

2020-09-11 - Lecture 10

11.3 Papal Rome, 1450-1550

- 1) **Papacy moved to Avignon (France) 1309-1377**
 - When the Papacy left town, of course, it created a hiatus of sorts, a vacuum, as the political power and the wealth temporarily departed.
 - Rome in a sense stagnated during this time but then was reinvigorated when the Papacy returned

- 2) **Papal Restoration**
 - Pope Nicholas V begins the demolition of **Old St. Peter's (322 CE-1500)** by commissioning a new apse in 1450.
 - New apse designed by **Bernardo Rossellino** (who designed Pienza for Pius II)
 - By 1500, Old St. Peter's was completely razed to make way for the new church
 - Pope Alexander VI (Borgia) builds **Via Alessandrini (1499)**, Rome's first straight street is built from the front of the **Castel Sant'Angelo** to an area in front of the site of St. Peter's. It becomes the location for several important palaces.
 - **Palazzo Castellesi** finished on the Via Alessandrina by 1520 (the Florentine ideal of civic beauty) build for Cardinal Adriano Castellesi da Corneto. Architect: **Andrea Bregno**
 - **Cancelleria** (1489-1513) **Bramante**. First complete Roman palace designed in the Renaissance style. Courtyard has a good solution for interior corner problem by using intersecting piers which give the appearance of strength. Restrained, tight facade with a distinct **piano nobile** and use of orders.
 - **Palazzo Caprini** (1501) **Bramante**. Rusticated base, with a refined **piano nobile** at the second level using pairs of doric columns with a doric entablature. Aedicule windows with balustrades.
 - **Tempietto** (1502) **Bramante**. A High Renaissance small, round, temple at San Pietro in Montorio inside a square courtyard. Original design showed Tempietto inside a circular colonnaded courtyard. Small dome raised on a drum to make it appear taller in a small space.
 - **Bramante becomes Pope Julius II's favorite architect** (Julius II rules 1503-1513). Bramante wins competition for St. Peter's and develops a design that includes a shallow dome (1506).
 - St. Peter's goes through several versions (see pg 455 Ingersoll) ultimately building **Pius IV / Michelangelo** version. Nave extended forward by Paul V / Maderno in 1610.

 - **Leo X** chooses **Raphael** as his architect. Raphael designs the Villa Madama for **Guiliano de ' Medici** (who later becomes Pope Clement VII and loses the Battle of Pavia)
 - Raphael does a design for St. Peter's as well
 - Raphael's **School of Athens** - the perfect embodiment of the spirit of the Renaissance. In the **Stanza della Segnatura** at the Vatican.

- 4) **Reformation and other developments (1517)**
 - Martin Luther publishes **95 Theses** in 1517 which is very critical of the Catholic Church's practice of selling indulgences, extravagant spending, and other items. **Protestant Reformation** begins. Protestantism in Northern Europe in ascendancy as a result.
 - **Gutenberg Printing Press** invented about 1440 which makes dissemination of ideas much faster and more ubiquitous.
 - Martin Luther translates bible into German, making it much more accessible.
 - Catholic Church takes 50 years to respond coherently in the form of a **Counter-Reformation**, which includes church building.