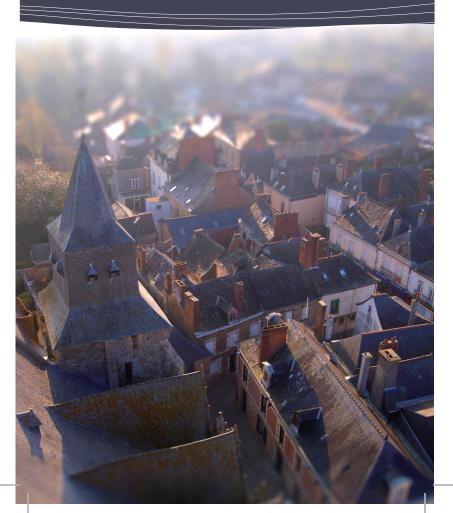
DISCOVER LA GUERCHE MARCHE BRETONNE





HISTORIC TOUR OF LA GUERCHE-DE-BRETAGNE



Archaeological excavations rue de la Hunaudière. Ruins dating from the end of the Classical Era to the beginning of the Middle Ages.

FORWARD

La Guerche de Bretagne, located in the area known as the "Gateway to Brittany," is rich in history. On this historic walking tour you will discover that history along with stories of our predecessors who helped to shape La Guerche into the delightful little historic know town we This walking tour, the brainchild of Noëlle Besnard, Cultural Advisor to the Mayor's Office, along with the artistic input from M. Jean-Claude Meuret and M. Sylvain Fuchs, will plunge you into a journey back into the roots of La Guerche de Bretagne. Enjoy the ride!

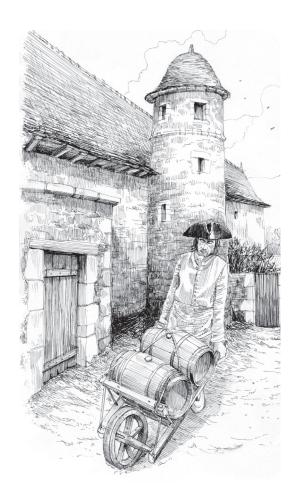
> Pierre Després Mayor of la Guerche de Bretagne



The town of La Guerche de Bretagne was founded during the Middle ages in the parish of Rannée, but its origins can be traced back to the era of the Franks. Its development occurred mostly from the 13th century as a result of its location at a crossroads on the border of the region of Brittany and its connection to Anjou. It included a castle surrounded by a moat and later, modest walls with covered market stalls, a market and a collegiate church. Outside of the village, on the road to Rennes, the development also included the town of Saint Nicolas and its market, overseen by the monks of Saint-Melaine. This walled town saw few minor changes and remained mostly original in its structure until the eighteenth century. Today, in the old town there remains some evidence of this past. From the 18th century the urban belt began to open up, the moat was filled, the four gates fell into disrepair and a hospital came into use along with a vibrant live animal market. The nineteenth century saw the demolition of the covered market stalls, a symbol of the local lord, replaced by a town hall where the representatives of the people sat. The railway came next with its two stations, then Duguesclin street connecting it to the old town center. A moat, a promenade, boulevards and washing areas were built here at this time.

Electricity began to modernize La Guerche at the beginning of the 20th century. However, evidence of the town's origins has remained strong with commercial prosperity still visible at the Tuesday market and at the regional fairs. The importance of religion was clear with the addition of a steeple to the collegiate church. Without this look at the past, it would be hard to understand the La Guerche we see today: with a population of 4300 inhabitants (in 2011), trade and a market which always radiates well beyond its main district and diversified industrial activity which employs 2230 people (2007).

To better understand the history, the steps of > the development and identity of the town, we suggest following this tour of 23 key places. They are numbered on the plan and at each of them you will find a sign showing the texts from J.C. Meuret and the original drawings of S.Fuchs.



