

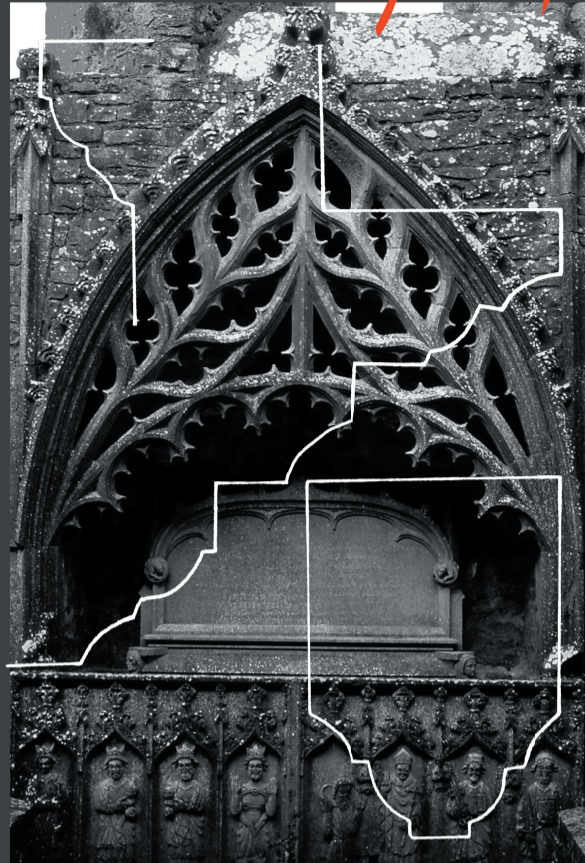
Late Gothic Architecture in Ireland

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The aim of this research is the recontextualization of Irish late Gothic architecture. The study seeks to isolate the pattern of architectural development within the country, and to place it in a broader European architectural setting. The primary research tool is the analysis of moulding profiles, the patterns carved into masonry by those responsible for designing the building. The profiles are measured, drawn and photographed in the field; so far over 500 have been collected. The study of mouldings helps to identify

- * regional patterns of development
- * the work of individual masons
- * the influence of particular patrons

The tomb niche illustrated to the left is that at Strade Dominican friary, Co. Mayo. Over the past fifty years there have been suggestions that the tracery was inspired by monuments in France, England or even Spain. Analysis of the moulding profiles, however, shows that this is the work of an Irish mason, who is using a standard repertoire of forms inherited from the fourteenth century. The tracery is an unusual synthesis of elements, which may owe debts to France, the Low Countries, and to church furniture executed in wood.



'Thus go the poor of Ireland' draagh in Antwerp by Durer 1521



Vézère
Abbaye de la Trinité
West Facade
1506



Corbel at Strade Dominican
Friary, Co. Mayo



London, British Library, Add. Ms. 1885



Screen at Carlish Cathedral
dating from the tenure of Prior Goughbour
in the late fifteenth century



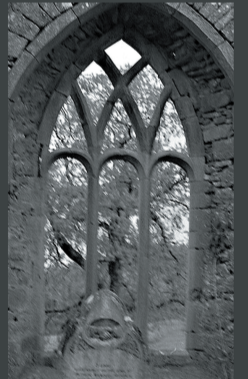
A carrack as draagh by Master W A (c.1465-85), British Museum



Rouen Cathedral, detail of choir stalls, Britain 1465 and 1469 six hundred pieces of 'bois d'Illande' were imported for their construction-O'Brien in 'Ireland and Aquitaine in the Middle Ages', 1995



Antwerp 1501-4



Sligo 1506



Exploring Late Gothic Architecture in Ireland

the Human Condition

