

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY 2020-2021

Spring semester

prof. E. Piccoli (arch. hist.) and prof. G. Ventura (constr. science)

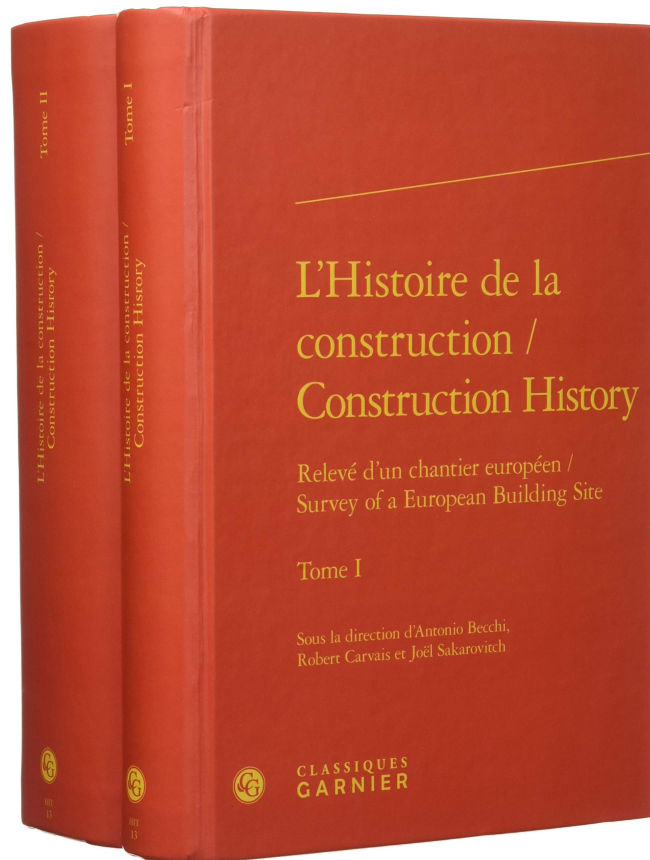
4 + 2 credits

Construction History: «The interrogation, using a historical methodology combined with a competent interpretation of structural behaviour and conception, of the processes, techniques and practices that led to the construction of a building of the past»



WHY?

- A developing research field
- A specific competence for the architectural profession



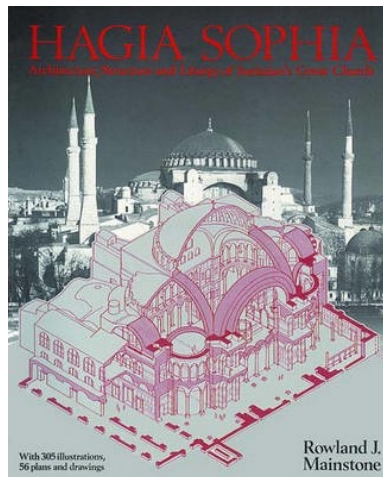
CONSTRUCTION HISTORY. PICCOLI VENTURA.



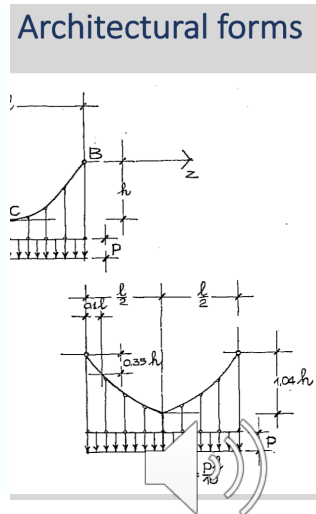
Different kinds of activities:

- Lectures (also with invited speakers)
- Exercises (on reading history; basic exercises of structural analysis of masonry and the arch; funicular polygons; case study report)
- Site visits (if allowed by post-Covid rules)
- Readings (some mandatory, some recommended)

Some images from 2019-20: The Stone Skeleton (required readings); Haghia Sophia (optional reading); site visit in Susa Valley; «Real world» exercise on the funicular polygon; Funicular Theory



