



POLITECNICO  
DI TORINO

Dipartimento di  
Architettura e  
Design

Master in Architecture for  
Sustainability  
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Thesis Title

**Gardella's Lost Legacy:  
The Church of Alessandria.**  
Study, 3D documentation and  
Analysis

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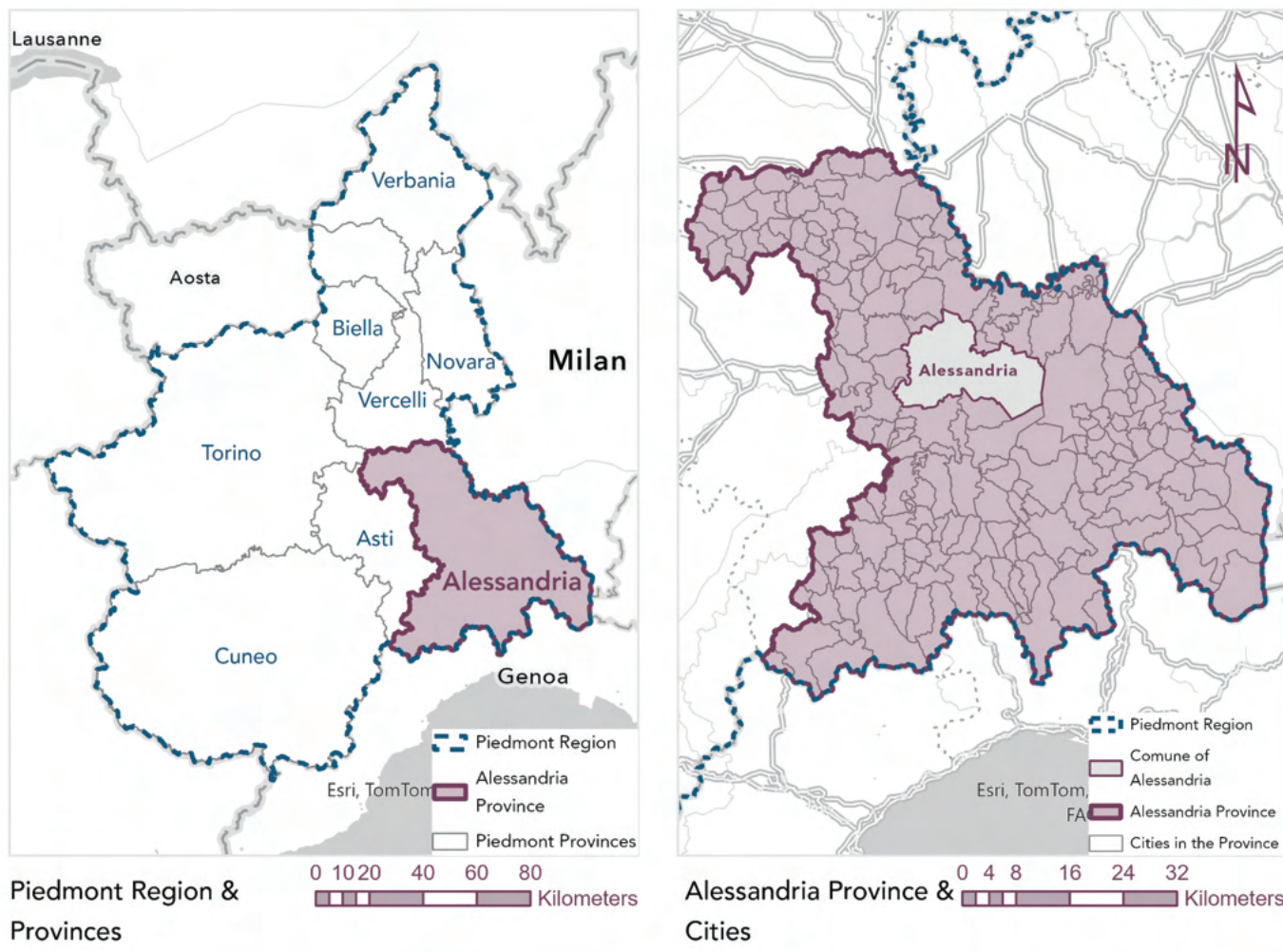
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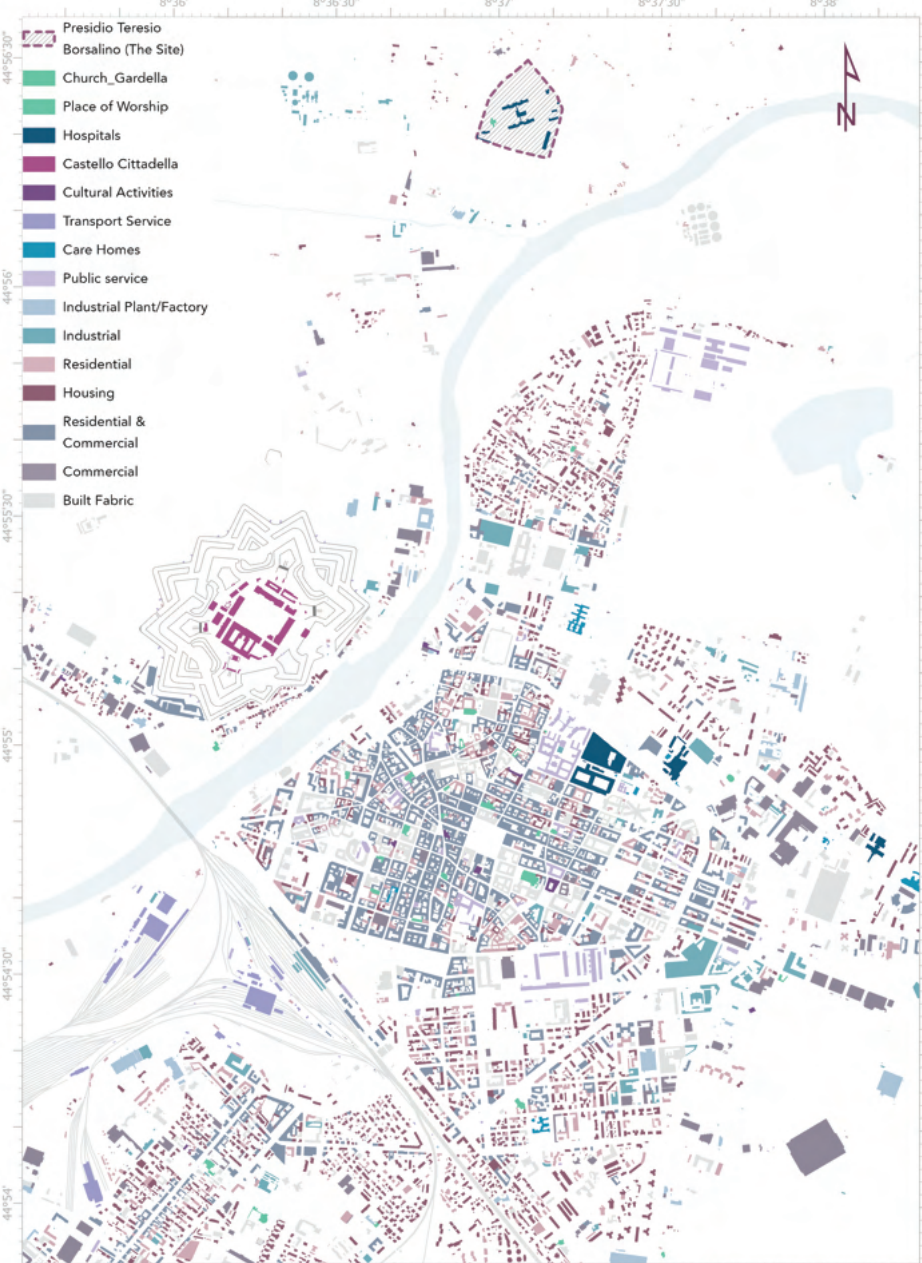
Board No. 01

