

# *Stroll through the* 18<sup>th</sup> CENTURY



Napoleon map in 1828



**Pierry has the richest collection of 18<sup>th</sup> century houses in the region of Epernay. This historical village has contributed to the evolution of this noble wine “saute bouchon”, classified as 1<sup>er</sup> Cru in the Champagne region.**

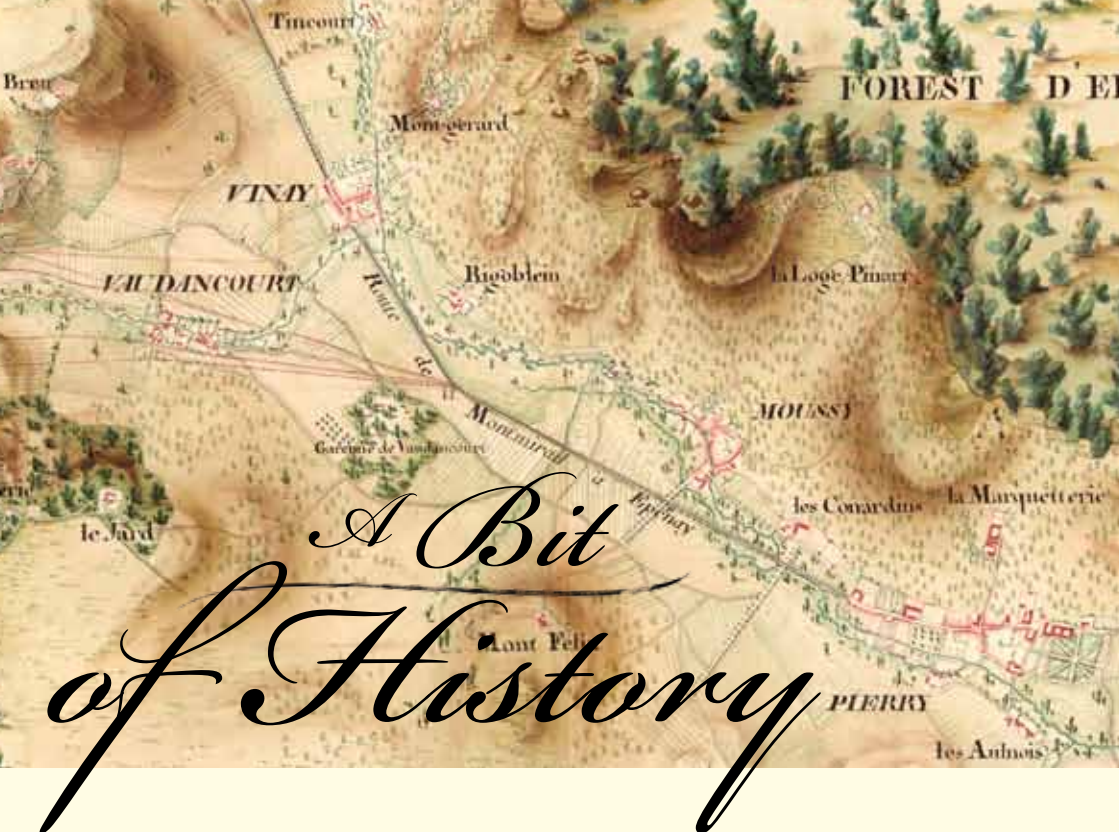
Pierry is a wine-growing village situated in a verdant landscape with vineyards, ornamental parks and the ‘Cubry’ stream close to the southern hillsides of Epernay.

**“Just follow the signs on this self-guided trail and you will discover Pierry’s beauties and natural heritage and also the story of two renowned inhabitants”**

## **Discover the village:**

Through this educational booklet, through the thematic trail and also through guided tours or other cultural activities.

Further information is available at the town hall.



**Before 1700**, the main part of the village was situated in Saint-Julien, one kilometre east of Pierry. Pierry was simply at the time an annex of the Abbey buildings run by the Benedictine monks from Saint- Pierre-aux-Monts of Châlons. The village and the church were severely damaged during the French Wars of Religion. As a consequence, the church was moved next to the Benedictine house, well-known thanks to Friar Oudart.

**The golden age began in Pierry in the 1730s.** It became a privilege place for the “noblesse de robe” and the old nobility. These notables built mansions with wine-growing facilities to produce “a good Pierry wine worked in accordance with the method of Friar Oudart”. So it was said : “**Ay, the village, Epernay, the town, Pierry, the Court**”.

**In 1760**, a new north-south road “carrossable” called “Road from Givet to Orléans” split into two most of the existing plots of land. The French revolution brought new reforms : the possessions of the monks were sold and the writer Jacques Cazotte, Pierry’s first mayor, was guillotined in 1792.

