

Early Medieval Architecture Oxford History

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medieval architecture comprises much more than the traditional image of gothic cathedrals and the castles of chivalry a great variety of buildings synagogues halls and barns testify to the diverse communities and interests in western europe in the centuries between 1150 and 1550 this book looks at their architecture from an entirely fresh perspective shifting the emphasis away from such areas as france towards the creativity of other regions including central europe and spain treating the subject thematically coldstream seeks out what all buildings both religious and secular have in common and how they reflect the material and spiritual concerns of the people who built and used them furthermore the author considers how and why after four centuries of shaping the landscapes and urban patterns of europe medieval styles were superseded by classicism

a general introduction to the art and architecture of greece the cycladic islands and crete from c 3300 1000 bc the authors have been highly selective in their choice of sites and objects providing key examples which illustrate the clearly written text they emphasize the importance of context and the complexities of meaning and function of objects within different environments and situations and through time a book geared more to the interested reader and students embarking on aegean courses than serious scholars who will already be familiar with the content

ranging from gotland to apulia roger stalley explores the richness and variety of european architecture in terms of the social and religious aspirations of the time with an emphasis on the symbolic significance these buildings expressed written with style and humour the lively text includes many quotations from ancient sources providing fascinating insight into the way that medieval buildings were created and enlivening our knowledge of this period

the renaissance was a diverse phenomenon marked by innovation and economic expansion the rise of powerful rulers religious reforms and social change encompassing the entire continent renaissance architecture examines the rich variety of buildings that emerged during these seminal centuries of european history although marked by the rise of powerful individuals both patrons and architects the renaissance was equally a time of growing group identities and communities and architecture provided the public face to these new identities religious reforms in northern europe spurred on by martin luther rejected traditional church function and decoration and proposed new models political ambitions required new buildings to satisfy court rituals territory nature and art intersected to shape new landscapes and building types classicism came to be the international language of an educated architect and an ambitious patron drawing on the legacy of ancient rome yet the richness of the

medieval tradition continued to be used throughout europe often alongside classical buildings examining each of these areas by turn this book offers a broad cultural history of the period as well as a completely new approach to the history of renaissance architecture the work of well known architects such as michelangelo and andrea palladio is examined alongside lesser known though no less innovative designers such as juan guas in portugal and benedikt ried in prague and eastern europe drawing on the latest research it also covers more recent areas of interest such as the story of women as patrons and the emotional effect of renaissance buildings as well as the impact of architectural publications and travel on the emerging new architectural culture across europe as such it provides a compelling introduction to the subject for all those interested in the history of architecture society and culture in the renaissance and european culture in general

in the last two centuries britain has experienced a revolution in higher education with the number of students rising from a few hundred to several million yet the institutions that drove and still drive this change have been all but ignored by historians drawing on a decade s research and based on work in dozens of archives many of them used for the very first time this is the first full scale study of the civic universities new institutions in the nineteenth century reflecting the growth of major victorian cities in britain such as liverpool manchester birmingham york and durham for more than 50 years tracing their story from the 1780s until the 2010s it is an ambitious attempt to write the redbrick revolution back into history william whyte argues that these institutions created a distinctive and influential conception of the university something that was embodied in their architecture and expressed in the lives of their students and staff it was this redbrick model that would shape their successors founded in the twentieth century ensuring that the normal university experience in britain is a redbrick one using a vast range of previously untapped sources redbrick is not just a new history but a new sort of university history one that seeks to rescue the social and architectural aspects of education from the disregard of previous scholars and thus provide the richest possible account of university life it will be of interest to students and scholars of modern british history to anyone who has ever attended university and to all those who want to understand how our higher education system has developed and how it may evolve in the future

oxford s university buildings are world famous over eight centuries starting in the twelfth century the university the third oldest in europe gradually occupied a substantial portion of the city creating in the process a unique townscape containing the bodleian library the sheldonian theatre and the radcliffe camera this book tells the story of the growth of the forum universitatis as the architect nicholas hawksmoor called it and relates it to the broader history of the university and the city

based on up to date scholarship and drawing upon the author s own research into oxford s architectural history and the work of christopher wren nicholas hawksmoor james gibbs and giles gilbert scott each of the eight chapters focuses on the gestation creation and subsequent history of a single building or pair of buildings relating them to developments in the university s intellectual and institutional life and to broader themes in architectural and urban history accessible and well illustrated with plans archival prints and specially commissioned photography this book will appeal to anyone who wishes to understand and enjoy oxford s matchless architectural heritage

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