

Morel

## Glorious Temples or Babylonian Whores

The Culture of Church Building in Stuart England Through the Lens of Consecration Sermons

In *Glorious Temples or Babylonian Whores*, Anne-Françoise Morel offers an account of the intellectual and cultural history of places of worship in Stuart England. Official documents issued by the Church of England rarely addressed issues regarding the status, function, use, and design of churches; but consecration sermons turn time and again to the conditions and qualities befitting a place of worship in Post-Reformation England. Placing the church building directly in the midst of the heated discussions on the polity and ceremonies of the Church of England, this book recovers a vital lost area of architectural discourse. It demonstrates that the religious principles of church building were enhanced by, and contributed to, scientific developments in fields outside the realm of religion, such as epistemology, the theory of sense perception, aesthetics, rhetoric, antiquarianism, and architecture.

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**216,50 €**

202,34 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

*Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage*

**Artikelnummer:** 9789004385283

**Medium:** Buch

**ISBN:** 978-90-04-38528-3

**Verlag:** Brill

**Erscheinungstermin:** 20.06.2019

**Sprache(n):** Englisch

**Auflage:** Erscheinungsjahr 2019

**Serie:** Brill's Studies in Intellectual

History / Brill's Studies on Art, Art

History, and Intellectual History

**Produktform:** Gebunden

**Gewicht:** 1066 g

**Seiten:** 482

**Format (B x H):** 160 x 241 mm

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28.07.2024 | 16:27 Uhr