**In 1808**, the two neighbouring hamlets, Aulnois and Corrigot, became part of Pierry.

**The village of Pierry is part of the Community of Communes of the Epernay Champagne region. This village is classified as 1<sup>er</sup> Cru de Champagne. It had an excellent reputation for its wines in the 18<sup>th</sup> century which continues today for the ‘Grandes Cuvées’, the blending of the best vintages. Pierry can be considered as the second historical village for the origin of this noble wine “Saute bouchon”.**



“The rich and pretty village of Pierry is part of the Epernay canton, only a few hundreds meters away, on the route nationale 51 from Givet to Orléans. The smart houses, along a nine hundred meter road make Pierry look like a city suburb.

The eastern gardens are watered by the Cubry stream, with a winding flow coming from Ablois, Vinay and Moussy. The Cubry stream has its source in Sourdon and its mouth in the Marne River. The Cubry has enabled a great number of factories in this small valley and crosses most of the town of Epernay. The route nationale we talked about earlier, goes through the village, from North to South and splits it into almost two equal parts, one in the East, the other in the West.

It is close to a lush hillside cultivating vines which produce excellent wine, and dominated at its top by the vast Epernay forest. A few magnificent houses are in the other part, alongside the road and the Cubry stream. The gardens, the meadow and the cultivation make them look sumptuous like small castles ... ”

**Extract from an anonymous 1896 monograph.**





# The l'Hors du Rû Gardens



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The present Jean Jaurès road, during the age of Enlightenment was named “l’Ordre Rue”. “Ordre” in old French meant dirty or grubby. This road had a bad reputation and was used to clean the outbuildings of the beautiful houses. Throughout the years, this name was changed into “Hors du Rû”.

## — The garden

Originally, the farm of the Benedictine Monks worked these arable lands. In 1994, the land that was at the time property of the Aulnois estate was bought by the town council.

The Hors du Rû gardens have been opened to the public since 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2006. The idea was to have a garden with a selection of surroundings the size of a pocket handkerchief (a surface area of 4000 square meters). It has been laid out by the Community of Communes of the Epernay Champagne region and the Pierry village within the context of the development of the area as specified in the Landscape charter.

It has 1700 square meters of lawn, 23 trees, 100 bamboos, 700 bushes, 2000 perennials, in total 140 different species. Some species have been labelled to make the most of this rich horticulture. The traditional summerhouse has characters representing the professions of the vine and of the wine.



Bambous



Clematis montana « Rubens »



Cotinus coggygria

It is the ideal place to unwind. The stroller can sit in the sun on the grassy grounds. Throughout the stroll, the visitors have a selection of surroundings, an open space, a Japanese-inspired area, an intimate walk through the trees and a playground for children.

A bucolic surrounding, on the banks of the Cubry river, brings coolness and the sound of gentle water lapping.

Enjoy the walk!





# The Cubry stream

## The legend of the Cubry Beauty

Every night, wrapped up in a misty shroud, the Alix ghost haunts the stream.

In the reign of Saint-Louis, this young noble girl was in love with the young Henry. She died near the stream running away from the wrath of her father, opposed to their union.

The father, in despair, ended his days living like a hermit under the Saint-Mamert rock in the Vinay woods.

The Cubry is a 12 km long stream which has its source in the Noirefontaine lake in the village of Saint-Martin-d'Ablois and joins the Marne river in Epernay.

This stream appeared in a donation dated from 1197 under the name of Ruz de Corberon or Ruisseau du Corbeau, and was changed into Rû du Cubry in 1680. It has many tributaries; the main ones are the Sourdon and the Darcy. In 1848, it supplied fifteen windmills and some tanneries.

## The windmills

The windmill is seen in many texts as a secular or religious seigniorial possession. These windmills were often used in accordance with the 'banalité' rule : the inhabitants had to grind their grains there and had to pay their due to the Lord. A farmer who wanted to rent a windmill had to have a lease that could reach a total of 99 years. In the eighteenth century, there were three windmills in Pierry. In 1848, seven men were employed and they produced 9102 hl of milling.



## The Saint-Julien windmill

Another Benedictine property, it appeared on a map in 1237. It is the only surviving house of the Saint-Julien antique village.

## The Choisel windmill

A Benedictine property since 1520, it is situated inside the monks' farm on your right. It crushed grains (rye, wheat, oats) harvested on their soils. The foundations are the only things left from that building. The Choisel windmill was in use until 1930, also supplying a sawmill. It was in use again during the 39-45 war to saw wood.



Forges windmills from a 14<sup>th</sup> century engraving

## The Forges windmill

It appeared on documents dated as early as 1720. It ground grains until 1945.



# The Aulnois



Originally, this castle which was next to the Benedictine house, was a rich vineyard with 22 arpents (10ha) of vines, a “vendangeoir”, cellars, storerooms and wine presses.

