

Art of Spanish Colonial South America



OLLI
Fall 2021

Week 4



Architecture in the 17th Century

Architecture in the 17th Century

The “long” 17th century

- A. Architecture in the Kingdom of Quito
- B. Architecture in Cuzco and Lima before the Mid-Century Earthquakes
- C. Architecture in Cuzco and Lima after the Mid-Century Earthquakes
- D. Architecture in Arequipa
- E. Rural Churches in the Cuzco Region

A. Architecture in the Kingdom of Quito

A1. Overview of styles and elements

A2. Church and monastery of San Francisco

A3. Jesuit Church of La Compañía

A1. Overview of styles and elements

A few words about style...

- Colonial art & European style names... not always a good fit, though we'll use them
- What is style?... group of visual elements (color, composition) that vary together over time.
- European names (w/ architectural components):
 - Renaissance (16th C)... ordered design, elements from Greece & Rome (columns, arches, entablatures, etc.), suggest Euro dominance over indigenous
 - Plateresque (late 16th C)... “silver filigree-like”

A1. Overview of styles and elements

- **European names:**
 - **Mannerist (late 16th C)...** breaking Renaissance classical rules, artifice
 - **Baroque (late 17th/18th C)...** exuberant decoration upon classical structure
 - **Neoclassical (18th C)...**
 - return to strict classical
 - Euro authority in unstable time
 - Government buildings
 - ~ USA (e.g., White House, Capitol)
- **Styles interpreted by indigenous sensibilities**

A2. Church and monastery of San Francisco

- **Founded 1533, after entry to Atahualpa's capital (Quito)**
- **On land owned by Inca Huayna Capac**
- **Symbolizes victory of Spanish > indigenous & of Christian > pagan**
- **First monastery built in South America**
- **Jodoco Ricke academy**
- **Bailey: most splendid Renaissance exterior
OR Bayón: Flemish mannerist**
- **Large complex: church, cloisters, library, dormitories...**

A2. Church and monastery of San Francisco

Plaza of San Francisco



Dominant features: stairway and retablo-facade



Double stairway of grey stone

- After Bramante in Rome, early 1500s
- From engraving in Serlio's treatise, 1537
- Lower level convex, upper level concave



Retablo-façade

- Cf. rusticated grey stone with slightly patterned white stone
- ... and with flat surface of the white stone
- 3 vertical sections and 2 horizontal levels
- R-f projects forward from rest of façade
- triumphal arch design for central portal



- **Second level:** smaller free-standing paired ionic columns
- **Long pyramidal forms + spheres:** a playful touch
- **Cornice above entablature of first level creates chiaroscuro**
- **Sides:** engaged doric columns
- **Doorway & free-standing paired doric columns**
- **SO: order, symmetry, play**



Church of San Francisco, interior

- Baroque interior after a 1755 earthquake
- Late 16th C choir and transepts survived the quake
- ...w/ mudejar ceiling
 - Islamic
 - Carved wood, & inlaid wood & mother-of-pearl
 - Roofs in America



A3. Jesuit church of La Compañía, Quito

- **Jesuits arrive Quito 1586**
- **Begun 1606, completed 1630s by Jesuit Marcos Guerra**
- **...except for façade, begun 1722 by German Jesuits, completed 1765 by Italian Jesuits**
- **Reminiscent of Il Gesù, Rome**

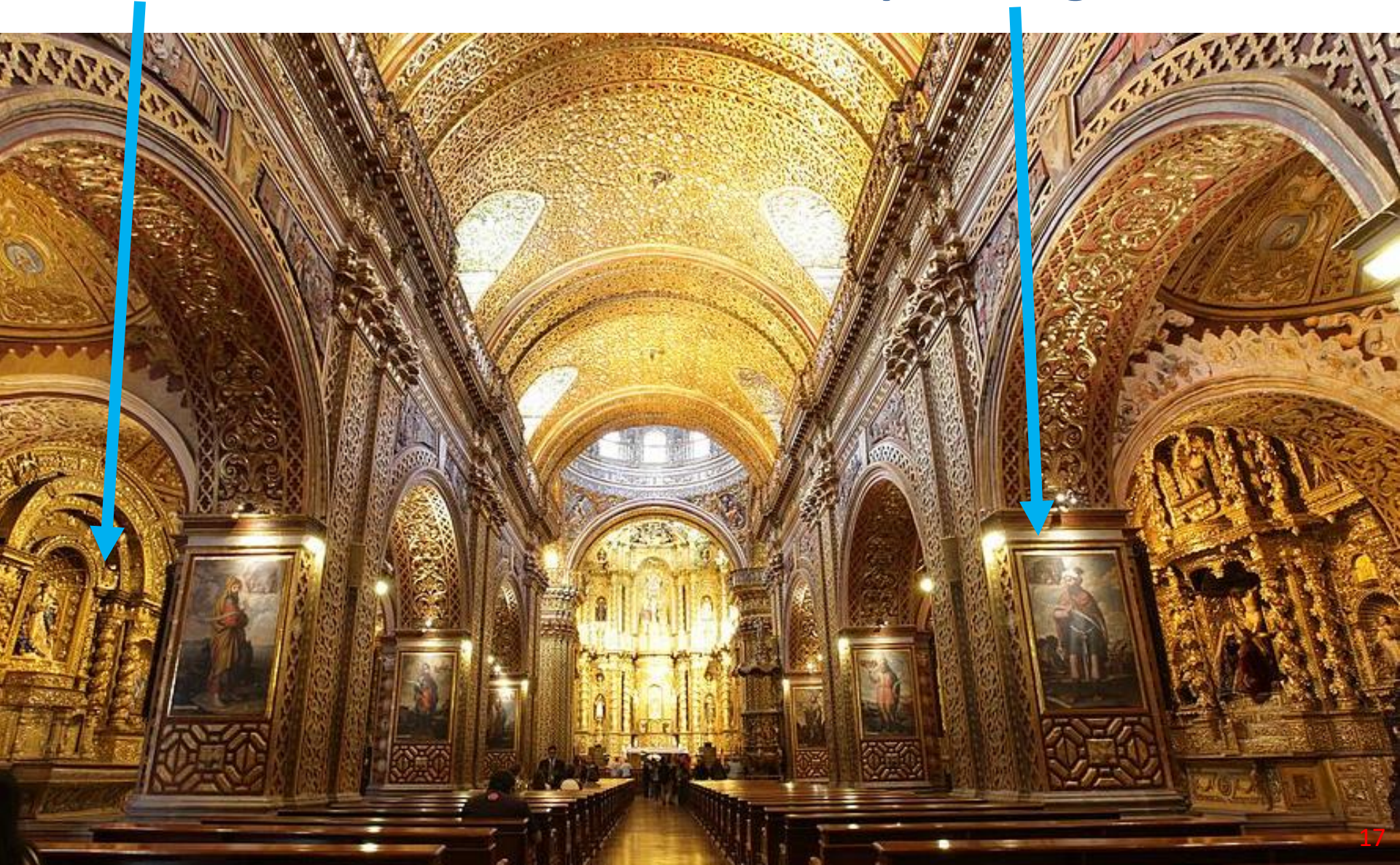
- Moving from side to center, projects outward
- 3 portals, 2 levels, 5 vertical sections
- Sides: pilasters



