

Zoom In Inquiry



It costs a dime to look through this Bausch and Lomb high power telescope
Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Division

**What might primary sources
tell us about math?**

**Determine what you see and
what questions you might ask to
get the
big picture.**

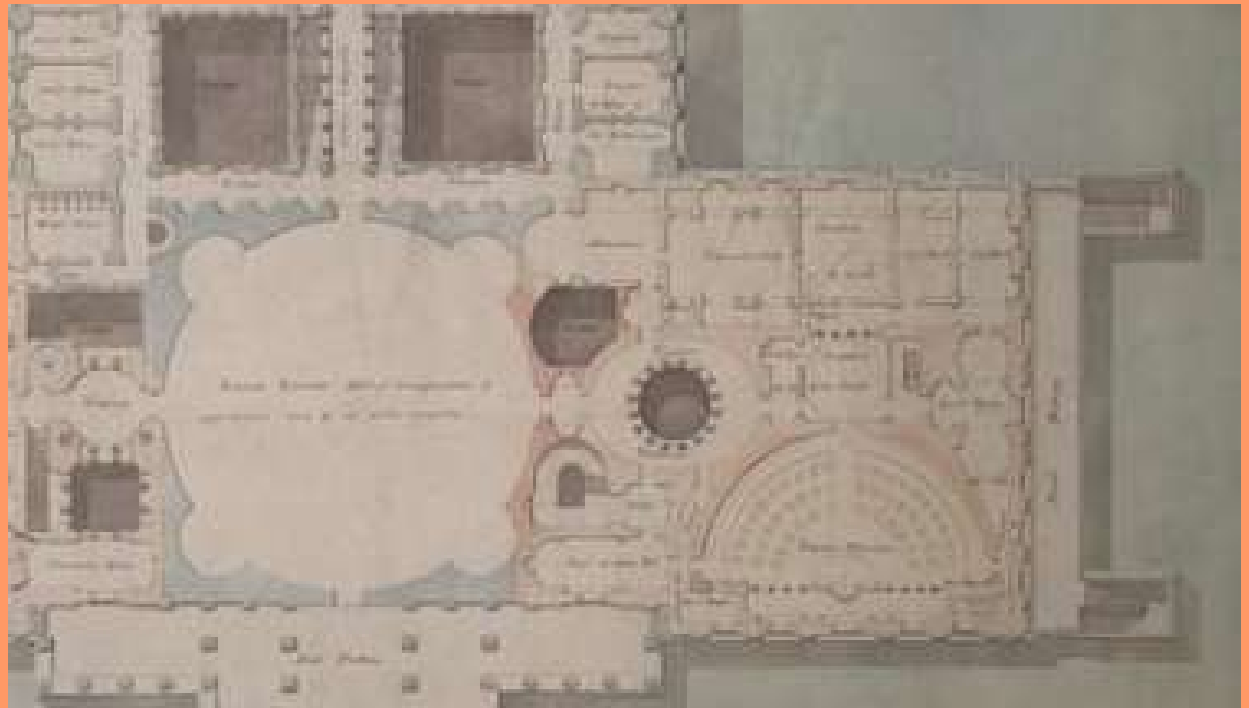
What shape(s) do you see?





