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英文注释

WORLD HISTORY

世界历史

FROM THE MIDDLE AGES TO RENAISSANCE

从中世纪到文艺复兴

Richard Easby（美）编

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致读者

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这套丛书秉承《国家地理》杂志图文并茂的特色，在书中配有大量精彩的图片，文字地道易懂、深入浅出，将科学性和趣味性完美结合，称得上是一套精致的小百科全书。特别值得一提的是本套丛书在提高青少年读者英语阅读能力的同时，还注重培养他们的科学探索精神、动手能力、逻辑思维能力和沟通能力。

本套丛书既适合学生自学，又可用于课堂教学。丛书各个系列均配有一本教师用书，内容包括背景知识介绍、技能训练提示、评估测试、多项选择题及答案等详尽的教学指导，是对课堂教学的极好补充。

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国 家 地 理
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Overview
文艺复兴综述
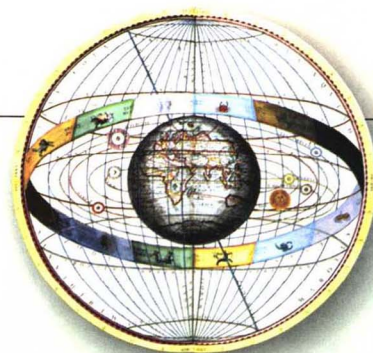
The MIDDLE AGES 中世纪

When people today imagine life in the Middle Ages, they
may only think of castles[1] or knights[2] in armor. But the
Middle Ages was a complex[3] time when great changes
took place that helped to shape the world we live in.

1. castle	n.	城堡
2. knight	n.	骑士
3. complex	adj.	复杂的
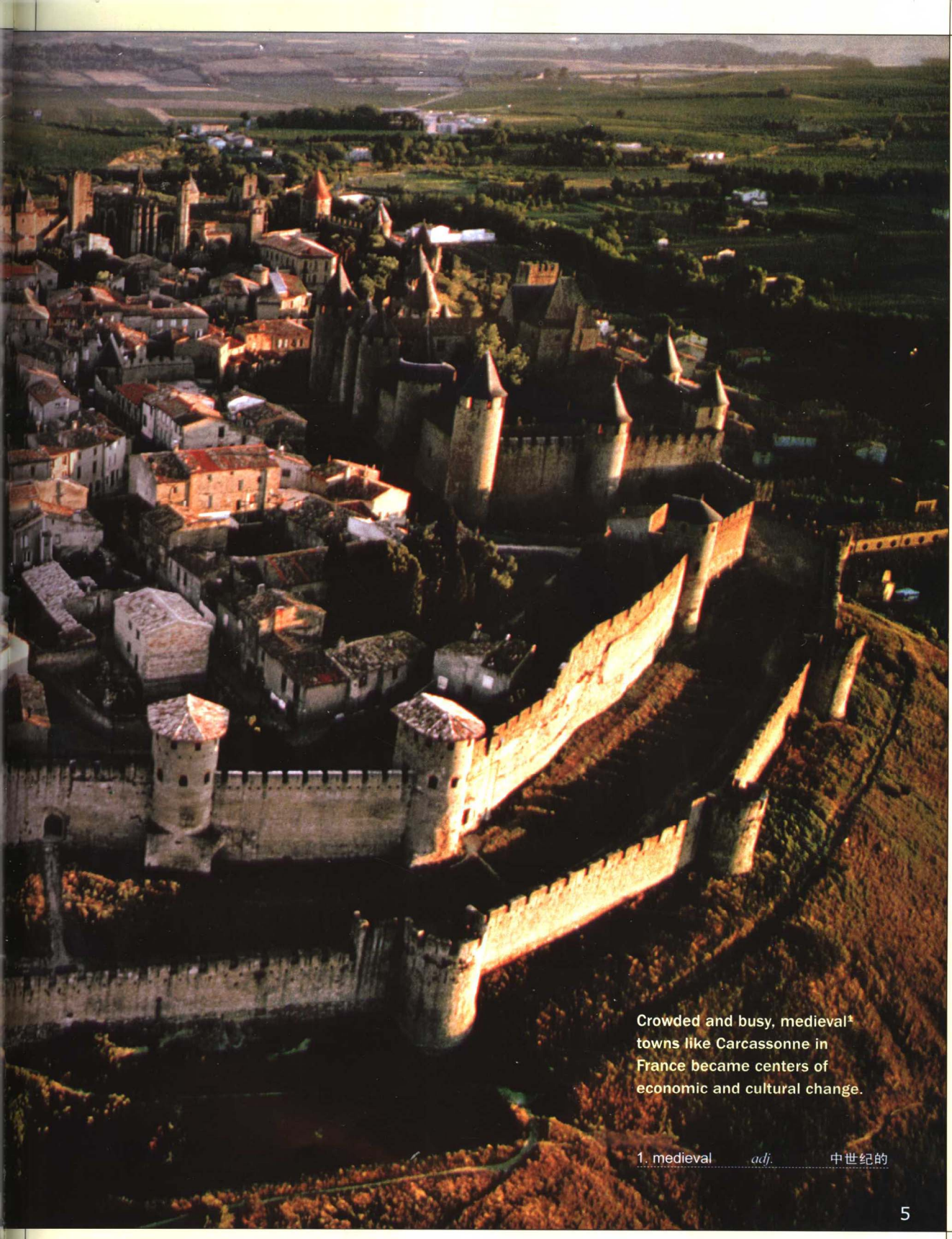
Crowded and busy, medieval[1]
towns like Carcassonne in
France became centers of
economic and cultural change.

