St. Gall Monastery Plan

Follow this and additional works at: https://digital.kenyon.edu/perejournal

Part of the Ancient, Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque Art and Architecture Commons

Recommended Citation


This Short Notice is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Kenyon: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in Peregrinations: Journal of Medieval Art and Architecture by an authorized editor of Digital Kenyon: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Exchange. For more information, please contact noltj@kenyon.edu.
St. Gall Monastery Plan

A new website is now available for researchers of the Plan of St. Gall -- the earliest preserved and most extraordinary visualization of a building complex that was produced in the Middle Ages. Ever since the Plan was created at the monastery of Reichenau sometime in the period 819-26 A.D., it has been preserved in the Monastic Library of St. Gall (Switzerland). This web site, created with the financial assistance of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation by scholars at the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of Virginia, presents the plan, its origins, components, and notations, as well as four centuries of scholarship on the plan with regard for its context in ninth-century material culture.

This site will provide access to the results of a long-term project of creating an extensive database to aid research into both the Plan itself and Carolingian monastic culture. Besides a variety of digital representations of the plan, the site includes a graphic representation of how the plan was physically made, detailed information on each of its component elements, and transcriptions and translations of its inscriptions. In addition, the site contains a series of extensive databases, including one presenting physical objects found across Europe that add to our understanding of Carolingian monasticism, one devoted to the terminology of Carolingian material culture, descriptions of all known religious edifices of the era, and an extensive bibliography on both the Plan itself and Carolingian monastic culture generally. A key word search feature allows one to find linkages across the plan components and all of the other, related databases. Finally, the web site provides an interactive space where visitors and users can contribute and interact with other scholars of the Plan and its context of medieval architecture and monastic culture. It is their hope that this complex resource will assist the continuing study of the St. Gall Monastic Plan and allow the international community of scholars to advance our understanding of this extraordinary object.