EARLY WRITING COLLECTION
EARLY PRINTING AND WRITING COLLECTION

Provenance: Examples are from various sources but consist primarily of the collection of writing examples gathered by Professor Lloyd Reynolds and used in his teaching at Reed (1929-1969) and of large donations from Steven Herold ’63, past proprietor of Wit’s End Book Store in Seattle. The Islamic manuscripts have come from both Steven and his son, William Herold.

Ownership: Reed College claims physical ownership of these materials, almost all of which are in the public domain.

Access: Please consult with the Reed College Library Special Collections Librarian for physical access to this material; all are accessible online with full descriptions at: http://cdm.reed.edu/cdm4/eptg/.

Size: The Early Writing Collection consists of 2 manuscript boxes and 1 portfolio-size box, or 1 lin. ft.

Processed by: Gay Walker

Date: November/ December 2006; December 2012; May, September 2014

Scope and Contents

The Early Writing Collection consists of hundreds of examples of early handwritten documents and manuscripts ranging from the 11th century through the 19th century. These paleographic examples provide an excellent resource for the study of the development of written letterforms, in particular the Humanist Cursive in Italy from 1400 through 1650. Consisting primarily of legal and other official government documents, church documents, and letters, this collection of early manuscripts shows the changes in notary hands and their marks, or sigilla, particularly well in Europe and in early South American countries. On both vellum and paper, these documents also illustrate the development of the personal and business letter and capture details from important historical events, such as an arrest warrant from the Italian Inquisition (1613) and perhaps the earliest archeological report from an excavation on an estate in Italy (1571). A significant collection of early Islamic manuscripts, one from the 700s AD, was added in 2015 and 2016 which greatly expand the breadth of the collection in both handwriting and decoration/illumination.
Statement about the Collection

The long tradition of calligraphy at Reed initiated by Professor Lloyd J. Reynolds created a deep interest in letterforms and the beauty of one of our most basic functions, communication through handwriting. By teaching calligraphy both at Reed and all over the Northwest, Reynolds instilled an excitement about handwriting that has lasted well into our time. He travelled to Europe, visiting celebrated calligraphers, presses, and museums. Along the way he picked up many examples of early writing in Italy and England, others were sent to him by friends. These specimens served as living examples to the students of the history of letterforms. After Reynolds’ retirement in 1969, Robert Palladino continued teaching calligraphy at Reed until 1984. Currently, a weekly Calligraphy Scriptorium is active on campus for teaching and practice.

Many Reed graduates have followed this interest in calligraphy into the arts, education, and design, not the least being Sumner Stone ’67, Steve Jobs ’76, Michael McPherson ’68, Margot Thompson ’70, Lee Littlewood ’68, Elizabeth Anderson ’72 MAT, Jaki Svaren ’50, Chuck Bigelow ’67, or Georgianna Greenwood ’60. One alumnus greatly affected by Reynolds’ teachings was Steven Herold ’63, who continued to study the paleography of many countries and periods. A bookseller, collector, fine calligrapher, and scholar, Herold’s generous gifts have significantly enriched Reynolds’ core collection of handwriting samples, and his and his son’s continuing gifts comprise the majority of the materials, including the entire holdings of Islamic manuscripts.

The Early Writing Collection consists of complete letters, documents, and manuscript books from all over Europe, several New World countries, and now the Islamic world. Although the collection is particularly strong in items from the 16th and 17th centuries, examples are included from the early 15th century into the 20th century, with one early leaf from the 11th century and an even earlier leaf from the Islamic world. From letters to tally books, archeological reports to war statistics, and Inquisition warrants to legal battles, these items are also of great historical interest worthy of scholarly study. They are unique and are now fully available for such study online.

In 2012, Herold wrote and published The Origins, Glory & Decline of the Humanist Cursive in Italy 1400-1650 in collaboration with Reed College. In it, he discusses the development of the cursive hand based on the large collection of examples in Reed’s special collections, including the great part of the materials given by him that complement the core collection gathered by Lloyd Reynolds.

Box Index

BOX 1 – Italy 1

1400s: Officium Beatae Maria. Italy? Illuminated vellum leaf of a religious text in Latin. I-0107-14XX
1452: [Land sale document.] Verona, Italy. Single sheet of paper written in Latin, on the sale of land by the monastery of St. Felix la Varuna. I-0037-1452

1458: [Religious document.] Northern Italy. Folded fine vellum sheet written in Latin, in several hands and notarized with sigilla. I-0029-1458

1469: [Transfer of Property.] Venice, Italy. Written in Latin on a folded vellum sheet with logo associated with Beliardus, in wrappers dated 1567. I-0090-1469

1482: [Cartularies with legal attestations.] Italy. Written in Latin on a single folded sheet of vellum with notary’s sigillum at the end. I-0045-1482

1491: [Copies of legal documents of a court case.] Italy. Copies of legal documents spanning 1484 through 1491, in Latin on 17 leaves, 34 pages of paper, sewn into a booklet. I-0035-1491