Physical Model

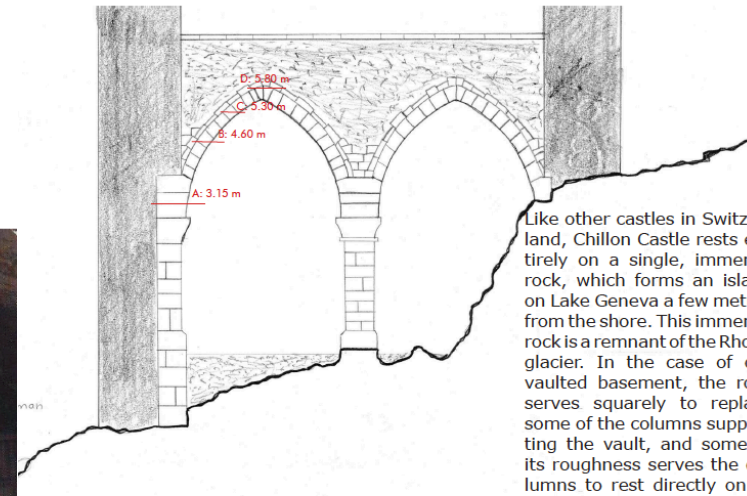


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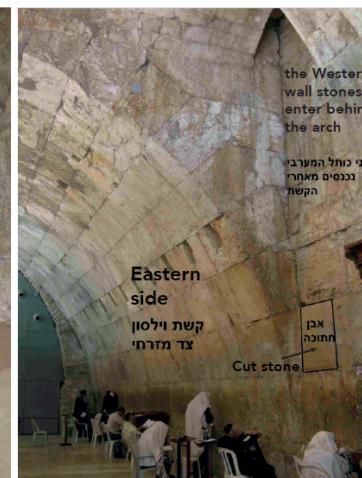
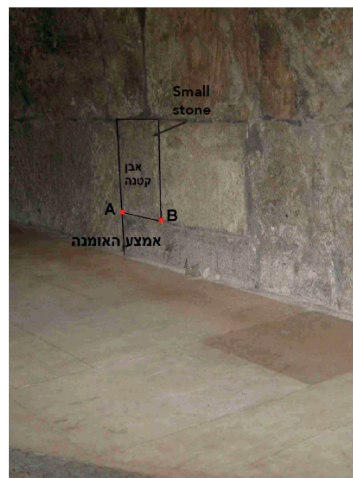
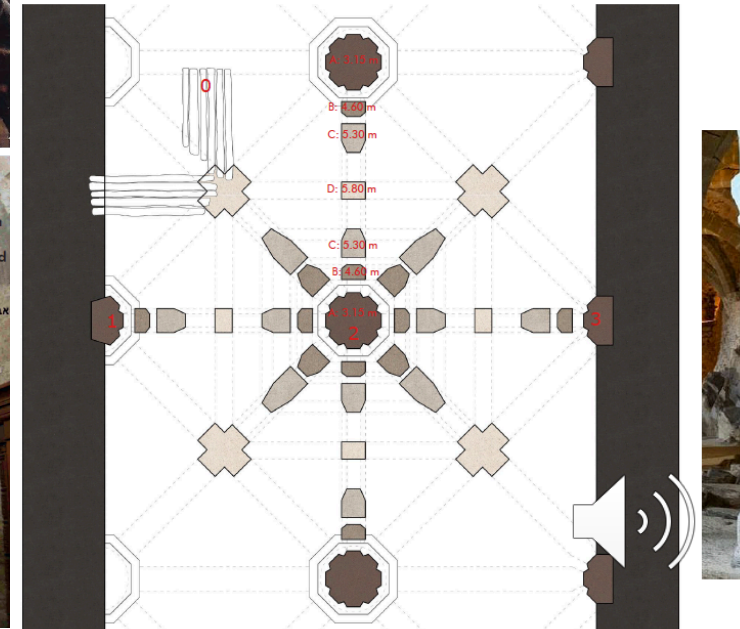
• Research exercise

Some case study images from 2019-20: counterclockwise, Cuenca cathedral, Spain; Vladislav Hall, Prague; Temple substructures, Jerusalem; Chillon castle, Switzerland

