

CHÂTEAU DE LA BARBEN



HISTORY

The château, “Castrum” of “Barbentum” (latin) is mentioned for the first time in the year of 1064 in a property registration of the abbey Saint Victor de Marseille, at that time owners of the land.

In the 15th century the castle was a property of King René who sold it in the year of 1474 to Jean de Forbin. The fortress remained in the hands of the illustrious family Forbin for 500 years and amongst other happenings, sheltered the love affair of Princess Pauline Borghese, sister of Napoleon I, with his chamberlain: Auguste de Forbin, who later became curator of the royal museums and was a childhood friend to Marius Granet.

Modifications of the site have originated from a revolt against the Edict of the Elected emanating from Richelieu in 1630.

During the rebellion, a gang known as “Cascaveous”, which were advancing on La Barben, set fire to the forest and a part of the fortress.

King Louis XIII condemned the Aix communities, which had participated in this riot to give compensation to the Lord of La Barben. Gaspard de Forbin received 1500000 livras to restore his castle.

Thanks to Gaspard de Forbin, who was the first consul of Aix-en-Provence, Prosecutor of the region and faithful to Louis XIII, important parts of the feudal castle got rebuilt in the 17th century. (The Cascaveous had burnt these parts.)

During that time, the Castle got transformed into a place of pleasure. The medieval fortress firmly encamped high on the rocks, took full advantage of the Age of the Enlightenment and became a castle where austerity and classicism got combined to give the building a unique picturesque charm.

Owed to the numerous stays from the famous painter Marius Granet, from the years of 1798, the decoration of two boudoirs and numerous other decorative elements have marked the castle in his memory.

In 1909, the region got shook by an earthquake destroying the west medieval "Palaméde" tower which after two years got reconstructed on the same rock.

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LAYOUT PLAN



The castle presents an exceptional Location:

- 10 minutes from the A7 and A54 motorways
- 30 minutes from the TGV of Aix en Provence
- 30 minutes from International Airport Marseille

Its situation makes it possible to radiate in all Provence at less than an hour:

- Luberon
- Alpilles
- Blue Coast
- Coast Varese

It is located at:

- 6km from Salon de Provence
- 20 km from Aix en Provence
- 31 km from Arles
- 37 km from Avignon
- 47 km from Marseille -80km from Nîmes
- 100 km from Toulon
- 126 km from Montpellier - 152 km from St Tropez - 174 km from Cannes

Descriptions

The château:

Château La Barben, situated between Salon de Provence and Aix-en-Provence, is one of the oldest and most beautiful castles in the Provence- Alpes-Côte d’Azur region. The famous painter, Marius Granet, who was born in Aix-en-Provence, stayed at the château numerous times and wrote: “La Barben is the most ancient and the most picturesque castle in Provence”.

Located in a spectacular setting, it is overlooking an oasis of greenery that grows aside the riverbanks of the rivers Vallon de Maurel and la Touloubre. Which according to certain authors was the ancient Pisavis near which the route Aurélienne was found.

Situated on a big rocky crag, making it impregnable, the fortified castle was built for purpose of defence for the area. Its towers, turrets and its suspended terraces blend into perfect harmony with nature, forming a unity that confers to this site its beauty and its mystery.

Passing through the first postern, one discovers all the architectural elements that are typical of medieval fortresses: watchtowers with pulleys from the former drawbridge, crenulations and machicolation, arrow slits, the coat of arms and the motto of the lords of the place.

Walking up the monumental staircase, one arrives at the grand terrace of honour from where a splendid view extends beyond Salon of Provence and the pond of Berre. A pathway from this terrace leads to the gothic chapel.

In the south, between the medieval towers a charming little chateau with wrought iron windows and wrought-iron balconies, dating back to the classical era, adjoined by a superb Henry IV staircase define the scenery.

Inside:

The inside of the château is composed of about sixty rooms each with its own architectural and decorative specificity. The chapel, big guardrooms, spiral staircases, fireplaces and subterranean passages are reminders of the medieval era, creating the best part of the castle namely is its warm inviting atmosphere.

Superb French style ceilings, dating back to the Renaissance and 17th Century, are elements of glory in this castle.

Tapestries from Flanders, Brussels and Aubusson are elements the unique selection of tastefully decorated walls. One room, especially, which is covered with leather pieces from Cordoba originally from the castle of Vauvenargues. These very rare leather pieces known as “gilded polychrome” were ordered from a craftsman in Aix-en-Provence in 1680.

Beautiful gypsum sculptures from the 18th century, located in the reception rooms, the dining room and the bedrooms, are reminders of the proximity of Aix-en-Provence. A reception room covered with mural paintings representing the Versailles Gardens was probably decorated at the same time as the French style garden designed by Le Nôtre.

During the French Revolution, the castle was not damaged.

In 1797, a marriage was arranged between the owner of the castle, Palamède de Forbin, and a rich heiress from Grasse. Both acting as patrons, invited artists which created various decorations for the interior and exterior premises.

As early as 1798, the famous painter Marius Granet could be found in La Barben. He was the inseparable friend of Auguste de Forbin who was Palamède's brother. The painter who was a regular guest at La Barben, took an active part in its decoration.

The reading room painted in the style of the loggias by Raphaël in 1798, and the very elegant Pompeian boudoir painted in 1808 for Pauline Borghèse, who was Napoleon's sister and Auguste de Forbin's mistress, show, how much intimate refined places were appreciated in those days.

Event usage:

The property consists of the 307 ha with a large hunting ground for deer and game birds and is also crossed by two rivers, very famous for fishing.

The castle, with its outbuildings, has a total area of 5.185m². Alongside the chateau there is the guardian's apartment, a studio in the watchtower and a house at the end of the garden fenced with a wall.

Some buildings have been set up for receptions; others have not yet been designated for a certain purpose. There is great potential to exploit.

Currently the castle is open to visitors, which on average reach the proud number of 28,000 a year. The castle has laid out five guest rooms, which turn out to be an international success.

Weddings and seminars are organized in a way for each guest living moments of their dreams.

Gardens:

With great thanks to Louis de Forbin who was captain of the Navy and Lieutenant General of the Armies of King Louis XIV, the estate has been enhanced with beautiful gardens (around the 15th century).

He has built the great ramparts, the granaries and the vaulted subterranean parts that lead to the splendid French garden, a garden had he assigned to be designed by André Le Nôtre who has also been the famous gardener of Louis XIV.

In this garden seven beds of boxwood embellished with flowery embroideries are distributed around a circular basin where Princess Pauline Borghese, the young sister of Napoleon I, used to bathe. In the centre of one of the flowerbeds stands a giant sequoia, brought back from America after the war of Independence.