LA COHUE (LES HALLES)

The market of a town in the region of "La Marche"

Until the 19th century, the great halls occupied what is now called General de Gaulle square. Built before 1206, no doubt by Lord William the third, they were then named "La Cohue," the term referring to the halls and the square as well as the porched houses. From that time and for more than six centuries, they housed the Tuesday market and the regional September fairs of Anjou. There we could also find "La Salorge," (the market regulating the sale of salt), the auditorium and the halls of justice, surmounted by a belfry from 1740. It was also there that official hemp canvas was produced and controlled for weights and measures. The local lord and the town would, in this manner, benefit from a favourable rate of exchange at the eastern border where Brittany met Anjou and then France. From the nineteenth century the town ceased to be enclosed, the halls were demolished and the market extended into several places including "Place de Duguesclin," (Duguesclin Square), and the "Champ de Foire, (Fair Grounds).



At the centre of the main square today stands the building with arches known as La Salorge. The town hall has since replaced the market and in front a fountain was erected in 1990. The exact position of this fountain is a reminder of the location of the town's main well which served as the town's only water source during a drought which lasted 16 months during 1766 and 1767.

CHAPEL ROAD

16th century architecture

This street owes its name to the number of chapels and altars that were added to the collective church buildings, particularly during the 15th and 16th centuries. The chapel of all saints was the most significant of these with a large square bell tower dating back to the 12th century. The building bordering the path which leads to the town hall's gardens, still known as Saint Maimboeuf, is reportedly built on the site of the chapel dedicated to the bishop of Angers in 1185. Looking up, we can admire the beautiful sculptures from the 16th century that decorate the various faces and gables of the church. Sculpted from a local, golden granite they show figures including human heads, monsters, animals and even a man diving off the wall. These quality works of art were possible thanks to the region's school of sculpture which opened in the middle of the 16th century in the south east of the department as were those seen on other churches as well as non-religious buildings.



At number 3 of this street, on a wooden lintel over a door, we find an interesting sculptured gargoyle from the 15th or 16th century featuring a large mouth and a feather in its hair.

THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH APSE AND THE PRESBYTERY GARDEN

Despite its immoveable appearance, the current town hall has seen several changes over the years. Up to the end of the 20th century it served as a priest's garden for the dean who lived in the presbytery. This building which dates from the end of the 19th century, was carefully constructed in a tasteful, neogothic style by the architect Arthur Regnault. The church apse, which dates from the 15th century with its canted plan and high arched bay windows remains today despite some modifications. It is at the heart of this period, between 1869 and 1892, that the silhouette of the church significantly changed its appearance with the addition of the high west spire, the northern aisle and a gallery connecting the vestry to the presbytery. From 1206 up until the Revolution, it was home to the dean of the canons of the collegiate church.

Until the revolution, La Guerche was a part of the parish of Rannée where both baptisms and burials were carried out. However, being



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attached to their prestige and independence, the local canons continued to bury the dead in the presbytery garden, as with the town's other eminent figures. During the Revolution La Guerche was a Parish with its own cemetery and became an independent commune in its own right having Rannée annexed to it. It was not until 1900 that Rannée became a separate commune again.

THE COLLEGIATE OF WILLIAM III OF LA GUERCHE

From William III to Arthur Regnault

William III of La Guerche and Pouancé, a powerful lord and man of faith, founded a collegiate in 1206. It included a group of 12 clergy men maintained for life to worship the religion of Notre-Dame and pray for him and his family. This took place in a vast religious building with a hall 30 metres long and 12 to 13 metres in height. Originally the west face featured a beautiful arched gate and ornate twin windows. The building was to benefit from further modifications in the 15th and 16th centuries and a clock and bell tower were added in 1751 to the west face. Between 1860 and 1882 there were more modifications including the spire.

At 65.37 metres, La Guerche's Notre-Dame church > spire never fails to impress visitors to the town. Made of granite and stone from Caen, we owe it to the architect A. Regnault who was inspired by steeples from Lower Brittany in the 15th century.