- TERRITORIAL CONTEXT
- GEOMATICS SURVEY
- 2D DOCUMENTATION
- HBIM DOCUMENTATION
- MATERIAL ANALYSIS
- CURRENT STATE OF  
CONSERVATION ANALYSIS  
AND SOLUTIONS
- THE PROPOSAL

The Church Building



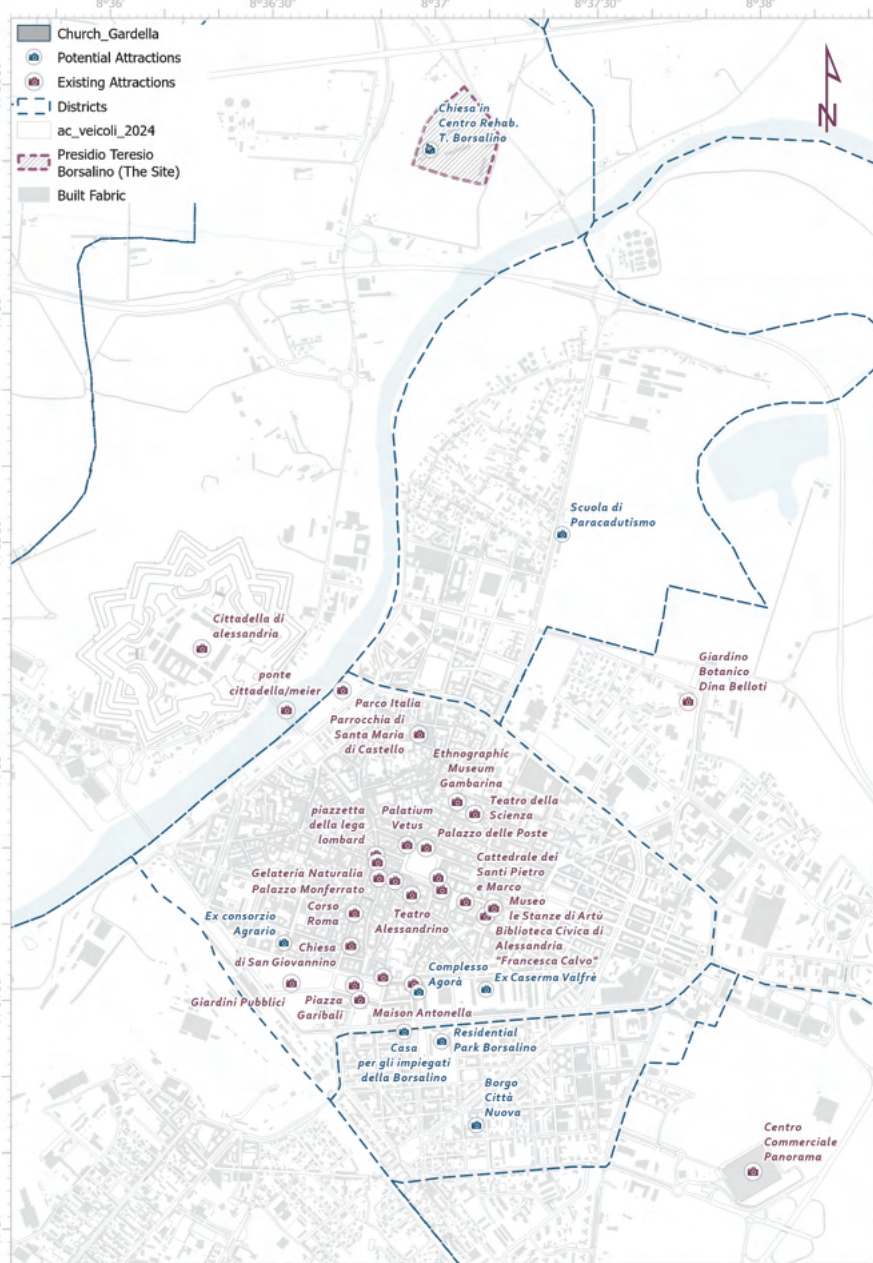
Map 1: Alessandria City and Districts



Map 2: Land Use



Map 2: Vegetation  
and Green Areas



Map 3: Existing and  
Potential Landmarks



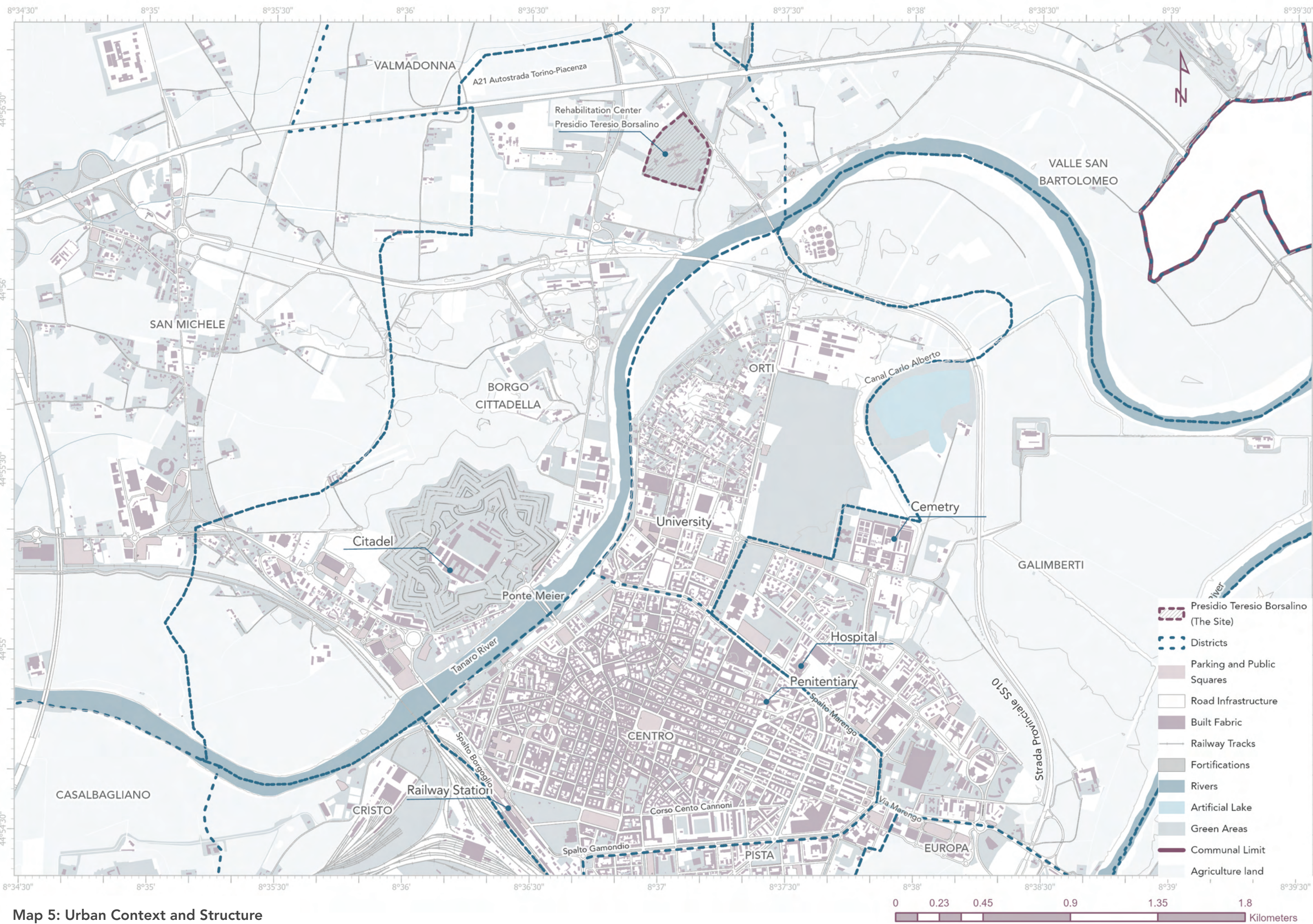
Map 4: Urban Connectivity

The Sanatorium is situated within the district of Borgo Cittadella of Alessandria which was previously a part of Orti district. The location of the districts can be referred