

Villa Petra

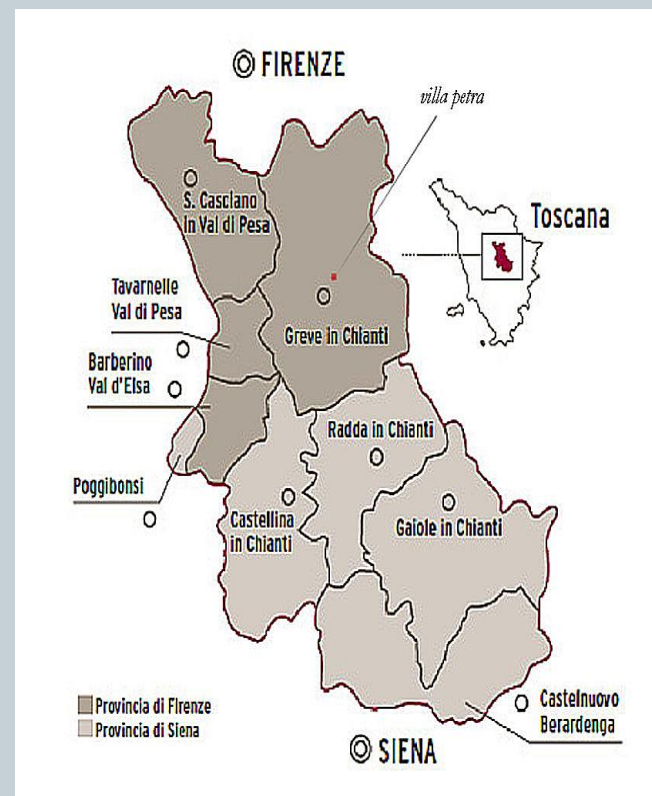
Le Convertoie

Greve, Chianti

Florence, Italy



The Chianti Classico Area





The Consortium of Chianti Classico

The League of Chianti was a military and political organization founded in 1384 that administered the Chianti territory and defended its southern borders from attack on behalf of the Republic. It seems that the brand's origins are linked to the ancient rivalry between Florence and Siena.

Legend has it that the two cities decided to hold a contest between two knights to put an end to their notorious rivalry. The knights had to arrive to a chosen destination before their opponent did the following morning, both starting from their respective cities at the first call of the rooster.

The Sienese chose a white rooster while the Florentines chose a black one. The white rooster was overfed the night before, while the Florentines gave the black rooster little to eat. On race day, the hungry black rooster began to sing long before the white one allowing the Florentine knight to start with an advance, winning over Siena!

In 1924, a group of 33 wine producers gathered in Radda in Chianti and gave birth to the first Association for the defense of Chianti wine. The 33 members chose the Gallo Nero—black rooster—as their symbol, which is the historical symbol of the Military League of Chianti.





History

The mild climate, lush vegetation and fertile soil of the Chianti region has proven to be a prime choice inhabited since the 2nd millennium BC. The Etruscans were the first to modify the Chianti landscape by herding cattle to cultivating the terrain with many crops including grapes for the wine that would one day be famous around the world.

In the Middle Ages, Emperor Ghibelline in Siena and Pope Guelph in Florence clashed several times in the Chianti area during times of expansion. At the beginning of the 13th Century there was a truce that first established a boundary line between the two rival cities, giving Florence control of Chianti.

During the Medici dynasty the Chianti area experienced a period of prosperity and peace. These were the years in which the cultivation of vineyards multiplied.



Greve - The Town

The site of Greve in Chianti and the surrounding territory has been long settled, probably well before the Etruscans and then the Romans dominated the area. Historical documents of the 11th century refer to an ancient monastic settlement on a nearby hill, which is now called the hill of San Francesco. Although an independent town for most of its history, Greve ultimately came under Florentine control and remained so until the Grand Duchy of Tuscany was absorbed into the unified Kingdom of Italy in 1861.

The Franciscan monastery is still at the heart of the old part of the city, as is the triangular main piazza, where a market has been running more or less continuously for centuries serving the nearby castle communities and hamlets.

The piazza is fronted by numerous medieval aged buildings, including the 11th century Chiesa Santa Croce which was rebuilt in 1325 after being burned to the ground, along with the rest of the town, by the Duke of Lucca, Castruccio Castracani. After further renovation, the church, which houses paintings of the school of Fra Angelico, now features a neo-classical façade. In the piazza there is also a monument to navigator Giovanni da Verrazzano, who was possibly born nearby. an





With the enlargement of the Chianti wine district in 1932, Greve suddenly found itself in a noble wine area. The Chianti region supports a variety of agricultural activities, most especially the growing of the grapes that go into the world-famous Chianti and "Super Tuscan" wines. Olive oil production is another staple of the local economy. Extra virgin Tuscan olive oil is highly prized for its delicate flavor, as opposed to the stronger, thicker olive oils of the south. Truffle harvesting is a distinguishing feature of local food production. Both black and white truffles are hunted in Chianti. The region is also noted for its meat. The Cinta Senese pig is unique to this region and produces pork of superior quality. Wild game is a common feature on local menus, including rabbit, pigeon, venison, and, especially, cinghiale (wild boar). Greve is home to one of Italy's oldest and most renowned butcher shops, the Macelleria Falorni.



Due largely to this intense agricultural activity, and the wine and food production industries that have been built on top of it, since early medieval times, Greve evolved as the principal market town at the center of an (increasingly) densely populated area with an abundance of villages, parish churches, villas and castles. The latter were built mostly by the rich merchants and noble classes of Florence who enjoyed the country life, and developed their estates to earn additional income and also to supply their in-town tables.

The town of Greve's busy quaintness and the lushness and diversity of the undulating landscape which surrounds it, have long attracted tourists and travelers. The current flow of tourism to the area and the purchase of homes by both Italians and foreigners is fully integrated with viniculture, wine-making and various related enterprises to form a highly integrated and highly productive local economy.