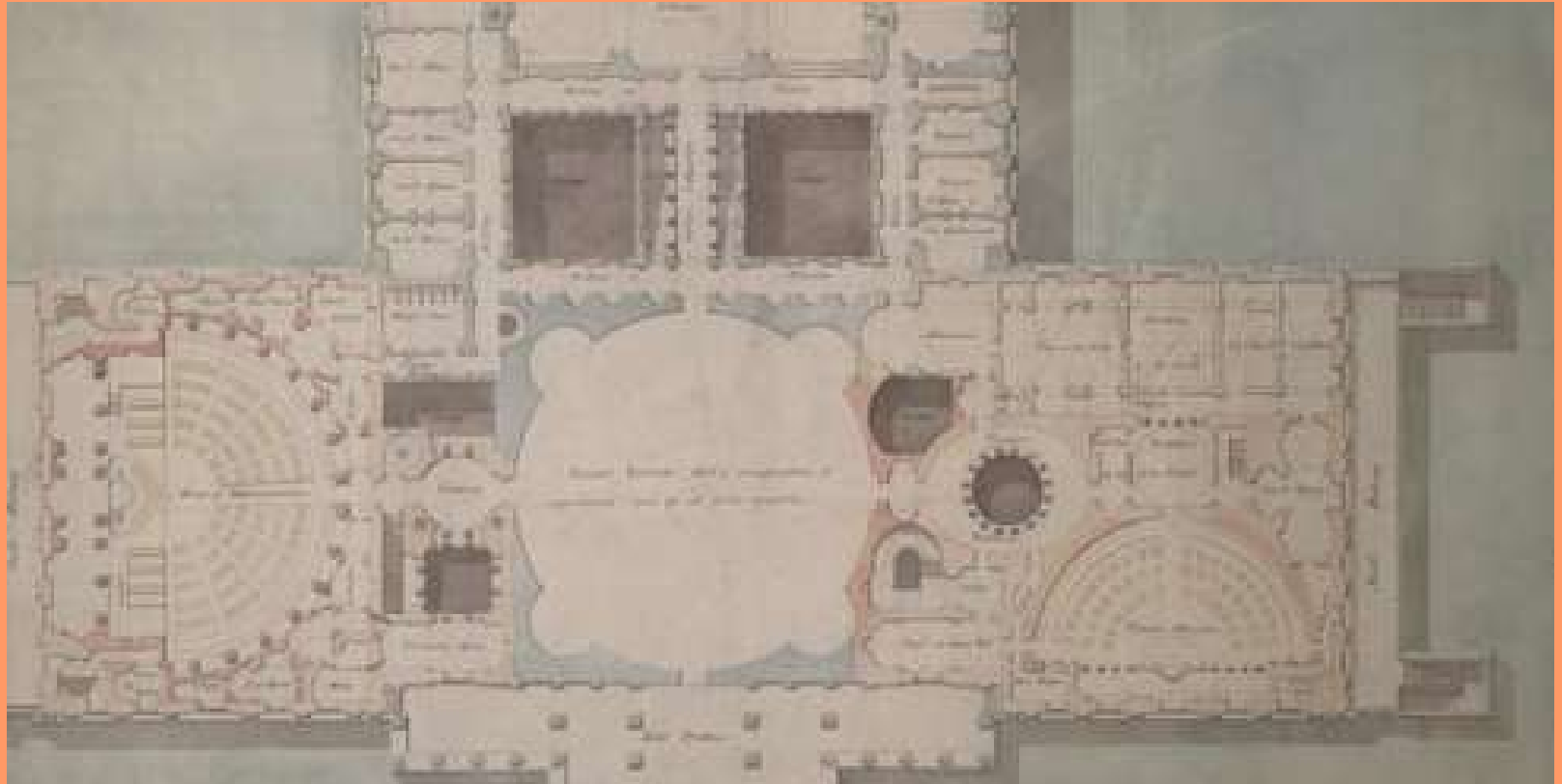
What additional shapes do you see?

Describe any line segments or angles you see.