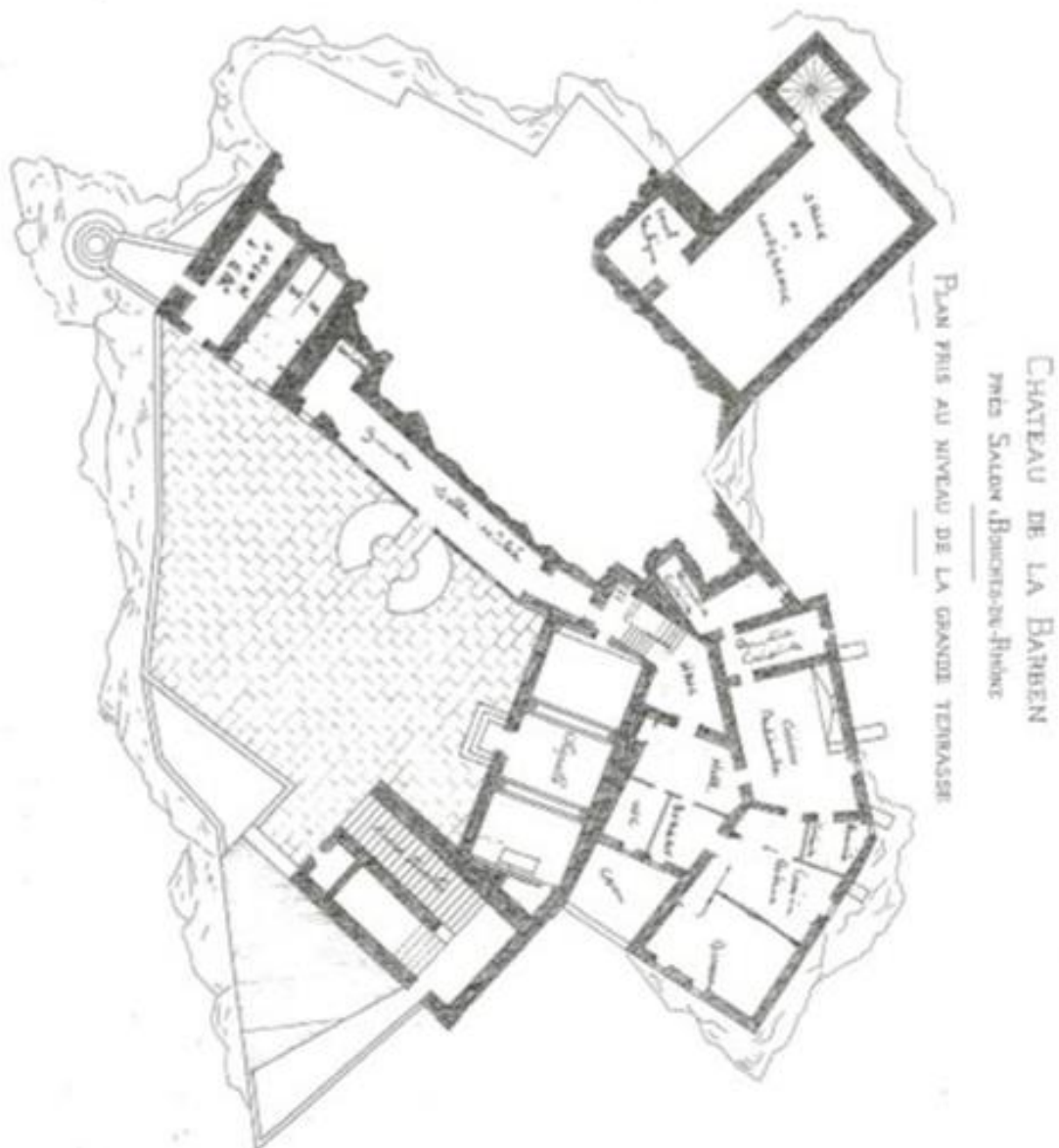
Under the ramp leading up to the castle, orange groves and greenhouses are followed by arcades, which allow a glimpse at the rock blocks on which the whole building is built.

In the extension of the architectural boxwood two lateral staircases, framing another basin, introduce a terrace adorned in its centre with a graceful goddess.

The garden ends with a monumental fountain, surmounted by a pedicle, flanked by three very beautiful pots.

FLOOR PLANS

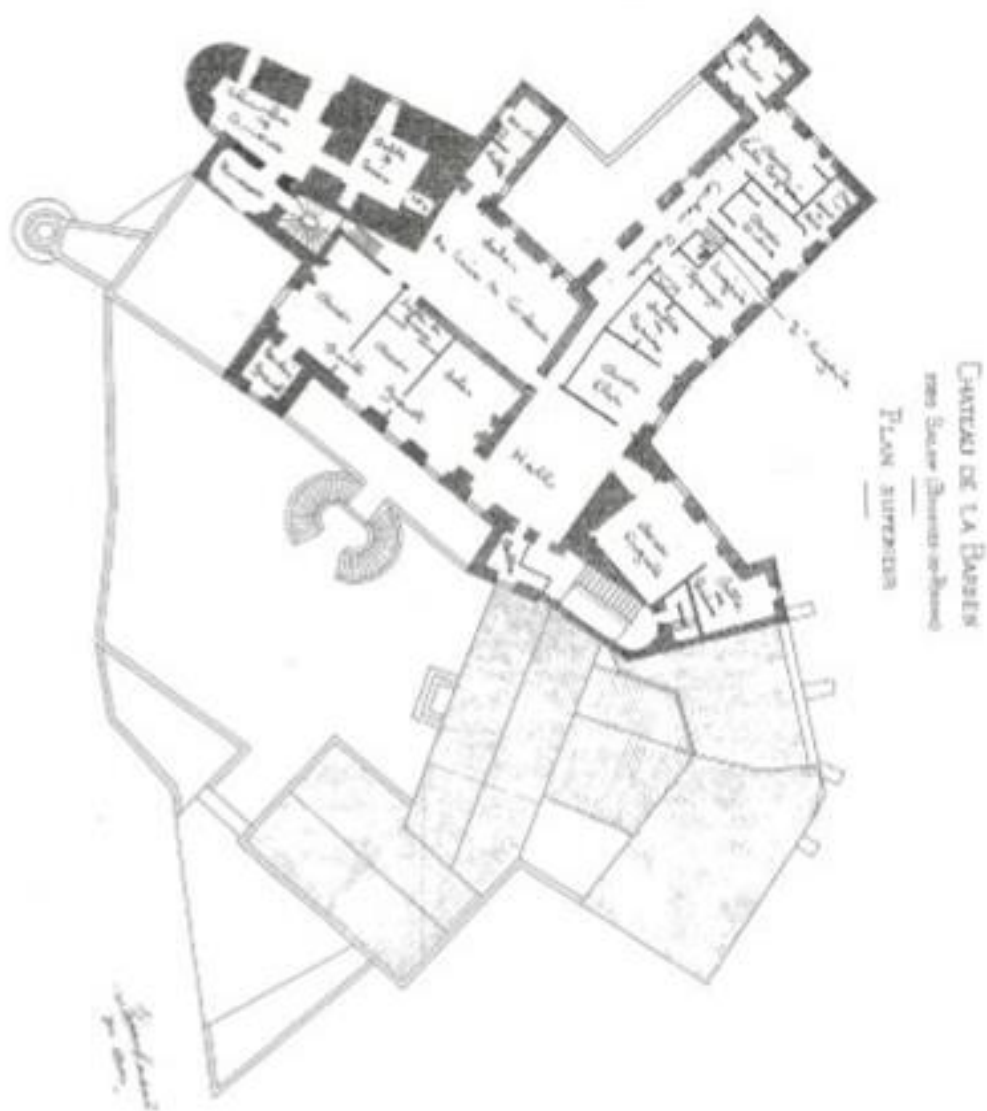
Plan pris au niveau de la grande terrasse



