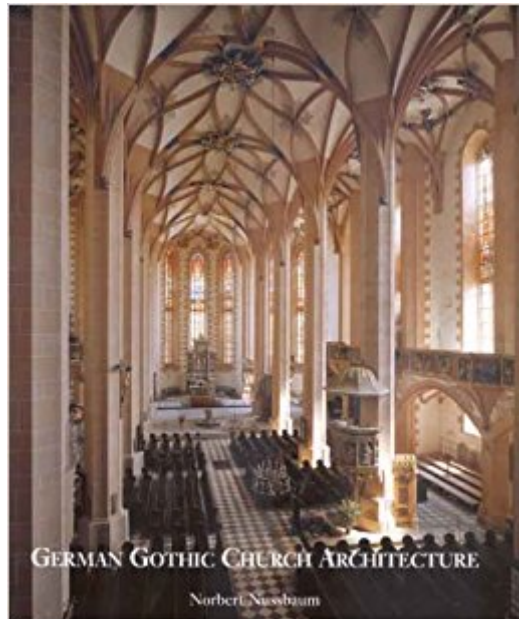




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German Gothic Church Architecture



Synopsis

Nussbaum aims to provide a complete overview of German Gothic church architecture between the early 13th and early 16th centuries, looking at Germany, Bohemia, Austria, northern Switzerland, Alsace and Silesia.

Book Information

Hardcover: 240 pages

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Customer Reviews

Long given short shrift by architectural historians, Germany's medieval Gothic churches, from small parish buildings and private chapels to major cathedrals, are the focus of this excellent overview.

Nussbaum (architectural history, Univ. of Dortmund, Germany) encompasses a wide swath of church construction from 1200 to 1500 in the Holy Roman Empire's Nationis Germanicae. The author traces French origins, details German Gothic development and stylistic manifestations, and concludes with important Saxon and southern German churches of the late 15th and early 16th centuries. The work is thorough and scholarly (746 footnotes), heavily illustrated (246 photographs, maps, floorplans, and elevations), and well documented (a multipart bibliography of mainly German sources, a glossary, a chronology, and persons and places indexes). Above all, the breadth is formidable. Churches in over 600 places are covered. Nussbaum writes intelligently about Gothic research and sagely accommodates regional variations. Highly recommended for academic collections.

Russell T. Clement, Northwestern Univ. Lib., Evanston, IL Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Text: English (translation) Original Language: German

Good book, nicely priced, to add to architecture library. There is somewhat less to say about German gothic than one might think, but Nussbaum does well contextualizing and fitting the German traditions and culture into the broader European perspective. The text itself perhaps could have been organized a bit better, and the lack of detail on Cologne Cathedral was a surprise, considering its prominence. Perhaps he considers it a French-inspired work? Other than that, a welcome purchase.

The images in this book, especially those in color, will make the reader wonder why we ever stopped building Gothic Churches. Moreover, the text is very well written and informative. My one caution with regard to the book is the content of the text. If the reader has some knowledge of architectural terminology there shouldn't be a problem. If not, the reader might want to consider a more layman-friendly text to read before this one. If, on the other hand, the reader would like to dive-right-in as it were, it should be known that many of the meanings of the terms can be inferred by reading the text in consultation with the images.

This is a subject that requires lots of photos instead it was very chintzy in regards to photos, illustrations etc For years I meant to buy, this finally did, a big disappointment, not recommended.

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