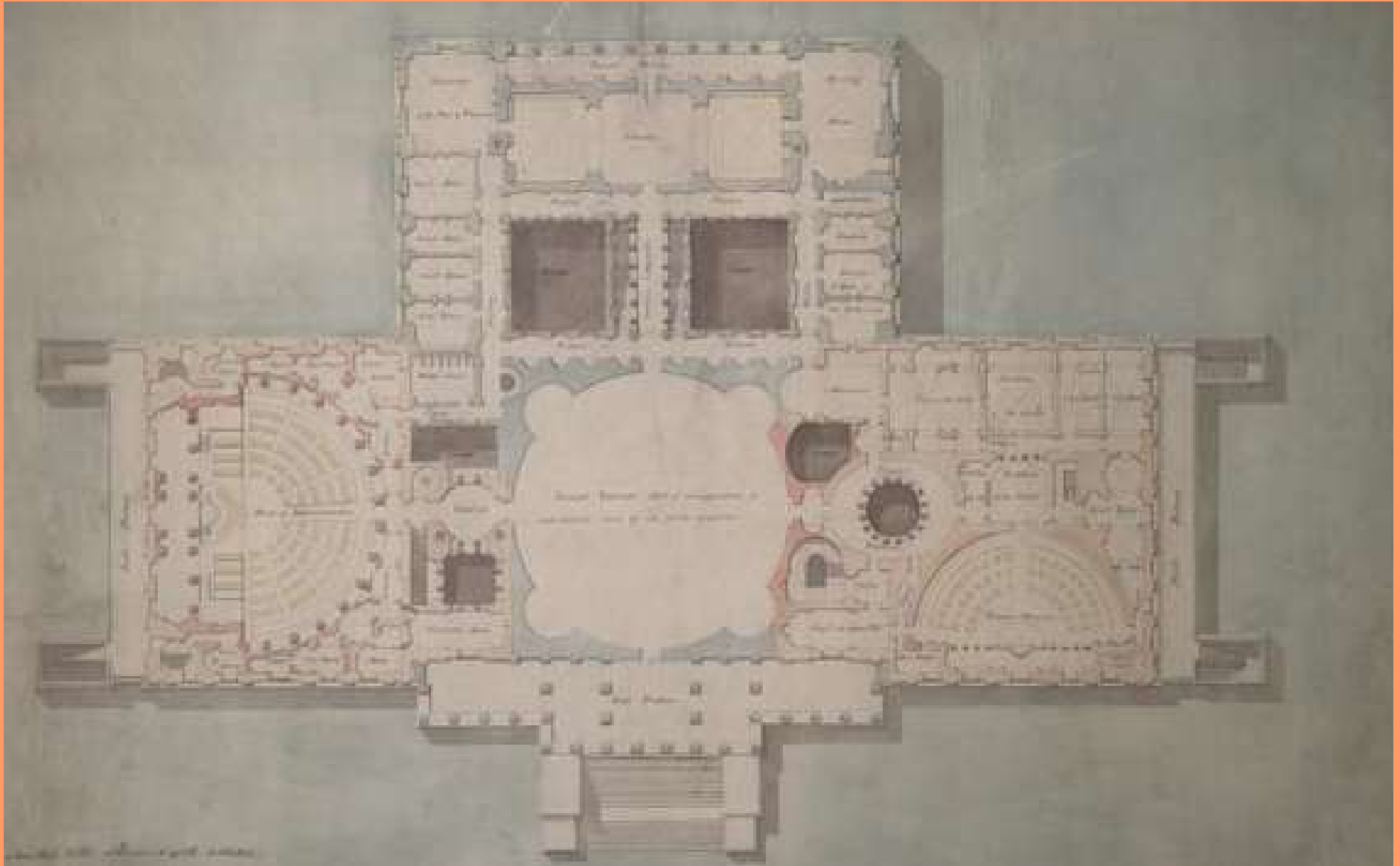


Do you see any **congruent** shapes?
Do you see any **similar** shapes?