1498: [Papal Brief.] Italy. From the Ducal Palace, written in Italian on vellum and previously used as a small book cover. I-0101-1498

14XX: Justinian. [Secular text.] Late 1400s, Northern Italy. Illuminated leaf written in Latin on fine vellum in a very small scribal hand. I-0094-14XX

15XX: [Legal document.] Monferrato, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. Mentions the Captain of Justice. I-0044-15XX

15XX: [Religious text.] Early 1500s, Italy. Leaf with rubricated text in red and blue on vellum and written in Latin. I-0095-15XX

1503: [Religious land transfer.] Cassale, Italy. Written in Latin on three sheets of folded paper to make a 12-page pamphlet, sewn together. Mentions the King of France and Duke of Bello Castiglione and Gregory the Great. I-0050-1503

1504: [Attestation of land ownership.] Cremona, Italy. A deposition on a single sheet of paper written in Latin and dated 4/14/1504. I-0004-1504

1504: [Legal questioning.] Italy. Written in Latin on a single folded sheet of paper. Concerns the Coloredo family. I-0089-1504

1507: [Land transfer and estate benefits list.] Tuscany, Italy. Official document on a single folded sheet of paper in Latin with notary’s note and sigillum at the end. Missing the vertical half of the last page. I-0109-1507

1509: [Legal document.] Italy. Written in Latin on a single folded sheet of vellum, a copy done by Antoniiio Angellus. I-0051-1509

1510: [Confirmation agreement.] Italy. Written in Latin on a single sheet of paper, a “letter attenute” agreeing to religious benefices. I-0079-1510

1511: [Land document.] Northern Italy. A single folded vellum sheet written in Latin with notary’s sigillum at end. I-0018-1511

1511: [Investiture of land and titles to brothers Fabrizio and Emilio Sovardi.] Written in Latin on a single sheet of folded paper within a paper wrapper showing docketing information, dated May 19, 1511. I-0039-1511

1517: [Sale of land.] Near Bologna, Italy. Two sheets of folded vellum in a paper wrapper with many notary attestations and sigilla; smaller piece of vellum with writing laid in. I-0093-1517

1519: [Legal document.] Carpi, Modena, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of folded paper, about a tribunal. I-0175-1519

1524: [Church payments.] Written in Latin on a single folded sheet of vellum, dated November 12, 1524 with the logos of two notaries and in a docketing wrapper. I-0091-1524
1526: [Land transfer.] Monferrato, Italy. Written in Latin on a single sheet of folded paper by Count de la Molla (or Mola, grandfather of the 1571 de Mola) to a Naples recipient. I-0053-1526

1527: [Loan and payments document.] Near Florence, Italy. A single piece of heavy paper written in Italian spanning payments from 1529 through 1533. I-0132-1527

1528: [Land sale document.] Bologna, Italy. Folded sheet of vellum written in Latin laid into a paper wrapper. I-0023-1528

1529: [Land documents.] Tuscany, Italy. Written in Latin on a single folded sheet of paper with two later docketing papers, one a half-sheet and one a wrapper. Mentions the Sovardi family and Christoforo Zaneto-Aniballi, Duke of Tuscany. I-0043-1529

1530: [Attestation of Faith.] Italy. Written in Italian on a single partial sheet of paper, signed by Gimenal Capello. I-0041-1530

1531: [Commercial debt document.] Northern Italy. A copy written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper concerning the debt of Nicholas de ----. I-0052-1531

1535: [Contract.] Italy. Written in Italian in a very faded ink on a single folded piece of vellum. I-0056-1535

1536: [Letter.] Trento, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper still folded into its own envelope, written from Trento to Francisco Gavallini(?) in Verona. I-0068-1536


1537: [Attestation of Faith.] Milan, Italy. Written in Latin on a single sheet of paper, noting both 1536 and 1537. I-0046-1537

1540: [Religious legal decision.] Carpi near Modena, Italy. Single sheet of paper folded once, written in Latin with the notary’s sigillum and a paper-over-wax seal. I-0133-1540

1541: [Sale document.] Milan, Italy. Written in Italian on two folded sheets of paper making an 8-page document. I-0033-1541

1541: [Land sale document.] Italy. Written in Latin on a single sheet of paper folded once into 4 pages. I-0036-1541

1541: [Permissions in a family.] Cormono, Italy. Written in Latin on a single sheet of paper. Concerns Alberti de Cormono. I-0088-1541

1546: [Dispute over money and land.] Castelnuova, Reggio Emilia, Italy. Single folded sheet of paper written in Italian. I-0031-1546

1546: [Receipt.] Italy. Single folded sheet of paper written in Italian. I-0057-1546

1549: [Marriage document 1.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on 6 folded sheets of paper, making a 12-page document. I-0135-1549


1551: [Land document.] Bassanello, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper. Concerns the Della Rovere family of Bassanello. I-0058-1551

