Early Gothic in the royal domains 1140 to 1155:

1. Buildings in transition from Romanesque to Gothic

2. The quest for verticality

3. Bishops and cathedrals take initiative in innovation (but this is complicated!)
The dioceses and archdioceses of France
CRYPT WITH HILDUIN’S EXTENSION

Hypothetical reconstruction

loading collar
unfinished in January 1143

ALTAR
“Monastic Gigantism: ”the Abbey Church of Cluny, Burgundy about 9’7 tall
Late 11th century+?
The shift from monastic to urban power: from monastic to episcopal authority— and assertion of ecclesiastical authority

Focus on cities and urban life; the special Relationship of the bishops to the king and royal authority
The Gallo-Roman fortification of the late 3rd century

1. Cathedral
2. Royal Palace
3. Approximate location of canon’s house
4. Bishop’s palace
Senlis Cathedral, chevet
The Kingdom of France
1154–1223.
Sens Cathedral
Archbishopric
begun 1120s? 1130s? 1140s?

Archbishop Henry the Boar (le Sanglier), 1122-1142

Cathedral of Saint Stephen (St.-Etienne)
Nave completed by c. 1180

81 ¼ ‘ high
x 49 ½ ‘ wide
Sens Cathedral

Original plan

After addition of transept and axial chapel
The “U” shaped plan: typical of archdiocese of Sens?

Senlis
False triforium (no passage)

The double bay alternating supports

Piers alternating with paired columns
The Romanesque outer envelope
old cathedral?
The building as a "learning process"?

Buildings as always undergoing change
Sens Cathedral: reconstruction of exterior prior to the heightening of the clerestory windows: flying buttresses (controversial) and low paired lancet windows
A view of Noyon in the 16th century
The rights of the bishop of Noyon:
1. peer of France (the king’s special council)
2. also bishop of diocese of Tournai
3. income from lands in his possession
4. taxes on guilds
5. taxes on ports and bridges
6. taxes on mills and wine presses
6. tolls on main roads from Flanders to the fairs of Champagne and to Italy
7. established rates of currency exchange favorable to bishop
8. canonical prebends
9. justice in his courts: fines