1. medieval   *adj.*   中世纪的

THE STORY OF THE MIDDLE AGES took place over the thousand-year period from A.D. 450 to about 1450. Also called the medieval period, the Middle Ages began with the fall of the Western Roman Empire[1]. The end of Roman rule left Europe with a weakened economy and a lack of strong leadership. Instead of a single, central government, a feudal[2] society developed in which many landowners held power.

In the early Middle Ages, Europe was largely farmland or wilderness[3]. There were few large towns or cities. Most people were peasants who worked the land and lived in small villages clustered[4] around their lord's[5] castle. There was little trade during this feudal period. Travel was difficult and dangerous as feudal lords were often at war with one another.

1. Western Roman Empire 西罗马帝国		
2. feudal	*adj.*	封建的
3. wilderness	*n.*	荒野
4. cluster	*v.*	群集
5. lord	*n.*	封建领主

Armor of the late
Middle Ages

Length of Recorded History

EUROPE IN 1160 (map)

KINGDOM OF NORWAY
KINGDOM OF SWEDEN
KIEVAN RUS
North Sea
Baltic Sea
KINGDOM OF SCOTLAND
IRELAND
WALES
KINGDOM OF ENGLAND
KINGDOM OF DENMARK
PRUSSIA
London
Runnymede
ATLANTIC OCEAN
HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE
KINGDOM OF POLAND
Kiev
Normandy Paris
Anjou
KINGDOM OF FRANCE
KINGDOM OF NAVARRE
VENETIAN TERRITORIES
Venice
KINGDOM OF HUNGARY
KINGDOM OF LEÓN
Danube R.
Black Sea
PORTUGAL
KINGDOM OF CASTILE
KINGDOM OF ARAGON
Corsica
Rome
Constantinople
BYZANTINE EMPIRE
Sardinia
PAPAL STATES
KINGDOM OF SICILY
MUSLIM TERRITORY
Mediterranean Sea
Sicily
Crete
Cyprus

0 500 miles
0 500 kilometers
Lambert Azimuthal Equal-Area projection

Each lord had in his service a private[1] army of mounted[2] warriors[3] called knights, trained and ready to fight. The knights tried to civilize warfare with a code of conduct[4] known as chivalry[5]. An ideal knight should be brave in battle, loyal[6] to his lord, courteous[7] to women, and faithful to the Church[8].

After the fall of Rome, the Christian Church became the greatest power in Europe. It was more powerful than any king or queen and owned more land than any feudal lord. It dominated[9] every aspect of medieval life. It told people what to do and how to act. The Church gave meaning to their lives.

1. private	adj.	私人的
2. mounted	adj.	骑马的
3. warrior	n.	武士
4. code of conduct		行为准则
5. chivalry	n.	骑士精神
6. loyal	adj.	忠诚的
7. courteous	adj.	有礼貌的
8. church	n.	教会
9. dominate	v.	统治；支配

A.D. 2000

A.D. **450**
Middle Ages begin

A.D. **1450**
Middle Ages end

Starting about 1000, feudal society began to change. Improved farming methods increased the food supply, which in turn encouraged population growth. More people had to be clothed and fed. Trade revived[1] as it became necessary to send food and other goods from one part of Europe to another. A rising population and increased trade spurred[2] the growth of cities and towns. A new economy developed that was based on the use of money to buy and sell goods.