1552: [Rogatory legal document.] Modena, Italy. Written in Latin on two folded sheets of paper with a notary’s logo and in a docketing wrapper. I-0174-1552

1553: [Inheritance document.] Modena, Italy. Written in Latin on a single vellum page. I-0034-1553

1553: [Testimony and announcement.] Bassanello, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper with a paper-over-wax seal. I-0059-1553
1553: [Religious document.] Bassanello, Italy. Letter written in Italian on a single sheet of paper associated with Aurelia delle Rovere. I-0061-1553

1554: [Marriage document 3.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0137-1554

1554: [Marriage document 4.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0138-1554

1554: [Marriage document 5.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0139-1554

1554: [Marriage document 11.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper, making a 4-page document. I-0145-1554

1554: [Marriage document 12.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper, making a 4-page document. I-0146-1554

1554: [Marriage document 13.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0147-1554

1554: [Marriage document 14.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0148-1554

1554: [Marriage document 15.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0149-1554

1554: [Marriage document 17.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0151-1554

1554: [Marriage document 18.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0152-1554

1554: [Marriage document 19.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0153-1554

1554: [Marriage document 20.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0154-1554

1554: [Marriage document 21.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0155-1554

1554: [Marriage document 22.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0156-1554

1554: [Marriage document 23.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0157-1554

1554: [Marriage document 28.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0162-1554

1554: [Bill of Exchange.] Alba, Savoy in Italy. Written in French on paper (an early form of check promising money). I-0131-1554

1554: [Business document.] Bassanello, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper about the Della Rovere family. I-0060-1554

1555: [Marriage document 16.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0150-1555

1555: [Marriage document 24.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0158-1555


1555: [Marriage document 26.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0160-1555
1555: [Marriage document 27.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0161-1555
1558: [Religious document.] Northern Italy. Written in Latin on a single sheet of paper with an inner seal. Concerns Filippo Gregory, a preacher. I-0042-1558
1558: [Papal document.] Aemillia Romana, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper, making 4 pages, concerning the Vicar of the town. I-0063-1558
1559: [Papal religious document.] Bassanello, Italy. Written in Italian in Chancery cursive on a single folded sheet of paper, making 4 pages. I-0064-1559
1563: [Addressed envelope.] Italy. Folded sheet of paper used as an envelope with a seal. Involves Philippo Alberto. I-0086-1563
1563: [Marriage document 2.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper, making a 4-page document—3 sides are blank. I-0136-1563
1563: [Gift record.] Savoy, Italy. Written in Italian on two folded sheets of paper, making an 8-page document; 4 pages are blank. I-0002-1563
1564: [Letter about money.] Torino, Italy. Written in Italian on a half-sheet of paper. I-0001-1564
1565: [Marriage document 7.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on two folded sheets of paper, making an 8-page document. I-0141-1565
1566: [Marriage document 6.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper, making a 4-page document. I-0140-1566
1566: [Marriage document 8.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper, making a 4-page document. I-0142-1566
1566: [Marriage document 9.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0143-1566
1566: [Marriage document 10.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0144-1566
1566: [Letter summarizing Court decisions.] Milan, Italy. Written in Latin on three sheets of folded paper, making a 12-page document. Letter from the Chief Magistrate of Spanish Administration in Milan to Philip II, King of Spain. I-0021-1566
1567: [Legal instrument.] Ravenna, Italy. Written in Latin on two sheets of folded paper with a single notary’s logo. I-0173-1567
1568: [Legal document.] Italy. Written in Latin on a single sheet of paper. Mentions the Senate and the Prince. I-0030-1568
1571: [Land sale.] Milan, Italy. Written in Latin on 8 sheets of folded paper, making a 32-page booklet sewn into a stiff paper wrapper, dated December 20, 1571. Mentions Francesco Legnani and son Giacomo to Francesco Belenzago (or Berinzago). I-0082-1571
1572: [Confession of Facts.] Milan, Italy. Written in Latin on two sheets of folded paper, making an 8-page booklet, sewn into a stiff paper wrapper. About the Legnani family and Francesco Belinzago. I-0084-1572
1572: [Rogatory document.] Milan, Italy. Written in Latin on four sheets of folded paper making a 16-page pamphlet; the interrogation of Francisco Caijmo. I-0065-1572
1572: [Ratification of a land sale.] Milan, Italy. Written in Latin on three sheets of folded paper making a 12-page pamphlet. Concerns Giacomo Lagnano and his father Francesco and Francisco Berinzago. I-0083-1572

1573: [Land document about vineyards.] Written in Latin on one sheet of folded lined vellum sewn into a light blue paper wrapper. Concerns Jacobum Beliardum. I-0085-1573

1573: [Legal summary of a case.] Italy. Written in Italian on two sheets of folded paper making an 8-page pamphlet. I-0006-1573

1574: [Debt document.] Milan, Italy. Written in Latin on a single sheet of folded paper. About the settlement of a debt. I-0129-1574

