

*“A” Writings concerning non family members*

Folders in envelope.

Acts related to the inheritance of the following people are present:

Francesco Fantechi, worker in the Guadagni household (+ May 11, 1731).

Caterina Angiola Ferroni (will of July 12, 1723).

Girolamo, Reverend Father Giovanni Gualteno, Anton Giuseppe, Domenico Maria Beni, Alessandro della Cavallina’s children (praise of January 15, 1730).

It also contains a parchment of 1572 of a sale contract between Barnaba son of late Niccolo’ from Empoli, and Bartolomeo Scarlini, son of Giuliamo, also from Empoli.

*“B” Writings and documents concerning Grand-Duchess Vittoria Montefeltria della Rovere*

Folders in envelope.

Letters, roles, bills and receipts, writings and documents pertaining to the Grand-Duchess Vittoria della Rovere, of whom Marchese Donato Maria Guadagni was treasurer and majordome, room master and other.

We notice the presence of a folder titled:”1691. All the bills of the factory of the Imperial Villa for the restoration of the Courtyard and of the rooms”, of which few are left.

The Medici Villa of Poggio Imperiale, which in the above Guadagni Archives is referred to as the “Imperial Villa”, had been in the Medici Family for some time. It was called “Imperial”, because it had been owned, enlarged and decorated by Grand-Duchess Maria Maddalena of Austria, wife of Grand-Duke of Tuscany Cosimo II, and she was the sister of “Holy Roman Emperor” Ferdinand II. “Poggio” in Italian means “hill” so its translated name would be villa on the Imperial Hill (overlooking Florence).



Medici Villa of Poggio Imperiale, Florence

In 1659, the estate was acquired by Grand-Duke Ferdinand II, son of Grand-Duke Cosimo II and Maria Maddalena of Austria, and his wife Vittoria della Rovere. Grand-Duchess Vittoria had the villa further enlarged and embellished with marbles and intarsica. She made long stays there, in her old age, when she retired from politics, and

that was when Donato Maria Guadagni was her Steward and Lord-in-Waiting, during the last ten years of her life. So the “bills” in the Guadagni Archives refer to the works Grand-Duchess Vittoria had done to restore the courtyard of the Imperial Villa and its rooms.



Villa di Poggio Imperiale seen from above, with courtyards and gardens.



The Chinese Room in Poggio Imperiale Villa



Interior of the glazed arcade wich surrounds the principal courtyard



Grand Duchess Maria Vittoria by Artist Justus Sustermans

It also contains Summaries of the Vienna expenses (1708-1714). Neri Andrea Guadagni, son of Donato Maria, was the Grand Duke's resident Ambassador in Vienna, capital of the Holy Roman Empire, from 1708 to 1713. In those days Ambassadors were not paid, and that is why they were always chosen from noble and rich families. So these are probably the expenses to maintain Neri Andrea in Vienna.

**265**<sup>[731]</sup>

**1683 – 1694**

321

*“C” Writings and documents concerning the above-mentioned Grand-Duchess and the charges held by Donato Maria Guadagni*

7 folders in envelope.

- 1) “Chamber Journal of Grand Duchess Victoria, kept by me, Donato Maria Guadagni, her Chamber Master, parchment bound (12x5x1 inches), cc. n.n. (January 8, 1692-March 5, 1694, when she died). So for over two years, Donato Maria kept (and organized?) the daily journal of the Grand Duchess of Tuscany.
- 2) “Copies of letters pertaining to the Treasury of the Very Sereine Grand Duchess Vittoria of Tuscany”. c.s. (12x9x1 inches), cc. n.n. (March 4, 1684-July 25, 1685). At the end:”Annotation that this present day we still have to register the letters pertaining to the Treasury of the very Sereine Grand Duchess, and from now on we will continue to write the ones pertaining to the charge of Majordome (i.e. Donato Maria Guadagni) of the above-mentioned very Sereine Grand Duchess Vittoria.”
- 3) “Copybook of Recollections c.s.” c.s. (12x9x1 inches), cc. n.n. (February 26, 1684 – February 23, 1685).
- 4) “Little copybook of the Treasury c.s.”, c.s.(12x9x1).cc.n.n.(February 29, 1684-July 13, 1685).
- 5) “Summaries of the funds of S.A.S. (Sua Altezza Serenissima =“Her Very Sereine Highness”)”, c.s. (12x9x1 inches) cc. n.n. (February 29, 1684 – July 1685).
- 6) “Summaries of the bed-chamber of S.A.S.” (“Her Very Sereine Highness”), c.s. (12x9x1 inches), cc. n.n. (February 1684- July 19, 1685).
- 7) “Role and service of the Very Sereine Grand Duchess Vittoria Montefeltria della Rovere”, c.s. (12x9x1 inches), cc. 80 (July 28, 1685-1693).
- 8) “Service of the Very Sereine Grand Duchess Vittoria Montefeltria della Rovere”, with list of dependents, their salaries and annotations, satin-covered-cardboard-bound (9x7x1 inches), cc. n.n. (July 1685- November 1, 1688).

It also contains writings and documents pertaining to the Grand Duchess Vittoria della Rovere of whom Marchese Donato Maria Guadagni was treasurer and majordome, Room Master and other. He was “scalco” (“carving knife”) of the Grand Duchess (“did he cut her meat?”) for 10 years. When the Grand Duchess’ treasurer, Giovanni Antonio Borromei, died, on February 26, 1684, Vittoria appointed Guadagni as his successor. On July 28, 1685, he was appointed “Lord-in-Waiting”. From January 8, 1692 until her death on March 5, 1694, he was also her Room Master.

**266**<sup>[732]</sup>

**1644 – 1703**

322

*“D” Marquisate of San Leolino del Conte. Various trials.*

44 folders in envelope.

“Trial of various lawsuits presented before the tribunal of the Marquisate of San Lorino del Conte, pertaining to the Guadagni Family.

**267**<sup>[734]</sup>

**1647 – 1759**

323

*“E” Marquisate of San Leolino del Conte. Various trials.*

2 stacks and folders in envelope.

“Stack containing trials in different lawsuits presented to the Courthouse of the Marquisate of San Leolino del Conte pertaining to the Guadagni Family”.

- 1) Stack of several civil lawsuits of the Marquisate of San Leolino del Conte and its annexed [In 1645, Grand Duke of Tuscany Ferdinando II built a new castle of San Leolino del Conte within the fiefdom and adding to it four other municipalities: Sambucheta, Bucigna, Vierle and Varena, and the farmhouse of Rata.) to the Very Eminent Marchese Donato Maria Guadagni, of whom I, Giovan Battista Tozzi, son of the late Raffaello, have been the executor from August 16, 1689 to January 1 , 1698, cc. 263.
- 2) Repertory of the civil lawsuits of the Marquisate of San Leolino del Conte of which Celio Neri Ceccherini has been the executor from the year 1698 to 1709, cc. 235.
- Stack of loose small lawsuits (1647 – 1759).

**268**<sup>[735]</sup>

**1645 – 1809**

324

*“F” Marquisate of San Leolino del Conte. Various writings.*

Folders and loose papers in envelope.

*By the decree of June 21, 1645, Grand Duke Ferdinando II of Tuscany gave Marchesa Ortensia Guadagni married Salviati the fiefdom of the Castle of San Leolino del Conte, granting in the year 1651 that (at her death) the above mentioned fiefdom with the title of Marchese should be transferred to Senator Tommaso Guadagni and his children and descendants.*

“Stack containing the diplomas, documents, writings regarding the Marquisate of San Leolino del Conte established by Grand Duke of Tuscany Ferdinando II in the five municipalities of San Leolino, Bucheta, Bucigne, Virole and Varena, granted by his own will on June 21, 1645 to Ortensia Guadagni, daughter of Francesco, widow of Filippo Salviati, who has been Major Lady –in-Waiting of the Grand Duchess of Tuscany, and then to her brother Tommaso Guadagni and to his sons and male descendants”.



Grand Duke of Tuscany Ferdinando II de' Medici by Artist Justus Sustermans

It also contains a register of the transactions of the Marquisate of San Leolino del Conte from November 1, 1671 (at the time of Donato Maria Guadagni) to February 18, 1714, when new secretary Diacinto Biagerelli replaces Vincenzo Pecorini, parchment bound (12x9x2 inches), pp. 286.

I will now insert the second history of San Leolino del Conte (it is longer and more detailed in the Middle Ages part, before being erected as a Marquisate and granted to Ortensia Guadagni). However, with it, we can keep a complete history of our Marquisate in our family archives.