- Upper: pilasters
- Rounded cornice
- Sculpture of IC
- Center:
Solomonic
columns w/ ionic
capitals
- Niches with
Jesuit saints
- Elaborate
decoration



Interior: 3-aisle nave, lavish baroque decoration, retablos w/ solomonic columns, paintings



B. Architecture in Cuzco and Lima before the Mid-Century Earthquakes

1650 Cuzco... 1655 Lima

B1. Cuzco: Church and monastery of Santo Domingo

B2. Cuzco: Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption

B3. Lima: Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption

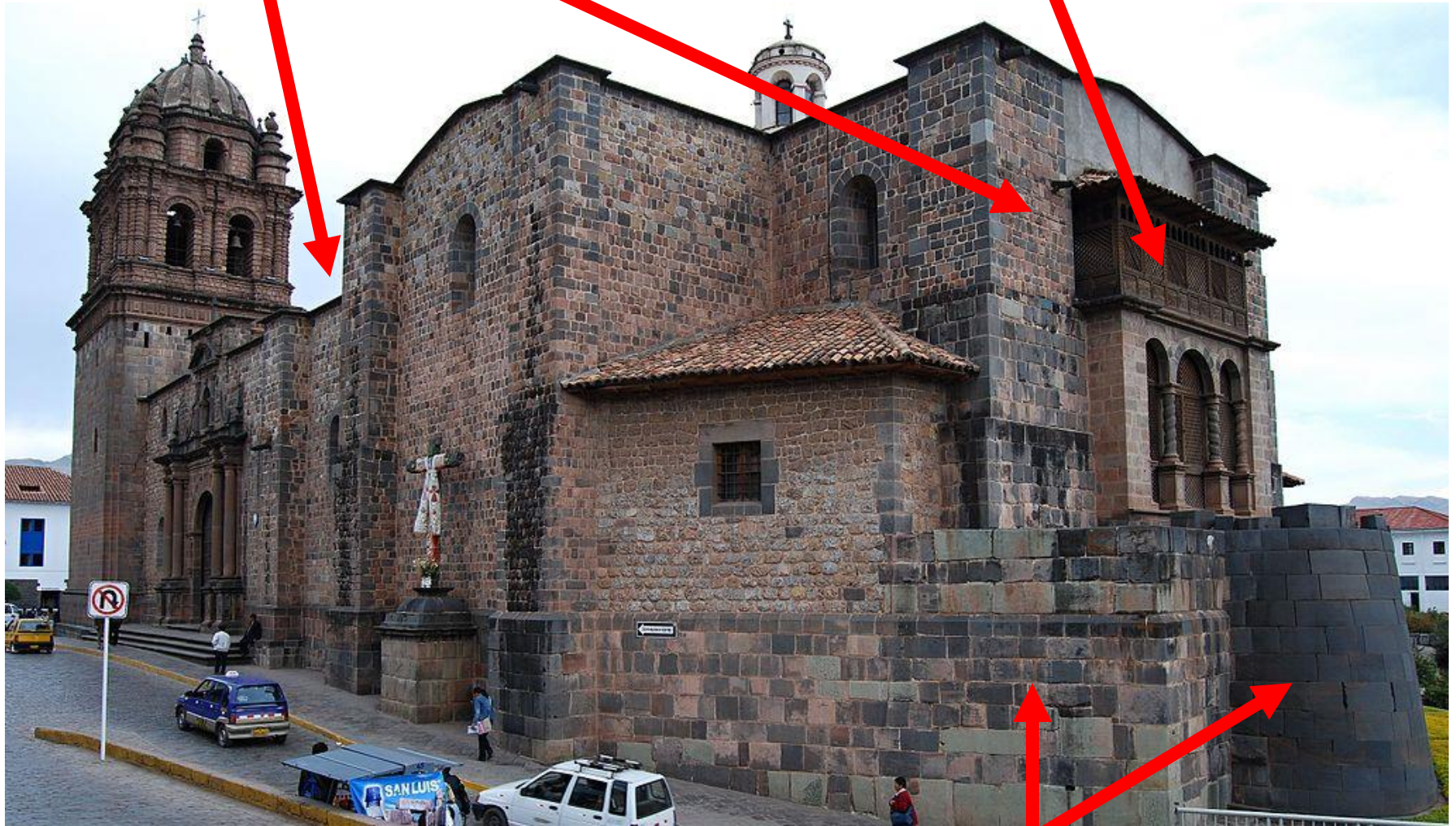
B1. Cuzco: Church and monastery of Santo Domingo

- **POINT: not the architecture but the location over the sun temple**
- **Begun before, renovated after the earthquake**
- **Stones of the Coricancha used as quarry**
- **Built on top of remnants of Coricancha**
- **Possible open chapel (rear of church)**