1575: [Religious debt and payment.] Florence area, Tuscany, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0134-1575

1575: [Quittance loan pay-off document.] Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. I-0062-1575

1580: [Land transfer.] Cuneo, Italy. Written in Italian on four sheets of folded paper making a 16-page pamphlet. Concerns Pietre Porta and Giuseppe Boetto. I-0003-1580

1581: [Attestation of Faith.] Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. Concerns Francisco Proscelli. I-0067-1581

1582: [Rogatory legal document.] Mul’e, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on two sheets of folded paper about a debt or division of inheritance. I-0169-1582

1583: [Attestation of Faith.] Vicenza, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. Concerns Giuseppe Caltrano di Vicenza on being a good Catholic. I-0047-1583

1588: [Legal document.] Modena, Italy. Written in Latin on a single folded sheet of paper making a 4-page pamphlet. Concerns Alexander, Seigneur de Gems De Salvaticis and Jacobus, the don of Danielis de Settis. I-0130-1588


1592: [Settlement of an estate.] Bologna, Italy. Written in Latin on a single sheet of folded paper. [I-0177-1592]

1594: [Estate document.] Parma and Rome, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper, signed by Cardinal Farnese, later Pope Farnese. I-0048-1594

1596: [Sale document for a library.] Northern Italy. Written in Latin on two folded sheets of paper, making an 8-page pamphlet. Concerns Tomasei Spinale and Nicolao Puissardry. I-0080-1596

1598: [Legal document.] Italy. Written in Latin on a folded sheet of paper. Signed by Henricus. I-0027-1598

1613: [Arrest warrant for the Papal Inquisition.] Rome, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper with a paper-over-wax seal, for the arrest of Marguerita l’Alessandro di Menico and Altadonna da Canapina “with cause for superstitions and misleading of the faithful. I-0059-1613

1617: [Debt payment document.] Vicenza, Italy. Written in Latin and Italian on four folded sheets of paper making a 16-page pamphlet, dated 1/22/1617. I-0015-1617

1620: [Sale document.] Italy. Written in Latin on a single folded sheet of paper. Concerns Isabella and Jacobi Clavarini. I-0087-1620

1630: [Church matters.] Catania and Callagirone, Italy. Written in Latin on two folded sheets of paper. Concerns the movement of a cleric, Padre Don Francesco Inguardissa. I-0111-1630
16XX: [Legal judgment verdict.] Savoy, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper. This is a copy of a sentence with a wet stamp at top, referencing a January 1564 date, but probably from between 1650 and 1700. I-0028-16XX

1632: [Legal document.] Carpi, Modena, Italy. Written in Latin on two sheets of folded paper sewn into a paper cover sheet about a family dispute. I-0168-1632

1634: [Receipt.] Palermo, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper signed by ten people. I-0173-1634

1659: [Economic document.] Torino, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper. Concerns Count Augusto Scaglia di Verrua and the feudal property of Cortemiglia, his estate since 1596. I-0054-1659

1669: [Letter about the commercial scene.] London to Livorno, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet folded into a small envelope-sized letter. Written to Francesco Venturini about the East Indies and bearing an early postmark. I-0069-1669

1671: [List of costs to quarter soldiers for the King of Savoy.] Cortemiglia, Savoy, Italy. Written in Italian on five folded sheets of paper, making a 20-page pamphlet, dated 7/7/1671. I-0055-1671

1671: [Legal Church document.] Written in Latin on three folded sheets of paper making a 12-page document, concerns apostolic legates. I-0112-1671

1676: [Medical diploma.] Florence, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of vellum with some loss of text. Still bears the stamp of the institution. I-0113-1676


1690: [Bill of Exchange.] Venice, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper showing five different hands. I-0022-1690

1696: [Religious document.] Cencellio, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper with a seal. Concerns the Spanish Main. I-0070-1696

BOX 2 – Italy 2

17XX: [Summary of Actions.] Genoa, Italy. Written in Latin on a single folded sheet of paper. Copy from the notary books dealing with 15th and 16th century titles and lands of the old feudal family of Pornasio. I-0010-17XX


1703: [Baptismal Certification.] Bologna, Italy. Written in Latin on a single folded sheet of paper. An official document dated April 1703 about a birth in 1702; bears a double eagle wet stamp. I-0115-1703

1707: [Marriage document 29.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on two folded sheets of paper, making an 8-page document. I-0163-1707

1707: [Marriage document 32.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Latin on two folded sheets of paper, making an 8-page document. I-0166-1707

1707: [Accounting document.] Savoy, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper as a folded broadside. Concerns the transactions of a sale. I-0008-1707

1709: [Marriage document 30.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Latin on three folded sheets of paper, making a 12-page document. I-0164-1709

1710: Puntarola dell-anno 1710. Italy. This is a work tally booklet written in Italian on three small sheets of paper folded and sewn into a 12-page booklet, tabbed along the outer edge and showing days of the week marked when worked for 7 people. I-0096-1710

