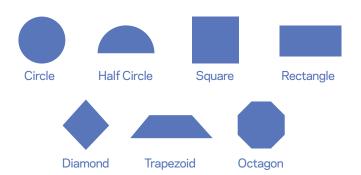
SHAPES AND PATTERNS

Buildings are made up of many different shapes and lines.

How many of these geometric shapes can you find on Ca' d'Zan? Where are they?



An organic shape is a shape based on something living like a plant or an animal.

What organic shapes do you see on Ca' d'Zan?

More than 2 shapes together make a pattern. There are 5 types of patterns:

- 1. Alternating patterns repeat 2 or more elements
- 2. Ascending patterns increase in size from small to medium to large *** * * *
- 3. Descending patterns decrease in size from large to medium to small ** ** **
- **4. Progressive** patterns repeat inside themselves



5. Repeating patterns repeat one element over and over \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$

What patterns do you see on Ca' d'Zan?

Do the patterns and shapes on Ca' d'Zan make the building look simple or complex? Bright or dull? Loud or quiet?

CA' D'ZAN CHALLENGE ANSWERS

- 1. The terrace is 200 feet long by 40 feet wide
- 2. 5 (4 stories plus the tower)
- 3. There are 180 windows and glass doors on Ca' d'Zan
- 4. Black, terra cotta, peach, gold, green, red, violet,
- 5. A basket of flowers, 2 seahorses, a vine, and the winged lion of St. Mark (the "mascot" of Venice)



LOOKING FOR MORE FROM **RINGLING EDUCATION?**

Explore more of what The Ringling has to offer in the Children's Welcome Center and at ringling.org.

Children's Welcome Center: Explore free printed educational resources, activities, and guides for families! Located in the Visitors Pavilion, the Children's Welcome Center can be your family's home base for the day as you explore all the wonders of The Ringling!

Free Family Programs: Join us for free weekly family programs and hands-on learning opportunities, all including free Museum Admission.

School and Teacher Programs: Make The Ringling your classroom for the day with free field trips, educator workshops, educator resources, and more!

Outreach Programs: Bring The Ringling to you with engaging hands-on art experiences through The Ringling Outreach Programs!

Adult Programs: Learn with us! Explore the exciting range of lectures, gallery talks, and workshops offered throughout the year.

CONNECT WITH US!

ringling.org

education@ringling.org

- f Family Programs at The Ringling
- f The Ringling
- (i) The Ringling



THE JOHN & MABLE RINGLING MUSEUM OF ART STATE ART MUSEUM OF FLORIDA | FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

SELF-GUIDED ACTIVITY SHEET

ARCHITECTURE OF CA' D'ZAN

WHAT IS ARCHITECTURE?

The word **architecture** has two meanings.

Architecture is:

1. The activity of designing and planning buildings

who built or lived in them, how they

were built, and what they were used

for. Buildings come in all shapes, sizes,

and materials. Some buildings are so

2. The style of a building

To build their dream house they hired New York architect Every building is built for a reason. Some buildings Dwight James Baum and builder Owen Burns. Construction are meant to be lived in, while others are built started in 1924 and was completed in October of 1926. to be businesses, schools, palaces, and more! The Ringlings moved into Ca' d'Zan in December of 1926. We can learn a lot when we look closely at When John Ringling died in December buildings, especially about the people 1936, he left his estate, including

BRINGING VENICE TO SARASOTA

John and Mable Ringling went to Europe many times, often

to find new circus acts and to buy art for their collection.

One of their favorite places to visit was Venice, Italy. They decided to design their Sarasota house after the Italian

buildings were designed in a style called Venetian Gothic.

palazzos (palaces) that line the Grand Canal in Venice. These

become famous! Can you think of any famous buildings?

beautiful or interesting, they

Buildings are designed by people called architects. They draw plans (called **blueprints**) that tell construction workers how to build the structure.

Ca' d'Zan, to the state of Florida.



WHAT IS THE VENETIAN GOTHIC STYLE OF ARCHITECTURE?

The Venetian Gothic style of architecture was used in Venice, Italy from the 1200s to the early 1500s. Most Gothic buildings in Europe were big stone fortresses meant to protect their owners from warring neighbors. The people of Venice didn't need protection, living in a peaceful city that was naturally protected by water, so they built buildings that were bright, colorful, and airy. These buildings were covered in decoration, including many arches, colored or gilded designs, stone cutouts, and colored windows. The most famous example of Venetian Gothic architecture is the Doge's Palace in Venice. The Ringlings often visited Venice during their trips to Europe and designed the Ca' d'Zan after the Doge's Palace.

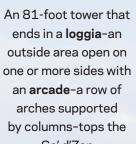
What elements of the Venetian Gothic style of architecture can be seen in the Ca' d'Zan?

Quatrefoils-cutout forms that look like flowers with 4 petals-decorate above the windows on the second floor

Most of the windows and doors are surrounded by ogee arches-arches with a double curve that have the shape of an elongated s. Some of the windows are trefoil arches-arches that have a 3 part curved piece on top

> The glass doors that lead to the Court are separated by columns-cylindrical building supports

The terrace is covered in a mosaic-a decoration created by setting pieces of marble in a pattern



Ca' d'Zan

A spiral staircase-a staircase with steps that wind around a central axis-leads to the tower

> A large amount of bas relief-sculpture in which the design is only slightly raised from the background-and other terra cotta decorations in shades of soft red, yellow, green, blue, and ivory cover the walls

The balconies are supported by decorated corbels-projections from the wall that support structural elements

The windows are filled with colored European Lac glass in jewel tones

CA' D'ZAN CHALLENGE

Explore the outside of Ca' d'Zan then try to answer these questions (the answers are on the back).

- 1. If your footstep is about 1 foot long, how long is the terrace (the open porch behind the house)? Try walking the length to find out. (Adults, your footstep is about 18 inches long)
- 2. Look from the ground all the way to the top of the tower. How many stories is Ca' d'Zan?
- 3. Can you count higher than 100? If so, try counting the number of windows and glass doors on Ca' d'Zan. How many can you find?
- 4. Colors abound on the Ca' d'Zan. Which ones do you see?
- 5. Animals and plants decorate the railings surrounding Ca' d'Zan. Which four do you see?



Ca' d'Zan means "House of John" in Venetian dialect, but Mable was the one who designed and decorated the house.