The castle was built in 1778 by André Delaplace where the old “vendangeoir” (part of the cellar where the grapes are received and weighed) used to be. It was used for producing wine and known for a high standard of living. It had a well, a dovecote, a washing-place, a baker’s oven, a vegetable garden, a farmyard, an orchard and a park planted with trees. Through the years, the castle turned into a holiday castle and lost its wine-producing role. In 1901, part of the orchard was given away in order to extend the church. The vegetable garden was turned into a French ornamental garden. The castle still has, from its rich viticultural past, the storerooms and a monumental wine press.

## — André Delaplace

Counsellor of the King and Inspector General, he developed the wine production of the property as well as a merchant activity. In the last decade of the ancient regime, he became one of the most important shipper of the champagne region. During the French revolution, he had to sell his wine property to Sieur Jean Auguste Tyrant de Flavigny, a merchant, grower and wine producer in Aÿ.

## — Architecture

A central octagon is surrounded by the main building from the cellar to the belvedere. On the ground floor, the large octagonal living-room has a wall covered with a fresco depicting scenes of the Greek mythology.

The property was classified as a historical monument in “l’Inventaire Supplémentaire des Monuments historiques” in 1986 due to its outstanding architectural qualities, French garden, and tapestry in the large octagonal living-room.

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Marylène Souverain



Detailed information about the fresco

# Friar Jean Oudart



*J*ean Oudart was born in Dormans in 1654 and he took his vows in June 1679, but he remained a “lay brother”.

He was posted at the “Pierry House” property of the Saint-Pierre-aux-Monts of Chalons Abbey. He lived there all his life and became the property manager of the Benedictine House. The 20 hectares of wine were the heart of the property.

In 1713, he bottled more than 15 000 bottles at a time when only 20 000 bottles were sent away per year in the region. In the early stages of the wine bottling process, the monk’s vineyards were among the most productive. The production of the famous Hautvillers Abbey was also quite significant with Dom Perignon

Looking after the Pierry, Moussy and Cramant vineyards, hiring dozens of wine-growers for the day, he personally took care of the wine production: decanting, fining, applying a recipe to rid the “fat” in wines. **Wealthy growers from Epernay and Reims came to Pierry to do the same under the direction of the lay brother.**

As well as white wine, sparkling or non-sparkling, Friar Oudart also produced the well-known “grey” wines of the Champagne in barrels, white wines made of back grapes. Under his leadership, the house of Pierry was, in the shadow of Dom Perignon, one of the pioneers of the qualitative wine revolution in the Champagne region.

The bottles sealed with two stars were in great demand. The prices of Friar Oudart wines were among the most expensive in France : 300 pounds a 200 litre barrel, whereas the Vougeot wines or the great Médoc wines only cost 100 pounds. The common red wines of the Champagne vineyard were sold around 30 pounds the barrel.

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*the painting  
above depicting  
Dom Pérignon  
and Friar Jean  
Oudart meeting  
each other  
around 1710*



# Friar Jean Oudart

He provided the Chalons parent company with wine, but also sold more than half of his wines, mainly to wine brokers or merchants from Reims or Epernay, who did not produce wine at the time. In 1706, the Epernay wine broker, Adam Bertin du Rocheret wrote to one of his customers: "even if the Partelaine (Epernay) wine is one of the best of the champagne region, it is still not as fine as the one from Pierry". After having sold wine to noblemen of the court like Charles de Bourbon, Count of Charolais and cousin of the king, Friar Oudart sold 200 bottles of wine to Louis XV in person in 1739.



**Friar Oudart died in Pierry on 12<sup>nd</sup> May 1742 and his tomb was found in Pierry's church in April 1972.**

## — The Bénédictines

According to the Saint Benoît rule, a Benedictine's life is devoted to prayers, work and sleep.

This order is organized around a definite hierarchy: all the Brothers in the Community are monks, some are Clerics or Priests, others are lay brothers.

## — Lay Brothers



It is a monastic term to talk about "converted" laymen changing their life to become religious. They were excluded from the holy orders because they never studied, and were only theoretically in charge of the domestic chores of the community.

They took vows of poverty, humility, and chastity, first temporally and then permanently.

*il faut prendre de la graine de  
porceux pour degraisir le vin*

« Leek seeds have to be used to  
cut the fat of the wine »

*Friar Oudart's account books.  
Marne regional archives*

# The Bénédictine House



*G*aucher de Châtillon sold his Pierry, Saint Julien, Choisel and Aulnois lands to the Saint-Pierre-aux-Monts of Châlons monks in September 1326.

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Throughout the centuries, grounds were added to the Abbey by buying windmills, plots of land and vineyards, in total 40 arpents. The Benedictines were seen as lords of the lands, but did not get much dues. There were only a few Brothers living in Pierry dealing with the vineyards and managing the peasants working there. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the work of the vines gained in importance thanks to the fast-growing popularity of the champagne wine.

## — The garden

During the French revolution, this garden, and other Benedictines possessions were sold.

Pierry village purchased it in 1999, and restored it to its original status using drawings of the time. Situated in the enclosure of the storeroom, it is a monastic place to pray and meditate, surrounded by box hedges. In the middle, two paths meet in the shape of a cross.