### *San Leolino Castle*

The San Leolino Castle got its name from the rural parish church, San Leolino in Monti, which also later became the name of the fiefdom of the Guidi counts of Poppi and Battifolle.



Inside of the Church of San Leolino in Monti



Facade of the Church of San Leolino in Monti

I apologize for these 3 little photos of the Church of San Leolino in Monti. I was not able to get them any bigger or enlarge them.



Pieve of San Leolino, partial restoration.

Successively the castle became a grand-ducal feudal estate with the title of marquisate, in the county of Londa, jurisdiction Dicomano, diocese of Fiesole, under the rule of Florence. Remains of the old fortalice of San Leolino and the modern marquisate palace are located near the parish church of the same name atop a hillock left of the Moscia Creek.



Londa

The hillock, lying between the Valley of the Arno River and the Valley of the Sieve River, is part of the Apennine spur connecting Mount Falterona to the Consuma. In addition to the church of San Leolino in Collina, or “in Conio”, which is now part of the Colle diocese, there are still three parish churches in the Fiesole diocese, dedicated to San Leolino, bishop and martyr: the aforementioned San Leolino in Monti, San Leolino in Panzano, once referred to as “in Falciano”, and the parish church of San Leolino in Rignano.

Beginning in the 11<sup>th</sup> Century, temporal rule of the Castle of San Leolino in Monti, Fornace and other neighboring areas was conferred upon the Guidi counts by Holy Roman Emperors Henry VI, in 1191, and Frederic II, in 1220.



Holy Roman Emperor Frederic II (1194-1250)

One of the most ancient surviving records of the location was published in the Camaldolese (Order of Monks) Annals of 1100; it mentions a donation made to the Hermitage of Camaldoli on behalf of Count Alberto Guidi, son of the deceased Count Tedicio, of property belonging to the former in the parish of San Leolino and the nearby parish of San Detole.

Residing in the San Leolino Castle, in 1239, were Count Guido Guerra di Modigliano, son of the deceased Count Marcovaldo, and Countess Beatrice, during which time the former relinquished some castles in Romagna to his brother Count Ruggeri (Father Ildefonso, *Delis. Of the Scholars, Book VIII*). The following year, in the same location, Countess Beatrice, widow of Count Marcovaldo, accepted, with a document drawn up in the Castle of San Leolino, on March 2, 1240, and with the benefit of an inventory, the inheritance left by her father, Count Rodolfo di Capraja (*Diplomatic Archives of Florence, Papers from Badia a Settimo*).

The fiefdom of San Leolino in Monti was included, with many other castles, in the “accomandigia” (Middle Age pact placing a municipality or lord under the protection of another municipality or League), drafted on June 24, 1367. Count Guido, son of Count Ugo di Battifolle, obtained it from the Florentine Republic. The agreement, or “accomandigia”, was later made perpetual by request of the Count Francesco of Poppi, on August 27, 1439. However, in the following year, Count Guido became an insurgent of the Republic of Florence and its people, including the inhabitants of San Leolino, who were then freely reunited under the dominion of Florence.

On that occasion, the subjection of San Leolino was agreed to, with a few stipulations in favor of the inhabitants, which included maintaining the district under the jurisdiction of the vicariate of Poppi in Casentino.



Castle of the Counts Guidi (who were Lords of San Leolino during the Middle Ages) in Poppi, Casentino.

From that moment on, the government of the Republica appointed a castellan to guard the fortress of San Leolino. In 1463, the Signoria (Government) of Florence levied a permanent tax on the municipality of San Leolino, together with Fornace, destined for the subsistence of the castellan appointed to guard over the “contrada” (rural country district). A seal belonging to a community of San Leolino was published by Brocchi in his description of the Mugello, p. 289.

. In 1645, Grand Duke Ferdinand II built a new castle of San Leolino del Conte within the fiefdom, granting it and all the community the title of marquisate and adding to it four other municipalities: Sambucheta, Bucigna, Vierle and Varena, and the farmhouse of Rata. These communities were subject to the Vicar of Poppi for criminal cases, and to the official resident of the new marquisate of San Leolino in Val-di-Sieve for civil and mixed cases.

The grand-ducal feudal estate of San Leolino del Conte was granted, with diploma, on June 21, 1645, to Lady Ortensia Guadagni, widow of Filippo Salviati, Lady-in-Waiting of the Grand Duchess Vittoria della Rovere. However, successively, and of her own free will, on February 21, 1651, Marchesa Ortensia was granted the right to leave, upon her death, the above-mentioned marquisate to her brother Tommaso Guadagni, to be passed on to his children and descendants by perpetual birthright.

In 1738, the feudal estate of San Leolino del Conte was confirmed by Grand Duke Francesco II to Senator Neri Andrea Guadagni, to whom only freehold ownership and a few other rights remained after the law of suppression of grand-ducal fiefdoms.

The Parish Church of San Leolino del Conte, built entirely of square ashlar, was under the jurisdiction of the people, and later of the Grand Duke. However, it appears for a period to have been under the authority of the chapter of the Basilica of San Lorenzo, in Florence, from which Grand Prince Francesco de' Medici, eldest son of Grand Duke Cosimo I, on January 26, 1569, acquired four estates pertaining to the Pieve of San Leolino del Conte for 3,500 ducats, with the obligation to reinvest the sum in many locations of the mountainous area



Grand Prince Francesco de' Medici (1541-1587) by Artist Bronzino.



Basilica of San Lorenzo, Florence

The parish church of San Leolino del Conte extended its spiritual jurisdiction over 5 communities: 1. San Guadenzio in Varena (annexed to the parish in the Pieve); 2. Santissima Concezione a Londa, which was a chapel erected in the parish in 1795, which had once been joined to the Pieve; 3. Santa Maria a Cajano; 4. San Lorenzo a Vierle; 5. San Donato a Sambucheta.

In 1833, the parish of San Leolino del Conte, or in Monti, numbered 89 inhabitants.

*End of the second, longer, history of San Leolino*

**269**<sup>[737]</sup>

**1555 – 1868**

325

*“H” Clerical Subjects / “G” Writings of leasings and rentals regarding the Guadagni Family.*

7 folders in envelope.

It contains only some folders originally numbered:

3) Instrument of donation of the ownership of the Chapel of Santa Caterina de’ Bischeri in the Cathedral of Florence (the “Duomo”) in the year 1555. As we remember, the “Bischeri” (which in Florence has become synonymous for “idiotic” or “not very smart”) were a noble and wealthy Middle Age Florentine Family, like the Guadagni, who refused to sell their properties to the builders of the Duomo for a good price, being forced later on to sell it for next to nothing. The Guadagni dell’Opera built their beautiful palace, now Regional Capitol of Florence and of the Region of Tuscany, on the “Bischeri property”.

s.n.) Copies of letters are written in Rome for the service of the Church of San Miniato a Pagnolle of the Guadagni Family to the actual Rector Reverend Domenico Albizi (1625).



Interior of the Church of San Miniato a Pagnolle, patronized by the Guadagni. In the glass case under the altar lies the body of Martyr Saint Faustina, given to the Guadagni Family forever by Cardinal Bernardo Guadagni. It was brought from Rome to Florence by Cardinal Guadagni's younger brother, marchese Neri Andrea Guadagni (1673-1748).



Bells of the Church of San Miniato a Pagnolle



Entrance of the Church of San Miniato a Pagnolle

7) Foundation of the Chapel of San Donato (“Donato” is a traditional Guadagni first name) in the Church of the Madonna del Sasso (1702), of which the Guadagni are patrons, together with the Pazzi, Catellini da Castiglione and Cambini.



Sanctuary of the Madonna del Sasso, Fiesole. The Guadagni Crest is on top of the central door, which is slightly ajar, just left of the bell tower.

8) Decree freeing Marchese Donato Maria Guadagni from the obligation made for the Church of Muscoli.



Church of San Michele in Muscoli (near Fiesole)

s.s.) Foundation of the Comini Chapel (1714).

10) Foundation of the income for the Church of San Miniato a Pagnolle and patronage of the church (17<sup>th</sup> Century-1822).

11) Cleric Giuseppe Goretti is appointed by Marchese Tommaso Guadagni (1743-1814) for the vacant choral chapel named Santa Caterina de' Bischeri, built in the Cathedral of Florence (July 12, 1809 –April 26, 1814).

12) An ecclesiastical benefit, pertaining to the altar of the Assunta in the Church of Barberino di Mugello (1820) is conferred to Eusebio Bindi by Neri Guadagni (1790-1862) .



