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Descriptive Summary

Identifier 
ICU.SPCL.MS1

Title 
Alberti, Leon Battista, De re aedificatoria. Manuscript (Ms 1)

Date 
circa 1485

Size 
1 volume; 30 x 21 cm.

Repository 
Special Collections Research Center
University of Chicago Library
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract 

Information on Use

Access

The manuscript is open for research.

Digital Images

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**Citation**
When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Alberti, Leon Battista, De re aedificatoria. Manuscript, Codex Ms 1, Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

**Scope Note**
Combining scholarly knowledge of ancient sources and models and an innovative architectural technique, Alberti’s treatise on architecture was composed in 1452. De re aedificatoria provided the Renaissance with an organized program for architectural design. By using new mathematical techniques and relationships found in musical harmony, Alberti achieved a balanced proportion which was emulated throughout the Renaissance.

The Chicago manuscript, which originated in Sicilian Italy during the last quarter of the fifteenth century, was probably produced by a large scriptorium, since as many as ten scribes collaborated on it. Large blue Roman initials were intended to mark the beginning of each section, but after the Introduction and Book I, the initials have not been painted in.

This work has been rebound and binding fragments retained. See the Special Collections circulation desk for additional information.

**Related Resources**
Browse finding aids by topic.

**Subject Headings**
- Alberti, Leon Battista, 1404-1472
- Architecture -- Early works to 1800
- Manuscripts, Latin (Medieval and modern) -- Italy

**INVENTORY**

**Volume 1**
Codex Ms 1
View fols. 27r-59v. http://pi.lib.uchicago.edu/1001/scrc/md/ewm-0001-02
View fols. 60r-92v. http://pi.lib.uchicago.edu/1001/scrc/md/ewm-0001-03
View fols. 159r-191v. http://pi.lib.uchicago.edu/1001/scrc/md/ewm-0001-06