Frédéric VEYSSIÈRE et alii, The occupation of Le Barricou in antiquity and the funerary complex of Grand-Noble in Blagnac (Haute-Garonne) .................................................................................................................................. 15

The sites of Le Barricou in Beauzelle and Grand-Noble 3 in Blagnac were identified during the rescue archaeology operations linked to the development of the Andromede ZAC site, in the Garonne valley and to the north-west of Toulouse. They comprise a huge rural agricultural settlement which was developed over more than two hectares between the second century AD and the first half of the fifth century. The pars urbana includes buildings, a cellar and a bath area. The pars rustica includes a wine press, a vat, a barn, a storage loft and various other buildings. The whole area must have been enclosed. A funerary complex linked to cremation during the earlier period of the Roman Empire was found at Grand-Noble 3 and a small children’s necropolis was also discovered, the bodies laid in amphora or within tile coffins, and dating from the later years of the Empire. The objects found dating from this period denote a certain richness of this site, without parallel in the Garonne valley, down-river from the ancient city of Tolosa.

Valérie ROUSSET, Jean-Pierre GIRault, Anne-Marie PÊCHEUR, Marguerite GUÉLY, The church of Saint-Pierre-ès-Liens in Gluges on the commune of Martel (Lot) and its presbytery ............................................................................ 69

The church and the presbytery of Gluges are situated in a remarkable position in a shelter among the rocky banks overlooking the Dordogne valley. The construction of the church, built to a “double box” plan, can be dated to the middle of the twelfth century, as suggested by a series of ornamented modillions with carvings of faces and of fantastic animals whose quality may be compared to that of the great sculpture workshops of Conques, Carenac and Souillac. Vestiges of black funeral bands (“litres”) were discovered both inside and outside the church in 2007, and the south face of the building has revealed traces of painted decoration, the oldest dating probably from the Romanesque period.

Frédéric LOPPE, Village forts in the Toulouse and Montauban area: some examples of their construction, equipment, and means of defence (c. 1366 to c. 1469) .................................................................................................................................. 99

During the Hundred Years War, and sometimes later also, many villages in the kingdom of France built forts, sometimes ex nihilo, in order to protect their rural populations from the armed bands devastating the countryside. Through the examples of a dozen or so sites, all of which are documented from medieval textual sources, this article aims to present various aspects of this development by looking at those who built, protected or manned these forts; at the fortified space itself (its shape, surface area, parcelling into lots, and the taxes and duties levied), and at the nature of the defences erected (palissades, ditches, solid earth walls, hoardings, watchtowers, etc.).

Lisa BARBER, On some incised effigial funeral slabs .................................................................................................................................. 153

Medieval funeral effigies sculpted in stone have been well studied by French art historians, but the flat gravestones with an incised effigy have been somewhat neglected in this area of the south of France. In England however, this type of funeral monument has for long been a subject of study and interest, and a research project is now underway whose aim is to establish an inventory of all such slabs still preserved in France. This article presents a brief overview of the state of our knowledge on the techniques employed, the relationship between incised stone slabs and brasses, and then maps a rapid tour of the slabs surviving in this area dating from the thirteenth to the seventeenth century. A brief look is also taken at slabs which have disappeared, but which are known about from old descriptions, wills and testaments etc., and the reasons for their disappearance. Finally, four slabs which have survived for differing reasons are examined in greater detail.
The subject of funerary sculpture appears to be only sparsely documented in historiographical works on the Rouergue region. However, a study of the funeral monuments still present in the diocese’s mother church, the cathedral of Notre Dame in Rodez, allows one to show the evidence for a fairly considerable corpus. These monuments, both those still in place and those which have disappeared, have been listed and analysed (in terms of history, archaeology, typology, style and iconography) and the results of this research are presented here. The chronological period concerned is that of the construction of the Gothic cathedral, begun in 1277 and finished during the sixteenth century.

In 2007 a prospecting campaign of the Garonne and its main tributaries was undertaken between Toulouse and Martres-Tolosane. Its main aims were to find and study installations linked to usage of these waterways, and to discover the links existing at various epochs between occupation of the land and the uses made of the waterways. This article presents the results of the researches undertaken at Marquefave (the dyke-dam of the Saint-Hypolite mill), below the village of Le Fauga (a dyke and a boat mill), wharves along the stretch from Ancely to Toulouse and at Beauzelle. Various objects linked to navigation and found in the Garonne are also presented here. This prospecting campaign has shown that the river harbours real archaeological potential, despite its torrential flow and the sometimes destructive sudden huge rises in level. The wharves and dykes studied, mostly constructed on difficult terrain, bear witness to a high degree of expertise in carpentry work. One can now envisage the setting-up of a research programme using underwater archaeology for submerged sections of the area.