Church of Santa Maria di Vigesimo in Barberino di Mugello with a famous painting of the Assunta (“Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary), started by Domenico Ghirlandaio and finished by Cosimo Rosselli, two very famous Florentine Renaissance painters.



Cosimo Rosselli (self-portrait)



Domenico Ghirlandaio – Self-portrait

15) Decree of Monsignor Archbishop of July 30, 1823, concerning the late payment distribution of 75 ecus to the two pious Guadagni legates for the ceremony of Good Death in the church of La Cavallina (July 20, 1823).



Church of Saints Jacopo and Maria in La Cavallina (Barberino di Mugello)

16) Writings concerning the increase of the stipendiary to the Church of Saints Jacopo and Maria at the Cavallina and the donation of a carpet to the church, made as a deposit by Tommaso Guadagni (1803-1804).

It also contains “Annotation of the documents concerning the chapels under Guadagni Family patronage, which will be given to Dott. Baggi for suitable examination” (July 15, 1868), and the folders related to the Madonna del Sasso (19<sup>th</sup> Century, with copy of the documentation of the year 1504); Saint Cristofano of Novoli (1815); Guadagni inheritance and Cathedral of Fiesole (1774-1814).



San Cristofano of Novoli: Madonna of Mercy, painted circa the year 1400.



San Cristofano a Novoli; Entrance "little portico".



Cathedral of Fiesole: interior.



Duomo and main altar of the Cathedral of Fiesole  
 Dome frescoes by Artist Nicodemo Ferrucci: stories of Saint Romolo (16th Century).  
 Main Altar Tryptic by Artist Bicci di Lorenzo (1450).

It also contains the folder originally forming the “G” envelope, assembled during the reorganization of the Guadagni Archives on the basis of the inventory describing the documents. It includes the papers recuperated during the recent transfer to the State Archives (1762-1809), among which are the papers concerning Tommaso Casini’s house, sold to Marchese Tommaso Guadagni, but kept as a rental by Casini himself (1786).

**270**[728]

**1673 – 1820**

326

*“K” Places of Funds, Notices of Exchanges, and Vigilant Bonds*  
 4 folders in envelope.

- 1) Places of Funds belonging to the Guadagni Family, from the Venice Mint, Rome’s Payable Charity (“Carita’ Vacabile” in Italian) and the Funds of Florence (end of 17<sup>th</sup> century-beginning 19<sup>th</sup>).

Republic of Venice Currency



Half Ecus (1523-1538)



“Tallero” for the Middle-Eastern Trade – 1791



Gold Coin of Daniele Manin, Last Doge of Venice (end of 18<sup>th</sup> Century)

- 2) Active Bonds and Exchange Notices not seeming extinct, but uncollectable.
- 3) Extinct Passive Exchange Notices from the year 1710 to 1798.
- 4) Extinct Active Exchange Notices of the Guadagni Patrimony from the year 1673 to the year 1820.

**271**<sup>[719]</sup>

**1698 – 1814**

327

*“I” Guadagni. Evaluations Reports Surveys*  
29 folders in envelope.

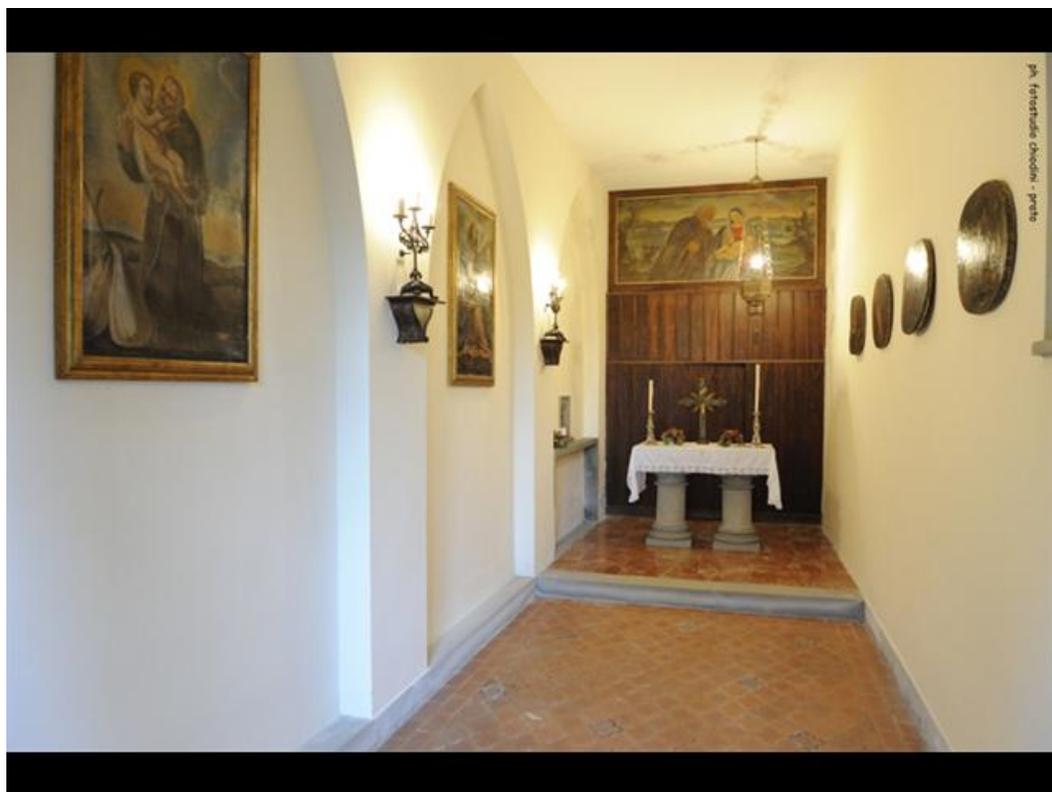
Presence of inventories and evaluations of:

July 3, 1698: Guadagni Book Collection (The largest in Florence).

September 15, 1698: Garden of the Mattonaia.



1698: Goods of Palagio



Guadagni Villa Torre Palagio (interior detail).

December 3, 1701: Goods of La Fonte; July 31, 1805: works to be done.

December 3, 1701: Goods of the Villa della Luna, Fiesole.

The 4 centuries old print says: "Villa della Luna dei Signori Marchesi Guadagni. The Guadagni crest is in the center, between the little top window and the large window above the main door.



September 25, 1709: Goods of Peretola, Podere of Massetino in Lubaco, goods of Tigliano, goods of Doccia.



House in Peretola, where Amerigo Vespucci who gave his name to the New World, was born, close to Guadagni Properties in Peretola.

January 8, 1714: Villa of Montauto.

April 26, 1714: rental of San Leolino



Tombstone in the Pieve of San Leolino.

January 8, 1759: podere and mill of Bivigliano.

August 1798: manuscripts.

June 1806: Guadagni Santo Spirito Palace.



Inner courtyard of the palace. Stone sculpted crest in the top center of the picture.

June 22, 1802: shelves of the Guadagni Library.

May 31, 1804: works needed for the Villa della Torre; June 19, 1819: project for two gates, with watercolored India ink drawing.

August 19, 1808: evaluation and report on the Guadagni primogeniture

1809, San Leolino Farm.

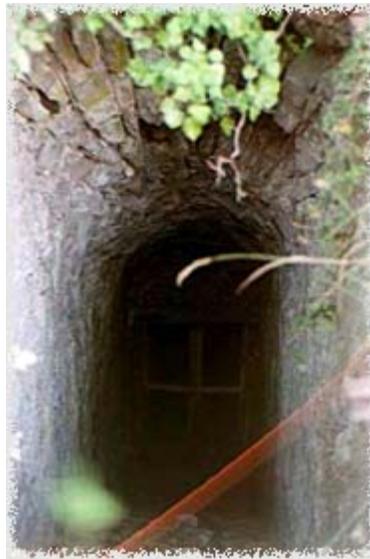


Image of San Leolino, a bishop martyr of the beginning of the 4<sup>th</sup> Century from the area of San Leolino. The image is in a nearby Church of San Leolino, in Rignano sull'Arno.





Remains of the Guadagni castle of San Leolino



Entrance to the underground remains of the Guadagni castle. Groundwater filtered from an aquifer has invaded them creating a kind of underground lake which has increased the uniqueness of the remains of the old powerful Guadagni castle of San Leolino. A legend says that from the underground vaults of San Leolino a tunnel connects them to the neighboring castles.



