The Carolingian Debate over Sacred Space is a reconstruction of the fragments of a contentious and acrimonious debate that swirled around rival definitions of the meaning of the sacred buildings at the height of the Carolingian Empire. This debate caught up many of the major figures of the era, and at its core questioned what it meant for any given place or building to be thought of as especially holy. Many of the signature moments of the Carolingian Renaissance, in church reform, law, and political theory, depended on rival and bitterly controversial definitions of sacred architecture in the material world.

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