Changes were taking place in other parts of medieval society as well—changes in the arts, science, government, and warfare. A building boom[3] produced hundreds of new cathedrals[4] in a bold[5] style of architecture[6] that would later be called "Gothic[7]." Looking for the secret of making gold, pioneering[8] scientists made important discoveries that would lead to a new scientific method based on observation and experiment.

English nobles[9] forced their king to agree to certain important rights, setting in place the foundation[10] of future democracies[11]. Even the way wars were fought changed.

The following articles describe the forces of change in medieval Europe. To guide your reading, the articles have been organized around the following three **BIG IDEAS**:

1 The Church was the most powerful influence on society in the Middle Ages.

2 A revival of trade led to the growth of cities and towns and a new type of economy.

3 The Middle Ages began changes that later influenced modern life.

As you read, keep these ideas in mind. They will help you understand the forces that shaped the Middle Ages and how the medieval world still affects us today.

1. revive	v.	复兴
2. spur	v.	刺激
3. boom	n.	盛行时期
4. cathedral	n.	大教堂
5. bold	adj.	大胆的
6. architecture	n.	建筑
7. Gothic	adj.	哥特式的
8. pioneering	adj.	先驱的
9. noble	n.	贵族
10. foundation	n.	基础
11. democracy	n.	民主
12. propose	v.	提议
13. series	n.	系列
14. religious	adj.	宗教的
15. Jerusalem		耶路撒冷
		（巴勒斯坦古城）
16. Muslim	n.	穆斯林
17. trade route		贸易路线
18. legacy	n.	遗产

BIG IDEA: POWER OF THE CHURCH

The Church controlled medieval life—even warfare. The head of the Church proposed[12] the first of a series[13] of religious[14] wars to free Jerusalem[15] from its Muslim[16] rulers.

BIG IDEA: GROWTH OF CITIES AND TOWNS

Medieval cities and towns developed along trade routes[17]. Increased trade enriched townspeople, such as this moneylender.

BIG IDEA: LEGACY[18] OF THE MIDDLE AGES

Important features of the modern world have their roots in the Middle Ages. Medieval scientists developed techniques that led the way to modern chemistry.

（注释见第8页）

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Towers of Faith

石造大教堂

The vertical[1] lines of medieval churches, such as the cathedral in the Italian city of Milan, drew the worshipers' eyes upward to heaven.

1. vertical   *adj.*   垂直的

10

and **Stone**

In most medieval towns, the tallest, most beautiful building was the cathedral—a visible sign of the power of the Church. The people of the Middle Ages perfected building techniques that allowed them to construct[1] churches marked by a skyward thrust[2] and extraordinary[3] use of light.

1. construct	v.	建造
2. thrust	n.	猛冲；猛刺
3. extraordinary	adj.	非凡的

In the mid-1100s, a fever of building swept Western Europe. The result was new cathedrals in hundreds of cities and towns. Imagine stepping out of the sun's glare[1] into one of these old churches. Take a moment for your eyes to adjust[2] to the softer light inside. Then let your gaze follow the lines of the pillars[3] up and up to where they merge[4] and cross high overhead. The roof is so far off. It seems impossible that people 850 years ago, without modern machinery, could raise walls that high.

A Cathedral Rises

A small army of workers was needed to build a cathedral. Laborers cut the rough stones, and masons[5] shaped them. Other workers mixed the mortar[6] to cement[7] the finished stones. Carpenters, blacksmiths, glassmakers, sculptors[8], and roofers helped complete the cathedral. A master mason oversaw the whole project, like an architect would today. Workshops were built at the site where the cathedral would rise.

The first step was to cut timber[9] and put up the scaffolding[10] that supported the cathedral as it was being built. To save expense, the stones would often be cut in a nearby quarry[11]. The workers next dug the building's foundation, and then they began work on the walls.

The goal was to make the cathedral's walls as high as possible. Great height drew the worshipers' eyes upward toward heaven. The builders also wanted to make the stained glass[12] windows wide so that light would flood the interior[13] of the cathedral. To do this, they made the spaces between the windows thin. The problem the builders now faced was how to get these high, thin walls to carry the huge weight of the cathedral roof. They solved it by using structures called buttresses[14] to support the walls. Look at the diagram[15] on the right.


