Construction variants in the medieval vaulted architecture of Southern Lazio: the case of Ninfa

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The remains of the city of Ninfa represent an architectural and archaeological text of absolute originality, authenticity, and scientific relevance. They tell a relatively short construction history, but show traces of very different construction techniques, applied on almost contemporary construction sites or, in any case, not very distant in time.
Originally, there were a fair number of vaults in the city. From their remains it is possible to reconstruct the construction systems used, the constituent materials, and also the different ways of making the abutments. Information can also be obtained on the support structures used to build the vaults, from traditional wooden ribs to more basic systems made up of branches and stacked wooden boards.
Finally, the use of extradosed vaults in some buildings is an important theme for understanding the cultural influences that came to Ninfa from southern Italy and Rome. These influences have generated great variety in construction methods, which have coexisted throughout the history of the city, making it a melting pot of technical-constructive and structural culture.