The "rue Bayard" ("Bayard Street") ends at the ancient Augustinians convent, situated at the edge of the walls of the city. Only the square tower of the ancient convent remains today and is being restored. One opening of the nave calls to mind the ancient church. The original gardens have been replaced by an open vard. As the name indicates, the "avenue des Terreaux" (Terreaux street) was built on the ancient ditches of the town. These ditches were located at the base of the walls surrounding the city. These ancient embankments disappeared in 1960 when the canals, built to irrigate and supply mills, were covered. One canal used to run in front of the present school complex.



Continue on the "rue Français" (Français street) and go into the backyard of the new block of flats. In the backyard there is a relic of the same period as the fortifications.



Medieval Wall



2021



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Once upon a time. ... Beaurepaire



Beaurepaire, a fortified "ville neuve", or new town, of the fourteenth century owes its prosperity to the "Franchise charter" granted to the inhabitants by "Dauphin" John the 2nd in June 1309. The urban structure dates from that time, marked by its chequered plan. The access to the town was through three doors on the more traveled routes from Vienne to Romans and Grenoble. One of the doors was on the "rue Gambetta" (Gambetta street) and opened on-to the ancient wooden covered market, situated in the present "Place de la Paix" (Paix Square). The market remains the center of commercial activity today.

Facing the church, is the "Place des Bénédictins" ("Benedictine Square"). The arches of Benedictine Square are the vestiges of dwelling places built by the Benedictines six hundred years ago.

2 The church tower, square tower, with a louver window restored, embellished with a sundial. The facade is adorned with a portal and with an opening with gothic vaulting. The double ventail doorway dates from 1743, period of "Louis XIV" (Louis the 14th). One can see some deep symmetrical moulding to which rosettes and sculptured flowers were added.

The eastern doorway allows to get into the church. The choir, built on interesting ribs is also from the 15th century. The only nave, panelled at its beginning, was built again in 1892 and extended by adding two collateral aisles. The decoration of the great choir was entirelly resumed at the period with the creation of new stain-glass windows and murals. This development was achieved thanks to the financiel help of the "Chartreux" monks and Alexandre Luzy-Dufeillant, Beaurepaire's

benefactor who among others founded the present hospital. A street bears his name and runs along the choir.

³ "Rue de la République" ("Republique Street"). The building where the Central Cafe is located is remarkable for its moulded frames and horizontal cornices. The ground floor decor, modernized in 1913, consists of alternating sculptures and mirrors.

4 On the first floor of the house situated on the corner of Place de la Paix and rue de Luzy-Duffeillant, various objects (head of a woman, Etruscan urn, capital) were inserted into the facade of the wall. Discovered near the churchvard in 1840, these objects are reminiscent of the preexisting Gallo-Roman site where the present village of Beaurepaire is located. Dwelling places dating from the 15th and 16th century stand around the square. These houses are characterized by their mullioned windows.

5 At the number 15 of the "rue du Onze Novembre" ("11 Novembre Street") is an overhanging spiral staircase that is characteristic of the 15th century home. These homes are common in the area near the covered market. The house at number 15 maintains its original square studded door, topped by a high gable and by two pinnacles on each side. "Louis XI" (Louis the 11th), then "Dauphin" of the province is said to have staved there during his stavs in the region.

On the corner of the "rue du Onze Novembre" (Onze November street) and the "rue du Ouatre Septembre" ("Ouatre Septembre Street") stands a tower-shaped building. In the upper part of the building, is a central mullioned gemeled window. The edifice dates from the beginning of the 14th century.

7 At the end of the "rue du Huit Mai" ("Huit Mai Street"), several gratings are reminiscent of the cells of an ancient prison called "Maison de Force" ("Strength House"). Mullioned windows remain in this block of flats.

At the crossoards of the "Place de la Paix" ("Paix Square") and the "rue Luzy-Dufeillant" ("Luzy Dufeillant Street"), stands a house with its original lattice windows

and studded door. The absence of coating reveals a construction of round pebbles, widespread in the area.

At number three of the "rue Luzv-Dufeillant", two sealed arches call to mind the presence of medieval ancient workshops. On the same street two properties demonstrate of 18th century middle-class houses. One house was occupied by a doctor, the other one, accross the street, was changed into a residential property divided into flats.

Behind their long facade are shaded inner gardens.



"Delfinale House"

Saint-Michel Church and Benedictines Square