

BERRY CHURCHES	
<p>Arpheuilles Indre, South-east of Châtillon sur Indre</p>	<p>This church has a single nave with a West door that has simple floral decoration on the arches. There are modillions of heads over the door. The apse has been entirely rebuilt in the last 150 years and a dozen or so modillions have been reset in the wall, but about 50 cms below the top of the wall.</p>
<p>Avord St Hughes Cher, South-east of Bourges</p>	<p>This XIIc church has a single nave with timber vaults. The entrance is stepped and is between large plain blind arches. Over the crossing is a cupola on trompes. The choir is narrow and flat ended. There are fine XIIc frescos depicting St Peter, St Paul and women.</p>
<p>Bangy sur Craon St Pierre es Liens Cher, South-east of Bourges</p>	<p>Built in 1130, the church has a single nave with remade capitals on tall engaged columns. The West door is stepped with small capitals: two elephants (damaged), a lion with a leaf in its jaws, masks and foliage. At the crossing is a cupola on trompes and good but painted capitals that depict foliage, a squatting man etc. The choir is rounded and there are rounded side chapels off the transepts. The windows of the choir have small pilasters with small foliage capitals.</p>
<p>Le Blanc St Genitour West Indre</p>	<p>This was originally an XIc priory that was extensively extended and rebuilt from the XIIIc. Of the original church, the choir, which is aligned off centre to the nave, and the South transept remain. The rest is later. The central aisle is XIIIc with the side aisles being added in recent times.</p>

<p>Le Blanc</p> <p>St Cyran</p> <p>Indre, East of Poitiers</p>	<p>See leaflet</p> <p>This XIIc church is perched on a bluff on the South side of the Creuse. It is tall and narrow with three high windows in the nave. There is a squat tower over the crossing and a rounded choir. There is no exterior decoration.</p>
<p>Bourges</p> <p>St Etienne</p>	<p>This magnificent cathedral is mostly Gothic. The crypt and the North and South doors are Romanesque. The North door, badly mutilated by Huguenots, depicts the Annunciation, the Magi with, in the centre, Mary. The South door has Christ, the Tetramorph and elements of the Apocalypse. Each door has cusped arches.</p> <p>See booklet and 'Berry Roman' pages 202 and 203</p>
<p>Châteaumeillant</p> <p>St Etienne, later St Gènes</p> <p>Indre</p>	<p>This is a large XIIc church from the first half of that century. It has a large nave with side aisles. The entrance is through a stepped door below a tympanum which has a geometric pattern. Each side are interesting capitals. To the sides are pairs of blind arches with a single window above them on each side. Over the main West door is a group of four blind arches. The choir is rounded with three side chapels echeloned each side. The chapels are separated by slim columns with fine capitals:</p> <p>God with Adam, Cain and Abel, a man feeding a dog, several with masks uttering foliage and a man firing an arrow.</p> <p>There is an attractive South door with a zigzag pattern over the door.</p>

<p>Chatillon sur Indre</p> <p>Notre Dame, formerly St Austregisile</p> <p>Indre, South-east of Tours</p>	<p>See 'Berry Roman' pages 143 to 166 and leaflet</p> <p>This church dates from the early XIIc. It comprises a large, high nave with side aisles, a rounded apse and two rounded side chapels that are off the transepts. The west door is between blind arches. There are many fine capitals depicting the Devil, lions, winged dragons, basilisks, figures and a head uttering foliage. There is a smaller stepped South door between capitals that depict foliage and birds and animals. Inside there are very tall columns in the nave. These have capitals depicting monsters, masks, palms, figures, Daniel with lions and the Magi. In the choir on the North side and on the North side of the South side chapel are Greenmen on capitals. Around the lower level of the choir are blind arches with fine foliage capitals.</p> <p>See 'Berry Roman' pages 27 and 28</p>
<p>Chavin</p> <p>Indre, South of Châteauroux</p>	<p>This small church has a single nave, transept, square tower over the crossing and a flat ended apse. Over the West door is a square re-used stone depicting Christ with an angel at each corner.</p>
<p>Charost</p> <p>St Michel</p> <p>Cher, South-west of Bourges</p>	<p>This is a very large church built mostly of a reddish rusty looking stone that has not weathered well. The West door is stepped, but the columns and capitals are missing. The nave is high. There is a modern South door. The apse is rounded and has blind arches with unusual capitals: cats (?) and men uttering foliage. On the South buttress of the apse is a re-used tomb stone with a</p>