2



Plan étage supérieur

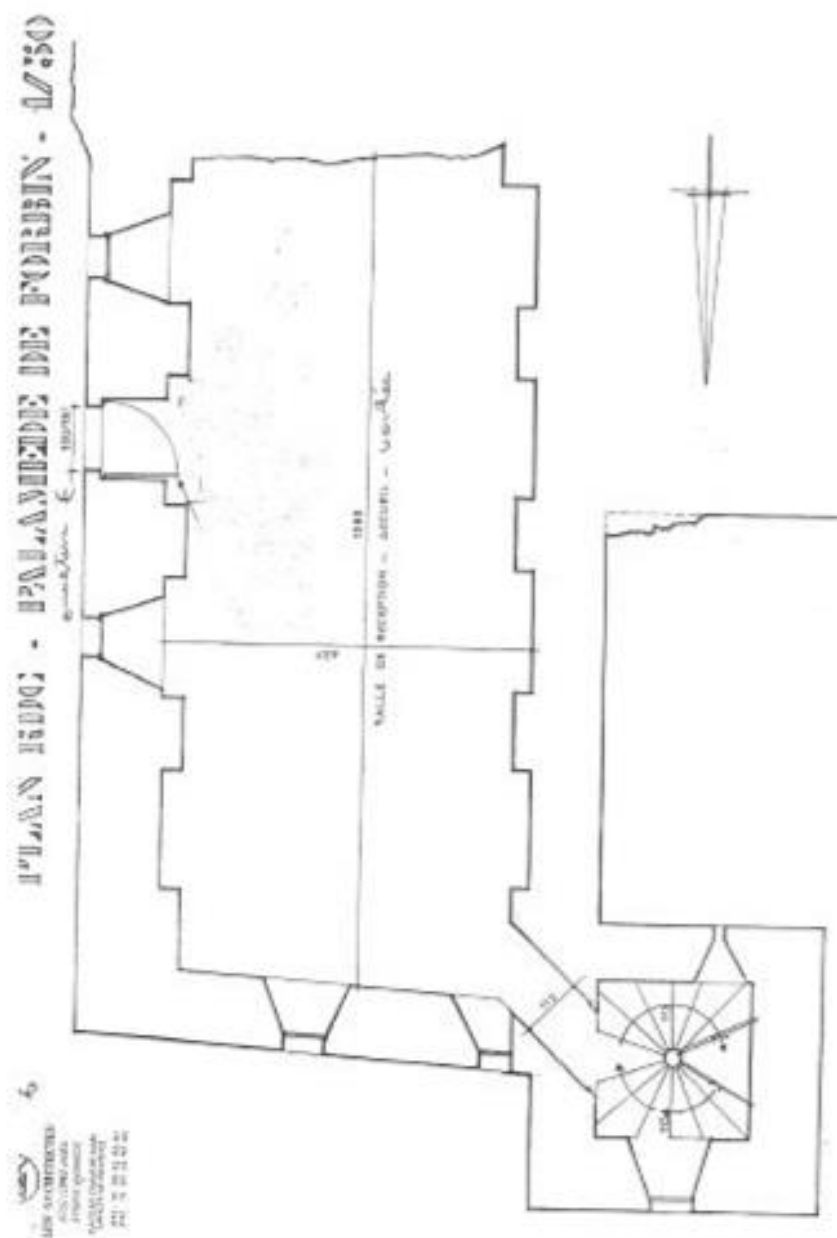


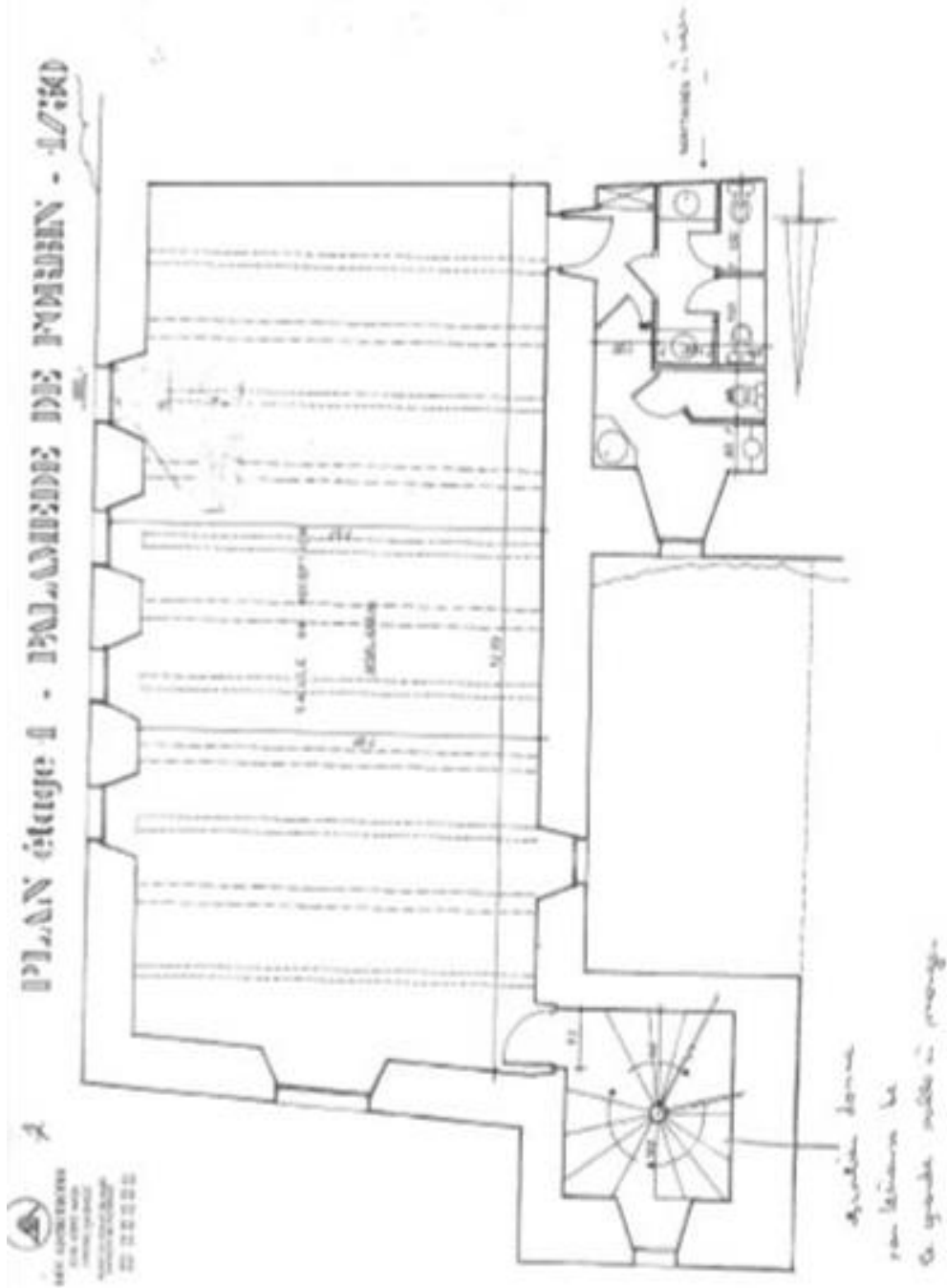
PLANS OF CERTAIN BUILDING ANNEXES

3

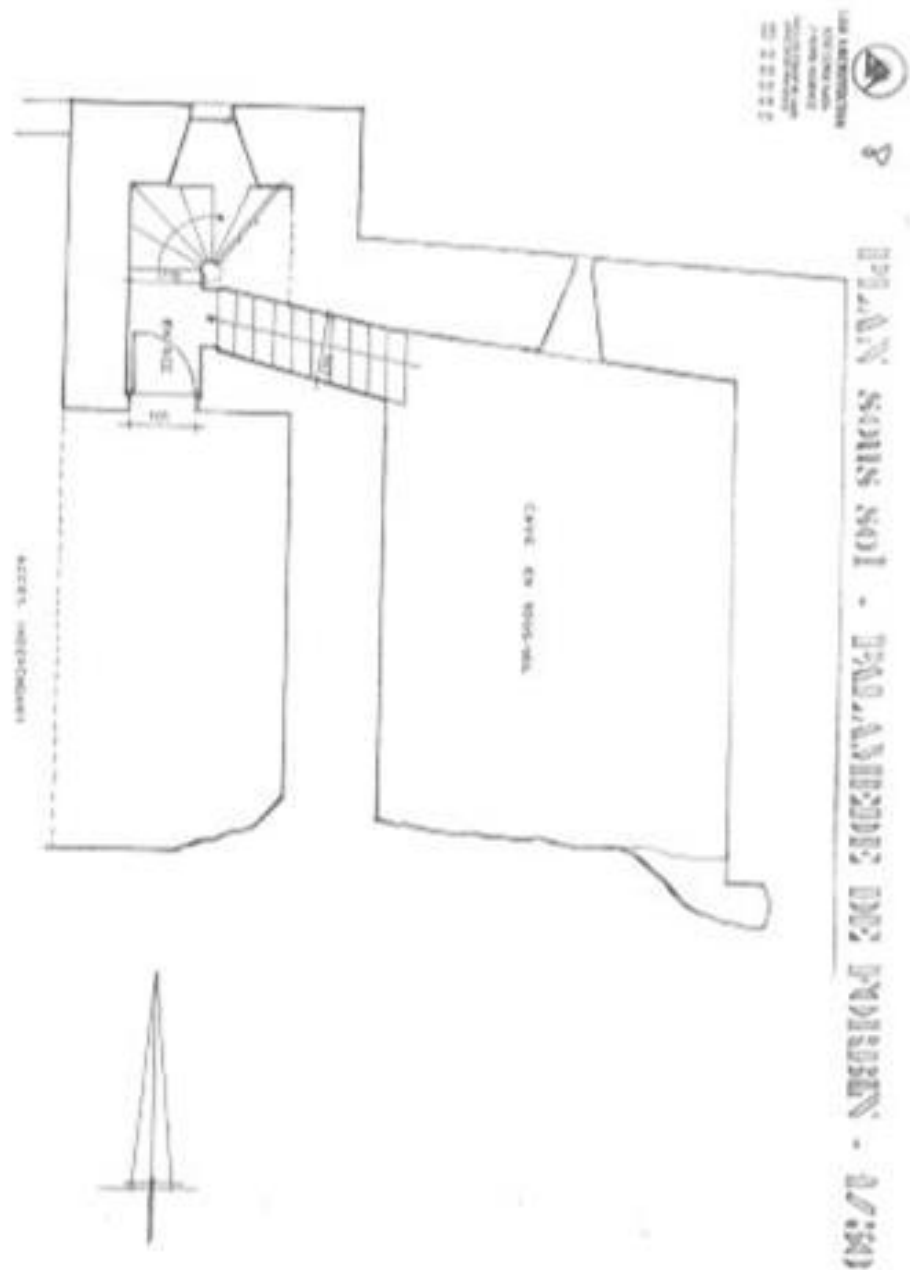


Plan RDC Palamède de Forbin





Plan sous sol Palamède de Forbin



Plan terrasse Palamède de Forbin



