

Medieval Architecture

March 12-26

Regional Romanesque

Readings

R. Stalley, *Early Medieval Architecture*

“Diversity in the Romanesque Era,” 213-231

Also Stalley’s website material on Durham

Midterm Exam

1. Visual questions

- a) Identify, date, describe, compare (15 minutes)
- b) The same

2. Essay question. Answer one

- a) What was the relationship between form and function in the basilica and the centralized church?
- b) What were the characteristics of Middle Byzantine architecture?
- c) Is there an Islamic style in architecture?
- d) What is “Romanesque”?

The Problem with “Romanesque”

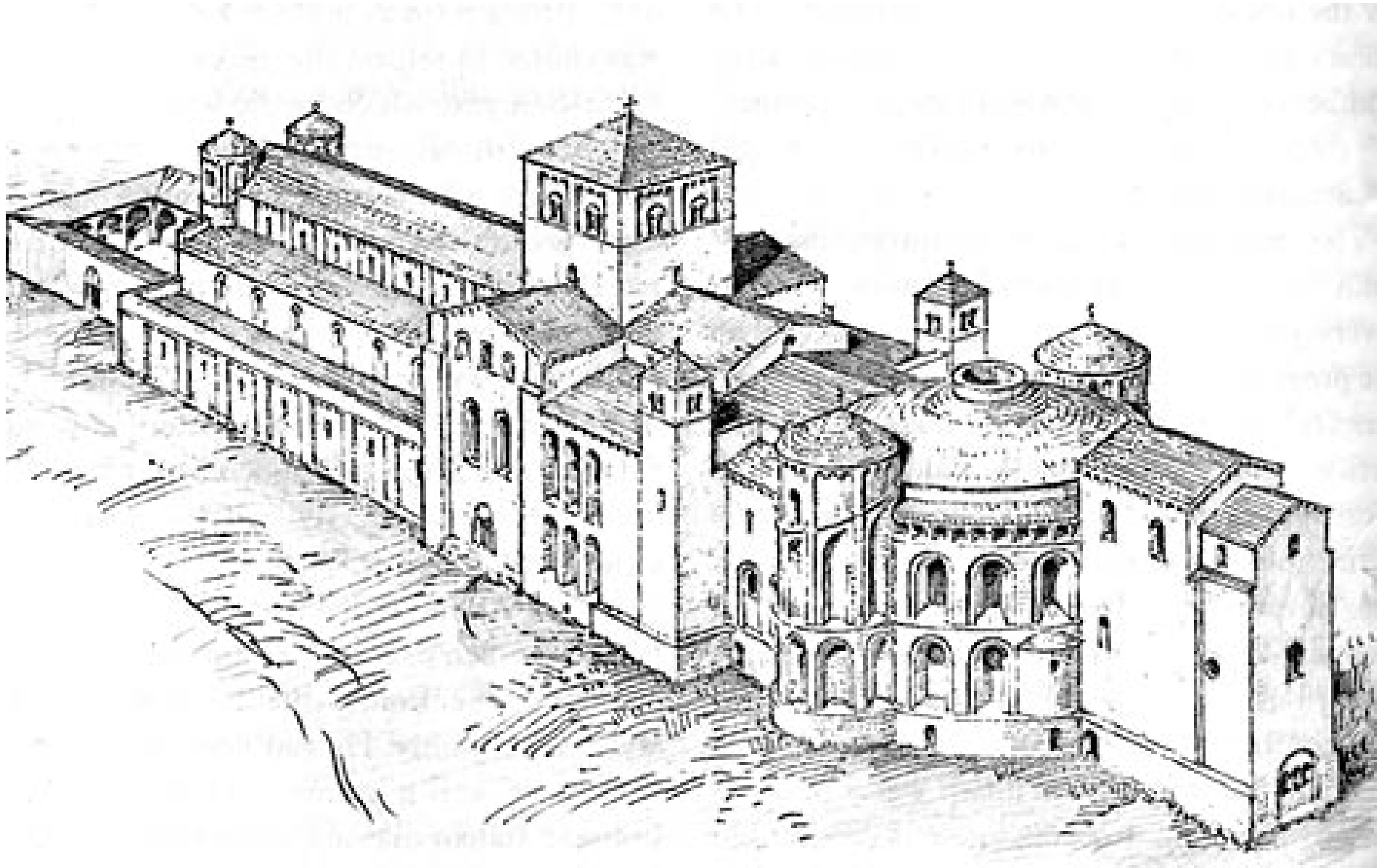
It's not a unified “style,” More of a “look”

It does not respond perfectly to the historical “trends” we have discussed-not all Pilgrimage churches look alike; not all Cluniac churches look alike. Form does not always follow function.

The basic inadequacy in the *means of representation*.

We remain too preoccupied with the dialectic and with the modernistic concept of “progress” or development. Thesis/antithesis/synthesis. This is, after all, only an intellectual model. Buildings do not actually change. Thesis and antithesis may remain irreconciled. New models of intelligence.

Dijon, Saint-Benigne, 1001



Saint-Bénigne of Dijon

Abbot William of Volpiano (Italian nobleman) related to the German Emperors and attached first to a Benedictine monastery in northern Italy and then to Cluny.

A reformer.

Italian connections led to employment of Italian masons?

Tournus, Saint-Philibert

Settled by monks from Noirmoutier driven out by the Vikings. They came to Tournus with the relic of Saint Philibert in 875.

New church begun in 950; finished about 1120

Crypt dedicated 979

Ambulatory dedicated 1019

Upper nave (including vaults) 1066

Sanctuary 1120

Germany

Ottonian architecture

Named after the dynasty of emperors that began with Henry the Fowler (919-936) and continued to Otto I, the Great (936-73).

Reflects the power and resources of the state marshaled through the Church--something like in the Byzantine and Carolingian Empires.

England

“Romanesque” can refer to Anglo Saxon architecture or to the imported forms of “Norman” architecture that resulted from the conquest of England by William the Conqueror in the battle of Hastings, 1066