

WHOLE WIDE WORLD

LEANING TOWER OF PISA



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CHAPTER 1

A COMPLEX IN PISA

In the year 1064, the people of Pisa, Italy, began building a **cathedral**. It is made of marble. It has **arches** and **columns**.

cathedral





They started building a bell tower next to it in 1173. It has arches and columns, too. As they were building, it started to lean!

bell
tower



cemetery

baptistry

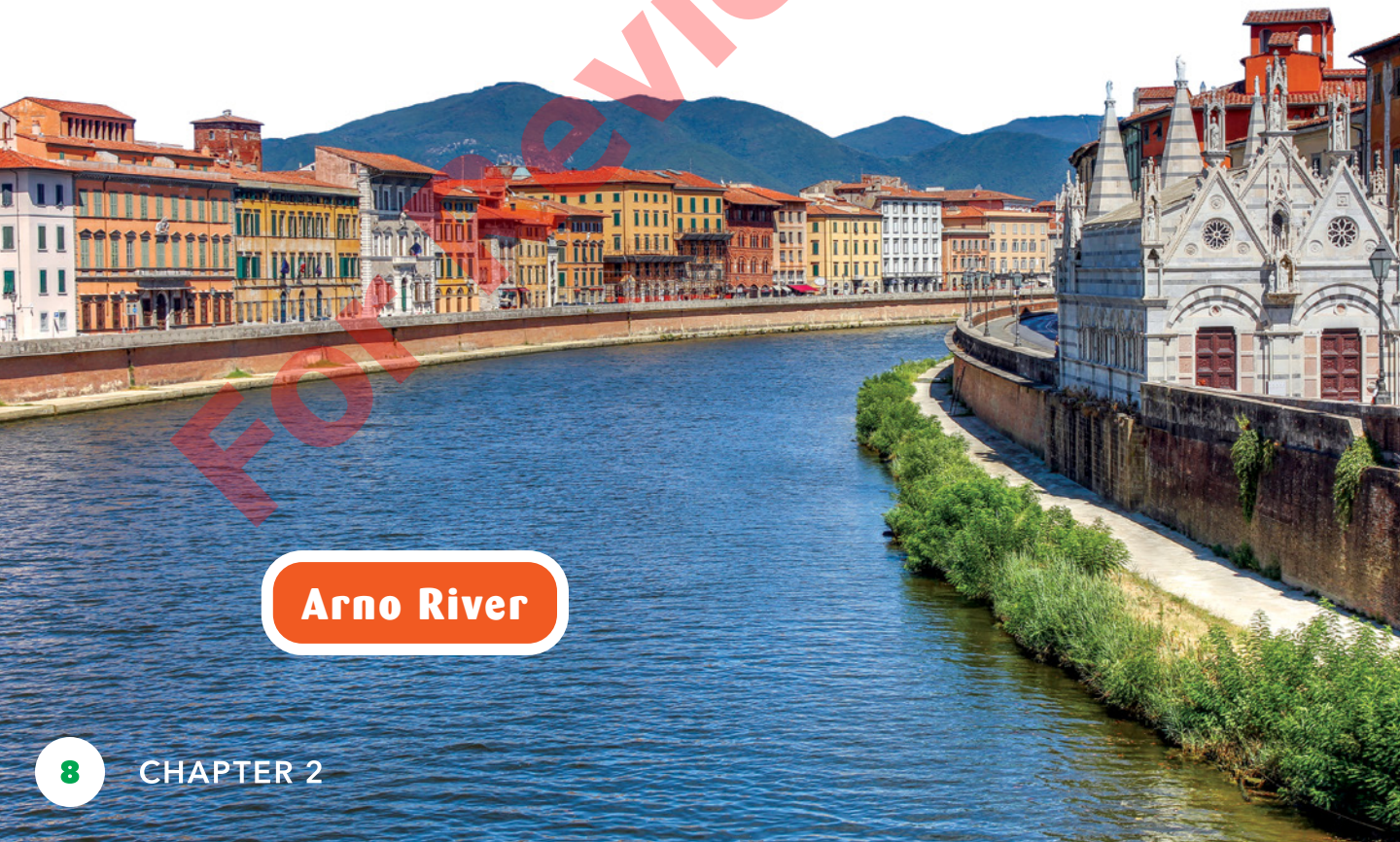


The cathedral and bell tower are part of a **complex**. A **baptistry** and cemetery are nearby. All of the buildings here lean. But the tower leans the most. What went wrong?

CHAPTER 2

BUILDING THE BELL TOWER

The Arno River runs through Pisa.
Water from the river makes the
ground here soft.



Arno River



The tower's **foundation** was set just 10 feet (3.0 meters) into the ground. This wasn't deep enough for the weight of the tower. It wasn't strong enough to hold the tower upright. It began to sink and lean.