

### Observations (Student Sample)

If both the Smithsonian Castle and the Renwick Gallery are national museums, and both were designed by James Renwick Jr., then why do they look so different? In order to understand why these buildings exist, where their designs come from, and what they mean today begin by comparing the two. What can you conclude about these two buildings based on their history and their designs?

Smithsonian Castle	Both	Renwick Gallery
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Romanesque, English</li> <li>• 1846, designed</li> <li>• 1850, completed</li> </ul> <p>“We must reach the minds and hearts of the masses.”                      —Robert Dale Owen,                      Smithsonian Regent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• James Renwick, architect</li> <li>• Smithsonian Institution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Second Empire, French</li> <li>• 1859, designed</li> <li>• 1874, completed</li> </ul> <p>“The building really is our own biggest exhibit.”                      —Lloyd Herman, first director of the Renwick Gallery, 1973</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Romanesque, English</li> <li>• 1846, designed</li> <li>• 1850, completed</li>   <li>• Public owner</li> <li>• Worked with Mills, Owen</li> <li>• Museum of art, science, history, natural history</li> <li>• Research facility, offices, library, lecture hall, welcome center</li> <li>• Axis at the flag tower</li> <li>• Different triangles</li> <li>• asymmetrical</li> <li>• On the National Mall</li> <li>• Two stories, plus towers</li> <li>• Modern interior</li> <li>• brickwork</li> <li>• "Smithsonian Institution"</li> <li>• Secretary Joseph Henry</li>   <li>• Clock</li> <li>• Rose windows, pointed windows</li> <li>• stone</li> </ul> <p>"We must reach the minds and hearts of the masses."                      —Robert Dale Owen,                      Smithsonian Regent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• James Renwick, architect</li>   <li>• Smithsonian Institution</li>   <li>• Museum</li>   <li>• Axis</li> <li>• Triangles</li> <li>• Symmetry</li>   <li>• Two stories</li>   <li>• decorations</li> <li>• Inscriptions</li> <li>• Statues</li>   <li>• Arched windows</li> <li>Red stone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Second Empire, French</li> <li>• 1859, designed</li> <li>• 1874, completed</li>   <li>• Private owner</li> <li>• Worked with Corcoran</li> <li>• Art museum</li>   <li>• Court of Claims offices</li>   <li>• Axis at the front entrance</li> <li>• similar triangles</li> <li>• Symmetrical</li> <li>• Off the National Mall</li>   <li>• Restored to original interior</li> <li>• applied stone</li> <li>• "Dedicated to Art"</li> <li>• Rubens, Rembrandt, Titian</li> <li>• Pediments (carvings)</li>   <li>• brick</li> </ul> <p>"The building really is our own biggest exhibit"                      --Lloyd Herman, first director of the Renwick Gallery, 1973</p>

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**Smithsonian Institution Building or Castle**



**Renwick Gallery**