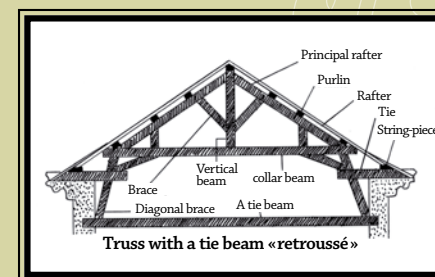
## — The storeroom

This is the storeroom where Friar Oudart worked. It has one main body, 33 meters long and 7 meters wide.

The large dimensions of this building, renovated in 1719, show how important vinicultural activities were in the community.

## — The framework

This framework “à entrain retroussé” makes the house look spacious. The attic can then be used as a storage place. The tie beams are joined up to the struts recessed into the walls.





# Saint Julien Church



**Initially situated in the east part of the Saint Julien hamlet, it was demolished in 1698 and rebuilt with the original materials in 1701 near the “Seigniorial House”.**

As the church was originally rather small, it was extended in 1903 thanks to Mrs Marie Poultier’s donation of land and the contributions of the villagers. A new parallel nave and the original one were joined up together with a gallery made of pillars. A clock was put up in an old rose window.

## — Saint Julien

The patron Saint of the church was the victim of reprisals against the Christians at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century. The church window situated below the clock depicts his martyrdom and goes back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The other church windows at the front date back to the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## — Did you know

**The church edifice is not facing east like most of the catholic churches.** It has a 18<sup>th</sup> century wooden altar and at the top a “soleil de gloire” and a double tabernacle.

## — The steeple

This octagonal steeple is surrounded by louveres which are here to protect the bell from bad weather and to send the sounds downwards. At the top, there is the traditional weather vane shaped like the French cockerel.

## — The burial of Friar Oudart

Friar Oudart’s death certificate says that he was buried in the nave of Saint Julien Church. The Pierry priest Mathieu drilled the soil and discovered a tomb completely wrecked in April 1972.

As it had presumably been plundered during the French revolution, no one was aware of its existence. The investigation of some parts of the body revealed that Friar OUDART was probably 1 meter 80 centimetres high. Pieces of glass and a terracotta lid were found at his feet. It is quite surprising that this burial place was chosen and that the religious delegation came to pay tribute to Friar Oudart, given that he was a lay Brother.

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*The burial of Friar Oudart*



# *“Vendangeoirs” and Cellars*

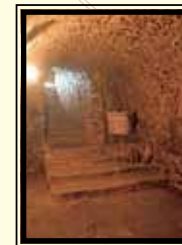


*I*n the 18<sup>th</sup> century, having a “vendangeoir” (part of the cellar where the grapes are received and weighed) near the vines guaranteed good quality wine. All the Pierry notable had least one.

The grape harvests were lavished with the greatest care and attention. The majority of the grapes harvested were black. Extracting the lightest juice was an achievement. To get the best wine, the harvest started early in the morning. The closeness of the “vendangeoir” reduced the travelling time.

## — The worker’s cottages

The worker’s cottage is a rural house made of local materials standing with its back to the wind. The “longères” are long and narrow as long; narrow they have outbuildings and working rooms placed side by side or in a row.



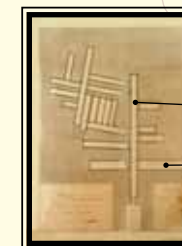
*Entrance to the cellars*

## — The wine-press

At the time, there were two kinds : the “étiquets” wine-press with a central press screw, and the wine-press with a vertical screw using a hand capstan. 100 grams of grapes is the equivalent of 80 litres on average exerting pressure between 6 and 8 times. The little wine-growers had small incomes and only produced red wine and sold it rapidly. The Benedictines and the middle-class wine-growers had wine presses and wine materials that could produce great wines.

## — The cellars

They rapidly became essential for the precious Champagne wines. The galleries are cut underneath the wines near the hill and in the chalk to keep the coolness. The air duct is called “essor”. Somme channels are cut in the ground to drain off the wine coming from the broken bottles. Over the years, the storerooms and cellars have expanded and have now become an amazing network for a vinicultural village.



*Drawing to the cellars*



# Château de Pierry



Château de PIERRY (Marne) — La Cour d'Honneur

**C**laude Antoine de Choiseul Beaupré started building it in 1734. This building has the charm, the high-class prestige and harmony of the 18<sup>th</sup> century seigniorial houses.

This “small” country property (25 rooms, more than 800 m<sup>2</sup> living space, huge outbuildings) was separated from its vineyard and deep cellars since 1760, when the present road was built.

## — In the courtyard, in the garden...

In the courtyard, in the wings “à la Mansart”, on your left, the old accommodations of the warden and the Maître de Chais, sheds for coaches, on your right the “vendangeoir”, wine presses, storerooms and cellars.

