



TEACHER GUIDE TO ACTIVITY BOOK

Activity #1: Analyzing Architecture-Comparing Primary Sources

Overview

Historians utilize a wide variety of resources to interpret and understand the past. A **primary source** is any item created during the period of study, including letters, diaries, or photographs. However, many other items can be used as primary sources, such as jewelry, clothing, art, artifacts, and **architecture** from that time period.

In this activity, students will use analyze and compare the architectural styles of the 1912 Historic Courthouse and the current Citrus County courthouse, built in 1979.

Historians also use **secondary sources**, items which discuss the period of study, but were created later by those who did not experience the event first hand. These include scholarly books, textbooks, encyclopedias, and more.

Objectives

Students will:

- ⇒ Analyze primary source materials (historic buildings/architecture)
- ⇒ Create their own courthouse design based on an art prompt

Grade

4

Sunshine State Standards

- ⇒ SS.4.A.1.1 Analyze primary and secondary resources to identify significant individuals and events throughout Florida history.
- ⇒ VA.4.S.1.3 Create artworks that integrate ideas from culture or history.
- ⇒ VA.4.C.3.3 Use the art-making process, analysis, and discussion to identify the connections between art and other disciplines.

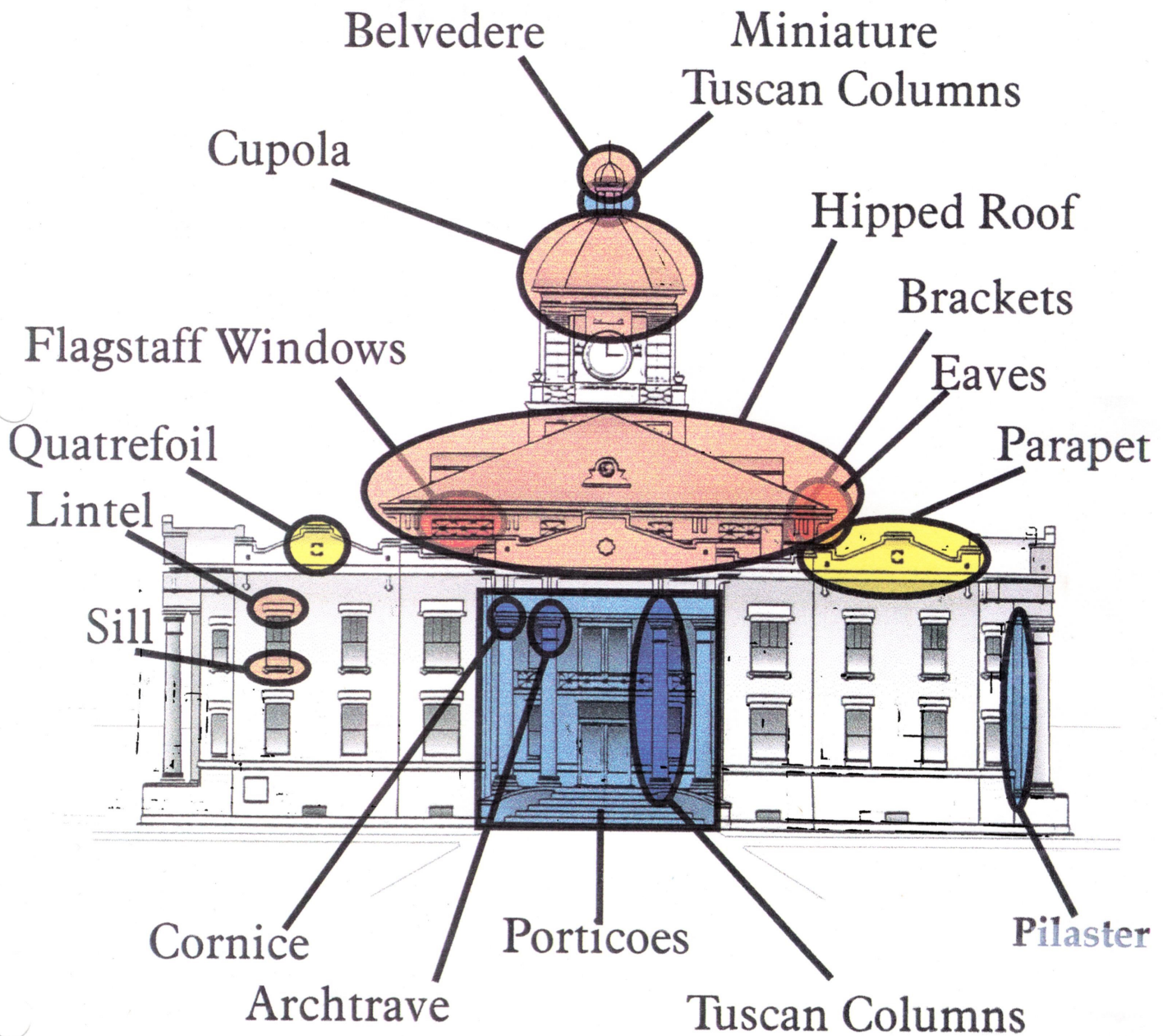
Architectural Styles

Neoclassical

Mission

Italian Renaissance

Prairie School





Student

Architectural Styles of the Old Courthouse Heritage Museum

The Old Courthouse Heritage Museum's design combined four unique architectural styles, *Neoclassical*, *Italian Renaissance*, *Mission*, and *Prairie School*. Built in 1912, the grand courthouse was supposed to show the growth of Citrus County.

Neoclassical Architecture

Neoclassical architecture emerged in the mid-1700s in Italy and France. The field of archaeology was developing at the time, and architects were making designs influenced by excavations of ancient Greek and Roman cities, such as Pompeii. The style became very popular in the United States in the early 1800s, and many major governmental buildings were designed in this style.

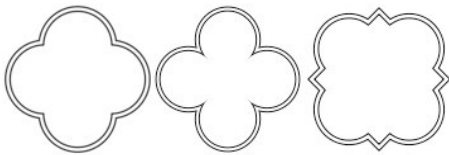
It is characterized by grandeur of scale, simplicity, and symmetry. The historic courthouse's neoclassical features include an imposing size, symmetrical design, and a **portico (porch leading to an entrance)** supported by Tuscan columns.

Italian Renaissance

This style of architecture was popular during the 1400s and 1500s in Europe, especially in Italy. It shares many features with neoclassical design, especially its focus on symmetry and inspiration from ancient Rome. One of its most recognizable and unique features rounded domes and cupolas, as can be seen on the clock tower of the historic courthouse.

