CASTLE OF POLICIANO



POLICIANO -AREZZO-

DESCRIPTION

A Fantastic building with 64 rooms on 3 levels for a total area of about 3000sqm. It has17 hectares of land, which is partly woodland, arable, and includes a park.

It includes a building of about 200sqm at the entrance to be used as the caretaker's house without a view of the property to ensure privacy. And also, other volumes to be recovered for horse stables, etc.

An olive grove with about 500 plants. In the 19th century, this was a farm that produced oil (the millstones are still visible inside) and productive land products.

There is a spring of water inside the very famous property which still supplies water.

There are two laces, one inside the court and one on artesian. Possible helicopter landing pad; near Arezzo, it takes 5 minutes and 15 minutes from Cortona. Under the walls of the castle there is a small, recently renovated, and inhabited village.

The rectory is part of the property like the old church of which the bell tower can still be seen. The recovery project involves the construction of 13 mega suites all with bathrooms.

The project has already been approved by the superintendency.

MODULA # 10 B.C.A. • 6L



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Mod. B (Serviz. Generale)



VISTA la legge 1° giugno 1939 n° 1089 sulla tutela delle cose d'interesse artistico e storico;
RITENUTO che l'irnmobile denominato Complesso Cast.ello di Paliciano sito in Provincia di AREZZO Comune di Arezzo Frazione di Policiano segnato in Cataste al Fog,lio -'-77 particelle 83,34,35,36 parte,81,82,85,86,87,88,127 parte.-B confinante con FoK,77 nart; 14,33, strada jicinale del Castello, 80,111,112, /.114,115,116,674,127 rPstante l)arte, 36 r.-,1,tante p:arte, come dall'unita plani etria catastale, di proprieta delle persone indicate nell'elenco allegato, ha interesse. particolarmente importante ai sensi della citata legge peri motivi contenuti nella relaziorie storico-artistica allegata;

DECRETA:

l'immobile denominato <u>Cornulesso Castello di Policiano</u> individuato nell'allegata planimetria catastale e descritto nell'allegata relazione storico-artistica e dichiarato di interesse partic9larmente importante ai sensi della citata legge 1) giugno 1939 n° 1089 e viene quindi sottoposto a tutte le disposizi ni di tutela contenute nella legge stessa

La relazione storico-artistica, la planimetría catastale e l'elen-CD dei proprietari, e tutti gli altri allegati, fanno parte integrante del decreto,

lresenteIl presente decreto sara notificato in via amministrativa ai proprietari indicati nell'elenco allegato.

A cura del Soprintendente peri Beni A.A,A.S, di Arezzo esso verra quindi trascritto presso la Conservatoria dei Registri Immobiliari ed avra efficacia nei confronti di ogni successivo proprietario, possesssre o detentare a qualsiasi titolo.

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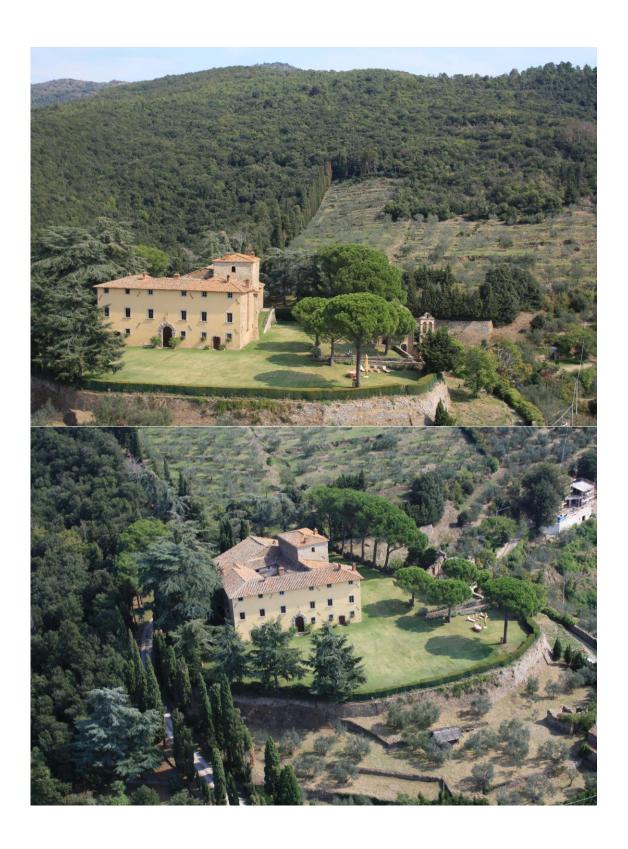