to in Map 1. Alessandria city itself is located approximately 90 kilometers southeast of Turin and 70 kilometers northwest of Genoa, making it a well-connected node within the Piedmont region. As indicated in the land use map , the city centre is dominated by commercial and residential buildings typologies, whereas the site of Borsalino is isolated with a few sheds and barns as well as single family houses in its surroundings. The most important typologies to notice are the Hospitals and the Places of worship, since that is the typology of the case study.

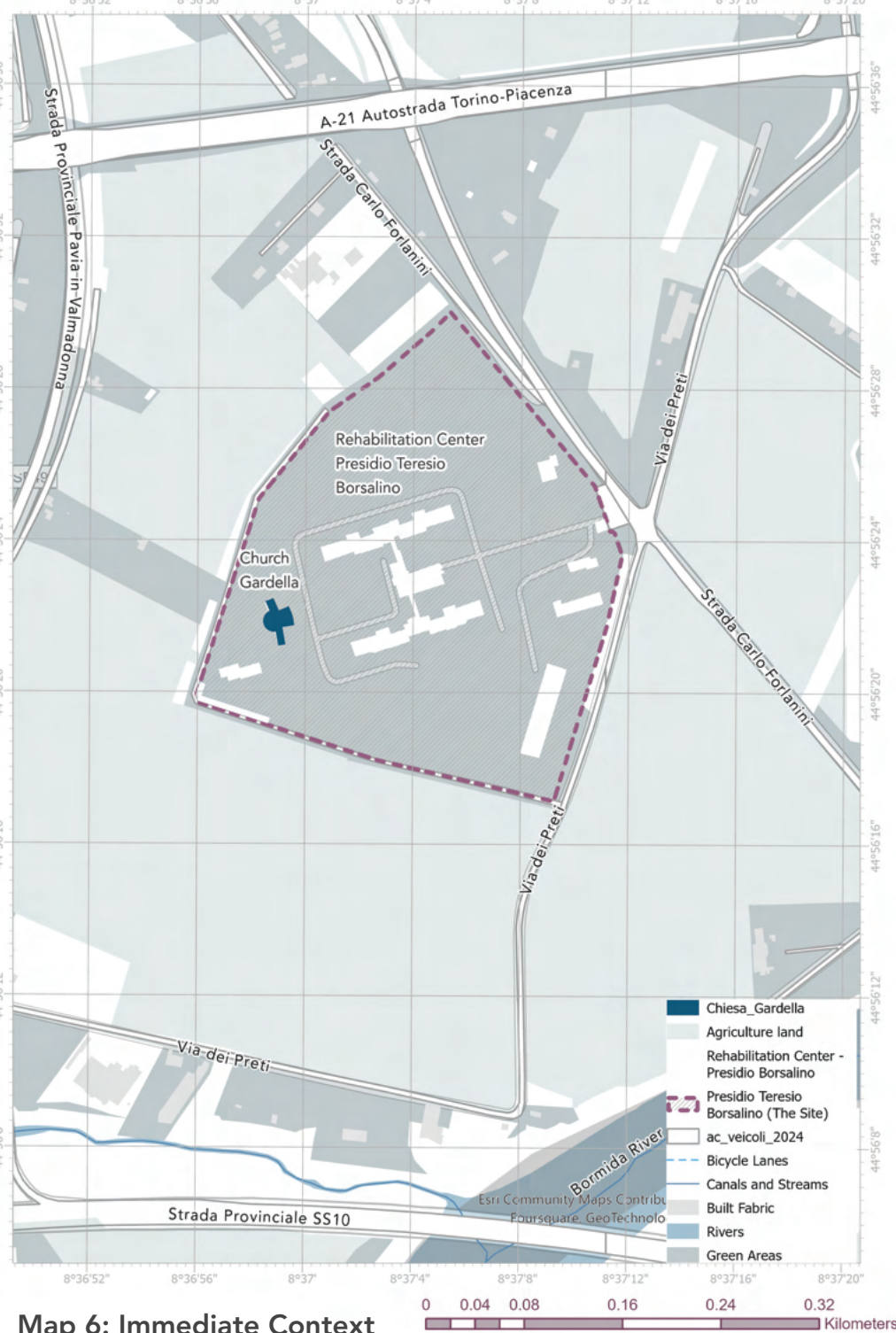
The location of the sanatorium was deliberately chosen to be within the pine forest along the banks of Tanaro River emphasizing the integration of natural elements for therapeutic purposes. The current scenario of the sanatorium and the city's surroundings depict that more than 70% of the land of the city is dedicated to agriculture, farming and pastures. The area's high productivity is driven by the cultivation of cereals, fruits, vegetables, vineyards, and the raising of livestock such as poultry, sheep, pigs, goats and horses. The above depicts the comparison of agriculture, forest, pastures and green spaces within the area of interest.