The French cathedral of Chartres now stands in the midst of a bustling city.

1. glare	n.	刺眼的强光
2. adjust	v.	适应
3. pillar	n.	柱子
4. merge	v.	融合
5. mason	n.	石匠
6. mortar	n.	灰泥
7. cement	v.	胶合；胶牢
8. sculptor	n.	雕刻家
9. timber	n.	木材
10. scaffolding	n.	脚手架
11. quarry	n.	采石场
12. stained glass		彩色玻璃
13. interior	n.	内部
14. buttress	n.	扶壁；扶垛
15. diagram	n.	示意图

# How **Cathedrals** Were **Built**

The roof rests on arched[1] structures called vaults[2]. The weight of the roof and vaults pushes both downward and outward. Piers[3], or clusters of columns[4], carry the downward push. Flying buttresses[5] carry the outward thrust[6] to exterior[7] buttresses that support the walls.

treadwheel[8]

winch[9]

vault

flying buttress

exterior buttress
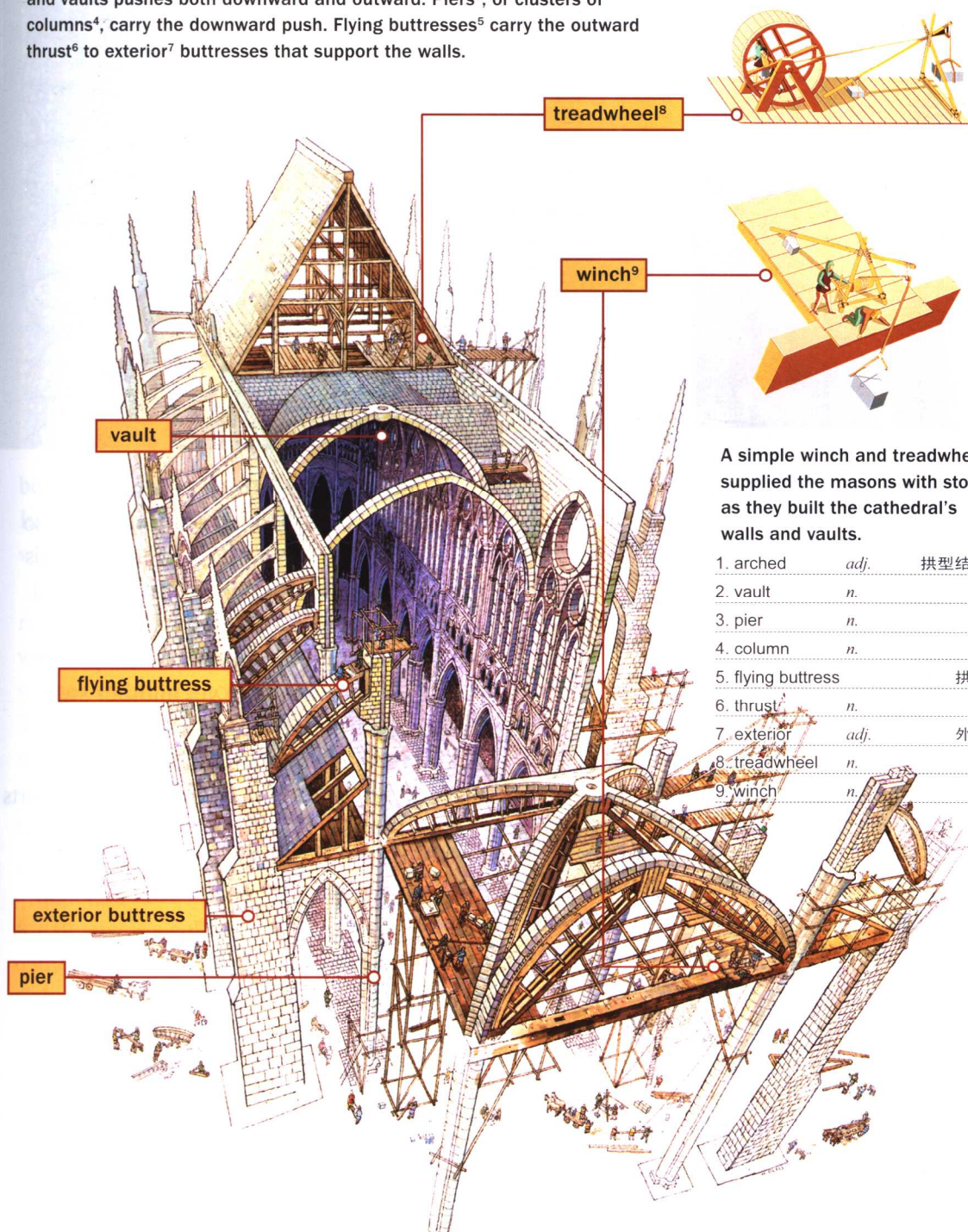
pier

A simple winch and treadwheel supplied the masons with stone as they built the cathedral's walls and vaults.

1. arched	*adj.*	拱型结构的
2. vault	*n.*	拱顶
3. pier	*n.*	墩
4. column	*n.*	圆柱
5. flying buttress		拱扶垛
6. thrust	*n.*	推力
7. exterior	*adj.*	外部的
8. treadwheel	*n.*	踏车
9. winch	*n.*	绞车
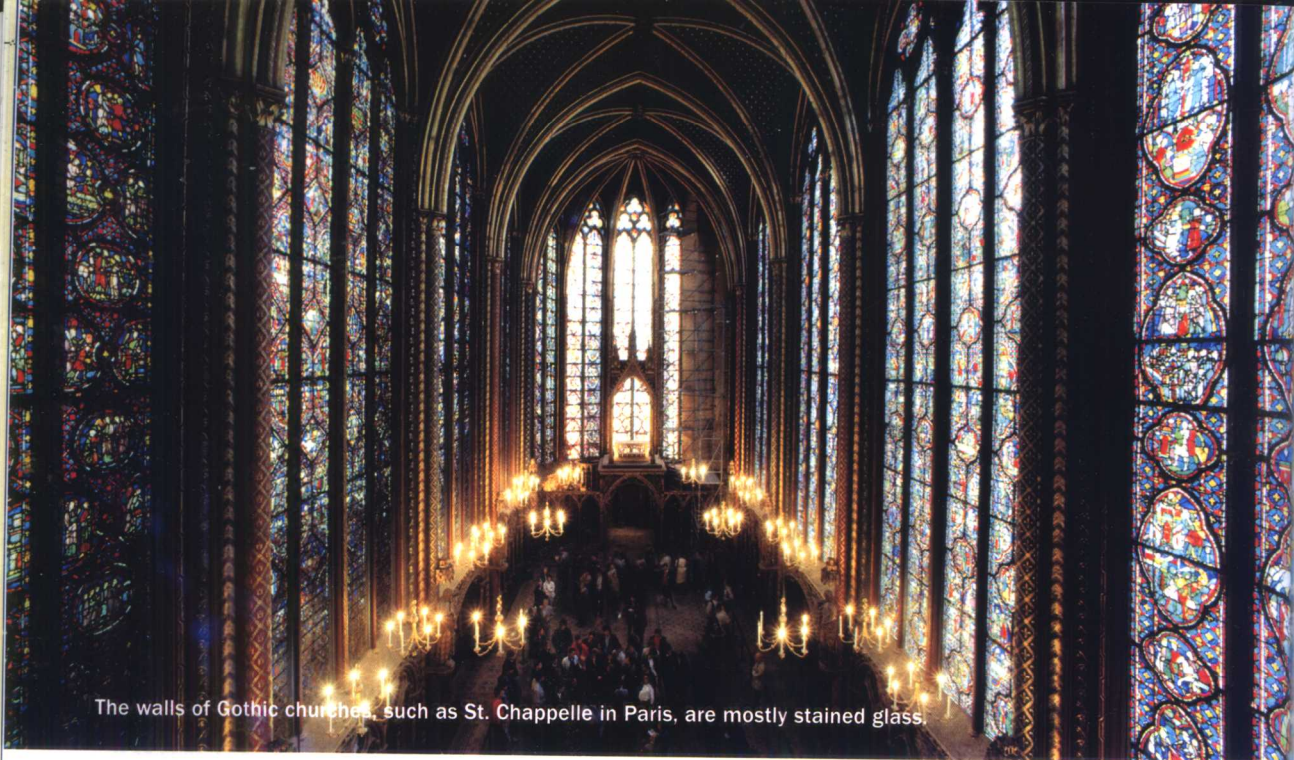
The walls of Gothic churches, such as St. Chappelle in Paris, are mostly stained glass.

