**Utdrag ur katalog över Medeltidsavdelningen, LUHM (av Hampus Cinthio)**

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3. Wood sculpture, 1150-1400

From archaeological evidence and historical sources we know that already during the 11th century Scania had a large number of churches – 300, according to Adam of Bremen. These were with few exceptions (Dalby and Lund) wooden churches, stave churches as they are called, built in the Viking craft tradition. Our knowledge of the interiors and furnishings of these early church buildings is limited. However, it can be taken for granted that wood sculpture in the form of larger crucifixes, madonnas or figures of saints did not occur. We can presume that an altar cross or crucifix – most likely of metal – was placed on the altar and that there was a wooden font in the western part of the church space. It is also likely that the baptismal ceremony would have taken place in a baptismal well just outside the church.

Larger wooden figures were not introduced until the 12th century – the most important period of church building in Denmark – and this is when the new building technique, stone masonry, was first used. This we know more about. A large number of these buildings are preserved today – although many have been submitted to extensive renovations and additions. The ground plan is always the same (the exception is the so-called round church, within Scania only found in Valleberga and Helsingborg): a rectangular nave and a small chancel to the east. Original towers do occur, but frequently a bell-tower was erected west of the nave.

The chancel would either terminate in a square end to the east or have a semicircular apse extending from a tribune arch.

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