1717: [Marriage document 31.] Palermo area, Sicily, Italy. Written in Latin on a single folded sheet of paper. I-0165-1717

1729: [Land transfer document.] Savoy, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper concerning the transfer of a feudal domain, a “Regie Patenti”, associated with Vittorio Amedeo. I-0011-1729

1729: [Financial letter.] Egypt to Venice, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper folded into a letter with a seal, from an agent in Cairo about the exchange rates written to the Italian merchant, Nicolo Caraziani. I-0071-1729

1732: [Legal Church Foundation document.] Agrigento, Sicily, Italy. Written in Latin on two sheets of folded paper about the Virgin S.S. Rosario church. I-0176-1732

1733: [Letter.] Bologna, Italy. Written in Italian on a single partial sheet of paper folded into a letter with a seal, to a recipient in Firenza. Concerns Angidrin i Franzini. I-0072-1733

1740: [Testimony and credit document.] Florence, Italy. Written in Italian on two folded sheets of paper. A copy concerning Carlo Ginori and Antonius Bracci Ducati, F. Bernardo Landini, Michele Arcangelo Binari, and the Chapels of Saint Peter and Philip. I-0116-1740

1742: [Letter copy.] Bergamo, Italy. Written in Italian on two folded sheets of paper. Copy of a letter from an Archbishop Cardinal in Milan to a Count in Uhlefeld, Hungary, dated March 6, 1742. I-0016-1742

1750: [Letter.] Florence, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper folded into a letter with a seal. Written from Benedetto Cavalleri to Sig. Filippo Bacci of Arezzo. I-0117-1750

1750: [Personal letter.] Ferrara, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper, from Bernedetta Christine d’Este to Mdm. Marchese Albergati, accompanied by a translation into English on two half sheets of paper. I-0073-1750

1752: Libro di Agencia. Italy. A handwritten journal or ledger of payments, a record book. Written in Italian on three signatures of paper sheets sewn into a heavier paper cover. Records run through 1759. I-0097-1752

1753: [Business letter.] Turino, Italy. Written in Italian on one sheet of paper folded into a letter with a seal, from Giambatti Boveir at the College of Provence to Preacher Jean Baptiste Goieri. I-0074-1753

1756: [Decree of Excommunication.] Bologna, Italy. Written on a single folded sheet of paper with a seal blind-stamped on the front with wax in between the pages. Signed by an Archbishop and two Bishops for heresy excommunicating Daniellem Athanasius Stauroforo, son of Joannis Greci of Naples and Rome. I-0108-1756

1757: [Testimonial.] Rome, Italy. A copy written in Italian on a single sheet of paper from Pope Benedetto XIV to King Louis XV of France. I-0040-1757

1768: [Letter.] Zara, Dalmatian Coast, Venetian Territory, Italy (now Croatia). Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper between officials of the Catholic Church. I-0119-1768
1780: [Imprisonment documents.] Parma, Italy. Documents about the imprisonment of Gallentini on a political matter, supporting his release and blaming Count Alarico for political intrigue. Written in Italian on 16 single pieces of paper, 14 documents, contained in a paper wrapper. I-0017-1780

1781: [Legal argument for the transfer of a Countship to a son-in-law.] Italy. Written in Italian on three folded sheets of paper sewn together into a 12-page booklet; about primogeniture and inheritance laws concerning the Passerini family. I-0092-1781

1786: [Library document.] Parma, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper. Document concerns materials including maps and books in Luoghi associated with la Regia Soperintenderrra and signed by Franzae Civen (or Civin). I-0075-1786

1789: [Tax collection notice.] Cremona, Italy. Dated April 13, 1789, this single sheet of paper contains a printed tax notice with manuscript writing in Italian. I-0171-1789

1790: [Report on royal estates.] Naples, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper. An informal report to a church official in Naples about the royal estates and the war with Turkey in 1580. The text refers to Barone d’Erbert and Feld Maresciallo Laudon. I-0014-1790

179X: [Rights of the Church and repayments.] Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. An attempt to remove payments levied by Gen. Murat (Battle of Meringo) and the French Revolutionary Army while in Italy. Mentions Alessandro Albergotti, don Pirolamo Tenti Parroco, and Giuseppe Castellari Mercotedi; it is signed by Giovacchino Montanini. I-0007-179X

1791: [Business letter.] Porto Maurizio and Livorno, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper folded into a letter with a seal. Written to Domenico Scotto and signed by Pasquale Pinonselli. I-0076-1791

1793: [Bill of Exchange.] Ajello, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. Shows two wet stamps and two sigilla by notaries. Documents payments concerning the family d’Este and Don Gaettano Dellvario. I-0009-1793

1795: [Letter.] Rome, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper with a seal. From Pietro Bertoni to Giovanni Andrea Pila of Spoleto about appointments and travels, dated February 5, 1795. I-0123-1795

1796: [Estate document.] Italy. Written in Italian in several hands on a single sheet of paper; one of the scribes is Donato Bruschi. I-0077-1796

