

Kornélia Kolářová Takácsová: The North Portal of the Church of St. Procopius in Třebíč in a Central European Context with Special Reference to Churches in Hungary

Abstract

The present dissertation places the northern portal of the Basilica of St. Procopius in Třebíč in a broader Central European context with a special focus on Hungarian buildings. After an introduction to the history of the Trebic abbey and church, a description of the portal and its iconographic analysis is followed by an analysis of important portals from Germany, Austria and Hungary that are mentioned in relation to the Třebíč portal and are associated with Norman ornament, including an attempt to classify them chronologically. The thesis includes a critical discussion of various theories of Norman decoration wandering in Central Europe. Special attention is paid to the question of the fundator of the Třebíč basilica, which refers both to the ruling Přemyslid family and to the remarkable figure of the bishop of Olomouc, Robert. In all the countries of Central Eastern Europe, in addition to the foreign builders who separated in groups from the large Western smelters, local stonemasons were involved and contributed their work to the final forms of specific buildings. The obvious similarities between the buildings and the dynastic links indicate a contact between these countries that remained alive despite unfavourable political circumstances or even war. Moreover, the fact that Norman ornament was already associated with the royal representation soon after its penetration of the European continent (e.g. in Sicily) contributed to the similarities. Central European rulers, the emancipating aristocracy, the ministerialists in Austria and the nobility in Hungary building manorial churches also followed this tradition.

Key words

Třebíč, Basilica of St. Prokop in Třebíč, northern portal in Třebíč, former Benedictine abbey in Ják, former Benedictine abbey in Lébény, Regensburg, Hungarian Kingdom, 13th century, Norman decor