In the garden, the private side opens onto a landscaped garden crossed by the Cubry stream.

## — The pigeon house

Symbol of the seigniorial law before the French revolution, it gave this residence the title of “Castle”.

It is a round tower, separated from the main body, adjoining the old stables, which has 48 nest boxes corresponding to the 48 original arpents of the property.



## — Bishop Claude-Antoine De Choiseul-Beaupré

He was born at the Daillecourt castle (Haute-Marne) in 1697 on of Antoine-Clédarius De Choiseul - Marquis de Beaupré - Lieutenant Général des Armées du Roi. After having served in the forces, he joined the Saint Magloire seminary and got the title of “chaplain of the King”.

He was consecrated Bishop “Comte de Chalons” on 7<sup>th</sup> March 1734 by his uncle Gabriel-Florent Bishop of Mende. His older brother Cardinal De Choiseul, Archbishop of Besançon was present. “Pair de France”, he sat on parliament from 1737.

He died on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1763 and was buried at the bottom of the stairs in his cathedral's choir.



Bishop  
Claude-  
Antoine De  
Choiseul-  
Beaupré

# Corrigot



According to a manuscript, the Collet family sold the property to Nicolas Jacques Papillon d'Auteroche on 8<sup>th</sup> February 1762.

The property was then given to his daughter in 1786 when she married Jean Baptiste Legendre de Luçay. This last one already owned a number of properties which he sold to his brother-in-law Papillon de Sannois. His daughter received it as a dowry when she married Alexandre Godard de Juvigny Châlons's mayor. The profession of the noblesse de robe Papillon family is Farmer General. The property was sold a few times before the Dufaut family acquired it around 1880. The family's champagne house was based there.

## Nicolas Jacques Papillon d'Auteroche

He was born on 10<sup>th</sup> April 1730 into a large financial family from Châlons. His father was conferred a title of nobility as Treasurer of France in Châlons (this is the only ennobled responsibility of the region). He was named Farmer General in 1763, taking up his uncle's responsibilities. He lived in Paris for his business. He died beheaded on 8<sup>th</sup> May 1794.



## A Farmer general

He collected the indirect taxes : "aides" (taxes on some goods), "traits" (customs duties), and "gabelle" (salt tax). He undertook to pay the Treasury a certain amount of money stated in the lease, and then he had to collect the taxes. His income was the surplus. The Farmers-General were not popular on the eve of the revolution. Therefore, 28 out of 60 of them, including Papillon d'Auteroche, were beheaded on 8<sup>th</sup> May 1794.

## The property

Like all the other 18<sup>th</sup> century great properties, it was self-sufficient. The porch is typical of the champenoise region. The property consists of a henhouse, a hutch, a stable, a cowshed, a baker's oven, a washing area, a vegetable garden, an orchard, a wine-press, a storeroom and a well. The servants lived in the outbuildings. The springs are harnessed from the vines to liven up the ornamental garden...





# La Marquetterie



*S*trong house belonging to **Sieur Beschefer**, the gable built in 1691 made it look more attractive.

**Pierre Desplasse**s bought it in 1721, had it pulled down and rebuilt it between 1734 and 1737 with stones from the original house. The **Desplasse Family** is a former clothier family from **Châlons**. They employed the service of an architect who was the nephew of the famous architect **Gabriel**.

A new owner acquired the property and in 1754 **Chrétien Nicolas Cazotte** finally bought it.

Apparently, the origin of the name comes from the red and white grapes of the vines forming a natural marquetry just a few days before the harvests.

## — Chrétien-Nicolas Cazotte



Older son of a family of fourteen children, he had a brilliant ecclesiastical career as vicar general and archdeacon of the Châlons diocese. He bought many parcels of vines and wine grower's houses around Pierry. He acquired the Marquetterie property. He died in 1759 and bequeathed all his possessions to his brother Jacques Cazotte.