1796: [Summary of legal action over an inheritance.] Northern Italy. Written in Italian on two folded sheets of paper about a court decision concerning the unfair division of an inheritance between a brother (Barone Bruca) and sister (Silvia Scammacca); the brother was ordered to make payments to correct the situation. I-0019-1796

1797: [Letter asking for military help.] Maserato, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper with the remains of a seal. From Monseignor Roberti, Governor of Fermo, writing to Fermo about the actions of the French army and asking for troops to garrison the town. I-0020-1797

1798: [Legal Court document.] Amatrice near Naples, Italy. Written in Italian on two folded sheets of paper about a 1795 matter. I-0128-1798

1800: [Debt payments and receipt.] Italy. Written in Italian on 5 folded sheets of paper making a 20-page booklet sewn into a stiff paper wrapper. This legal document contains a sheet laid in at the back showing the payments. I-0120-1800
1801: [Letter.] Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper folded again into a letter with sealing wax, from Sicolianna to Pirgenri and dated October. I-0170-1801
1805: [Letter.] Montalbano, Sicily, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper folded into a letter to Sig. Bonaventura Faranda and dated May 26. I-0167-1805
1805: [Attestation of Faith.] Sicily, Italy. Written in Latin on a single folded sheet of paper with an embossed stamp. Two priests testify concerning Emmanuel Bonifacio. I-0100-1805
1809: [Loan payments document.] Chiaramonte near Palermo, Italy. Written in Italian on three folded sheets of paper with payments over several years for “vegii donative”. I-0127-1809
1810: [Religious document.] Salerno di Montevosso, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. A document copy that mentions culture, celebrations, a Papal Bull, and a Royal Diploma, associated with Salerno di Montevosso. I-0126-1810
1813: [Commercial matters.] Malta, Italy. An unusual early copy method creating offset copies of four documents on thin paper written in French to recipients in Milan. Malta was controlled by the English at this point. I-0124-1813
1814: [Legal document.] Venice, Italy. Written in Italian on four folded sheets of paper, one blank page has been torn out at the back making this a 14-page booklet. Concerns Michelangelo Venetina (or Ventura), Fratello Barone di Pietro Paolo, Barone di Montegano, and Signor don Vito Ventura Spitalien. I-0121-1814
1815: [Letter about money and land.] Naples, Italy. Written in Italian on a single sheet of paper. From Vittoria to Caro Giacomo. I-0125-1815
1815: [Clerical letter.] Naples, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper. Signed by Giuseppo Rozzi. I-0105-1815
1826: [Papal Army communication.] Maserato, Italy. Written in Italian on a single folded sheet of paper with a laid-in smaller piece. Addressed to Sr. Gonfaloniere di Tolentino from la Piagea Puynello Gatere with the remains of a red wax seal and several wet stamps, dated February 21, 1826. I-0012-1826
1860: [Silliqua.] Verona, Italy. Written on a single small sheet of paper showing drawings and notes of Latin inscriptions found in Italy. I-0078-1860
1890: [Legal document.] Catania, Italy. Written in Italian on five sheets of folded paper, sewn together to make a 20-page booklet. Concerns Giorgio Floridia and Bartolomeo Tepolito. I-0122-1890

BOX 3 – Non-Italian

Arabic: [Indian miniatures.] Two sheets of paper from an Arabic work, perhaps late 19th or early 20th century, that have large miniatures painted over about half the text on one side each, probably for the tourist trade. One shows a wealthy man or ruler sitting outside in a walled garden on a carpet with three ladies; the other shows a couple sitting and embracing in a walled garden with a building behind.

Bolivia

1629: [Estate inventory.] Bolivia. Written in Spanish on a single folded sheet of paper in a colonial notary hand, signed at the end. B-0002-1629
1639: [Debt payment on an estate.] Bolivia. Written in Spanish on a single piece of folded paper. Document includes several attestations in a notary hand. I-0003-1639
1678: [Loan document.] Potosi, Bolivia. Written in Spanish on a single sheet of paper, with a tax stamp from 1675-76 and a second extending its use to 1678-79. Signed by the parties with many notations. I-0001-1678
1765: [Rogato with declarations.] Potosi, Bolivia. Written in Spanish on a folded sheet of paper about an estate and inheritances. B-0006-1765

Chile
1807: [Claim of Captain Jose Tomas de Reyes.] Santiago, Chile. Written in Spanish on a single sheet of paper with two tax stamps. The claim is for pay for the Captain by a Colonel. C-0001-1807
1809: [Claim of Captain Jose Tomas de Reyes.] Santiago, Chile. Written in Spanish on a single sheet of folded paper to support the same request for the Captain’s pay. C-0002-1809
1809: [Claim of Captain Jose Tomas de Reyes.] Santiago, Chile. Written in Spanish on a single sheet of folded paper which bears six tax stamps. C-0003-1809