	<p>large crucifix on it. The walls have many scaffold holes.</p> <p>See 'Berry Roman' pages 25 and 26</p>
<p>Le Chauty Cher, East of Bourges</p>	<p>The nave has a simple, late XIIc door which has a pattern of floral stars down each side. The apse is rounded with at least 15 x '+'s and a graffiti horse. There is a square tower over the crossing. The tower and the nave appear to have been rebuilt.</p>
<p>Ciron Indre, East of Le Blanc</p>	<p>This church has a single nave with a flat ended apse. There is a late XIIc style stepped door. The façade is plain and it appears to have been extensively restored. There is a Lanterne de Morts.</p>
<p>Crevant Indre, South-west of Le Châtre</p>	<p>This XIIc church has been much rebuilt. There is a plain west door with a square tower above it; this has arched openings. There is a long single nave and a flat ended apse that has a higher roof than that over the nave.</p>
<p>Crosses Cher, South-east of Bourges</p>	<p>This church has been rebuilt retaining the rounded apse and a single nave. But it is of little interest.</p>
<p>Cuffy St Maurice On the banks of the Loire South-east of Bourges</p>	<p>This church has a single nave with the west door between pairs of columns, one of which is superbly decorated. The choir is long and rounded. The central window has pilasters and good foliage capitals. The transepts are Gothic and there is a modern South door.</p>

<p>Deols St Etienne Indre, North of Châteauroux</p>	<p>See 'Berry Roman' page 29</p> <p>The upper church mostly dates from the XVc. But on the upper wall on the South side of the nave is a XIIc fresco, now behind plaster on a blocked window. There are two tiny crypts each with a sarcophagus for St Léocade (north crypt) and St Ludre (south crypt). The latter is VIc and depicts a hunting scene with boar, huntsmen on horseback and on foot and a lion.</p> <p>See 'Berry Roman' page 278</p>
<p>Douadic Indre, North-east of Le Blanc</p>	<p>This church has been heavily restored. There is a single nave and a flat ended apse with three slim windows. The West door is stepped with a little sculpture on the arch. Above the doorway is a square tower with pairs of blind arches.</p>
<p>Fontgombault ND West edge of Indre</p>	<p>A XIIc Benedictine abbey, it has been extensively restored. It comprises a huge nave with side aisles, tribunes and high windows. There are wide transepts, a rounded choir with an ambulatory and five radiating chapels. The nave has been almost entirely rebuilt. The West façade has a stepped door between two blind arches. The main door is finely decorated with patterns between eight columns (four each side) and over the arches. There are good capitals. The blind arch to the right has a scalloped pattern. There are bosses for a wooden awning.</p> <p>See special booklet and 'Berry Roman' pages 79 to 116</p>

<p>Fontgombault Chapelle St Benoît</p>	<p>Opposite the abbey church is a small chapel with a bell wall over the East door. It was a former sick bay.</p>
<p>Fontgombault Parish church</p>	<p>The former parish church is of XIIc origin. It has been extensively restored.</p>
<p>Issoudun St Cyr Indre, North east of Châteauroux</p>	<p>This large church was founded in the Xc and was added to in the XIIc. The exterior is entirely XVc.</p>
<p>Lacs St Martin Indre, East of Le Châtre</p>	<p>This XIIc church has a short rounded apse with a line of modillions and two reused Gallo-roman plaques; one of these depicts Mercury. To the South of the crossing is a square bell tower; this has pairs of open arches. There is a single nave. There are no sculptures inside the church.</p> <p>See 'Berry Roman' page 31</p>
<p>Lurais West of Indre, North-west of Le Blanc</p>	<p>The original nave was destroyed, exposing a large arch of orange coloured stone over the present West door below the Romanesque bell tower. The tower has a single storey, topped by a modern spire. It has a plain window each side. The apse is Gothic.</p>
<p>Malicornay</p>	<p>This church has been entirely rebuilt and is of no interest in the Romanesque context.</p>

<p>Indre, South of Châteauroux</p>	
<p>Montlevicq East of Le Châtre</p>	<p>This XIIc church has a single nave and a rounded apse. There are two side chapels off the transept; the South one has been rebuilt. On the apse are very worn modillions</p>
<p>Mouhet Indre, South of Châteauroux</p>	<p>This church is built from granite. The church has a flat ended apse which has four large modillions depicting heads. There are further modillions on the South walls of the apse and nave. The North wall of the nave has been rebuilt. Over the West door, which is Gothic, is a heavily buttressed tower which is XVc.</p>
<p>Le Magny St Loup Indre, South-west of La Châtre</p>	<p>The rounded apse is XIc. The nave is long and dates from the XVc. There were originally two rounded side chapels. Inside, there are two capitals at the entrance to the choir and more, smaller ones in the apse by the windows. These include St Luke with a book, a greenman, a siren and figures. There are two XIIc frescoed saints; these have been poorly restored.</p>
<p>Montierchaume Indre, North-east of Châteauroux</p>	<p>This XIIc church had a single nave and a polygonal apse. Side aisles were added in the XVIc or later. The West door has simple capitals but there are four splendid ones at the West end of the nave depicting foliage and interlacings. There are more capitals at the crossing. All of these and the walls of the choir are painted (XIXc?).</p>
<p>Néret</p>	<p>This church has been completely rebuilt and is of no interest in the Romanesque</p>

