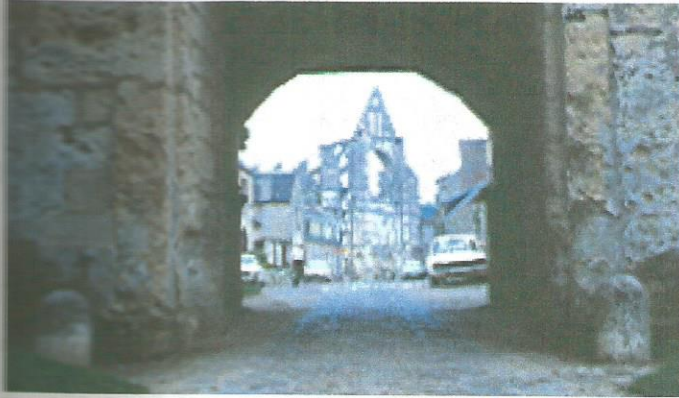
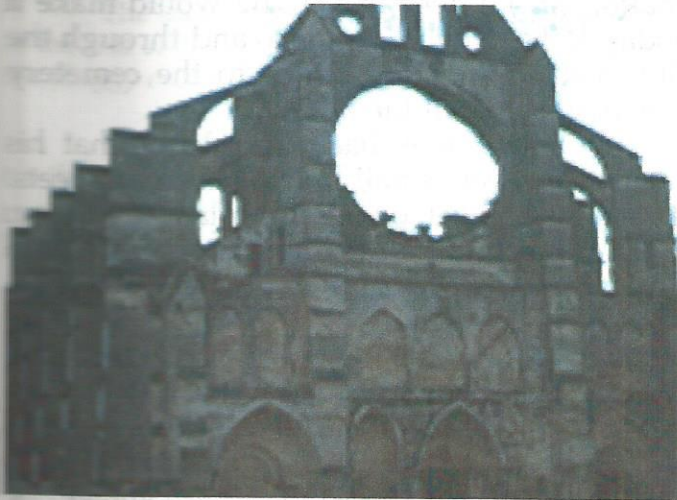


Our backwoods route did not pass any restaurants, or even a fruit stand. When we reached the village of Longpont about 14:00 we decided it was time to stop for something to eat. Longpont is the site of the Abbey of the same name which dates from medieval days when the village was surrounded by a wall and consisted primarily of a huge church and religious school.



Our first view of the Abbey of Longpont was through a gate in the huge stone wall which surrounded the tiny village.



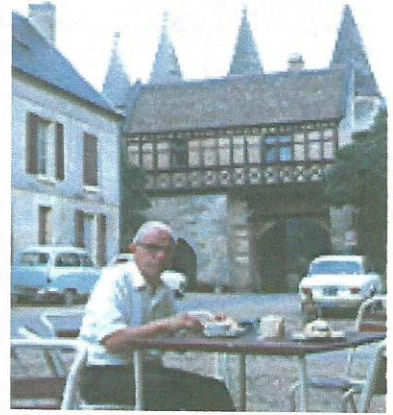
Close up of the approximately 40 foot diameter opening which housed the huge rose window in the stone remains of the Abbey of Longpont.

My inquiry about dejeuner (lunch) fell on rather deaf ears, at the cafe, probably because of the mid-afternoon hour. However after some persuasive conversation we were successful in getting a Pate sandwich on French bread cut lengthwise. (around here a Subway Sandwich) Dad thought the bread was good so I told him it was because it was delivered from the bakery, to the cafe, tied to

the back of a bicycle with a rubber band.

Vierzy

Our next destination was the site of Dad's unforgettable eighteenth and nineteenth of July in 1918. Dad said we would approach the village



A sandwich at Longpont.

of Vierzy going down hill and on the right side of the road would be a cemetery surrounded by a stone wall. He was exactly right, and after 53 years there had been little change.

We stopped, went through the gate and entered the cemetery where we found three men preparing a grave. One appeared to be old enough to have been present in 1918 but we found that he came from Sossions. He did point out the graves of approximately 40 or 50 French war dead buried in one corner of the cemetery.

Dad related that the Medics decided to set up an aid station against the outside wall of the cemetery. He began exploring and soon recognized the area where it had been.



Dad at the location outside the cemetery wall where the 95th Regiment Medics set up their Aid Station. The green hill beyond the wall provided some protection from the incoming artillery shells.

Apparently a German observation plane spotted it and called in the artillery from the village of Lechelle, located about four kilometers north of Vierzy. They pounded the cemetery mercilessly and the evidence still existed.