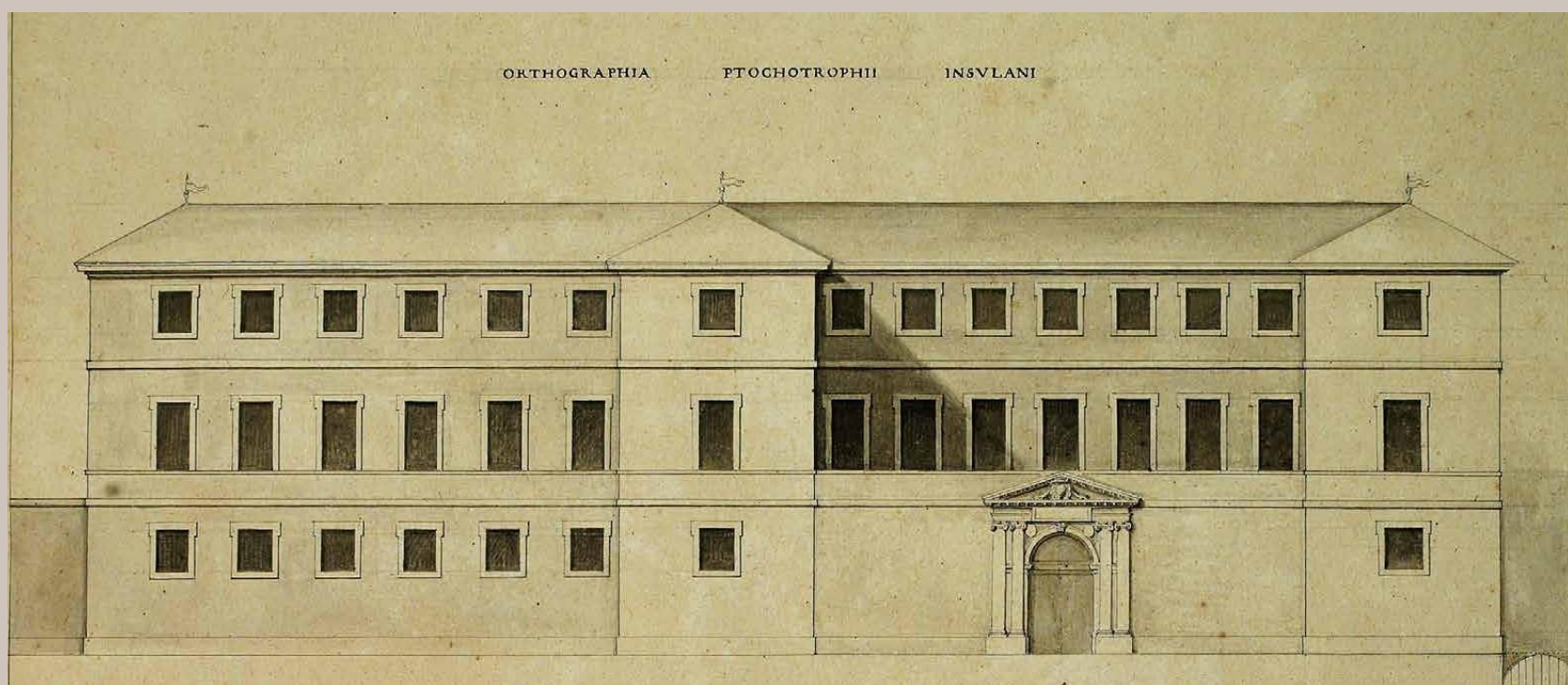


La Charité



Elevation on Rue de la Charité. Pierre Mignard's plan in 1683 (drawing, private collection)



La Charité or Hospice de Bienfaisance on the 1828 cadastral map
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The purpose of La Charité was

to provide beggars with shelter. In the late 17th century, the city entrusted the plans for La Charité to Avignon architect Pierre Mignard. This ambitious project involved constructing a huge complex of four main buildings with two large courtyards. Construction began in 1681, but in the end was limited to a single wing set at right angles to the street.

In 1766, local architect Jean-Ange Brun simplified the initial project and built a new main building alongside the Sorgue. The Neo-Romanesque chapel, built in a courtyard around 1850 by the departmental architect Joffroy, marked the completion of the work.

In 1758, La Charité had 126 boarders (72 of whom were children). From the late 18th to the late 19th centuries, the nursing sisters managed the establishment themselves. La Charité closed down in 1910.