Guadagni Dufour Berte villa of San Leolino (next to the remnants of the castle)



Guadagni Dufour-Berte Villa of San Leolino



Inside the villa of San Leolino



Fireplace in the villa of San Leolino



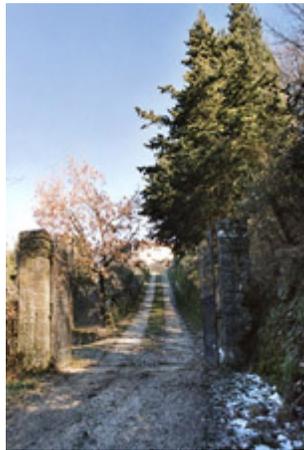
Bedroom on the second floor of the villa of San Leolino



Bedroom in the villa of San Leolino



Park of the villa of San Leolino



Park of the villa of San Leolino



Directions on how to go from Firenze (Florence) to San Leolino.

As you see on the map, take the road to Pontassieve (Masseto) and continue until you get to San Leolino (25 miles from Florence). The road is beautiful across the Tuscan Apennines.



Park of the Villa of San Leolino



Park of the Villa of San Leolino



Dining room in the villa of San Leolino



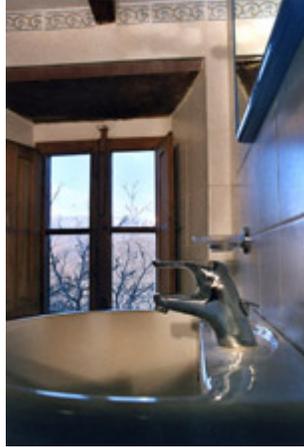
Kitchen in the Villa of San Leolino



Upstairs fireplace in the villa of San Leolino



Upstairs bedroom in the villa of San Leolino



Bathroom in the Villa of San Leolino.

**272**

**1680 – 1839**

328

*“L” Various inventories pertaining to the Guadagni family.*

Folders in envelope.

The envelope was formed during the reorganization of the archives (2007), with the help of the described repertories, with the documentation found during the recent transfer of the Guadagni Archives to the State Archives of Florence.

It contains:

- Contract of the Corsini Family Commenda. “Commenda” is a specialized agency that provides wealthy private individuals with all possible types of financial and administrative services. Commenda advises these clients and helps them to organize and invest their assets. In essence, they are a professional sounding board for financial matters.
- The most important values for Commenda are discretion, independence, reliability, personal attention for the client and quality. Commenda does not sell its own products or receive commission from the consultants it uses. Commenda is paid only by its clients. That is their guarantee that Commenda will always act as their most trusted advisor.
- The Corsini Family Commenda becomes the Guadagni commenda in 1680. The envelope contains the annotation of all its effects and the folder.

“Counts between noble gentlemen Pupillo Guadagni and Filippo Peruzzi” (1792-1801), folder.

“Historical Recollection of the evening of July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1799”, printed on paper.

When the French Revolutionary armies arrived in Florence, chasing away the Grand Duke Ferdinand III and proclaiming the French Revolutionary principles of

”Freedom, Equality and Brotherhood”, a new era of happiness and universal friendship seemed inaugurated. Soon however, new taxes, extorsions, offenses to the traditional religious feelings in the name of “Goddess Reason”, also called “Freedom”, caused dissatisfaction and anger, stoked by the Clergy and the nobility. Soon it turned into hate and, as soon as the news of the defeats of the French armies abroad arrived, revolts against the French exploded in Florence and other Tuscan cities.

The French had to retreat quickly out of Tuscany and on the evening of



July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1799, the people of Florence burn the Republican emblems in Piazza della Signoria.



Print in favor of Grand Duke of Tuscany Ferdinand III of Hapsburg – Lorraine



**Majestic statue of Grand-Duke Ferdinando III as a Roman Emperor by Italian engraver Francesco Pozzi (1750-1805) in Leghorn, Tuscany.**

- Expenses sustained by Gaspero Ranfagni for his pupil Donato Guadagni (1794 – 1879), son of Luigi (1801-1803), cardbard bound register (1x1 inches).
- “Counting of the feudal tithes [...] on the goods of Palagio Farm” (August 22, 1811), paper.
- Letters and documents of Caterina Guadagni (1785-1823), daughter of Tommaso, 6<sup>th</sup> Marchese of San Leolino and Imperial Chamberlain of Grand Duchess of Tuscany, Elisa Bonaparte Baciocchi, and sister of Neri Guadagni, with the Society of Motherly Charity (1812-1813), folder.

On June 1, 1815, Caterina Guadagni married Knight Mattias Arrighetti, son of Giovanluigi. Mattias’ ancestor, Giulio Arrighetti, rebuilt Villa Arrighetti, in Arcetri, near Florence, in 1602.



Arcetri, on a hill, overlooking Florence.

Giulio was friendly with the scientist Galileo Galilei, who was under house arrest in Arcetri, after the condemnation of his theories. A plaque on the wall commemorates their friendship.



Galileo Galilei (1564-1642).

The Arrighetti Villa was also a meeting point in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries for a cultural party grouping local poets, aristocrats, artists and literary figures.

- Inventories of the Santo Spirito Guadagni Palace of Florence, Guadagni villas, armory and gun-room, and so on, of the patrimony of Marchese Neri Guadagni (1790-1862), in 1814, half-cloth bound register (1x1 inches).
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- “Inventory of the armory existing in Villa della Luna” (1839), folder.

*“M” Summaries demonstrations Balances and recognitions of the family.*  
6 registers in envelope.

1. “Book of summaries of the earnings of the Possessions of Florence # 1”,  
parchment bound (13x9x2 inches) cc.269 (1666-1716), with Palagio, Masseto,



Nature in the park of the Guadagni Villa of San Leolino

Santo Spirito Guadagni Palace in Florence, San Leolino, Villa della Luna, Commenda Corsini-Guadagni, Wood for fire, Nourishment.

Annotation: “Wanting to identify said earnings from the Debtors and Creditors’ books from which these summaries are taken, so as not to look in vain, as these summaries are examined to verify the exact earnings and not arbitrarily for easy writing as some do in the Debtors and Creditors’ books.”

2. “Summaries of the earnings from Florence and Possessions # 2”, c.s. (13x9x1 inches), cc.94 (1717-1719).

3. [Summary] # 1, cardboard bound (12x8x1), cc. n.n. (1666-1675).

4. “Calculation of the earnings of the Possession of San Leolino for 19 years from 1685 to 1703 included”, c.s. (12x9x1), cc. 38.

5. “Demonstration of the earnings from the Farm della Fonte from October 29, 1696, to the end of May 1707” by Pierantonio Guadagni, to divide among the brothers Vieri, Pierantonio and Donato, c.s. (12x9x1), cc. n.n.

6) "Booklet of the balance of all the Possessions until the end of the Day August 7, 1718", when Donato Maria Guadagni (1641-1718), son of Tommaso, died, c.s. (12x9x1 inches).

It also contains the folders of: "Fonti. Extract of the effects of the year 1676", "Summary of la Fonte" (1691-1700), Demonstration of the podere of Bucigna (1739-1748), c.s. of la Faggiola (c.s.), Demonstration of the earnings of La Luna Farm (1776-1795), Demonstration of a ten-year period from 1777, Balance (1801-1804, 1805, 1808, 1811).

**274**<sup>[721]</sup>

**1780 – 1828**

330

*"N" Guadagni. Feudal tithes and family Recollections*

Stacks and folders in envelope.

Stack "Guadagni and Guadagni tutors", prosecutor Filippo Morini with appraisal of the goods owned by Luigi (1751-1799) and Tommaso Guadagni (1743-1814), sons of Donato (1719-1797), for the divisions (1780-1801). Tommaso and Luigi had two other brothers, Bernardo (1747-1763) and Neri (1749-1784). Both of them died before their father and did not marry or have any descendants. So the large Guadagni Patrimony of the Santo Spirito Branch was divided equally between the two brothers, Tommaso and Luigi (our great-great-grandfather). As the eldest, Tommaso's half included the Santo Spirito Palace and the Marquisate of San Leolino, including the villa and all the land. On the other hand, Luigi inherited Masseto and other properties.

In the meantime, in 1805, Niccolo' Guadagni, last descendant of the Branch of Montepescali, passed away.

Tommaso had only one son, Neri, who was interdict by his mother, Maria Maddalena di Poggio-Baldovinetti-Guadagni.

Neri had only one daughter, Ottavia, who married Marchese Edoardo Dufour-Berte. So Edoardo and Ottavia's children inherited Tommaso's half of the Guadagni properties, including the Santo Spirito Palace and the farm and land of San Leolino, while the title of Marchese went to our great-great-grandfather Donato, son of Luigi, at his cousin Neri's death, because Edoardo was a Dufour Berte and could not inherit the Guadagni title of "marchese of San Leolino".