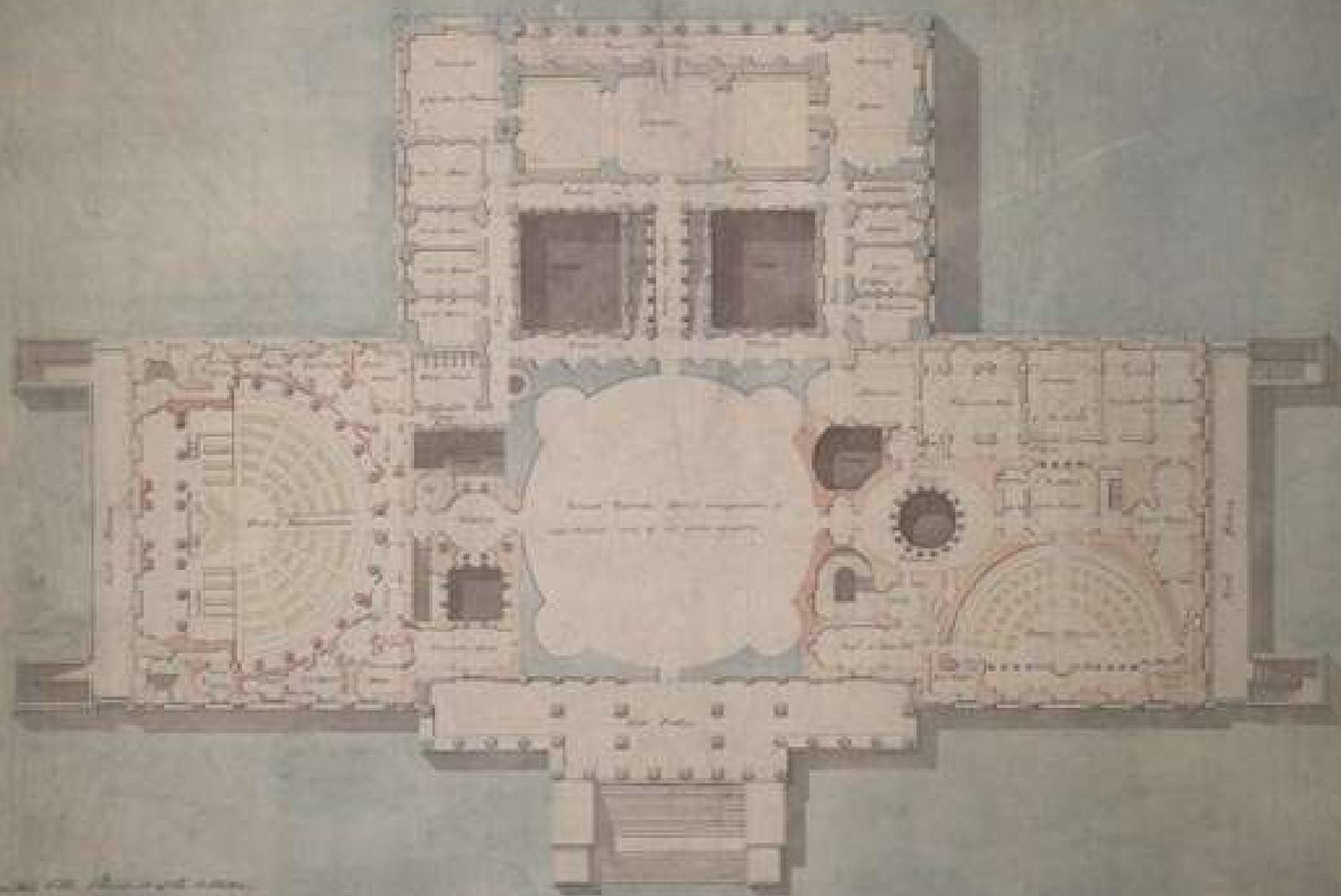
Describe what you think this is.



