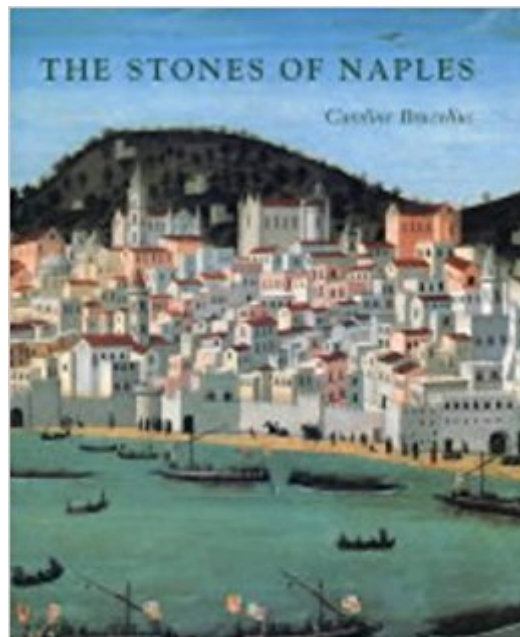




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The Stones Of Naples: Church Building In The Angevin Kingdom, 1266-1343



Synopsis

The rich architectural legacy of the Angevins, three generations of French kings who reigned in southern Italy from 1266 to 1343, is very little known today. This groundbreaking book examines Angevin religious architecture, bringing to light for the first time the novelty and importance of these buildings while extending current understanding of the variety of medieval architecture beyond the well-known cathedrals of France and England. Caroline Bruzelius explores the complex encounter of the French with the worlds of the Mediterranean and of Italy. Although the Angevin period has often been associated with a vigorous renewal of the Gothic style in Italy, she contends instead that the principal Angevin monuments are built of local materials, reviving traditional building techniques and aesthetic preferences. The result is an architecture of adaptation and integration rather than one of colonial importation.

Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Yale University Press; 1st edition (April 10, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0300100396

ISBN-13: 978-0300100396

Product Dimensions: 11.3 x 8.7 x 0.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #782,077 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #129 in Books > Arts &

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Customer Reviews

“An important contribution to our understanding and knowledge of Gothic art.” —Art Times

Caroline Bruzelius is A. M. Cogan Professor, Department of Art and Art History, Duke University. She served as director of the American Academy in Rome from 1994 to 1998 and is the author of *The Thirteenth-Century Church at Saint-Denis*, published by Yale University Press.

The Stones of Naples is the only book in English on the architecture of medieval Naples, and it's a wonderful read. These churches - Sta. Chiara, San Lorenzo, the Cathedral (among others) are only

a few of the impressive buildings of the ancient center of this marvelous city. With excellent illustrations, groundplans, and reconstructions, the author unravels the sometimes complicated stories of these beautiful buildings in relation to the topography of what may be the oldest city in Europe.

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