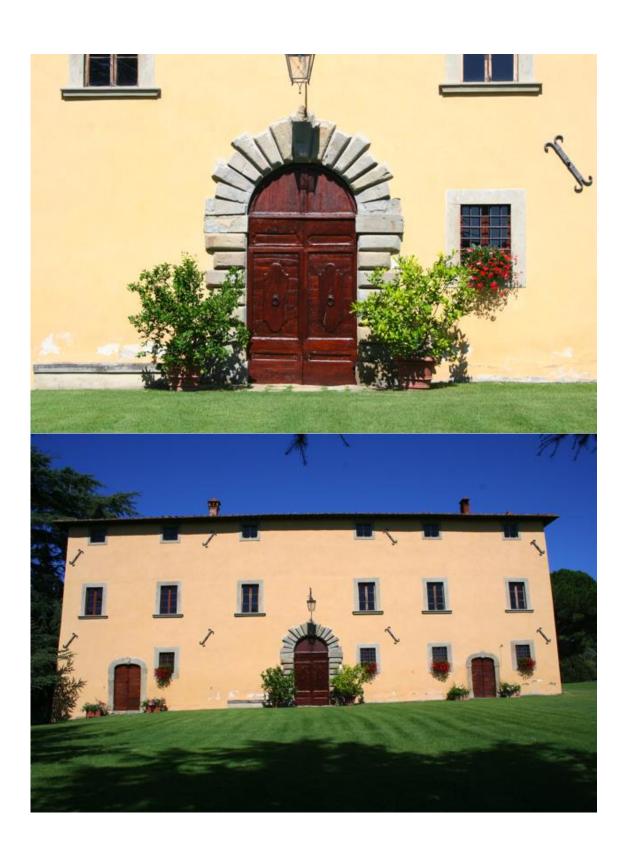




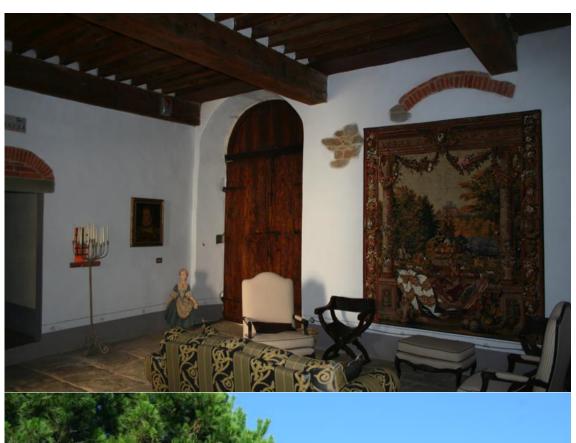










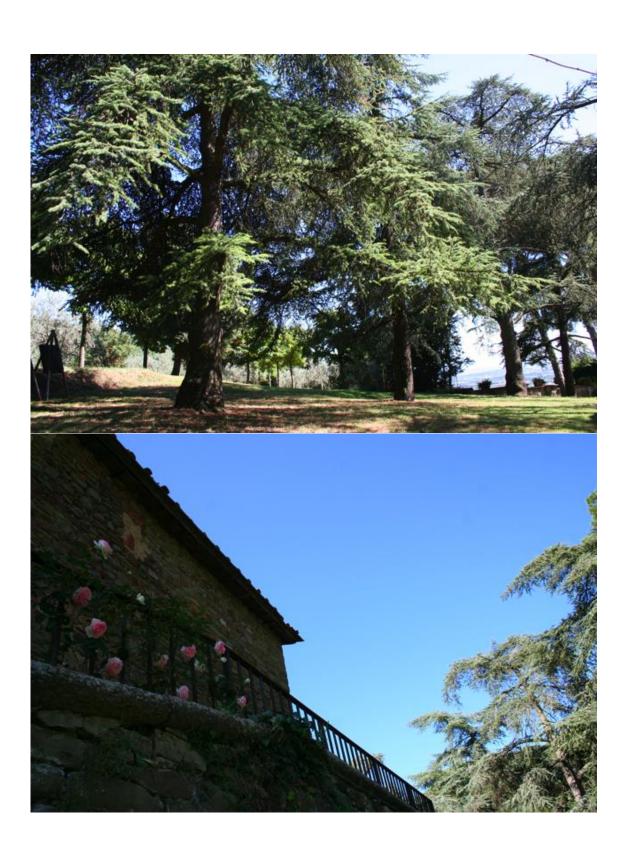






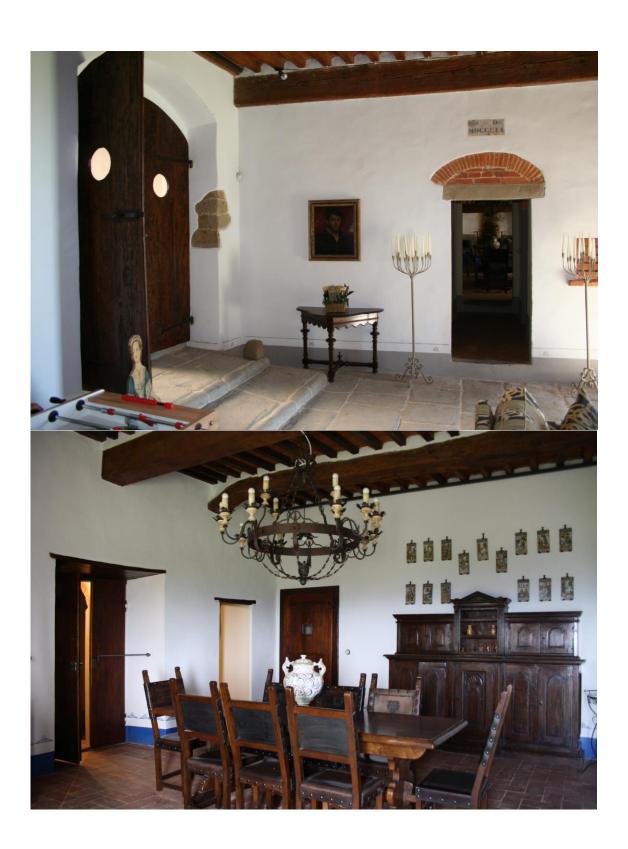












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Castle of Policiano

The first news we find about the Castle of Policiano is of 963 by Emperor Otto I, which conforms all the possessions of the Aretina rectory by making new donations to the same, including the court of Policiano with its adjacencies.

The locality, which is part of a goaldemania (or Waldemannia), is a wooded area, already administered by a Waldemannus, Royal Superintendent of the Lombard, It was donated from Otto I to the Arezzo rectory.

However, as early as 1012, Policiano was mentioned in a commutation of lands between the Abbot of S. Fiora and Ugo di Ugone degli Azzi (powerful Arezzo family of Lombard origin).

In 1040 Pietro di Eriberto Degli Azzi made a gift by means of a "Morgincap" letter to Gualdrada, his future wife, of numerous possessions including the Castle and the court of Policiano. Magically, in 1044, the fiefdom passed to Uguccione of the Marquises of Santa Maria Monte, named Marquesses of Tuscany and Imperial Vicars in the city of Arezzo by Cario Magno.

This family of Franco-Ripuarian origin was very powerful from the 9th century to the 14th century. As can be seen from numerous imperial diplomas, it had numerous castles in the Arezzo and Cortonese countryside including the "Castrum Marchionis" where today the Medici Fortress of Arezzo stands.

