

Angels in the Architecture 2: Build it Bigger Round 7

1. Several fan blades and I-beams surround a dilapidated electrical shed this company built in a cornfield as a back exit to its facility. After this company expanded its business beyond shower curtain manufacturing, it moved its headquarters to an abandoned salt mine on the Upper Peninsula, where a secret door leads to the drydock in which its constructed the *Borealis*. After the player avoids “victory candescence” and refuses to “assume the party escort submission position,” she must use one of this company’s products to escape through the back rooms of its facility. This company’s Test Chamber 17 contains one of the Rat Man’s dens as well as an incinerator into which the player must drop the Weighted Companion Cube. For 10 points, name this scientific research company whose Enrichment Center was flooded with deadly neurotoxin by GLaDOS and which provides the setting for the *Portal* games.

ANSWER: **Aperture** Science [do not accept or prompt on “Black Mesa”]

2. He’s not Norman Foster, but this architect has been commissioned to design the headquarters building for the Masdar City mega-development in Abu Dhabi. This architect’s plans for a “stayed-mast” design at the cancelled 7 South Dearborn project began his move away from Fazlur Khan’s “bundled tube” structural system for skyscrapers, and that movement continued as a collaboration with structural engineer Bill Baker on the “buttressed core” system used on his two tallest buildings. Though he now runs a practice with Gordon Gill, this architect was until 2006 a partner at SOM, for whom he designed the Burj Khalifa. For 10 points, name this man who is currently building the world’s new soon-to-be tallest building, Saudia Arabia’s kilometer-tall Jeddah Tower.

ANSWER: Adrian **Smith**

3. The so-called “Rothschild of the Palestinians,” Munib al-Masrim, has constructed a copy of this building atop Mount Gerizim, outside Nablus. In the 1980s, Sir Sebastian de Ferranti commissioned British architect Julian Bicknell and designer Felix Kelly to create Henbury Hall, an English country house modeled on this building. Other English buildings that take after this one include Colen Campbell’s Mereworth Castle and Lord Burlington’s Chiswick House. Thomas Jefferson called the designer of this house his “architectural Bible” and incorporated its features into his design for Monticello. It is sometimes named for the Capra brothers, who hired Vincenzo Scamozzi to complete the flattened dome of this building that sits at the center of a four-portico design. For 10 points, name this country house designed principally by Andrea Palladio.

ANSWER: Villa La **Rotonda** [or **Villa Capra** before mentioned; if someone says “the Pantheon” on one of the inspiration clues, prompt them by asking “more immediately?”]

4. Wooden beams called “monkey heads” protrude from the facade of a cave church in this country that resembles a monastery perched atop an *amba* plateau that is only accessible by climbing a rope. The first western accounts of this country’s monuments were provided by the Portuguese missionary Francisco Alvares, who visited shortly before Ahmed Graññ’s invasion destroyed many churches here. This site of the Yemrehanna Kristos church and the Debre Damo monastery is also home to a group of eleven churches that the *Kebra Negast* claims were carved by teams of angelic workmen. In 1937, Italian troops massacred monks outside this country’s holiest monastery, Debre Libanos, and its church of Maryam Tsiyon supposedly contains the Ark of the Covenant. For 10 points, name this country home to the rock-cut churches of Lalibela.

ANSWER: **Ethiopia**

5. Walter Curt Behrendt included a photograph of this event on the cover of his triumphalist book *The Victory of the New Building Style*. Buildings constructed for this event were reimagined as the setting for Arab village life in a disparaging Nazi postcard depicting it. The title of Richard Pommer and Christian F. Otto’s authoritative book on this event identifies it with “The Modern Movement in Architecture,” and in the years before the “International Exhibition” at MoMA, the group of structures created for this event essentially defined the modern aesthetic of the smooth-walled white cube. Mies organized, and he gave the two best sites here to Le Corbusier, though other leading names like Hilbersheimer, Taut, and Gropius all contributed buildings for this event, which included townhouses, apartment buildings, and single-family dwellings. Organized by the Deutscher Werkbund in 1927, for 10 points, name this exhibition of modernist housing in Stuttgart.

ANSWER: **Weissenhofsiedlung** [or **Weissenhof Estate**; or *Die Wohnung*; or *The Dwelling*]

6. The original book about this group ends with an essay by Philip Johnson, their godfather, asking “What would Le Corbusier say, who at the end of his life so hated his buildings of the 20s, which these architects use as their models?” An essay by a rival group led by Robert A.M. Stern attacked this group for their high modern formalism, and the conflict between that group and this group grew to be interpreted as a battle between “the Whites” and “the

Grays.” The black sheep of this group spent his later career on postmodern work like the Portland Building, while a more faithful member depicted House VI in a group of isometric drawings, and another gained later fame for designing the J. Paul Getty Center in LA. For 10 points, name this controversial mighty handful based in New York City, whose members included Peter Eisenman and Richard Meier.