"THE MOUND" THE REMAINS OF THE CASTLE

The residence of the first lords of La Guerche

Despite being referred to as a "mound" in 1526, this man-made hillock, surrounded by walls was recognised as more than just a simple clump of earth, but the remains of a major castle which was the office of an important lord. Constructed on the bank of a landscaped swamp which was later to be known as "The Matz" and surrounded by a moat, this castle was the residence of the first lords of La Guerche from 1070 to 1080. No doubt originally of wood and earth construction in the 11th century, it was later used as a seat for a larger stone castle. By the 12th century, the lords of La Guerche and Pouancé united. It was here in the more easily defended town of Pouancé that the lord's fortress was to be built between the 13th and 15th centuries. William III who died in 1224 had been one of the last lords to have lived in La Guerche. In 1380, Bertrand Duguesclin, then lord of La Guerche, kept there a garrison of 30 military lancers on behalf of King Charles V. Prisons were later installed but by the end of the Middle Ages the castle was in ruins. In 1740, the last stones were used to build an auditorium near the covered market and in the 19th and 20th centuries it was occupied by gardens.



At the beginning of the 12th century, William I of La Guerche married Emma de Pouancé and became the lord of La Guerche, Pouancé and Martigné. He is remembered for donating a vineyard to the Abbey of La Roë and the Church of Abrissel.

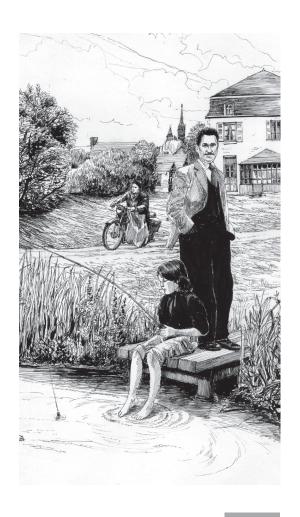
THE COURSIER "CASTLE"

An exclusive residence

Just two pillars remain of the gate opening onto "la rue Neuve," (the new road). The building, a beautiful two-storey house with warden's pavilion and several out buildings built in the 1800s, was raised in 1972. It was replaced with a public garden in which several original old oak trees still remain. Described as a castle after the Revolution, the property was not in fact a noble place but a commoner's residence.

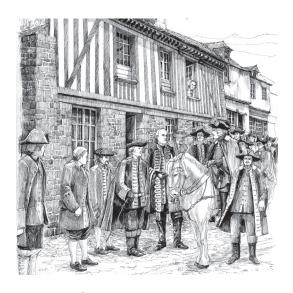
The Coursier family figured among the notables and canons of the collegiate church and Coursier of Bonneville was mayor of La Guerche from 1790 to 1791.

Today, local resident Madame Babot-Solnika still has fond memories of the frogs croaking in the stream and pond when, as a child in the 1930-40s, she accompanied her father to the Coursier's Castle while he did the maintenance on the park.



HOUSE NUMBER 48, LA RUE D'ANJOU "The Mauny Hotel"

"La rue d'Anjou" (Anjou Road) forms the axis of the village, leading to La Roë, Craon and Anjou. In the 18th century, it was undoubtedly paved as all the other streets were, with a well in the middle. The house at number 48 belonged to M. Perrière of Mauny, legal representative of la Guerche and mayor of the village. A symbol of tranquillity outside of the centre, the building's facade faces the street. It had a carriage passage on the side and, at the back, a large garden leading to the southern city wall. The first level of the facade is built in stone in order to prevent rising damp and in the gables lie the chimney flues. The floor is halftimbered of wood and earth like the majority of the porches in the town centre. This type of mixed construction is seen throughout the old town and harkens back to practices inherited from the Middle Ages.



A On the 20th of February 1762, this house received a distinguished guest, the Duke of Aiguillon, governor of Brittany, during his inspection of the royal roads. Anxious to maintain the exemption of the inhabitants from doing the lowly job of road works, the mayor and his notables gave him a grand reception with decorated streets, an official ceremony, a bonfire and an elaborate meal at the Mauny Hotel followed by fireworks.

