, modern concrete buildings that now surround it. Many older homes in Washington are made from brick. What are the advantages and disadvantages of building with brick versus wood or concrete?

ONE BUILDING—MANY USES

The original owners lent this house to French diplomats during the War of 1812 to help protect it from being destroyed by the British. President James Madison lived here when the White House was being restored. Since then, it’s been a girls’ school, offices for the U.S. Navy, and was even rented to 10 working families (each family living in one of its many rooms). Today, it is part of the headquarters for the American Institute of Architects and contains a museum of architecture.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

What’s your favorite shape? Why? Does anyone here believe in ghosts? What kind of house did the Big Bad Wolf have the most trouble blowing down?



INTERESTING FACT

The Octagon is one of the most haunted buildings in Washington. Apparitions have been seen on the spiral staircase, the second and third floor landings, and in the garden. And ghosts have been heard over the decades when the servants’ bells ring from an unseen hand or when the sound of rustling silk comes from the staircase. Spirits have even been smelled. The spirit of former First Lady Dolley Madison is said to walk the house and always brings with her the scent of lilacs.

For more information when you get home, Google: “William Thornton,” “American Institute of Architects.”

You’ve completed the tour! Thanks for taking us along.

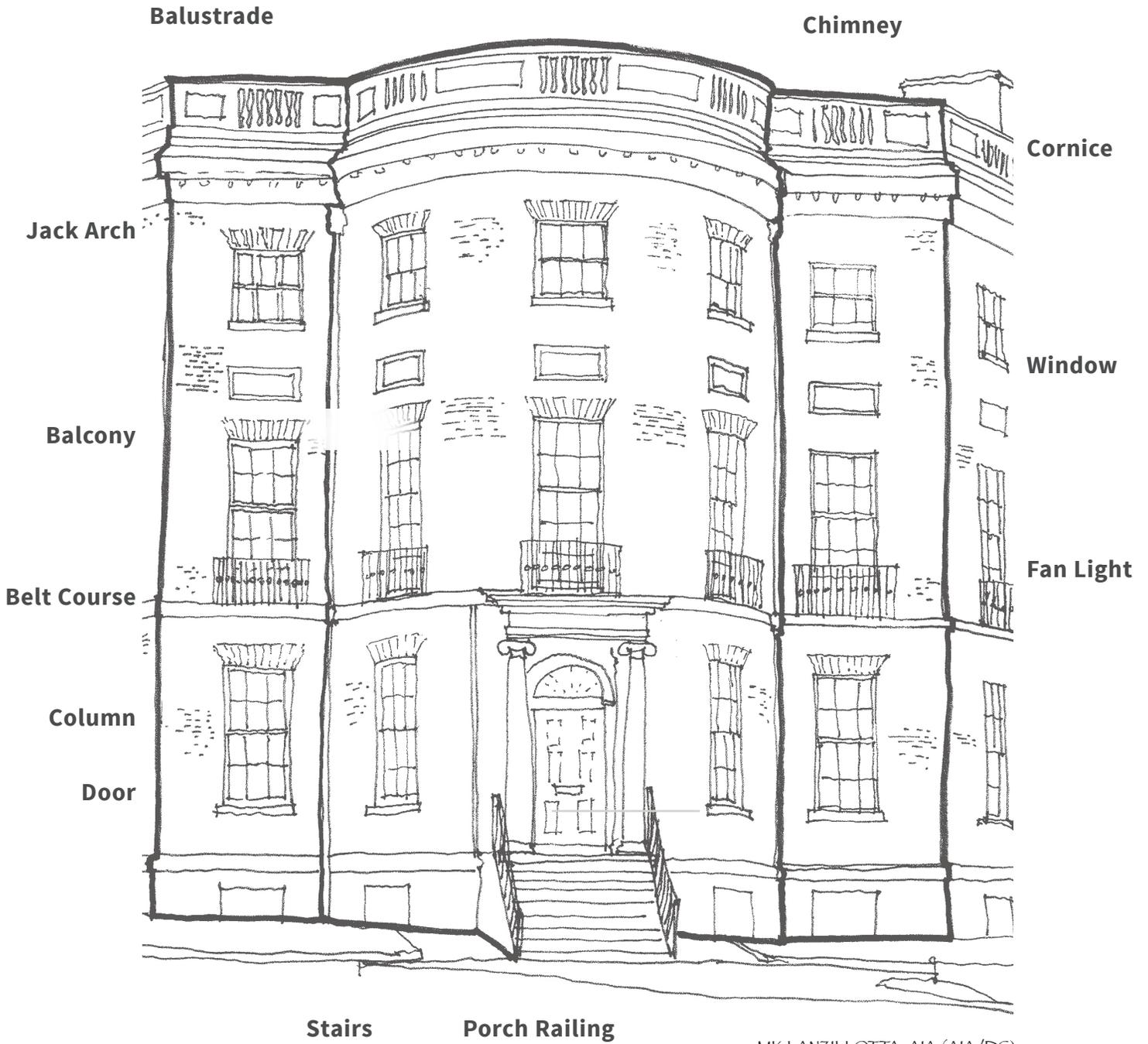
As you head home you can use these final conversation starters to wrap up the experience: *What do these buildings and their history tell you about Washington, DC? Was there anything that surprised you about what you learned and experienced today?*

