

Nouvion-le-Vineux

The tower was added onto an earlier church between the 1080s to 1110s.

The footings all around the new choir were dug and built over three campaigns. The south was more advanced as the ground is higher in the southeast than northwest. I estimate that these three campaigns could have occupied the 1155-1157 seasons. Work then continued, firstly in the central apse and then piecemeal in the lateral chapels and, by about 1161, the complex compound bases to the west crossing piers. At the same time it was decided to replace a barrel vault in the chapels with rib vaults.

Around 1164 it was decided to raise the vaults of the crossing over the western piers to open into a much taller nave. To do this some of the capitals that had been placed at the lower level were taken out and raised. At the same time provision was made for a lantern over the crossing and the entire roof line was reorganized.

The nave was not begun until the later 1180s, with level vaults though the floor slopes sharply to the west.