AN ART-HISTORICAL RESPONSE TO EARTHQUAKES

POSSIBLE RESEARCH STRATEGIES FOR AMANDOLA’S ECCLESIASTICAL HERITAGE

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Living with Earthquakes
Towards a Model for Amandola and the Marche Region
Jesus College, University of Cambridge
24th-25th October 2017
Frescoes by Giovanni and Antonio Sparapane in San Salvatore a Campi, Norcia (destroyed 2016)
Reconstruction of the church of Santa Chiara, showing original location of the *cappella maggiore* and the columns for the nuns’ choir (after Giuseppe Marchini). Area in blue dismantled by the South Kensington Museum 1860-61.
Reconstruction of Santa Chiara, Florence: Victoria and Albert Museum and Department of Informatics, University of Sussex (2009)
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‘Virtual San Pier Maggiore’, Florence: University of Cambridge (Cooper, Penz, Santa Clara) and National Gallery (2015)
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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZUXu1nD1OB0
Corriere della Sera coverage, January 2016

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San Francesco, Sansepolcro, project for Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies, Villa I Tatti (2009)
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1265 – first documentary references to Franciscans at Amandola
1313 – church of San Francesco is being rebuilt
1352 – consecration of present church
1423 – façade portal is signed by Antonio da Milano
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Chapel of the Annunciation, frescoes attributed to the Sparapane workshop of Norcia (Giovanni and his son Antonio), c.1476
Lunette with fresco attributed to Campilio da Spoleto of Virgin and Child Enthroned between Saints Luke the Evangelist, Bonaventure, Bernardino and Jerome, dated 8 August 1482, discovered during the restoration of the church following the 1997 earthquake.
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Amandola, Archivio Storico Comunale: statutes, riformanze, catasto property tax registers
Fermo, Archivio Storico Arcivescovile: Apostolic and Episcopal Visitations and miscellaneous ecclesiastical material.

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L’Archivio Notarile Mandamentale di Amandola, suppressed in 1964 and in 1965 incorporated into the state archives of Ascoli Piceno (from 2009 Amandola in the new province of Fermo)

Around 2,500 volumes (+500 buste of carte sciolte) from Amandola and its district, of which around 1,000 are from Amandola itself.
"Un primo sondaggio": 10 volumes checked in 3 hours = less than 1% of the total material on Amandola.
25 September 1510: 
“…pro ornamento cappelle ipsius Ser Iohannis Francisci sita in dicta ecclesia unam conam aureatum depictam in tabule existentam super altare et in capella prefati Ser Iohannis Francisci….”
30 October 1489:
“...facere et fabricare unum murum iuxtam dictum ortum latitudinis trium pedum in fundamento et duorum pedum in capitam sive in cima....”
10 December 1494:
“…in camera solitam residentie Magistri Iohannis sita in dormitorio ecclesie et conventu Sancti Francisci…”
16 December 1494:
“Pro Antonello Bruxiani…debeant offitiare et missas dire et celebrare in altare cappelle Annuntiate Sancte Marie sita in dicta ecclesia iuxta turrum dicte ecclesie...”
1509: “Instrumentum matrimonium et dotum promissa pro domina Rossina Archangeli Quatuctis et Laurentio Augustini Vagnarellis… actum in terra Amandule in cappella Nuntiate Virginis Marie sita in ecclesia Sancti Francisci”
27 August 1492:
“Actum in terra Amandule in loggia sive transanna ecclesie Sancti Francisci… Piermacteus quondam Antonii Montefalconibus [Montefalcone Apennino]” receives the rights of patronage “in quodam altari sitam in ecclesia Sancti Francisci sub pergola condito et edificato per Magistrum Antonium eius genitore et Piergentilem suum fratrum carnalem…”
Giotto, *The Crib at Greccio*, Saint Francis Cycle (Scene XIII), Upper Church, Basilica of San Francesco, Assisi, c.1292-96

Santa Maria, Vezzolano, late twelfth-century screen.
Santa Croce, Florence, rediscovery of the *tramezzo* screen during the relaying of the floor in the wake of the November 1966 flood.