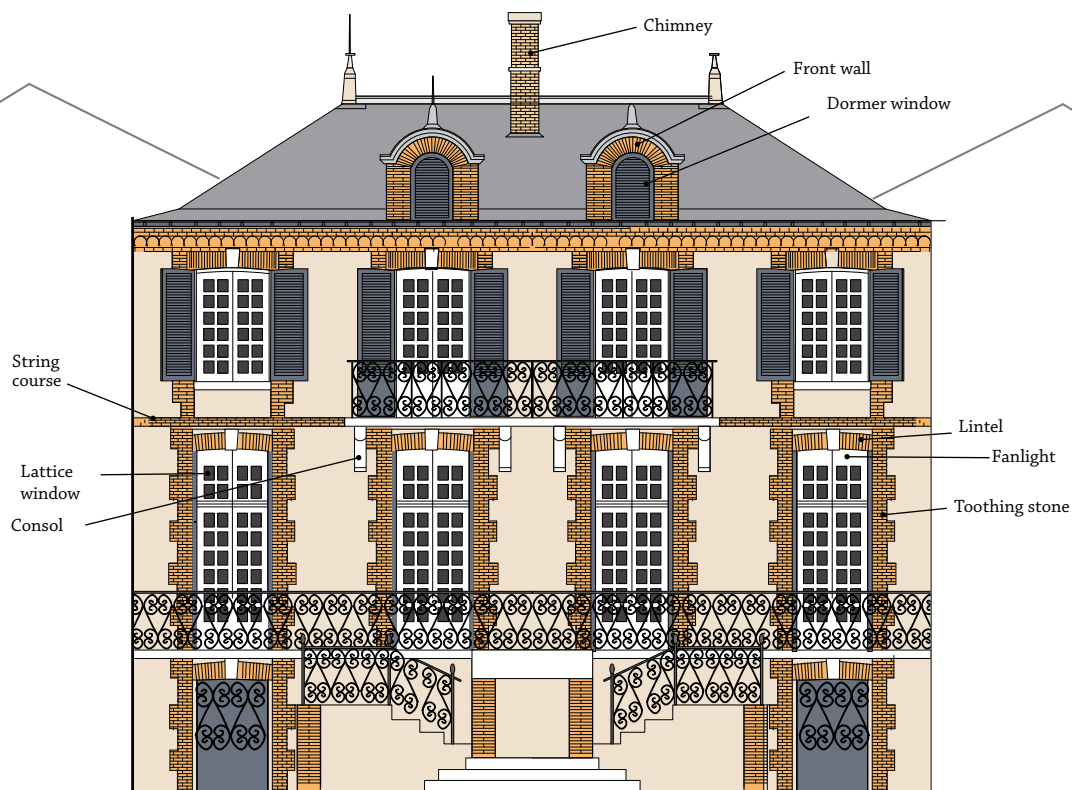
## — Jacques Cazotte

The well-known writer **Jacques Cazotte** moved to the Marquetterie property in 1760 after his brother's death. Jacques Cazotte lived there for six years and organized reception salons with important people such as **Condorcet**, **Beaumarchais**, **Bailly** then **André Chénier**.



*View from the garden*

# Architecture



*The* house has a base made of hard rock, and a mixture of exposed bricks and roughcast stones like the champenois pattern used to be at the time. The windows have a frame made of bricks. The roof is made of slate from the Ardennes. The nice front of the house has numerous stag beetles and chimneys.

## The milestone

This quaternary stone is present at the top of the hills. In 1760, the De Fayes property situated in Saint-Martin d'Ablois worked on a quarry to locally provide materials for the construction and elaboration of the windmill stacks.



## The clay



It is an impermeable sedimentary rock. Its quarrying requires strength and expertise. It is used for construction, house roofing, making pipes, crockery and other objects d'art or decorative objects. In the Cubry Valley, there are traces of a brickfield in Vinay.

## The chalk

It is a determining element in the natural and constant supplying of water to the champenois vineyard. The level of concentration in the calcimetric scale determines the classification of the wines. The chalk is also used for the construction of houses in the champenoise plain.

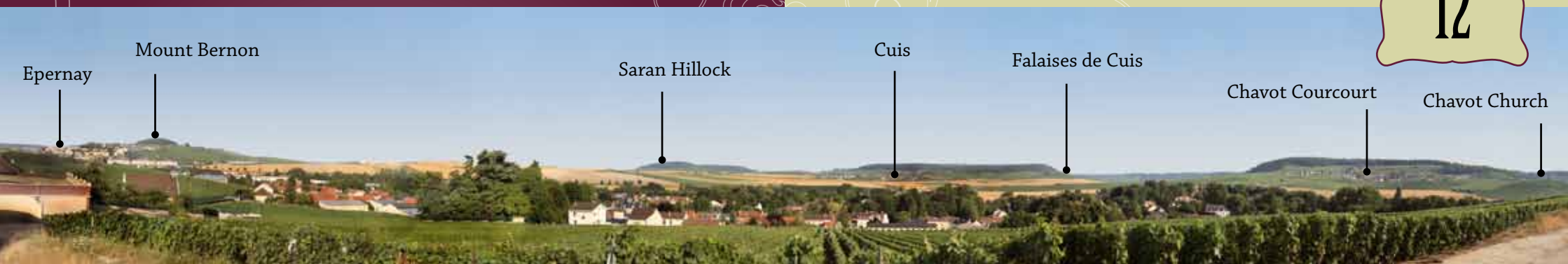


## The wood



Coming from the commercial forest, the wood, mainly oak, is used for making wooden sections of walls, for the construction of frameworks, and for heating purposes.





# *The Viewpoint*

*T*he various hills make up the Ile de France coast that overlooks the champagne plain.

**The landscape can be divided into three distinctive geological time periods.**

**The quaternary time period** (35 million years ago to the present) appears on the plateaus where the clay and the millstone predominate, environment of the meadow and the land under cultivation.

