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19th Century 399

Papers of Louisa Barlow Hoy

3folders in envelope.

2)Letters directed to Sir John Richard Digby Beste (1847-1864), advice of the Landrini Office on Louisa Barlow Hoy's trust (1862-1863), patrimonial papers of Sir John, also related to his properties in Naples.

3)Documents of James Barlow Hoy (1831 marriage with Marian D'Oyley Bird, Will, various papers).

4)Miscellaneous English papers difficult to decide who they belong to.

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1860 - 1887 400

Porta al Prato

Folders in envelope.

Different papers of Signor T. Spigliati. Count Falciani's rent. Mazzini bills of the Florentine Palace. Gattai bill of Casa Nuova ("New House").

- Purchase of the Rosselli Del Turco houses in del Giglio Street and Panzani Street (1863).
- Louisa Lee's Will (in English) of August 8, 1868.
- Work in the house in Accenni Street of Isabella Guadagni.
- Lawsuits Guadagni versus Guadagni; Getti versus Guadagni (1887).
- Records related to the patrimony and the divisions of the 1880s.
- Expenses for the Palace of Porta al Prato, since 1860, and for the Palace in Panzani Street.



Via Panzani ("Street"), Florence.

It also contains a stack of letters to marchionesses Luisa and Isabella Guadagni (Guadagno's wife and sister).

**SUB-SECTION: GUADAGNO, son
of DONATO and GUITTO, son of
GUADAGNO [331 – 333]**

1861 - 1930 401

3envelopes.

Guadagno, son of Donato (1833 – 1905), was a military and after having studied artillery in the Kingdom of Bavaria, where he was also page of Queen Marie of Bavaria, he served as a captain of the Anglo-German Legion in the Crimean War and a general of the Army of the King of Sardinia in the 2nd Italian War of Independence against the Austrian Empire. He enlisted as a Major in the "1,000 volunteers" of Garibaldi against the Bourbon King of the Two Sicilies and had a major role in the final victory of Volturno.

In 1860 he married Louisa Barlow Hoy and had 8 children. The eldest, Guitto (1861 – 1941), purchased the Guadagni Archives from his cousins Dufour Berte in 1938, to conduct his own studies on it. The Dufour Berte Branch of the Family had inherited the Guadagni Archives from the oldest Branch of the Guadagni Family who became extinct when Ottavia Guadagni, only child of Neri Guadagni, married marchese Odoardo Dufour Berte.



50. Guadagno Guadagni dressed in his Volunteer of Garibaldi uniform.

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1861 – 1930 402

Patrimonial papers of Guadagno and Guitto

8 folders in envelope

- 1) Draft of inventory and lists of precious objects bought and sold, to maintain the rent of the Masseto Mill (1861-1868).

We have the first information on the mill of Masseto around the end of the 18th century. It is located on the ditch of Montetrini. It is owned by the Marchesi Guadagni. At the end of the 19th century its activity was very high in winter and very low in summer.



The Masseto Mill, next to the county road.

The historical documents we have on the mill:

1772-1808: Vieri Guadagni (1631-1708) is said to be the owner of a mill with a shallow tank on the ditch of San Martino a Lubaco, in that municipality. Giuseppe Seravalli is the miller in 1775.

1776: Ascanio (1685-1759) and Niccolo' Guadagni (1730-1805) own a mill in the municipality of San Martino a Lubaco, with a house for the miller, on the Sieci stream, bordering with the Pazzi Family property.

It is interesting to know that the Pazzi Family, one of the four patrons, with the Guadagni, of the Sanctuary of the Madonna del Sasso, near Fiesole, were close neighbors of the Guadagni. Like the Guadagni, they were fierce enemies of the Medici.



On April 26, 1478, members of the Pazzi Family tried to assassinate Lorenzo the Magnificent de' Medici and his brother Giuliano, during the Mass in the Duomo of Florence. Lorenzo and Giuliano were grandsons of Cosimo de' Medici, arrested and exiled by Bernardo Guadagni a few years earlier. The Pazzi sat in the pew behind the Medici brothers holding sharp daggers under their cloaks.

At the moment of the Consecration, when the priest raises the Host and all the faithful used to bow their heads and close their eyes, the Pazzi stuck their knife into the neck of the kneeling Medici brothers. However, by mere luck, Lorenzo the Magnificent had slightly glanced over his shoulder and saw the blade of the dagger coming toward his neck. He was able to quickly move his head just a little and was only hit on the side of the neck. Giuliano instead was murdered on the spot.

With a bleeding neck Lorenzo ran toward the sacristy, with the enraged Pazzis after him. Poet Agnolo Poliziano, Lorenzo's friend, grabbed his sword and blocked the Pazzis for a few seconds, enough for Lorenzo to close behind him the heavy door of the sacristy of the Duomo and escape. The Florentines, who loved the Medici, captured the Pazzi and had them executed or banished from Florence.

Like the Guadagni, the Pazzi escaped to Lyon, where they became rich bankers. Tommaso I Guadagni (1454-1533) was sent to France to do his apprenticeship in the rich bank of the Pazzi Family in Lyon. Eventually, like the Guadagni, the Pazzi reconciled with the Medici, and were able to return to Florence.

1778: Giovan Battista Fantucci is the miller in the municipality of San Martino a Lubaco.

1828: Luigi Serravalli is a 43 year old miller, and he rents the mill in the municipality of San Martino a Lubaco.



Masseto Mill with the house in the back.

1871: Michele Maggi is the miller of the “Mulino di Masseto” (Mill of Masseto), owned by Maria Luisa Guadagni. The yearly tax is of 480.36 liras with a winter maximum and a summer minimum.