CHILDREN'S EDITION STARTS HERE

All pages printed in landscape format are for your children to follow along during the tour.

Architectural Vocabulary

Use the vocabulary terms to identify the features on the drawing above. Draw a line from the vocabulary term to the feature.



Ringgold Residence

SEALS OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO HAVE INHABITED THE RINGGOLD RESIDENCE

Similar to architecture, seals use a lot of symbolism.

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE SYMBOLS IN THESE SEALS REPRESENT?

Eagles:

Arrows:

Flags:

Stars:

Olive branch:

Badges:



Winder Building

Follow along with your tour guide's edition and connect the pictures below to this location's history!

TALLEST BUILDINGS IN DC - WHAT'S WITH THAT HEIGHT RESTRICTION ANYWAY?

A common myth about the Washington skyline is that no building can be taller than the dome of the U. S. Capitol because city planner Pierre L'Enfant wanted to preserve views of the Capital and the Washington Monument. The real reason for the height restriction, however, was the Cairo Apartment Building, formerly known as the Cairo Hotel.

At the time it was built in 1894, the 14-story, 164-foot tall building, was the tallest building in Washington. Perched on Q Street near Dupont Circle, the building residents were concerned about whether it would overwhelm the neighborhood. They also worried about its sturdiness and the ability of existing fire equipment to reach the top floors. These concerns prompted Congress to establish the Height of Buildings Act of 1899 to ensure that any future buildings in the District would remain safe.

Modern building materials and firefighting equipment make this height restriction unnecessary, but the District still recognizes the Act and that's why the Washington skyline remains mostly under 13 stories to this day.

WASHINGTON MONUMENT

Height: 555 Feet



CAPITOL BUILDING

Height: 289 Feet



CAIRO HOTEL

How tall is this building? _____ Feet



WINDER BUILDING

Height: 75 Feet



Smithsonian Renwick Gallery

Date building was completed:

Architectural Style (ex. Victorian):

SPOTLIGHT

SECOND EMPIRE "RULES"

Below are three examples of elements that make up Second Empire architecture.



Paired Columns



Mansard Roof



Arched windows

NOTES

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT THIS BUILDING?

Handwriting area with seven horizontal lines for notes.

ACTIVITY

IMAGINE IT. DRAW IT!

Draw a few pieces of art you would include if you could exhibit your own collection at the gallery. (For example: a recent craft project or a portrait of your family)

Large empty rectangular box for drawing.

BONUS

INTERESTING FACT:

What other building did architect James Renwick, Jr. design?

Horizontal line for writing the answer to the bonus question.

The President's House

Architect James Hoban's design for the White House was inspired by English and Irish country houses in *Gibbs' Book of Architecture: An Eighteenth-century Classic* by James Gibbs. The Leinster House is considered its architectural twin and might have served as an inspiration to Hoban. List below some of the similarities and differences that you notice between the two buildings.

THE LEINSTER HOUSE

Dublin, Ireland



THE WHITE HOUSE

Washington, D.C.



SIMILARITIES

DIFFERENCES

SIMILARITIES

DIFFERENCES

Eisenhower Executive Office Building

(Old State, War & Navy Building)

Date building was completed:

Architectural Style (ex. *Victorian*):

VOCABULARY

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS

Pediment | ped·uh·muhnt | a triangular gable forming the roof slope over a portico, doorway or window, usually supported by columns.

Doric Columns | dor·ik | an unornamented, fluted column first used in Greece in the 6th Century.

Dormer Windows | dawr·mer | a vertical window that sticks out from a sloping roof.