TERRASSE - PALAMÈDE DE FORBIN - 1/1000

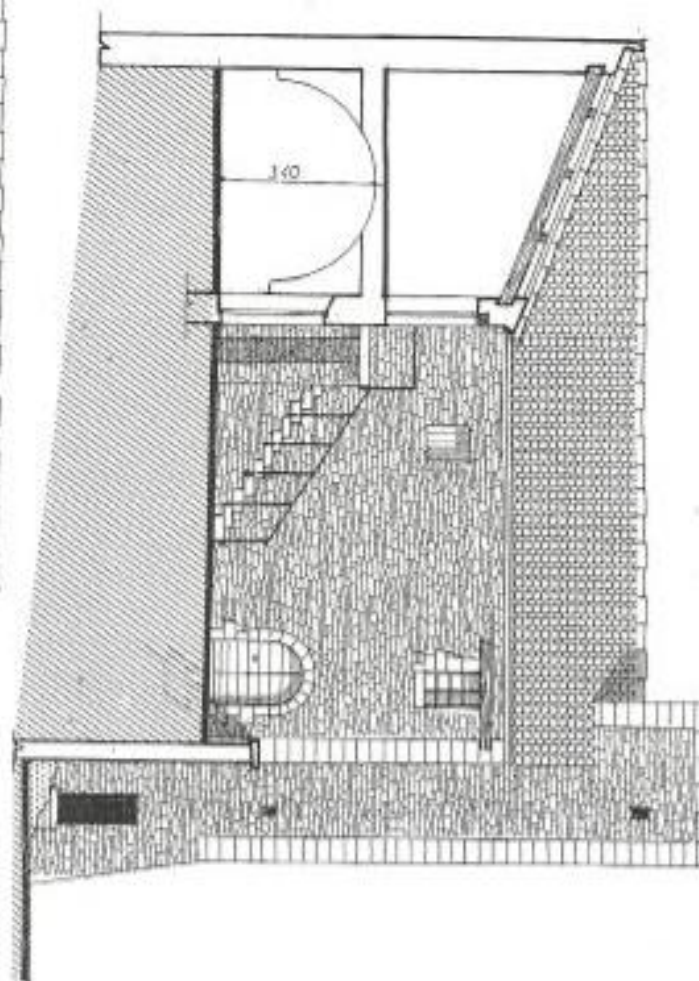
Façade écurie et étables



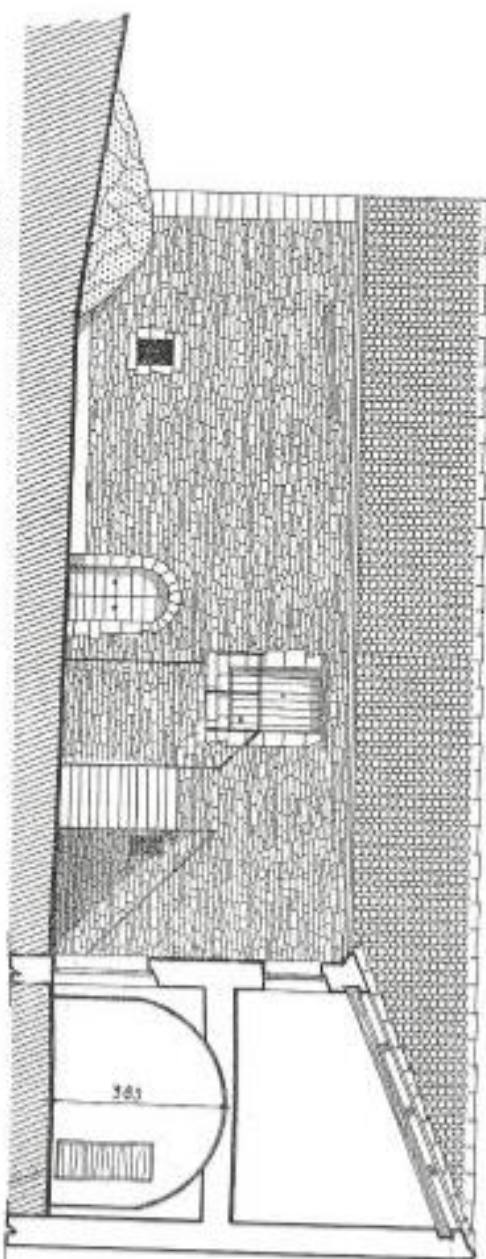
LES ARCHITECTES
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J-PHILIPPE NARINCO
BAPTISTE POUQUET
JANICKA ROYON
TEL. 04 91 42 42 00
TEL. 04 91 42 42 48