And then! In 1079, Countess Sofia, wife of Count Alberto, sells the fourth part of the court and the Castle of Policiano to the Aretina Church as well as the adjacent church of San Lorenzo.

Then in 1084 the Countess Adalegita and Counts, Ugo and Enrico promise the Provost and the Canonica of Arezzo, free possession and defense of the court and the Castle of Policiano.

The most interesting document is dated March 15, 1265, in which Guglielmo degli Ubertini, Bishop of Arezzo, is elected as the head of the Church, as the power of Policiano and takes the oath of obedience and loyalty in front of the 54 men of that Castle.

Guglielmino's successor, Guido Tarlati, continued and consolidated the expansionist policy of the Diocese, which was followed by a long period of relative peace and prosperity.

After the battle of Campaldino on 2 June 1286 and the death of the warrior bishop, most of the castles of Arezzo, including that of Policiano, were conquered by the Florentines and were freed from the revived Arezzo republic after 1303. The geographical position of the Castle of Policiano had significant importance in the defense of Arezzo on the part of the Pearl Valley which the Perugians and Sienese entered the city.

After that! In 1327, the death of Pietramala marks the definitive decline of the Republic which culminated in 1337 with the sale of Arezzo to the Florentines by Pir Sacconi Tarlati.

Astonishingly, Two years earlier, in 1335, the Castle of Policiano was destroyed by the Perugians in the war against Arezzo. Ser Bartolomeo di Gorello, a poet from Arezzo of the fourteenth century, speaks of this event in the fourth book "Cronaca Aretina".

After a period, the Castle was adapted as a hospital and refreshment for travelers on their way to Rome, the Castle of Policiano, at least from the 15th century, became the property of the Capponi family of Florence, of which it is still possible to admire the sixteenth-century coat of arms affixed to the ancient walls of the castle.

How this family came into possession and kept it until the 19th century is not known. However, hypotheses can be made:

The first is that for the sale of Arezzo, a large part of the assets of the Arezzo area had been confiscated by the Florentines.

The second is that, the Capponi reached this possession by other means. In 1409, Capponi was bishop of Arezzo, and since the castle is owned by the Arezzo church, it can be taken over for the benefit of his family.

Since 1833, under the possession of Marquis Gino Capponi, the transformation of the Castle from a place of strategic importance to an agricultural estate was carried out, thus emphasizing the rural aspect of the town by definitively separating it from any military implication, even if only of a defensive nature. Also, thanks to the reclamation carried out by Fossombroni in that period in Valdichiana.

In 1876, as shown by research carried out in the urban cadastre of the municipality of Arezzo, the Castle and many of the farmhouses adjacent to it belonged by succession to the Chigi Saracini family of Siena. In 1910 the entire Chigi Saracini property was taken over by Sidney Mary Hertz in the Barbolani di Montauto who transformed the castle into a villa-farm carrying out those "instile" renovations according to the dictates of the architectural fashion of the time. Evidence of this is a delightful circular tower on the south side of the building.

Architectural notes

On the south side of the Castle, you can still see the mighty tower that rises from the rest of the complex, highlighting, with the cracks of the current windows, the infill of the only opening left. Also on the tower, there are traces of the graft that connect the fort to the rectory of San Lorenzo, which disappeared in the aforementioned restructuring of 191 O to make room for ramp wings.

The façade is perhaps the most interesting due to the numerous superfetations that characterize it. Enclosed between two barbicans, one of which obtained from the false front of the ramp. The façade consists of three bodies of frabbrica, of which the central one is configured as the graft between two structural elements and the lower one, introduced in the court.

Inside the courtyard, flanked by the deep well, we find an imposing stone staircase that connects to the main floor to the two opposing ramps. From the corridor that surrounds the courtyard, into the vast halls, all paved in terracotta with wooden beam ceilings and polished stone fireplaces.