B1. Cuzco: Church and monastery of Santo Domingo

Church side and rear,

open chapel



Inca walls

B1. Cuzco: Church and monastery of Santo Domingo

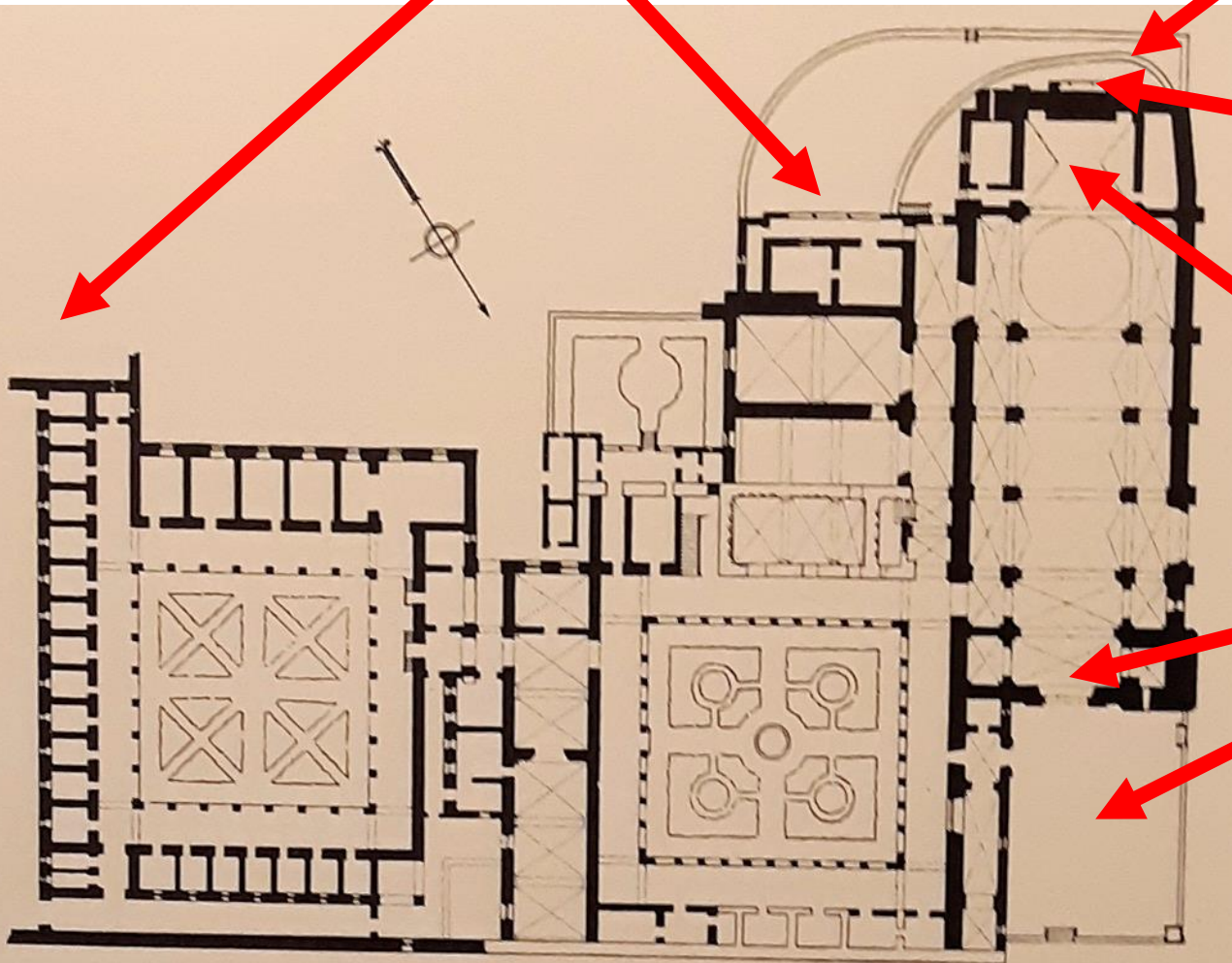
Open chapel on rear of church



B1. Cuzco: Church and monastery of Santo Domingo

Plan of church (RT side of plan)

& Monastic complex



Coricancha wall

Open chapel on exterior rear wall

Apse

Front entrance

Patio

Basilica form

Museum

B2. Cuzco: Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption

- Begun ca.1560, replacing an earlier church
- With stones from the Sacsayhuamán (Inca fortress)
- Over the Sunturwasi (Inca imperial armory) at the principal plaza
- Architect Francisco Becerra (arrived from Puebla, Mexico) redesigned plan 1583-85
- Almost completed by time of 1650 earthquake
- Some damage, rapidly reconstructed by 1654
- Next to El Triunfo church (1538) (on its right)
- Later (1723+) church of Sagrada Familia (on its left)
- Three internally connected churches

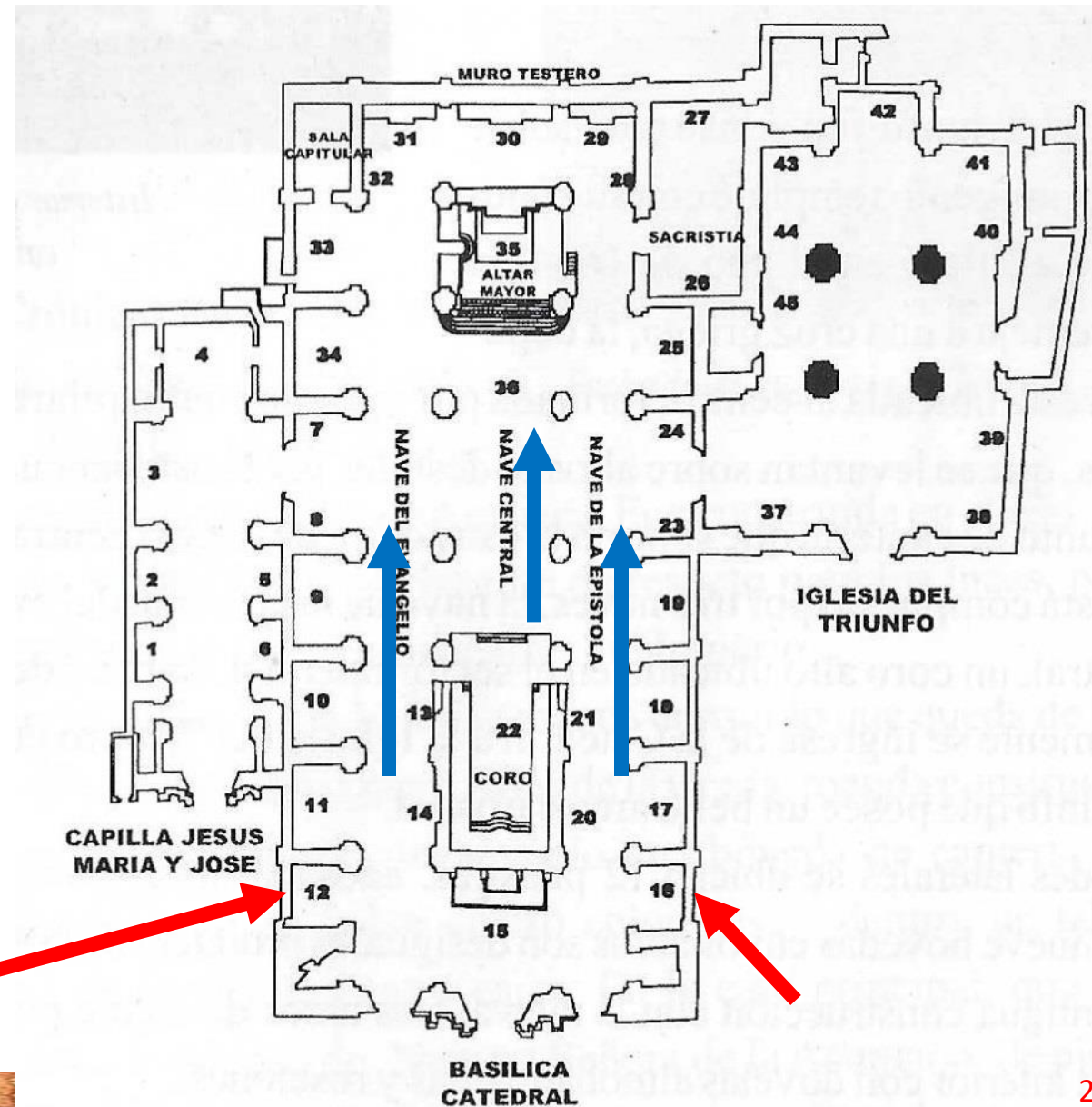
B2. Cuzco: Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption

Plan

LT: Sagrada Familia

CTR: Cathedral

RT: Triunfo



3 aisles

Side chapels

B2. Cuzco: Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption

Exterior facade



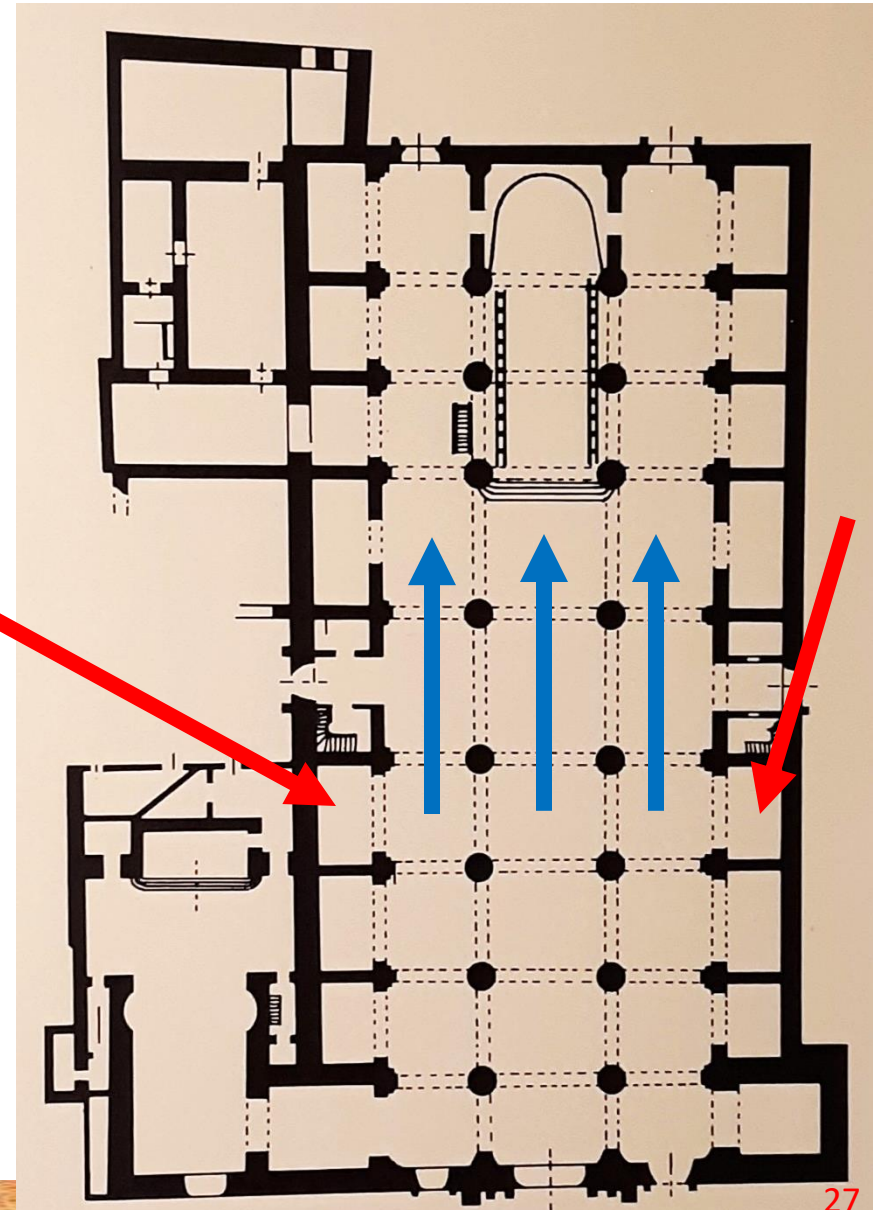
Retablo-façade

- Spanish architects, 1649; indigenous masons
- Lower level: portal, paired & single columns, niches, broken cornice & arch
- Middle level: copies the lower, window, broken cornice
- Upper level: arches
- **SO:** baroque features



B3. Lima: Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption

- Early building 1649-51
- Redesigned by Francisco Becerra (also Cuzco)
- his 3-aisle plan with side chapels (1582-94)
- 1609 earthquake destroyed vaults
- 1622 mostly complete
- No damage in 1655 quake
- 1687 quake destroyed vaults
- 1746 quake damaged aisle, facade, towers



- Rebuilt in original baroque style
- Except towers: neoclassical



Retablo-facade

- 1628 (Martínez de Arzona)
- 1645 (Pedro de Noguera)
- Cf. Cuzco cathedral
- Lower level
 - Triumphal arch form
 - Intrudes into upper level
 - Broken by arch
 - Cornice
 - Entablature over columns
 - w/ 2 niches w/ statues
 - Side: paired columns
 - Buttresses