1889: the Masseto Mill utilizes a maximum flow of 79 hectoliters per hour from the Montetrini Stream with a waterfall of 15 feet.



Part of the old mill, now roofless

:Guadagni Villa of Masseto:

Pictures taken by the Municipality of Lubaco, where Masseto resides.



Guadagni thorned cross crest sculpted on an old wall of the Masseto estate.



Front of Masseto.



Back of Masseto.



Front of Masseto around the 8 centuries old Middle Age tower.

On the trail of the Guadagni Castle of Lubaco



This historical article of the Municipality of Lubaco takes us to the most ancient historical roots of the Guadagni Family. It might be a bit long, just skip here and there till you get to the most interesting parts, towards the end.

The valley of the Sieci Stream expands North of the town of the same name, it includes Molino del Piano (formerly San Martino a Sieci) and rises towards the Poggio Pratone – Poggio Ripaghera ridge. The ridge separates the Arno River Valley from the Sieve River Valley. A Provincial Road goes through all of it, from the confluence with

the Arno until the crossing of the Croci dell'Alberaccio -(2,000 feet above the sea level), passing next to the Pieve (Country Church) of San Martino a Lubaco.



View of the Pieve di Lubaco area.

- The castle of Francesco Guadagni, son of the above mentioned Pierotto,(who was a banker and one of the wealthiest of Florence, and died around 1308), in the town of San Martino a Castello, mentioned in 1338, was perhaps the building located in the lower site. It was easy to defend from that site and it could control the road below it.
- The members of the Guadagni Family used to own most of the land around the towns of San Martino and San Gervasio. The old Guadagni Middle Age tower of Masseto was in the center of it. The Tower of Masseto is traditionally considered the “cradle” of the Guadagni Family.

-In the history of the town of San Martino a “palace” is often mentioned, as belonging to Piero Guadagni (1312), who signed a peace treaty with the Quittanelli Family in 1341, and died in 1348, son of the above mentioned Francesco and grandson of Gonfalonier and Prior Pierotto Guadagni. It could have been the Guadagni castle mentioned above, or else another Guadagni building, situated in the intermediate site. In this site we can still see the foundations of a small tower while a stone shelf denounces the existence of a prized construction. The Guadagni Historian Gamurrini confirms the importance of this building when he mentions the existence of a 14th century deed of

inheritance division between the children of Guadagno, son of Guitto. In 1204, Guadagno was one of the three Prior of the Arts, governing the City of Florence, together with the Consuls. They were all chosen from very wealthy and powerful families of Florence.

The children of Guadagno were Gianni, Zato, Migliore and Pierotto (father of the Francesco Guadagni we talked about before). The division of their Guadagni inheritance concerned “towers, small towers, palace and houses located in the Castle of San Martino a Lubaco, known as the “Guadagni Castle”. The “squares, streets and main entrances of the Castle” were left undivided.

Hypothesis

The small hill where the “lower site” is located is traditionally called “Castello” (“Castle”). This is a good reason to believe that the Guadagni Castle of Lubaco was situated there. Traces that are left seem to indicate that the walls of the castle occupied the whole site.

In the intermediate site we can suppose the presence of a palace or tower-house, built after the castle. Both buildings are linked to the Guadagni Family. It seems that the Guadagni, together with the Pazzi (of the Castle “del Trebbio”), the Caponsacchi and the Salterelli (of “Torre a Decima”) were families grown in the shadow of the “Country Lordship” of the nearby Castle of Monte di Croce.



Torre a Decima



Castle “del Trebbio” of the Pazzi Family.

If we want to stretch our imagination even more we can suppose a family “Klan” started in the Early Middle Ages (before the year 1,000, soon after the Fall of the Roman Empire), with ties of loyalty or descent from the dominant group. As a reward the “Klan” would have received the control of the small castle of Lubaco and the influence on the surrounding area: this would have been the real cradle of the Guadagni Family. They would have consequently built or bought other important locations (Masseto, Gricigliano) with their hereditary family branches.



Guadagni Villa of Gricigliano. The Martelli Family bought it in 1478, as the Guadagni had to migrate to France.

The remains of the foundations of the Upper Site seem tied to a residential building (with different rooms), whose usage is hard to identify: maybe it was the house of a peasant.

It is difficult to determine where the Church of San Martino was located. None of the three sites seem to offer any indication about it. The 14th century name “Saints Gervasio and Protasio at Saint Martino in Lubaco” is interesting. It seems to mean an exchange of dedications between the “pieve” and the Church of the castle, which might have already started in the Early Middle Ages with the destruction of the first “pieve” and the contemporary building of the castle with its Parish church. The latter might have englobed the Baptismal Font of the former.

The Castle was already in bad shape in the 13th century because it had lost its strategic value and it was located in an unhappy position. In mid-14th century, all the municipality of San Martino a Castellubaco lost its importance. It was due to economical crisis, famine and diseases, which greatly diminished its population of the rural areas, who migrated to the larger towns. Most of all the populated center of the area, with the church and the nearby houses, perched on an uncomfortable and cold ridge (because they were exposed to North-East), on calcareous superficial and unproductive soil, was abandoned. This might have happened slowly or maybe fast because of traumatic events.

In 1427, Matteo Guadagni, son of Migliore, declares to the cadastre of Florence that he owns a building in San Martino Lobaco called “the Castle of the Guadagni”, with

land around it which nobody tills, bordering with the property of the Church of San Martino. Matteo Guadagni was approved elected to public office in 1411 and 1433. He was elected mayor of Monterappoli, Pontorno and Granarolo in March 1406; in December 1408, of Castelfranco and Santa Maria a Monte; in April 1410, of Carmignano. In 1415 he was approved governor of the fortress of Pisa. In December 1416 he was mayor of Ponsacco and Capannoli.

