

The Normans in Sicily | Islamicised Communities Before and After the Norman Conquest

'Farming and irrigation techniques were some of the more remarkable aspects of land organisation.'

The adoption in less fertile areas of irrigation and farming techniques based on a knowledge of the ancient world, along with other hydraulic engineering projects of Iranian origin (such as the impressive network of qanat), were some of the more remarkable aspects of land organisation during the period of Islamic rule.



Name:
Qanat (inside the Psychiatric Hospital)

Dynasty:
12th century Fatimid/Norman

Details:
Palermo, Italy

Justification:
The qanat of the Conca d'Oro are underground irrigation channels.



Name:
Hammam (Arab Baths)

Dynasty:
Fatimid / Norman

Details:
Cefalà Diana, Italy

Justification:
The system of channels used to fill and empty the baths at Cefalà Diana bear witness to the expertise of Sicily's Islamicised communities in hydraulic engineering.