Mansard Roof | man·sahrd | a type of roof with four sides that each have two slopes, the lower one steeper than the upper one.

NOTES

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT THIS BUILDING?

Blank lined area for notes.

ACTIVITY

IDENTIFY AND CIRCLE

Find the architectural elements from the list on the left and circle them in the picture below.



TREVOR JOHNSON (AIA/DC)

BONUS

INTERESTING FACT:

Who is the President that this building is named after?

Blank line for the bonus question answer.

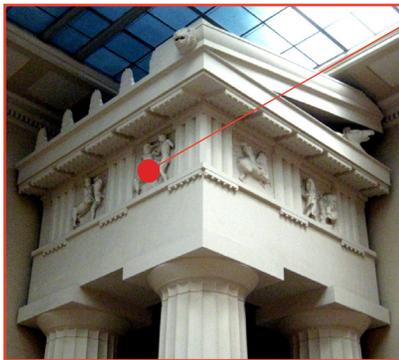
The Corcoran Gallery of Art

Metopes and triglyphs include carvings that tell different stories. However, the metopes on the Corcoran Gallery of Art don't have any story carvings inside of them. In the box below draw your own carving to tell a story about the building.

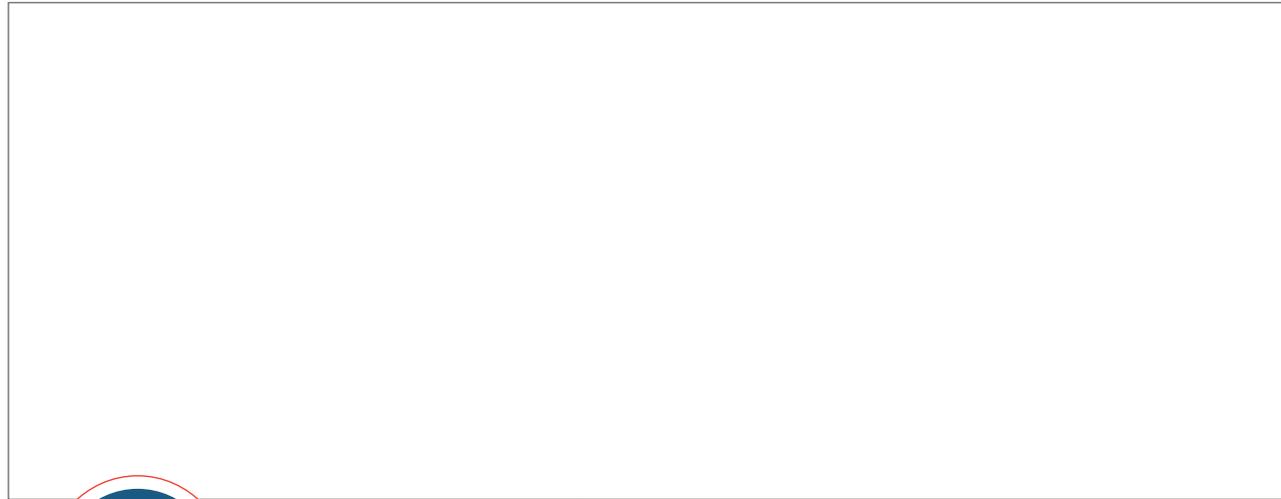
DEFINITIONS

Triglyphs grooved projecting blocks along the top of a wall just under the roof.

Metope the rectangular element between two triglyphs, often showing a carving.



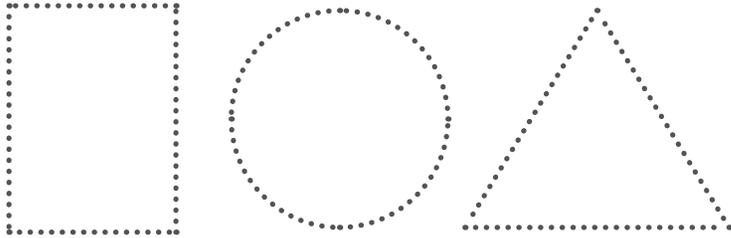
Draw your
own metope
carving.



The Octagon

Rectangles, circle and triangles. That's what makes up the (not so octagon) Octagon House. What would it look like if you arranged the shapes differently?

FIND THESE SHAPES IN THE FLOOR



TRY IT YOURSELF!

Use the space below to arrange the shapes differently and create your own floor plan!