The decaying Guadagni “castle” was bought by Piero de’Pazzi, son of Andrea, in 1440, after the Guadagni had been exiled and their properties confiscated because of their enmity toward the Medici. A few years later also the Pazzi will have the same problems, after they unsuccessfully tried to murder Lorenzo de’Medici the Magnificent. Anyway, the pottery remains still found in the site witness that some peasant continued to live in it until the late 16th century. After that, the surrounding forest conquered the ruins of the building and hid almost completely the traces of an ancient past.





The hill of Castellubaco remained a quarry of cut stones useful to consolidate the nearby peasant houses, where the peasants and the millers of the Mulinaccio, sometimes looking at the hill, tell each other legends of a castle and a church long time gone.

What I find fascinating is the interest, time, money and work Francesco Sulli and Giovanni Pestelli, a Middle-Ages Archeologist, helped by Architects Alessandro Frassi and Guido Ciapetti, put into discovering and studying the long since lost and forgotten remains of an unknown Guadagni Castle and Guadagni Palace, from the Early Middle Ages, over 1,000 years ago, built and owned by the Guadagni before Masseto, considered the cradle of the family. The earliest information on the Guadagni was from 934 years ago, now we can go even earlier than that.

These research and findings were done in 1991, only 23 years ago, 3 years before Uncle Vieri died and 14 years before Masseto was sold, 119 years after historian Passerini wrote the well-known book on the History of the Guadagni Family. The Guadagni History still excites and inspires contemporary historians, who try and find ancient unknown Guadagni ruins, just as interesting for them as Mayan Ruins or Roman Ruins or Egyptian forgotten Pyramids, etc.



Mayan Ruins.



Roman Ruins

We will now examine different aspects of the Guadagni presence in the Lubaco and Masseto area, from where the 10 century history of the Family started. The Family

History continues nowadays in Florence and other parts of Italy, in Canada, in the United States and in New Zealand.

The Montetrini Mill



The Montetrini Mill from the side of the lower discharge. In the background are the houses among which the abduction canal passes.

The history

In 1312, Baldese son of Berardo is a tenant farmer of Francesco Guadagni (+ 1348), son of Piero, in the “podere” (small farm) of “Monte Terino” of the town of San Martino a Castello (of Lubaco). He obtains to rent for 4 years from the above mentioned Guadagni “unum palmentum molendini Franceschi”, Latin for “ a milling machine or mill from Francesco”, with all its tools and grinders and millstone , in exchange of a yearly rent of 2 “moggia” and 13 “staia” of wheat. “Moggia “ and “staia” are Italian measure units, of different values in the different regions of Italy; obviously moggia is a lot bigger than staia, at least 14 times, or else they would say 3 “moggia”.



Podere “Il Poggiolo” close to Monte Terino gives us an idea of what a Tuscan “Podere” house and mill, close to Masseto, looks like, except for the modern swimming pool.



Peasant house near Masseto. Probably Baldese lived in this house or a similar one.

A notary act of the same year states that Feo, son of Uberto, also of San Martino a Castello, works as a sharecropper a “podere” which includes a mill of Francesco (Guadagni), situated at Campolungo, (close to the mill of Monte Terino, abbreviated in Montetrini) in the same village. For this mill Feo has to pay Pietro son of Lapo son of Pietro a yearly rent of 3 moggia and 16 staia of wheat. These two documents seem to show that two different mills coexist in the same area at the beginning of the 14th century.

In 1427 the mill of Montetrini, which used to belong to Francesco Guadagni in 1312, is owned by Marchionne son of Niccolo’ son of Geri and his brothers. In 1464, the same mill belongs to the heirs of Piero de’Pazzi. As we remember in 1440, Piero de’Pazzi also bought the decaying Guadagni Castle of Lubaco, as the Guadagni had to flee the Medici persecution and move to Lyon.



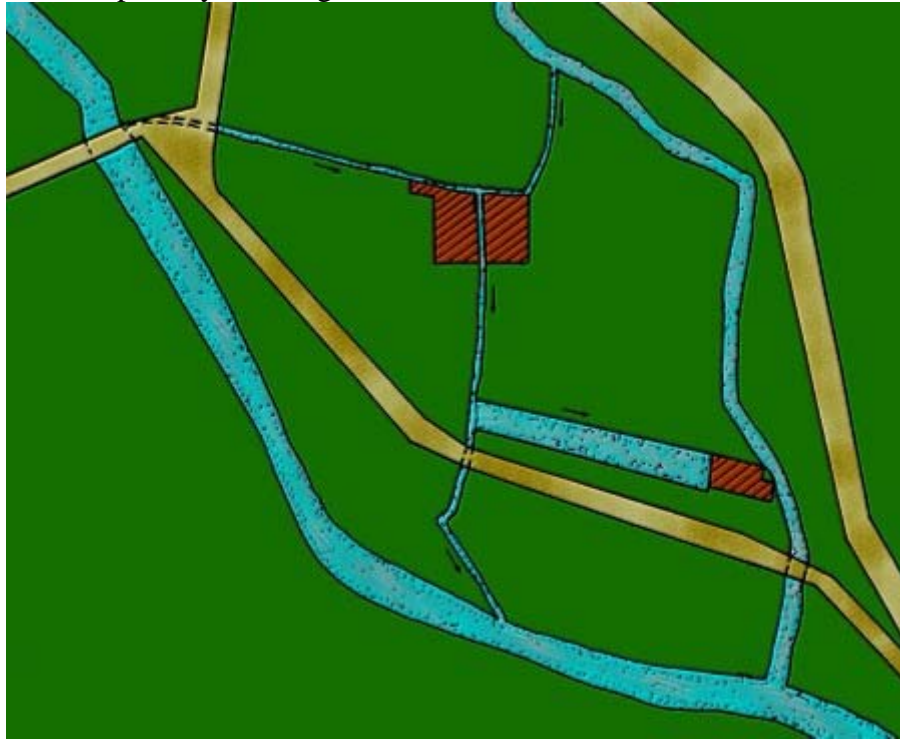
Andrea de'Pazzi, son of Piero celebrates the temporary sending into exile of Piero de'Medici, in 1496.