THE ANJOU ENTRANCE

When the water flowed under the Anjou bridge

At the end of the Middle Ages, La Guerche figured amongst the territories of the Duke and Duchess of Bretagne along with Ancenis, Châteaubriant, Vitré, Fourgères, etc... In this spot, the road from Craon and Angers entered the village via a bridge spanning a double moat and a small stream called the Bigosier. This stream, after flowing through the ditches around Henri Platier square, passed under the bridge and emptied into Matz pond, still located in the public gardens. The entrances of the village served to regulate the comings and goings of people and to tax goods. The Anjou bridge wasn't built in stone until 1740 thus its original state is only known from sketches from the 18th century: a small half-timbered building with a four-sided roof and fireplace. No trace remains other than the Bigosier, now void of stream waters as a result of the tarring of all the urban spaces.



At the beginning of the 20th century, the ditches of the city were mostly filled. Prior to that, they were preserved and fitted out to the left of the entrance as a watering trough for horses, accessed by a long ramp, protected by high parapet stone walls.

HENRI PLATIER SQUARE Under the parking lot, the moat

This large space was formerly the site of the southern moat of the city. During the Middle Ages, La Guerche was protected by two large ditches, separated by a high slope of earth occupying a space 25 meters wide. A small wall, slightly elevated and devoid of defensive towers on the south side, was built at the end of the 16th century to separate these ditches from the town. Some remains can still be seen between the Anjou bridge and the entrance to the "Passage des Lavandières" (Passage of the washerwomen). The upper part of the ditches, near the "Porte de Rannée" (Rannée entrance), was levelled in 1740 but in the lower part, a drinking trough and large washing area remained until the 20th century. Prior to the arrival of the washing machine, it is here where the washers came to do the laundry, on their knees, beaters in hand and where much of the town's laundry hung out to dry. The washhouse still exists, though invisible now under the square, hence the name, "Passage des lavandières."

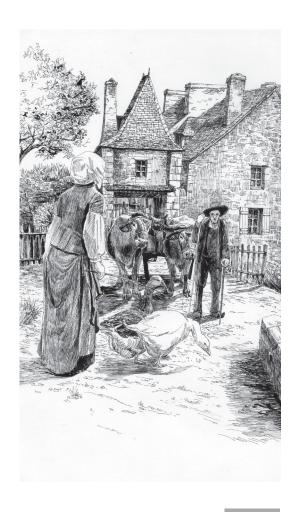


∧ What changes a hundred years make! Over the course of the 20th century, the location of the Henri Platier square changed several times until finally settling in its current place. In 1910 a "factory" called Lancelot was installed to provide electricity for the town. A post card from the beginning of the century shows a military squadron camped with their horses. Until the 1960s, a public garden occupied the west half, however, due to the success of the automobile, the town was compelled to dedicate this area to parking, especially during the busy market and fair days. The decision was then made to level and tarmac everything from top to bottom. The square carries the name of Henri Platier, a local who was deported and died at the Dora-Buchenwald concentration camp in 1944.

THE RANNÉE ENTRANCE When La Guerche was a walled town

This entry, along with the entry St Nicolas, are the oldest in the town. It led to Rannée, the parish that presided over La Guerche until the Revolution. A drawing from the 19th century gives a representation as it had been built in 1740, overlooked by a pavilion and accessed by a bridge that crossed the ditches, where later a stone parapet was added on the right. This entry gave access to the "rue de Rannée" previously lined with porched houses but today only one remains. Until the 18th century, La Guerche was a walled town and like the other entryways the Rannée entrance aided in protecting the locals and keeping track of the comings and goings of both people and goods.

In 1582, this entrance was named "Porte de la > Chaussée" a name still in use in the 19th century to define an area of houses in the "faubourg de Nantes," (suburbs of Nantes). On the outside of the ditches, a path circled the town and connected this entry to that of St Nicolas.