Chianti Classico Annual wine festival

Every year on the second weekend of September, local merchants display their products, and wine tasting is offered for free. Olive oil is also available for tasting, served on fresh sliced Italian bread. Local cheeses are also available.

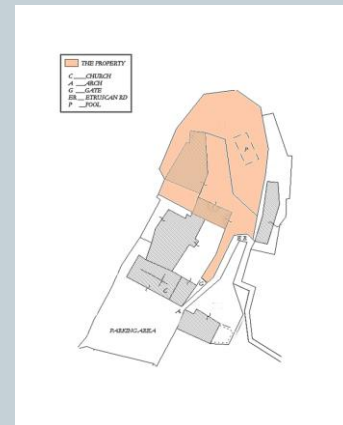
The Hamlet

Located in the heart of the " GalloNero " region, the Medieval complex (XI century) was originally a castle with a fortified tower. It sits on a massive "pietra serena" hilltop dominating the surrounding countryside and vestiges of the original castle foundations are visible on the strong walls around.

The location has ancient origins: it was initially built by the Etruscans and later hosted a Roman garrison. Traces of the original Etruscan cobbled road that led from the Lucumonia of Volterra to that of Fiesole have been uncovered at the base of the structure.

The small hamlet that rose at the base of the castle surrounds was probably the original internal courtyard, now available to park one's automobiles.

Access to the Villa proper is on foot from the courtyard through an external archway and into the private villa gardens. Refer to shaded area below.







Villa Petra

The villa sits on the ruins of the ancient castle on a spur of rock and overlooks a beautiful wooded valley.

It was built shortly after the original fortress' demolition, which took place in 1530 during the last war between Senese and Florentine troops. Evidence of the glorious past is seen everywhere, from the gardens to the villa ground floor itself.

The last modern restoration took place in 1996. Careful routine maintenances have been regularly scheduled.

From December 2012 the site is under the safeguard of the Council for the Preservation of Historical and Architectural Buildings. The Villa stands at 400 meters a.s.l. and dominates a beautiful and intact panorama.

Greve in Chianti with all shops, restaurants and facilities is 3 kms away. The Ugolino golf course is a 20 minutes drive, Firenze is 25 kms away and Siena is 45 kms away.





In front of the Villa is a paved terrace that leads up a few steps to the Villa's main entrance. Next to the entrance is the door to the kitchen.

The main entrance is through a wooden portal into the ground floor hall. In the hall are the pietraserena stairs leading to the upper floors.

Up one step from the hall is the formal dining room with fireplace and a door to a guest loo .

To the left of the hall and down 3 steps is a huge room with a billiard table and fireplace. This room is barrel vaulted and shows the original stones on which the castle was built.

To the right of the hall is the spacious, liveable kitchen which opens into a second spacious living room with a fireplace and beautiful wood beamed ceilings.

A door in the living room opens into a double bedroom with complete ensuite bathroom with shower.



The Land

The limited extension - 39.929 sqm (almost 10 acres) – allows for the management of the production of oil, grapes and firewood in a simple way for your own private consumption.

Chianti Classico Vineyard* (1 acre)

Olive trees - about 150 in the Woods



South Facade



The View



The Pool





Nestled in the pietra serena rock this 5 X10 mr pool is set below under the villa.

The poolside was created from the stairs of an old house.

The fresh water is supplied by the private well, located up on the hill which, after the handling, is collected in two huge tanks, providing the entire property with ample water.

Designed with the pool, there is also the pump and filtering system.

Sunset at the Pool





The Hallway

The Villa retains the original interiors of the typical Tuscan manor, with its large rooms and bright bedrooms (over 40 windows), terracotta floors, panelled ceilings on the main floor and exposed beams ceilings on the second floor.

Doors and windows with original frames and details in "pietra serena", bathrooms with hand-crafted ceramics , the ancient tavern built in the rock, four spacious fireplaces and many other details contribute to the charming and warm atmosphere, very much appreciated by Tuscan countryside lovers.

The Ground Floor Living Room





The Taverna

The Taverna is the Villa's oldest area and is made from Pietra Serena.

Pietra Serena is a gray sandstone used extensively in Renaissance Florence for architectural details.

This material was also utilized for the paving of roads and squares, making ornaments, household furnishings and religious and civil objects.



The Kitchen





The modern kitchen is fully furnished and has blue and white tile splash-back detail, and a gas hob.

From the kitchen there is a door that leads to the garden.

The First Floor Living Room





The hallway staircase leads to the first floor landing with two doors. The door on the right opens into the “orange” double bedroom with canopy bed, and complete en-suite bathroom with bathtub and hand shower.

The door in front opens into a spacious living room with open-hearth fireplace.

A first door in the living room opens onto a rear furnished terrace. A second door in the living room opens into a study with satellite TV. A third door in the living room opens into a twin bedded room with complete en-suite bathroom with bathtub and hand shower.



First Floor Twin Bedroom



Mosaic Bathroom on the First Floor





First restored in the 60's remains unchanged.



Orange Bedroom





Orange Bathroom





Second Floor Living Room

From the first landing, the stairs lead up to the second floor with three doors.

The door on the right opens into the “green” double bedroom with complete en-suite bathroom with bathtub and hand shower.

The door on the left opens into a twin bedded room.

The door in front opens into a second spacious living room with fireplace and beautiful wood beamed ceilings.

A door in the living room opens into the “blue” double bedroom with complete en-suite bathroom with bathtub and hand shower.