Above map indicates key landmarks within the city centre and the vicinity. They include the existing landmarks such as citadel, Meier bridge, Post office building, piazzetta della lega etc, and some potential landmarks have been proposed based on their twentieth century architectural significance. These potential landmarks celebrate Alessandria's modern history and deserve to be appreciated in the same way. The territorial study looks at a larger potential of urban development in Alessandria on the basis of undermined modern heritage. The map of attractions highlight this opportunity within the city which can help create a new identity for the city as well as for the Sanatorium complex with intervention of the church.

The sanatorium is located approximately 3 kilometres northeast of Alessandria's city center. This proximity ensures convenient access to urban amenities while maintaining site's semi-isolated character which was essential in the past for the health-care facility related to Tuberculosis. shows the network of transportation infrastructure which connects Alessandria to other major cities via railways and highways, including the motorway of A21 and A26. It can also be noted that there is only one bridge which can be crossed by foot and the site is directly connected to the public transport stop which can help in arriving to the city centre in 20-25min

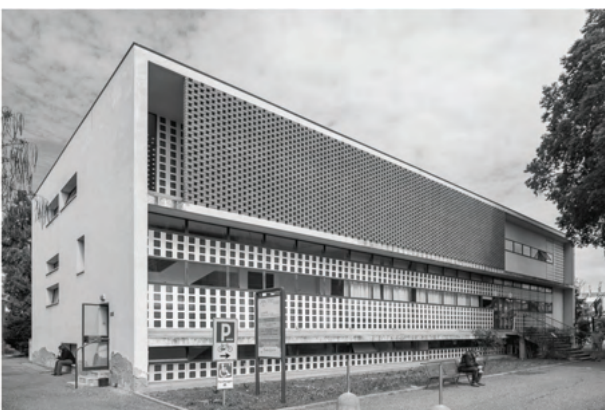


Map 5: Urban Context and Structure



Map 6: Immediate Context

The sanatorium complex is located at the conjunction of Strada Carlo Forlanini and Via dei Preti as shown in Figure 7. It is spread over nearly 96,000 square meters, with 5,325 square meters dedicated to buildings, 22,000 square meters for roads, and 67,675 square meters for green areas. The central building houses patient wards, diagnostic and treatment rooms and a range of services (Montanari 1989, 32). The auxiliary buildings include nurse's quarters, Director's Residence, a small Chapel, Laundry, garbage and other service buildings. At present, there is also a sensory garden in the facility and a greenhouse right behind the chapel building.



Anti Tuberculosis Dispensary - 1934



Provincial Laboratory of Hygiene and  
Prophylaxis - 1939



Casa Per gli impiegati dello Borsalino - 1952



Agora Complex - 1984



Hospice Divine Providence 1928



Palazzo delle Poste - 1939 - 1941



Borgo Città Nuova - 1995



Residential Park Borsalino - 1987