9

OUEST



SUD

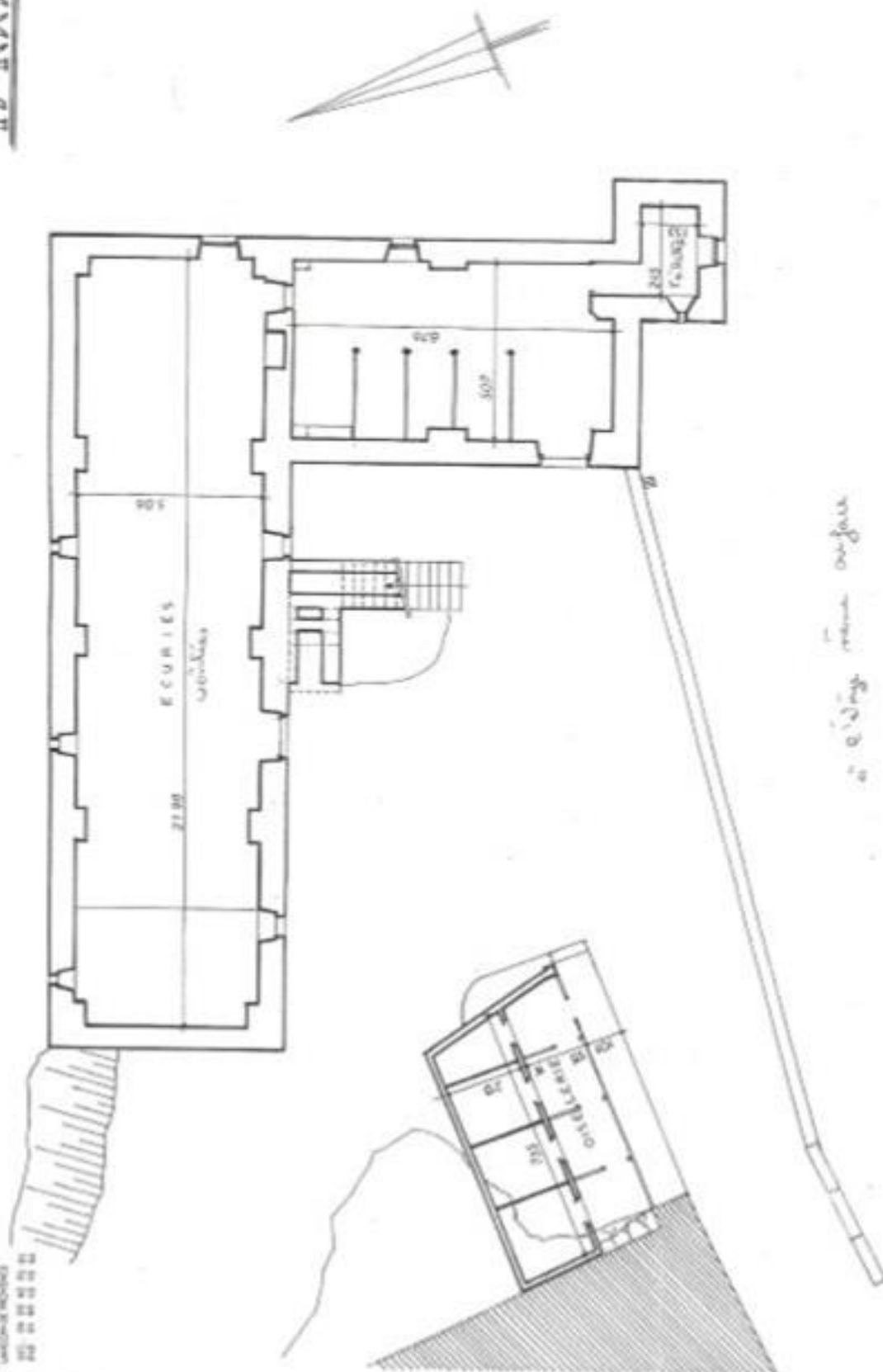


FAÇADES
EXISTANTES
RECONSTRUITES - 1/100

Plan écuries et étables : étage même surface

PLAN EXISTANT
DES ÉCURIES ET ÉTABLES
1/100

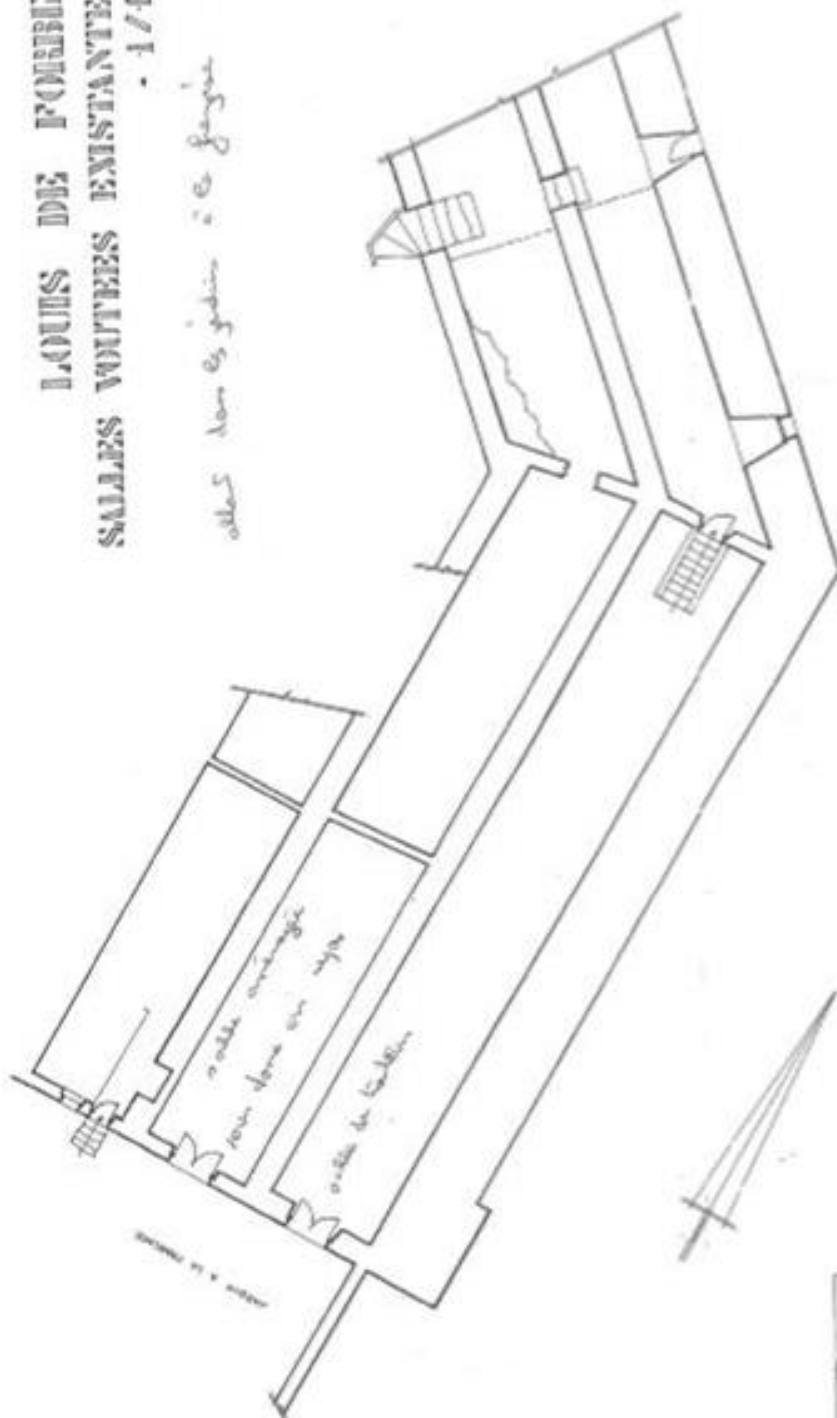
LES ARCHITECTES
JOSÉ LOUIS AUGA
PIERRE HUBERT
ANTHONY MONTAUDO
1995 20 00 00 00 00 00



à l'usage même surface

LAUS DE POUVIN
SALUS VOTRES EXISTANTES
- 1700 -

Das das jedine "Es" fange



7. *Phallus* *oviformis* { several
varieties
in a. *oviformis*
in *oviformis*
in *oviformis* from *oviformis*...



