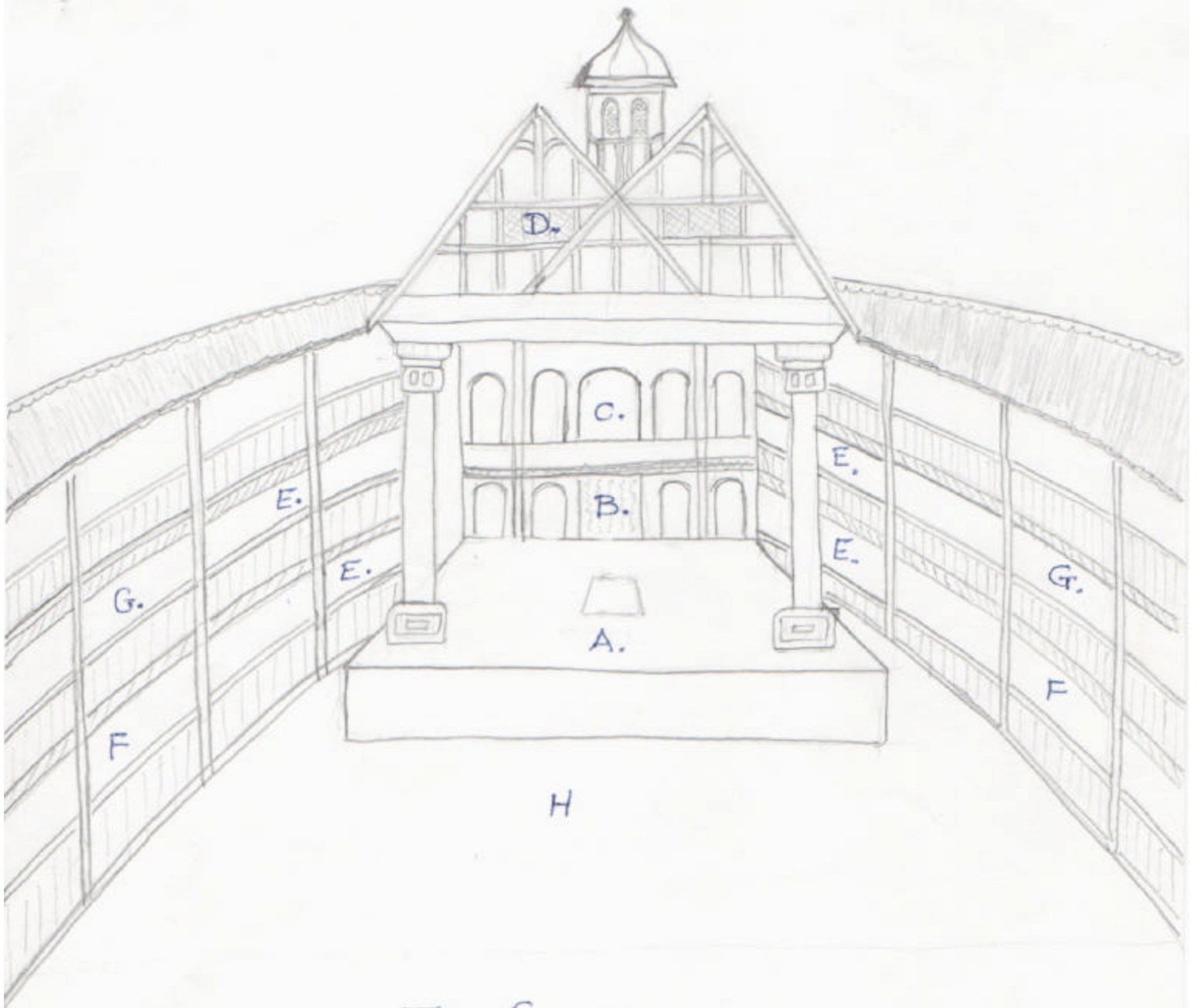


WILLIAM B. MCGEE ✓  
ENG 250, SUMMER 2000



### THE GLOBE

- A. STAGE
- B. STAGE WALL
- C. MUSICIAN'S GALLERY,  
LORD'S ROOMS
- D. HUT - CANNON
- E. GENTLEMEN'S ROOMS
- F. GALLERIES

- G. TWO PENNY ROOMS
- H. YARD - "GROUNDLINGS"

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### Creative Project

The Globe theater as we know it had its origin in a playhouse named the Theatre on the northern outskirts of London. The Theatre building owned by the Jamaes Burbage Company was on leased land owned by Giles Allen. In 1597 Allen informed the Theatre owners he had other uses for the property and would not be renewing their lease. James Burbage's sons were in control of the Company and wished to continue the playhouse. Leasing land south of the River Thames in the vicinity of other playhouses they waited for Allen to leave town at Christmas time and then dismantled the Theatre to use the valuable timbers at the new location. After the saying "all the worlds a stage" they named the new theater the Globe and as a logo had Hercules shouldering a globe. The locals referred to the theater as "the house with the thatched roof". The structure was post and beam Tudor style with covered seating for the Lord's, Gentlemen's and Two Penny Rooms as well as the Galleries. The yard where the Groundlings stood was open to the sky.

The stage had a richly painted ceiling and the columns supporting the stage roof were painted to resemble marble pillars. There was an opening in the stage ceiling called "Heaven" for lowering actors to the stage and a trap door in the floor known as "Hell" for removing objects from the stage. The Tiring House (dressing rooms) were immediately behind the stage wall. See the attached annotated sketch for locations.

The costumes were the elaborate clothing of the nobility gifted to their servants who in turn sold them to the theaters. Because there was no scenery and few props the costumes played an important role in staging a production.

During a performance of Henry VIII the thatched roof was set on fire by the cannon in the Hut over the stage and the theater built entirely of wood burned to the ground. Within a year a new theater was built, this time with a tile roof. Thirty years later all playhouses were closed by the Puritans and the Globe ceased to exist only to be rebuilt and opened in 1997 by an American Shakespearean actor and theater director Sam Wanamaaker. The new Globe built as close as possible to the original site and faithfully constructed in the same manner today presents plays as they were in the 16<sup>th</sup>. Century.