In 1871 the Mill of Montetrini works with two millstones.

It remains active until 1975. The same “Guadagni Mill of Montetrini”, even though with different owners, was active for over 5 centuries!!!! The Guadagni had good mills!



The new owner is proudly showing one of the wooden blades of the old mill.



The Mill of Montetrini (the larger red rectangle) uses the water of two streams (the third stream carries the falling water to the lower mill (smaller red rectangle) and from there through a canal it returns to the Sieci River).



Emptied tub of the lower mill.

The documents

1312

Feo, son of Uberto, from San Martino a Castello works a “podere” as a shareholder, on which there is a “Francesco Mill”, situated in the municipality of Campolungo. He must pay a yearly rent of 3 moggia and 16 staia of wheat, to Pietro, son of Lapo, son of Pietro, through his attorney Pieraccio Guadagni (died in June 1328), son of Piero and older brother of the abovementioned Francesco.

The podere of Campolungo is next to the Mill of Montetrini. However, as both documents are contemporary we presume the coexistence of the two mills.

ASF (Archives State Florence, in English “Florentine State Archives”) Notary Act “Antecosimiano 4619 (Bernardo Cassi), c. 35 r., August 24, 1312.



1312 - 1314

Baldese, son of Berardo, from the town of San Martino a Castello, obtains to rent “one mill of Francesco”, with all its tools and accessories, from Francesco Guadagni, son of Piero. The contract is for 4 years. It states an annual rent payment of 2 moggia and 13 staia of wheat. The miller is obliged to reside there permanently and to keep the mill working, otherwise he must pay as penalty of 24 “florins” (the “Florin” is the money currency of “Florence”). Baldese is also a sharecropper of Francesco Guadagni in the “podere” of Montetrino.

ASF, Notary Act “Antecosimiano 4619 (Bernardo Cassi), c. 9 r., 21 r-v and 171 r., May 3 And June 7, 1312, November 11, 1314.

1464

The heirs of Messer Piero de’Pazzi, son of Messer Andrea, used to own a mill on the Sieci River, next to 4 small “poderi” in Bracciolle.

ASF, Cadastre 927, c. 504



Town of Sieci, Tuscany

1775

Giuseppe Serravalli, with a family of 4 people, is the miller of Montetrini
ACP 42

1871

Giuseppe Serravalli, son of Luigi, is the miller of Montetrini.
ACP, Family Tax

1992

The Fantini Family, of Molino del Piano, rented and worked the mill of Montetrini, until its deactivation in the mid-nineteen seventies.
Testimony given by Antonio Fantini.

Piero Guadagni and his sons Pieraccio and Francesco owned the Mill of Montetrini and were notaries. They were also famous and important citizens of Florence in the Middle-Ages. Passerini does not only list them in the Guadagni Family Tree, he also recounts their lives in detail.

Pierotto

Piero, called Pierotto, was the youngest child of Guadagno and Contessa Guadagni. He had 3 brothers, Gianni, Zato and Migliore, and one sister, Lisabetta, who married Ghino Tornaquinci, son of Ugolino.

At the beginning of the 14th century, Florence was torn by a civil war between the Middle Class, called the “Bianchi (“Whites”), led by the Cerchi Family, and the old aristocrats and Upper Class, called the “Neri” (“Blacks”), led by the Donati Family. The great Florentine Poet, Dante Alighieri, had married Gemma Donati, sister of Corso Donati, leader of the Neri. The Family of Ghino Tornaquinci, husband of Lisabetta Guadagni, was also part of the Neri Faction.

In March 1304, contemporary Florentine Historian Dino Compagni recounts: “...In those days, Testa Tornaquinci and a relative of his, Bingieri, attacked and wounded a neighbor of theirs, called Cardinale, in the Old Market, and left him there for dead. None of the passers by dared to help Cardinale, because they feared the Tornaquinci Family. Eventually, the people of Florence got angry for this attack to their fellow citizen Cardinale, went to the Tornaquinci Palace and burnt it down.” Finally peace was made between the Cardinale faction and the Tornaquinci, allied of the Donati, in 1306. Ghino Tornaquinci, husband of Lisabetta Guadagni, was one of the signers” and guarantors of the Tornaquinci-Donati side.



Old palaces and Santa Trinita Church at the beginning of Tornabuoni Street

It is through a common Tornaquinci, later called Tornabuoni, ancestor that the Guadagni and the Medici are cousins. Tornabuoni Street, named after them, is considered today the most elegant street in Florence.



Tornabuoni Chapel in Florence, by Domenico Ghirlandaio, in Santa Maria Novella Church

Uncle Vieri Guadagni used to rent the Torrigiani Palace at the beginning of Via Tornabuoni and live in it. When my parents, Tonino Carloni and Isabella Guadagni, married in June 1943, Uncle Vieri threw their wedding reception, in the Torrigiani Palace, where he lived. Food was scarce in Florence during WWII. However Vieri brought food from his nearby farm of Masseto. So it was a very nice reception.

Each one of Pierotto's three older brothers has his life recounted in Passerini's book. We all descend from the third of them, Migliore, however, here we will concentrate on Pierotto, and his sons, Pieraccio and Francesco.