There is a room that is covered with brick barrel voila resting on the mighty wall structure made of large squared stone blocks, known as the "Armory room".

The entire complex is completed by a large park partially English style and remaining part integrated with the by coppice.

Origins

The origins of this settlement are very ancient: its etymology suggests that in Roman times a property in the area belonged to a certain Publicius. In the year 1000, it was part of forest area belonging to Waldemannus, forestry superintendent of the Lombard tax authorities.

After having belonged to the Marquises of Monte di Santa Maria, in 1084 Policiano passed to the Canonica Aretina whose assets were however usurped in 1234 by the Municipality of Arezzo which incurred the interdict for the occasion until, the following year, it did not condescend to an accommodation.

Later passed under the dominion of Florence, in the 16th century, Policiano became the property of the Capponi family, who restored the ancient castle into a villa, and in the 17th century tried, unsuccessfully, to obtain lordship over the area from the Grand Duke.

After them, the owners of the building were the Chigi princes of Rome, from the midnineteenth century to 1907, later the Barbolani of Montauto. Situated on the top of a terraced hill, planted with olive trees, offers a beautiful view of the valley.

The complex has the appearance of a sixteenth-century Tuscan villa, with a large beautiful the valley. The quadrilateral-shaped garden and views over building with a rectangular plan, inside there is a a dug-century tower beautiful courtyard with a well and a loggia.

On the south side of the villa, you can admire what remains of the Church of San Martino, of high-medium value origin.

Historical documents

In a map of 1056 about the castle of Policiano, we find: "Castrum cum Muris, fossis et carbonareis ..." from which the importance of coal-fired fuels emerges among the elements of the castle and hence that of the wood. In 1098, the presence of a not better defined "forest of Acuto" is acknowledged, from which the town of Rigutino and the stream that flanks it (from Rius-Agutinus) would take its name. According to research by A.Tafi, still in 1200 "the oaks condensed into large woods thrived in the mountains around the valley (Val di Chiana)".

To demonstrate this is also the name of the mountain (Monte Lignano) which etymologically seems to derive from "wood" as this relief has always been an important source of this raw material. In these forests, the pig that for centuries and centuries was the king of the Arezzo tables was bred in the wild and in large numbers.

Castiglion Fiorentino and Arezzo were important pig markets, so much so that the largest square in Arezzo was called "Piazza dei Maiali". Always around the year 1000, the cultivation of chestnut trees (Veggiani) had a new impetus, which for a long time represented one of the main sources of nutrition in the mountain areas.

After the swamping of the Val di Chiana, there was a rediscovery of the communication routes along the ridges, through which there has been news since 1200 (Del Corto) the directing herds passed to swarm in Maremma (transhumance). The first news of an initial reclamation occurs in 1436 when a Florentine ordinance dictates "the prescriptions for the assignment of new lands taken from the swamp to whoever wants it". The new lands, which after a few years proved to be very fertile, attracted the population in a slow and gradual exodus towards the plain. A few centuries of strong anthropogenic pressure had then profoundly modified the forest cover and the hydrogeological balance of the territory, so much so that in the 1500s, a waning flood was documented from M. Lignano which filled the church of Bagnolo with gravel and sand. On the same date, it is announced that new reclamation works of the "Chiane" have been undertaken with relative deforestation of the areas that emerge from the swamp and were covered by luxuriant vegetation.

The olive grove

The geographical position and the nature of the land offer an ideal environment for olive cultivation. The nearby presence of the forest creates a microclimate in the olive groves where phytosanitary treatments are necessary. Consequently, an organic extra virgin olive oil of superior quality is produced.

The cultivation technique adopted for the management of the soil, water, and greenery on all the surfaces with spontaneous herbaceous species.

The olive grove covers an area of 5 hectares and is mainly cultivated with the varieties Moraiolo, Leccino, Frantoio, Pendolino, Coreggiolo. The harvest is manual and the olives are processed the same day of the harvest with cold pressing.

Even today, you can admire the ancient stones and millstones used until a few decades ago in the castle mill.

