

Van Gogh's suicide weapon up for sale

A pistol believed to have been used by *Vincent van Gogh* to take his own life in 1890 is to go under the hammer at an auction in Paris

Lefauchaux revolver: Said to be "the most famous weapon in the history of art", expected to fetch up to \$67,000



Trigger in unlocked position suggests gun may have been fired just before being abandoned

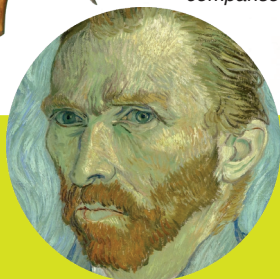
Well-preserved Lefauchaux revolver for comparison

1965: Gun found by farmer in field behind Château d'Auvers, where Dutch painter is thought to have shot himself on July 27, 1890

Scientific studies show gun had stayed in ground since 1890s

Cemetery: Resting place of Van Gogh. He is buried next to his brother *Theo*

Pistol's 7mm calibre coincides with bullet retrieved from artist's body as described by doctor at the time

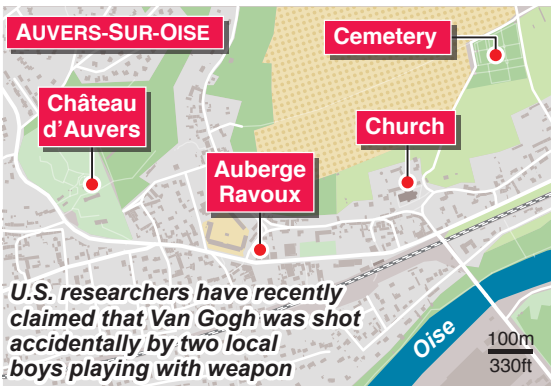


Auvers-sur-Oise



Auberge Ravoux: Van Gogh died two days later at his lodgings

Low power of gun could explain why he did not die instantly from stomach wound



U.S. researchers have recently claimed that Van Gogh was shot accidentally by two local boys playing with weapon