Pierotto (which means "little Piero") fought in the Guelph army in the battle of Montaperti in 1260. In the 13th century, the Florentines were not yet divided in the Whites and the Blacks, but in the Guelphs, for the Pope, versus the Ghibellines, for the Holy Roman Emperor.



In the Battle of Montaperti, the Guelphs were defeated by the Ghibellines. So after the defeat, Pierotto lived some time in exile. Back in Florence he was one of the guarantors of the peace with the Ghibellines in 1281; rich people on both sides were called to sign the peace treaty. In 1295 and again in 1299 he was elected prior (i.e. chief magistrate of the Republic of Florence). In December 1298, he was elected with other people to try and recuperate goods and properties of the city of Florence.

In 1305 he was Gonfaloniere of Justice, post being held by one of the nine citizens selected by drawing lots every two months, who formed the government or Signoria. In Florence the Gonfaloniere lived and operated in Palazzo Vecchio, and for this reason the square around it is called “Piazza della Signoria” (“Signoria Square”). The Gonfaloniere was in Florence what the U.S. President is in the U.S.A.



Palazzo Vecchio, where Gonfaloniere Bernardo Guadagni had Cosimo de' Medici arrested and imprisoned in the little cell under the battlements of the tower, and Piazza della Signoria.

Pierotto did not live much longer because he died for sure before 1309. He was banker and one of the wealthiest in Florence. In 1298 he was one of the people who guaranteed the City of Florence for 60,000 gold florins, that they would loyally guard the castle of Laterina, which had been consigned to him.



Laterina



Castle of Laterina – Middle Ages Wall.

However, before Pierotto's death his bank became insolvent and his palace, situated close to the Balla door, had to be rented to the famous Antonio d'Orso, bishop of Florence. The same palace returned to the family use later on and remained family property until today.



Tomb of Bishop of Florence Antonio d'Orso, in the Cathedral of Florence, Santa Maria del Fiore, by sculptor Tino di Camaino.

Pieraccio

Pierotto had eight children, 4 sons, Biagio, Pieraccio, Antonio and Francesco and 4 daughters, Bilia, Francesca, Taddea and Giovanna. We will recount the lives of Pieraccio and Francesco.

Pieraccio means “ugly Piero” or “mean Piero”. His name can be found for the first time in official documents in 1313, when he was condemned by Holy Roman Emperor Henry VII for having defended Florence against the Emperor.



Holy Roman Emperor Henry VII (1275-1313)

Afterwards he was “feditore” (i.e. belonged to a group of very brave and well trained Florentine soldiers who fought ahead of the army and were the first to engage the full

force of the enemy) at Montecatini (1315), where Guelph Florence was defeated by Ghibeline Pisa, and at Altopascio (1325) where the Florentine Guelph Army was defeated by the Lucchese Ghibeline Army of Castruccio Castracani and Azzone Visconti.



Castruccio Castracani, victorious commander of the Ghibelline Army of Lucca at Altopascio



Azzone Visconti, Lord of Milan, allied of Castruccio Castracani, Duke of Lucca, against Florence.

In 1317, Pieraccio was Chief Justice in Florence. He supervised the construction of a bridge on the Arno River. This bridge was to have been called "Royal". However it was never finished because of floods which completely destroyed the piers.

Florentine bridges:

Ponte ("Bridge") Santa Trinita



Ponte Vecchio



!966 Florence Flood (I was living in Florence, next to the Ponte Vecchio and the Arno River at the time. It was an unforgettable experience, mostly for witnessing the courage and the resilience of the Florentines, waist deep in the mud, fighting back to clean and save the city they and the whole world loved).





In 1324 Pieraccio was a Prior. At that time Pieraccio and his brothers started becoming hostile to the descendants of Migliore of Panza Guadagni. In 1324 common friends tried to soothe the animosity. I had never paid much attention to this “Family Feud”. I do now. It is a sad story. Luckily our branch did not get into it. I will study the feud in depth, as soon as I finish narrating Francesco Guadagni’s life. Pieraccio died in June 1328.

Francesco

Francesco, youngest son of Pierotto, and brother of Pieraccio, was a soldier and mercenary who spent all his life fighting for Florence and for other cities that would pay

him for it. When he became unfit to fight actively he asked to be put in the management of the fortresses that defended the Florentine territory. In 1335 he was appointed governor of the castle of Uzzano and in 1340 of the castle of Altopascio. He died in 1348.



Castle of Uzzano



Castle of Altopascio

He was an insolent fellow and we often find his name in the criminal records of the city. In 1332 he and his brother Biagio and a few cut-throats attacked three peaceful citizens they greatly disliked and seriously injured them, whence Biagio was fined 800 lire and Francesco 400. They avoided a more serious sentence by giving money to their victims who did not prosecute them further.

They were on bad terms with some of the Quintanelli Family of San Martino a Lubaco and blood was shed on both sides. However the governing council of Florence asked for anger to be put aside and Francesco and his sons solemnly promised peace on September 17, 1341.

In 1345, his niece Lisabetta Guadagni, daughter of Pieraccio, went to the mayor and accused Francesco of having invaded her properties by main force and having encroached some of her estates. But the accusation was proven unfounded and Francesco was acquitted.

“There is some confusion on who were his descendants and I (Historian Passserini, writing in 1872) cannot guarantee an exact specification of all of them. This branch of the family became extinct a long time ago and their names do not appear on the cadastral registers because they were poor. It is easy to make mistakes on their names and dates because the documents that remain are very uncertain...”