**The Tertiary time period** (65 million years ago) consists of sand, calcareous clay and limestone present on the sides of the forest.

**The Secondary time period** (the Cretaceous period 145 million years ago) is situated underneath the forest. Mainly made up of chalk, it is the vines environment. It stretches up to the valley, where it is covered with quaternary elements stemming from the erosion of the Marne, the Darcy and the Cubry. It is the environment of the marshes, the land under cultivation and the meadow.

## — Mont Bernon

It is an outlier consisting of a hard rock surmounted by soft rocks. This relief dates from 55.6 million years. It was subjected to a study in 1877. Its specific formation has become a geological reference : “the Sparnacum”, name of the Epernay town at the bottom of the North-East side.

# Jacques Cazotte



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**B**orn in Dijon on 7<sup>th</sup> October 1719 into a middle-class family, he studied law and literature in his native town. Having met the Count of Maurepas, the French navy minister, he joined the navy as a writer “*écrivain principal*”. He became inspector of the “*Iles du vents*” and then chief administrator in Martinique. He was a great administrator but was not recognised for this at his true worth. Fallen ill, he decided to go back to France. All his possessions in Martinique were left to the Jesuits to look after, through a bill of exchange. This debt has never been honoured.

In 1760 he got a salutary inheritance from his brother le Chanoine Chrétien Nicolas Cazotte amongst which were two houses : the Marquetterie property and the present town hall. He met Elisabeth Roignan in Martinique and married her on 7<sup>th</sup> July 1761. They had three children: Scévole, Simon-Henri and Elisabeth. Elisabeth heroically intervened when her father was arrested and got him released. As a writer he became a member of the Parisian literary circles and he entertained numerous famous people in his lounges.



He was for a while a member of a Martinistes mystical sect in 1775. He was arrested in Pierry on 18<sup>th</sup> august 1792, and put in jail in Paris.

Jacques Cazotte was beheaded on 25<sup>th</sup> September 1792 : “I die how I lived, faithful to God and to my King”.



# Jacques Cazotte



## The wine grower and the mayor

Jacques Cazotte inherited 38.9 arpents of vineyards in 1760, and continued to grow his property by further purchases.

He was one of the largest wine-grower in 1792 with 54 arpents, around 22 ha. He devoted time and money looking after its vines. In 1775, he got involved with the Pierry growers, in a trial opposing them to the Hautvilliers monks : the monks wanted them to pay the tithe on grapes instead of the usual set price.

He was the first mayor to be elected on 17<sup>th</sup> January 1791.

## The author

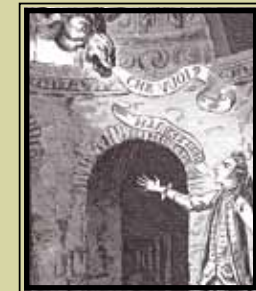


His first tale is dated 1741, but he really made his debut in the literary world by publishing "Olivier" in 1763. Cazotte's work, in spite of a great variety of tones is mainly influenced by the anti philosophical, mystical and illuminatic spirits of the time, reflecting other aspects often unknown during the age of Enlightenment. Jacques Cazotte was something of a forerunner in the tales of fantasy and in the Romantic movement of the following century. In France, Nerval, Nodier,

Baudelaire and Mérimée emphasized his influence. Abroad, Hoffmand and Lewis drew their inspiration from him. During the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Appolinaire and the surrealists appreciated him whereas the greatest French and foreign academics reinterpreted his work. Georges Décotes studied his correspondence and devoted to him a 'state thesis'. Literature textbooks always mention him.

## "the devil in love"

Published in 1792, his greatest work, "the devil in love", sets the scene of a young spanish officer, Alvare, fascinated by the supernatural, who invokes the devel, appearing as a camel, a dog and finally a lovely and angelic woman : Biondetta. Consumed with curiosity and desire, Alvare finds it difficult to escape from the charming devil's influence. But who is the devil?



# The Town hall



It was probably built in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century and the architectural analysis shows some alterations in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. In 1716, a bill of sale revealed the existence of a main building, storerooms, cellars, wine-presses, stables and a large courtyard surrounded by walls. The buildings had tiled roofs. When Nicolas Cazotte acquired the property forty years later, the main building had a slate roof. The town council bought it in 1866 and turned it into the village town hall and a school for girls and boys. The building was completely restored and altered in 1880. A new school was built in 1970, following the increasing number of inhabitants in the village.

## — Did you know ?

Another famous writer lived in the town hall. Xavier Aubriet, son of Charles Aubriet, was born in Pierry on 27<sup>th</sup> January 1827. He was a journalist and a man of letters. He was made a member of the Legion of Honour. He died in Paris on 15<sup>th</sup> November 1880. Born in 1841 at Saint-Marin d'Ablois, Armand Bourgeois, tax collector, well-informed amateur of history, has written a lot of famous books . He died at Pierry in 1911.