ANSWER: New York **Five**

7. Matt Kavalier has argued that northern European craftsmen’s work on this building was crucial to their awareness of alternatives to Gothic in the fourteenth century. This building lies at the center of the area bounded by the so-called “Spanish Walls.” At the center of this building’s facade is a lancet window with pinwheel-shaped tracery. The monumental octagonal capitals of this church’s piers each include eight niches holding statues of saints. This church’s tallest spire is capped by the gold-painted, halberd-wielding statue of the *Madonnina*, and its Gothic facade was planned in the seventeenth century but only finished under Napoleon. This building’s most distinctive feature is its forest of 135 pinnacles. For 10 points, name this biggest church and foremost exemplar of Gothic architecture in Italy.

ANSWER: **Milan** Cathedral [or Cattedrale di **Santa Maria Nascente**; or Cathedral of **Mary of the Nativity**]

8. A phenomenological study of this architect’s churches by Jin Baek is titled *Nothingness*. A church built by this architect is accessible through a tunnel of frosted turquoise glass connecting it to a hotel on Mount Rokko. One feature of a church by this man was cribbed from the Otaniemi Chapel at Aalto University, and that church by this man is entered through a cubic glass antechamber that contains a square space formed by four almost-touching concrete crosses. One church by this man features a large plate-glass back wall providing a view towards a pair of steel girders in the shape of a cross that stand in a pond. Another church by this man is a small poured concrete cube whose back wall includes a cruciform slit that lets in illumination from the rising sun. For 10 points, name this 1995 Pritzker laureate, the Japanese designer of the Church on the Water and the Church of Light.

ANSWER: Tadao **Ando**

9. This architect’s thoughts and designs were published in his book *Architecture: Essay on the Art*. An enormous rectangular skylight cut into a barrel vault covers this man’s design for a many-tiered library whose shelves rise around a rectangular courtyard. A ring of cypresses surround a truncated conical tower in this architect’s design for a “temple of death.” This architect’s most iconic design includes a three-tiered cylindrical base supporting a spherical room 500 feet in diameter, decorated with stars on the ceiling and a tiny sarcophagus at the center. For 10 points, name this French neoclassical architect best known for his unbuilt design for a cenotaph for Isaac Newton.

ANSWER: Étienne-Louis **Boullée**

10. This building was funded by a tax on all coal that passed through a perimeter marked by ornamental posts. This building’s commissioners were duped into thinking they were getting its “warrant” design, focused on a large central spire, but its architect secretly had royal approval to alter almost every aspect of the plans, including ditching the spire for two massive catenary domes separated by a brick cone to support a crowning lantern. About halfway up that dome in this building, one can experience the interesting acoustics of the Whispering Gallery. This building’s architect is buried within it in a tomb that famously quips, “Reader, if you seek his monument, look around you.” For 10 points, name this Anglican cathedral in London, rebuilt after the Great Fire of 1666 by Christopher Wren.

ANSWER: **St. Paul’s** Cathedral

11. The middle of this essay makes a bizarre analogy hinging on its author’s preference for non-representational gingerbread cookies. This essay claims that the first artist was a caveman who painted a cross on a wall and asks the reader to consider what happened to the work of Otto Eckmann and Henry van de Velde. The beginning of this essay notes that while the Papuan eats his enemies and tattoos himself, he is not a modern degenerate. The end of this essay points out that the aristocrat can unwind with Beethoven or Tristan at the end of the day, a perk not afforded to the shoemaker, who must turn to this essay’s subject instead. Before claiming that “all art is erotic,” this essay calls its subject “the baby talk of painting.” For 10 points, name this essay by Adolf Loos that decries the florid styles of the Vienna Secession.

ANSWER: “**Ornament and Crime**” [or “**Ornament und Verbrechen**”]

12. With the help of colleague Rudolph Wittkower, art historian Richard Krautheimer spent forty years compiling a catalogue of buildings built according to this plan. The *macellum* was often found across from a building with this plan. Fulda was the site of a prominent monastery built according to a “double-ender” variation on this plan, which was a favorite of the Carolingians and Ottonians. A late secular use of this building plan is Constantine’s Aula Palatina at Trier. Old St. Peter’s was an unusually big one of these of these buildings with a five-aisle structure, and

buildings constructed according to this plan usually terminated in an apse at one end. For 10 points, name this infinitely-adaptable plan of many early Christian churches, which was derived from a Roman civic structure.
ANSWER: **basilicas**

13. During this dynasty, Li Jie wrote the *Yingzao Fashi*, the earliest complete surviving Chinese architectural treatise. Engineer Yu Hao of this dynasty wrote the *Timberwork Manual*, now lost but known thanks to its description in Shen Kuo's *Dream Pool Essays*. After Yu Hao's woodwork tower at the Youguo Temple was destroyed by lightning, Emperor Renzong of this dynasty ordered it rebuilt out of brick, though the result is now known as the Iron Pagoda. For 10 points, name this dynasty whose architecture in its capital of Kaifeng continued the trend of increased solidity and sophistication that began with their Tang predecessors.
ANSWER: **Song** Dynasty