<p>Indre, North-west of Montluçon</p>	<p>context.</p>
<p>Nérondes St Etienne Cher, East of Bourges</p>	<p>The church has been heavily restored. It has a rounded apse and a square tower with fine late XIIc blind arches. The nave has been rebuilt.</p>
<p>Nevy Pailloux</p>	<p>Of this XIIc church, the nave was replaced in the XXc. The apse is rounded and there is a square tower over the crossing; this has pairs of windows. On the apse is a small cross and lots of stones with fine herring-bone patterning.</p>
<p>Indre, North-east of Châteauroux</p>	<p>Of this XIIc church, the nave was replaced in the XXc. The apse is rounded and there is a square tower over the crossing; this has pairs of windows. On the apse is a small cross and lots of stones with fine herring-bone patterning.</p>
<p>Nevy St Sepulchre</p>	<p>In essence this is two buildings that join. There is a church with a single nave and a flat ended apse; this dates from the XIc. And there is a rotunda that touches the West end of the church. This was originally built in the late XIc/early XIIc but which was rebuilt after a disastrous fire in the early XIXc. The main interest is in the rotunda. The entrance is via a North door that is between simply carved capitals. The rotunda has large columns topped by fine capitals, many of masks of animals uttering foliage. Round the outer wall are more columns with capitals; some of these have interestingly carved bases. The rotunda has two upper levels before you reach the cupola. Outside is a small tower to the right of the door and a re-used sculptured plaque of a large monster to the left. Round the upper outer wall is a line of blind arches with pilasters and capitals.</p>
<p>Indre</p>	<p>See booklet and 'Berry Roman' pages 117 to 121 and 139 to 142</p>

<p>Paluau sur Indre Indre, East of Châtillon sur Indre</p>	<p>The present church dates from the XIIc but only fragments remain in the nave. There are two broad, low arcs, one each side of the nave from this period to indicate the origins of the church. There is another church in the village; it is privately owned and has XIIc frescos.</p>
<p>Ruffec Indre, East of Le Blanc</p>	<p>This church is disaffected. It appears to be a former priory church. It is large and wide, probably with side aisles. The West façade has a stepped door between two blind arches, the left of which has a very weathered tympanum depicting the crucifixion. The nave is long and there is a square tower over the crossing. To the south are monastic buildings some of which have XIIc windows in pairs.</p>
<p>St Benoît du Sault South-west Indre</p>	<p>This church is on a rocky bluff. The West end is Gothic but plain and with a tower. The nave is broad with side aisles and a timber vaulted roof. The apse is rounded with large windows and there are two flat ended side chapels. There are between the square columns, which are modern, some delicate columns topped by finely sculptured capitals depicting foliage, a head between two lions etc.</p>
<p>St Etienne du Gravier Cher near La Guerche sur L'Aubois and East of Bourges</p>	<p>This is a large church of XIIc origin. The apse is rounded with a line of modillions. There is a square tower over the crossing; it has been rebuilt. The single nave is high. The West door is stepped with capitals: a man between two vines, heads and foliage. On the North wall are bosses for a wooden porch.</p>

<p>St Gaultier</p> <p>Indre, South-west of Châteauroux</p>	<p>Founded by the Abbot of Lesterps, the church is Poitevin in style. The nave has side aisles. The transepts have fine capitals depicting animals, monsters, interlacings, etc. The choir and North side chapel are rounded. The West door has floral sculptures on the arches and there are some worn capitals. Above is a line of modillions. The North door has a Pascal Lamb over it set in more decoration. The apse has a line of small blind arches over large windows. The whole church has been extensively restored.</p>
<p>St Genou</p> <p>Indre, East of Châtillon sur Indre</p>	<p>This was originally a Benedictine priory. The nave was destroyed in the XVIIIc, leaving the transepts and a very long apse. The apse is rounded and has many small blind arches divided by small columns with capitals. There are three tall columns, two of which have capitals with heads amongst the foliage patterns. Each side of the apse and higher up the wall is a further line of blind arches. The capitals depict small heads, figures and there is one of elephants. Inside the 'choir' has narrow side aisles that are divided off by thick columns topped by huge capitals. These depict the Magi (North), Daniel (North), Adam, foliage animals and three with animal or human heads amongst foliage on the four faces. Above these is a further line of smaller arches where the capitals are of foliage, heads and small figures. Around the choir are yet more capitals including several more Greenmen. On the right inside the West door is a fragment of a XIIc altar; it depicts two saints or Apostles.</p> <p>See leaflet and 'Berry Roman' pages 47 to 77</p>