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Patrimonial papers of Guadagno and Guitto

8 folders in envelope

- 2) Draft of inventory and lists of precious objects bought and sold, to maintain the rent of the Masseto Mill (1861-1868).
- 3) Inventory of furniture and other objects of the Palagio Farm (1876); Conti Bonciani, Sbolgi stone cutter, Cipriani upholsterer, Gattai (1876-1877); Guadagno's expenses copybook (1882-1886).
- 4) Sanctuary of the Madonna del Sasso, note of gifts offered by companies and visitors (1861- 1879); “Papers on Guadagno” assembled by his son Guitto.
- 5) Letters to Guitto (1890-1939). I have just found a very interesting article on great-uncle Guitto Guadagni (oldest brother of Luigi and Bernardo, and marquis of San Leolino) written by ANPIL (“Area Naturale Protetta di Interesse Locale” “Local Interest Protected Natural Area”) of the municipality of Pontassieve, where Masseto is located.

“ **Forestry Experimentations**

The marchese **Guitto Guadagni**, son of Guadagno and of Luisa Barlow Hoy, lived from 1861 to 1941, mostly in his estate of Masseto. He was a cultured and passionate man dedicated to forestry, as Aldo Pavari, father of the modern forestry experimentation, wrote about him.

Guitto was **a member of the Forestry Committee of 1909** representing the Municipality of Pontassieve. **In 1936 he was decorated with the medal of Forestry merit.**

At least **since 1889**, Guitto Guadagni started intense forestry experimentation on his Masseto estates, today mostly included in ANPIL. During 20 years, he bought an average of 10,000 small plants a year, from the Nurseries of Vallombrosa, Camaldoli,

Boscolungo (Abetone), all these are in Tuscany, Cosenza, in the Region of Calabria (for the larch pine), Aquila, Region of Abruzzi, Cansiglio, Province of Belluno (Alps).



Ripaghera Hill – Saint Brigida – Valley of l’Inferno (“Hell”)
ANPIL



Red Oak on the South Western slope of Ripaghera Hill.

The German Schott and the Austrian Grunewald supplied Guitto with the shoots of **Douglasia, Canadian Poplar, red Oak, Lawsonian Chamaecyparis and Leptolepis Laryx**. Guitto ordered the seeds of **Sempervirens Sequoia, Gigantea Sequoia and Sempervirens Taxodium** from Innsbruck, Austria and Paris, France.



Sempervirens Sequoia

Guitto had Nurseries set up in Castelluccio and Peretola, where he would follow the first years of growth of: **Douglas (Menziessi Pseudotsuga and Glaucous Pseudotsuga), Red Spruce, Atlantic Cedar, Japanese Cryptomeria, White Spruce, Cypresses, Deodara Cedar, Laricius Pine Tree, Pinsapus Abies and Rigid Pine Tree.**

During those years Guitto had over 100 peasants working the Farm of Masseto, so he could have them work at his experimental implantations during the non busy seasons of the year:



-He had a few tens of **Pinsapo Abies** planted in Peretola and the Fosso del Caprile.





Fosso del Caprile (Mountains of the Region of Liguria).



Castelluccio



Peretola, close to Florence

-a nucleus of **Atlantic Cedar** was planted next to the Castle of Meleto in Tuscany.



Castle of Meleto



Atlantic cedar

-rows of **Lawsonian Chamaecyparis** were planted on the edges of the parcels reforested with Douglasia at Villa Nuova, with a few cedars.



Chestnut grove

-the **Douglasias** were planted in the chestnut groves, where the trees were sick and did not produce any more chestnuts; pure douglas were planted on the ridges, or mixed with white firs, and in lesser quantity with red firs and red oaks, always on sandy soil, maybe close to implantations of white firs to be able to have a closeup check of the growing speed of the two kinds of firs;



Red fir

-the **Black Pine tree** (larycius pine) was utilized on downgraded pastures and bare plots of land, mostly calcareous. They also tried to plant pine trees in copse woods, however they stopped doing it because the chestnut suckers were harming the douglasies and the white firs.



Black Pine Tree

Because of the Fall colors, it is nice to visit the remains of the implantation of **Quercus borealis** (red oak) on the secondary ridge leading South West from Ripaghera Hill, at an altitude of 2,800-3,000 feet. The plants are arranged in groups, some intermingled with douglasies and white firs, others implanted on mixed copses of chestnut, pines, hickories, Turkey oaks, beech trees.



Red Oak tree

Guitto Guadagni ordered the American acorns from German Nursery owner S. Schott from 1909 to 1913. They were first planted in the orchard of Castelluccio, later transplanted in the orchard of Peretola (2,100 feet of altitude, closer to the altitude of where they originally came from). After 4 or 5 years the little plants were permanently planted. Now they are over 60 feet high and their presence has considerably improved the stability of the soil versus erosion.



Acorn trees.

Under the acorn trees we can find chestnut trees, beech trees (which tolerate the shade caused by the gigantic acorn trees), other trees have disappeared. Small plants of red oak and white fir are being renovated. The red oak has formed hybrids with Turkey oaks up to half a mile from the area.

The small beech tree grove which we find next to the acorn tree wood does not occupy more than one acre. According to Pietro Piussi, Guitto Guadagni reintroduced the beech tree on Ripaghera Hill around 1910-1920, to thicken and improve some small groves of copse. The tree trunks were often damaged by strong wind and exceptional snowfalls. There are 75 ft.tall plants of white firs and even beech trees renewing themselves.



From 1923 to WWII

The Guadagni chose to increase their implantation of douglasia, which replaced the white fir completely. However, after World War II the financial situation of the Guadagni Family quickly changed forcing them to sell their estates one by one until they sold the villa of Masseto.

Maybe the last large implantation of **Douglas** trees made by Guitto's heirs is the one of Castelluccio (1,500-1,650 feet above sea level), which Vieri Guadagni, son of Guitto, did in the first 1960s, on the area already occupied by a precedent reforestation of white spruces and partly also on the ex-nursery.