14. Historian and preservationist Virginia Savage McAlaster's prediction that this type of building would disappear after the Great Recession by being sectioned into smaller units does not appear to have come true. A surefire identifier of this building type is a disproportionate portico, usually opening onto a double-height entryway lit by an oversized Palladian window, and its other characteristics can include jumbled rooflines, styrofoam molding, and hilariously nonsensical eclecticism. A blog documenting this building type was targeted with a cease-and-desist letter from real estate company Zillow over the rights to homeowner-uploaded photos that are then derisively annotated. For 10 points, name this building type common among suburbanites with more money than taste, which Kate Wagner skewers on a popular Tumblr about the "Hell" they create.
ANSWER: **McMansions** [prompt on homes or houses; prompt on mansions; accept **garage Mahal**, which is a term I had never heard before reading the Wikipedia article on McMansions but which is totally great]

15. King Hussein of Jordan donated a lone Corinthian column to this city from the ancient Roman city of Gerasa, or Jerash. The only time Michelangelo's *Pieta* left Rome, it was lent to this city for the Vatican pavilion at a world's fair, whose other big draws included the Space Park, an exhibition of full-scale rockets. A nine-thousand-square-foot architectural model of this city was also created for that world's fair. The only extant buildings from that world's fair are Philip Johnson's elliptical "Tent of Tomorrow" and the trio of observation towers abutting it, all of which overlook the Unisphere. For 10 points, name this city where Robert Moses organized the 1964-65 World's Fair in Flushing Meadows.
ANSWER: **New York**

16. Over 30% of Chicago is divided into 146 special districts where this policy is applied differently. *Nordlinger v. Hahn* affirmed that differential application of this policy did not violate the Equal Protection Clause and upheld an amendment co-authored by Paul Gann limiting year-to-year changes in it. This policy's increment is diverted within TIF districts, a type of value-capture financing mechanism. In 1978, an amendment proposed by Howard Jarvis, California's Proposition 13, capped increases in it at 2% per year and allowed its reassessment only upon major improvement or sale to a new owner. In the US, 81% of local-level school funding comes from this source, which many argue causes school inequities depending on the value of area homes. For 10 points, name this government levy on real estate value.
ANSWER: **property taxes** [accept any answer containing "**property tax**," prompt on "property"; prompt on "tax(es)"; prompt on "tax increment financing," "tax increment (financing) district(s)," "TIF," or "TIF district(s)" until *Nordlinger*]

17. This architect has been hired to design a skyscraper hotel, projected to be Europe's tallest, that will tower over Peter Zumthor's Therme Vals bath complex in Switzerland. This architect's collaborations with the GSA's Design Excellence Program have included the Caltrans District 7 Headquarters and the San Francisco Federal Building. As a student, this architect led a group who defected from Cal Poly Pomona to found the Southern California Institute of Architecture. One of this architect's clients took on so much debt to finance one of his buildings that they had to end their 150-year-old policy of providing a tuition-free college education. For 10 points, name this designer of the new Cooper Union building and founder of Morphosis Architects.
ANSWER: Thom **Mayne**

18. In the eighteenth century, the Diocese of Trier kept the Holy Tunic in a nearby one of these buildings overlooking the Rhine called the Ehrenbreitstein. Erik Dahlberg and Menno van Coehoorn were Enlightenment-era experts in the building of these structures. Ravelins, tenailles, and hornworks are kinds of accessories to these structures, whose *trace italienne* variety was built by the Marquis de Vauuban designed for Louis XIV. The Viennese Ringstrasse was built in the circle of space vacated when an obsolete one of these structures was torn down. For 10

points, name these military constructions whose “star” variety developed in response to the proliferation of gunpowder-powered artillery.

ANSWER: **fortresses/fortifications**

19. The Musée de Cluny holds an unusual nude *contrapposto* sculpture of Adam by this man that must have come from near a portal he designed with scenes from the life of St. Stephen. This man’s obituary records that he built at least the chapel of the Virgin and the refectory at St. Germain-des-Prés outside Paris. After the death of Jean de Chelles, this man completed work on the south transept facade at Notre Dame in Paris. This man may have completed some work at St. Denis, but no one knows exactly what. Although he probably had nothing to do with it, this man gained renown because he is often credited as the architect of the Sainte-Chapelle. For 10 points, identify this proponent of the Rayonnant and most famous named architect of medieval Paris.

ANSWER: **Pierre de Montreuil**

20. The Anglo-Saxon poem *The Ruin* is presumably about the decay of this site. In 2007, the Beau Street Hoard, a collection of 17,000 ancient coins, was found at this site. The north end of this site included a building of unclear purpose, known only through a facade depicting the four seasons, and the pediment of the main building at this site featured a carving of what is either a sun god or a gorgon. This site’s cult centered on a Celtic goddess syncretized with Minerva, and at a sacred spring in this city, a collection of curse tablets were found that cast aspersions on those who stole clothes from the changing areas here. For 10 points, name this site in Somerset where the Romans built a spa town called Aquae Sulis.

ANSWER: **Bath** [accept **Aquae Sulis** before mentioned]