Retablo-facade

- Upper level
 - Repeats the lower
 - Pilasters
 - Single niche w/ statue
 - Cornice projects into the “remate”
- **SO:** clear classical organization but moving strongly to baroque... next 100 yrs



Comments on retablo-facades

- Cuzco cathedral, Lima cathedral, others
- Geometry, vertical VS horizontal
- Retablo-façade VS entire front
- Flat VS projecting
- Especially church fronts
- Religious statues
- **SO: visual beauty**
- **ALSO: r/t visually to principal interior retablo**
- **ALSO: contemplative, focus... preparation to enter the Lord's house within**

C. Architecture in Cuzco and Lima after the Mid-Century Earthquakes

C1. Cuzco: Jesuit Church of La Compañía

C2. Lima: Church and monastery of San Francisco

C3. Domestic Architecture in Lima

C1. Cuzco: Jesuit church of La Compañía

- **Jesuits arrive in Peru 1568 (recall Bitti)**
- **16th C church in Cuzco over Inca palace**
- **Destroyed in 1650 earthquake**
- **Rebuilt 1651-1668**
- **Single aisle church with side chapels, transepts, dome**

C1. Cuzco: Jesuit Church of La Compañía

- Location: east side of Plaza de Armas

Cathedral

Compañía



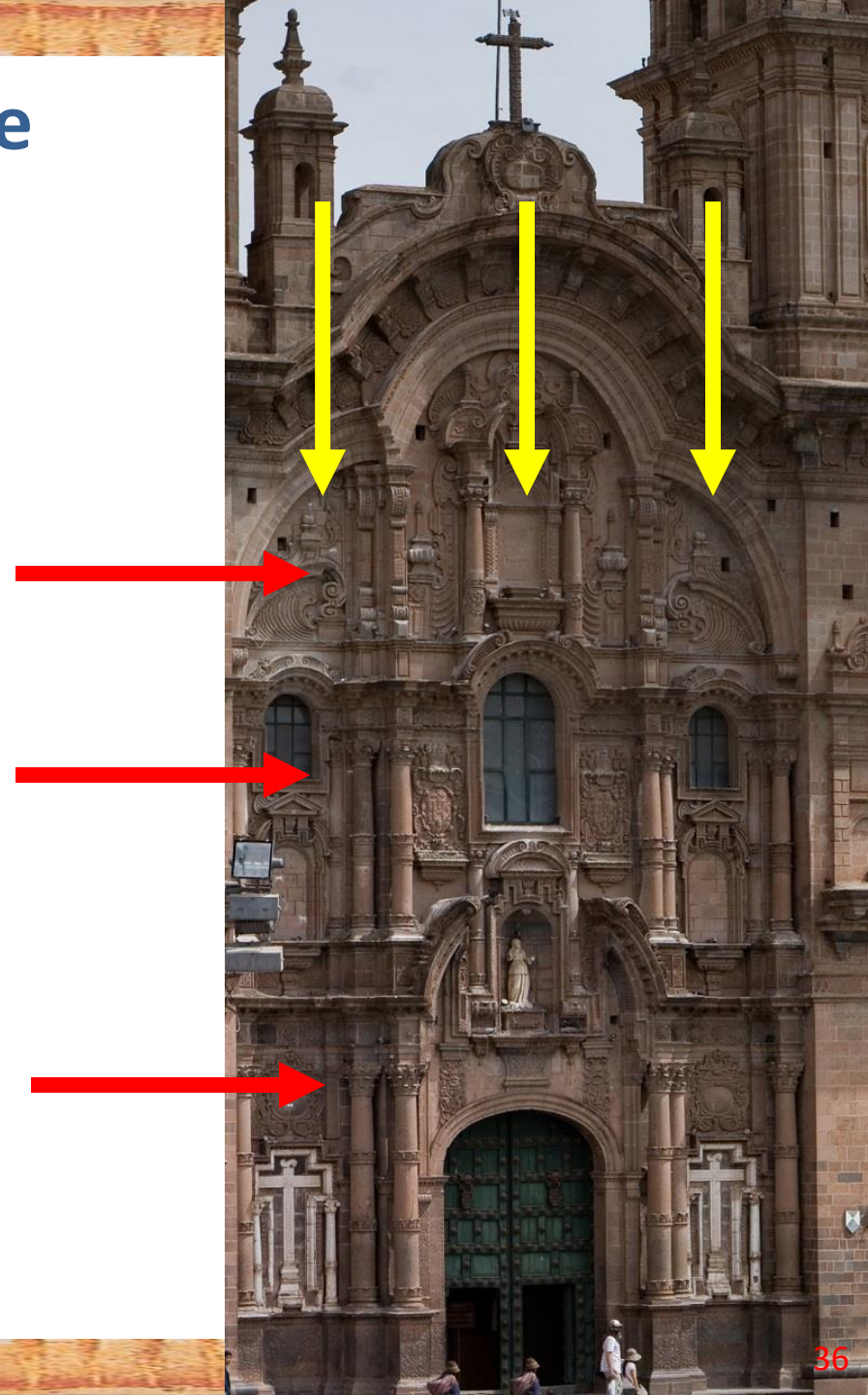
C1. Cuzco: Jesuit Church of La Compañía

- Verticality
- Retablo-façade (contrast w/ plain towers)
- Towers w/ arch-topped windows
- Belfries w/ rounded openings & domes
- SO: contrast rectangles VS. arches/round



La Compañía Retablo-façade

- 3 levels (red)
- 3 vertical sections (yellow)



La Compañía Retablo-façade, lower level

- Arch broken by niche w/ statue
- Broken by arch
- Cornice
- Sections separated by columns on pedestals



La Compañía Retablo-façade, middle level

- Sections separated by columns
- Cornice broken by 3 arches over arched windows



La Compañía Retablo-façade, upper level

- Sections separated by columns
- All topped by 3-lobed arch
- Upper arch

Point: new style copied frequently



C2. Lima: Church and monastery of San Francisco

- A. History prior to the 1655 earthquake, and plan of the large monastic complex**
- B. Exterior: façade**
- C. Exterior: retablo-façade**
- D. Interior: nave**

C2. Lima: Church and monastery of San Francisco

C2.a. Before the 1655 earthquake

- Founded 1535 on plot of land (cf. San Fran, Quito)
- Increased land (cf. Sto Domingo, Cuzco)



C2.b. After the 1655 earthquake (heavy damage)

- Distinctive facade... yellow color... horizontal... towers



C2.b. After the 1655 earthquake (heavy damage)

- Masonry: rusticated or ashlar?... pillow-like



C2.c. Exterior: Retablo-facade

- 3 levels; vertical sections?