Feudal tithes and estimations of the patrimony of Neri Guadagni, son of Tommaso, in the municipalities of Florence, Fiesole, Castellina and Torri, Londa, Barberino di Mugello (1818-1828).

Feudal rights of the goods of the Knight Neri Guadagni, son of Tommaso, from the "sharpening" (Italian "arroto") of 1814 (Pontassieve).

It contains also a folder titled: "Various recollections of the "M" family, with:  
- "Inventory of the writings pertaining to the goods of Florence", until 1715;  
- "Writings pertaining to the Possession of La Luna", until 1655;

- “Annotations of the writings pertaining to the Very Eminent Lady Maria Acciaioli married Guadagni”, (wife of our direct ancestor Tommaso Guadagni (1582-1652));
- “Writings in the closet behind the armors”;



- Annotation of the ancient Guadagni wills;
- Annotation of the ancient Guadagni contracts;
- “Writings assembled in a small red bag; as they are assembled in several stacks we will mark them with alphabetical letters”.
- “Memoirs and recollections of writings and other given out for various causes” (1764-1769);
- Missing folders in the stacks required by the archivist;
- Notes and sketches of Guadagni Family Trees;
- “Recollections”
- Recollections (1661-1702) of Donato Maria Guadagni (1641-1718), son of Tommaso;
- Annotation of the effects and goods composing the Guadagni Family of Santo Spirito in Florence patrimony”.



Artist Giovanni Stradano (1523-1605): Festivities in Santo Spirito Square. Palazzo Guadagni is on the far right, very similar as to what it is now.

Views of Palazzo Guadagni, inside and out, as it is now, with important details which have been copied and imitated all over Florence during more than 4 centuries.



Closeup of the windows of Palazzo Guadagni, the most imitated in all of Florence.









View of Santo Spirito Square from the Loggia of Palazzo Guadagni





Outside the main door of Palazzo Guadagni



Loggia on the top floor of Palazzo Guadagni with view of Florence and the surrounding hills.

*“O” Writings related to the Abbey of San Zeno of Pisa, possessed by His Eminence Cardinal Giovanni Antonio Guadagni.*  
Folders in envelope.



Badia (Abbey) of San Zeno in Pisa



Inside of the Abbey



Walls of Pisa

Documents related to the patrimony and administration management of the commenda (1673-1733).

It also contains more ancient documentation:

1) "San Zeno Monastery of Pisa of the Camaldoli Order Report of all the land this monastery owns in the County of Pisa, in the year 1301, translated and copied in 1702 by Anton Maria Salvini.

2) "Book of the contracts of the San Zeno Abbey" in 2 written copies (1662-1669).

3) "Copy of different writings pertaining to the San Zeno Abbey in Pisa (1670-1674).

4) "Recollections of the San Zeno Abbey", register of 115 pages (Middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century).

**276**[970]

**1809 – 1813**

332

*"P" Writings related to the Electoral Assembly of the County of Fiesole, of which Tommaso Guadagni (1743-1814), son of Donato, was President.*

Folders in envelope.

Printed material distributed to the presidents of the Electoral Assemblies in 1810. Tommaso Guadagni was President of the Electoral Assembly of the County of Fiesole. It included the Electoral Constituencies of San Gervasio, Quintole, Lapo, San Jacopino, Pellegrino, Monterecci, Montughi and San Donato.

The material included folders of papers and receipts for each electoral constituency.



San Gervasio, Fiesole

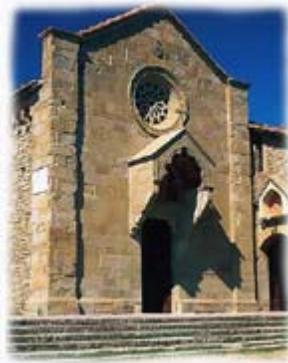


Guadagni Villa della Luna is in San Gervasio, Fiesole. Tommaso Guadagni and his family owned it in 1810.



Quintole, Fiesole. Church of San Pietro. Painting by Francesco Granacci, 1477-1544.

Convent of San Francesco, near Fiesole, in a place called “Lapo”, because in 1339, tailor and engraver Lapo Pellini, built a chapel, dedicated to “Santa Maria del Fiore” (“Saint Mary of the Flower”) next to it.





Pellegrino, Fiesole



Sant'Ilario Church in Montereggi, Fiesole



Montughi, Fiesole



San Donato, Fiesole

**277**<sup>[143]</sup>

335

**1658 – 1680**

*“1” Various Receipts from the Year 1658 to 1680*  
6 packages in envelope; numbering by receipt (1-521).

It also contains a package of receipts of Michelangelo Lanini, manager of Palagio Farm (1667-1771).



Villa Palagio Vecchio (“Old Palagio”), Fiesole

**278**<sup>[144]</sup>

336

**1680 – 1690**

1633 – 1664; 1680 - 1690

*“2” Various Receipts from the Year 1681 to 1690*

10 folders in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchese Donato Maria Guadagni and are numbered by year:

1680-1681) from 522 to 617;

1682) from 1 to 151;

1684) from 1 to 89;

1685) from 1 to 83;

1686) from 1 to 109.

It also contains a package of “Receipts from Guidotti Heirs” (1633-1664).

**279**<sup>[145]</sup>

337

**1691 – 1698**

1674 – 1677; 1690 - 1708

*“3” Various Receipts from the Year 1691 to 1698*

7 folders in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchese Donato Maria Guadagni and are numbered only for the year 1691, from 1 to 66. It contains also 3 packages of bills and receipts of marchese Neri Guadagni, from 1670 to 1708; receipts pertaining to the Palagio Farm (1674-1677), including writings of the lawsuit Binacchi versus Antonio Zanoboni from Scarperia; “Bills paid by my son Tommaso , and my brothers Francesco and Pierantonio ” (1691-1698).

**280**<sup>[146]</sup>

338

**1699 – 1706**

*“4” Various Receipts from the Year 1699 to 1706*

7 folders in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchese Donato Maria Guadagni.

The 1701 folder contained a sub-folder of “Bills pertaining to the last manufacture of La Torre of the year 1700”.

**281**<sup>[147]</sup>

339

**1706 – 1714**

1706 – 1716

*“5” Various Receipts from the Year 1707 to 1714*

7 folders in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchesi Donato Maria and Neri Andrea Guadagni.

It also contains little folders of receipts from Masseto and San Leolino, a bill to add a room to the “noble floor” (in the ancient palaces and villas the noble floor is the second

floor where the large living rooms and bedrooms of the owners used to be, i.e. where the “nobles” used to live) of Masseto or San Leolino, with India ink sketch of the building with two small towers (1707-1708) and of “Receipts picked up by Mr. Andrea Mittermiller of Vienna” (1710-1716).



Hamlet of San Leolino



Guadagni Villa of Masseto. The Guadagni Crest with the crown of Marchese over it is above the main door.

**282**<sub>[148]</sub>

**1714 – 1722**

*“6” Various Receipts from the Year 1715 to 1722*  
10 packages in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchesi Donato Maria, Neri Andrea and Piero Guadagni. A package contains “Bills and receipts on occasion of the marriage of the Very Eminent Marchese Neri Andrea Guadagni with Mrs. Argentina Vettori in the year 1718” (1718-1719); another “Bills and receipts on occasion of the death of Mrs. Marchesa (Marchioness) Argentina Maria Gaspera Vettori Guadagni during the night following January 21, 1722 at the hour 7 and 20 minutes” (1723). Argentina died suddenly after only 3 years of marriage. Neri Andrea and Argentina had one son, Donato, in 1719.

**283**<sub>[149]</sub>

341

**1724 – 1727**

1709 – 1731

*“7” Various Receipts from the Year 1723 to 1728*  
11 packages in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchesi Neri Andrea, Piero and Giovanni Antonio (Cardinal Bernardo) Guadagni.

Receipts of Neri Andrea Guadagni go over the chronological time period marked on the envelope (1709-1731).

A package contains the receipts of the sacristan of the Santissima Annunziata Basilica for the daily Mass at the Altar of the Crucifix according to Donato Maria Guadagni’s legacy (1718-1724).



Basilica of Santissima Annunziata: Altar of the Crucifix.

**284**<sup>[150]</sup>

342

**1729 – 1735**

*“8” Various Receipts from the Year 1729 to 1735*

8 packages in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchesi Neri Andrea, Piero and Donato Guadagni.