A Cathedral Falls

Beauvais is a town in northwestern France. Late in November 1284, the vaults supporting the roof of its cathedral crashed[1] 500 feet to the ground, only 12 years after they were completed. What led to this disaster?

By 1200, the cathedral building boom was in full swing[2]. A spirit of intense[3] rivalry[4] began among the builders. Each town wanted its church to be the most beautiful of all. The two most important standards of beauty for the builders of the cathedrals were height and light. So, they kept making the walls higher and thinner.

In the early 1220s, the bishop[5] of Beauvais started planning a cathedral. He wanted to surpass[6] all others in height and beauty. Construction began in 1225. Two teams of builders worked on the cathedral,

using different styles. In 1238, another bishop took over. Money was a problem, so he scaled back[7] some of the big plans of his predecessor[8]. Even so, Beauvais Cathedral would be larger than other churches of the time. In the 1250s, a third bishop took over. He was working in yet another style that strained[9] to be even higher and more delicate[10]. As Beauvais's builders pushed higher, the walls got thinner and the supports

1. crash	v.	轰然倒下
2. in full swing		正在热烈进行中
3. intense	adj.	强烈的
4. rivalry	n.	竞争
5. bishop	n.	主教
6. surpass	v.	超越
7. scale back		缩减
8. predecessor	n.	前任
9. strain	v.	尽力；努力
10. delicate	adj.	精巧的

Gargoyles[6]

One of the best-known features of Gothic cathedrals is the gargoyle. A gargoyle is a carving of a grotesque[7] creature that sticks out from the roof of a building. Its purpose is to serve as a gutter[8] and carry rainwater clear of the walls. The National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., which was completed in 1990, has 112 gargoyles and hundreds of other carvings. The stonecutters who created these figures produced a broad range of types, from traditional monsters[9] to carvings of modern objects, such as a computer.
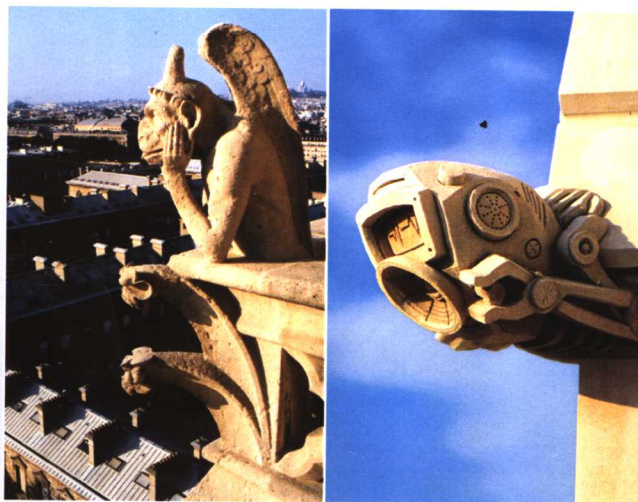
(left) Gargoyle on Notre Dame Cathedral[10] in Paris

(right) Carved computer on the National Cathedral

between the windows grew narrower. In 1284, disaster struck. The cathedral's vaults crumbled[1] and the roof fell.

After some repair work, Beauvais remained unfinished for 150 years. When work resumed[2] in the 1500s, masons wanted to build a tower on the cathedral. The tower was finished, but it collapsed[3] too. The nave[4], or central part of the cathedral, was never completed. Today, the structure is braced[5] with scaffolding to prevent more collapses.

Scholars have offered several theories for Beauvais's collapse. Some say the cathedral's foundation was too weak. Other scholars think the different styles of the first stage of building caused the collapse. However, many feel Beauvais was just too tall and too thin.

WHY IT MATTERS TODAY

The Church organized the huge, costly building projects that produced the medieval cathedrals. Many of these churches, some of which took hundreds of years to complete, are still in use today and are among the world's most beautiful buildings.

1. crumble	*v.*	倾颓
2. resume	*v.*	重新开始
3. collapse	*v.*	倒塌
4. nave	*n.*	（教堂的）中殿
5. brace	*v.*	支撑；加固
6. gargoyle	*n.*	怪兽状滴水嘴
7. grotesque	*adj.*	怪异的
8. gutter	*n.*	水槽
9. monster	*n.*	妖怪
10. Notre Dame Cathedral		巴黎圣母院