

ARC 231 OUTLINE

Christian Europe in the Middle Ages

Objectives

- Recognize monuments & archetypes; know their dates and conditions under which they were built
- Explain the changing emphases of Christian theology throughout the medieval eras
- Interpret methods of construction throughout the medieval eras (specifically, Romanesque and Gothic architecture) and the reasons for the change
- Recognize and describe artistic media, including façade sculpture and stained glass, throughout medieval periods
- Distinguish regional variations of structure, plan, and ornament in Romanesque and Gothic architecture
- Understand the training, character and responsibilities of medieval “master builders”
- Understand the role of primary patrons throughout the medieval eras and the expression of their values in commissioning projects

Historical Context (all CE)

- 794 Charlemagne est. court at Aachen
800 Charlemagne crowned Holy Roman Emperor (d. 814)
843 Holy Roman Empire divided; attacked
1066 Battle of Hastings; William the Conqueror crowned King of England in Westminster (Romans founded *Londinium* in 43 CE; named it capital of Britannia in 100)
1119 First university founded in Bologna (followed by Paris in 1150 & Oxford in 1163) (Paris was capital of Frankish kingdom from 500 CE)
1122 Suger becomes Abbot of St.-Denis
1160 Notre Dame de Paris named parish church of kings (who live in the Louvre Palace)
1194 Fire at Chartres (followed by fire at Reims, 1211, & many others)
1215 Magna Carta
1240 Louis IX purchases relics from the Holy Land; launches crusade in 1248
1337 Start of Hundred Years' War; French prevail against English under Joan of Arc (executed 1431)
1333 Black Death
1347 spreads from Central China (loss of population est. 60%) to Europe (30-60%)
1348 to England; population of Siena reduced from 42,000 to 14,000
1351 to Moscow

Early Medieval

Saint-Denis Abbey (8th c., nr. Paris): begun 754; consecrated 775 (patron: Pepin the Short)
Palatine Chapel (Aachen): 804 (Odo of Metz for Charlemagne)
St. Andrew's Church (Borgund, Norway): ca. 1200
Ste.-Foy (Conques): from 1050

Gothic in France

S.-Denis, nr. Paris: narthex 1134; choir 1140-44 (patron: Abbot Suger); nave after 1241
Notre Dame, Chartres: 1194-1230

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Notre Dame, Reims: 1150-1250

Sainte-Chapelle, Paris: 1243-48

Gothic in England

Lichfield Cathedral: from 1195

Salisbury Cathedral: from 1220-58 (architect: Nicholas of Ely)

Henry VIII Chapel, Westminster Abbey, London: 1519

Gothic in Italy

Cathedral, Siena: 1215-1348 (unfinished)

Santa Croce, Florence: 1294 (architect: Arnolfo di Cambio); finished 1442; façade 1857-63

Santa Maria Novella, Florence: 1246-1360

Santa Maria dei Fiori, Florence: begun 1296 by architect Arnolfo di Cambio; continued in 1351-69 by Francesco Talenti but left unfinished until the next century

Terms

apprentice, journeyman, master builder

campanile

Carolingian

flying buttress

pilgrimage, pilgrimage church

polychrome

Purbeck marble

radiating chapel

reliquary

Romanesque

rose window

stave

tympanum