A package contains “Payments made on occasion of the death of Abbot Jacopo Guadagni, on April 2, 1734.”

**285**<sup>[151]</sup>

**1736 – 1740**

343

*“9” Various Receipts from the Year 1736 to 1740*

7 packages in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchesi Neri Andrea, Piero and Donato Guadagni.

The folder of the year 1740 contains a sub-folder with “Receipts of jewels bought for the marriage of Mr. Donato Maria Guadagni in 1740.”

**286**<sup>[152]</sup>

**1741 – 1746**

344

*“10” Various Receipts from the Year 1741 to 1746*

7 packages in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchesi Neri Andrea, Piero and Donato Guadagni.

**287**<sup>[153]</sup>

**1746 – 1750**

345

*“11” Various Receipts from the Year 1747 to 1750*

Stack in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchesi Neri Andrea, Piero and Donato Guadagni.

It also contains 2 folders of receipts (1746-1750), 1 package of “Receipts from the Farm of San Leolino”.



Triptych by the Maestro di Panzano in the Church of San Leolino. The 14 Century cloister of the Pieve of San Leolino is worth seeing. The 16 Century terracotta tabernacles are attributed to Giovanni della Robbia, and there's also a remarkable triptych (see above) attributed to the Master of Panzano that was executed sometime in the mid-14 Century.

Two more works of Giovanni della Robbia (not in San Leolino, however): "Joshua" above, and "The Visitation", below. Just to give an idea of his style.





**288**<sup>[154]</sup>

**1750 – 1756** <sup>346</sup>

*“12” Various Receipts from the Year 1750 to 1756*  
Stack in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchesi Donato and Bernardo Guadagni.  
It also contains 1 folder of receipts (1751-1756), 3 packages of “Receipts from the Farm of San Leolino” (1750-1754).

**289**<sup>[155]</sup>

**1756 – 1761** <sup>347</sup>

*“13” Various Receipts from the Year 1756 to 1761*  
Stack in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchesi Donato and Piero Guadagni.  
It also contains 1 folder of receipts (1756-1761) also related to the Farm of Masseto.



Guadagni Villa of Masseto seen from the back in the park. Top of the old Middle Age tower coming up above the roof.

**290**<sub>[156]</sub>

**1761 – 1764** 348

*“14” Various Receipts from the Year 1761 to 1764*  
Stack in envelope of stack 1..

Receipts concern mostly marchesi Donato, Tommaso and Piero Guadagni.  
It also contains a folder of receipts (1761-1764) also related to The Farm of Masseto.

**291**<sub>[157]</sub>

**1764 – 1766**

349

*“15” Various Receipts from the Year 1764 to 1766*  
Stack in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchesi Donato and Tommaso Guadagni.  
It also contains a folder of receipts (1764-1766) also related to The Farm of Masseto.



Guadagni Villa of Masseto inside loft.

**292**<sub>[158]</sub>

**1766 – 1770** 350

*“16” Various Receipts from the Year 1766 to 1770*  
Stack in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchesi Donato and Niccolo’ Guadagni.  
It also contains a folder of receipts (1766-1770).

**293**<sub>[159]</sub>

**1770 – 1775** 351  
1763 – 1773

*“17” Various Receipts from the Year 1770 to 1775*  
Stack in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchese Donato Guadagni.  
It also contains 2 folders of receipts (1766 – 1770) and “Balance or earnings and expenses of Mr. Ferdinando Chiti and evidence of earning and expenses of the Chapel of San Francesco di Paola” (1763-1773).

**294**<sub>[160]</sub>

**1775 – 1778** 352

*“18” Various Receipts from the Year 1766 to 1770*

Stack in envelope.

Receipts concern mostly marchese Donato Guadagni.

It also contains a folder of receipts (1775-1776).

**295**<sub>[161]</sub>

**1770 – 1781** 353

1718 – 1750; 1770- 1781; 1797 -1801

*“19” Various Receipts from the Year 1770 to 1780*

1 stack, 1 folder, 3 registers in envelope.

The folder contains receipts related to Donato Guadagni (1770-1780); the “Stack of Receipts and Letters” concerns only Tommaso Guadagni (1771-1781); the 3 registers consist in:

“Earnings and Expenses of the Guadagni Patrimony” (1797-1801);

Journal of earnings and expenses (1778-1781);

“Copybook of recollections and calculations” (1718-1750).

**296**<sub>[162]</sub>

**1781 – 1785** 354

*“20” Various Receipts from the Year 1781 to 1785*

2 stack, 1 folder in envelope.

The folder contains receipts related to Donato Guadagni (1781-1785); the 2 stacks consist in :

“First stack of Receipts” related to Tommaso Guadagni (1781-1785);

“Payments made by Mr. Alessandro Grazzini “ for Donato Guadagni (1782-1783).



Tommaso Guadagni (1743-1814) was Knight of Santo Stefano. This is the Church of Santo Stefano dei Cavalieri (“Saint Stephen of the Knights”) in Pisa. The Cross of Saint Stephen is on top of the façade of the Church.

The Order of Saint Stephen (Official: Sacro Militare Ordine di Santo Stefano Papa e Martire, “Holy Military Order of St. Stephen Pope and Martyr”) is a Tuscan Dynastic-military order founded in 1561. The order was created by Cosimo I de’ Medici, first Grand Duke of Tuscany. The last member of the Medici dynasty to be a leader of the order was Gian Gastone de’ Medici in 1737. The order was permanently abolished in 1859 by the annexation of Tuscany to the Kingdom of Sardinia, which was renamed Kingdom of Italy in 1860, when Garibaldi and his volunteers, among whom was Major Guadagno Guadagni, our great-grandfather, defeated the Bourbon King of Naples and Sicily and united Southern Italy to Northern Italy.

Guadagno had a decisive part in the last important Italian victory against the Bourbons in the battle of Volturno. With 191 poorly armed and trained volunteers, through strategic maneuvering, attacks and fake retreats, he was able to stop 6,000 enemy troops, during a whole day, without losing any of his men. He did all this while being sick with high fever.

The former Kingdom of Italy and the current Italian Republic also did not recognize the order of the Knights of Santo Stefano as a legal entity but tolerate it as a private body.



Cross of the Knights of Santo Stefano



Badge of the Order

Awarded by the Grand Duke of Tuscany

Type: Military and Religious Order

Day: August 2, Feast of Saint Stephen, Pope and Martyr

Eligibility: Noblemen over 18, not descended from heretics

Grand Master: Sigismund von Habsburg-Lothringen, (Pretender Grand Duke of Tuscany)

[Lothringen is “Lorraine” in German, the official language of the Austrian Habsburg

Emperors. In 1859, the last Grand Duke of Tuscany, Leopold II von Habsburg –

Lorraine, was expelled from the Grand Duchy by a bloodless coup, because 95% of its

citizens chose for Tuscany to lose its independence as a Grand-Duchy and join the Kingdom of Italy as a Region of the Kingdom. Leopold II abdicated in favor of his son Ferdinand. However the Provisional Government of Tuscany proclaimed the deposition of the House of Habsburg Lorraine on August 16, 1859. In spite of it, Ferdinand continued to consider himself the “legitimate Pretender to the Grand Duchy of Tuscany”, and so did his successors up to the actual pretender Sigismund Von Habsburg Lorraine included. They considered the Italian Kings and Presidents of the Republic as illegitimate rulers of the Grand Duchy of Tuscany.]

Established: March 15, 1561



Galley of the order of Saint Stephen

(Year 1611, drawing celebrating its first 50 years of existence)

“Cinquantenario della istituzione dei cavalieri di Santo Stefano” is written in Italian under the ship, meaning “Fiftieth Anniversary of the institution of the Knights of Saint Stephen”.

On the left you see the Cross of Saint Stephen, on the right the Medici Family Crest, 6 red balls and 1 blue ball with golden fleurdelys on it. The blue ball was granted to the Medici by King of France Louis XI in 1465. They were Grand Dukes of Tuscany and founders of the Order of Saint Stephen.

In 1604, Guglielmo Guadagni II (1575-1615), also known as Guillaume de Gadagne, is appointed Commander of four galleys of the Order of Santo Stefano and of the artillery of the whole fleet. For several years, he attacks and defeats the enemy Turkish Galleys over and over again, attacking and conquering their ports. One of his most famous “exploits” was “the Conquest of Bona”, important Turkish stronghold on the North African Coast, in 1607. By specific order of the Grand Duke, Guadagni was given the order to lead the attack on the fortress which barred the road to the city of Bona. Guglielmo had five hundred men with him.

