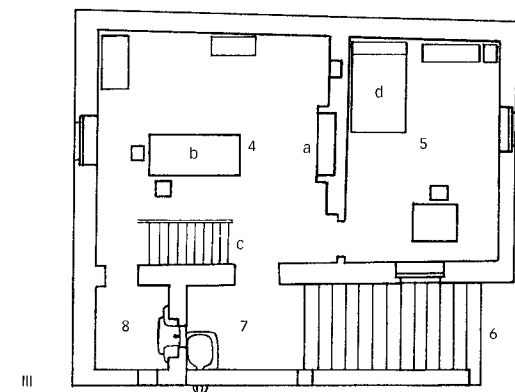
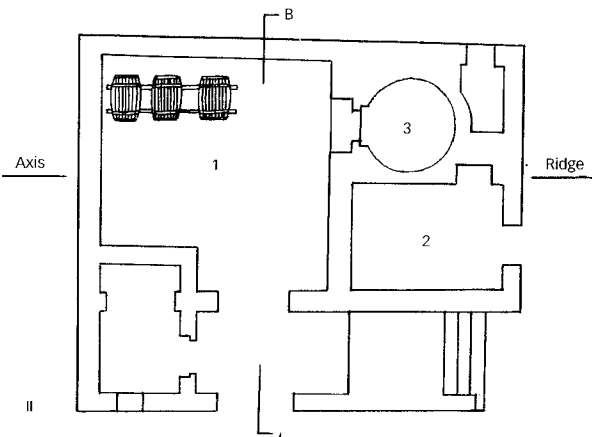
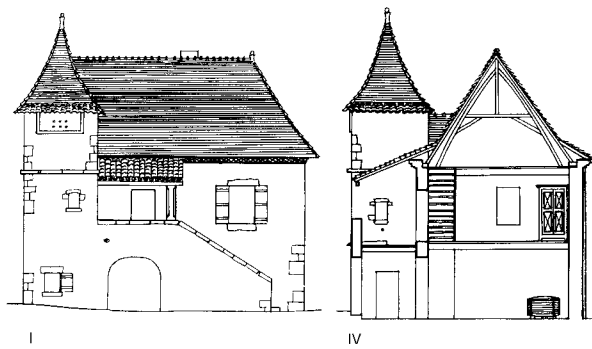


farmer or vine-grower, namely the first-floor house or upper-floor hall in which a functional ground floor is topped by living-quarters. Access to the first floor is gained by an external stone staircase and landing, sometimes under overhanging roof eaves supported by posts or pillars (*bolet*). The ground floor was used as a store, or a wine-cellar, or less frequently a sheep shelter. The craftsmen and tradesmen of villages and market towns also inhabited this type of house, but then the ground-floor level was occupied by a workshop or a small shop. With out-buildings added (e.g. barn-and-byre, bakehouse and pigsty), the house forms three, if not four, sides of a courtyard.

Frequently met with in Périgord Noir, the upper-floor hall is also to be found in other regions of Périgord, in particular in the vine-growing areas.

The big landowner's house (*maison de maître*) belongs, in its plan and form, to urban architecture, being a house with symmetrical facade and central-entry plan, generally of two or three storeys. Unless directly managed by its owner, the estate was



leased out to a tenant farmer, hence the proximity of agricultural buildings and lodgings for the tenant.

Ranging, like Périgord, from the Massif Central to Aquitaine, Quercy traditionally comprises higher Quercy (centred on Cahors) and lower Quercy (centred on Montauban). Only higher Quercy, the present-day *département* of Lot, will be dealt with here.

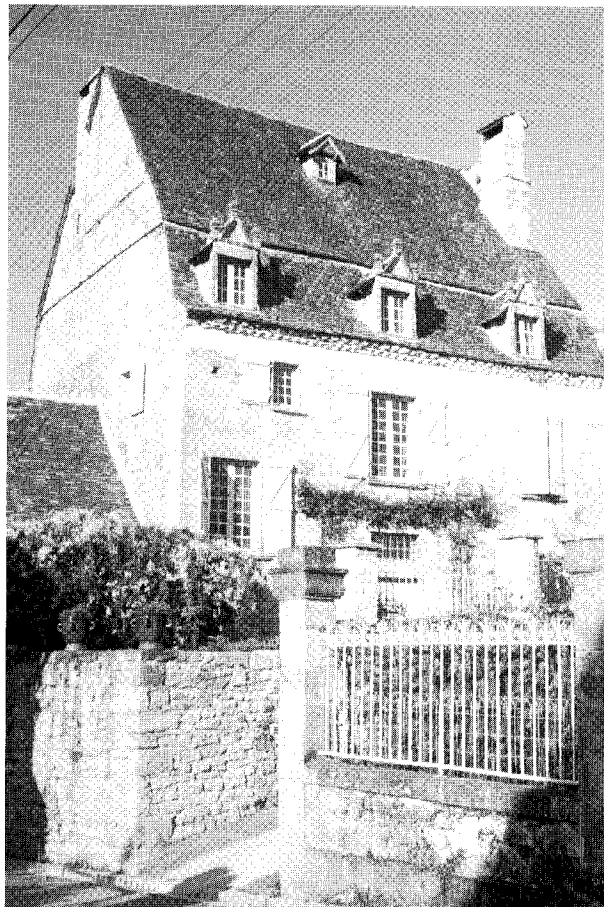
According to the geological area, there is a predominance of one particular building- or roofing-material or another (for instance limestone walling on the *causses*, and schist flags and granite blocks in the Châtaigneraie; or coverings of stone tiles on the *causses*, of nibbed flat tiles to the north of the river Lot, of half-round tiles to the south of the river Lot, and of slates to the north of the river Dordogne. Similarly there are different types of roof slope (steep pitch to the north of the river Lot, low pitch in the southern part of the *département*, and mansard roof in Limargue). But there is no exclusiveness whatsoever.

The date inscriptions recorded on buildings range from the early 18th century up till World War I, with a peak between 1840 and 1890.

As in Périgord, the landless peasant (*brassié*), who hired out his labour for a living, inhabited a single rectangular room, while the day-labourer with a smallholding, the sharecropper (of less common occurrence than in Périgord) and the small landowner all lived in a *longère* combining a dwelling room and agricultural dependencies laid out in a line or in a right-angle form. Lastly, the average peasant (*pagès*) who owned his holding and implements, but above all the small vine-grower, both inhabited an upper-floor hall.

far left  
Vinegrower's house,  
Higher Quercy.

- I Facade elevation
  - II Ground-floor plan
  - III Upper-floor plan
  - IV Section across AB
- 1 wine cellar
  - 2 cellar
  - 3 bread-oven
  - 4 living room
  - 5 bedroom
  - 6 outside staircase
  - 7 *bolet* (covered landing)
  - 8 *souillarde* (kitchen)
- a fireplace
  - b table
  - c stairs to loft
  - d bed



left  
16th-century village  
house, with fine stone  
details, Autoire.