Lower level

- Paired columns w/ carved decoration
- Behind, 4 smaller columns... chiaroscuro
- Cornice broken by large arch... broken by IC
- Carving of papal arms



C2.c. Exterior: Retablo-facade

Middle level

- Niches w/ statues
- Columns project outward
- Entablature broken by arch into...

Upper level

- Series of arches
- Decorative arches
- Topped by an arch

SO: baroque qualities



C2.d. Interior: nave

- Nave: barrel vault... stucco relief w/ geometric design
- Side chapels, e.g., Benedict of Palermo (black saint)



C3. Domestic architecture in Lima

Torre Tagle Palace

- built 1733-1738 for the Marquis of Torre Tagle
- stone from Panama, wood from central America, interior tiles from Spain
- currently serves as the home Peru's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (closed to public)

Torre Tagle Palace



Entry portal

- Continuous cornice
- Upper level
 - Broken arched pediment
 - Ornate strapwork
 - Covered w/ plaster, painted white
 - Smaller Corinthian columns
- Lower level
 - Projecting entablature
 - Vegetal carving
 - Columns around door
- SO: ~ R-F, sign of wealth



Torre Tagle Palace

Balcony

- Carved wood fretwork
- Moorish design
- See but not be seen



Torre Tagle Palace

Balcony, interior



Torre Tagle Palace

Interior courtyard

- Fancy arches
- Carved wood
- Other architectural elements



D. Architecture in Arequipa

D1. Location and style

D2. Religious architecture: Jesuit La Compañía

D3. Religious architecture: San Agustín

D4. Civic architecture: Casa del Moral

D5. Addendums

- **Female monastic city of Santa Catalina**
- **Mestizo style in Upper Peru: Church of San Lorenzo, Potosí**

D1. Location and style

Lima > Arequipa (ca.500mi) / Arequipa > Potosí (ca.450mi)



D1. Location and style

- Mestizo style (earlier scholars) OR Andean Baroque (Bailey) OR Planiform style (Donahue-Wallace)
- Especially carving on white or light-colored *sillar* stone
- Popular in Andes, Arequipa to Potosí, from late 17th to late 18th C
- Flat carving, tapestry-like, lacy appearance
- Covers entire surface
- Vegetal forms: vines, rosettes, pomegranates, grapes, flowers
- Teams of indigenous carvers
- A new (not pre-Hispanic) indigenous style

D2. Religious architecture: Jesuit La Compañía

1590-1660

(not the
carving)

Traditional
plan

Surface
carving
begun 1655

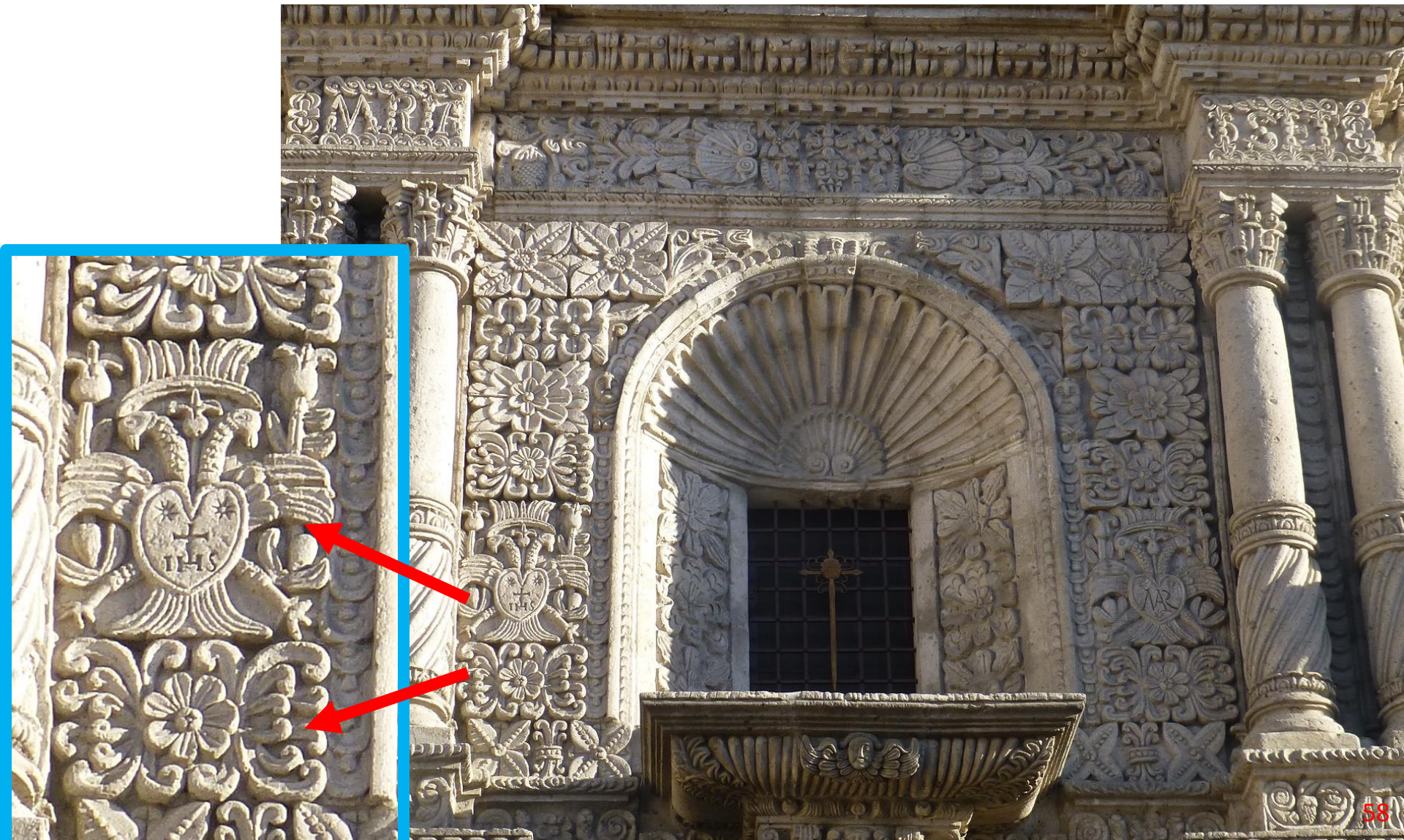


Retablo-facade

- Carved 1698-99
- Levels, columns, etc.
- Distinct carving in Andean baroque
- Flat, tapestry-like, vegetal
- Details...



