Historical Structures

Hagia Sophia

* Massive dome with large mosaics and minarets. (Structure)
* Mosaics represent the views of each reconstruction by Christians, Muslims, and now the museum coordinators. (Design)
* Byzantine style (Architecture)

Mosque Cathedral of Cordoba

* Noted for its hypostyle hall with over 800 columns made of jasper, onyx, marble, and granite. (Structure)
* Catholic, Christian, and Muslim religions have controlled this structure. (Religion)
* Battles over allowing Muslims to pray in the complex have been opposed Spanish officials and the Vatican, which reflects the contested view of Spanish identity and views. (Culture)
* Philosopher Muhammed Iqbal believed the structure to be an Islam landmark. (Culture)

Buddha’s of Bamiyan

* Statues represent classic blended style of Gandhara art. (Design)
* Main bodies were hewn with the sandstone cliffs, but stucco was used to make details. (Structure)
* Destroyed by the Taliban in 2001, due to a higher concern of restoring the statues rather than helping thousands of Afghans dying of hunger. (Culture)
* Caves were discovered after the destruction that led to the findings of paintings dating back to the 5th Century by travelers of the Silk Road. (Culture)

Ise Grand Shrine

* Complex of 125 shrines located in Ise city. (Design)
* The inner shine Naiku enshrines the Sun Goddess Amaterasu and holds the Sacred Mirror of the Emperor. (Culture)
* Rebuilt every 20 years, due to the belief in Shinto of the belief in death and the renewal of nature.
* Made of wood locking joints. Shinmei-Zukuri stye (Architecture)
* No pictures are allowed to be taken of the main shrines. (Unique)

Friends Meet House

* Religious society of Friends, Quaker. (Religion)
* A belief that meetings of worship do not require any special meeting place. (Religion)
* Simple, no religious symbols, and peaceful. (Design)
* Infused testimonies of the inner light when planning, building, and design of these structures. (Design)

The Great Mosque of Djenne

* Sun-baked bricks with sand and earth based mortar. Trapezoidal outline (Structure)
* Muslim. Prayer wall faces Mecca and overlooks marketplace (religion)
* Entire community participates in annual festival to repair the mosque (Cultural activities)
* Rebuilt in 1906 by French administration, design was thought to be heavily influenced by the French. (Design)