Implantation of douglasies near Castelluccio by Vieri Guadagni in the 1960s.”

Pontassieve Natura ("Nature") is a non-profit site realized and managed by the **COMUNE DI ("CITY OF") PONTASSIEVE** with the support of the **Regione Toscana ("Tuscan Region")** and of the **Provincia di Firenze ("Province of Florence")**

- 6) Economical settlement of Guitto with his brothers Giacomo and Bernardo (1902-1918); 1902 receipts of the brothers Guitto and Giacomo.

I have just found the marriage certificate of Guitto's oldest son, Guadagno. I am copying it here:

"Guadagni, G. Donald, of Boston, Mass., age 38, son of Guitto Guadani (sic) born in Italy and Dorothy Schlesinger born in England, to Elizabeth T. Shaw, of Newport, Vt., age 32, daughter of Loring J. Shaw born in Swanton, Vt. and Winnie E. Scott born in Newport Center, Vt., November 22, 1937 in Milford by Benj. F. Prescott, Justice of Peace, Milford. TR1938"

- 7) Bank Statements from the Steinhauslin Bank.
- 8) Historical information gathered by Guitto with annotations on precedent time periods and links of Guadagni Parchments of Casini (18th century); drafts of family trees, notes and other.
- 9) "...At that time (circa 1324) Pieraccio Guadagni and his brothers started becoming hostile to the descendants of Migliore, son of Panza Guadagni..." writes Historian Luigi Passerini in his book "Genealogy and History of the Guadagni Family", 1872, in Part I, Chapter 14, entitled "Pieraccio".

Panza Guadagni was a Florentine notary in the 1250s. He would draw up deeds by imperial privilege. Many deeds he drew up about the half of the 13th century can still be found in archives.

His grandfather was Ildebrandino Guadagni, on whom we know a lot. It is from him that we have the "relic of the Cross". We can read it in the Guadagni Website, Plate 1, Historical Notes , # 4, but to make it simpler, I will copy it here:" With the permission of his wife Brunetta, he gave a piece of land in Casciolla to Chiaro, prior of Santa Maria Maggiore, for the use of the church on December 18, 1198. This paper can be found in the Archives of the Cathedral of Florence and was published by Lami in the aforementioned work. According to Guadagni Family tradition, Poper Innocent III gave the Guadagni Family a relic, consisting of a piece of the Cross of



Pope Innocent III

the Cross of Christ, to reward them for having helped finance the Fourth Crusade in the year 1198, by donation of money and land. It seems that the date corresponds to the above mentioned donation of the land in Casciolla by Ildebrandino. The relic is guaranteed as authentic by a recent Vatican certificate. It seems to have been bigger than it is now but it was “partitioned” among family members through the centuries. A sliver of it was inherited by Antonio Guadagni, son of Luigi and Antonietta Revedin. At his death, his widow, Dolores Mapelli Guadagni, and his 3 children, Tecla, Vieri and Carlo Guadagni, lent it to Monsignor Edward L. Buel, pastor of Our Lady of Loreto Church in Aurora, CO. It was placed in a little icon on top of a crucifix Cimabue style above the main altar of the church, to be venerated by the faithful.

Historian Passerini is not sure if another document published by Lami in his book with the date April 22, 1224, refers to the same Ildebrandino. In it it appears that sir Ildebrandino, son of Guittone, maybe a knight by then, was witness to another act related to the church of Santa Maria Maggiore. No author has noticed that we should start the series of Guadagni who held public office from him rather than from his brother Guadagno. He started it in a very noble way: his name can be found among those of the Consuls who governed the Republic of Florence in 1202. Probably he was the Consul of the Merchants. Ildebrandino of Guittone is remembered in two documents: one is the treaty of alliance with the city of Montepulciano;



Montepulciano

The other is a chart of privileges given on February 20 to the ancestors of the del Sera family and to others in San Donato in Poci who had acted well on behalf of the Florentines in the war of Semifonte. Semifonte was a fortified village, with walls and towers, and was formed by 300 families who formed the garrison of 300 soldiers.



Semifonte

When the town started growing and menacing with its power the supremacy of Florence, it was decided to move war against it. In Paradise XVI, versus 58-63 of his Divine Comedy, Dante has Semifonte tell Florence: “...Get out of the way Florence, Semifonte is becoming a city...!”

As a result Semifonte was conquered and completely destroyed so that it was literally erased from the land. The same destruction was applied to all the castles of the valley who were allied with Semifonte.

To have the people remember the defeat of Semifonte and the power of Florence a reproduction of the Dome chapel of Florence was built where once stood the town of Semifonte.



Migliore Guadagni, son of Panza, was a judge. On 2/4/1254 he ratified the peace with the city of Pistoia while he was part of the City Council.

Migliore had 3 sons: Lotto, Filippone and Bartolo, and a daughter Casdia. They were the “descendants of Migliore, son of Panza Guadagni, versus whom Pieraccio Guadagni and his brothers started becoming hostile around the year 1324...”

Why?

Lotto Guadagni is called Ghiotto (“Gluttonous”) in many documents. We don’t have any information concerning him before 1295: in that year he was Prior from February 15 to April 15. During Lotto’s office as Prior, Giano della Bella went in voluntary exile. The governing council of Florence had brought an action against Giano, accusing him of having secretly instigated the people to revolt against the mayor, drive him away and plunder his palace.