## — Dormer windows

The dormer windows are used to make the attic habitable (light and ventilation). Here, it is a «bombée» dormer window, whose zinc roofing has the shape of an arc of circle.



## — Jacques Cazotte House

Jacques Cazotte inherited this house at the death of his brother in 1760. A 1777 map shows a beautiful star shaped garden next to the house. The property also has a building designed for wine-making activities. An underpass that crosses the road linked the main courtyard to a lovely 83 metres long cellar. Cazotte sent a letter to his friend Pouteau in February 1792, saying he would consider having the king and an army of three hundred men in his property. The revolutionary committee discovered the letter and used as evidence against him when he was sent to the guillotine.







# Thématique trail



## Picture credits

- P 2 : Napoleon map. Archives of Pierry.  
P 4 : Extract from the map CO 4009. Departmental archives of Chalons en Champagne.  
P 6/7 : "l'Hors du Rû garden". Pierry Town hall collection - Plants collection CCEPC.  
P 8 : "The Cubry in the garden" Pierry Town hall collection.  
P 9 : Extract from the map C606 Departmental archives.  
P 10/11 "The Aulnois" Elisabeth Vollereaux collection.  
P 12 : "Dom Pérignon and Friar Oudart meeting each other around 1710" From an anonymous 19<sup>th</sup> century painting.  
P 14 : Extract from Friar Oudart's account book H924. Departmental archives  
P 16/17 : "the garden of the storeroom" and "the inside of the storeroom" Pierry Town hall collection.  
P 18 : "Saint Julien church" Pierry Town hall collection  
P 20 : "Longère and cellars" Vollereaux collection.  
P 22 : "The castle of Pierry" Postcard - Jean Paul Gobillard collection.  
P 24 : "Corrigot" Sandrine Michel collection.  
P 26 : "The Marquetterie" Pierry Town hall collection.  
P 30 : Viewpoint Pierry Town hall collection.  
P 32/33 : "Jacques Cazotte" and "Mrs Cazotte" Hervé Maillot pictures – Fine arts and archaeology museum of Chalons en Champagne.  
P 34 : "The Devil in love" engraving  
P 36 : "The Town hall" Pierry Town hall collection.

## Illustrations

- P 6 : Map of the l'Hors du Rû garden.  
Designers Benoît Vignes, Ariane Smythe Landscape architects DLPG.  
P 9 : Moulin des Forges watercolours from a 14<sup>th</sup> century engraving  
P 11 : Marylène Souverain oil painting.  
P 12 : "Dom Pérignon and Friar Oudart meeting each other around 1710" From an anonymous 19<sup>th</sup> century painting.  
P 13 : Logo figure of Friar Oudart Pierry Town hall.  
P 23 : Patrick Adam watercolours.

## Sources

Archives of Pierry : Friar Oudart death certificate and various documents.  
Archives of Epernay : various documents about the Cubry and Jacques Cazotte  
Departmental archives of Châlons en Champagne : maps, documents of part E and H.  
Multimedia library of Epernay : Raoul Chandon work.  
Mr Joël Jourdain's documents, former town councillor of Pierry  
Further information from Mr Francis Leroy director of the Archives of Epernay

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Benoît Musset : "Vignoble de Champagne et vins mousseux un mariage de raison"  
Georges Décote : "L'itinéraire de Jacques Cazotte"  
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Armand Bourgeois : Pages inédites sur Jacques Cazotte

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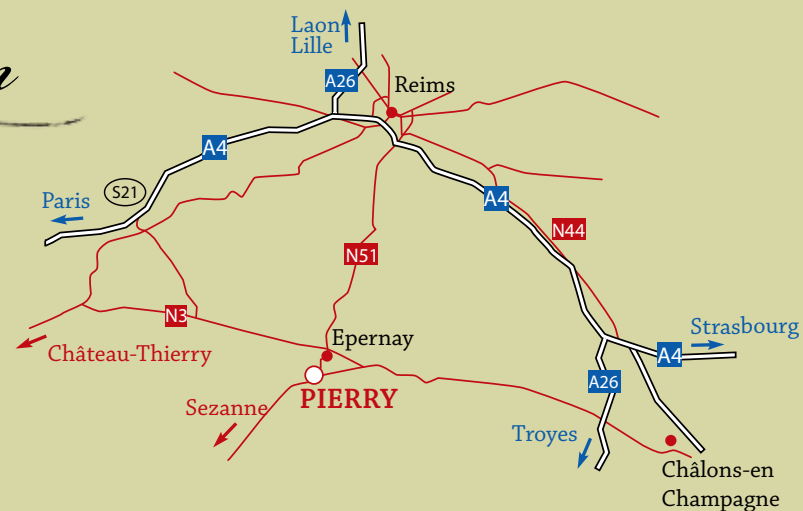
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# Plan



# Balade au XVIII<sup>e</sup> SIÈCLE Pierry



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