

Château and park

Four centuries separate the little family-run inn, “La Montagne de Saint-François” and its garden from the current town hall offices next to the Parc de la Grille, full of *“reminders of the tile factories”*.

In 1614, construction began on Jehan Trenonay la Montagne’s inn on land purchased from the Cordeliers monks. At the intersection of the Valence, Lyon and Grenoble roads, and along the route for the herds travelling to Savoy or Italy, “La Montagne de Saint-François” provided a warm welcome for travellers.

Justine Trenonay, wife of Jean Pâris dit La Masse, inherited the family inn. Four of their children, Claude, Antoine, Joseph and Jean Pâris (the “Pâris brothers”), became powerful financiers at the court of Louis XV.

In 1720, Claude Pâris began the construction work for his “main house”. A traditional garden was designed by *Maximilien Ernest Curten*, student of Le Nôtre, the famous Versailles gardener. The garden’s attractions include an ornamental forged iron gate, topped by two lions, and a terrace accessed by a horseshoe staircase, overlooking a T-shaped water feature.

The town council acquired the entire property in 1953 and, in 1994, the garden was redesigned as a sober, harmonious formal garden.

The château itself was restored in 2006-2007. The former inn, which had fallen into oblivion to the north-west of the building, was rediscovered. The roof was restored to its 18th century “mansard” style, named after Louis XIV’s architect, with two small towers with scalloped tiles.



In 1766, François Abel de Luppé, botanist and art lover, purchased the château, bequeathing it to his nephew in 1797. Abel Damase Maigre de la Motte used it as a private manor house.

Count Abel de la Motte, skilled horseman.