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Romanesque Art

Bath Abbey archaeologists discover cathedral remains



Archaeologists at Bath Abbey have unearthed the remains of a Norman cathedral, thought to be the first ever built on the site as well as what is left of a medieval abbot's lodgings nearby. The foundations, which stand 3m to 4m high (9ft to 13ft), have been buried for several hundred years. "It's a rare opportunity to dig in the centre of such a historic city," said Mark Collard, from Cotswold Archaeology. "We do an awful lot of work which is very mundane but this really is a privilege here." It is hoped that the dig will also help the abbey to expand its facilities. "Firstly we're looking at the possibility of putting new rooms underground," said Charles Curnock from Bath Abbey. "We need new facilities here: toilets, storerooms, choir rooms and so on." Inside the building it's quite different. There we are looking to provide a stable floor because the floor is collapsing."

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