The Second Floor Living Room



Blue Bedroom on the Second Floor





The Blue Bathroom

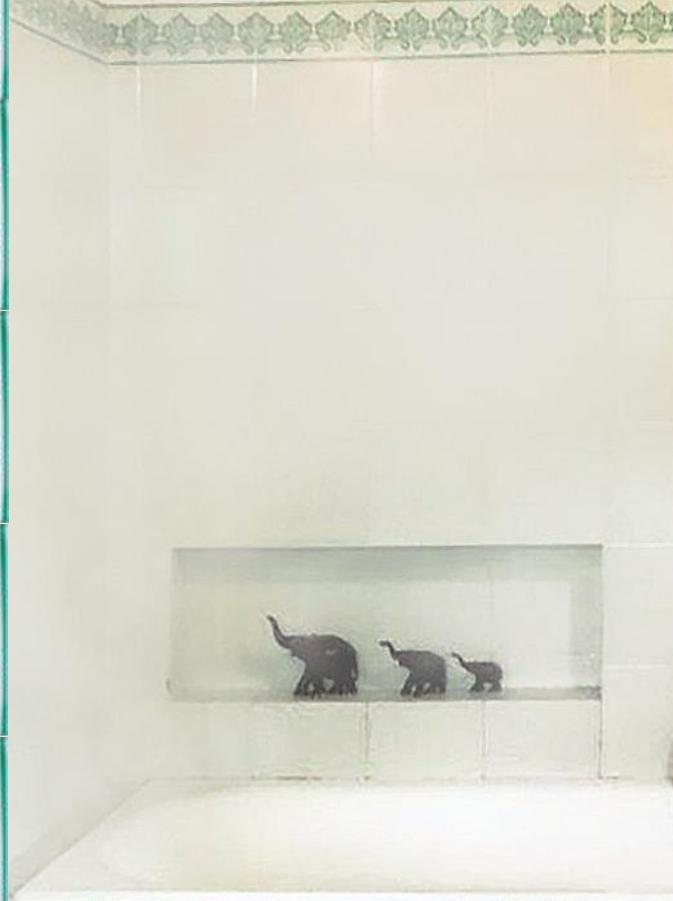
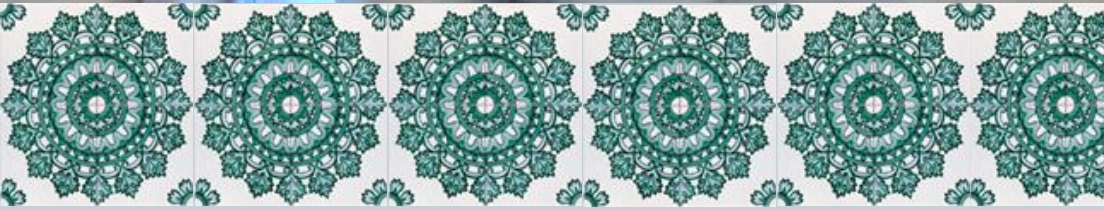
There are four en-suite bathrooms on the first and second floors, each belong to their respective bedrooms.

On the last refurbishment three of them were renewed with hand-crafted Vietri Ceramics.

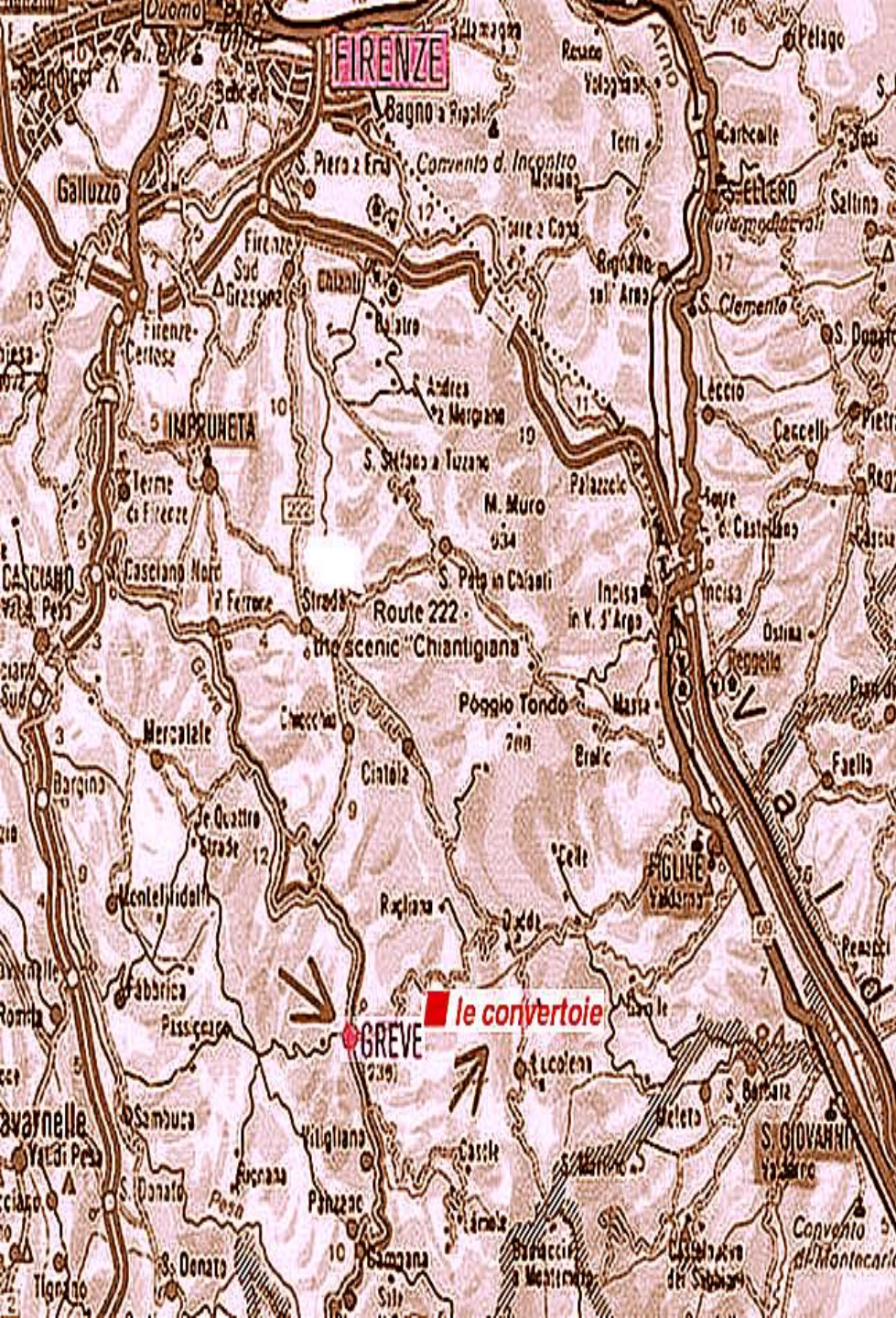
The Green Bedroom on the Second Floor



The Green Bathroom on the Second Floor







How to get there

Le Convertioie is located at 3 km from Greve in Chianti, the nearest town.