SURFACE AREA OF THE CHATEAU & THE BUILDINGS COMPLEXES

SURFACE AREA OVERVIEW

Designation		Habitable Surface	Others surfaces (staircases, ...) (in Sqm)	Terrace and Balcony Surfaces (in Sqm)	Chapelle's surface (in Sqm)	Total (in Sqm)
Grand stairs Grand Terrace level		254,01	300			554,01
	Private Portions	142	28			170
	Others Portions	266,51	49	360	76,14	751,65
First floor level		642,69	5,88	258,99		907,56
Second floor level		500,86	60,75	52,01		613,62
Souterrain		490,04				490,04
Home shop		73,37				73,37
Guardian's tower (studio)		19				19
Palamède part		266,14		240		506,14
Horse stable and high rooms		330				330
The Aviary		14,3				14,3
Vaulted rooms		334				334
Vaulted corridor		278,08				278,08
Converted greenhouse		74,4				74,4
«Les Gargouilles» House		69				69

Total (in Sqm)	3754,4	443,63	911	76,14	5185,17
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SURFACE AREA DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Grand stairs:

Hall: 15 sqm

Stairs 3 «volées»: 300 sqm

Caretaker's apartment in the grand stairs

- Kitchen, dining room: 18 sqm
- Living room: 19,24 sqm
- Bedroom: 15,37 sqm
- Bathroom: 6,44 sqm

Total surface of the apartment: 59,05 sqm

Grand terrace level:

- Terrace: 360 sqm
- Locker rooms: 7,8 sqm
- Summer living room: 21,56 sqm with small terrace: 10,8 sqm
- Toilets, WC: 21 sqm
- Vaulted room under Henri IV stairs: 55,62 sqm
- Chapelle: 76, 14 sqm
- Other stairs: 49 sqm
- First Hall: 12,32 sqm
- Kitchen Hall: 21,7 sqm
- Toilets: 9 sqm
- Office: 10, 54 sqm
- Medieval cuisine: 43 sqm
- Back kitchen: 13,57 sqm
- Second back kitchen: 42 sqm
- Third back kitchen: 8,4 sqm

Total: 391,95 sqm (except terrace)

Private portions:

- Small Hall: 5,8 sqm
- Modern kitchen: 23,85 sqm
- Corridor: 13,20 sqm
- Office: 24,54 sqm

First floor:

- Stairs: 28 sqm

- Hall: 18,10 sqm
- Mezzanine: 15,24 sqm
- First bedroom: 15,64 sqm
- Second bedroom: 16,92 sqm
- WC: 1,82 sqm
- Bathroom: 6,8 sqm

Total: 170 sqm

First Floor Level

- Terrace located in front of the living rooms: 36,18 sqm
- Terrace located in front the red living room: 63,96 sqm
- Small summer living room: 7,2 sqm
- Chapelle's balcony: 7,15 sqm
- Entry and stairwell « 3 volées »: 244,16 sqm
- Painting gallery: 68,4 sqm
- Wall paintings room: 28,6 sqm
- Bedroom, toilets: 16,34 sqm
- Small hall: 2,55 sqm
- Hidden staircase: 5,88 sqm
- Dining room: 68,6 sqm
- Narrow hallway: 2,7 sqm
- Terrace overlooking dining room: 151,7 sqm
- Kitchen: 8 sqm
- Bedroom: 25,5 sqm
- Bathroom: 2,40 sqm
- Boudoir: 12,90 sqm
- Yellow Palamède living room: 38,16 sqm
- Corridor: 5,4 sqm
- 2 small rooms: 12,40 sqm
- Corridor to 1909 stairs: 5,76 sqm
- Red living room: 35,75 sqm
- Grand living room: 50,72 sqm

Total: 648,57 sqm (except terrace)

Second Floor level

- Yellow anteroom: 47,12 sqm
- Small room: 4,62 sqm
- Granet living room: 32,34 sqm
- First bedroom: 17,94 sqm
- Bathroom, WC: 6,84 sqm
- Granet bedroom: 27,3 sqm
- Granet boudoir: 4 sqm

- Auguste bedroom: 27,54 sqm
- Small Hall: 2,56 sqm
- Bathroom: 15,4 sqm
- WC: 1,54 sqm
- Elisa bedroom: 21,73 sqm
- Bathroom: 13,72 sqm
- Pauline Borghèse corridor: 27,96 sqm
- Laundry room: 13,2 sqm
- Second laundry room: 18 sqm
- Diane bedroom: 16,96 sqm
- Bathroom: 6,4 sqm
- Pauline bedroom: 19,98 sqm
- Boudoir: 13,32 sqm
- Leather room: 50,35 sqm
- 2 small halls: 6,45 sqm
- 2 small rooms (old bathroom): 13 sqm
- Honeymoon suite: 34,32 sqm
- Bathroom: 19,91 sqm
- WC: 0,88 sqm
- Honeymoon terrace: 10,14 sqm
- 1909 Stairs: 60,75 sqm
- Stairs room: 37,82 sqm
- Tower's Grand terrace: 41,87 sqm

Total: 561,61 sqm (except terrace)

Souterrain:

- Room's entrance: 35,52 sqm
- Archery room: 50,4 sqm
- Guard room: 52 sqm
- Second guard room: 19,08 sqm
- Vaulted Corridor: 90,1 sqm
- First donjon: 25,42 sqm
- Second donjon: 19,2 sqm
- Bread oven: 44,8 sqm
- Small room: 8,97 sqm
- Underground fireplace: 51,83 sqm
- Grand vaulted room: 92,72 sqm

Total: 490,04 sqm

Home shop:

- 64,13 sqm
- Back shop: 9,24 sqm

Total: 73,37 sqm

Guardian's tower: Studio

- 19 sqm

Total: 19 sqm

Palamède portions

- Vaulted souterrain: 95,14 sqm
- High room: 105 sqm
- Room next to the high room: 15 sqm
- Vaulted basement: 51 sqm
- Terrace: 240 sqm
- Spiral staircase: 3 floors

Total: 266,14 sqm (except terrace)

Horse stables and high rooms:

- Vaulted horse stable and 4 horse boxes: 225 sqm
- Upstairs: 105 sqm

Total: 330 sqm

4 Aviary:

- 14,3 sqm

Total: 14,3 sqm

Vaulted room with high ceiling (XVII century):

- First room: 143 sqm
- Second room: 65 sqm (reception room)
- Other room: 68 sqm
- Third room: 58 sqm

Total: 334 sqm

Vaulted corridor:

- First corridor: 75,68 sqm + 60 sqm
- Second corridor: 94,4 sqm + 48 sqm

Total: 278,08 sqm

French garden:

- Guest entrance: 9,60 sqm
- Locker: 9,60 sqm
- Men's Toilets: 9,60 sqm
- Women Toilets: 9,60 sqm
- 3 greenhouse for children or catering services (9 sqm each)

Total: 74, 40 sqm

« Les gargouilles » house:

- Vaulted living room: 21,26 sqm
- Kitchen: 11,5 sqm

Upstairs:

- First bedroom: 12,2 sqm
- Second bedroom: 19,80 sqm
- Bathroom: 4,10 sqm

Total: 69 sqm

CADASTRAL PLANS

Sector	Number	Locality	Contenance		
			Ha	a	ca
AI	34	Quartier du Château	1	96	50
AI	87	Quartier du Château		33	1
AI	89	Quartier du Château		14	79
AI	90	Quartier du Château		44	88
AI	139	Quartier du Château		82	70
AI	143	Quartier du Château		2	0
AI	147	Quartier du Château		6	0
AI	184	Quartier du Château	1	91	98
AM	13	Le Boulvery		40	62
AM	14	Le Boulvery	1	68	75
AM	17	Le Boulvery		8	50
AM	24	Quartier de l'homme mort	1	37	50
AM	25	Quartier de l'homme mort		12	50
AM	27	Quartier de l'homme mort		74	38
AM	28	Quartier de l'homme mort	1	45	0
AM	37	Quartier de la cheminée		18	49
AM	51	Quartier de la cheminée	13	36	88
AM	69	Quartier de l'homme mort	83	10	42
AM	113	Quartier de la cheminée	12	21	33
AM	88	Quartier de l'homme mort	100	86	70
AM	89	Quartier de l'homme mort		10	8
AM	90	Quartier de l'homme mort		1	50
AM	91	Quartier de l'homme mort		44	0
AM	92	Quartier de l'homme mort		2	0
AM	93	Quartier de l'homme mort		80	
AM	94	Quartier de l'homme mort		85	62
AM	100	Quartier de la cheminée	83	10	63
AN	88	L'étang		16	70
AN	89	L'étang		37	20
AR	16	Vallon de l'Apothicaire		84	37
Contenance totale			307	25	83

Plan cadastral 1



Plan cadastral 2



Plan cadastral 3



DIRECTION GENERALE
DES FINANCES PUBLIQUES
EXTRAIT DU PLAN CADASTRAL
INFORMATISE

3

Service du Cadastre

Département:
BOUCHES DU RHONE
Commune:
LA BARRIE

Section: AM
Foliotage: 000 AM 01
Echelle d'origine: 1/5000
Echelle d'exécution: 1/5000
Date de Feuille: 18/08/2009

Numéro d'ordre du registre des consultations

Cachet du service d'origine
Cadastre des Impôts foncier de
Als en Provence 1
4000 des Impôts foncier
100 avenue de la Cible
Journées Saint-Jacques
13000 Aix en Provence Cedex 9
Téléphone: 04 42 37 54 53
Fax: 04 42 37 55 05
ciff au en-provence-13000.fr

Format cartable cadastre au plan cadastral
informatisé à la 1000

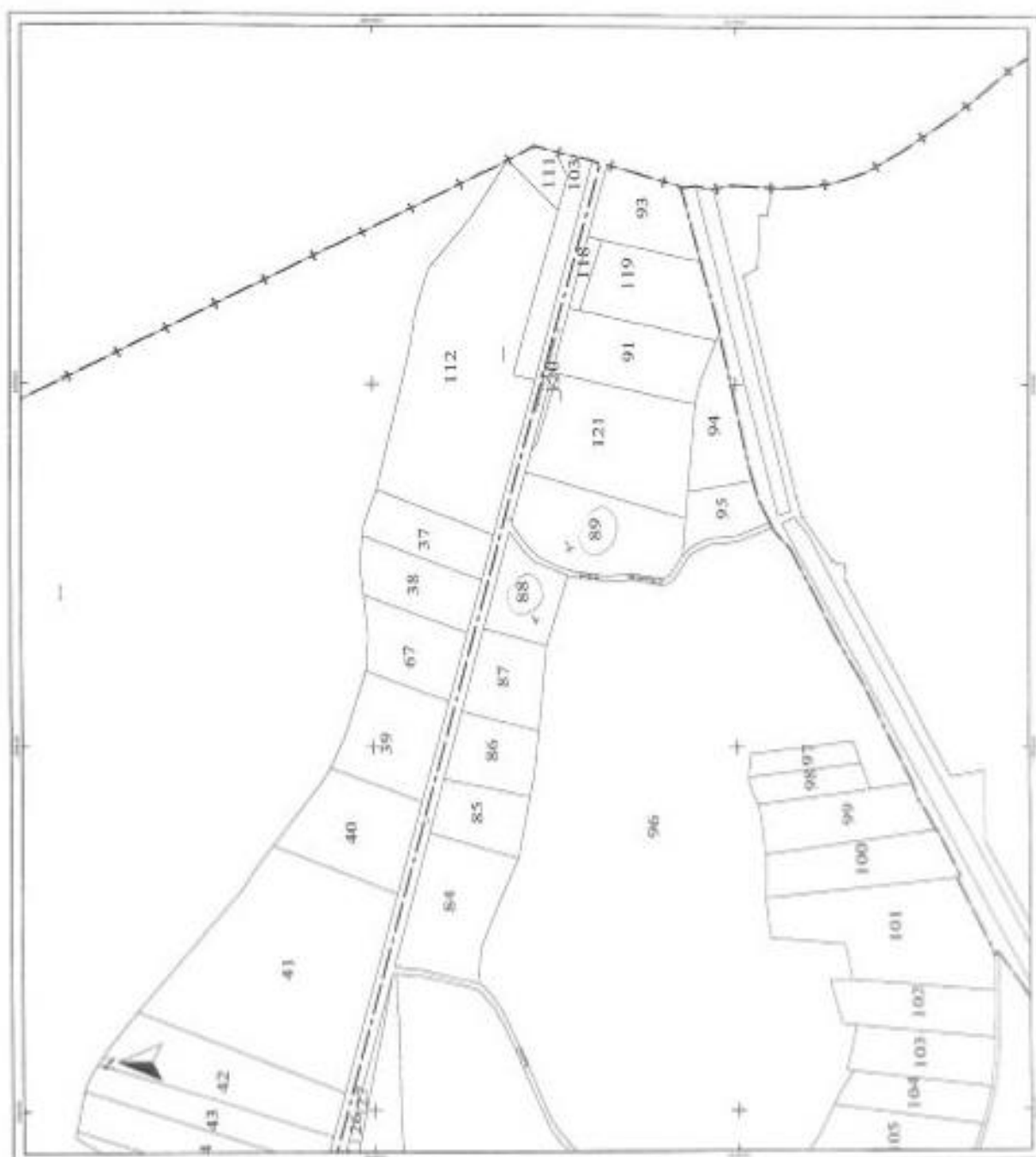
A
B
C

Plan cadastral 4



DIRECTION GENERALE DES FINANCES PUBLIQUES EXTRAIT DU PLAN CADASTRAL INFORMATISE		Service du Cadastre		Département BOUCHES DU RHONE Commune LA GARDE		Section AM Folio(s) Echelle (origine) Echelle (Nappes) Date de l'opération 16/06/2010		Numéro d'ordre du registre de constatation Cachet du service d'origine Centre des Impôts Foncier de Aix en Provence Hôtel des Impôts Foncier 10 avenue de la Cité Mairie Saint-Jérôme 13200 Aix en Provence Cedex 4 Téléphone : 04 42 37 54 57 Fax : 04 42 37 53 06 url: aia-en-provence-13041.fr/finances-publiques		Extraire certains éléments du plan cadastral informatisé à la date A B C	
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Plan cadastral 5



DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE
DES FINANCES PUBLIQUES
EXTRAIT DU PLAN CADASTRAL
INFORMATIF

5

Service du Cadastre

Département
BOUCHES DU RHÔNE
Commune
LA BARBEN

Section : **AN**
Feuille(s)
Echelle d'origine : 1:5000
Echelle d'exécution : 1:5000
Date de l'édition : 15/05/2010

Numéros d'index du registre du cadastre :

Cachet du service d'origine :
Cadastre des Bouches-du-Rhône
Aux en : Provence 1
101 rue de la République
13001 Marseille Cedex 1
Téléphone : 04 91 37 54 52
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cell admi-provence-13@cadastre.gouv.fr

Extrait certifié conforme au plan cadastral
informant à la date 16/06/2010



Plan cadastral 6



PHOTOS

EXTERIOR





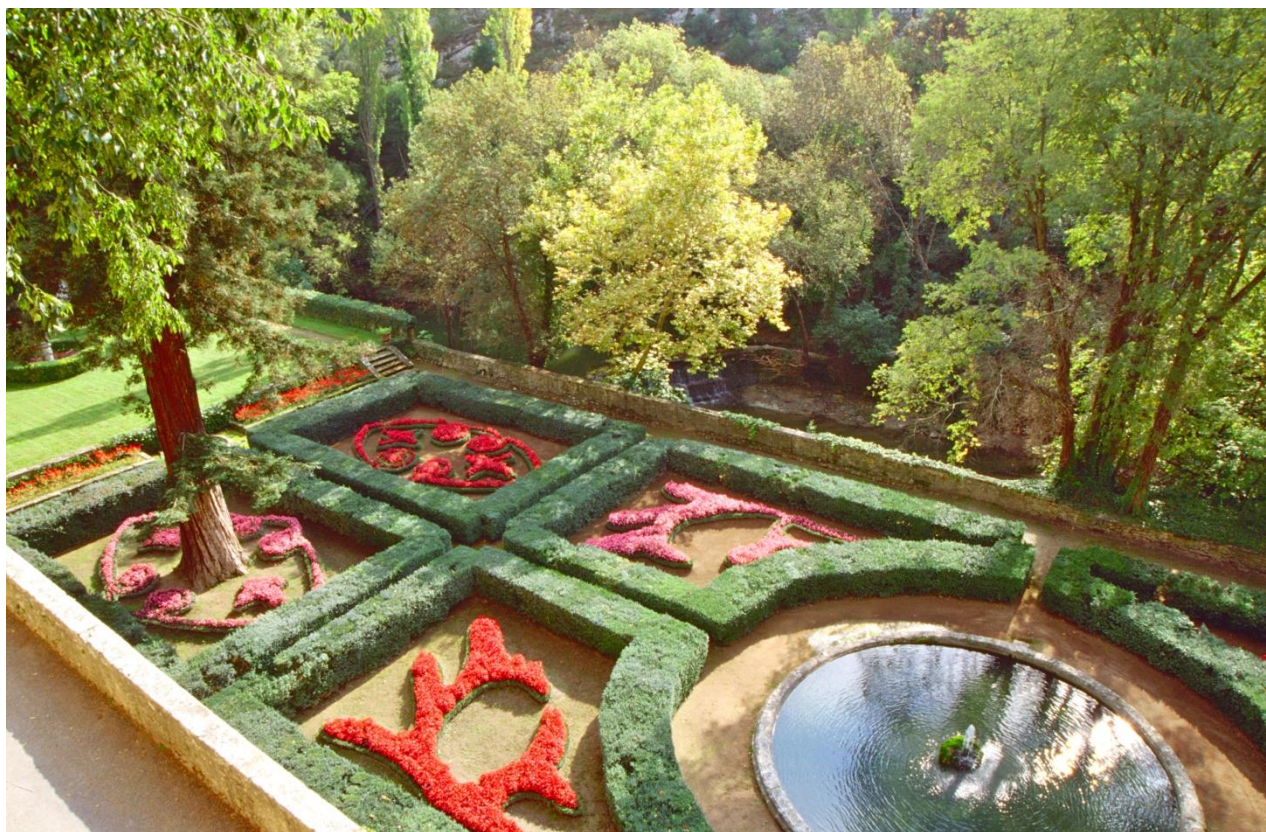






GARDENS







INTERIOR







Suite des Amour



Suite Granet

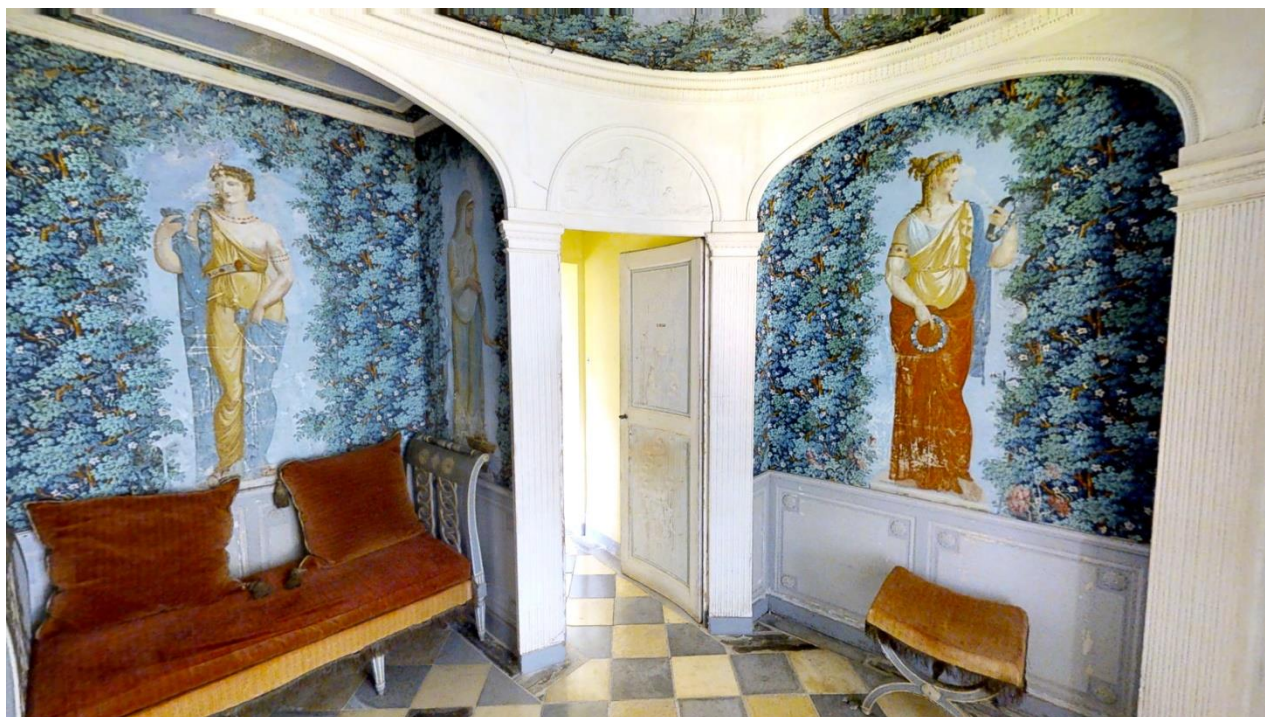




Chambre Elise



Chambre Diane



Boudoir Pauline Boghese



Bourdoir Suite Granet