



# HERITAGE ARCHITECTURE

## THE CABANONS IN SAILLANS

"Cabanons" are small buildings standing on their own in vineyards, either on the border or in the middle of the plot. They were built as shelters for work from 1850 onwards. Most of them have one floor, with about 10 m<sup>2</sup> ground surface. Typical stonework is pointed, with a saddle roof covered by Roman tiles, a pine-wood door and a window.



- There are more than 200 cabanons around Saillans, scattered on the cultivated area . Among them 57 are registered as minor architectural heritage in the official urbanisation plan (PLU).
- There are 3 types of cabanons, according to their initial purpose :
  - Vineyard cabanons, used as a shelter for the winegrower (rain, meals, rest), a storage place for the tools and possibly, in case of more than one floor, a stable for an animal (horse, donkey, pig), and its fodder. The cabanon is also the place for mixing water, lime and copper sulphate to produce the so-called Bordeaux mixture (la bouillie bordelaise) used for protecting vine.
  - Garden cabanons having the same purpose for subsistence crops.
  - Pleasure cabanons where family and friends gather on Sundays. Usually smarter but may also be used for storage.
- Vineyard cabanons stand on the border of the plot (easy access) , or in the centre (isolated, near the vine rows).



Some cabanons reach up to 3 storeys. They usually stand on a slope, with level access to all floors. Or, an outside stonework staircase will lead to the upper floor. Rain water is collected in a tank. There is also a pool for mixing the "bouillie bordelaise" used to fight mildew. Shade and fruit are provided by a neighbouring fruit tree for the ease of the winegrower.

Inside, a fireplace provides heat and embers to warm up the meal on the "potager" (a small coal container, often located on the window sill, with a grill on which to put the mess tin) .

Every Saillans inhabitant has at least one story to tell about cabanons!