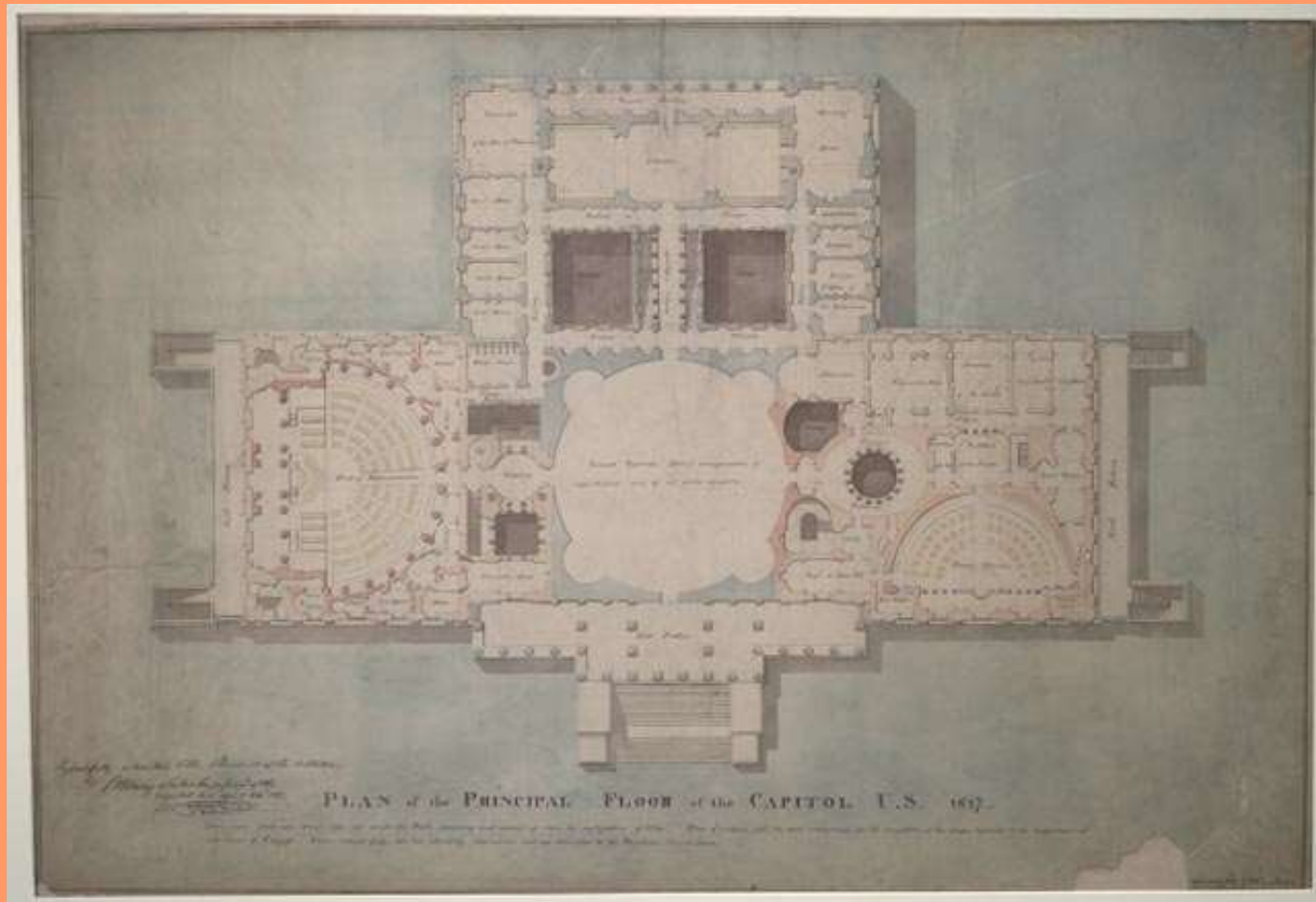
What do you think the shapes represent?



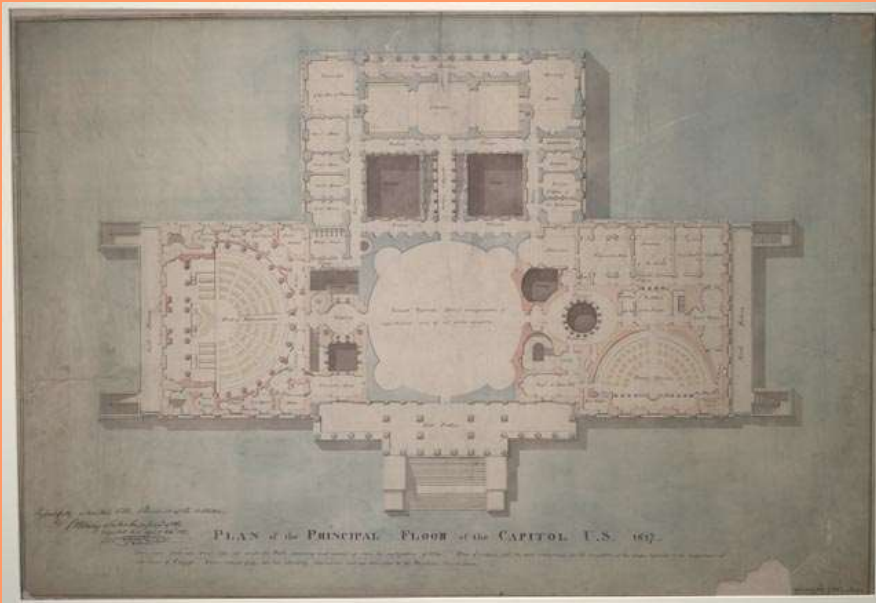
Is there **symmetry** in this drawing?
Why or why not?



PLAN OF THE PRINCIPAL FLOOR OF THE CAPITOL U.S. 1857.