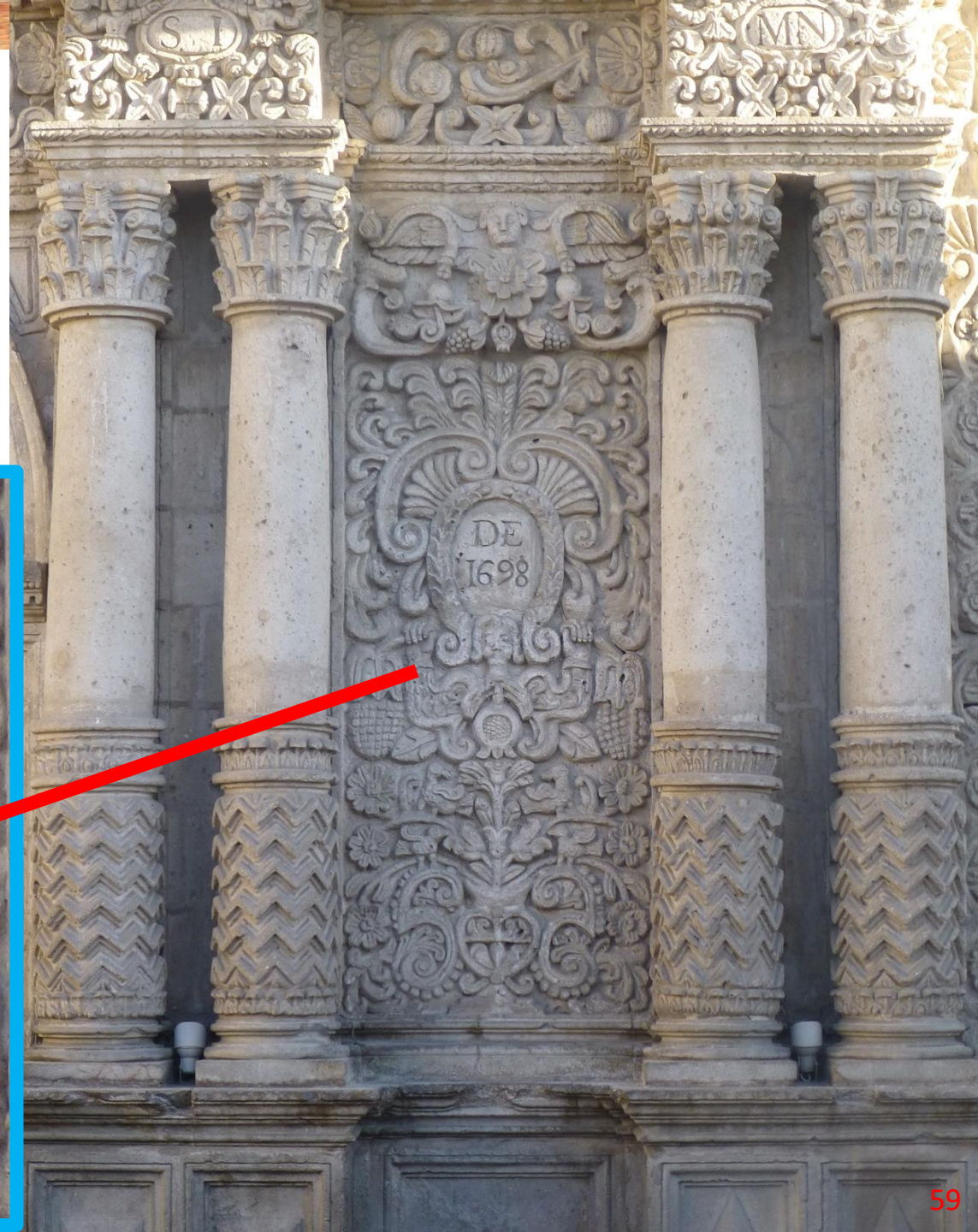
(upper level) block sections... flowers... double eagle
(Habsburg?) with IHS anagram (other side: MA anagram)



(Lower level) between columns on right

Vegetative... 1698...

Figure w/upraised arms & pomegranate...



Points on Andean baroque style

- **Characteristics**
 - flat carving, tapestry-like, over entire surface
 - vegetal decoration, faces, figures, very inventive
- **Indigenous style**
 - created by teams of indigenous stone carvers
 - some indigenous sensibility, local flora and fauna
 - new, not pre-hispanic, style
- **Popularity**
 - found in other churches in and around Arequipa
 - spread south in the Andean highlands as far as Potosí.

D3. Religious Architecture: San Agustín

Retablo-facade carved ca. 1705 (“copied” after Compañía)



D4. Civic architecture: Casa del Moral

Casa del Moral (private home ca.1730)

- Andean baroque: carved sillar... portal, windows



Casa del Moral, portal

- Flat carving in pediment
- In square blocks
- Vegetative forms
- Figural forms (humans, animals, plants)



Casa del Moral, portal, detail of pediment

Human figures... coat of arms

Puma

Flowers,
vegetative
forms

Bird

Weapons

Etc.



