

The Normans in Sicily | Royal Art and Architecture

'Some royal Norman churches were built on the remains of Islamic sites.'

The religious architecture of the Norman court can be seen in a number of churches that were built around existing structures from the Islamic period.



Name:

Remains of an Islamic building in the complex of the church of San Giovanni degli Eremiti

Dynasty:

Fatimid

Details:

Palermo, Sicily, Italy

Justification:

Structural remains from the Islamic period can be seen in the south wall of the church, which was used as a burial place for court dignitaries.



Name:

San Giovanni dei Lebbrosi

Dynasty:

11th century Fatimid

Details:

Palermo, Italy

Justification:

The first church built by the Norman conquerors in Palermo, probably on the site of a wing of an existing Arabic castle described as being surrounded by a palm grove.