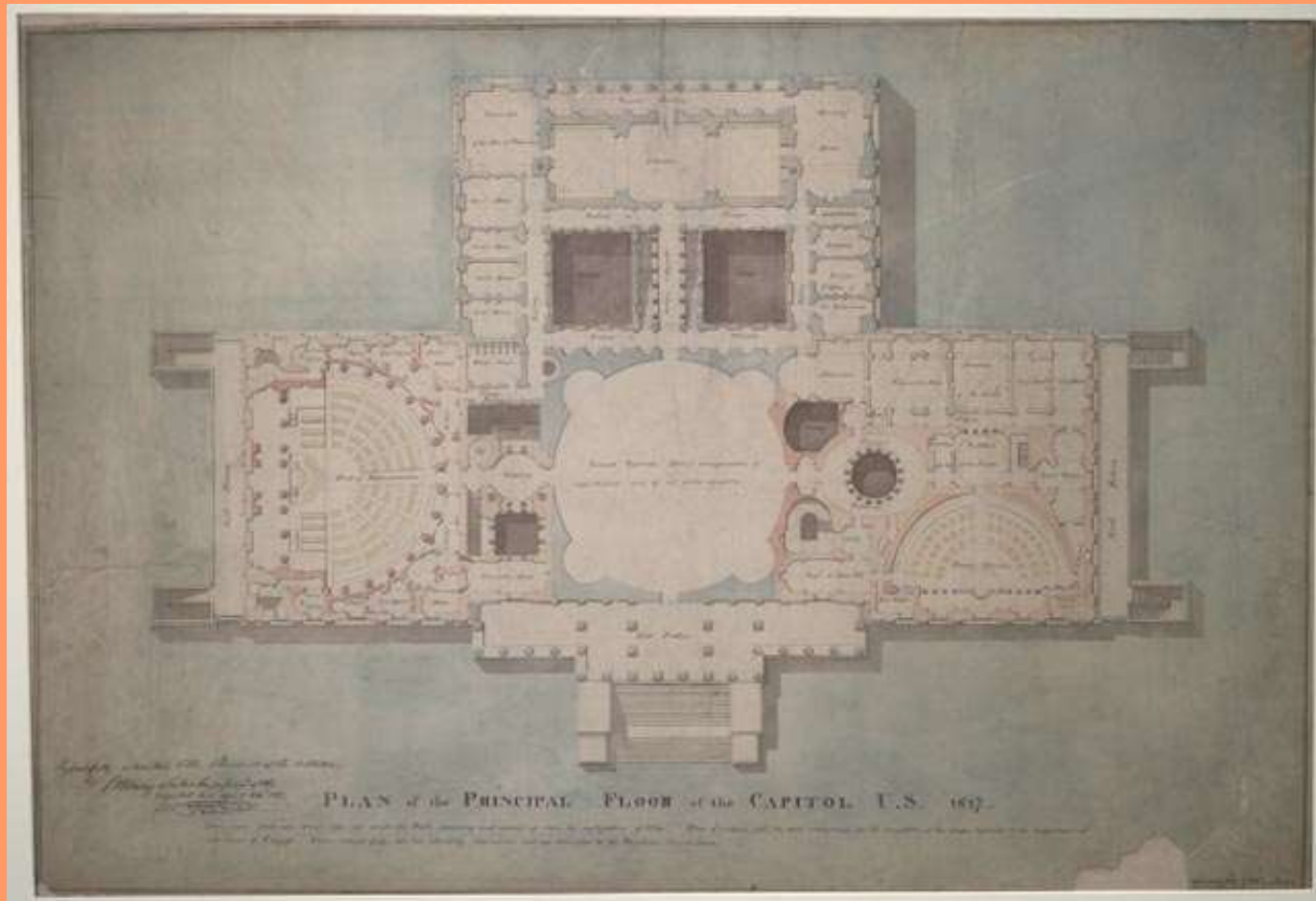
Why do you think the architect chose to use these shapes in the design of the Capitol?



United States Capitol, Washington, D.C. Principle floor plan, vestibule, library & senate chamber, House of Representatives
Prints and Photographs Division
Library of Congress

Capitol Building at Washington, D.C.
Prints and Photographs Division
Library of Congress

How does the designer's use of shapes relate to the purpose of this building?



Understanding the Big Picture

How is geometry applied when designing buildings?

Examine these primary sources to see how geometry was applied in building design.



War Department.
Pentagon, aerial view I
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Smithsonian Institute, 1860-65
Library of Congress Prints and
Photographs Division

Florida Southern College, E.
T. Roux Library
Library of Congress Prints
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