

241 Maréa Philoxenite 714 810 840

Mariusz Gwiazda, Modular designs at the Early Byzantine pilgrimage site of Philoxenite, Egypt.

JRA 36 (2022) pp. 196-214, figg.

New research at the site of Philoxenite in northern Egypt has identified six large building complexes, each based on a modular design. Each building is composed of replicated segments and dates to the 6th c. CE. This approach to design, used at Philoxenite, is not seen elsewhere on such a scale at this date. Nevertheless, modular design was deeply rooted in the construction traditions of the Roman and Early Byzantine periods, when it was used primarily for shops, warehouses, and cisterns. In Philoxenite, it was used to erect a town district that catered to the needs of pilgrims heading from Alexandria to Abū Mīnā, the largest Christian sanctuary at the time.

2022-0567