

Nuova Rivista Storica

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Abstracts

GABRIELLA MARONI, *La Valsassina nella memoria genealogica dei della Torre*

The della Torre, the family who ruled Milan in the XIIIth century, seem to have precociously developed some genealogical traditions. In spite of the poverty of our sources, the della Torre appear to have been eager to exalt their bonds not just with the Frankish kingdom, but also with Valsassina, a valley North of Milan. Although the actual origins of this lineage remain obscure, boasting its special connections with Valsassina was certainly an effective means to enhance its power and influence, considering the strategic position and the rich mineral resources of this valley. Even after their definitive political defeat at the beginning of the XIV century, the della Torre managed to preserve their aristocratic identity, so that their close links with Valsassina became widely accepted during the following centuries.