

The winery was built in the Fratta area of Monticelli Brusati, and was already held in high regard in the mid-1800s.

In the second half of the nineteenth century, Sir Luigi Rossetti, a wealthy merchant from the local area, turned a farmhouse (presumably dating back to the 16th century) into his elegant mansion, as well as the headquarters of his wine trade, for which he built the beautiful wine cellars carved out by digging into the rocky hill behind the Villa. With four tunnels arranged in the form of a Greek cross, it could hold a good six thousand hectolitres of wine, which was a vast amount for that time. Hence the nickname given to it by the locals: "el cantinù," meaning 'the great cellar'. After Rossetti's death, there was a slow decline and everything seemed to be over.

Then, in the late '70s, another man "of wine" burst into the "life" of the Villa: Franco Ziliani – patron of the Guido Berlucchi company – visited the winery, and despite finding it in dismal conditions, he grasped the enormous charm and uniqueness of the cellars.



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