Casa del Moral, detail of space above window

- cf. pediment & cf. Compañía
- Blocks, face, native flowers, IHS anagram
- **SO:** influence from Jesuit church



Casa del Moral, inner courtyard

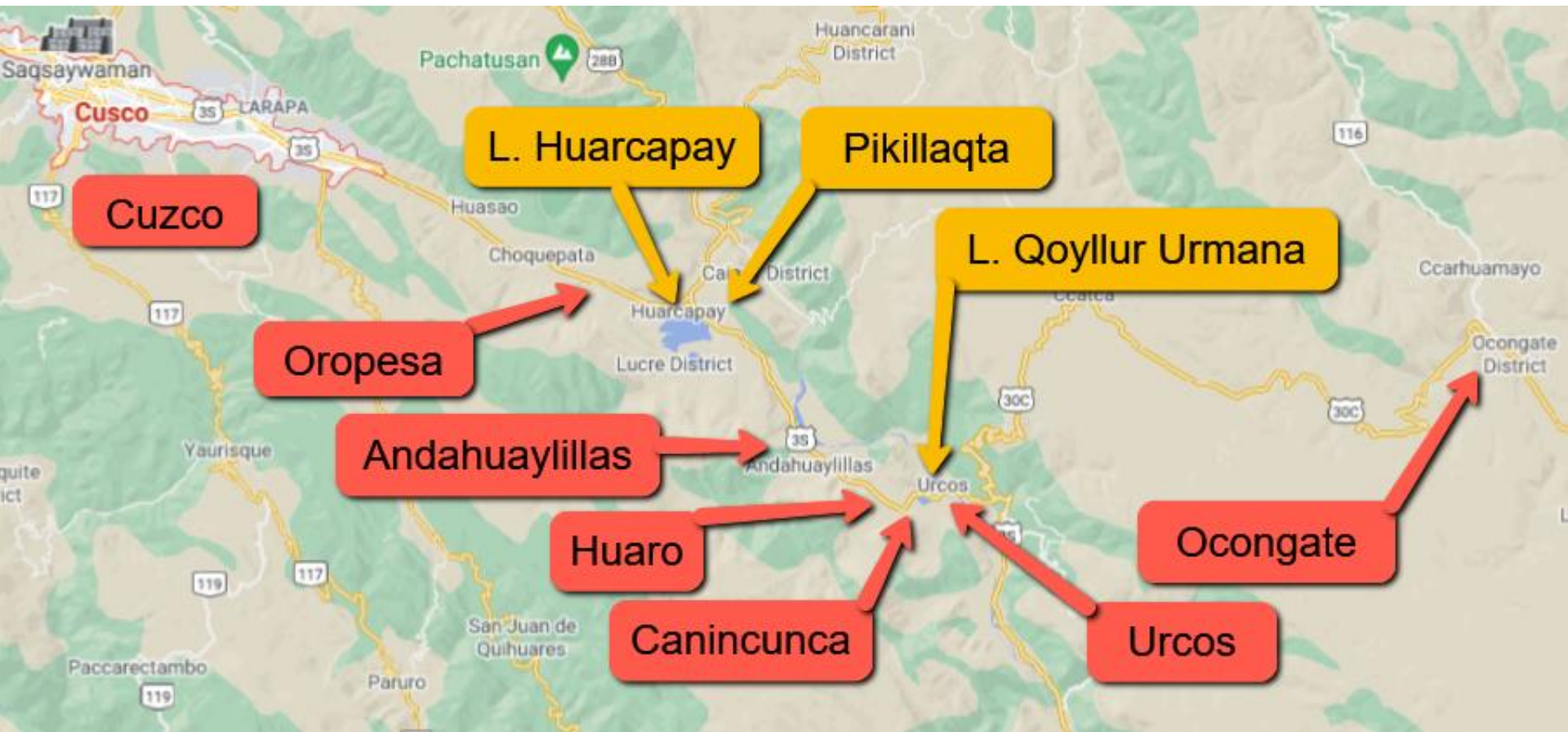


D5. Addendums

- Female monastic “city”: Santa Catalina, Arequipa
- Andean baroque in Upper Peru: San Lorenzo, Potosí



E. Rural Churches in the Cuzco Region



Map courtesy GoogleMaps

Cuzco > Andahuaylillas ca.40 km by road (> Ocongate ca.105 km)

Urcos Church

Late 16C,
rustic stone
church

Open chapel

Renaissance
columns &
arches



Canincunca, Chapel of Virgen Purificada

Early 17th C... cf. Urcos (smoother but no Ren. Columns)

...cf. Cuzco (simpler architecture and design)

...porch (open chapel?)



Huaro, Church of San Juan Bautista



Huaro, Church of San Juan Bautista

Atrial cross & patterned stone plaza



A New World adaptation & a local design feature



Andahuaylillas, church of San Pedro Apóstol

Late 16th C; cf. Cuzco & other rural churches; porch; crosses



Lake Huarcapay



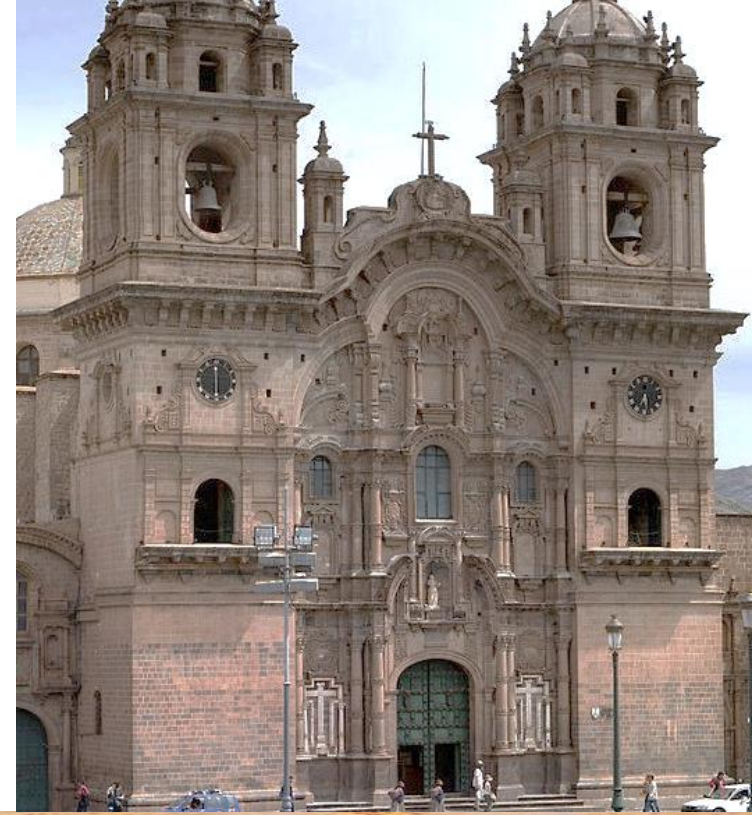
Week 4 Summary

- **Application of European style names to architecture in the New World**
- **Religious architecture prior to the mid-17th C earthquakes**
- **Changes in style in architecture in Cuzco and Lima after the earthquakes**
- **Andean Baroque style in Arequipa**
- **Some rural churches outside Cuzco**

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Week 4



Architecture in the
17th Century