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Leonardo’s representational technique for centrally-planned temples. (English)

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Summary: Leonardo invented a new technique of representation which combines the building plan and a bird’s-eye perspective of the whole into a single system. Bird’s eye perspective may have developed out of cavalier perspective, and instances pre-dating Leonardo can be found, but not used in the same way as he employed it. Though not pre-axonometric, Leonardo took advantage of axonometric representation’s capacity to construct/deconstruct an object into its component parts in order to clarify fitting and functioning. This paper investigates the originality of the technique and special relationship with his research on centrally-planned churches, while examining it in the context of contemporary developments and architects.

MSC:

01A40 History of mathematics in the 15th and 16th centuries, Renaissance

Keywords:

Leonardo da Vinci; representational techniques; bird’s eye perspective; cavalier perspective; axonometry; centrally-planned architecture

Biographic references:

Leonardo da Vinci

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