



a castle in the making

the western corner tower,
(the pigeon-loft tower)

the white line is level with the wall-walk

western curtain wall's crenelated
parapet wall-walk

the Chapel Tower's 1st
floor



Spring-cleaning the storeroom...

This room, on the North Range's ground-floor, was **paved** at the beginning of the season and the walls **limewashed**. As was the case for the mural stair in the Great Tower, (cf *a castle in the making* N°10), this coat of white has made the room much brighter.



BEFORE



AFTER

Throughout the coming seasons, shelves, grain chests and barrels will be made for the storeroom. An oak grain chest, modelled on a C13th example, has already been hewn from a single tree trunk.



A wooden lid will also be made and the blacksmiths will make a lock to complete the chest.

The storeroom is at the heart of the fief's economy. This is where the lord could stock sacks of grain and flour, and goods gathered from the taxes imposed on his estate.

Before beginning work next month on assembling the temporary bridge spanning the eastern defensive ditch, the carpenters are making **4 doors** for the castle:

- for the storeroom's main entrance
- for the kitchen's gable wall
- for the eastern corner tower
- for the storeroom's western gable wall



Sophie making three oak panels for a door

The carpenters are also making and assembling a new lean-to for the coin-making workshop: the **Guédelon mint**. This new workshop will be installed in the castle courtyard next to the eastern corner tower.

The stonemasons have started work on the 1st-floor (2nd-floor = US) of the **western corner tower**.

The guardroom under construction will have 3 arrowloops and will be covered by a **surbased vault**. They will then start work on the **pigeon loft** on the 2nd floor.

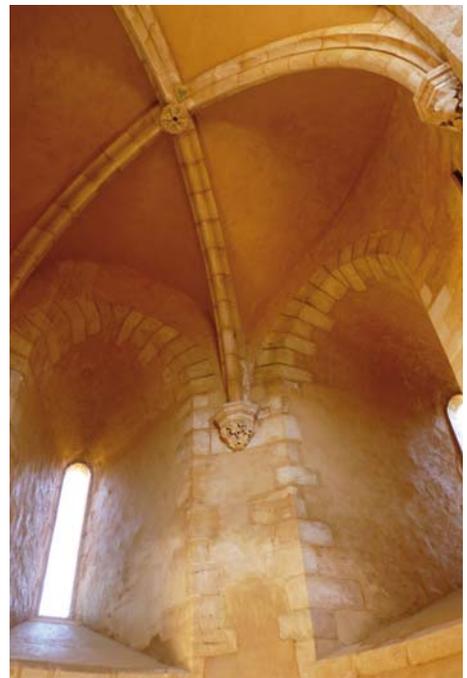


The walls of the **chapel** have been entirely covered with lime-mortar; the lime was made on site at Guédelon last autumn.

Next season the walls will be covered with a lime wash in preparation for the **mural paintings**. Research is currently underway in order to determine the designs and colours which would have been employed in a C13th castle-chapel.

Another team will begin building the 2nd (3rd = US) and **final floor** of the Chapel Tower.

This defensive zone will be reached by a **spiral staircase** built into the walls; a **crenelated parapet** will crown the tower.



basketry returns to the site

Aurélié and Virginie have been in training and will now be on site making baskets, notably the **four-handed baskets** used for transporting mortar, but also smaller baskets and nesting boxes.

They have set up their workshop at the foot of the Great tower, in the former carpentry workshop.



a new hand-operated flour mill



bringing warmth to the house of colours



A **mass stove**, started last season, has just been finished in the house of colours.

A flue of unfired bricks has been built on the southern gable to evacuate the smoke. This stove will make it easier for Valerie to improve the drying processing in her **pigment** production.



This set of **quern stones** is made up of two millstones, a **runner** and a **bedstone**, dressed in local ferruginous sandstone. They rest on a wooden support. The runner stone is rotated by turning a pole fixed in a wooden frame. This quern has now been installed in the castle kitchen and will allow the baker to grind flour.

a medieval vegetable garden



Antoine at work in the future vegetable garden

Pauline and Antoine are helping us to create a medieval garden using **permaculture**. The new garden is next to the carpenters' workshop and will take several years to establish.

First the earth had to be dug, turned over and aerated. Four plots have been prepared so far. Two will be planted shortly; the other two will be used to grow green manure.

Follow our progress in the next edition of *a castle in the making...*