Mission

Mission Revival architecture emerged in the late 1800s. It was inspired by the look of Spanish missions in California in the 1700s. The mission style is a very recognizable look. The roof parapets and quatrefoil designs of the courthouse are inspired by this style. A **quatrefoil** is an ornamental design that is shaped like a four leaf clover. It can have many different variations as seen in the picture below.



Prairie School

Prairie School was developed in the late 1800s and early 1900s. One famous Prairie School architect you may have heard of is Frank Lloyd Wright. Wright and other architects like him wanted to create a unique architectural style in North America, with lots of horizontal lines that represented the expanse of the American Midwest. The **flagstaff windows** on the second floor of the Museum are from this style.



Student



Architectural Styles of the Current Citrus County Courthouse

The current Citrus County Courthouse was built in 1979. The county population had outgrown the historic courthouse. The new modern building maximized space and function.

Modern

The current courthouse is an example of Modern architecture. Modern architecture favors minimalist design. Many office or corporate buildings are designed like this. The architect designs the building based on what its function is.



Student

Think about the differences in the design between the two buildings. The architectural styles and design of the building can tell us a lot about the past and the people who designed and built the structure.

Choose One of the Activities Below:

Activity #1:

Now you get to be an architect. You will design and draw a community building based on one of the prompts. You should be able to explain why you made the design choices you made. Be prepared to present your building to the class.

Prompts:

The year is 1880. You are designing a school house for a newly settled town in Florida. There are only a few families in the area now but the town is hoping to grow in the coming years.

The year is 2078. Lots of people go to school online these days. How you would design a school hoping to get more students to come to class in person?

The year is 1868. Your city is rebuilding a library after the Civil War. Your building materials are limited but you want to restore this resource to people as soon as possible.

You are a member of a group of indigenous Floridians. Your tribe had been nomadic but is now settling in one place. What would your community center look like? How would you build a structure where all the people could gather for important events?

Activity #2:

Research a historical building of your choice. Find out who the architect was and what styles were used in the design. What does this building tell you a people, place, or history of where it was built? Prepare a short presentation on your building to the classroom.