If you come from the North (Milano - Bologna - Genova), get out at Firenze-Certosa and go on to Greve in Chianti.

If you come from the South (Roma), get out at Firenze-Sud and go on to Greve in Chianti.

If you come from Pisa airport, take the superstrada Livorno - Pisa- La Ginestra - San Casciano - Mercatale - Greve.

If you come from Firenze airport, take direction to Roma and get out at Firenze-Certosa and go on to Greve in Chianti.

If you come from Roma airport, take direction to Firenze and get out at Firenze-Sud and go on to Greve in Chianti.

At Greve in Chianti on the third traffic light turn on the left following the signs for Figline Valdarno and, after 3 km, 300 meters after agriturismo "La Camporena", on the left side, you will find the indication for "Le Convertioie".

Villa Petra

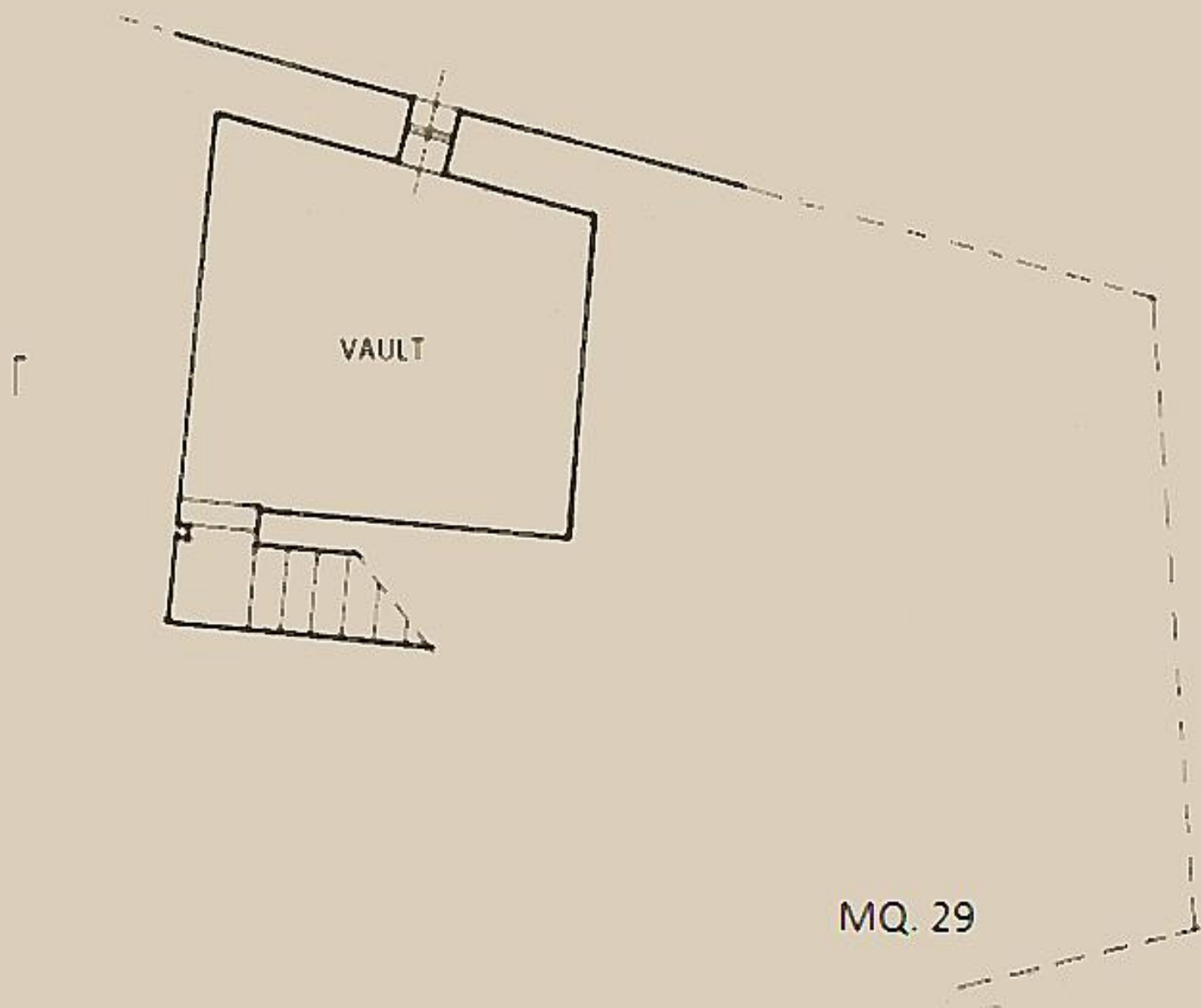
Site Plans

Presented by



Post Office Box: 51128, Waterfront, 8002, Cape Town, Republic of South Africa
Tel: +27 (0) 21 438 5617 - Fax: +27 (0) 21 438 5618 - Cell: +27 (0) 83 293 7083
Email: info@bel.za.com Email: avbalestri@gmail.com - Website: www.bel.za.com