LA SALORGE

800 years of commerce and power

This building alone sums up a large part of the history of La Guerche. Occupying the centre of town, it was once the site of the immense medieval market halls. Formerly belonging to the lord, it was declared national during the Revolution and became public property when bought by the local government in 1822. Due to its dilapidation and also the significance of the building for local business, the elected officials considered several projects. It was in 1830 that the conversion of this building to serve as a market hall, justice of the peace and town hall began. The work cost 36,021 francs and the inauguration took place on October 3, 1839. The building succeeded in renewing architecture, displaying municipal power and promoting commerce.

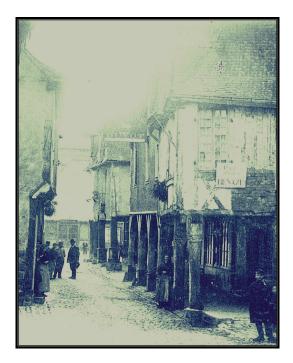


As the new building was too cramped, a significant portion of the old halls were left intact. The last remains were razed in 1939 but certain elements were reused in a courtyard on the "rue de Cheval Blanc," (White Horse Road). In 1994 the city transferred the town hall to the church and transformed it into a cultural centre. It was named "la Salorge" as a reminder of the room in the ancient halls where the salt was stored during the times of salt tax.

THE PORCHED HOUSES

Merchant Buildings

La Guerche Square holds a rare mixture of porched house with wood panelled facades. The eldest dating back to the 16th or 17th century. They were preceded by those erected around the square, then the covered markets, from the 11th and 12th centuries. Originally belonging to the state, each porch, as well as the building it supports, now occupies a public space. It's one of the reasons they were built in wood and earth, perishable materials. At the back, where it was private property, the main body of the house could be built of stone. Most often these houses extended into a strip garden which then extended to the city wall. La Guerche having been founded in a lowlying area was susceptible to flooding, thus few houses had a cellar. Most housed the stalls and shops of merchants and craftsmen.



A In 1789, the town boasted four inns and a hotel. The inns bore picturesque names, often as colourful as their signs: The Gallant Green, The Black Head, The Great Turk and the Red Hat. As for the hotel, it was called "Le Lion d'Or" because "au lit, on dort" (On a bed, we sleep!).

THE SAINT NICOLAS ENTRANCE The Main Town Entrance

Until the 18th century, before the rue de Notre Dame came into use, this was the main entryway into the town. Towards the outside, it opened onto the pavement which led to the priory Saint Nicolas and beyond to the road to Rennes. Towards the interior the road follows a windy route passing close to Trinity Chapel then leading to the market square and the Notre-Dame collegiate church. One of the gateway towers from the 15th or 16th century remains in the interior of one of the buildings. As for the large tarred square, like the entire area, it was a deep and wide ditch that protected the town.

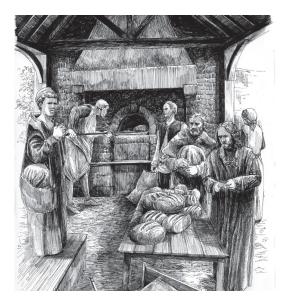
In the 11th century, relics of St Nicolas of Asia > Minor were brought back to Italy, then to France and his church was a great success. The patron saint of sailors, travellers and traders, he was chosen by a number of emerging cities as the protector of new places of worships. By placing a chapel, a suburb and a town entryway under the protection of this saint, the Guerchais openly displayed the commercial activity of the town.



LA PLACE AND LA RUE DUGUESCLIN

From the communal oven to the hospitality school

La rue Duguesclin is a product of the 19th century. It was named in memory of Major Bertrand Duguesclin, Lord of La Guerche from 1379 to 1380. The street was cut through the old building to give direct access to the train station from the city center. For this reason, the buildings are made from limestone and granite rather than wood panels. The square was created by enlarging an earlier square called la Grande Gâte before the Revolution. It was bordered to the north by "rue du Four," (Oven Street). The common oven, belonging to the lord until the Revolution, was where all the inhabitants went to bake their bread after paying a royalty.



A There is no proof that Duguesclin ever came to La Guerche but there is a familial link and his coat of arms can be seen in a stained-glass window in the church. In 2010, extension work carried out by the hospitality school uncovered the remains of the communal oven.