The Guadagni soldiers were able to storm the walls of the fortress, thus allowing the other troops to penetrate inside the city.

While the Tuscans were easily conquering the whole city, Knight Guadagni was fighting with his customary valor in the fortress. He and his men had to fight for every square inch of the fortress till they finally subdued it. Then Guglielmo had all the enemy cannons thrown over the walls and destroyed the ammunitions. He was ordered to save five Moorish cannons, so he loaded them on his ships as a trophy. He also embarked fifteen hundred prisoners as slaves. [In those days war prisoners were sold as slaves, both by the Europeans and the Turks. Family and friends could sometimes buy their freedom back.] Upon hearing that Turkish reinforcements were on their way, the men of the small Guadagni army got back on board of their ships, orderly, flying their flags and playing their drums, as though they were marching in Florence. In the meantime, the enemy cavalry arrived but did not attack, impressed by the calm countenance and valor of Guglielmo's soldiers. Guglielmo was the last to go back, proudly on his vessel.

Having thus happily ended their conquest and plunder of the enemy city, the Tuscans sailed back to Leghorn, where they arrived on September 27, flying their flags and shooting their cannons and muskets in sign of victory. In the Cathedral of Florence, the "Duomo", a "Te Deum" ("We thank you o Lord") was sung to thank God for the victory. A grandiose fresco, representing the conquest of Bona, was painted in one of the halls of Palazzo Vecchio, in Florence, by the famous Renaissance artist Vasari, the one who frescoed the inside of the Cupola of the Duomo. You can still admire the painting of Vasari in Palazzo Vecchio in all its splendor, nowadays.

Following his victorious expedition against the city of Bona, Guglielmo Guadagni was promoted "General of the Galleys of the Grand Duke of Tuscany" because of his merits and skill as commander.

In 1608, Guglielmo was commanding 6 galleys and 11 men-of-war, when he encountered the whole Turkish fleet, consisting of 45 galleys. In spite of being heavily outnumbered, he was able to maneuver his ships and shoot his artillery so well that in a short time he routed the enemy.

You can read more details of Guglielmo Guadagni's fascinating life in the Guadagni Family Website, Family Tree, Historical Notes, Plate 8, chapter 13.



Square of Santo Stefano dei Cavalieri with the Church of Saint Stephen of the Knights on the right and the Palace of the Knights of Santo Stefano on the left, Pisa, by Artist Giuseppe Pera, 1801-1803.

The Order of Santo Stefano was founded by Cosimo I de' Medici, with the approbation of Pope Pius IV on October 1, 1561. The rule chosen was that of the Benedictine Order. The first grand master was Cosimo himself and he was followed in that role by his successors as grand duke. The dedication to the martyred Pope Stephen I, whose feast day is August 2, derives from the date of Cosimo's victories at the Battle of Montemurlo on August 1, 1537 and the Battle of Marciano (Scannagallo) on August 2, 1554.

The objective of the order was to fight the Ottoman Turks and the pirates that sailed the Mediterranean Sea in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The Turks and the pirates were making



Victory in the Greek Archipelago and capture of Bona by Guglielmo Guadagni, by artist l'Empoli, ceiling of the Church of Santo Stefano dei Cavalieri, in Pisa. Medici Crest on top, Cross of Santo Stefano below.

Dangerous inroads on the coast of the Tyrrhenean Sea where Cosimo had recently inaugurated the new port of Livorno (Leghorn). Cosimo also needed a symbolic fight to unite the nobility of the different cities that combined to form his new Grand Duchy (including old enemies like Florence and Siena) and to demonstrate his support of the Roman Catholic Church. Finally, the creation of a Tuscan military order would also strengthen the prestige, both internal and international, of Cosimo's new state, the Grand Duchy of Tuscany.



Ottoman (Turkish) and Saracens standards captured by the Knights of Santo Stefano, also under the leadership of Admiral Guglielmo Guadagni, on the walls of the Church of the Knights of Santo Stefano, Pisa.



Interior of the Church of Santo Stefano dei Cavalieri, Pisa.

To join the order, a postulant had to be at least eighteen years of age, able to meet the financial obligations of membership, present the necessary proofs of being from a noble family, and not descend from heretics. The initial seat of the order was on the Island of Elba, before moving to Pisa. The Knights' Square in Pisa, on which their palace faces, is named after their Order. The Coat of Arms include a red cross with eight points, flanked by golden lilies.

In its early years, the Order took part successfully in the Spanish wars against the Ottoman Turks, being present at the siege of Malta (1565), the Battle of Lepanto (1571) and the capture of Bona in Algeria in 1607 by Guglielmo Guadagni (see above). They burned the city of Bona, killed 470 people and took 1,500 captives.



Palace of the Knights of Santo Stefano, Pisa.

After its aggressive capabilities had been recognized, the Order of the Knights of Santo Stefano, mostly under the leadership of Guglielmo Guadagni, general of the Galleys of the Grand Duke of Tuscany, concentrated on the defense of the Mediterranean Coasts against Turkish and African pirates. In particular, the Knights made incursions into the Aegean Islands controlled by the Turks, and took part in the campaigns in Dalmatia, Negroponte and Corfu'. Details on all these victorious campaigns of the knights of Santo Stefano, led by Guglielmo Guadagni, can be found in the life of Guglielmo II Guadagni in the Guadagni Website.

**297**<sup>[163]</sup>

**1786 – 1797** 355

*“21” Various Receipts from the Year 1786 to 1796*

2 stack, 1 folder in envelope.

The folder contains receipts related to Donato Guadagni (1786-1796); the 2 stacks consist in :

“Second stack of Receipts” related to Tommaso Guadagni (1786-1795), # 1-654;

“Stack of receipts of the very eminent marchese Donato Guadagni” (1794-1797), # 1-411.

**298**<sup>[164]</sup>

**1796 – 1801** 356

*“22” Various Receipts from the Year 1796 to 1801*

Stack in envelope.

Receipts related to Donato, Tommaso Guadagni and curator Marco Del Rosso (1797-1801).

It also contains a folder of receipts related to Tommaso Guadagni (1796-1801).

A note warns us: “Here the administration kept by the late Cosimo Nobili finishes”.

**299** <sup>[165]</sup>

**1801 – 1804** 357

*“23” Various Receipts from the Year 1801 to 1804*

Stack in envelope.

Receipts related to Tommaso Guadagni and his father Donato’s legatees.

**300** <sup>[166]</sup>

**1804 – 1808** 358

*“24” Various Receipts from the Year 1804 to 1808*

Stack in envelope.

Receipts related to Tommaso Guadagni and his father Donato’s legatees.

**301** <sup>[167]</sup>

**1808 – 1811** 359

*“25” Various Receipts from the Year 1808 to 1811*

Stack in envelope.

Receipts related to Tommaso Guadagni with monthly financial statements of the earnings and expenses by Gaspero Ranfagni.

**302** <sup>[168]</sup>

**1812 – 1814** 360

*“26” Various Receipts from the Year 1812 to 1814*

Stack in envelope.

Receipts related to Tommaso Guadagni with monthly financial statements of the earnings and expenses by Gaspero Ranfagni, until November 3, 1814, date of Tommaso Guadagni's death.

## ***The Guadagni and the March on Rome***

The **March on Rome** (“**Marcia su Roma**” in Italian) was a march by which Italian dictator Benito Mussolini's National Fascist Party came to power in the Kingdom of Italy. The march took place from October 22 to October 29, 1922.

In March 1919, a few months after the end of World War I, to counterbalance the threat of a Communist Revolution in Italy inspired by the successful Communist Revolution in Russia, Mussolini founded the “Law and Order” “Italian Combat Leagues” (“Leagues” is “Fasci” in Italian, from where the “Fascist” name comes). He suffered a defeat in the election of November 1919. But, by the election of 1921, Mussolini gained entrance to Parliament.

Out of his “Fascist” party, the “Blackshirts” (“Fascist fighting groups, who used to wear black shirts”) were formed. In August 1920, the Blackshirts were used to break the general strike which had started in the Alfa Romeo factory in Milan.

In November 1920, after the assassination of Giordana (a right wing municipal counselor of Bologna) the Blackshirts were used as a repression tool by the state to crush the socialist movement. Trade unions were dissolved while left-wing mayors resigned.

Mussolini adopted a nationalist program and founded the Nationalist Fascist Party, which boasted 700,000 members in July 1922.

A few days before the march, Mussolini consulted with the U.S. Ambassador Richard Washburn Child about whether the U.S. government would object to Fascist participation in a future Italian government. Child encouraged him to go ahead.