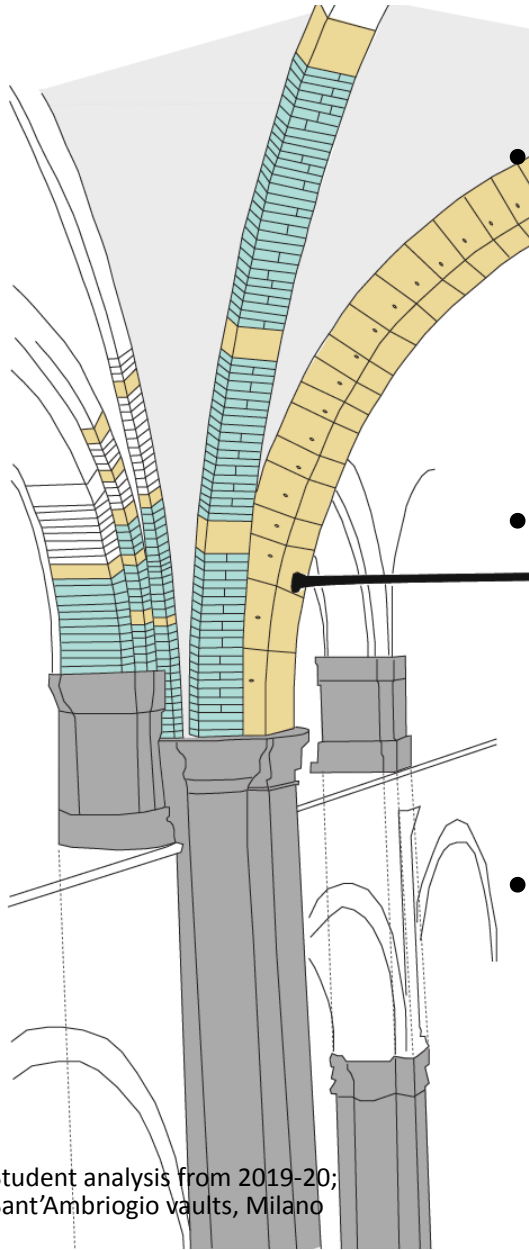
CROSS SECTION A-A'



PLAN OF THE VAULTS



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- The course is fully Covid-compliant: the 2019-20 edition has been delivered on line, with students at home in several different countries, from Turkey to Lebanon to Mexico and Spain, and in different Italian cities. 90% of students actually following the course have passed it, most of them in the first session.
- The course focuses on masonry construction, with a wide range of topics and chronologies considered. If the course will again be delivered on line, students will come forward with their own case study proposals; if the course will be in class, we will probably focus on buildings we can visit and examine together.
- The exam:
 - Will evaluate the in-course work (exercises, hand-ins)
 - Will be based also on a final oral conversation with both teachers on the research exercise and some open questions on the readings

Student analysis from 2019-20;
Sant'Ambrogio vaults, Milano



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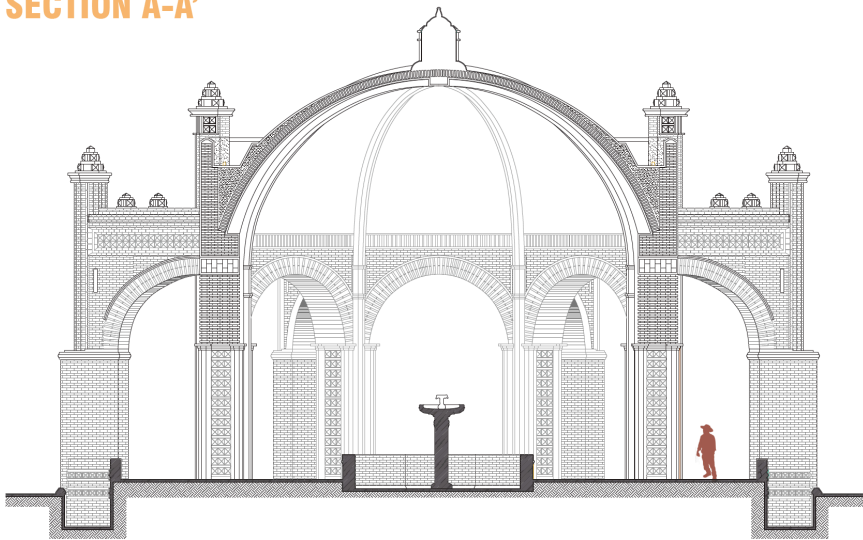
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SECTION A-A'



Student analysis from 2019-20; Pila de Chiapas, Mexico; Sant'Ambrogio, Milano (right)

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