THE CHARTRE ENTRANCE The northern entryway

Here we find one of the four original entrances to the old town. Opened in 1653, this entrance accessed the suburbs and leads north towards Vitré. There was also a bridge over the Bigosier stream which came out of Matz pond and flowed below the road in the direction of the Vitré roundabout. In 1914 we could still see the base of one of the two towers that framed the passage, however, nothing remains today save the two modern granite parapets. The name "Chartre" may have two origins: Some believe it is linked to a nearby castle which housed the archive room, (the charters); for others, it is found in remains of the castle that housed the town prison, (in Latin "carcer"), between the end of the Middle Ages and the Revolution.



A The house on the left of the entrance of rue de la Chartre contains several original stone blocks. In 1750, it was still called the Charter House and fell under the power of the castle. Before the Revolution, it belonged to the local dignitaries.

ODORICO MOSAIC

The Art Deco era

The beautiful "Perrier-Baron" mosaic sign is a remaining symbol of an important decorative and artistic movement at the end of the 19th and 20th centuries. We owe it to the Odorico family who arrived from Italy in the 19th century, settling in Rennes and in the 20th century developed the largest design company in the west. This piece was produced in 1931-32 by the second generation, Vincent and Isidore, the Odorico brothers. It was in the middle of the Art Deco era and from Nantes to Dinard, from Rennes to Angers, the Odorico's were called upon to decorate swimming pools, churches, buildings, villas and even shopfronts. Here, the semi-circular pediment is adorned with a basin filled with stylized, simple and realistic fruit and foliage. This contrasts with the motifs of crosses placed on each side which are part of an abstract decorative trend.

Ornamental, but also functional, this beautiful mosaic faced the street leading to Vitré, displaying the company name created by Mr. Perrier and his wife Mrs. Baron, wholesale



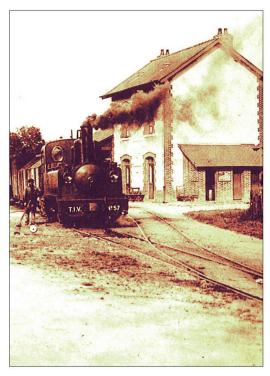
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fruit and vegetable merchants. This family business took over from a large old inn called la Croix d'Or (The Golden Cross), which occupied the large building to the right.

THE TWO TRAIN STATIONS

Two lines, two stations

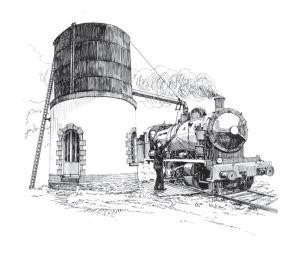
The railway didn't come to La Guerche until 1880-81, well after Vitré was connected by the Versailles-Rennes line in 1857 or Fougères was linked in 1867. This secondary route ran from Vitré to Châteaubriant, through the forest of La Guerche. In 1904 the Ille-et-Vilaine Tramways Company put into service a tram which connected La Guerche to Rennes in 2 hours and 40 minutes. It was popular as it carried both travellers coming to the market or horse races as well as goods of all kinds. It had various nicknames such as the "cow-killer" and the "little train." Each of the two lines had its own station for passengers, goods and livestock around which an industrial zone began to develop. However, in the 1920s, the advent of the automobile and coach led to the decline of the railway and there are no longer any active routes or stations in La Guerche.



↑ The "little train" stopped running in 1948, the Vitré line closed in 1972 and the station was levelled. The tram station was transformed into housing.

THE STATION WATER TOWER The age of the railway

This building, now out of use, served an important role from 1879 to 1881 in the establishment of a branch of the "Chemins de fer de l'Ouest," (Western Railway), which connected Vitré to Martigné-Ferchaud. The Rennes-La Guerche, TIV steam line known as the "slow train" was in use from 1904 until 1948 and both had their stations 100 metres to the east. They were levelled in 1972 to make way for the main station, though, the water tower remains to this day, close to the old track as a reminder of the time when it served to refill the steam engines' water tanks. Further to the southwest up to the Fontaine district, the Vitré line passed under the Rennes bridge in a deep trench. No longer needed, it was used as a public dump before being completely filled in during the 60s and 70s.