China
18XX: [Documents.] Sinkiang, China. Eight Uighur document pieces dating to the late 19th or early 20th century written on acidic paper. CH-0001-18XX

Ecuador
1780: [Legal document.] Quito, Ecuador. Written in Spanish on a single sheet of paper with two tax stamps. Document concerns the rights of an adopted daughter and mentions Maria de la Sola and the will of Claudio de la Vega, adoptive father of the minor, dated March 6, 1780. EC-0001-1780
1784: [Legal document.] Quito, Ecuador. Written in Spanish on a single sheet of paper with a tax stamp. Concerns a young girl and mentions Fertigo Juan Romero. EC-0002-1784

England
1634: [Receipt.] London, England. Written in Latin on a single strip of vellum. Made out to Dorothea Shawe and associated with St. Andrew Holborn Church in London. E-0002-1634
19XX: [Lease.] England. Written in English on a single long piece of vellum between 1850 and 1940. E-0003-19XX

France

10th-11th century. [Religious text.] Northern France. Written in Latin on a single sheet of repaired vellum. An unidentified religious text with interlinear notes and marginal gloss showing rubrication, a section mark, and vellum-on-vellum repairs. F-0005-10XX

1498: [Land lease.] Normandy, France. Written in French on a single sheet of vellum. Signed by the notary and his client, folded for storage. F-0006-1498

1508: [Commercial contract.] Brittany, France. Written in French on a single piece of vellum. Signed by two people; docketing information on the reverse dated 1508. F-0020-1508

1584: [Legal document.] France. Written in French on two folded sheets of vellum to make an 8-page pamphlet, sewn together. Mentions a date of 1584; shows many signatures and flourishes. F-0007-1584

1586: [Loan document.] Thoullon?, France. Written in French on a single small sheet of vellum. Loan receipt for DeRosyes and signed by him. F-0001-1586

1602: [Interleaving page for Bibliorum Hebraicorum.] Written in French on a single sheet of paper with the Hebrew print showing in acidic off-printing. These are notations of references to the text from a volume printed in France in 1602. F-0021-1602

1620: [Legal document.] France. Written in French on a single sheet of vellum. A cut in the vellum has been sewn up. F-0008-1620

1628: [Loan document.] Lyon, France. Written in French on a single small piece of vellum. Note about a loan of Pierre de la Court and signed by Delacourt; mentions Delaquille and Pavia. F-0002-1628

1658: [Legal document.] France. Written in French on a single small sheet of paper. Signed by Wolorsky(?) with a wet stamp on the reverse. F-0003-1658

1666: [Loan document.] France. Written in French on two folded sheets of vellum and one folded sheet and one scrap of paper. The papers are bound into one of the folded vellum sheets which is sewn to the second folded vellum sheet. F-0009-1666

1673: [Conge, or retirement notice.] France. Written in French on a single folded sheet of paper. A release notice for a sick soldier of the Company des Escaux; written and signed by La Marechal des logis de Marillac. F-0004-1673

1673: [Legal document.] France. Written in French on a single folded sheet of vellum. From the late 17th century with a Royal tax stamp at the beginning. F-0010-16XX

1734: [Legal document.] Paris, France. Written in French on a single folded sheet of vellum. A Royal tax stamp from Paris is at the top of the first page. F-0011-1734

1737: [Legal document.] Chalons, France. Written in French on a single folded sheet of vellum. Document shows a Royal tax stamp at the beginning from Chalons; mentions the notary Claude Jaquot. F-0012-1737

1760: [Legal document, a lease.] Chalons, France. Written in French on three folded sheets of vellum sewn into a 12-page pamphlet. A Royal tax stamp shows at the top of each of the three folded sheets from Chalons. Signed by three people. F-0013-1760

1766: [Legal document.] Dijon, France. Written in French on a single piece of vellum, later used as a wrapper for a difference document. This is an extract from the registers of
Parliament. It concerns Denis Forestier, Jean Cazotte merchant, and Demoiselle Jeanne Rogey. F-0014-1766

1773: [Legal document.] Auvergne, France. Written in French on three folded sheets of vellum. There are Royal tax stamps at the top of each folded sheet, and a signed codicil of payments at the end. Sewn together at the top of the folds; shows some insect damage. One of the signers is Vacquier. F-0015-1773

1774: [Legal estate document.] France. Written in French on a single folded sheet of paper. Concerns the “Juges de la Chatelainie” and “la Chapelainie”. F-0016-1774

1778: [Legal contract.] Vouvray, France. Written in French on one partial piece of paper. This is an annual contract between an employer, Madame Moncontour, and her servant, Marie Duval; it bears a tax stamp and the notice of “quittance”. F-0017-1778

1786: [Legal loan document.] Chalons, France. Written in French on two folded sheets and one single sheet of vellum. There are tax stamps on all three pieces. F-0018-1786

1787: [Legal document.] Lorraine et Bar, Alsace, France. Written in French on a single sheet of folded vellum, the outside written like a booklet, the inside like a broadside. Bears a tax stamp and several signatures. F-0019-1787