On October 24, 1922, Mussolini declared before 60,000 people at the Fascist Congress in Naples: “Our program is simple: we want to rule Italy.”



King Victor Emmanuel III of Italy in 1919.

The march itself on Rome was composed of fewer than 30,000 men, but the King of Italy feared a civil war, since the Blackshirts had already taken control of most of the country, and Fascism was no longer seen as a threat by the establishment. So, when the marching Fascists arrived outside Rome, the King refused to sign a state of siege, but handed the power to Mussolini, who was supported by the military, the business class, and the right wing.



Benito Mussolini, in the center, with his hands on his hips, during a stop in the march on Rome. He is surrounded by WWI veterans, in military uniform and black shirt, covered with medals. Notice the little kid, sitting on the shoulders of a Blackshirt, waving in the back.

I happened to find by chance the list of the “Florentine Legions of the March on Rome” on internet. This is an official document of 1922, not a revised historical document of many decades later.

The title is:”List of the Blackshirts who worked for the cause of the Fascist Revolution (Part III).



Fascists marching on Rome.

It is in alphabetical order: I found 3 Guadagni:  
Marchese Alberto Guadagni  
Marchese Migliore Guadagni  
Tenente (Lieutenant) Piero Guadagni

Alberto, Migliore and Piero Guadagni were all first cousins of Tony Gaines and my mother, Isabella Guadagni. Migliore, son of Guitto Guadagni and Dorothy Schlessinger, was Uncle Vieri's older brother. Alberto and Piero were brothers, sons of Tommaso Guadagni and Fuffi Peratoner. Guitto and Tommaso (nicknamed "Bebe") were your grandfather Luigi's and my grandfather Bernardo's brothers.

Migliore Guadagni was only 19 years old when he marched on Rome. Piero Guadagni was only 18, and Alberto 16. My mother Isabella was only 9. I wonder if she knew what was going on. However she remembered that her father, Bernardo Guadagni, would always grab a gun before leaving the house, to defend himself against eventual attacks by the Communist mobs.

***List of the blackshirts who worked for the cause of the Fascist Revolution (Part III)***  
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Fontana Tullio, Fonterossi Giuseppe, Foresi Ulisse, Formichini Ernesto, Formichini Luigi, Fornari Gino, Fortini Ugo, Fortuna Alessandro, Foscari Niccolò, Fossi Gino, Franchini Mario, Franchini Stappo dott. Mario, Francia Gino, Francia col. Guglielmo, De-Francis Amedeo, De-Francis ten. col. Edoardo, Francolini dott. Bruno, Francolini ing. Emanuele, Francolini Rodolfo, Frangioni Eugenio, Funaro Giuseppe, Fratiny Fedele, Fredducci Otello, Frullini Bruno fu Cesare, Frullini Bruno fu Enrico, Frullini Ugo, Fulgenzi cap. Rodolfo, Funghi Aldo, Fusi Mario, Gabbrielli dott. Gustavo, Gabbrielli Renato, Gabbrielli Vincenzo, Gagliardi prof. Italo, Gagliardi Beniamino, Gagnoni Alessandro, Gabardini Pietro, Galeotti Giuseppe, Galgani Alessandro, Galli Alfredo, Galli Angelo, Galli Emanuele, Galli Mario, Galli Valentino, Galli Alberto, Gambacciani Lorenzo, Gambacorti-Passerini cap. Gino, Gambassi Mario, Gambi Pio, Gambacciani Angiolo, Gambacciani Attilio, Ganucci-Cancellieri dott. Riccardo, Garoglio dott. Pier Giovanni, Garosi Gino, Gasparo Gino, Gatti Adolfo, Gatti rag. Carlo, Della Gherardesca conte Ugucione, Della Gherardesca conte Valfredo, Giachetti Gino, Giannini Mario, Giannini Marcello, Goffredo Augusto, Ginnasi avv. Giulio, Ginori Conti principe Giovanni, Giordano cap. Odorico, Giorgi Gualtiero, Giovannozzi ten. Aldo, Giovannozzi rag. Alfredo, Giusti Carlo, Giusti rag. Gino, Gobbi capitano Amedeo, Gobbi Umberto, Golini Umberto, Gomez-Flomen Pier Filippo, Gonfiantini Sabotino, Grappolini Guido, Grazzini Bruno, Grimaldi Gian Fabio, Grimaldi Giulio, Grazzini Giovanni, Grazzini Spartaco, Del-Greco Umberto, ~~Guadagni marchese Alberto, Guadagni march. Migliore, Guadagni ten. Piero, Gualtieri Gilberto, Gucci Ugo, Guerrieri colonnello Enrico, Guglielmi Corrado, Guglielmi cav. Guglielmo, Guicciardini conte Carlo, Guicciardini conte Leone, Guicciardini conte dott. Niccolò, Guicciardini conte Piero, Gusmita Carlo Alberto, Haupt Dante, Haupt Bruno, Haupt Giacomo, Jeri Giuseppe, Jeri Vincenzo, Ilari Giuseppe, Imbert Giulio, Imbimbo avv. Vittorio, Imperiali march. Demetrio, Incontri march. Carlo Lodovico, Incontri march. Roberto, Degli Innocenti Italo, Isola Giuseppe, Lampronti Vittorio, Landi ten. Leone, Lapi Corrado, Lapi Lapo, De Larderei conte Francesco, Lascialfare Ezio, Lastrucci Natale, Lavacchini Angelo, Laubey Roberto, Lazzeri Pasquale, Lazzerini Pietro, Lega Achille, Lelli Augusto, Leoni Ferruccio, Liserani Dante, Liserani Ugo, Lillini Luigi, Lodoli Giovanni, Lopes Pegna Mario, Lottaringhi Della Stufa march. Antonio, De-Luca Athos, De-Luca Renato, Luchi Dino, Luchini avv. Alberto, Luchini Renzo, Lumachi Enrico, Della Lunga Lionello, Della Lunga Vittorio, Luporini ten. Giovanni, Macari Amedeo, Macari Carlo, Maccarelli Ettore, Maccheroni Augusto, Macherelli Alberto, Macherelli Guido Edoardo, Madori Gastone, Maffaccini Aurelio, Maffei Renzo, Magnani Osvaldo, Magnanini Francesco, Magrini ten. Vasco, Maiani Leone, Maiolfi Arturo, Malenchini Vincenzo, Mattanti Libero, Malvicca Alfredo, Manganiello dott. Raffaele, Mannucci rag. Ettore, Mannucci Gian Piero, Manusardi ten. Luigi, Marasco Angelo, Maraviglia Mario, Marasco Antonio, Marasco ten. Francesco, Marasco Nicola, Marasco Vincenzo, Marchi Renato, Marchini Lapo, Margarolo ten. Giovanni, Margarolo Roberto, Margarolo Ugo, Martinuzzi Dino, Mariani Guido, Mariani Gustavo, Mariani Useno, Marguez on. Dionigi, Marri prof. gen. Ezio, Marri Mario, Marri Piero, Martini Aldo, Martinuzzi Ugo, Massai Angelo, Massai Romolo, Mattoini Aldo, Mazza Antonio, Mazzanti Sandro, Mazzoli Averardo, Mazzucato Piero, Mazzucchelli col. Luigi, Mazzucchelli Franco Attilio, Melani Corinto, Melani Vasco, Meli Melucci Alberto, Menabuoni ing. Alberto, Menabuoni cap. Renzo, Meotti dott. Luca, Merciai Giuseppe, Merciai Renzo, Michelassi Oscar, Micheletti Agostino, Micheletti ten. Gilberto, Michelini Carlo, Michelini Clodoaldo, Migliorini Dante, Mini ten. Dino, Miniati Carlo, Miniati ten. Gastone, Miniati Giulio, Modigliani Rossi ing. Alarico, Modigliani Rossi cav. Angelo, Monari Rocco conte Paolo, Montanari Mario, Montanelli Carlo, Montemaggi Pietro, Montemaggi Giuseppe, Montesi Righetti cap. Piero, Monti dott. Valter, Morandi Lionello, Morelli avv. Giuseppe, Moretto Giulio, Moretto Italo, Mori Dante, Modani Umberto, Morici ten. Dante, Del-Moro Guido, Moroni Lodovico, Moschi Pasquale, Mucke Bruno, Mugnai cap. Arturo,~~

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Instead of remaining passive onlookers, our young relatives, still teen agers, chose to fight for law and order, God and country, to avoid Italy becoming a Bolshevik Republic.