A During excavations, remains of large blocks of coal were discovered near the water tower, suggesting this as evidence of those once used to heat the steam locomotives. The same that, in winters would heat large metal containers for the travellers' comfort.

THE OLD ABATTOIRS

The beginning of the food industry

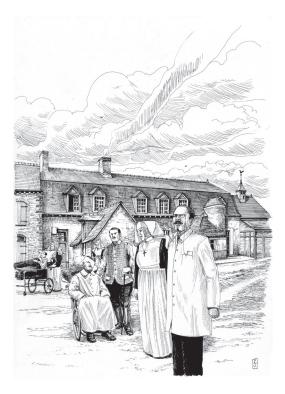
The construction of the abattoirs on the outskirts of the town, at the top of the cobblestoned street of Saint-Jean, dates back to a period concerned with urbanism and sanitation in the 19th century. They were imposing structures built in stone and blocks comprised of a two-storey face with the abattoir behind. The structure caught fire twice between the wars and was reduced in height before being converted into housing and a metal workshop to the rear for the Brochard company until 1975. It functioned as a stud farm for the Hennebont company until the 90s and a section used by "Restaurants du Coeur" (a charity organization), and then converted to social housing in 1996.



No The regional "little train" which linked Rennes with La Guerche was inaugurated in June of 1904, the rails being fixed directly to the cobbled streets and passing just in front of the abattoir before turning towards Carcraon. Its other title, that of the "cow killer" was no surprise as it crossed in the path of the cattle brought there for their last voyage.

SAINT-JEAN HOSPITAL Help for the poor and the sick

The first hospital was perhaps founded by the first lords of La Guerche during the 12th or 13th centuries, but it wasn't until 1516 that the Saint-Jean hospital was established on the road to Rennes just one kilometre from the town's centre. Somewhere around 1784, the community of La Guerche, with the local charity office, decided to enlarge the hospital and added a chapel. Abandoned during the Revolution, it was subsequently reclaimed by the charity office in 1806. It was then held by the local citizens until 1870 and later demolished in 1905. 1900 saw the beginning of the construction of a new and larger building designed by M. Prie. Begun in 1903 and completed in 1904 it is the building we still can see today with its central pavilion and steeple with two wings.



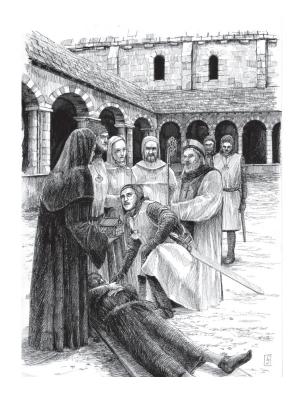
At the beginning of the World War Two, the rumour of typhus patients being cared for at the hospital spread. Although it proved to be unfounded, the Germans nevertheless chose not to requisition it for their own use.

SAINT-NICOLAS CHAPEL

The remains of the Saint-Nicholas chapel, the beginnings of La Guerche

At the end of the 11th century the building was already inhabited and used as a place of worship under the protection of Saint Nicolas, the patron saint of travellers and traders. Sylvestre, the first lord of La Guerche, gave land and men to Saint-Melaine abbey of Rennes in order to found a priory. Like all lords of that era, he hoped to both become a better Christian whilst at the same time attracting trade and commerce closer to his castle. In 1115, his son William I, hoping to attract more activity and promote the area, obtained some relics of Saint Nicolas. Feeling protected by the saint, the monks built a chapel around which the village and market developed in 1121.

William I died and was buried inside the priory. Between 1127 and 1145 his son William II became lord and was obliged to continue with contributions to the monks of St Nicolas. This he did ceremoniously in the presence of the monks, his family, knights and the local dignitaries before setting off for a pilgrimage to Saint Jacques de Compostelle. Included



in the contributions was a barrel of wine, a drink always available on the premises.