Germany

1500: [Binding hinge.] Germany? Written in German on vellum. This piece cut out of a larger document from the late 15th or early 16th century work, was used as a binding hinge. G-0001-15XX

India

18XX: Bhagavad Gita. India. Written in the Devanagari script in Hindu on a single piece of paper. IN-0001-18XX

Mexico

1794: [Receipt for perpetual masses.] Mexico. Written in Spanish on a single half-sheet of paper. Concerns Don Francisco Gannido, Miguel de Ochoa, and is signed Jose Francisco di Tardenas y Lurital. M-0002-1794

Peru

1570: [Notary document.] Peru. Written in Spanish on a single sheet of paper. Probably a poder—a power of attorney. P-0001-1570

1572: [Town Crier Announcements, or Pregones.] Peru. Written in Spanish on a single sheet of paper. P-0002-1572

1591: [Legal document.] Peru. Written in Spanish on a single folded sheet of paper. This is about sheep-rustling. P-0004-1591

1597: [Quenta, a bill.] Peru. Written in Spanish on a single slip of paper. This is a bill from a church administrator. P-0005-1597

1597: [Receipt, a legal document.] Peru. Written in Spanish on a single folded sheet of paper and signed. P-0006-1597

1607: [Signed receipt.] Peru. Written in Spanish on a single sheet of paper and signed. P-0007-1607

1610: [Signed document.] Peru. Written in Spanish on a single sheet of paper and signed. P-0008-1610

1637: [Viceregal document.] Lima, Peru. Written in Spanish on a single sheet of paper, broadside style. Concerns Indian monies; signed by several people. P-0009-1637

1675: [Legal document, a debt contract.] Peru. Written in Spanish on a single sheet of paper. Mentions La Plata, Bolivia, and bears a clear tax stamp with text at the top. P-0010-1675

1690: [Viceregal judgment, a government document.] Peru. Written in Spanish on a single folded sheet of paper. Mentions the Alcade, payments, and mules. From the office of the Viceroy of Peru, Melchor Portocarrero Lasco de la Vega, Conte de Mondovia. P-0012-1690

1705: [Loan document.] Peru. Written in Spanish on two sheets of paper. The first sheet is about the loan, the second about the payment in 1725. There are many calculations in pen in the margins marking the payments made and still due. P-0013-1705


1755: [Legal document.] Peru. Written in Spanish on a single folded sheet of paper. Includes signed depositions. P-0015-1755

1774: [Legal court document.] Lima, Peru. Written in Spanish on one single and one folded sheets of paper. This is a legal document in a criminal court case bearing two Royal tax stamps. P-0016-1774

1785: [Legal document.] Lima, Peru. Written in Spanish on one folded sheet of paper. This document bears a Royal tax stamp and concerns a religious brotherhood of Indians. P-0017-1785

1808: [Legal document.] Lima, Peru. Written in Spanish on three sheets of paper. A document of depositions and evidence in a lawsuit with the judgment written at the end by the court. Bears a Royal tax stamp at the top of each page. P-0018-1808

1813: [Legal document.] Lima, Peru. Written in Spanish on three sheets of paper. This document concerns a lawsuit over an unpaid mortgage debt. P-0019-1813

1818: [Legal church document.] Peru. Written in Spanish on a single folded sheet of paper. Concerns the church, payments, and a confradias. P-0020-1818

1821: [Legal family estate document.] Peru. Written in Spanish on a single folded sheet of paper. This document concerns a family estate with several tax stamps on each sheet. P-0021-1821
Serbia

1798: [Legal quittance document.] Serbia. Written in Serbian on a single sheet of paper. This is a release, or quittance, from a debt; Serbia was under Turkish rule at this time. SE-0001-1798

Spain

1624: [Land sale document.] Segovia, Spain. Written in Old Castile Spanish on two folded sheets of paper. Document concerns the sale of a prado, or meadow, for bread grain and grass. S-0001-1624
1628: [Land sale document.] Segovia, Spain. Written in Old Castile Spanish on a single folded sheet of paper. Concerns the sale of a prado, or meadow. S-0002-1628
1681: [Letter.] Madrid, Spain. Copy written in Spanish on a single folded sheet of paper. From Diego de Valdomora, Caminiti family, about the payment of money. S-0004-1681
17XX: [Settlement of a legal case.] Northern Spain. Written in Spanish on a single sheet of paper about horse-stealing. S-0011-17XX
1776: [Inheritance court case.] Madrid, Spain. Notary’s copy written in Spanish, on a 60-leaf booklet of 120 pages, of a long-running legal case, started before 1500 and settled in 1776. Eight notaries have added attestations at the end. Includes a poder, or power of attorney towards the front. S-0010-1776

United States

1850: “Rule for Making a Pen.” Written in English on a single slip of blue-tinted handmade paper. The document contains instructions for cutting and trimming a quill pen, probably written between 1825 and 1850. U-0001-1850