## No 16

## Château des Ramières

In 1885-1887, Hyacinthe de Gailhard Bancel, lawyer and member of the National Assembly for the Ardèche, decided to build the Château des Ramières as a gift for his second wife. His house, located at the top of the village, was a former bourgeois residence dating back to the 16th century. It was made available to the congregation of the Marist brothers to house a private school for boys (which remained open until 1964).

One of his last heirs sold the Château to "Le Chantier", a Catholic institution based in Paris. The latter leased it to an agricultural school which became "Le Lycée Agricole du Val de Drôme" until 2008.

In 1884, Hyacinthe de Gailhard Bancel established one of the first agricultural unions in the Drôme. This union was not only a group purchasing association, but also provided health and fire insurance coverage for their members.