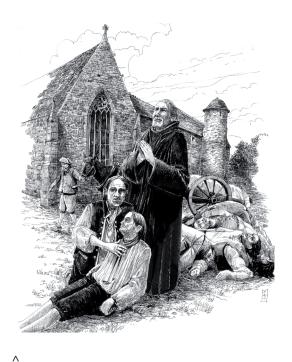
SAINT-NICOLAS CHAPEL

The remains of a beautiful Romanesque church

This church was developed mostly to the west where there are still remains of sections of the walls, a semi-circular window, a large arch and a number of other interesting architectural features. From the 16th century the chapel has had a pointed arch which can still be seen today and in the 18th century the nave was removed and walled up. A number of stones from the original building were later reused and are recognisable by their interesting decoration and herringbone patterns. A careful look at the west face will even reveal fragments of a decorative stone cross and a section of the door arch. To the north, the adjoining house with its spiral staircase, dates from the end of the Middle Ages and served as the priest's home until the Revolution.

During the plague

At the beginning of 1626, the great epidemic of the plague arrived from the west in La Guerche. The victims were taken out of the town to the fields at the chapel of St Nicholas. There, they were cared for by volunteers and by René Guyot, a farmer from the priory who had the good fortune to escape the disease. However, as a result of this plague



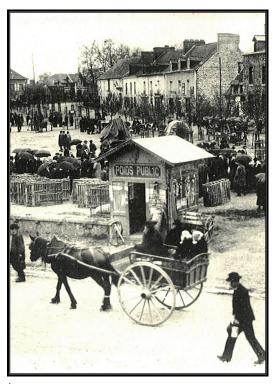
killing so many and the reduced population, grass grew in the streets of La Guerche. More recently, the discovery of bones at Saint-Nicolas is perhaps evidence of communal graves..

THE FAIRGROUND

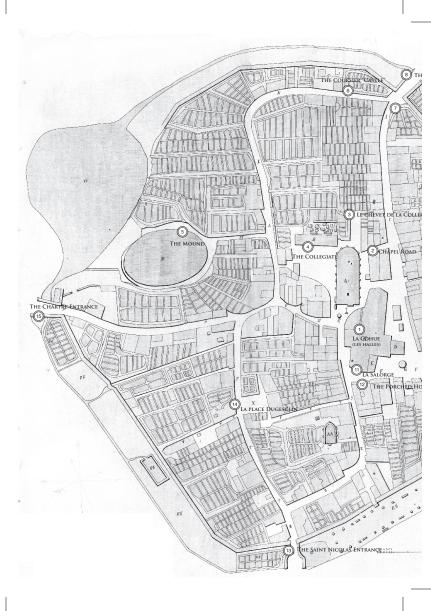
The market outside the town

Formally known as "Pasty," this area appeared very early on as a square outside the walls. From the 16th century it was bordered by a shortcut that connected the Saint-Nicolas gates with the main causeway until the 17th century when it was used as an annex for the Saint-Jean hospital. From as early as the 18th century, the importance of the livestock market in La Guerche was such that it dominated this location. and, during 1834-1835, the local municipality even considered making it a permanent feature there. Later, it was at the top of this area where the first Gendarmerie was established. Each Tuesday, until the 1980's, the locals would gather here to negotiate over livestock, particularly pigs and piglets, as well as stock up on supplies from local street traders. The introduction of new sectors, commercialisation and the large covered livestock markets elsewhere, such as at Fougères, Château-Gontier and Châteaubriant, later led to the decline of this activity in La Guerche. Today however, the diversity of the market of La Guerche make it one of the more important markets in the region.

During the revolution in 1789, the nobility of La Guerche, promoting change and reform, changed



the name "Pasty," to "Champs de Mars." Later, in 1790, to mark the Federation Festival, an obelisk, an altar and an amphitheatre were erected in the location where the republican proclamations were made until 1795.







HISTORIC TOUR OF LA GUERCHE-DE-BRETAGNE

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