As we remember Florence was torn apart by a civil war between the Bianchi (middle and lower classes), led by the Cerchi, and the Neri (aristocrats and upper classes) led by Corso Donati. Lotto sided with the Neri and was held in great esteem by the governing council because of it. However, when the ambitious aims of the leader of the Neri, Corso Donati, were discovered, he was one of the people who opposed Corso and instigated a riot against the latter resulting in the killing of the arrogant leader.



The two towers of Corso Donati still exist in Florence and bear his name.

Sandra Guadagni, however, Lotto's youngest daughter, married Tommaso Donati, son of Corso, in 1327.

In 1308 the government of Florence rewarded Lotto publicly for his behavior by awarding him the privilege of bearing arms. This privilege of going around armed even in absence of war or conflict was only granted to the nobles and the upper class. Passerini does not know if Lotto took part in the war against Arezzo but he knows for sure that he fought in the heroic defense of Florence, besieged by Holy Roman Emperor Henry VII.



Old walls of Florence still standing around Porta Romana (Door which leads to Rome)

When the Emperor was forced to raise the siege he was furious and in a declaration at Poggibonsi he proclaimed rebels to the Holy Roman Empire the most famous Guelphs of Florence, Lotto Guadagni included.

Lotto was still living in 1325, because he was one of the members of the City Council that year; the same year, he and his children on one side and the descendants of Guadagno of Guittone on the other presented a request to the City Council to be freed from the regulations of family obligations because **no living person at that time could remember how the two branches of the Guadagni Family were related.**

This is when the animosity started. What were the regulations of family obligations both branches wanted to be freed from? Paying one another's debts? Standing by each other if they were in trouble? I presume something like that. In reality, as we see from Passerini's Family Tree, Lotto's great-great-grandfather, Ildebrandino, was the brother of Pieraccio and Francesco's grandfather, Guadagno.

Where do our Guadagni ancestors stand in this controversy?

We all descend from Migliore, third son of Guadagno and nephew of Ildebrandino. Of our branch, only Gherardo, brother of our direct ancestor Matteo, was attacked by a Guadagni relative, Migliorozzo. Migliorozzo Guadagni was a "feditore", i.e. one of the bravest soldiers of Florence. However, in 1327 he attacked, smit and wounded his cousin Gherardo with a knife. Later he poisoned the pancakes that Gherardo and his pregnant wife were eating. In spite of an antidote the wife died shortly after but she had the time to publicly forgive Migliorozzo, avoiding him to have his right hand and left foot cut off as a punishment.

Lotto Guadagni's son, Filippo, died around 1343 because of the wounds inflicted by Lapo and Naddo Guadagni, sons of Pieraccio.

10) Letters to Migliore Guadagni, son of Guitto (1903-1927) and to his mother Dorothy Schlesinger, after his death (1930).

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1901 Oct. 13 – 1902 Jul.

21 403

File. Bills and receipts

Folders and register in envelope

For the repairs made to the Villa della Fornace di Colonne (Le Sieci) by Giacomo Guadagni, son of Guadagno and father of Uncle Adriano.

It contains also a register of weekly expenses for the restoration.

333 [958]

1st fourth of the 20th

Century 404

Childhood letters of Elda, Bebe', mother

Loose folders in envelope

Letters, notes, poems, personal documents, drawings of Maria Renata, wife of Vieri Guadagni, son of Guitto, Elda and other Chappuis:

-Papers related to her father Renato Chappuis (1877-1939), artillery colonel then Division General, and to his wife Ines Roggero (born 1878);

-Papers related to Ines Roggero and to her father Giovanni, surgeon;

-Copybooks of Renata and Elda Chappuis, later wife of Vittorio Tapparone;

-Papers related to the two sisters;

-Manuscript on “Organizzazione delle frontiere” (“Borders Organization”);

-Personal photos, drawings, photos of the drawings for the Italian Pavilion of the Exposition of Antwerp, Belgium (1930).

SUB-SECTION: VARIOUS SUBJECTS

1775 - 1952 405

2 envelopes.

Acts related to the nobility process of the Tomei Albiani Family of Pietrasanta (18th Century) and to the management of the Opera of the Madonna del Sasso (Pontassieve), in the hands of Vieri Guadagni, son of Guitto (20th Century).

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1775

- 1780 406

Tomei Albiani

Folders in envelope

Proofs of nobility in the file for the process for the acquisition of the status of “patrician” (noble) of Pisa of the Tomei Albiani Family of Pietrasanta, lords of Carraia and Vallecchia and nomination of Francesco Tomei Albiani as Knight of the Order of Saints Maurizio and Lazzaro (1860).



The Order of Saints Maurizio and Lazzaro is an order of chivalry awarded by the House of Savoy, the heads of which were formerly Kings of Italy (Kings of Italy from 1860 to 1946). The order was formed by a union in Italy of the original Order of Saint Lazarus and the Order of Saint Maurice in 1572 and has around 2,000 members. Its duty is to defend the Holy See and to fight leprosy. In the 18th century its galleys fought the Turks and the Barbary Pirates.

It also contains acts of printed suits sent to Francesco son of Tommaso and Tommaso son of Francesco.

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1917 - 1952 407

Madonna del Sasso

Folders in envelope

Deeds related to the opposition of the Guadagni Family to the transfer of the Oratory of the Madonna del Sasso to the Carmelites (1938), to the takeover of the Sanctuary by the Bishop (1942), to the formation of the Opera (1947) and to the proclamation of the new statute by the Bishop (1952), by Vieri Guadagni, son of Guitto.

It also contains:

- Receipts (1917).
- Paperwork on the Cemetery of Lubaco (1924).
- Test of the Road "Del Fornello" (1934).





Road “Del Fornello”.

-Project of the City of Pontassieve concerning the changes in the road Olmo - Madonna del Sasso – Santa Brigida



Olmo –Madonna del Sasso – Santa Brigida Road