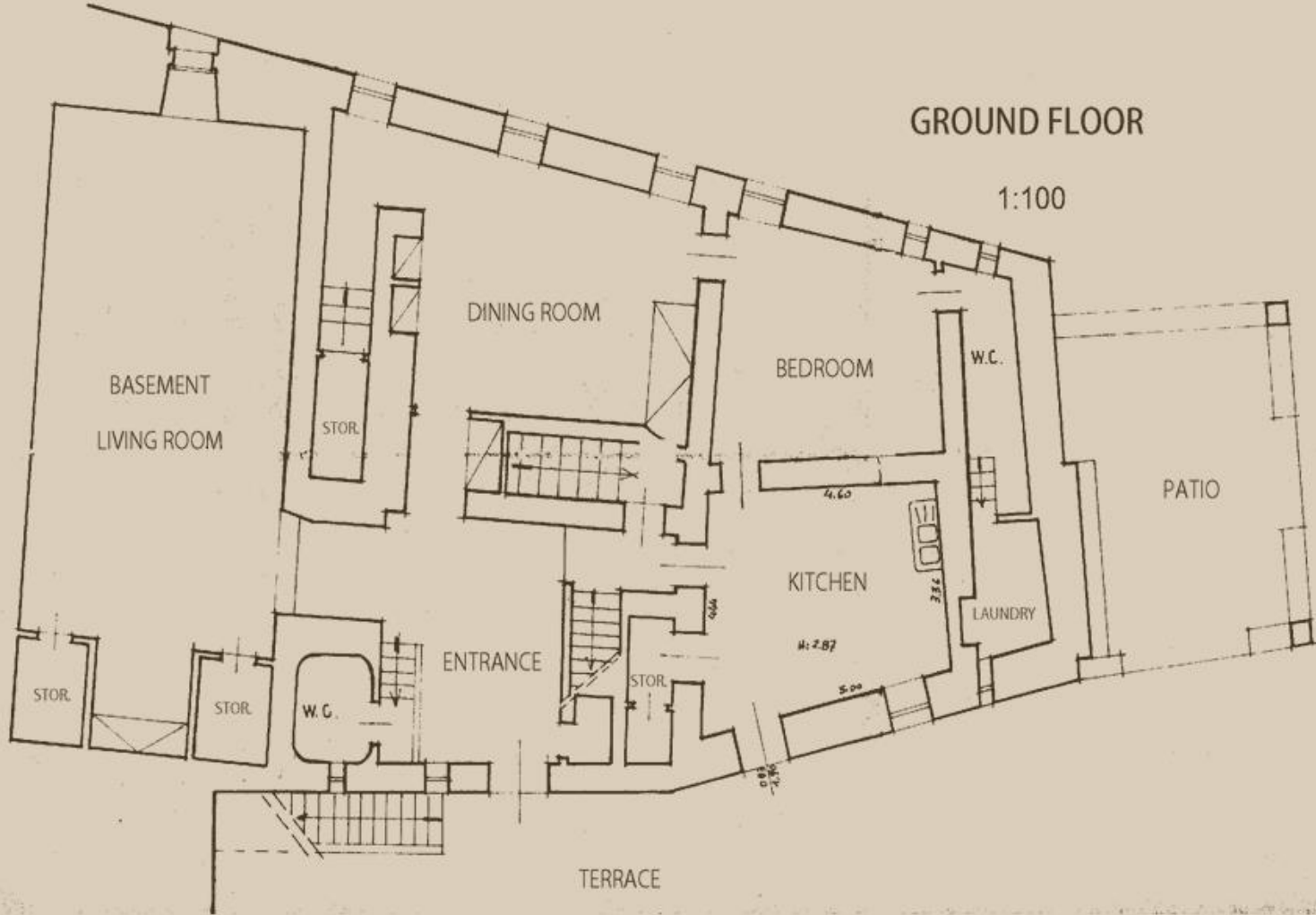
VILLA PETRA
BASEMENT



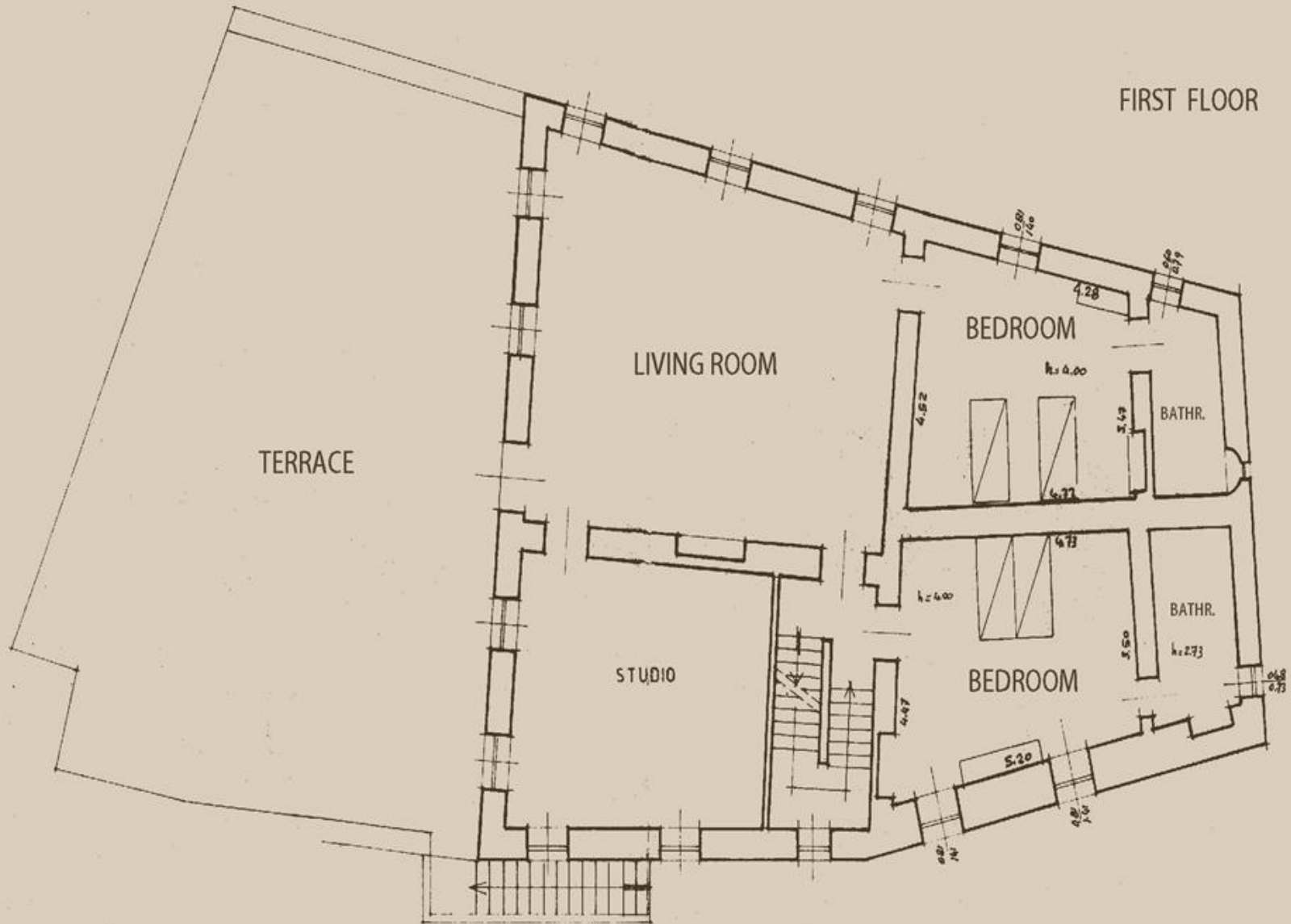
MQ. 29

GROUND FLOOR