The planning stage is indispensable before building. Such plans, mentioned in most building contracts, were not always entrusted to the foreman in charge of works, a painter might sometimes be asked to do the work. This was the case for two rare parchment documents (as far as we know, the only such to have survived from the Toulous area), from the hand of the best-known painter of his day, Bernard Nalot. In 1540 the plan is for the College of Saint Martial, and three years later for the Hôpital Saint Jacques, the future Hôtel-Dieu. He uses the standard codes for such a representational drawing such as one finds in the work of Viator and Jacques Androuet du Cerceau. At Saint Martial, Nalot had to preserve some buildings and to complete a porticoed courtyard, create a straight staircase and latrine buildings, and above all he had to regularise the whole; whereas for the hospital he drew up an ambitious project ex nihilo, conceived around a large galleried courtyard with two chapels, one at the far end of the patients’ ward, as in the hospice of Beaune, the other, free-standing, at the far end of the cloister, beside a residential wing intended for the personnel. Nalot, aware of the intellectual value of his work, signs in Latin on both works, and uses epigraphic characters in a large cartouche, imitating antique inscriptions, on the plan for the hospital. It was already known that he had drawn up a plan of the town, now lost, showing the bastion sites, and these two documents now reveal a little-known aspect of work entrusted to painters.

At the end of his very active career as an architect, Pierre II Souffron retired to Auch to his house in the Rue Camarade (now named the Rue Espagne) along with his wife Barthélemy Rouède, where she brought up their four children, three sons (of whom only one survived) and a daughter, Anne. She married first Jean Nogaro, a lawyer, by whom she had a son named Pierre, and secondly Jean de Chavaille, lord of Colomé, by whom she had two daughters. Souffron’s will of 1637 was made after the deaths of both his son and his daughter and made his grandson Pierre Nogaro his ultimate sole heir. The latter, however, when drawing up his marriage contract in 1644, counted on obtaining possession of the whole estate of his grandfather, who would retain the usufruct. On reading this contract, Pierre Souffron protested, declaring that he had only agreed to cede half his estate. A period of family conflict ensued with lawsuits which led the architect to let off part of his house in Auch and to move back to Toulouse, where soon after, despite being in his nineties, he remarried, to the widow Jeanne-Adrienne Molinier – this reviving the family quarrels. A conciliatory agreement was made with his grandson in 1646 but, nevertheless, two years later a legal document refers to clandestine removal of objects...
from his house in Auch and thus reveals a hitherto unknown collection of paintings, books and a cabinet of curiosities. No inventory of the architect’s possessions is known and thus the interest of this document is in the list of the main paintings and objects in his collection cabinet, for which Cardinal Mazarin’s chaplain had offered him £12,000. Despite a last testament made by Pierre Souffron before his death in Toulouse on 24 October 1649, which disinherited him, the grandson of the old architect managed to gain possession of all the real-estate property of his grandfather, not to mention all the paintings etc; which he had already taken away as a precautionary measure.

The minutes of the meetings of the Society give an account of its various activities, recording in particular the discussions which followed the lectures presented, whether or not the latter are published in the Mémoires. Also included is information on archaeological digs, restorations in progress and various discoveries in Toulouse and the region, as well as the following summaries and notes: The Sale of the Château de Reynerie and its furnishings; The Bergès Monument in the cemetery of Terre Cabade in Toulouse; Marble, Men, and Gods: Traces of Antiquity in the central Pyrenees; In defence of the château of Lacroix-Falgarde; the trial of the thief specialising in altar angels; The crucifix said to be “of St Dominique” in Saint Sernin in Toulouse; the development of the site of the château of Caussade; The wall paintings of the château of Graves (on the commune of Villefranche-de-Rouergue in the Aveyron); Timber-framed house-fronts in Toulouse of the late middle ages: 7 Rue Saint-Rome as an example; The lepers’ pool in Ax-les-Thermes: authorised destruction; Rodez cathedral: new archaeological discoveries; The Château Narbonnais of Toulouse; report on the excavations of 1999-2006; The discovery of an eighteenth-century painted ceiling in the Hôtel de Clary in Toulouse; Introductory note on the illuminated manuscripts of the “Breviari d’amor’ by Matfre Ermengaud: Toulouse illumination in seven fourteenth-century manuscripts; Georges Baccрабère’s archive collection; The church of Saint André in Luz-Saint-Sauveur (Hautes Pyrénées): nineteenth-century restoration work as known from an unpublished document by Father Abadie; a motion to support the action of the mayor of Saint Lizier; The rediscovered “modello” of Antoine Coypel’s Assumption in Mirande.

Translated by Lisa Barber