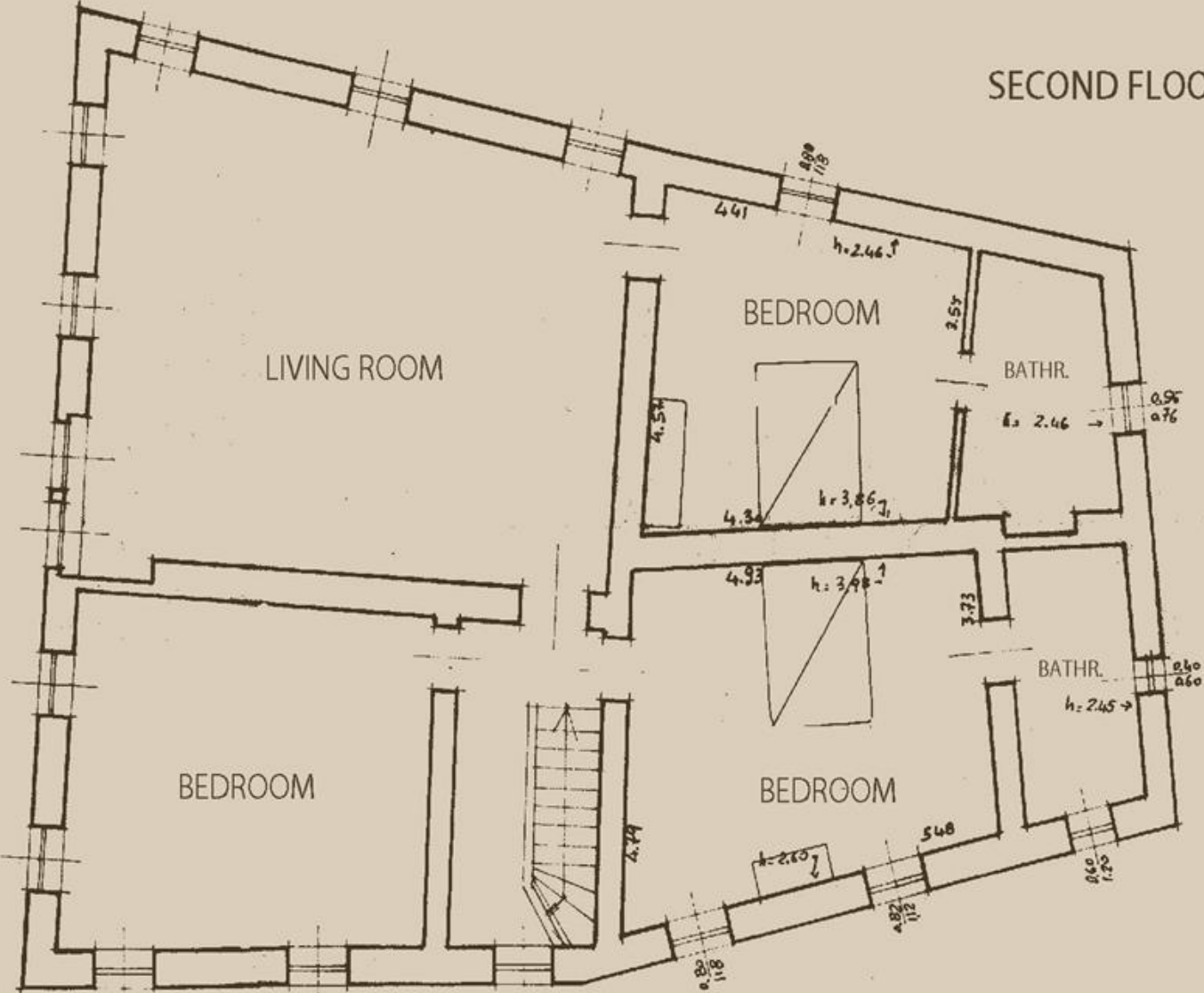
1:100



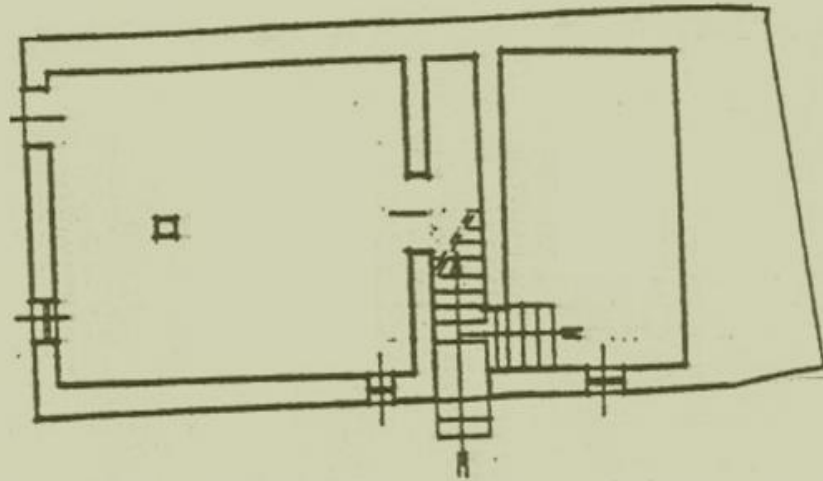
FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR

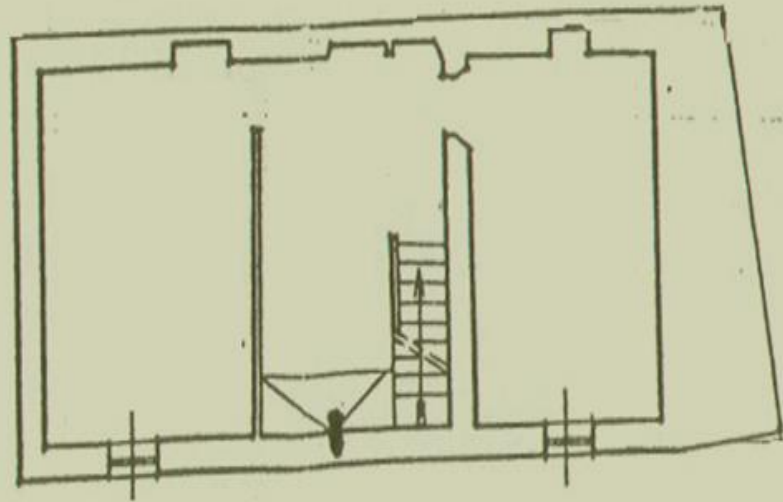


COTTAGE
GROUND FLOOR

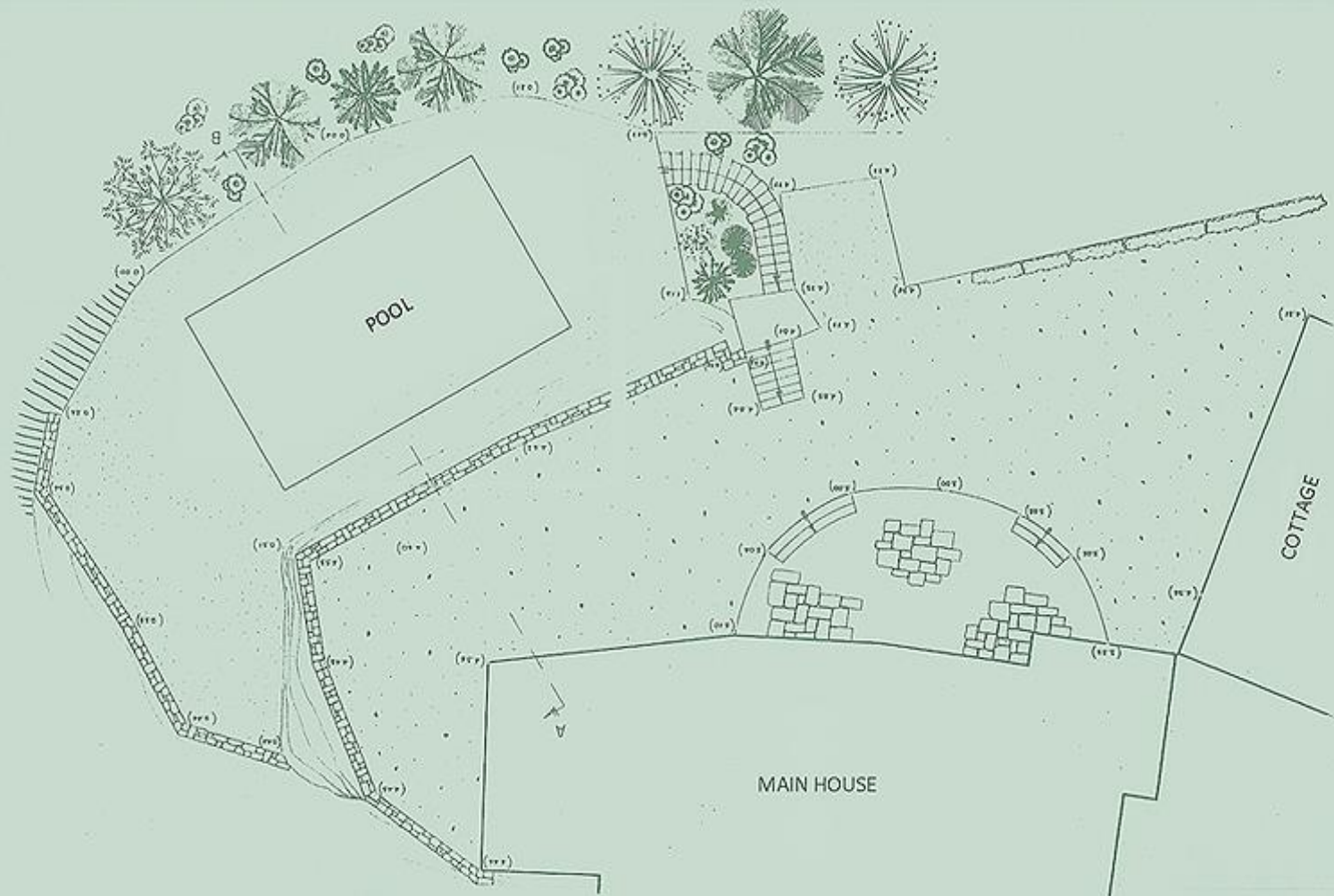


MQ. 70

COTTAGE
FIRST FLOOR

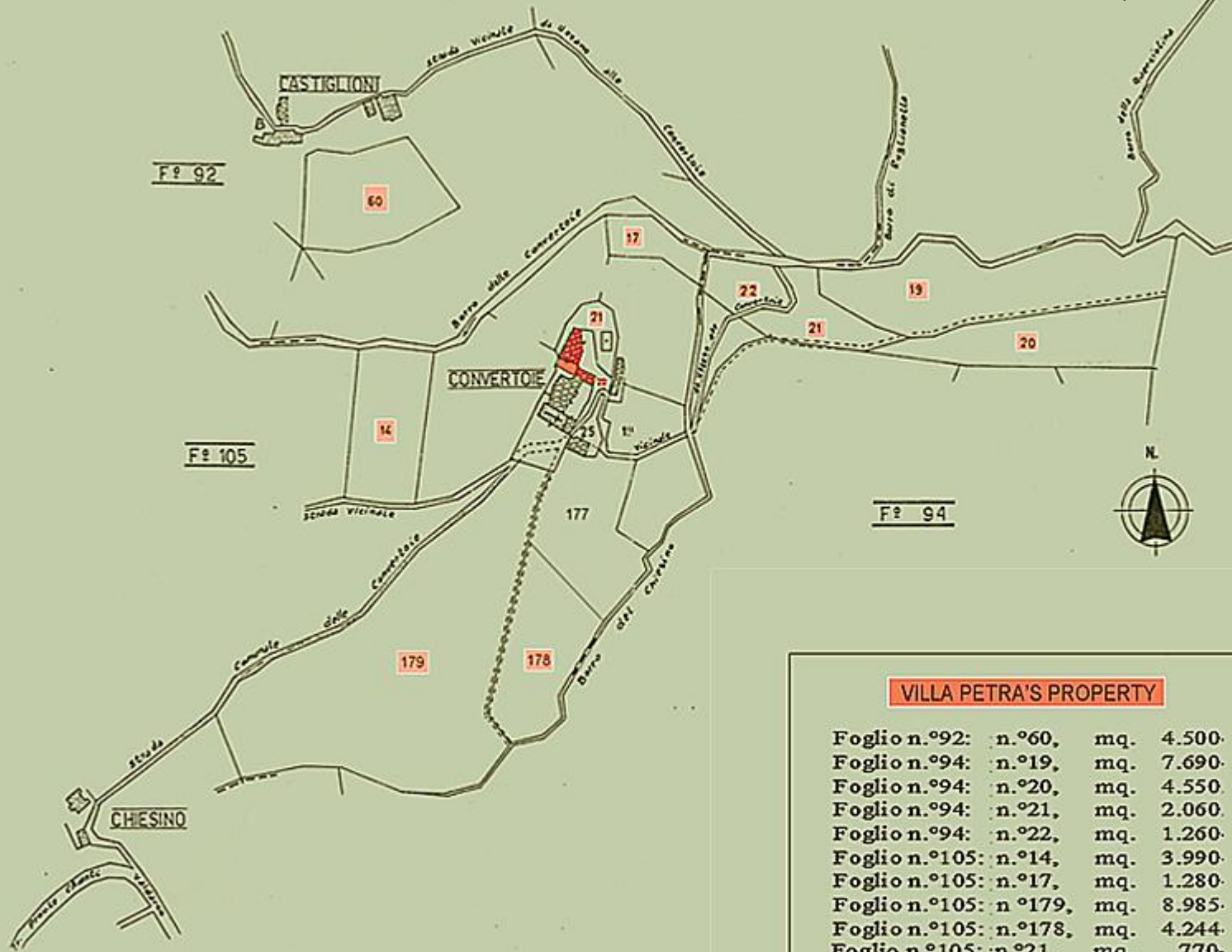


MQ.70



VILLA PETRA OUTDOOR

THE LAND



VILLA PETRA'S PROPERTY

Foglio n.º92:	n.º60,	mq.	4.500.
Foglio n.º94:	n.º19,	mq.	7.690.
Foglio n.º94:	n.º20,	mq.	4.550.
Foglio n.º94:	n.º21,	mq.	2.060.
Foglio n.º94:	n.º22,	mq.	1.260.
Foglio n.º105:	n.º14,	mq.	3.990.
Foglio n.º105:	n.º17,	mq.	1.280.
Foglio n.º105:	n.º179,	mq.	8.985.
Foglio n.º105:	n.º178,	mq.	4.244.
Foglio n.º105:	n.º21,	mq.	770.
TOTALE			mq. 39.329

Contact Us

*Reproduction and distribution prohibited.
For further information please contact:*

*Alessandro V. Balestri - +27 83 293 7083
Email: avbalestri@gmail.com*

Presented by

The logo for BEL MANAGEMENT features the word "BEL" in a large, bold, lowercase sans-serif font. To the right of "BEL", the word "MANAGEMENT" is written in a smaller, bold, uppercase sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a white background.

bel MANAGEMENT

Post Office Box: 51128, Waterfront, 8002, Cape Town, Republic of South Africa
Tel: +27 (0) 21 438 5617 - Fax: +27 (0) 21 438 5618 - Cell: +27 (0) 83 293 7083
Email: info@bel.za.com Email: avbalestri@gmail.com - Website: www.bel.za.com